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Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	**Tuesday, 13 November 2018**
Time:	**6.00 p.m.**
Venue:	Committee Room 1 - Wallasey Town Hall

This meeting will be webcast at
https://wirral.public-i.tv/core/portal/home

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AGENDA ITEM 5 SLIDES

5. IMPROVEMENT JOURNEY, DATA TRACKER AND ALL-AGE DISABILITY SERVICE TRANSFORMATION - UPDATE (Pages 1 - 6)

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Children and Young People's Services Improvement Journey Overview and Scrutiny 13 November 2018

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Agenda Item 5

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

- Three consecutive OFSTED monitoring visits concluded progress is being made
- Quality of social work is increasingly effective and is making a difference
- Thresholds are better understood and are increasingly embedded
- Timely responses to concerns about children are being made
- Assessments of need are appropriate and the right services are being provided
- Plans for children are in place and are meeting need
- No child tracked or sampled has been found to be at risk and all had their safeguarding needs met
- Improved quality of services for care leavers
- Referral rates inline with comparator authorities
- Staff overwhelmingly positive about progress and the vision for children in Wirral
- Newly qualified staff positive about the support they receive
- All senior roles recruited to on a permanent basis

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

- Recruitment of a permanent social work workforce remains a challenge
- The number of looked after children has plateaued but remains too high
- Some Police and Health service practice is non-compliant with statutory requirements
- Performance management has improved but is not yet fully embedded across all teams
- The quality of supervision is variable and is not consistently reflective
- Levels of sickness absence in some areas are too high
- More work is needed to ensure a consistent focus on the customer
- Monitoring visit on 12 & 13 December

- **There are less than 100 days left!**

PERFORMANCE HEADLINES

- **Number of contacts** continue to fall each month - reducing from 2147 contacts in May to 1521 in September - **a 29% decrease**.
- **Number of referrals** have fallen - reducing from 431 in June to 359 in September.
- **Number of assessments completed** - increased from 430 in June to 476 in September.
- **Timeliness of assessments improved – 86% of assessments now completed in the agreed timescale**. An increase from 74% in April.
- **Number of children who are subject to a child protection plan** continues to increase from 265 in April to 444 in September - **a 67.5% increase**
- **% of ICPC** taking place in the month and within timescales has increased - in May 74.6% were completed on time compared to 87.5% in September.
- **Number of children who are looked after** continues to plateau at 843 in September.
- **Number of children missing episodes -** 159 episodes in May to 135 episodes in September – **a reduction of 15%.**

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ALL AGE DISABILTY SERVICE

- More work is needed to ensure consistency of practice against the requirement to be good working with CWP and Head of Practice Improvement
- The quality of supervision needs to improve so that it is reflective and results in improved practice in every case
- The high cost of support packages including the high cost of specialist school/college placements especially when transferring to adult is the challenge remains challenging.
- Demand management strategy needs to be developed and implemented
- A fundamental review of Short Breaks is about to begin
- Recruitment of experienced social workers is improving but remains a challenge
- Engagement from and with partners in supporting children and families that don't need and do need a social care service needs strengthening
- Continue to explore collaborative working with SEND

QUESTIONS?