



Meeting: Haringey Children's Trust

Date: 17 December 2009

Report Title: Performance Monitoring

Report of: Director Children and Young People's Service

Purpose

To present information on selected national indicators from Haringey's local area agreement related to the work of the Children's Trust.

Summary

The report presents exception reports on national indicators that appear to be missing, or at risk of missing, their targets.

Recommendations

That the Children's Trust note and comment on the report.

Financial/Legal Comments

N/A.

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Introduction

1. The full scorecard, with the most recently available data, was considered at the EPMG meeting in November. The following indicators were showing red.

Be Healthy

- NI 53 - breastfeeding
- NI 112 – teenage conceptions
- NI 126 - early access for women to maternity services

Stay Safe

- NI 59 – initial assessments
- NI 60 – core assessments

Enjoy and Achieve

- NI 72 – early years
- NI 73 – maths at KS2
- NI 75 -5+ A*-C grades at GCSE
- NI 93 – progression by 2 levels in English KS1 to KS2
- NI 94 – progression by 2 levels in maths KS1 to KS2

Exception reports are not included in this report for NI 53, NI 112 or NI 126

Be Healthy

- Breastfeeding - The final outturn for quarter one was delayed because of late returns from GPs dealing with the H1N1 swine flu. However when completed the result was above target. The percentage of infants being breastfed at 6-8 weeks was 62.4%, above the target of 60%. The percentage of infants for whom breastfeeding status was recorded was 86.4%, above the target of 85%. The current data for quarter two is also low, and therefore showing at red, because of late submission of returns.
- Teenage conceptions - An exception report on teenage conceptions was presented to the last meeting of the Childrens Trust in October. This indicator continues to show at red as the outturn is below the target. However recent trends have been encouraging. The Office of National Statistics (ONS) has just released the data for quarter three of 2008 and this confirms the downward trend already seen in quarters one and two of 2008. Quarter three outturn is 50.2 per 1000 with 44 actual conceptions (compared to Q3 2007 which was 70 per 1000). The rolling quarterly average is now down to 56.8 per 1000 (compared to 2007 Annual Rate which was 70 per 1000) and shows a 5.9 decrease compared to the 1988 base rate of 62.7 per 1000. ONS has also adjusted the outturns for quarters one and two of 2008 resulting in a decrease to 51.4 and 56.1 respectively.
- Maternity services - In November this indicator was at red but since then additional information has been added so it is now at amber, with 76.4% against the target of 80%. This target is also showing an improving trend as the end of year outcome for 2008/09 was 51.9%. A report on the maternity action plan is reported separately to today's meeting.

Stay Safe



- Initial and core assessments - Plans for improving these targets are contained in the Safeguarding Plan which is reported separately to the Children's Trust.

Enjoy and Achieve



The reports show the same provisional information as in October as confirmation of the final data is still awaited. The exception is NI 72, one of the early years foundation stage targets where the outturn is now expected to be 43% - the same as last year. A separate report on the provisional school results is included on the agenda of this meeting.

Please note: large scale version of graphs in exception reports are available at the end of the document.

Children's Trust Exception Report December 2009/10: Safeguarding Indicators

CY02_H_N0059 Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral		2009/10	
Outcome Lead	Portfolio	Value	Target
Sustainable Community Strategy Outcome:		May 2009	14.1%
Safer for All		June 2009	12%
Children & Young People's Plan Outcome:		July 2009	14.7%
Stay Safe (priority 3)		August 2009	25.9%
		September 2009	23.7
		October 2009	35.2
		2009/10 (YTD)	22.4%
 		CY02_H_N0059 Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral	
Red			
<p>This process indicator is included as a proxy as robust data is not available for outcomes of improved child safety. Initial assessments are an important indicator of how quickly services can respond when a child is thought to be at risk of serious harm. As the assessments involve a range of local agencies, this indicator would also show how well multi-agency working arrangements are established in local authority areas.</p>			
See comments below			

Safeguarding Indicators (continued)

<p>CY02_H_N0060 Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement</p>	<p>2009/10</p>																																								
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<p>The indicator measures the percentage of core assessments which were completed within 35 working days. Core assessments are in-depth assessments of a child, or children, and their family, as defined in the Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families. They are also the means by which section 47 (child protection) enquiries are undertaken following a strategy discussion.</p> <p>The Assessment Framework specifies that core assessments should be completed within 35 working days. It is important that local authorities should investigate and address concerns in a timely and efficient way, and that those in receipt of an assessment have a clear idea of how quickly this should be completed. Successful meeting of the timescales can also indicate effective joint working where multi-agency assessment is required.</p>																																									

See comments below

Explanation of Current Performance

The low percentage of initial and core assessments completed in timescale is a result of a number of issues, including an increased focus on ensuring that the quality of assessments being completed is to a high standard and the completion of a number of out of timescale, outstanding assessments. We anticipate that performance will be poor as we continue the work to deal with all outstanding work in the service. We expect that thereafter a more accurate measure of future performance will be arrived at – recent trends are beginning to show some cautious improvements and we believe we remain on track to reach the declared target of 53% for initial assessments and 63% for core assessments by the end of December 2009.

Current Activities

There continues to be a high volume of cases referred to the service, which is overall 50% more than the previous two years. This, together with continued difficulties recruiting suitably qualified staff, has impacted on our performance. 6 newly qualified social workers (NQSW) have joined the First Response service and they are now able to take on increasingly complex work. Two other permanent NQSW are due to join the team this month, with two places remaining. All managers are now in place, although all but 2 remain agency staff so there remains a need to create a permanent management structure.

Best Practice

A thresholds document is in place which is helping to clarify and enable consistency in what should be referred to the service for assessment. Work is continuing on improving links with the CAF coordinator to ensure that appropriate cases are going through the CAF process rather than First Response, and there are now 3 times a week meetings with the Police and Health colleagues to ensure a more holistic initial response to referrals. We are creating a dedicated Screening Team to ensure a consistency of response and currently the Team Manager and Senior Practitioner are in place. Combined, these measures will improve our performance in assessments.



Recent audits undertaken by an independent Social Worker show that there has been an improvement in the quality of initial and core assessments undertaken with appropriate outcomes and recommendations.

Performance discussion date

Improving outcomes in initial and core assessments is part of the Safeguarding Plan for Haringey. The plan is reviewed regularly by the Safeguarding Plan Steering Group. The respective delivery organisations will also report their progress through their management structures. Reports on the plan have been submitted to the Children's Trust in May, July and October and to the Children's Trust Executive Performance Management Group in July, September and November. From September 2009, the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Panel will receive quarterly reports.

ABG Funding

Children's Trust Exception Report November 2009/10: Early Years

CY03_H_N0072 Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy	2009/10				
		Value	Target	National average	
Outcome Lead	Portfolio: Children and Young People	2009/10	43%	48%	52%
Sustainable Community Strategy Outcome: Economic vitality and prosperity shared by all Children & Young People's Plan Outcome: Enjoy and Achieve (priority five)	2008/09				
		Value	Target	London Boroughs Average National average	
	2008/09	43%	46.1%	46% / 49%	
 Red					
<p>Definition: The Early Years Foundation Stage is a statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare from birth to the end of the academic year in which they turn 5. It covers six areas of learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal, Social and Emotional Development [PSED] (3 scales) • Communication, Language and Literacy [CLL] (4 scales) • Problem-solving, reasoning and numeracy (3 scales) • Knowledge and understanding of the world (1 scale) • Physical Development (1 scale) • Creative Development (1 scale) <p>The Early Years Foundation Stage Profile is an assessment of children's achievement at the end of the academic year in which they turn 5.</p> <p>The indicator measures the number of children achieving 78 points across all 13 EYFSP scales with at least 6 points or more</p>					

in each of the PSED and CLL scales, expressed as a percentage of the total number of children assessed against the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile.

This indicator is not only a schools based indicator. It is also includes achievement figures provided by local authorities for children in the private, voluntary and independent sector who are still in receipt of funding in the term preceding their key stage 1 studies.

Good performance Higher percentages show better performance.

ABG Funding:

Explanation of current performance

The National Strategies have given Haringey green on this indicator. They are impressed with the steady progress being made and recognise that the target is very challenging.

Current Activities

There are a number of specific programmes on which we are working with schools to continue to raise performance. Our analysis shows us which schools and which groups of children are in most need of support and consultants work with those schools to improve performance. A support programme is provided for all early years settings with a focused programme for any causing concern. Setting review group meetings are used to identify where support, training & advice is most needed & will have the most impact. The local authority is creating an accreditation scheme designed to encourage providers to continually improve their settings. This should be in place by the end of the year. Our early intervention & prevention strategy has led to a range of targeted initiatives in the early years. Individual children and groups who have been underachieving are identified and their schools and settings can access a number of specific intervention programmes to provide earlier support.

Best Practice

Do we know of any high achieving borough?

Emerging Risk



The early years are crucial to a child's chances of later success. Children who achieve well in their early years are much more likely

to be successful in future education and in later life.



Performance discussion date:

Equality Impact



Children’s Trust Exception Report November 2009/10: Key Stage 2

CY03_H_N0073 Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2		2009/10			
Outcome Lead	Portfolio: Children and Young People		Value	Target	National average
Sustainable Community Strategy Outcome: Economic vitality and prosperity shared by all		2009/10	69%	75%	72%
Children & Young People’s Plan Outcome: Enjoy and Achieve (priority 5)		2008/09			
			Value	Target	National average
		2008/09	66%	75%	73%
					
Red					
Good performance Good performance is typified by percentages where the proportion of pupils is above the national average and where there are no schools where performance has been below the 55% floor target for 4 or more consecutive years.					

Children's Trust Exception Report November 2009/10: Key Stage 2 (continued)

CY03_H_N0093 Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2					
Outcome Lead		Portfolio: Children and Young People			
Sustainable Community Strategy Outcome:		2009/10			
Economic vitality and prosperity shared by all			Value	Target	
Children & Young People's Plan Outcome:		2009/10	82%	90%	
Enjoy and Achieve (priority 5)		2008/09			
			Value	Target	National Average
		2008/09	85.3%	85.5%	N/A
					
Red					
Good performance Good performance is exemplified where the percentage achieving 2 levels progress is higher than the national average.					

Children’s Trust Exception Report November 2009/10: Key Stage 2 (continued)

CY03_H_N0094 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2					
		2009/10			
Outcome Lead	Portfolio: Children and Young People		Value	Target	
Sustainable Community Strategy Outcome:		2009/10	79%	86%	
Economic vitality and prosperity shared by all		2008/09			
Children & Young People’s Plan Outcome:			Value	Target	National Average
Enjoy and Achieve (priority 5)		2008/09	75.6%	86%	N/A
					
Red					
Good performance Good performance is exemplified where the percentage achieving 2 levels of progress is higher than the national average.					
<p>ABG Funding:</p> <p>Explanation of current performance NI 73 NI 73 - This figure is provisional and will be validated in December 2009 (It should remain at 69%). Steady progress is being made and we are closing the gap with the national. The 2008 gap was 7% and the 2009 gap will be 3% (when validated). The DCSF contextual value added measure in 2008 placed Haringey in 61st place out of 149 local authorities. This indicates that pupils make good progress.</p> <p>NI 93 -This figure will not be validated until Dec 2009. We expect to remain below target. Our analysis indicates that the progress pupils make in English will be good. This target is a very challenging one and in 2008 only one local authority (Camden) achieved 90%. The Haringey result in 2008 was 3.1% above the national and Haringey was placed 26th out of 150 local authorities.</p>					

NI 94 This figure will not be validated until Dec 2009. We expect to remain below target. This target is a very challenging one and in 2008 only 6 local authorities achieved it. The Haringey result in 2008 was 3.2% below the national. Our preliminary analysis for 2009 indicates that this will improve significantly.

Current Activities

We have a number of programmes working with schools to continue to raise attainment. Our analysis shows us which schools require the most support and our consultants work with those schools. The target is recognised as being very challenging by the DCSF and we do not expect to meet this target for a number of years. We continue to monitor the work of schools during the year and will be collecting data to enable us to assess the progress being made. Schools that are below the floor target receive an agreed schedule of support and challenge, which is reviewed termly, and in some cases, half termly. Every school receives support and challenge from School Improvement Partners on a regular basis – either termly or half termly. Support and challenge is also given from outside agencies including the Primary National Strategy and City Challenge.

Emerging Risk

It is widely accepted that good literacy and numeracy are key to employability and further study, and that more needs to be done to improve performance in these areas. Performance at Key Stage (KS) 2 is a very strong indicator for expected performance at KS4 (5 A*-C including English and maths). Without this indicator at age 11, the risks to performance at the end of compulsory schooling would be very substantial. The Government is therefore committed to ensuring that more children master the basics and has set a national threshold target for 2011 for 78% to achieve Level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2. As well as improving the proportion of pupils achieving this standard, the Government also wants to see no schools where less than 65% of pupils achieve Level 4 in both English and Maths (floor target).



Performance discussion date:

A report was presented at the Children's Trust meeting in May 2009 on the work to support improvements in Key Stage 2.

Equality Impact

Programmes to support children and young people from minority ethnic communities are on going. All data is analysed by ethnicity

Children's Trust Exception Report November 2009/10: GCSE

CY03_H_N0075 Achievement of 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths		2009/10			
Outcome Lead	Portfolio: Children and Young People		Value	Target	National average
Sustainable Community Strategy Outcome:		2009/10	45.2%	50%	49.&
Economic vitality and prosperity shared by all		2008/09			
Children & Young People's Plan Outcome:			Value	Target	National average
Enjoy and Achieve (priority 5)		2008/09	42%	44%	47.6%
					
Red					
<p>Definition: The number of pupils achieving 5 or more A*-C or equivalent including English and Maths at KS4 as a percentage of the number of pupils at the end of KS4.</p> <p>Good performance is typified by a higher percentage reduction from the baseline figure.</p> <p>ABG Funding:</p>					
<p>Explanation of current performance</p> <p>Provisional 2009 figure will be validated in Dec 2009. This is the 7th year of steady improvement at over twice the national rate. The 13.4% gap with the national in 2003 reduced to 5.6% in 2008 and will continue to reduce in 2009 (no national data currently available). The service continues to work closely with the schools in most challenging circumstances. The DCSF contextual value added measure placed Haringey in 5th place out of 150 local authorities for the progress pupils make from KS2 to GCSE in 2008 and we expect that the 2009 figure will also be very high. The target that the schools set was very ambitious and was not met but the progress we are making is very good.</p>					

Current Activities

Schools monitor performance termly and the local authority monitors results of mock exams. Each school has a support plan linked to the priorities for improvement in the core subjects, where appropriate these are written in conjunction with National Challenge advisers.

Local authority support is provided on proportionate basis with a focus on raising standards in English and mathematics, where appropriate in conjunction with support from National Challenge advisers

School categorisation is undertaken on an annual basis and is reviewed regularly through School Review Group meetings

School Improvement Partners provide challenge and support with a focus on raising standards in English and mathematics where appropriate

Monthly Project Board meetings are held in schools at risk of falling below the National Challenge benchmark

Best Practice

Emerging Risk

It is widely accepted that good literacy and numeracy are key to employability and further study, and that more needs to be done to improve performance in these areas. The Government is therefore committed to ensuring that more children master the basics by the end of the years of compulsory schooling and has set a national threshold target for 2011 for 53% to achieve 5 A*-C GCSE grades and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths by the end of Key Stage 4. As well as improving the proportion of pupils achieving this standard, the Government also wants to see no schools where less than 30% of pupils achieve 5 A*-C grades including GCSE English and Maths by 2011 (floor target).

Performance discussion date:

Equality Impact

Programmes to support children and young people from minority ethnic communities are on going. All data is analysed by ethnicity and the larger ethnic groups are showing improvement at the GCSE 5+A*-C

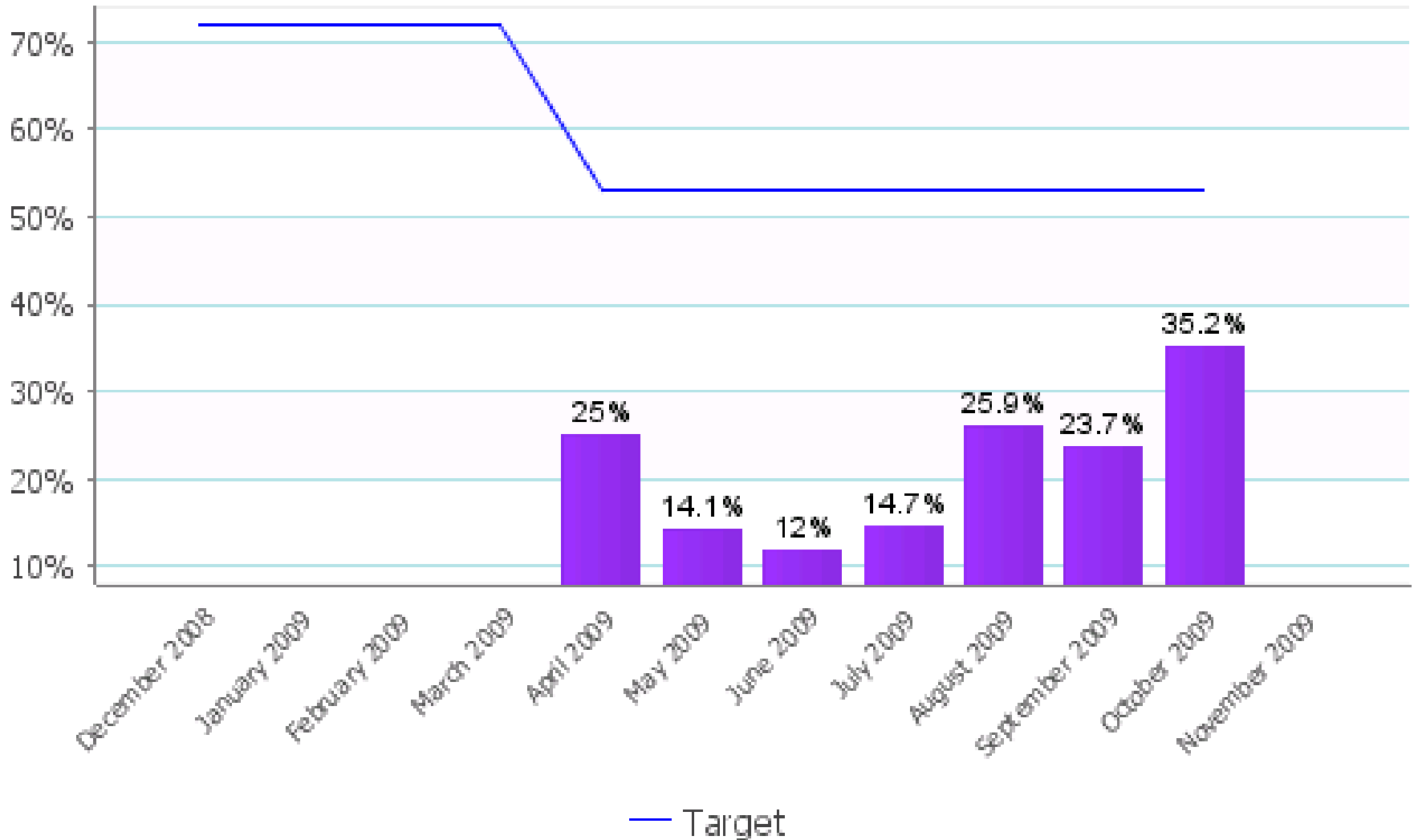
Pregnant schoolgirls and school-age parents all have a Connexions worker and all teenage mothers are supported through the joint Children's Centre and Support for Teenage Parents Programme.

Work is ongoing to monitor mobility of children and young people who move home or schools frequently and promote good induction

programmes, some standards fund money is held centrally to support this work.

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CY02_H_N0059 Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral



CY02_H_N0060 Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement

