

Report Title: An Update Report on key Performance Issues in Child Protection

Report of **Peter Lewis, Director of Children and Young People's Service**

Signed :



Contact Officer : Mark Gurrey, Assistant Director, Performance

Wards(s) affected: **ALL**

Report for: **Non Key Decision**

1. Purpose of the report

This report provides update on some key performance issues relating to the Council's work to safeguard and protect vulnerable children.

2. Recommendations

To note this report.

3. Reason for recommendation(s)

4. Other options considered

N/A

5. Chief Financial Officer Comments

N/A

6. Head of Legal Services Comments

N/A

7. Head of Procurement Comments

N/A

8. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments

N/A

9. Consultation

N/A

10. Service Financial Comments

There are no specific financial issues arising from this report.

11. Use of appendices / Tables and photographs

Attached are the national KPIs for the Children and Families Service

12. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Commentary

13. NI 68 – this measures the conversion rate of referrals going onto be initial referrals. Outturns are increasingly closer to national and statistical neighbours.
14. NI 59 – initial assessments, once authorised, should be completed in 7 days to ensure an early and timely view is taken of children’s needs.
15. NI 60 – for more complex cases, a more comprehensive assessment is required. These are known as ‘core assessments’ and are required to be completed in 35 days.
16. Numbers subject to a child protection plan – this is what previously was referred to as the child protection register. There has been a recent increase in numbers and we are now probably at a more realistic level for the borough than hitherto.
17. NI 67 – children who are subject to plans should be reviewed initially after three months and then every six months thereafter.

18. NI 65 – this measures children newly becoming subject to a plan who had previously had a plan some time in their earlier life. Numbers are small and monthly variations are not a reliable indicator of performance.
19. NI 64 – this measures children who, when their child protection plan ceases, had had a plan for two or more years. Again monthly variation is too small to be a reliable indicator of trends.
20. Number of children in care – Members will observe the increase over the last 12 months which is reflected nationally.
21. NI 66 – as with children subject to plans, children in care also have to regularly reviewed. Performance in this area is good.
22. NI 63 and 62 – are both measures of the stability of children in care. NI63 measures those who have been in the same placement for at least 2 of the last 2.5 yrs. Performance is somewhat below national averages but has increased over the course of the year. NI62 measures how many children have three or more moves in the course of a year – performance is good (and when these PIs were subject to bandings, 0-16% was considered top performance)
23. Adoptions/SGOs and NI 61 – again very small numbers and monthly trends are not helpful.
24. NI 147 – measures the number of care leavers known to be in suitable accommodation.
25. NI 148 – is a subset of the Council's NEET figures. Care leavers are one of the hard to reach groups. Performance is measured annually.