

Report Title: **November 2005 Performance data for Children's Services**

Report of: **The Director of The Children's Service**

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: **Information**

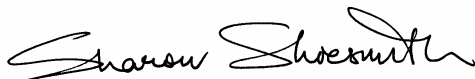
### **1. Purpose**

1.1 To inform Members of CSAC of the Children's Service performance against national and local indicators.

### **2. Recommendations**

2.1 Members of CSAC are asked to endorse the contents of the report.

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Director  
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### **3. Executive Summary**

3.1 This paper contains children's social care performance data for September and October including data relating to looked after children, child protection, referrals and assessments, family support and staffing.

### **4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development**

4.1 Not applicable

### **5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

5.1 Not applicable

## 6. Background

6.1 This paper contains children's social care performance data for November including data relating to looked after children, child protection, referrals and assessments, family support and staffing.

## 7. Description

7.1 This report is the latest in a series of regular monitoring reports for CSAC

## 8. Consultation

Not applicable

## 9. Summary and conclusions

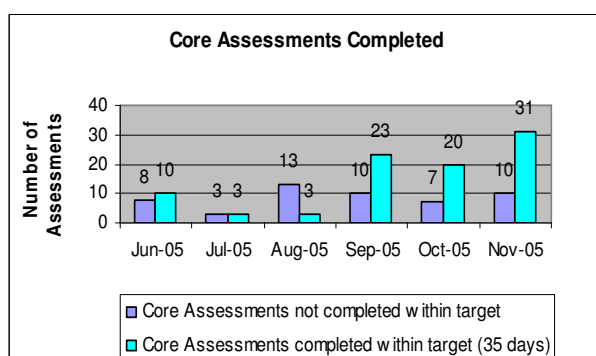
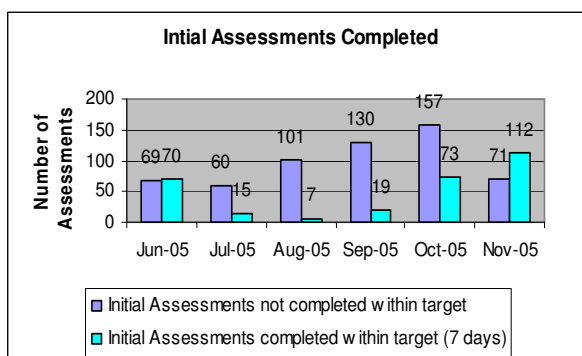
### November 2005 data

#### 9.1 Referrals and Assessments

9.1.1 239 referrals were received in November.

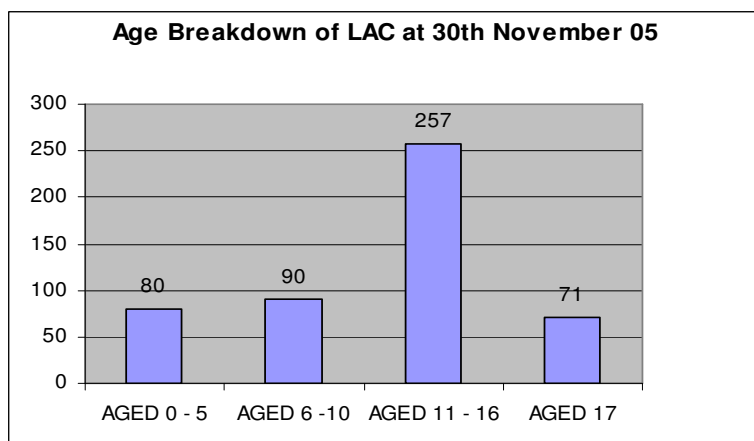
9.1.2 61.2% of initial assessments were completed in timescale in November. The year to date position for initial assessments in timescale is 34%. Our outturn for 2004/05 was 56%.

9.1.3 76% of core assessments were completed in timescale in November. This indicator now forms part of the PAF (Performance Assessment Framework – PAF C64) set of indicators from April 2005. Our outturn for 2004/05 was 50.6%. The average of our comparator Boroughs was 55.4%. Our current year to date position is 61%.



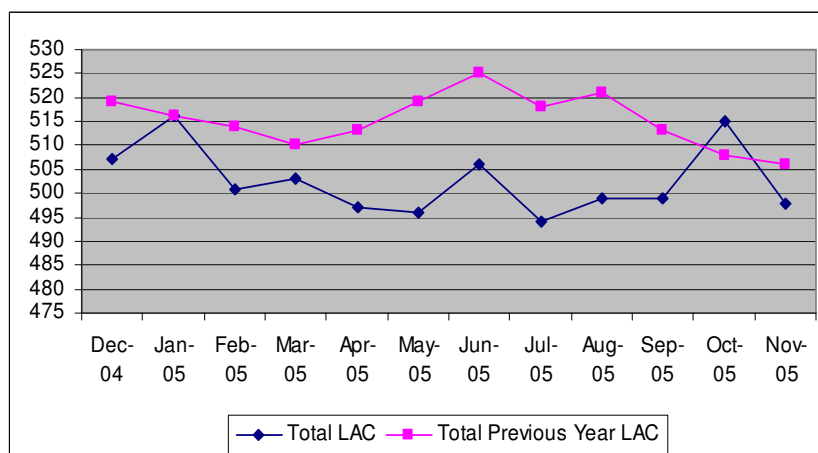
## 9.2 Children Looked After

9.2.1 The number of children looked after in November was 498. The age breakdown of children looked after is demonstrated in the graph below:



9.2.2 At the end of November 92 LAC were unaccompanied minors.

9.2.3 The following table demonstrates the differences in the total numbers of children looked after in comparison to the same period in the previous year. If we compare the number of children looked after at the end of November 2005 compared to the same time last year, we see that there are now 8 fewer looked after.



9.2.4 In November 29 children started to become looked after and 36 ceased. Care proceedings were initiated on 5 children in November.

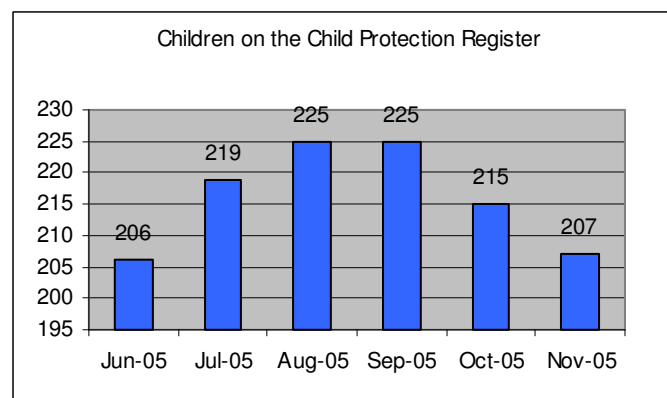
9.2.5 98.4% of looked after children had a review in timescale in November.

9.2.6 In November 423 children required a Personal Education Plan (PEP) and, of those, 93% had one in place.

- 9.2.7 82% of looked after children had an up to date visit at the end of November.
- 9.2.8 The proportion of children looked after placed in foster care or placed for adoption was 73 % in November. The proportion of children under 10 placed in foster care or placed for adoption (PAFC22) was 95% in November. Our outturn for 2004/05 was 98.4%, which put us into the top performance banding. From April 2005 this is no longer a PAF return.
- 9.2.9 The percentage of children who communicated their views to a statutory review (PAF C63) in November was 98%. Our outturn for this indicator was 93.7% in 2004/05 and our target for 2005/06 is 98%.
- 
- 9.2.10 97.5% of looked after children had an allocated worker at the end of November. There were 12 looked after children without an allocated worker for a short period of time because 3 Social Workers left at the end of the month. These children have now all been re-allocated. Our outturn for 2004/05 was 98.8%. In 2003/04 the average of our comparator boroughs was 97%.
- 9.2.11 Children missing from care: See appendix 3

### 9.3 Child Protection

- 9.3.1 The number of children on the Child Protection Register went down to 207 in November.



- 9.3.2 Excellent performance around children on the Child Protection Register who were reviewed in timescale has continued throughout the year to date, with 100% of reviews being completed in timescale since April. The London average for this indicator in 2003/04 was 98%.
- 9.3.3 The percentage of children on the Child Protection Register who were visited in timescale in November was 94%. This figure excludes those children registered in the last week of the month.
- 9.3.4 There were no children on the Child Protection Register without an allocated social worker at the end of November.

## **9.4 General overview of performance**

- 9.4.1 This report shows generally good or improved performance across the range of statistical responsibilities. Our performance around allocation of children looked after and children on the child protection register remains good, although we need to continue to carefully manage this area to ensure that cases are re-allocated prior to workers leaving Haringey. We need to look closely at visits within timescale to looked after children and young people on the CPR.
- 9.4.2 The number of family support cases without a named social worker was 27 at the end of November. 3 were in the District Teams, 22 in the Disabled Children's Team and 2 in Unaccompanied Minors. This number has reduced significantly over the past 3 months.

## **9.5 Key Thresholds**

- 9.5.1 From April 2004, four of the PAF indicators now form part of the key thresholds that limit the judgements made for children's services if they are not met; these limits may in turn result in limits to star ratings. Current performance around these indicators is as follows:
- 9.5.2 PAF A1 – Stability of Placements of looked after children. This indicator looks at those children with 3 or more placements in the year. Our outturn for 2004/05 was 14.7%, which put us in the top performance banding (<16%). We have set a target to reduce this to 13% for 2005/06. Our performance at the end of November was 10.4%.
- 9.5.3 PAF C20 – Reviews of Child Protection cases. This calculates the percentage of children due a review in the year, reviewed in timescale. The 2004/05 outturn for this indicator was 100%. The year to date position for this indicator is 100%.
- 9.5.4 PAF A2 – Educational qualifications of looked after children. This indicator looks at all children aged 16+ who have left care in the year with one or more GCSEs at grades A\*-G (or GNVQ equivalent). The 2004/05 outturn for this indicator was 34.2%. Our plan for 2005/06 is 45%. The year to date figure at the end of November is 32.1%.
- 9.5.5 PAF C23 – Adoptions of children looked after. By the end of March 2005 the percentage of children adopted was 5.1%. Our plan for 2005/06 is 6% (approximately 20 children). 11 children had been adopted by the end of November (3.5%)

## **9.6 Staffing**

- 9.6.1 The staffing position in the Children's District Teams for the end of November is summarised in the attached appendix 1, including a breakdown of agency staff in service for less than 3 months and more than 3 months.

- 9.6.2 Both Service Managers are covered by permanent members of staff
- 9.6.3 There are 6 Senior Team Manager posts, 4 are covered by permanent staff, and 2 by agency workers.
- 9.6.4 There are 14 Team Manager posts, 13 are covered by permanent staff, and someone is acting up into the other post.
- 9.6.5 There are 15 Senior Practitioner posts, 7 are covered by permanent staff, 5 are covered by agency workers and 3 are vacant.
- 9.6.6 There are 59 Social Worker posts, 27 are covered by permanent staff and there are 32 agency staff.
- 9.6.7 There are 10 Social Work Assistant (SWA) posts, 8 are covered by permanent staff and 2 by agency staff. There are 4 Social Services Officer posts, 3.5 are covered by permanent staff and 0.5 by an agency worker

## **10 Recommendations**

- 10.1 Members of CSAC are asked to endorse the contents of the report.

## **11 Comments of the Director of Finance**

- 11.1 The activities mentioned above form part of the core activities of the authority for which budgetary provision in 2005/06 has been made.

## **12 Comments of the Head of Legal Services**

- 12.1 Legal Services have been consulted on the contents of this Report and have no specific comments.

## **13 Equalities implications**

- 13.1 The improving performance within the Children and Families branch of the Children's Service assists socially disadvantaged service users, especially children. The trend around growing numbers of children subject to safeguarding concerns suggests that more of these service users are being appropriately protected.

## **14 Use of Appendices / Tables / Photographs**

- 14.1 Appendix 1 – Staffing, including graph on agency staff – length of time in service
- 14.2 Appendix 2 – Timescales for key indicators
- 14.3 Appendix 3 - Summary of children missing from care in last quarter



Appendix 1

Staffing for Children's Services - Hornsey and Tottenham District Teams

**30 November 2005**

	Staffing Establishment		Permanent		Acting	Short Term Contract	Agency [started in the last 3 months]		Vacant	
No of Service Managers	2		2							
No. of Senior Team Managers	6		4				2 [1]			
Nos of Team Managers	14		13		1					
No of Senior Practitioners	15		7				5 [1]		3	
No of Social Workers	59		27				32 [17]			
No of Social Work Support Officers <sup>1</sup>	14	10 SWA	11.5	8 SWA			2.5 [2.5]	2 SWA		SWA
		SSO		3.5 SSO				0.5 SSO		SSO

SWA – Social Work Assistant  
SSO – Social Services Officer

<sup>1</sup> On becoming vacant, Social Service Officer Posts are being converted to Social Work Assistant Posts



Appendix 1

Staffing for Children's Services - Hornsey District Team

**30 November 2005**

	Staffing Establishment		Permanent		Acting	Short Term Contract	Agency [started in the last 3 months]		Vacant	
No of Service Managers	1		1							
No. of Senior Team Managers	3		2				1 [0]			
Nos of Team Managers	7		6		1					
No of Senior Practitioners	8		4				3 [1]		1	
No of Social Workers	28		14				14 [7]			
No of Social Work Support Officers	6	5 SWA	3.5	3.5 SWA			2.5 [2.5]	2.5 SWA		SWA
		SSO		SSO				SSO		SSO

SWA – Social Work Assistant  
SSO – Social Services Officer

CSAC October 2005/September & October monitoring data

Appendix 1

**Staffing for Children's Services - Tottenham District Team**

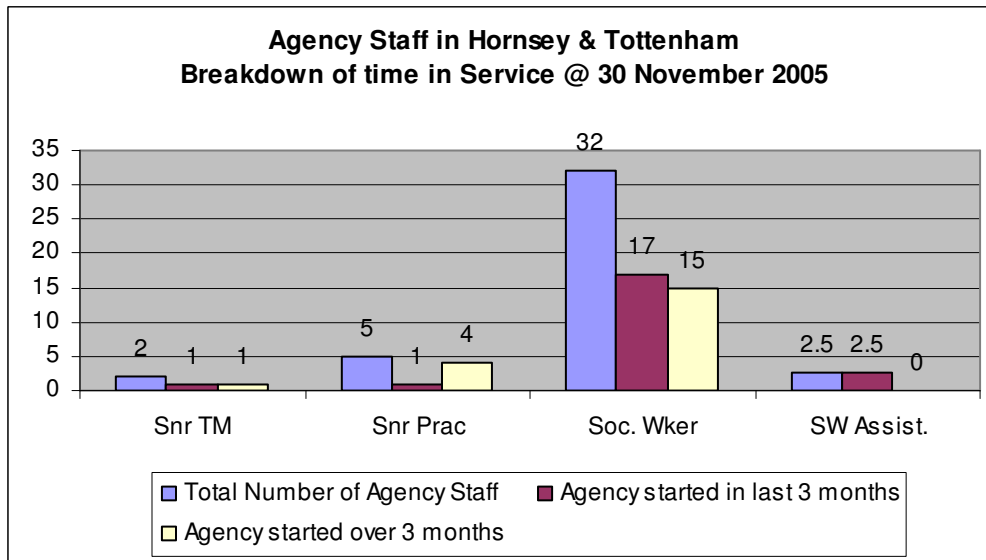
**30 November 2005**

	Staffing Establishment		Permanent		Acting	Short Term Contract	Agency [started in the last 3 months]		Vacant	
No of Service Managers	1		1							
No. of Senior Team Managers	3		2				1 [1]			
Nos of Team Managers	7		7							
No of Senior Practitioners	7		3				2 [0]		2	
No of Social Workers	31		13				18 [10]			
No of Social Work Support Officers	8	5 SWA	8	5 SWA				SWA		SWA
		SSO		3 SSO				SSO		SSO

SWA – Social Work Assistant

SSO – Social Services Officer

## Appendix 1a



Of the 41.5 Agency staff employed, 21.5 started in the last 3 months (52%) and 20 (48%) have been employed for over 3 months

## APPENDIX 2

### Timescales for key indicators

Indicator	Timescale for completion
Initial Assessments	7 working days following the referral
Core Assessments	35 working days following the completion of the initial assessment
LAC Reviews in timescale	Reviews due in a particular month – need to have taken place on or before the due date. Initial reviews have to take place by the 28 <sup>th</sup> day of being looked after, the 3 month review is due 3 calendar months after the date IPR held and subsequent 6 monthly reviews are held 6 calendar months from the last review.
Up to date Care Plan	All Care Plans must be reviewed at each LAC review.
LAC Visits	All looked after children to be seen at least every 42 days, with the exception of children in long-term stable placements, where the manager can agree to 3 monthly visits.
Visits to children on the CPR	Visits held in the calendar month
Reviews of Child Protection cases	The percentage of children who were due to have a review in the year, who were reviewed in timescale
Stability of Placements	Calculated monthly – looks at all children looked after who have had 3 or more placements in the year

## Appendix 3

### Children Looked After missing from care between 1/9/2005 – 30/11/2005

- Although these figures relate to children who were missing between 1/9/05 and 30/11/05, 3 had been missing since June and one since August. Three of these are no longer missing.
- 17 children were reported as missing from care at some point between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 30th November 2005.
- The vast majority of children were missing for a period of between 2 days and 2 weeks.
- 15 of those reported missing were aged between 15 and 17 years old. One was 12 (this child returned to home country) and one was 14.
- 2 children who went missing in June were found safe and well in their country of origin.
- 5 children were still missing from care at 30<sup>th</sup> November:

One has been missing since June, one since September, 2 since October and one since November (she returned in December).