



Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	Tuesday, 26 September 2017
Time:	6.00 pm
Venue:	Committee Room 1 - Wallasey Town Hall

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AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / PARTY WHIP**

Members are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any item(s) on this agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

Members are reminded that they should also declare whether they are subject to a party whip in connection with any item(s) to be considered and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of the whipping arrangement.

3. **MINUTES** **(Pages 1 - 12)**

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2017.

4. **MERSEYSIDE POLICE - ROLE IN SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES**

Presentation.

5. **IMPROVEMENT PLAN - UPDATE PLUS POSITION STATEMENT**

Presentation.

6. **CHILDREN AND SOCIAL WORK ACT - IMPLICATIONS FOR THE WIRRAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD** (Pages 13 - 16)
7. **SUMMARY OF STANDARDS – PROVISIONAL OUTCOMES FOR EARLY YEARS, KEY STAGE 1 AND KEY STAGE 2 AUGUST 2017**
(Pages 17 - 60)
8. **FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT QUARTER 1 2017/18**
(Pages 61 - 68)
9. **2017/18 QUARTER 1 WIRRAL PLAN PERFORMANCE**
(Pages 69 - 88)
10. **POLICY INFORM** (Pages 89 - 112)
11. **WORKSHOP REGARDING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SCRUTINY AND THE WSCB - FEEDBACK** (Pages 113 - 120)
12. **FEEDBACK FROM JOINT WORKSHOP ON ALL-AGE DISABILITIES AND MENTAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION PROJECT**
(Pages 121 - 130)
13. **REALITY CHECK VISIT TO THE MULTI AGENCY SAFEGUARDING HUB (MASH) - FEEDBACK** (Pages 131 - 136)
14. **CHILDREN & FAMILIES OSC - WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE REPORT** (Pages 137 - 144)
15. **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR (PART 1)**
16. **EXEMPT INFORMATION - EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The public may be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information.

RECOMMENDATION – That in accordance with section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act. The public interest test has been applied and favours exclusion.

17. **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR (PART 2)**

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 20 June 2017

<u>Present:</u>	Councillor	T Usher (Chair)	
	Councillors	M McLaughlin A Brighthouse W Clements P Hayes T Jones B Kenny C Meaden	W Smith J Stapleton A Sykes W Ward Wood G Ellis (In place of C Povall) S Williams (In place of T Anderson)
<u>Apologies</u>		Mr D Cunningham Mr M Harrison	Mrs G Peters

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that apologies had been received for Councillors Tom Anderson and Cherry Povall, and co-opted members Damian Cunningham, Mark Harrison and Gill Peters.

Councillors Gerry Ellis and Steve Williams acted as deputies for Councillors Povall and Anderson respectively.

The Chair formally welcomed Deborah Gornik who was attending her first meeting since her appointment as Interim Director of Children's Services. She extended her welcome to Simone White (Deputy Director: Children's Social Care) Carly Brown (Head of Quality, Performance and Improvement, Children) who had recently joined the Council, and to Councillor Gill Wood (attending her first meeting since her election) and other Members who were also new to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee remit.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any item(s) on this agenda and, if so, to declare them and state what they were.

Councillor Chris Meaden declared a personal interest in a number of items on the agenda by virtue of her daughter's employment within the Children and Young Peoples Department. She remained in the meeting and took part in the discussions.

3 BRIEFING PACK - CHILDREN & FAMILIES OSC

The Chair welcomed all to the first meeting of the Municipal Year and indicated that Item 3, Briefing Pack – Children and Families OSC (for noting) would be considered together with Item 4 – Committee Remit and Key Issues for the Municipal Year (presentation).

4 COMMITTEE REMIT AND KEY ISSUES FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Committee considered a presentation introduced by Deborah Gornik, Director of Children’s Services. The presentation updated Members on the review of scrutiny arrangements that had taken place during summer 2016 to align Overview and Scrutiny to the Wirral Plan themes, and to enable scrutiny to best support and add value to the delivery of the Wirral Plan.

The Director of Children’s Services informed that a further review of the structure had taken place at the end of the 2016/17 Municipal Year prompted by Member concerns regarding the size/remit of the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee and an increased focus on the Improvement Plan for Children’s Services following the OFSTED report. She added that as a result it was agreed to split the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee to create:

- Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee

The Committee noted its wider brief in respect of Wirral Plan Pledges, namely:

- Children are ready for school
- Young people are ready for work and adulthood
- Vulnerable children reach their full potential
- Reduce child and family poverty
- Zero tolerance to domestic violence

and to review and / or scrutinise the commissioning, management and performance of services for:

- Children’s Care
- Children’s Services
- Education
- Children’s Safeguarding Cross cutting pledges

The Director of Children further informed that a number of additional cross-cutting themes also fell under the Committee’s remit i.e. people with disabilities live independently (shared with Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee) and relevant issues relating to Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

Members noted the Committee's responsibilities with regard to the review and scrutiny of service delivery, performance and management of services for Children's Social Care and Safeguarding and the Ofsted Improvement Journey.

Resolved – That the briefing pack and presentation be noted.

5 IMPROVEMENT PLAN - UPDATE

The Committee considered a presentation introduced by Deborah Gornik, Director of Children's Services. The presentation provided Members with an update on the Safeguarding Improvement Journey in respect of the Ofsted report published in September 2016 that had identified the majority of Children's Social Care services to be inadequate and outlined 19 recommendations for the local authority and 7 for the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

The Director of Children's Services informed that Work had begun immediately to address such areas through the creation of an Improvement Board and the required Improvement Plan, the Department for Education had appointed a Wirral Improvement Partner to work with the local authority and government had approved the Improvement Plan.

The Committee noted that many actions undertaken had created the conditions to support change and improvement, and within three elements of the plan – People, Practice and Performance - 103 actions had been developed – 89 had been delivered, with 14 that remained outstanding but within planned timescales.

The Chair asked the Director Children's Services about the timescales for the improvement plan, and noted that on average and given the starting point such a journey was expected to take in the region of 2 to 3 years to ensure the basics were in place and that to achieve a 'good' rating could take 4 to 5 years.

The Director of Children's Services informed that within the three elements of the plan the following actions had been addressed:

People

- Leadership, management and social work staffing structures had been reviewed to ensure there was sufficient capacity and capability across the service
- A senior, permanent, leadership team for the Children and Young People's Department had been recruited to drive forward improvement, integration and model expected behaviours and standards

- An Induction programme for new staff with clear standards and expectations for Children's Social Care had also recently been launched.

Practice

- Capacity had been increased to undertake strategy discussions and initial child protection investigations in a more timely way.
- Conference calls had been implemented within the 'integrated front door' to enable virtual strategy meetings to take place with all relevant professionals.
- A 'First Response Team' of Social Workers had been established to undertake all new Section 47 Enquiries and Assessments.
- The Social Workers and Managers practice standards had been issued to ensure clarity for staff on the standards of practice expected in relation to assessments, plans and the management of risk.
- Wirral had also hosted the 'Right Service, Right Time' and 'Early Help' conferences early 2017.

Performance

- Data quality assurance checks had been implemented to ensure that areas for inaccurate reporting were known and addressed starting with the areas identified by Ofsted.
- A range of performance information under the Performance Management and Quality Assurance Framework had been developed that included: Daily Headline Reports, Weekly and Monthly Performance Reports and a range of 'Self-Serve' reports.
- Joint working through the Children and Young People commissioning with partners across health, education and social care to develop an accurate needs assessment for Wirral had been promoted.

The Director of Children's Services reported that as part of Phase 2 of the improvement Journey the following actions would be developed:

- Through strong leadership 'siloes' delivery across the department and the districts will be reduced and an integrated offer promoted.
- Synchronising the work of the Improvement Board and that of the department transformation programme, whilst retaining individual core reporting and governance structures.
- Providing strategic support to the Improvement Board and the wider partnership arrangements to take an active role in developing and

understanding the impact of improvement activity to ensure that resources are targeted appropriately.

The Chair thanked the Director of Children's Services for her presentation.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

6 **SCRUTINY SAFEGUARDING REVIEW – DECEMBER 2015: UPDATE OF PROGRESS**

The Director of Children's Services introduced her report that would provide an update on the progress made in implementing the 20 key recommendations from the Safeguarding Scrutiny Review that the Families and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee had undertaken in December 2015. The report provided an opportunity to cross reference and ensure that any outstanding areas would be incorporated into the Ofsted Safeguarding Improvement Plan to ensure there was no duplication or omission with regard to priorities and reporting.

The Committee noted that the findings of the report were crucial to the delivery of the Children and Young People 20/20 pledges.

The report informed that since the Ofsted inspection of local authority services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and review of the Local Safeguarding Children Board in July 2016, there had been a significant investment and activity with regard to the Safeguarding Improvement Journey. This had included the establishment of an Improvement Board (including an independent chair), the production of a high level Improvement Plan (see minute 5 above), a renewed Local Safeguarding Children's Board and a DfE Review of progress to date.

A Member requested that the Reality Check visits (Recommendation 16 – December 2015) referred to in the report be extended to include partner organisations e.g. practitioners, police, etc. The Director of Children's Services stated that the request for wider engagement would be explored.

In response to a question from a Member regarding the recruitment and retention of social workers, the Director of Children's Services informed that a review was currently underway and included a 'whole series of initiatives', looking not only at remuneration but training, communication, office accommodation and locations.

The Chair referenced that, in respect of the Director's comment regarding training, that no follow up note to the multi-agency development day planned for September 2016 had been made.

Members noted the issues affecting recruitment of Social Workers, and 'reality check' actions being undertaken by senior Officers to experience and

understand the Social Worker role by co-locating in district offices and access to the information systems used by staff.

Resolved – That

- (1) endorse the progress made against the 20 Safeguarding Scrutiny Review recommendations be endorsed;**
- (2) key areas of focus regarding the safeguarding of children and young people, as identified in the report produced by the Families and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee are cross referenced and captured in the Ofsted Improvement Plan be agreed; and**
- (3) Further training relating to the Committee’s remit be provided for members.**

7 SCHOOLS STRATEGY

The Committee considered a presentation introduced by Sue Talbot, Lead Commissioner: Schools. The presentation provided Members with a comprehensive update on Wirral Council’s Schools Strategy. The Committee was informed of the three aspects system of leadership that underpinned the Strategy, namely:

- Teaching Schools (Specialist Leaders in Education SLEs)
- National Leaders in Education (NLEs) and Local Leaders in Education (LLEs)
- National Leaders of Governance (NLGs)

The Lead Commissioner: Schools informed that Teaching Schools had an important role to play in a school-led system and in school improvement, and that Teaching Schools will become centres of excellence, taking on a more focused role that prioritised the co-ordination and delivery of high quality school-based initial teacher training (ITT). In addition Teaching Schools were to provide high quality school-to-school support to share best practice, particularly to schools that need it most, and provide evidence-based professional and leadership development for teachers and leaders across their network.

The Committee was apprised that NLEs were outstanding head teachers who, together with the staff in their national support school (NSS), used their skills and experience to support schools in challenging circumstances. In addition to leading their own schools, NLEs worked to increase the leadership capacity of other schools helped raise standards.

The Lead Commissioner: Schools explained that NLEs could be deployed in a number of ways and each deployment could be tailored to suit the needs of the school receiving support. NLEs were expected to support schools in the

most challenging circumstances such as those in an Ofsted category, facing closure or amalgamation or falling below the floor standards.

The Lead Commissioner: Schools further explained that a NLE met with the head teacher(s) and senior staff to discuss the challenges faced and what help was needed and that their work was tailored in partnership with the school.

The Committee was further updated on the local context, in summary:

- Currently there were 3 Teaching Schools (St. John Plessington, Weatherhead High School and Our Lady of Pity Catholic Primary School).
- One more primary school had submitted an application.
- Three primary schools were working on a collaborative bid within twelve months.
- Wirral contained Six National Leaders in Education.
- The school improvement work of the teaching schools was strategically led by the School to School Partnership Board.
- The LA Lead School Commissioner commissioned school improvement work from the Teaching Schools and NLEs.
- Four Locality Boards would be operational from September 2017.

Members questioned the Lead Commissioner: Schools on a variety of topics arising from her presentation that included teacher training, funding for improvements, special schools, private schools and retention of teachers.

A Member also requested additional feedback on the matter of the statistical information provided re Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). The Lead Commissioner Schools confirmed that the relevant statistics would be provided to Members following the meeting.

The Committee noted that the Schools Strategy provided the following information, in summary:

- An over-arching strategic view of the education offer / provision;
- Pupil Places - offering parental preference;
- A coordinated approach for system leadership and school to school support;
- The changing relationship with schools as school improvement statutory duties move from the Local Authority to the Regional School Commissioner's office; and
- The development of Multi Academy Trusts.

The Lead Commissioner: Schools presentation also summarised information regarding:

Wirral's Priorities are to:

- Ensure all Wirral's children and young people attend schools judged as 'good' or better by Ofsted.
- Raise the aspiration of all children and young people, with a particular focus on Wirral's most vulnerable pupils, so they are ready to learn, resilient to change and have the skills and confidence to lead successful lives.
- Ensure that all Wirral's children and young people were educated in schools that were right for them and which best met their needs.

Members noted the risks i.e. the removal of the Education Services Grants (ESG) that meant, that from April 2018, funding available to offset salary costs for a number of Council employees who were responsible for facilitating the delivery of the strategy and ensured the Council was able to meet its current statutory duties will be reduced by a further £940,000. This meant that unless these posts were funded from core budget the posts will be at risk which could result in reduced LA strategic overview and knowledge of Wirral schools. Many of the LA's statutory duties could be compromised.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

8 2016/17 QUARTER 4 AND YEAR END WIRRAL PLAN PERFORMANCE - PEOPLE THEME

The Director of Children's Services introduced the report of the Executive Director for Strategy that provided the 2016/17 Quarter 4 (January – March 2017) performance report for Wirral Plan pledges under the People theme. The Quarter 4 report was included as Appendix 1 to the report, and provided a description of the progress in Quarter 4 that included available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

The Year End closedown report was included as Appendix 2 and provided a summary analysis of improvement of performance against measures and delivery of Pledge strategy actions at year end.

The Director of Children's Services informed that following restructure of the Council's Scrutiny function, future reports would be broken down to align with the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference.

Members commented on a number of Wirral Plan Indicators of concern, namely those relating to domestic abuse, family intervention, self-harm and child poverty, seeking reassurance that these matters would remain high priorities for the Council and its partners. The Director of Children's Services confirmed that these subjects formed part of a cross-cutting area of work that included a number of preventative actions across services.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

9 **FINANCIAL MONITORING - 2016/17 Q4**

Andrew Roberts, Senior Manager, Financial Management introduced the report of the Assistant Director: Finance (Section 151 Officer) that set out the Council’s revenue and capital monitoring position for 2016/17 year-end (31 March 2017).

The Senior Manager, Financial Management informed that the 2016/17 out-turn position was an overall underspend of £2.9 million (£0.4 million underspend was forecast at quarter 3) and that People (former Families and Wellbeing areas) had a significant forecast overspend that had been offset by largely one-off savings within Business Services Treasury Management.

The year-end capital report updated the capital programme and reflected significant re-profiling of schemes between years to reduce the 2016/17 capital programme to £30.7 million. The actual capital out-turn at year end was £25.3 million.

Members attention was directed to Table 4 within the report (reproduced below) that identified the main pressures to the budget out-turn (£5.6 million for Children’s Services):

Major Variations Budget to Out-turn 2016/17	£m	£m
People:		
Children’s Services - Looked After Children placements	+2.3	
Children’s Services - Agency spend on social workers	+3.3	
Adult Social Care- Increased Community Care costs net of reductions in staffing and non-commissioned spend	+3.9	
Environment		
Contract efficiencies – Supporting People		-0.7
Income – Waste and Litter Charges		-0.6
Business:		
Treasury Management - one off MRP adjustment		-6.9
Treasury management – one-off interest savings		-2.5
Revenue Budget Contingency – unallocated		-0.7
Contract and various corporate savings		-1.0

Members noted that overall a net underspend of £2.9 million at the year-end has been transferred to General Fund Balances.

Members questioned Mr Roberts on a number of points namely Capital Investment in Schools, the cost of interim posts arising from long term staff absence in Social Services and debt write-offs.

The Senior Manager, Financial Management provided a further update on the Council’s overall position regarding collection of sundry debts and provisions for bad debt.

The Director of Children's Services informed that lost days due to sickness in the Service was high, but figures were skewed by a number of long term absences (78% of the total figure) that affected the remaining figures amounting to 3.9 days absence due to sickness – that was lower than the Council average.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

10 **CHILDREN & FAMILIES OSC - WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE REPORT**

The Chair introduced his report that set out the process of developing and managing the scrutiny work programme for the Municipal Year. The report informed Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee, in cooperation with the other three Overview and Scrutiny Committees, was responsible for proposing and delivering an annual scrutiny work programme. He informed that the work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the delivery of the Wirral Plan pledges that were within the remit of the Committee.

The Committee noted that it was envisaged that the work programme will be formed from a combination of scrutiny reviews, standing items and requested officer reports. The report provided the Committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year. Some initial ideas for a work programme, based on issues which were of interest to members of the former People Overview and Scrutiny Committee, were attached as an appendix to the report.

The Chair highlighted a number of key points pertinent to his report, namely:

- Further work was required to define a full work programme for the year. The Chair and Spokespersons will consider how best to do that prior to the next Committee meeting in September;
- Nominations were required for the Statutory Care Plan Task and Finish Group;
- Reality Check visits – the proposed process and propose an initial visit to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH);
- Members had previously requested that a workshop be held to determine an appropriate relationship between scrutiny and the Local Safeguarding Children Board. It was proposed to hold a workshop during the summer; and
- A joint workshop with members of the Adult Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny was proposed to scrutinise emerging proposals for the All-age disability and mental health services. It was proposed to hold a workshop during the summer.

Recommended – That

- (1) the proposed Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2017/18 be approved;**
- (2) nominations for the Chair and membership of the Task and Finish Group for the Statutory Care Plan scrutiny review be provided to Committee Services and/or Scrutiny Support;**
- (3) the establishment of a programme of Reality Check Visits to form part of the Committee’s annual work programme be agreed, commencing with a visit to the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub);**
- (4) the proposal to establish a Members’ workshop to determine a more effective working relationship with the Local Safeguarding Children Board be noted;**
- (5) delegated authority be given to the Chair, Vice Chair and Spokespersons to give further detailed consideration to the Committee’s work programme prior to the next scheduled Committee meeting in September; and**
- (6) delegated authority be given to the Chair, Vice Chair and Spokespersons of both the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Adult Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to:
 - (i) make arrangements to hold an appropriate workshop to scrutinise proposals for the all-age disability and mental health service; and**
 - (ii) if necessary, to approve and refer any report arising from the workshop directly to Cabinet.****

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Report Title: Children and Social Work Act - Implications for the WSCB

Report Date: 26th September 2017

1.0 Background and Introduction

1.1 The foundations of the Children and Social Work Act, insofar as it applies to Local Safeguarding Children Boards, lie in the Wood Review of LSCBs. The aim of the review was:

'To lead a fundamental review of the role and functions of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) within the context of local strategic multi-agency working. This will include the child death review process, and consideration of how the intended centralisation of serious case reviews (SCRs) will work effectively at local level'.

1.2 The report, published on 26 May 2016 made a total of 34 recommendations, the chief of which – accepted by the Government – was the proposal to replace the existing statutory framework for LSCBs with a new statutory framework for multi-agency arrangements for child protection; to require all areas to move towards new multi-agency arrangements; to require the three key agencies (health, police and local authorities) to design multi-agency arrangements for protecting children, and to work together on key strategic issues; to place an expectation on schools and other relevant agencies involved in the protection of children to co-operate with the new multi-agency arrangements; to end the existing system of serious case reviews, and replace it with new national learning framework overseen by a new independent body; and to transfer national oversight of Child Death Overview Panels from the Department for Education to the Department of Health.

1.3 The changes required legislation and was introduced in the House of Lords as the 'Children and Social Work Bill' in May 2016.

2. Children and Social Work Act

2.1 The Children and Social Work Act received Royal Assent on the 27th April 2017. The Act was introduced to make provision about looked after children; to make provision in relation to the welfare of children; and to make provision about the regulation as social workers. The Act aims to:

- improve support for looked after children in England and Wales especially for those leaving care
- enable better learning about effective approaches to child protection and care in England
- establish a new regulatory regime for the social work profession in England

2.2 As well as the central provisions the Act also introduces changes which have major implications for LSCB's, including making provision for new local safeguarding arrangements; replacing Serious Case Reviews and reforming Child Death Overview Panels. The Act also contains important proposals on social work regulation through creation of a new organisation called Social Work England who will take over regulatory responsibility from the HCPC and the statutory inclusion of PHSE in schools and other clauses.

2.3 The controversial 'different ways of working' provisions were dropped by the government at the report stage.

2.4 As the Act received Royal Assent immediately prior to the dissolution of Parliament it was published without any accompanying guidance or a timetable for implementation.

3. Children Looked After

3.1 In respect of children looked after the Act includes:

- corporate parenting principles to which local authorities must have regard
- local authorities in England must publish a Local offer for care leavers, providing information about services which the local authority offers that may assist care leavers in, or in preparing for, adulthood and independent living
- extension of local authority support to Care Leavers to age 25, including provision of Personal Advisers, assessment needs and preparation of a Pathway Plan
- educational achievement of previously looked after children - local authorities in England must make advice and information available for the purpose of promoting the educational achievement of previously looked after children educated in their area; schools must designate a member of the staff as having responsibility for promoting the educational achievement of previously looked after children
- additional considerations in relation to the permanence provisions which a court, when deciding whether to make a care order, is required to consider: the impact on the child concerned of any harm that he or she suffered or was likely to suffer; the current and future needs of the child (including needs arising out of that impact); the way in which the long-term plan for the upbringing of the child would meet those current and future needs;
- **schedule 1** - Placing children in secure accommodation elsewhere in Great Britain - **has come into force**. This allows local authorities in England and Wales to place children in secure accommodation in Scotland under the Children Act 1989

4. Implications for the WSCB

4.1 Key aspects of the Act relevant to WSCB are:

- *child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel*
- *local arrangements for safeguarding and promoting welfare of children*
- *child Death Reviews*

4.2 Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel – National Responsibility

- will replace the National Panel for SCR's
- panel will consist of chair and members appointed by the Secretary of State
- the functions of the panel are to:
 - identify *serious child safeguarding cases* in England which raise issues that are complex or of national importance, and
 - where they consider it appropriate to arrange for those cases to be reviewed under their supervision

- panel have responsibility for appointing reviewers
- reports should identify any improvements to be made by safeguarding partners or others to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- reports should be published but panel can choose not to if they consider it appropriate
- *serious child safeguarding cases* means cases in which:
 - abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected by a local authority or another person exercising functions in relation to children, and
 - the child has died or been seriously harmed
- LA's must notify the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel if:
 - the child dies or is seriously harmed in the local authority's area, or
 - while normally resident in the local authority's area, the child dies or is seriously harmed outside England

4.3 Local Arrangements for Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children

Local Safeguarding Children Boards, which have been the statutory multi-agency partnership for ensuring effective child protection and the promotion of the welfare of children, are to be abolished and there is considerable uncertainty at the moment about the locally determined arrangements that will replace them. There is likely to be a patchwork of different arrangements across the country. The so-called "exemption clauses" of the Act attracted much debate, and were eventually removed. The main provisions for this part of the Act are:

- abolition of LSCB's and replacement with other local arrangements
- local arrangements are the responsibility of the three statutory *safeguarding partners*:
 - the local authority
 - Merseyside Police
 - Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
- the safeguarding partners are responsible for ensuring *relevant agencies* work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people
- The safeguarding partners must also:
 - publish arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
 - include arrangements for the scrutiny of the effectiveness of the local arrangements by an independent person
 - publish an annual report about the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements
 - ensure adequate funding and resourcing of the local arrangements is in place, including for staff, goods, services, review costs, accommodation and other resources
- Safeguarding partner areas may be combined to include two or more local authority areas

4.4 Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

- the safeguarding partners are responsible:
 - (a) to identify serious child safeguarding cases which raise issues of importance in relation to the area, and
 - for those cases to be reviewed under the supervision of the safeguarding partners, where they consider it appropriate
- the purpose of the reviews is to identify any improvements that should be made by persons in the area to safeguard and promote the welfare of children

- the safeguarding partners must share the report with the Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and publish it unless it is considered inappropriate to do so

4.5 Child Death Reviews

- *child death review partners* (the local authority and Wirral CCG) are responsible for making arrangements to review each child death
- the child death review partners must also make arrangements to collect and analyse information about child deaths in their area relevant to the welfare of children in the area or to public health and safety, and to consider whether it would be appropriate for anyone to take action in relation to any matters identified
- the partners must also publish reports about what they have done as a result of the child death arrangements and how effective the arrangements have been
- the partners are responsible for funding and resourcing the child death arrangements including staff, goods, services and accommodation
- two or more local authority areas may agree that their areas be treated as a single area for the purposes of reviewing child deaths

5. Implementation

5.1 Implementation of the Act is the responsibility of the Department for Education. Draft orders, regulations and the revised guidance for '*Working Together*' (plus anything else if it does not all come as one document) will be prepared in the **summer 2017** and will be sent out for **12 week consultation in the autumn**. The expectation of the Association of Independent LSCB Chairs is that local plans will be drawn up and agreed for implementation by no later than **April 2019** and perhaps as early as April 2018 in areas where new arrangements have been agreed.

6. Recommendations

For the WSCB:

- Ensuring early conversations begin between the LA, CCG and Police about how they want safeguarding arrangements to be shaped in the future, including funding, resourcing and governance arrangements
- Consider whether arrangements will exist at the current single LA footprint level or whether a wider footprint area is preferred (and how Merseyside CDOP might continue)
- For the WSCB to participate in the consultation

For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- To be aware of the planned changes and the implications for the WSCB and oversight of safeguarding
- To participate in the consultation and help shape future local arrangements

Report Author:

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Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday, 26 September 2017

REPORT TITLE:	Summary of Standards – Provisional Outcomes for Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 August 2017
REPORT OF:	Director for Children's Services

REPORT SUMMARY

The Standards 2017 report provides an executive summary followed by a detail analysis for the pupil outcomes at the age of 5 (Good level of development), the age of 7 (Key Stage 1 SATs) and at the age of 11 (Key Stage 2 SATs).

Comparisons have been made with the results nationally wherever possible. However many of the national results have not been published yet. When the statistical first releases are published at the end of September the report will be amended.

Early Years – The percentage of children attaining a good level of development (69.4%) is similar to last year.

Year 1 – Fewer children achieved the national standard in phonics.

Year 2 – More children at the age of 7 attained the standard this year in reading and writing and mathematics (RWM). Writing showed the biggest improvement.

Year 6 - More children at the age of 11 attained the standard this year in reading and writing and mathematics (RWM). Mathematics saw the biggest improvement.

This report provides a detailed analysis of pupil outcomes which can be used to measure the impact of work undertaken in the following pledges:

1. Children are ready for school

The Wirral plan indicator scrutinises the percentage of children attaining a good level of development. A supporting measure is the narrowing of the gap between the attainment of children in receipt of free schools meals and those children who are not. Another supporting measure looks at the percentage of children who are looked after achieving a good level of development.

2. Young people are ready for work and adulthood

The supporting measures in this pledge are: - to reduce the gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2; to narrow the gap in progress between pupils with a SEN statement/EHCP and their peers at the end of Key Stage 2 and to increase the percentage of children looked after who attained the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics.

3. Vulnerable children reach their full potential

One of the supporting measures in this pledge is the same as the one in Children are ready for school pledge e.g. at the end of the Foundation Stage the percentage of children who are looked after achieving a good level of development increases.

This report provides the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee with a very detailed analysis of outcomes for all pupil groups at the end of each key stage in the primary phase of education. The analysis of outcomes has also been provided by locality (Birkenhead, South Wirral, Wallasey and West Wirral).

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to approve the Standards 2017 report which is appended to this report.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

The Standards 2017 report has been produced to robustly evaluate some of the Wirral Plan pledges, in particular Children are Ready for School; Young People are Ready for Work and Adulthood and Vulnerable Children Reach their Full Potential. The report will be shared with headteachers and used as an essential tool to challenge underperformance as well as celebrate successes/improvements in Wirral schools.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No other options have been considered.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The pupil outcomes for each key stage are scrutinised by school improvement officers when the data is initially received in July and August each year. At this point the data is provisional and no national averages are confirmed. The provisional data is scrutinised to determine where there have been improvements and where standards have deteriorated. The data is analysed at a local authority level, then further scrutiny takes place using pupil characteristics such as gender, disadvantage, SEN, children looked after to determine underachievement and key areas for development.

A more detailed scrutiny is undertaken by each of the four localities to determine which schools have underperformed. The locality boards identify upward and downward trends so that best practice can be shared and appropriate support and challenge deployed.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

The Standards 2017 report will be a key document used to implement the Wirral Schools strategy. The necessary challenge to underperforming schools will be co-ordinated in partnership by existing staff resource. However the ESG funding of this staff resource ceases in August 2017 and is replaced by a new School Improvement monitoring and brokering grant.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

The Corporate Risk Register will be refreshed in line with the new Wirral Plan developments to ensure that any risks to delivery are understood and mitigating actions are put in place as appropriate.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

The report will be shared with all headteachers in September 2017. The School to School Partnership Board will hold the locality boards to account for any work commissioned to improve standards in schools identified as

underperforming. The locality boards will scrutinise the data and determine key areas for development. Improvement work will be commissioned and evaluated on a regular basis.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

(a) Yes and impact review can be found via the following link:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments/equality-impact-assessments-2017-1>

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APPENDICES Standards 2017 Report (The most recent draft report will be included – The final report will be circulated before the meeting if there are any significant changes).

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

Executive Summary

*Please note all results are provisional at the time of writing the report
(August 2017)*

Early Years

The percentage of children attaining a good level of development (GLD) at the age of 5 has remained static for the last 3 years (69.4%).

More girls attain GLD than boys. The gender gap has narrowed by 4% due to boys' attainment increasing and the girls' decreasing by 2.7%.

More Children Looked After attained a good level of development (12) than in previous years. The gap between attainment for all pupils and CLA (26.5%) was roughly the same as the previous year (25.4%).

Attainment of children who have English as Additional Language (EAL) has decreased year on year for the last 3 years. The attainment of Black Minority Ethnic children has remained the same as last year.

More children with SEN (not a statement/EHCP) achieved a good level of development (increase of 3%).

More children born in the autumn and spring attained GLD than children born in the summer. However fewer autumn born children attained the standard this year.

The free school meal gap has widened by 2.6% to 21.4%. Attainment of non free school meal children has increased slightly (0.3%) to 73.7%. However the attainment for free school meal children has decreased by 3.7% to 52.3%.

The South Wirral and Wallasey localities showed improvement from last year 1.8% and 2.8% respectively, whereas attainment in the West Wirral and Birkenhead localities decreased.

Year One

Fewer children achieved the standard in phonics (76%). Less children in the Birkenhead locality met the standard. The largest decrease from last year was in the Wallasey locality (-7.2%). There were some real anomalies this year, for example one school's results plummeted from 88.2% to 28.6%.

Key Stage One

More children at the age of 7 attained the expected standard this year (an improvement of 4%) for attainment in reading and writing and mathematics combined (RWM). Attainment remains below the national average but the gap is narrowing. Fewer children looked after met the expected standard this year.

When scrutinising individual subjects writing showed the biggest improvement (an increase of 3.4%) for all pupils.

Children looked after did better in reading with 33% meeting the standard. However the attainment gap between all children and CLA has widened from 32.5% to 40.4%. In writing 18.5% children looked after met the standard, with the attainment gap increasing from 33.1% to 47.3%. In mathematics 29.6% CLA met the standard which is significantly less than last year. The attainment gap between all children and CLA has increased from 26.2% to 42.7%.

The gender gap has narrowed in reading and writing due to improved attainment by the boys. There is no significant gap between boys and girls in mathematics. This is attributed to more boys attaining the expected standard.

Fewer SEN children with statements attained the expected level in reading, writing and mathematics. In each subject attainment is below the national average.

More SEN children without EHCPs met the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics.

The gap between children with SEN without an EHCP and all children narrowed in reading, writing and mathematics.

In reading, writing and mathematics autumn born pupils outperformed those pupils born in the spring and summer, though attainment for all groups was better than last year.

All localities saw improvements on the number of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading and writing and mathematics. South Wirral locality ranked the highest, with West Wirral showing the most improvement (up 5.9% to 64.5%).

More disadvantaged children and non disadvantaged children met the expected standard in all three subjects so closing the gap (2.1% in writing and mathematics and 1% in reading).

More free school meal children and non free school meal children met the expected standard in all subjects. The free school meal gap narrowed in reading (0.5%) and mathematics (1.9%) but widened in writing (0.5%).

Key Stage Two

More children at the age of 11 attained the expected standard in reading and writing and mathematics (RWM) than last year – an increase of 8% (49% to 57%). However attainment remains below the national average by 4%.

More looked after children attained the expected standard this year. The gap between all Wirral pupils and CLA has narrowed by 1% from 17.1% to 16.2%.

Attainment in mathematics and reading showed the biggest improvement, 7% and 6% respectively.

More free school meal pupils and non free school meal pupils met the expected standard. As a result of an increase in FSM pupils meeting the standard the free school meal gap in RWM narrowed by 4.9% to 22.3%

For all Wirral pupils the disadvantage gap for RWM has narrowed by 3.3% and is attributable to more disadvantaged pupils meeting the expected standard this year.

Comparing all SEN pupils with non SEN pupils in RWM the gap widened by 6.6% because considerably more non SEN pupils attained the expected standard in reading and writing and mathematics. When compared to non SEN pupils, all SEN pupils made similar improvement in writing. Mathematics saw the lowest improvement so the gap was wider.

Reading

Attainment in reading for all pupils has increased by 6% to 70%, but is below the national average by 1%. Wallasey locality showed the most improvement in reading. More children looked after (56.4%) attained the standard in reading. More importantly the progress measure for CLA was +1.3 which is significantly above the national average. The gap between all Wirral pupils and CLA narrowed by 6% (19.7% to 13.6%).

Girls continue to do better than boys so the gender gap has widened by 0.5% to 7.4%. Girls make good progress where boys do not. West Wirral and South Wirral localities narrowed the gender gap.

EAL and BME pupils attained well and made good progress.

More SEN pupils met the standard but the gap between pupils with SEN and those without widened by 4% to 41%. SEN pupils with and without an EHCP did not make expected progress.

The free school meal gap narrowed because more FSM pupils reached the standard. Wallasey locality narrowed the FSM gap in reading.

The disadvantaged gap in reading has narrowed by 3.3% because more disadvantaged pupils met the standard. Birkenhead and Wallasey localities narrowed the gap.

Writing

Attainment in writing for all pupils has increased by 1.8% to 73.8%, but it is still below the national average (76%). West Wirral locality showed the most improvement in writing.

More children looked after attained the standard in writing (56.4%). The progress measure for CLA was +1.3 which is significantly above the national average. The gap between all Wirral pupils and CLA has halved (25.5% to 12.8%).

The gender gap widened in writing due to boys not making progress (-1.1). Wallasey and West Wirral localities narrowed the gender gap.

EAL and BME pupils attained well and made good progress.

The FSM gap widened because more non free school meal pupils met the standard. South Wirral locality narrowed the FSM gap.

Both SEN pupils with and without an EHCP made good progress. More SEN pupils met the standard but the gap between SEN pupils and non SEN pupils widened by 1% to 57.5%. Wallasey and South Wirral localities narrowed the gap.

The disadvantaged gap in writing has narrowed by 1.6% because more disadvantaged pupils met the standard. Birkenhead and South Wirral localities narrowed the gap.

Mathematics

More pupils attained the expected level in mathematics (71.1%), an increase of 7% from the previous year. But attainment is still below the national average, though the gap is closing. Birkenhead locality showed the most improvement in mathematics.

The progress measure for CLA was +0.4 which is above the national average. The gap between all Wirral pupils and CLA has narrowed slightly (20.4% to 19.8%).

The gender gap narrowed by 1.9% to 0.3% because girls' attainment improvement. However the boys made good progress where girls do not. Birkenhead and West Wirral localities narrowed the gender gap.

More EAL and BME pupils met the standard and made progress.

The FSM gap has narrowed as a result of more FSM pupils than non FSM pupils attaining the expected standard. Birkenhead locality narrowed the gap.

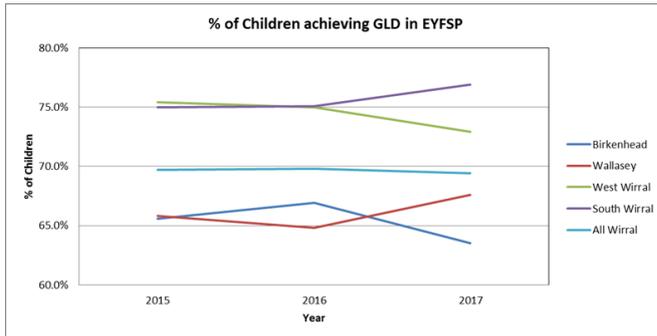
Both SEN pupils with and without an EHCP made progress in mathematics. The gap between SEN and non SEN pupils widened by 5% to 49%. South Wirral locality saw the gap close by 10.5%.

The disadvantaged gap in mathematics has narrowed by 2.6% because more disadvantaged pupils met the standard. Birkenhead and Wallasey localities narrowed the gap.

Detailed Analysis for Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

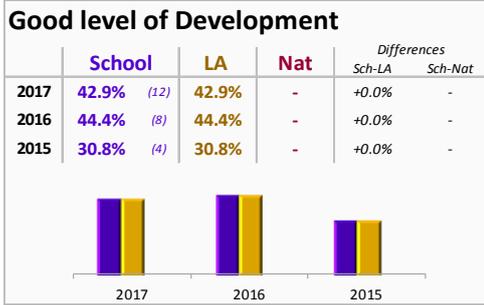
Early Years

All Pupils



	2015	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	65.6%	66.9%	63.5%	↓ -3.4%
Wallasey	65.8%	64.8%	67.6%	↑ 2.8%
West Wirral	75.4%	75.0%	72.9%	↓ -2.1%
South Wirral	75.0%	75.1%	76.9%	↑ 1.8%
All Wirral	69.7%	69.8%	69.4%	↓ -0.4%

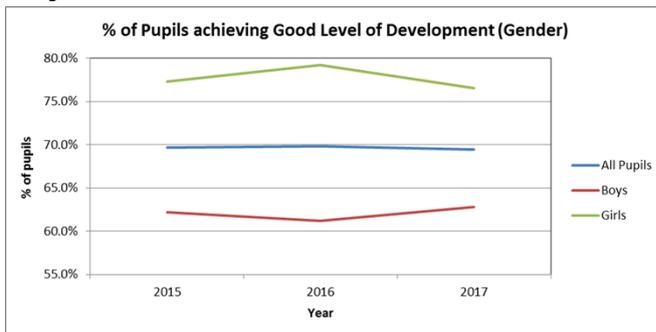
Children Looked After (CLA)



Attainment for all children remains static at around 69%. 30 schools showed a decrease from 2016; 19 remained the same as last year; 41 schools showed an increase. Of the 23 schools targeted for support and challenge 13 improved, 3 remained the same and 7 schools saw a decrease in GLD outcomes. There were some real anomalies in individual school GLD outcomes, for example one school attained 11% and a small number of schools saw outcomes dropped by 30 percentage points or more.

More children looked after attained GLD (12) though the percentage was in line with last year. In 2017 the gap between attainment for all pupils and CLA (26.5%) was roughly the same as the previous year (25.4%).

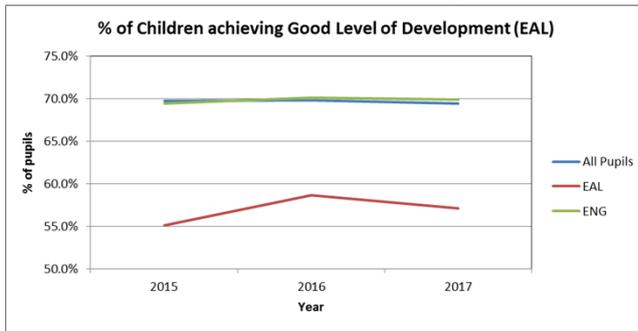
Boys/Girls



	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	69.7%	69.8%	69.4%	↓ -0.4%
Boys	62.2%	61.2%	62.8%	↑ 1.6%
Girls	77.3%	79.2%	76.5%	↓ -2.7%
GAP	-15.1%	-18.0%	-13.7%	↑ 4.3%

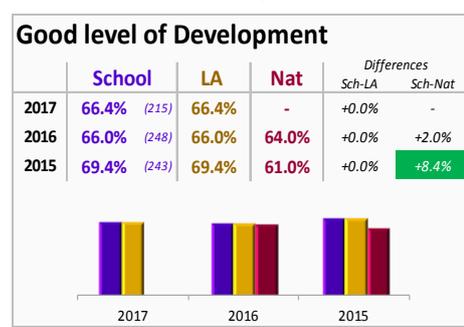
Girls continue to outperform the boys. Boys' attainment has increased (1.6%) whereas the girls' has decreased (2.7%), so the gender gap has narrowed by 4.3%(from 18% to 13.7%).

English as an Additional Language



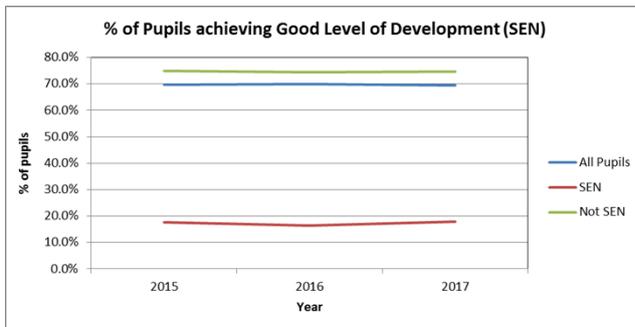
	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	69.7%	69.8%	69.4%	↓ -0.4%
EAL	55.1%	58.6%	57.1%	↓ -1.5%
ENG	69.4%	70.1%	69.9%	↓ -0.2%
GAP	-14.3%	-11.5%	-12.8%	-1.3%

Black Minority Ethnic



Attainment for children with English as an additional language (EAL) has decreased by 1.5%. Attainment for Black Minority Ethnic (BME) has remained the same.

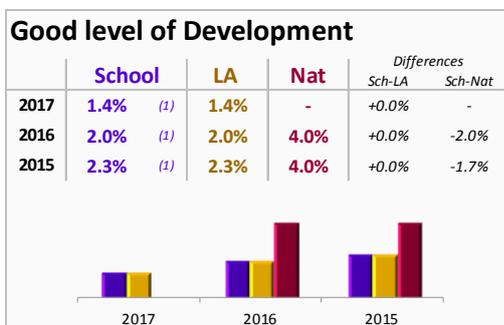
All SEN/Non SEN



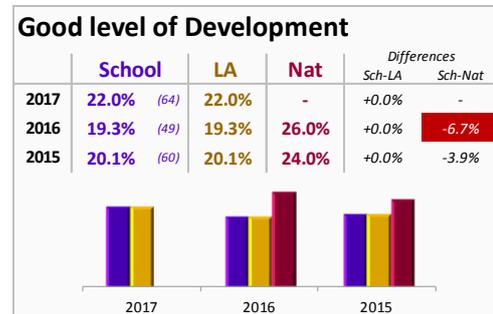
	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	69.7%	69.8%	69.4%	↓ -0.4%
SEN	17.7%	16.4%	17.9%	↑ 1.5%
Not SEN	75.0%	74.4%	74.7%	↑ 0.3%
GAP	-57.3%	-58.0%	-56.8%	1.2%

All SEN and non SEN children showed an improvement in attainment from last year. More SEN children reached the expected standard than non SEN so the gap narrowed by 1.2%.

SEN with Statement/EHCP

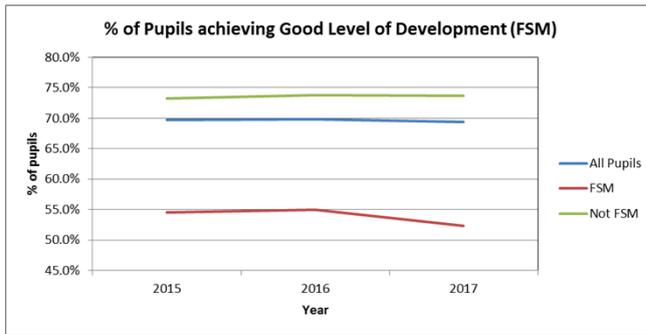


SEN Without a Statement/EHCP



Only one child with an Education Health and Care Plan achieved a good level of development. This has been the case for the last 3 years. The percentage of children with SEN, but without a statement, who attained a good level of development, increased by 3%.

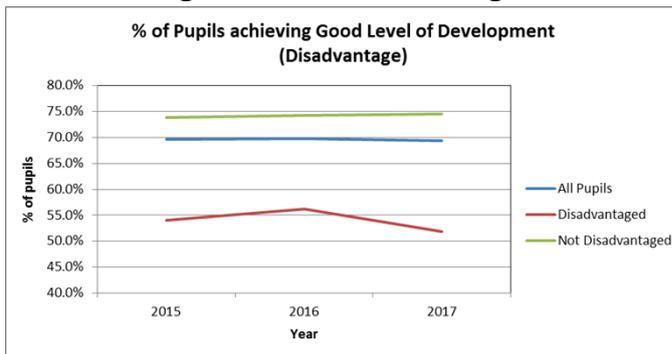
Free School Meals



	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	69.7%	69.8%	69.4%	↓ -0.4%
FSM	54.5%	55.0%	52.3%	↓ -2.7%
Not FSM	73.2%	73.8%	73.7%	↓ -0.1%
GAP	-18.7%	-18.8%	-21.4%	↓ -2.6%

The free school meal gap has widened by 2.6% to 21.4% because fewer free school meal children met the expected standard.

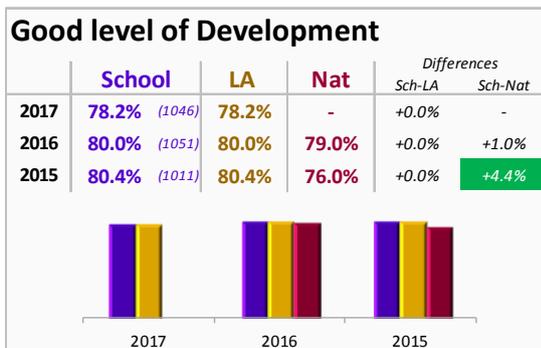
Disadvantaged/Non Disadvantaged Children



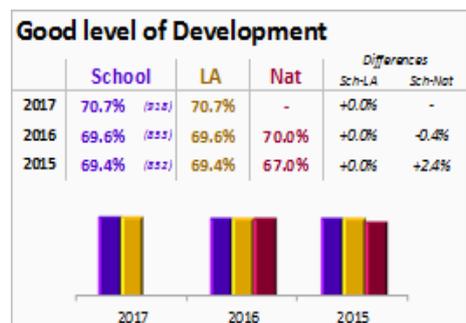
	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	69.7%	69.8%	69.4%	↓ -0.4%
Disadvantaged	54.1%	56.2%	51.8%	↓ -4.4%
Not Disadvantaged	73.8%	74.2%	74.5%	↑ 0.3%
Gap	-19.7%	-18.0%	-22.7%	↓ -4.7%

Fewer disadvantaged children met the expected standard this year. Slightly more non disadvantaged children achieved a good level of development so the gap widened by 4.7%.

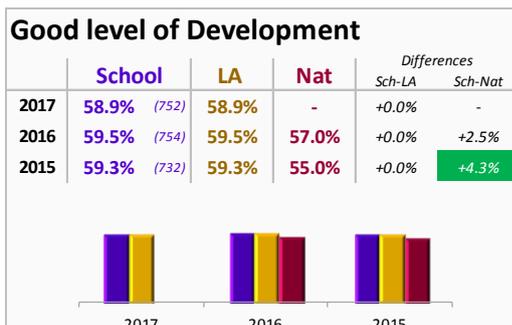
Autumn Births



Spring Births

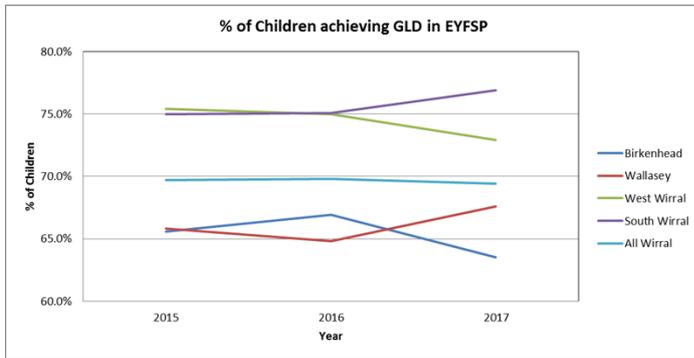


Summer Births



More children born in the autumn and spring attained GLD than children born in the summer. Only spring born children showed an increase in the number attaining GLD.

Localities



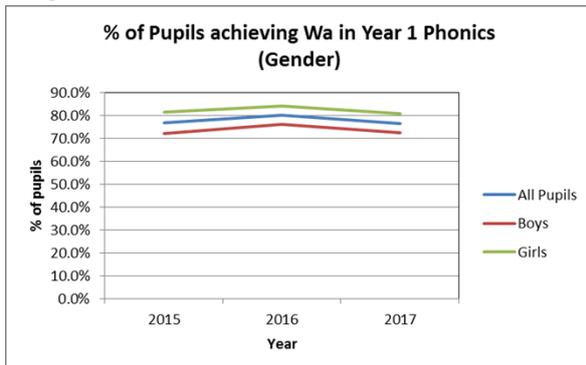
	2015	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	65.6%	66.9%	63.5%	↓ -3.4%
Wallasey	65.8%	64.8%	67.6%	↑ 2.8%
West Wirral	75.4%	75.0%	72.9%	↓ -2.1%
South Wirral	75.0%	75.1%	76.9%	↑ 1.8%
All Wirral	69.7%	69.8%	69.4%	↓ -0.4%

The chart shows the attainment by locality. Wallasey saw the biggest improvement. Birkenhead saw the largest decrease. Seven Birkenhead schools showed a decrease in attainment ranging from -10.5% to -48.9%. The decrease in West Wirral was attributable in the main to four schools attainment decreasing. The range was from -10.4% to -35.3%.

Year 1 Phonics

76% of Year 1 children met the expected standard in phonics. This was 4% less than last year and below the national average of 81%. Phonics attainment is the lowest in the North West (23/23).

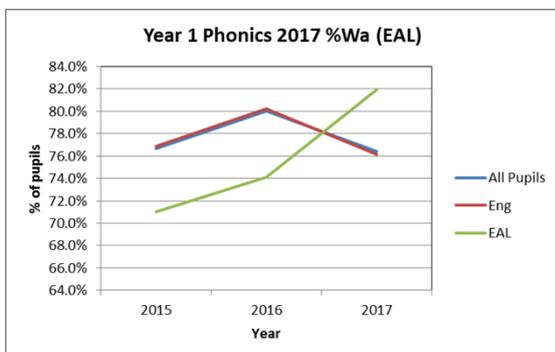
Boys/Girls



	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	76.7%	80.0%	76.4%	↓ -3.6%
Boys	71.9%	76.1%	72.4%	↓ -3.7%
Girls	81.5%	84.0%	80.8%	↓ -3.2%
GAP	9.6%	7.9%	8.4%	0.5%

Both the girls and boys attainment decreased. The gender gap widened by 0.5% to 8.4%.

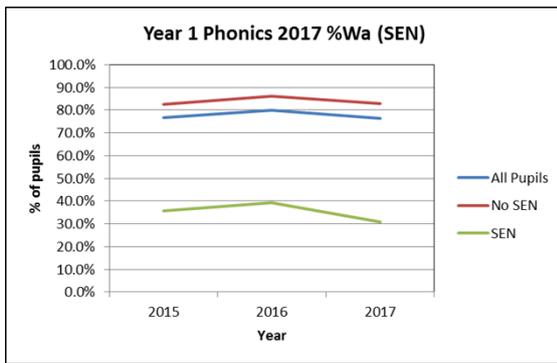
EAL



	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	76.7%	80.0%	76.4%	↓ -3.6%
Eng	76.9%	80.2%	76.1%	↓ -4.1%
EAL	71.0%	74.1%	81.9%	↑ 7.8%
GAP	-5.9%	-6.1%	5.8%	11.9%

More children with English as an additional language and BME children met the standard in 2017.

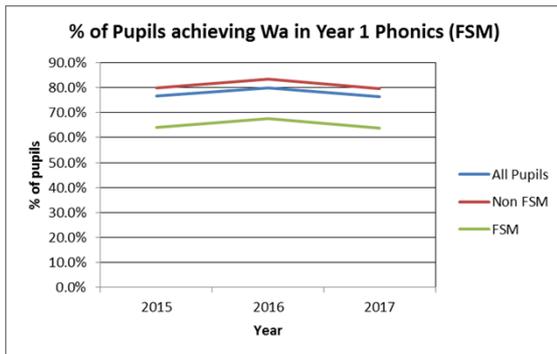
SEN



	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	76.7%	80.0%	76.4%	↓ -3.6%
No SEN	82.6%	86.1%	82.9%	↓ -3.2%
SEN	35.6%	39.2%	30.7%	↓ -8.5%
GAP	-47.0%	-46.9%	-52.2%	-5.3%

Fewer children with SEN (with or without an EHCP) met the standard so the gap widened.

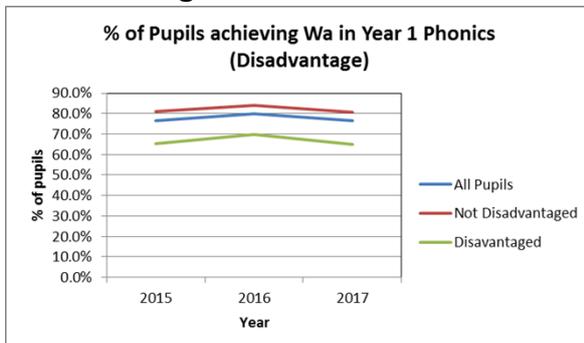
Free School Meals



	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	76.7%	80.0%	76.4%	↓ -3.6%
Non FSM	79.8%	83.3%	79.6%	↓ -3.7%
FSM	64.1%	67.7%	63.8%	↓ -3.9%
GAP	-15.7%	-15.6%	-15.8%	-0.2%

Fewer free school meal and non free school meal children attained the expected standard this year. The gap has widened slightly due to fewer FSM children attaining the standard.

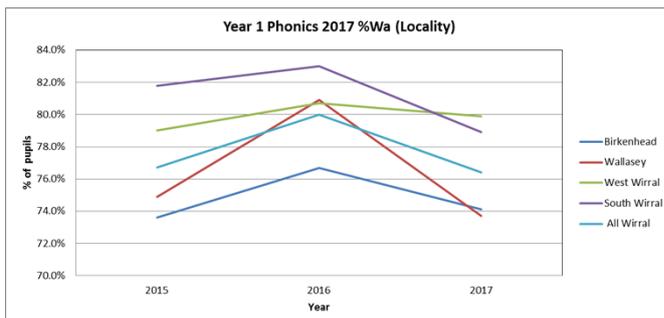
Disadvantaged Children



	2015	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	76.7%	80.0%	76.4%	↓ -3.6%
Not Disadvantaged	80.9%	83.9%	80.5%	↓ -3.4%
Disadvantaged	65.3%	69.9%	64.8%	↓ -5.1%
GAP	-15.6%	-14.0%	-15.7%	-1.7%

Fewer disadvantaged and non disadvantaged children attained the expected standard this year. The gap has widened due to fewer disadvantaged children attaining the standard.

Localities



	2015	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	73.6%	76.7%	74.1%	↓ -2.6%
Wallasey	74.9%	80.9%	73.7%	↓ -7.2%
West Wirral	79.0%	80.7%	79.9%	↓ -0.8%
South Wirral	81.8%	83.0%	78.9%	↓ -4.1%
All Wirral	76.7%	80.0%	76.4%	↓ -3.6%

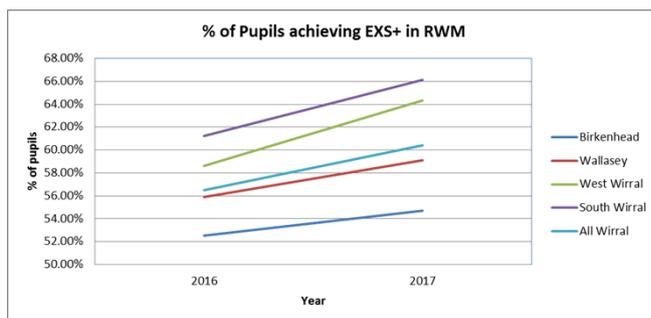
Fewer children in Birkenhead (74.1%) reached the standard. The Wallasey locality saw the largest decrease (-7.2%) from last year. Seven schools have been identified where there was a significant decrease.

The attainment gap between 2016 and 2017 was wider for summer born children (6%).

Key Stage 1

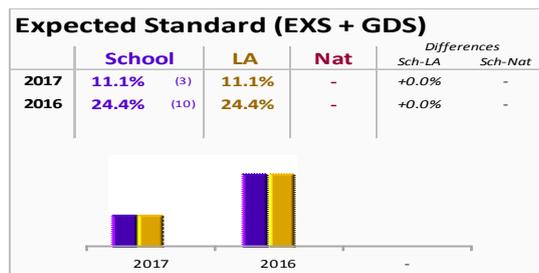
RWM

All Pupils



	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	52.50%	54.70%	↑ 2.2%
Wallasey	55.90%	59.10%	↑ 3.2%
West Wirral	58.60%	64.30%	↑ 5.7%
South Wirral	61.20%	66.10%	↑ 4.9%
All Wirral	56.50%	60.40%	↑ 3.9%

Children Looked After



More children attained the expected standard this year (an improvement of 3.9%) for attainment in reading and writing and mathematics. Attainment remains below the national average but the gap is narrowing. Fewer children looked after met the expected standard this year.

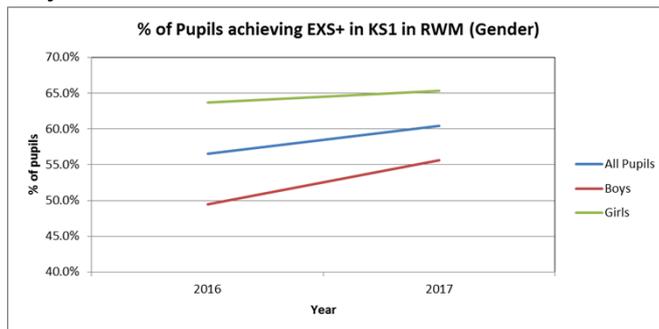
Attainment in reading increased by 1.9% to 73.4%. It remains below the national average of 76% but the gap is closing. 33% of children looked after met the standard. The attainment gap between all children and CLA has widened from 32.5% to 40.4%.

Attainment in writing has improved by 3.4% to 65.8%. It remains below the national but the gap is closing. 18.5% of children looked after met the standard. The attainment gap between all children and CLA has increased from 33.1% to 47.3%.

Attainment in mathematics has increased by 2.2% to 72.3%. It remains below the national average. 29.6% CLA met the standard which is significantly less than last year. The attainment gap between all children and CLA has increased from 26.2% to 42.7%.

RWM

Boys/Girls

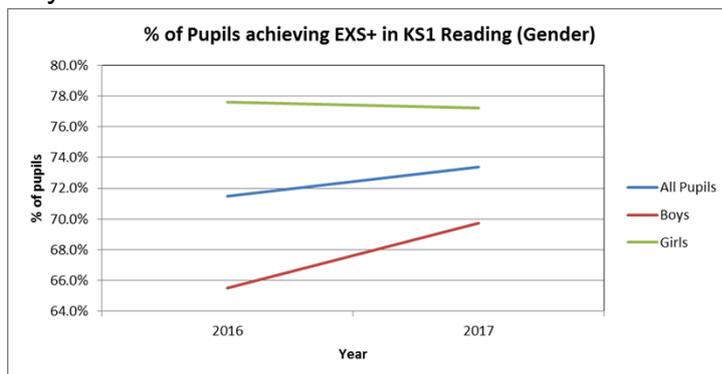


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	56.5%	60.4%	↑ 3.9%
Boys	49.5%	55.6%	↑ 6.1%
Girls	63.7%	65.3%	↑ 1.6%
GAP	-14.2%	-9.7%	4.5%

The attainment of both the girls and boys has improved. The gender gap has narrowed by 4.5% as a result of more boys attaining the standard.

Reading

Boys/Girls

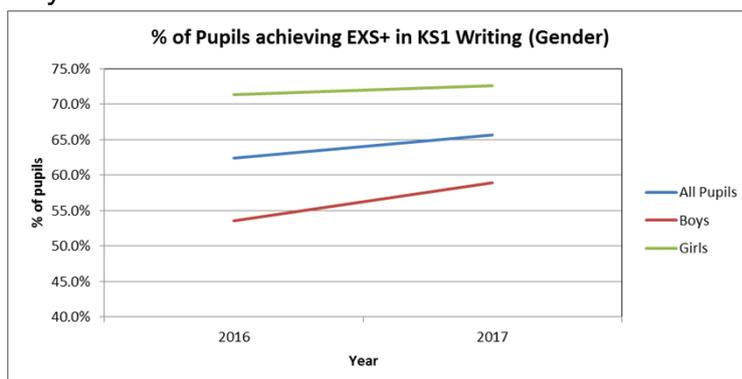


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	71.5%	73.4%	↑ 1.9%
Boys	65.5%	69.7%	↑ 4.2%
Girls	77.6%	77.2%	↓ -0.4%
GAP	-12.1%	-7.5%	4.6%

Boys' attainment in reading increased by 4.2% whereas the girls' attainment shows a slight decline. Attainment for both boys and girls is below the national average. The gap between the national and Wirral boys has closed whereas this gap has widened for girls. The gender gap has narrowed.

Writing

Boys/Girls

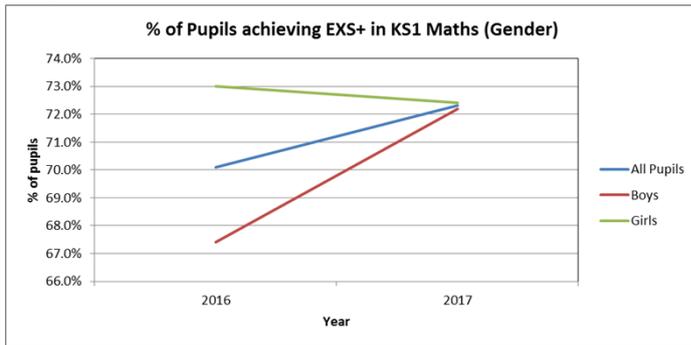


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	62.4%	65.7%	↑ 3.3%
Boys	53.6%	58.9%	↑ 5.3%
Girls	71.4%	72.6%	↑ 1.2%
GAP	-17.8%	-13.7%	4.1%

Both boys' and girls' attainment in writing has improved but they are still below the national average. The gap between the national and Wirral has halved for the boys and widened for the girls. Boys' attainment is improving at a greater rate (5.3%). The gender gap has narrowed due to boys' attainment increasing at a faster rate than the girls.

Mathematics

Boys/Girls

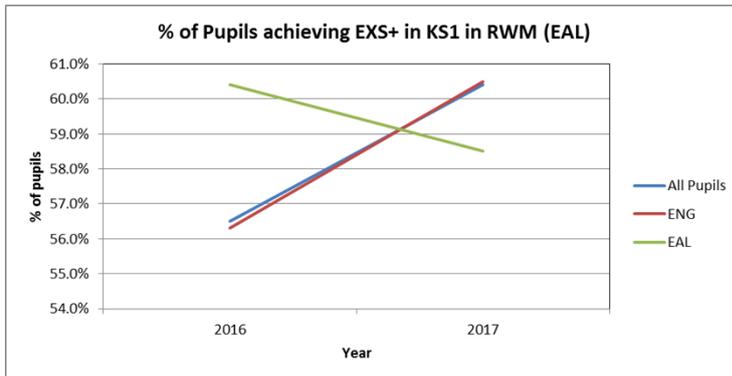


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	70.1%	72.3%	↑ 2.2%
Boys	67.4%	72.2%	↑ 4.8%
Girls	73.0%	72.4%	↓ -0.6%
GAP	-5.60%	-0.20%	5.4%

Boys' attainment has increased by 4.8%, though it is still below the national average. The gap between the national and Wirral average for boys has narrowed. Girls' attainment has decreased and is below the national average whereas last year girls' attainment was in line with the national average. The gender gap has narrowed due to boys' attainment increasing at a greater rate than the girls.

RWM

EAL

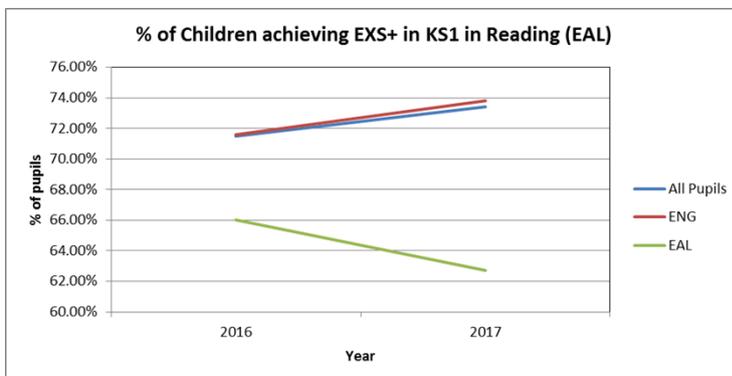


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	56.5%	60.4%	↑ 3.9%
EAL	60.4%	58.5%	↓ -1.9%
ENG	56.3%	60.5%	↑ 4.2%
GAP	4.1%	-2.0%	-6.1%

This year less children with English as an additional language met the standard, so widening the gap between EAL children and children with English as their mother tongue.

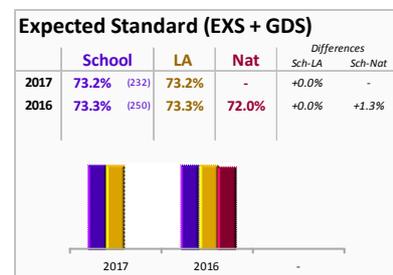
Reading

EAL



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	71.50%	73.40%	↑ 1.90%
EAL	66.0%	62.70%	↓ -3.30%
ENG	71.60%	73.80%	↑ 2.20%
GAP	-5.6%	-11.1%	-5.50%

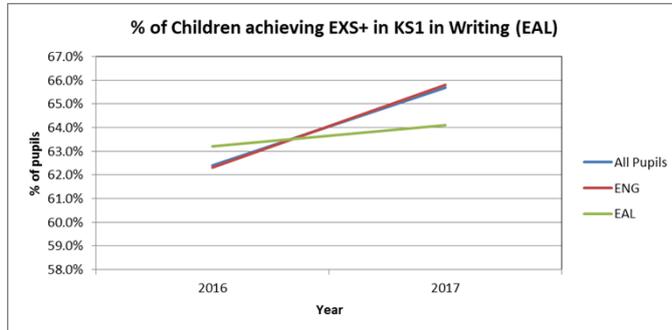
BME



The attainment in reading for children with English as an additional language(EAL) has decreased by 4.5% whereas attainment for children from ethnic minorities has remained the same.

Writing

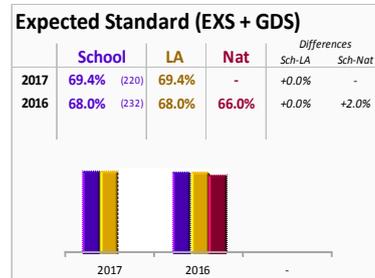
EAL



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	62.4%	65.7%	↑ 3.3%
EAL	63.2%	64.1%	↑ 0.9%
ENG	62.3%	65.8%	↑ 3.5%
GAP	0.9%	-1.7%	-2.6%

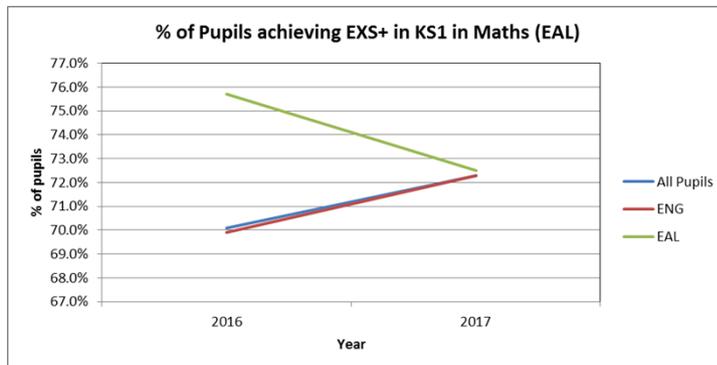
Attainment in writing for EAL children remains the same, whereas BME children's attainment has increased.

BME



Mathematics

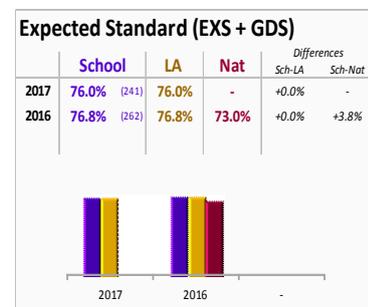
EAL



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	70.1%	72.3%	↑ 2.2%
EAL	75.7%	72.5%	↓ -3.2%
ENG	69.9%	72.3%	↑ 2.4%
GAP	5.8%	0.2%	-5.6%

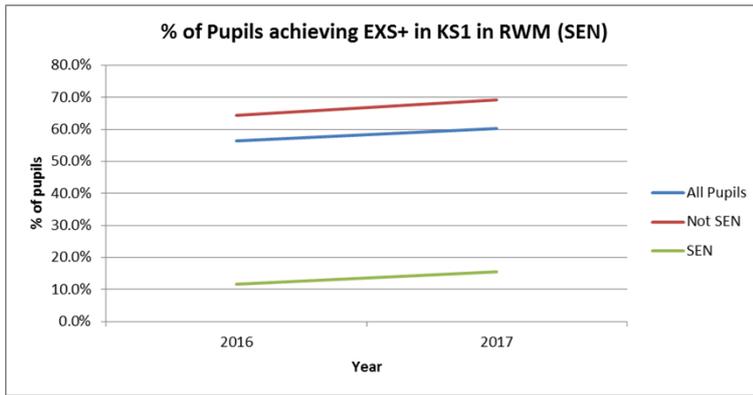
Attainment for EAL children in Mathematics has decreased by 3.2% whereas the BME children's attainment stays the same. The attainment of BME children is higher than non BME pupils.

BME



RWM

All SEN/Not SEN

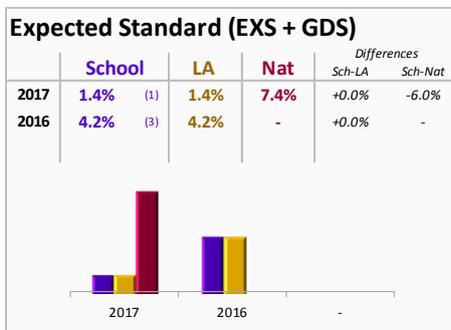


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	56.5%	60.4%	↑ 3.9%
SEN	11.8%	15.6%	↑ 3.8%
Not SEN	64.4%	69.3%	↑ 4.9%
GAP	-52.6%	-53.7%	-1.1%

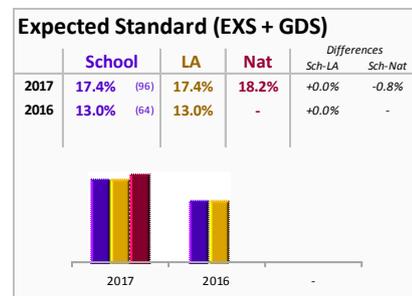
Attainment SEN children and non SEN children has increased, however the gap has widened by 1.1%, due to more non SEN children meeting the standard.

RWM

SEN with statement/EHCP



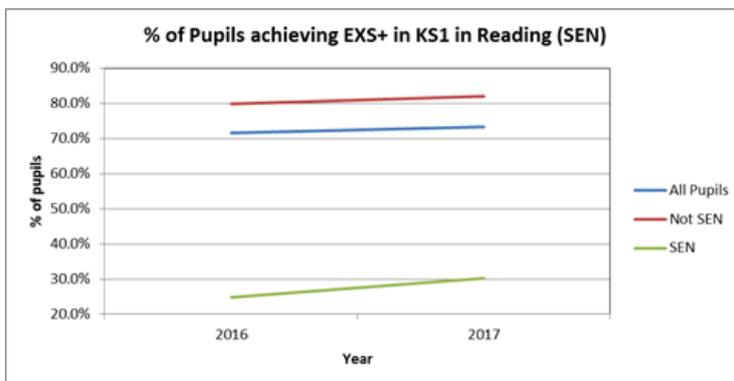
SEN without EHCP



Fewer SEN children with a statement attained the expected standard whereas more SEN children without EHCPs did. The attainment for both groups was below the national average.

Reading

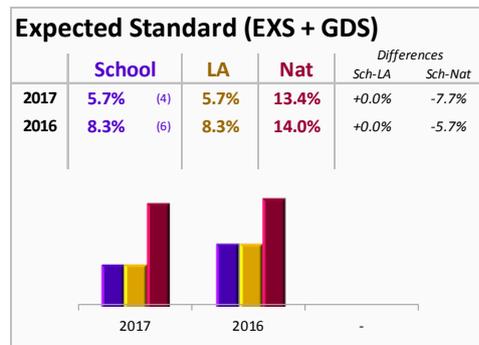
All SEN/Non SEN



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	71.5%	73.4%	↑ 1.9%
SEN	24.7%	30.2%	↑ 5.5%
Not SEN	79.8%	82.0%	↑ 2.2%
GAP	-55.1%	-51.8%	3.3%

Attainment has improved for both groups, SEN children and children without SEN. The improvement by SEN children is better than non SEN therefore the gap has narrowed by 3.3%.

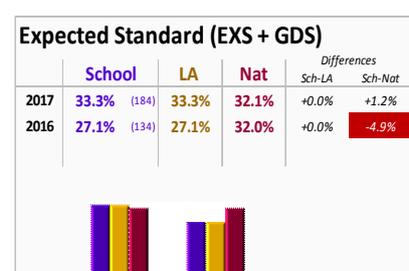
SEN with statement/EHCP



Fewer SEN children with statements attained the expected level in reading. This mirrors the national trend. However, nationally, more SEN children with statements attain the expected standard.

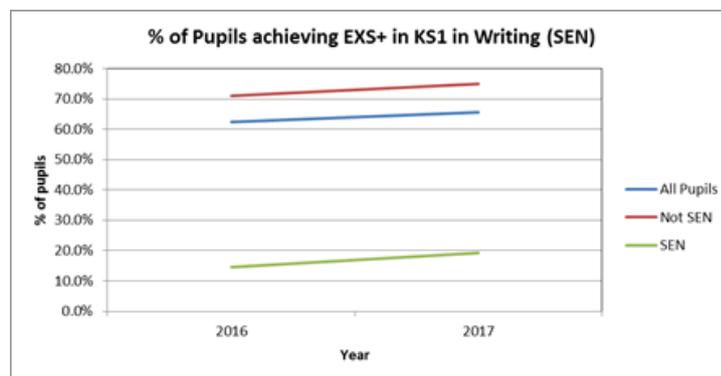
More SEN children without EHCPs met the expected standard in reading. This is above the national average.

SEN without EHCP



Writing

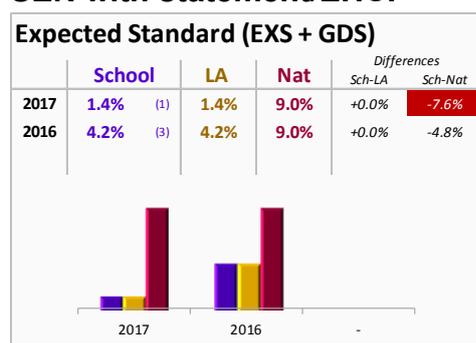
All SEN/ Non SEN



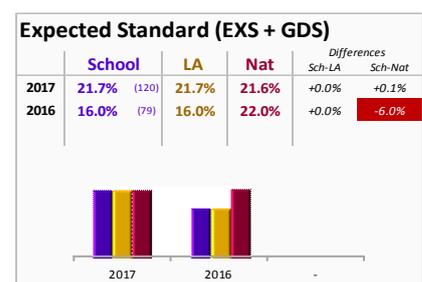
	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	62.4%	65.7%	↑ 3.3%
SEN	14.5%	19.3%	↑ 4.8%
Not SEN	70.9%	74.9%	↑ 4.0%
GAP	-56.4%	-55.6%	0.8%

SEN children's attainment improved at a slightly better rate so reducing the gap by 0.8%.

SEN with statement/EHCP

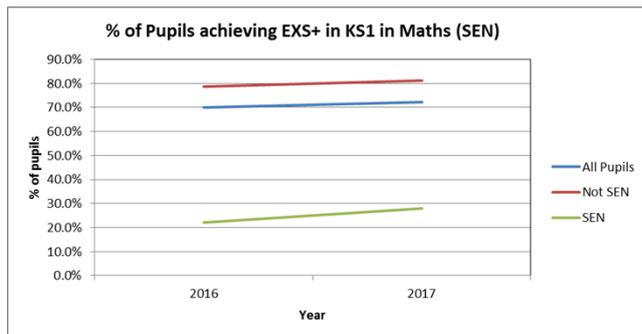


SEN without EHCP



Less SEN children with an EHCP attained the expected standard in writing. This is well below the national average. More SEN children without an EHCP attained the expected standard. This increase puts attainment in line with the national average.

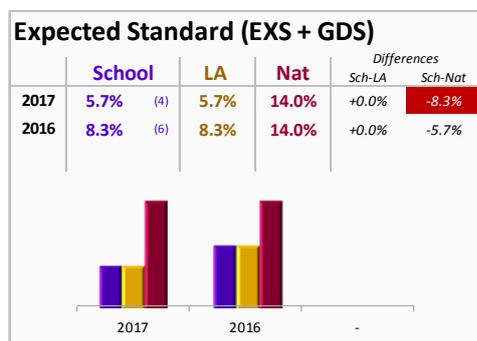
Mathematics All SEN/Non SEN



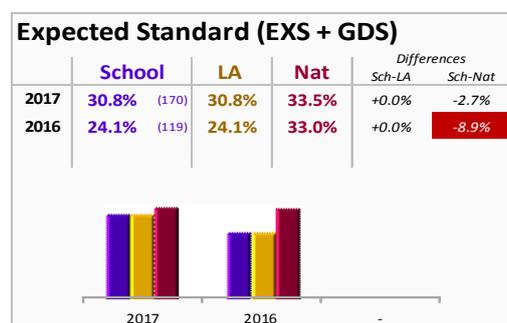
	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	70.1%	72.3%	↑ 2.2%
SEN	22.1%	28.0%	↑ 5.9%
Not SEN	78.7%	81.1%	↑ 2.4%
GAP	-56.6%	-53.1%	3.5%

The gap between all SEN children and non SEN children has narrowed by 3.5% due to improved outcomes by SEN children.

SEN with statement/EHCP



SEN without EHCP



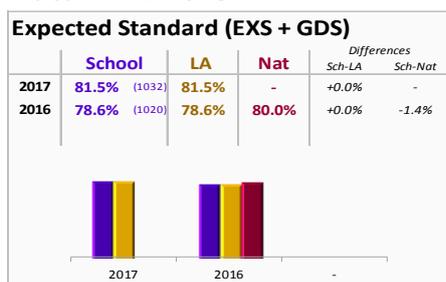
Less SEN children with EHCP/Statements achieved the expected standard in mathematics. Attainment remained below the national average. More SEN children without an EHCP achieved the expected standard. Attainment remains below the national average but the gap is closing.

Gaps Between All Children and SEN Children without an EHCP

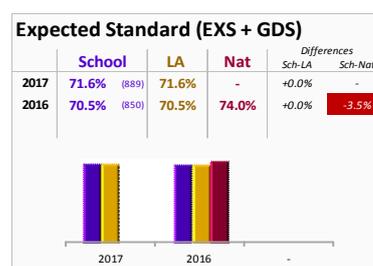
	Wirral 2016	National 2016	Wirral 2017	Wirral Trend
Reading	44.1%	42%	40.1%	↓
Writing	46.4%	43.2%	44.1%	↓
Mathematics	46%	44%	41.5%	↓

The gap between all children and SEN children without an EHCP narrowed for all subjects. Mathematics saw the biggest change. The gap in 2016 for all subjects was wider than the national. The national figures for 2017 are not available yet.

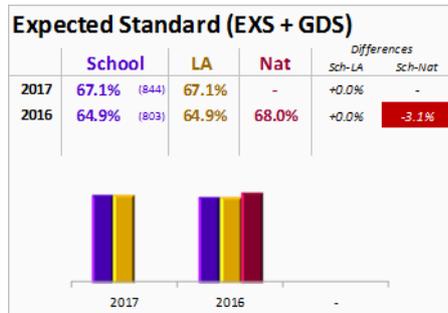
Reading Autumn Births



Spring Births

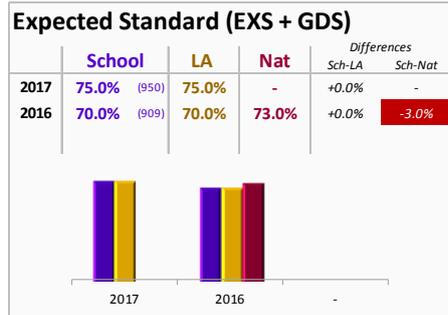


Summer Births

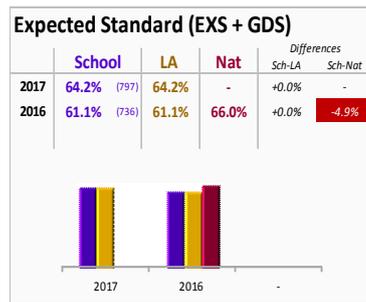


Attainment for the three groups improved from last year. Children with autumn births attained higher than the others.

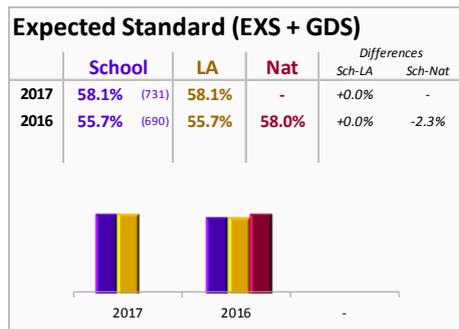
Writing Autumn



Spring

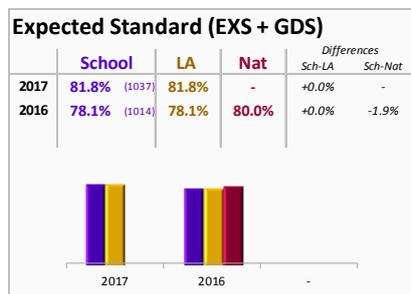


Summer

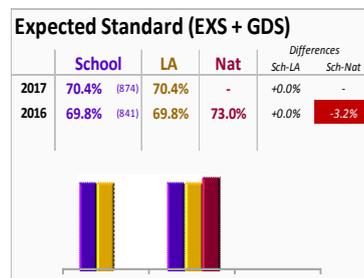


Attainment for the three groups improved from last year. Children with autumn births attained higher than the others.

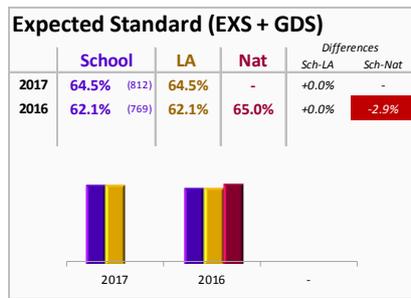
Mathematics Autumn



Spring

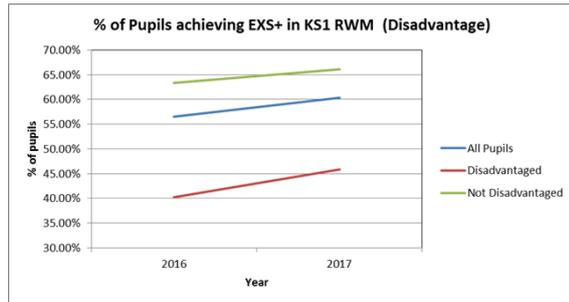


Summer



Attainment for the three groups improved from last year. Children with autumn births attained higher than the others.

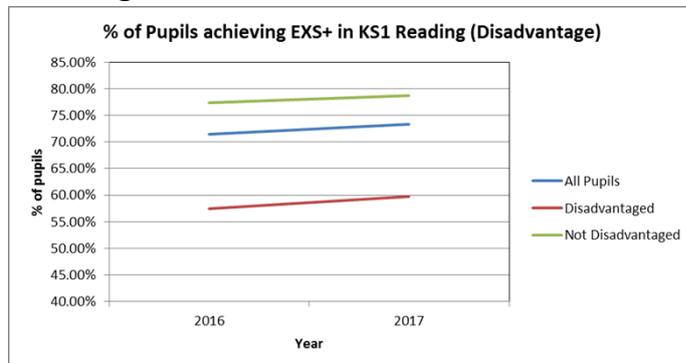
Disadvantaged Children RWM



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	56.50%	60.40%	↑ 3.9%
Disadvantaged	40.20%	45.90%	↑ 5.7%
Not Disadvantaged	63.40%	66.10%	↑ 2.7%
Gap	-23.20%	-20.20%	3.0%

More disadvantaged children and non disadvantaged met the standard in reading and writing and mathematics. The gap has narrowed by 3 % as a result of more disadvantaged children meeting the expected standard.

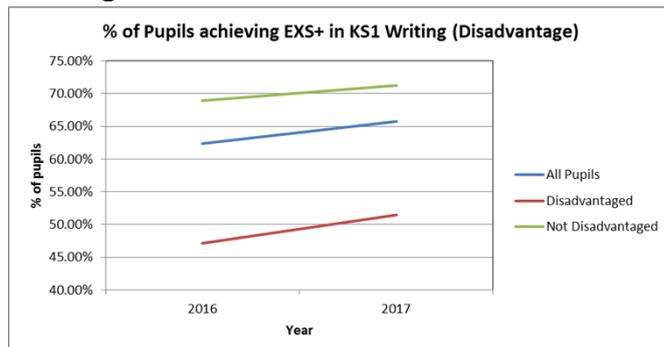
Reading



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	71.50%	73.40%	↑ 1.9%
Disadvantaged	57.50%	59.80%	↑ 2.3%
Not Disadvantaged	77.40%	78.70%	↑ 1.3%
Gap	-19.90%	-18.90%	1.0%

More disadvantaged children and non disadvantaged met the standard in reading. The gap has narrowed by 1 % as a result of more disadvantaged children meeting the expected standard.

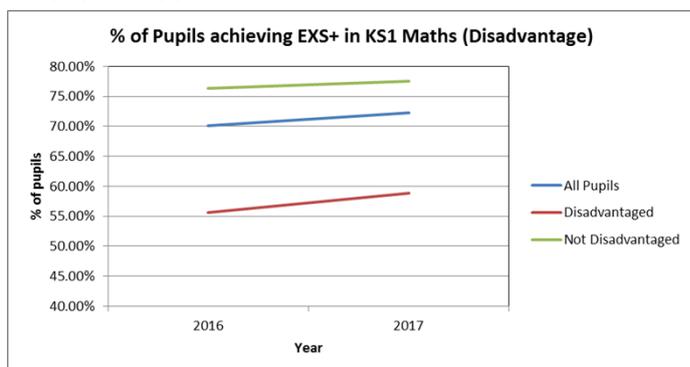
Writing



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	62.40%	65.70%	↑ 3.3%
Disadvantaged	47.10%	51.50%	↑ 4.4%
Not Disadvantaged	68.90%	71.20%	↑ 2.3%
Gap	-21.80%	-19.70%	2.1%

More disadvantaged children and non disadvantaged met the standard in writing. The gap has narrowed by 2.1 % as a result of more disadvantaged children meeting the expected standard.

Mathematics

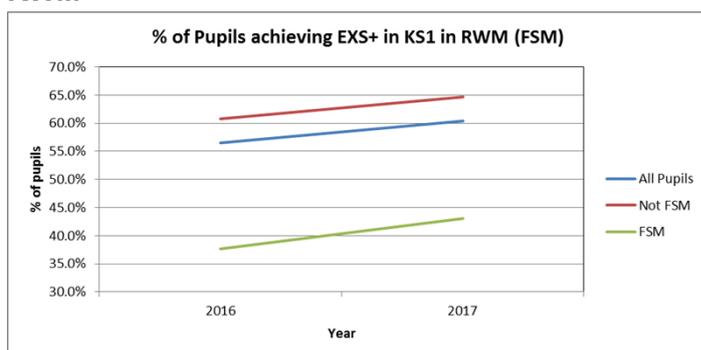


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	70.10%	72.30%	↑ 2.2%
Disadvantaged	55.60%	58.90%	↑ 3.3%
Not Disadvantaged	76.30%	77.50%	↑ 1.2%
Gap	-20.70%	-18.60%	2.1%

More disadvantaged children and non disadvantaged met the standard in writing. The gap has narrowed by 2.1 % as a result of more disadvantaged children meeting the expected standard.

Free School Meal Children

RWM

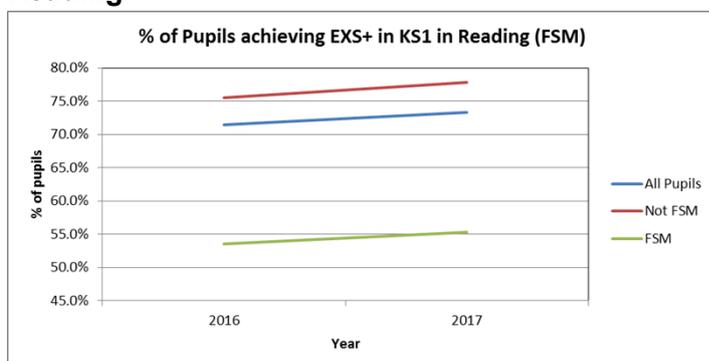


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	56.5%	60.4%	↑ 3.9%
FSM	37.7%	43.1%	↑ 5.4%
Not FSM	60.8%	64.6%	↑ 3.8%
GAP	-23.1%	-21.5%	1.6%

The free school gap in reading and writing and mathematics has narrowed by 1.6%, due to more free school meal children attaining the expected standard. Non free school meal children's attainment increased but not at the same rate.

Free School Meal Children

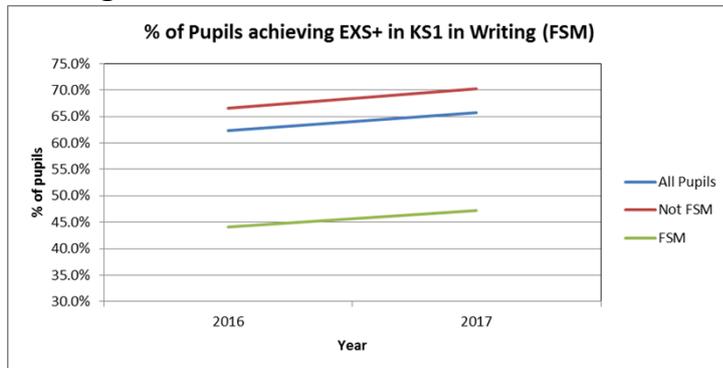
Reading



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	71.5%	73.4%	↑ 1.9%
FSM	53.6%	55.3%	↑ 1.7%
Not FSM	75.6%	77.8%	↑ 2.2%
GAP	-22.0%	-22.5%	-0.5%

In reading the percentage of pupils in each group attaining the expected standard increased. The free school meal gap widened by 0.5% because more non free school meal children attained the expected standard.

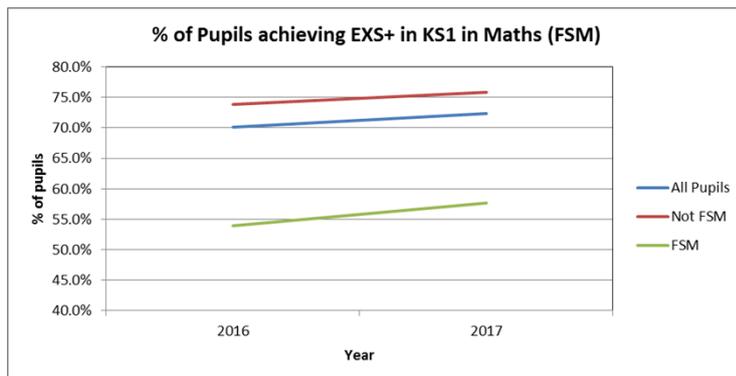
Free School Meal Children Writing



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	62.4%	65.7%	↑ 3.3%
FSM	44.1%	47.2%	↑ 3.1%
Not FSM	66.6%	70.2%	↑ 3.6%
GAP	-22.5%	-23.0%	-0.5%

In writing the percentage of pupils in each group attaining the expected standard increased. The free school meal gap widened by 0.5% because more non free school meal children attained the expected standard.

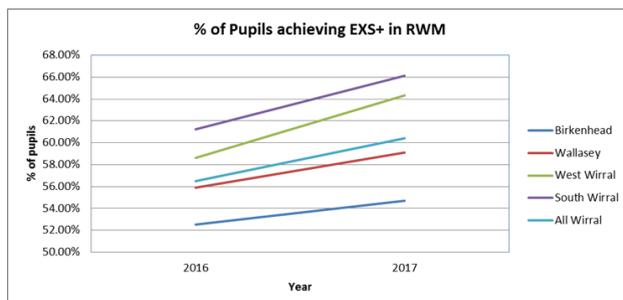
Free School Meal Children Mathematics



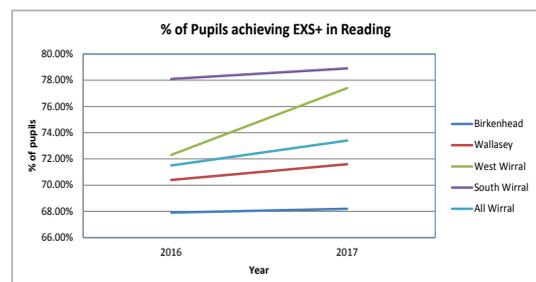
	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	70.1%	72.3%	↑ 2.2%
FSM	53.9%	57.7%	↑ 3.8%
Not FSM	73.9%	75.8%	↑ 1.9%
GAP	-20.0%	-18.1%	1.9%

In mathematics the percentage of pupils in each group attaining the expected standard increased. The free school meal gap narrowed by 1.9% because more free school meal children attained the expected standard.

Key Stage 1 Attainment by Locality RWM



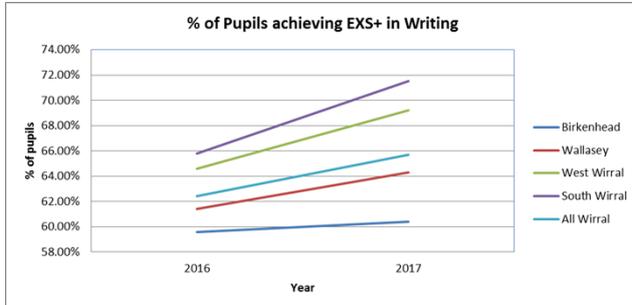
Reading



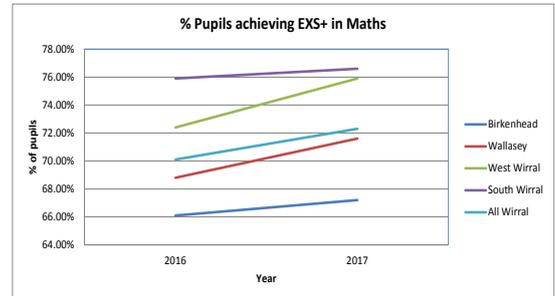
	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	52.50%	54.70%	↑ 2.2%
Wallasey	55.90%	59.10%	↑ 3.2%
West Wirral	58.60%	64.30%	↑ 5.7%
South Wirral	61.20%	66.10%	↑ 4.9%
All Wirral	56.50%	60.40%	↑ 3.9%

	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	67.90%	68.20%	↑ 0.3%
Wallasey	70.40%	71.60%	↑ 1.2%
West Wirral	72.30%	77.40%	↑ 5.1%
South Wirral	78.10%	78.90%	↑ 0.8%
All Wirral	71.50%	73.40%	↑ 1.9%

Writing



Mathematics



	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	59.60%	60.40%	↑ 0.8%
Wallasey	61.40%	64.30%	↑ 2.9%
West Wirral	64.60%	69.20%	↑ 4.6%
South Wirral	65.80%	71.50%	↑ 5.7%
All Wirral	62.40%	65.70%	↑ 3.3%

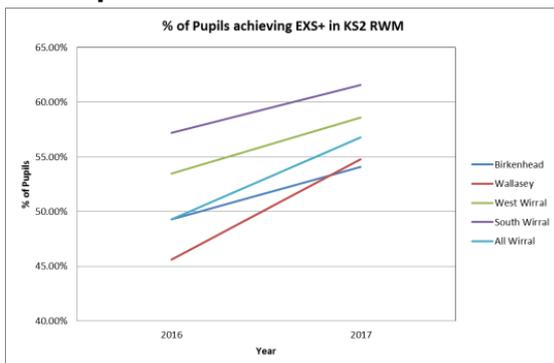
	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	66.10%	67.20%	↑ 1.1%
Wallasey	68.80%	71.60%	↑ 2.8%
West Wirral	72.40%	75.90%	↑ 3.5%
South Wirral	75.90%	76.60%	↑ 0.7%
All Wirral	70.10%	72.30%	↑ 2.2%

Each locality showed improvements in all areas. West Wirral showed the biggest increase in attainment in RWM, reading and mathematics. South Wirral showed the biggest improvement in writing.

Key Stage Two

RWM

All Pupils



	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	49.30%	54.10%	↑ 4.8%
Wallasey	45.60%	54.80%	↑ 9.2%
West Wirral	53.50%	58.60%	↑ 5.1%
South Wirral	57.20%	61.60%	↑ 4.4%
All Wirral	49.30%	56.80%	↑ 7.5%

Children Looked After

	School	LA	Nat	Differences	
				Sch-LA	Sch-Nat
2017	41.0% (17)	41.0%	-	+0.0%	-
2016	31.7% (13)	31.7%	26.0%	+0.0%	+5.7%

More children attained the expected standard in reading and writing and mathematics RWM than last year – an increase of 7.5% (49% to 56.8%). However attainment remains below the national average by 4%.

More looked after children attained the expected standard this year (RWM). The gap between all Wirral pupils and CLA has narrowed by 1%.

Attainment in reading for all pupils has increased by 6% to 70%. It is below the national average by 1%.

More children looked after (56.4%) attained the standard in reading. More importantly the progress measure for CLA was +1.3 which is significantly above the national average. The gap between all Wirral pupils and CLA has narrowed by 6% (19.7% to 13.6%).

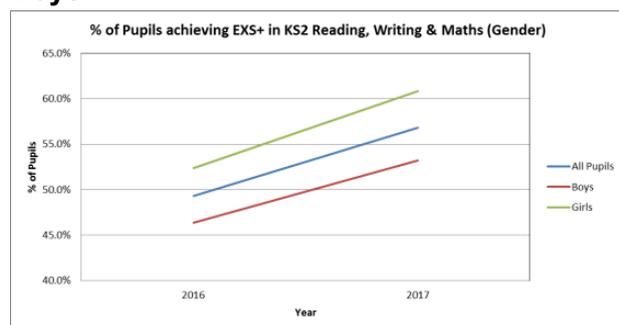
Attainment in writing for all pupils has increased by 1.8% to 73.8%, but it is still below the national average (76%).

More children looked after attained the standard in writing (56.4%). The progress measure for CLA was +1.3 which is significantly above the national average. The gap between all Wirral pupils and CLA has halved (25.5% to 12.8%).

More pupils attained the expected level in mathematics (71.1%), an increase of 7% from the previous year. But attainment is still below the national average, though the gap is closing. The progress measure for CLA was +0.4 which is above the national average. The gap between all Wirral pupils and CLA has slightly narrowed (20.4% to 19.8%).

RWM

Boys



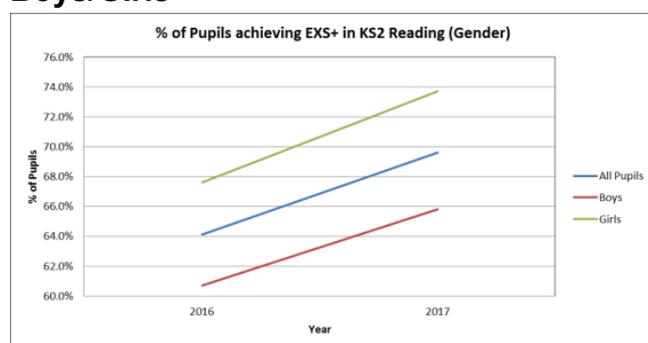
Girls

	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	49.3%	56.8%	↑ 7.5%
Boys	46.4%	53.2%	↑ 6.8%
Girls	52.4%	60.8%	↑ 8.4%
GAP	6.0%	7.6%	1.6%

Both the boys' and girls' attainment in reading and writing and mathematics combined improved. More girls than boys attained the expected standard so the gender gap has widened.

Reading

Boys/Girls

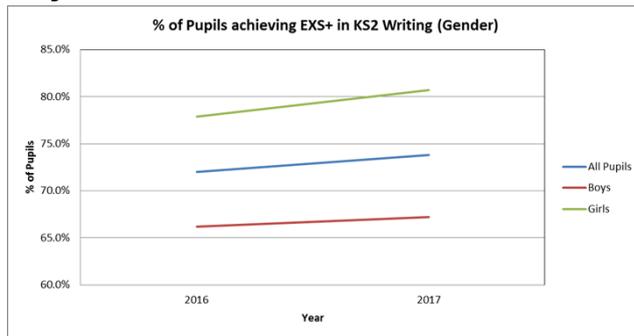


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	64.1%	69.6%	↑ 5.5%
Boys	60.7%	65.8%	↑ 5.1%
Girls	67.6%	73.7%	↑ 6.1%
GAP	6.9%	7.9%	1.0%

More boys and girls achieved the standard. The gender gap has increased (6.9% to 7.4%) because girls' achievement increased at a higher rate than the boys.

Girls' progress has increased to +0.2, whereas the boys' progress was -0.4.

Writing Boys/Girls

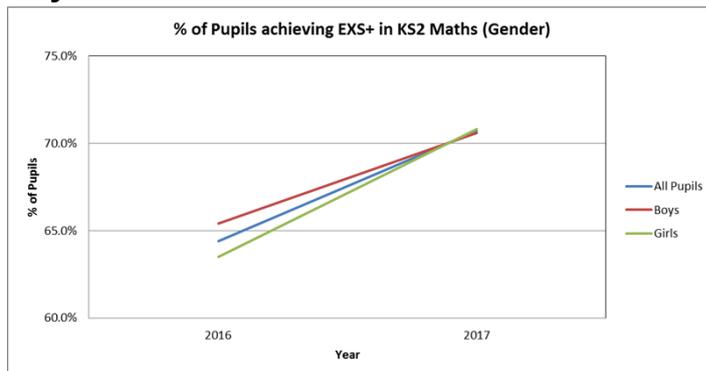


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	72.0%	73.8%	↑ 1.8%
Boys	66.2%	67.2%	↑ 1.0%
Girls	77.9%	80.7%	↑ 2.8%
GAP	11.7%	13.5%	1.8%

More boys and girls achieved the standard in writing. The gender gap has widened (11.9% to 13.5%) because girls' achievement increased at a higher rate than the boys.

Girls' progress has improved to +0.3, whereas the boys' progress isn't as good at -1.1.

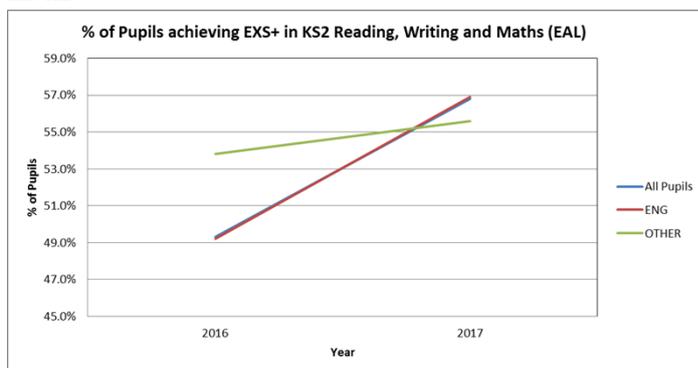
Mathematics Boys/Girls



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	64.4%	70.7%	↑ 6.3%
Boys	65.4%	70.6%	↑ 5.2%
Girls	63.5%	70.8%	↑ 7.3%
GAP	-1.9%	0.2%	2.1%

More boys and girls achieved the standard in mathematics. The gender gap has narrowed (2.1% to 0.3%) as a result of girls' achievement increasing at a better rate than the boys. Boys' progress has improved to +0.3, whereas the girls' progress isn't as good at -1.1. Girls' progress has improved this year from -1.4.

RWM EAL



BME

	School	LA	Nat	Differences	
				Sch-LA	Sch-Nat
2017	65.4% (201)	65.4%	-	+0.0%	-
2016	56.6% (164)	56.6%	-	+0.0%	-

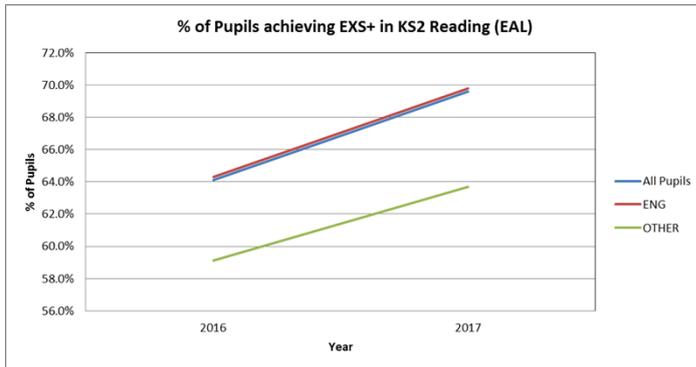
	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	49.3%	56.8%	↑ 7.5%
OTHER	53.8%	55.6%	↑ 1.8%
ENG	49.2%	56.9%	↑ 7.7%
GAP	4.6%	-1.3%	-5.9%

Attainment of pupils where English is an additional language, in reading and writing and mathematics increased. However the gap widened because more pupils with English as their first language met the expected standard.

More BME pupils met the standard, an improvement of 8.8%, which is better than non BME pupils so the gap has narrowed.

Reading

EAL

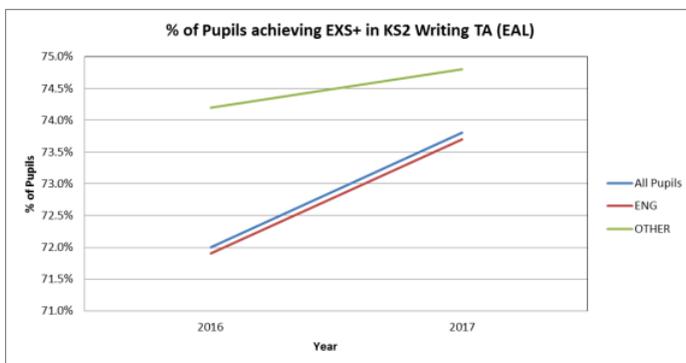


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	64.1%	69.6%	↑ 5.5%
OTHER	59.1%	63.7%	↑ 4.6%
ENG	64.3%	69.8%	↑ 5.5%
GAP	-5.2%	-6.1%	-0.9%

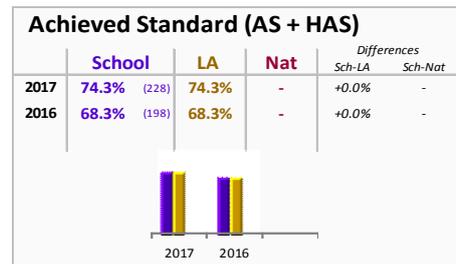
More pupils with English as an additional language (EAL) and pupils of black minority ethnic heritage (BME) attained the expected level in reading. Both groups had a progress score of +1.3 indicating better than expected progress from Key Stage 1.

Writing

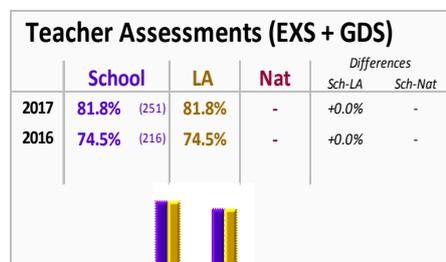
EAL



BME



BME



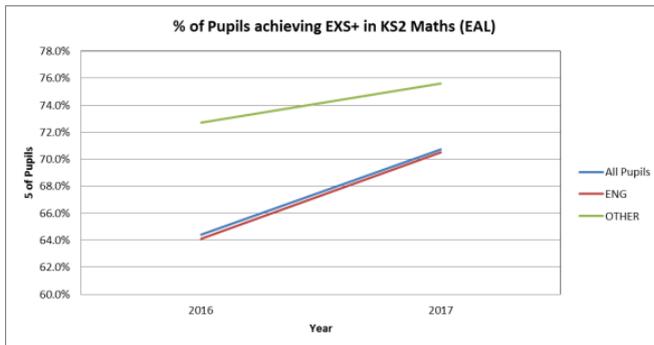
	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	72.0%	73.8%	↑ 1.8%
OTHER	74.2%	74.8%	↑ 0.6%
ENG	71.9%	73.7%	↑ 1.8%
GAP	2.3%	1.1%	-1.2%

More EAL and BME pupils attained the expected standard in writing. BME pupils' increased at a greater rate.

Progress for both pupil groups was better than the national average. Progress for BME pupils increased from +0.6 to +1.4, whereas EAL pupils' progress improved from +1.6 to +1.8.

Mathematics

EAL



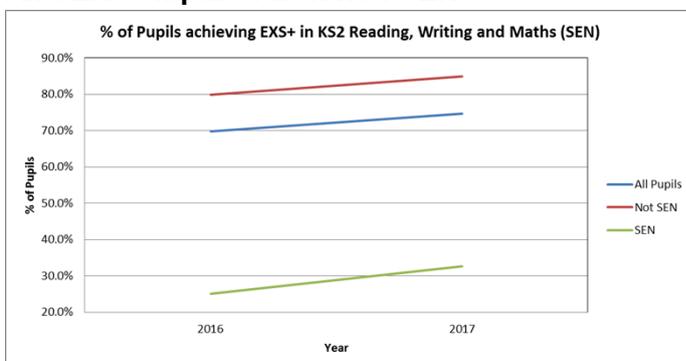
	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	64.4%	70.7%	↑ 6.3%
OTHER	72.7%	75.6%	↑ 2.9%
ENG	64.1%	70.5%	↑ 6.4%
GAP	8.6%	5.1%	-3.5%

More EAL and BME pupils attained the expected standard in mathematics. BME pupils' increased at a greater rate.

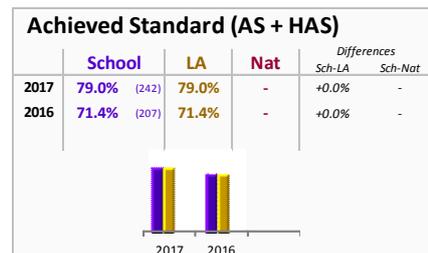
Progress for both pupil groups was better than the national average. Progress for BME pupils remained at +1.3, whereas EAL pupils' progress though still well above the national average, decreased from +2.7 to +2.2.

RWM

All SEN compared with non SEN



BME



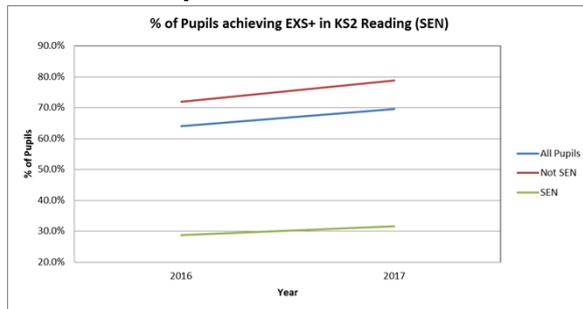
	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	48.5%	56.8%	↑ 8.3%
SEN	12.0%	15.6%	↑ 3.6%
Not SEN	56.7%	66.9%	↑ 10.2%
GAP	-44.7%	-51.3%	-6.6%

The gap widened by 6.6% because considerably more non SEN pupils attained the expected standard in reading and writing and mathematics. When compared to non SEN

pupils, SEN pupils made similar improvement in writing. Mathematics saw the lowest improvement so the gap was wider.

Reading

All SEN compared with non SEN

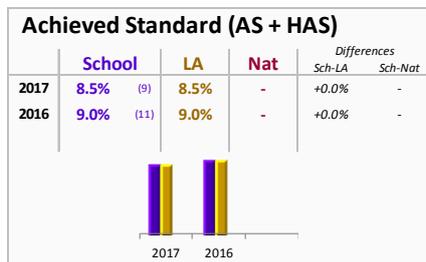


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	64.1%	69.6%	↑ 5.5%
SEN	28.8%	31.7%	↑ 2.9%
Not SEN	72.0%	78.8%	↑ 6.8%
GAP	-43.2%	-47.1%	-3.9%

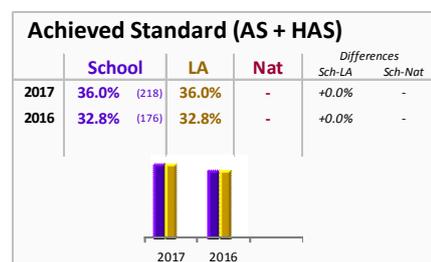
The gap has widened by 3.9% because more non SEN pupils reached the standard in reading.

Reading

SEN with a statement/EHCP



SEN without EHCP

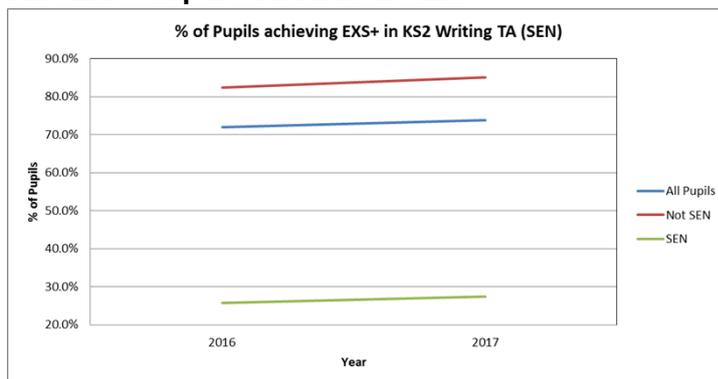


Fewer SEN pupils with a statement/EHCP met the expected standard in reading whereas more pupils with SEN without a statement achieved the expected standard.

Of more concern is the lack of progress both pupils groups made from Key Stage 1. The progress of SEN pupils with a statement worsened from -0.1 to -3.4. The progress of SEN pupils without an EHCP improved slightly from -1.2 to -1.1, but it remains lower than the national average.

Writing

All SEN compared with non SEN

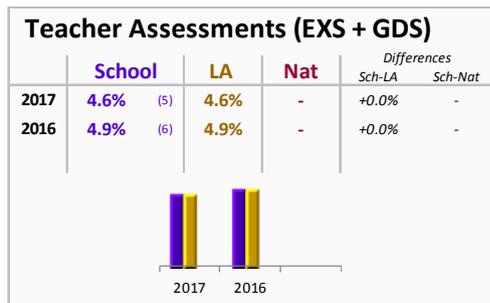


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	72.0%	73.8%	↑ 1.8%
SEN	25.7%	27.5%	↑ 1.8%
Not SEN	82.4%	85.0%	↑ 2.6%
GAP	-56.7%	-57.5%	-0.8%

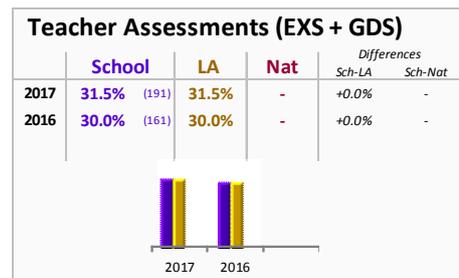
The gap between all SEN and non SEN pupils has widened slightly by 0.8%. Both groups have improved, however more non SEN pupils achieved the expected standard.

Writing

SEN with a statement/EHCP



SEN without EHCP

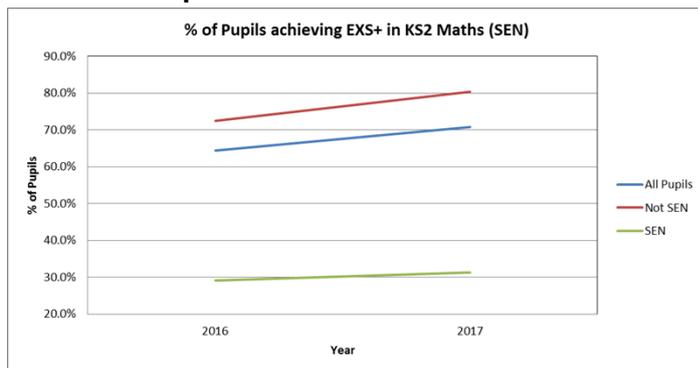


Fewer SEN pupils with a statement/EHCP met the expected standard in writing whereas more pupils with SEN without a statement achieved the expected standard.

Of more concern is the lack of progress both pupils groups made from Key Stage 1. The progress of SEN pupils with a statement worsened from -3.2 to -4.0. The progress of SEN pupils without an EHCP decreased slightly from -2.5 to -2.7 and remains lower than the national average.

Mathematics

All SEN compared with non SEN

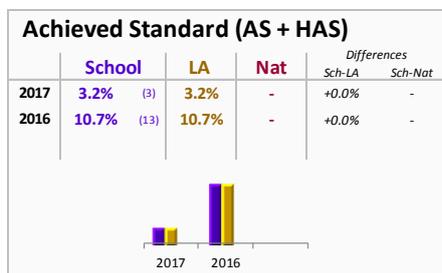


	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	64.4%	70.7%	↑ 6.3%
SEN	29.1%	31.3%	↑ 2.2%
Not SEN	72.4%	80.3%	↑ 7.9%
GAP	-43.3%	-49.0%	-5.7%

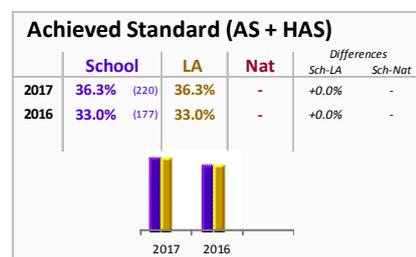
The gap has widened by 5.7% because more considerably more non SEN pupils reached the standard in mathematics.

Mathematics

SEN with a statement/EHCP



SEN without EHCP

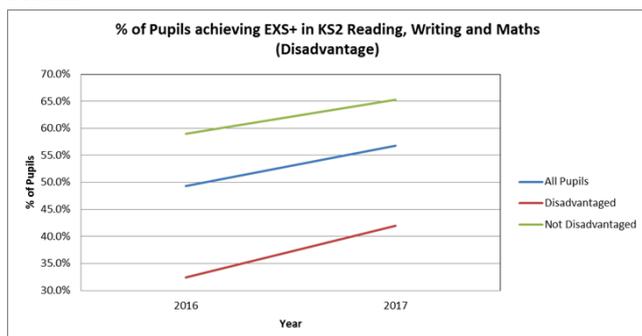


Fewer SEN pupils with a statement/EHCP met the expected standard in mathematics whereas more pupils with SEN without a statement achieved the expected standard.

Of more concern is the lack of progress both pupils groups made from Key Stage 1. The progress of SEN pupils with a statement worsened from -2.6 to -2.8. The progress of SEN pupils without an EHCP decreased slightly from -1.4 to -1.6 and remains lower than the national average.

Disadvantage Pupils

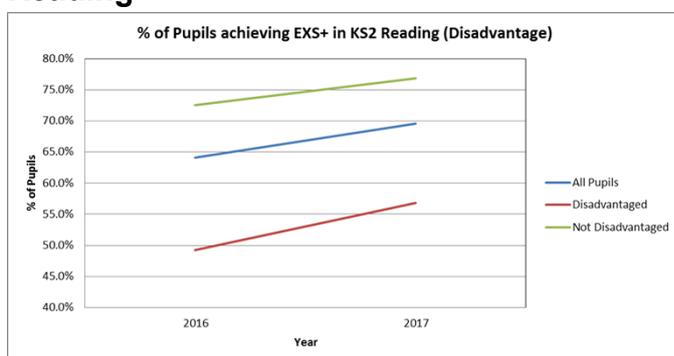
RWM



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	49.3%	56.8%	↑ 7.5%
Disadvantaged	32.4%	42.0%	↑ 9.6%
Not Disadvantaged	59.0%	65.3%	↑ 6.3%
GAP	-26.6%	-23.3%	3.3%

More disadvantaged pupils (9.6%) reached the standard in reading and writing and mathematics than non disadvantaged pupils so the gap narrowed by 3.3%.

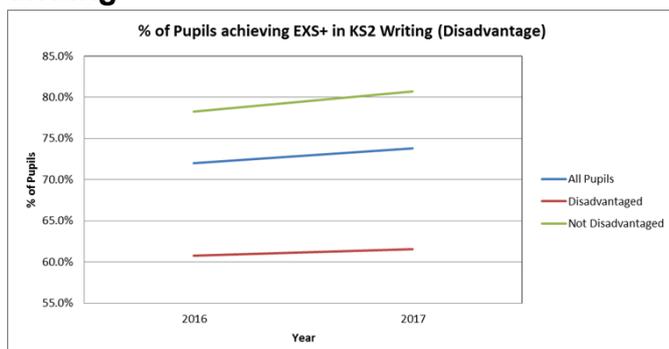
Reading



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	64.1%	69.6%	↑ 5.5%
Disadvantaged	49.2%	56.8%	↑ 7.6%
Not Disadvantaged	72.6%	76.9%	↑ 4.3%
GAP	-23.4%	-20.1%	3.3%

More disadvantaged pupils (7.6%) reached the standard in reading than non disadvantaged pupils so the gap narrowed by 3.3%.

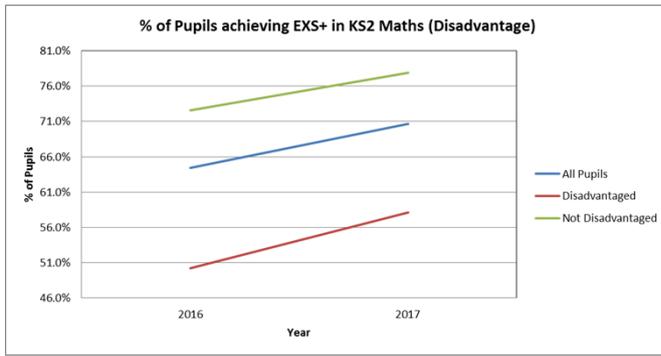
Writing



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	72.0%	73.8%	↑ 1.8%
Disadvantaged	60.8%	61.6%	↑ 0.8%
Not Disadvantaged	78.3%	80.7%	↑ 2.4%
GAP	-17.5%	-19.1%	-1.6%

The gap in writing has widened. This is due to more non disadvantaged pupils meeting the standard than disadvantaged pupils.

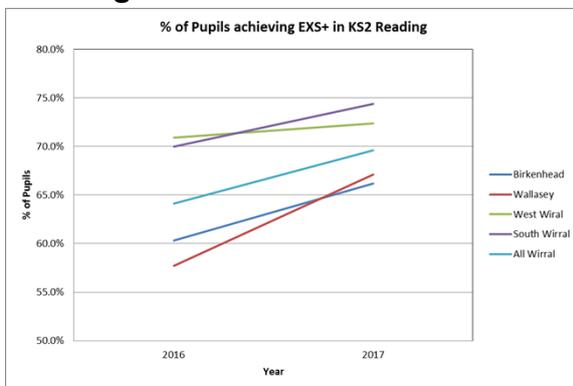
Mathematics



	2016	2017	Comparison
All Pupils	64.4%	70.7%	↑ 6.3%
Disadvantaged	50.2%	58.1%	↑ 7.9%
Not Disadvantaged	72.6%	77.9%	↑ 5.3%
GAP	-22.4%	-19.8%	2.6%

More disadvantaged pupils (7.9%) reached the standard in reading than non disadvantaged pupils so the gap narrowed by 2.6%.

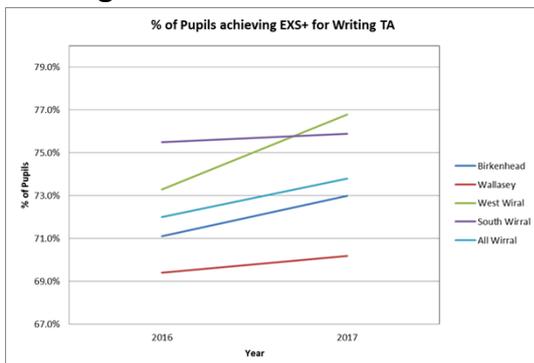
Key Stage Two by Locality All Pupils Reading



	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	60.3%	66.2%	↑ 5.9%
Wallasey	57.7%	67.1%	↑ 9.4%
West Wirral	70.9%	72.4%	↑ 1.5%
South Wirral	70.0%	74.4%	↑ 4.4%
All Wirral	64.1%	69.6%	↑ 5.5%

All localities showed more pupils attained the expected standard in reading. Wallasey showed the biggest improvement (9.4%). Birkenhead locality also showed significant improvement (5.9%).

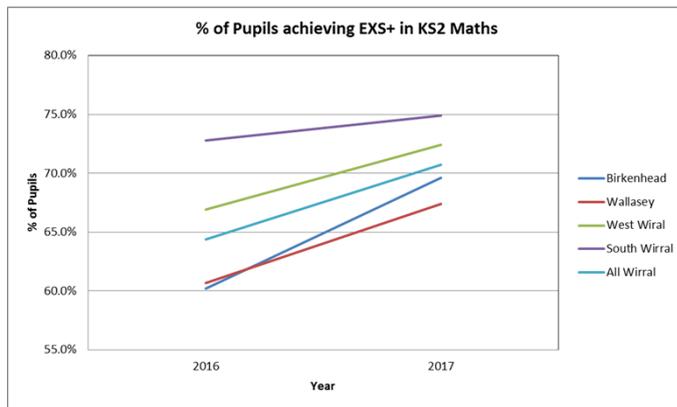
Writing



	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	71.1%	73.0%	↑ 1.9%
Wallasey	69.4%	70.2%	↑ 0.8%
West Wirral	73.3%	76.8%	↑ 3.5%
South Wirral	75.5%	75.9%	↑ 0.4%
All Wirral	72.0%	73.8%	↑ 1.8%

All localities showed more pupils attained the expected standard in writing however the improvements were not as great as those in reading. West Wirral showed the biggest improvement (3.5%).

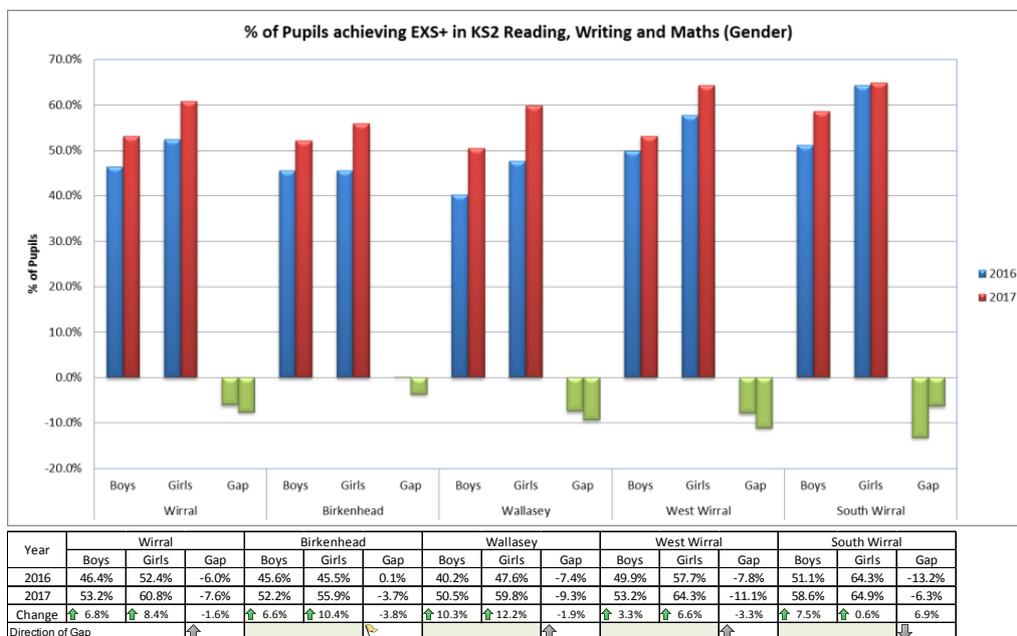
Mathematics



	2016	2017	Gap
Birkenhead	60.2%	69.6%	↑ 9.4%
Wallasey	60.7%	67.4%	↑ 6.7%
West Wirral	66.9%	72.4%	↑ 5.5%
South Wirral	72.8%	74.9%	↑ 2.1%
All Wirral	64.4%	70.7%	↑ 6.3%

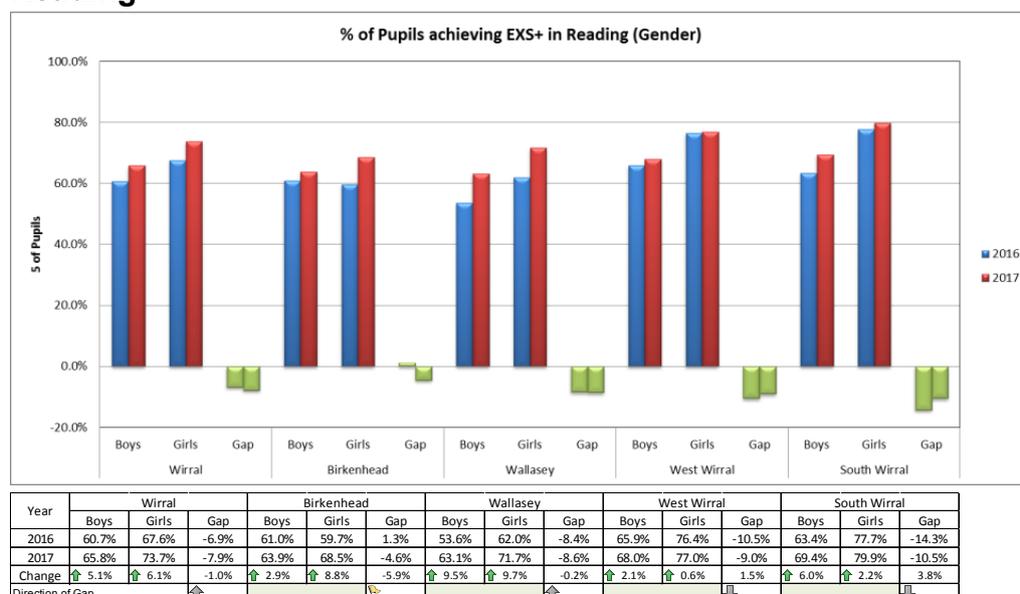
All localities showed more pupils attained the expected standard in mathematics. Birkenhead showed the biggest improvement (9.4%). Wallasey locality also showed significant improvement (6.7%).

Locality Gender Gaps RWM



The gender gap in RWM has widened in three of the localities. This is as a result of an increasing number of girls reaching the standard. The gap has narrowed in South Wirral by 6.9% where an increasing number of boys met the expected standard.

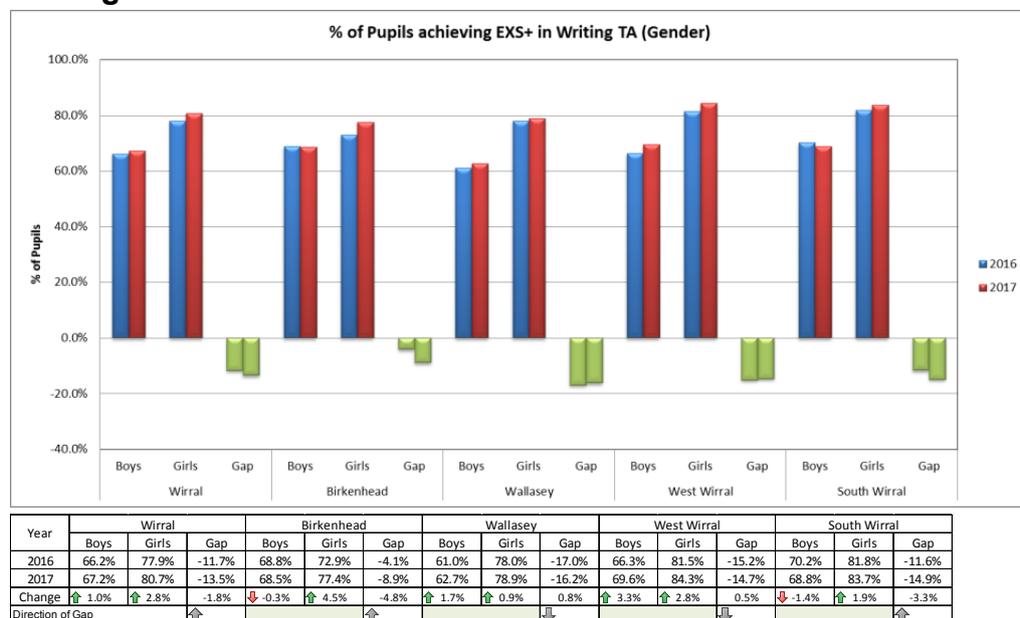
Reading



The gender gap in reading has increased by 1% to 7.9%. More boys and girls met the standard. However the improvement of girls attaining the standard (6.1%) was better than the boys (5.1%).

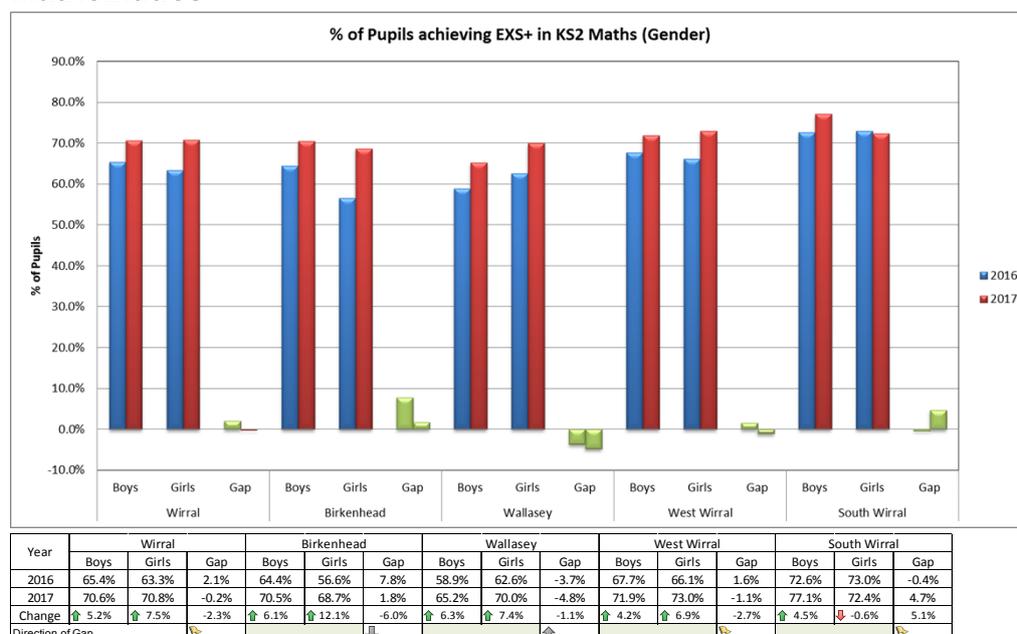
West Wirral and South Wirral localities narrowed the gender gap by 1.5% to 3.8% respectively. The other two localities saw the gap widen; Birkenhead by 3.7% to 4.6% and Wallasey by 0.2% to 8.6%.

Writing



The gender gap in writing has increased by 1.8% to 13.5%. More boys and girls met the standard. However the improvement of girls attaining the standard (2.8%) was better than the boys (1.0%). Wallasey and West Wirral localities narrowed the gender gap by 0.8% to 0.5% respectively. The other two localities saw the gap widen; Birkenhead by 4.8% to 8.9% and South Wirral by 3.3% to 14.9%.

Mathematics

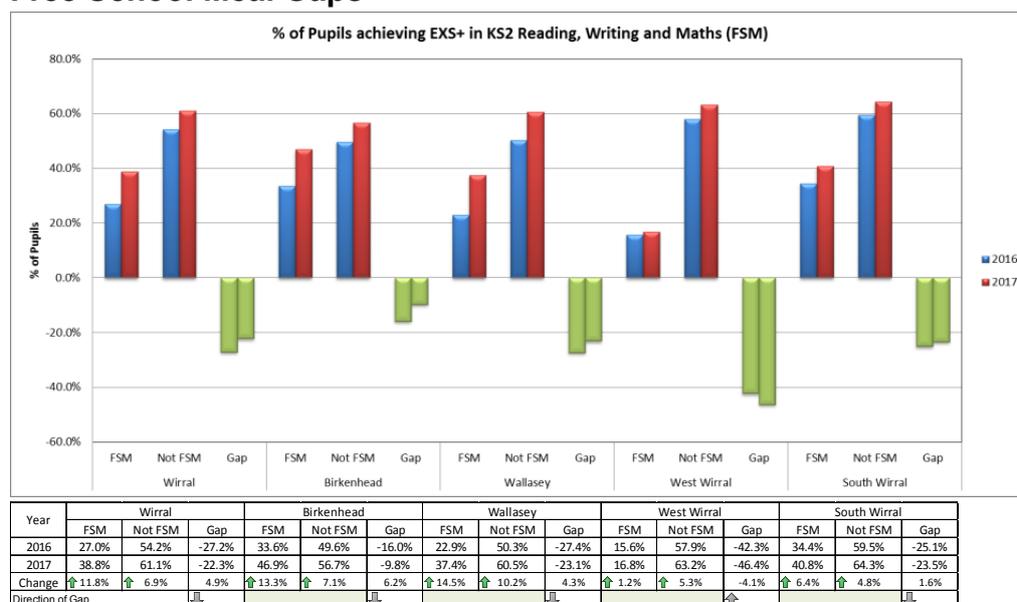


The gender gap in mathematics has decreased from 2.1% to 0.2%. More boys and girls met the standard. However the improvement of girls attaining the standard (7.5%) was better than the boys (5.2%).

Birkenhead and West Wirral localities narrowed the gender gap by 6.0% to 0.5% respectively. The other two localities saw the gap widen; Wallasey by 1.1% to 4.8% and South Wirral by 4.3% to 4.7%. South Wirral was the only locality where girls' attainment decreased by 0.6%.

RWM

Free School Meal Gaps

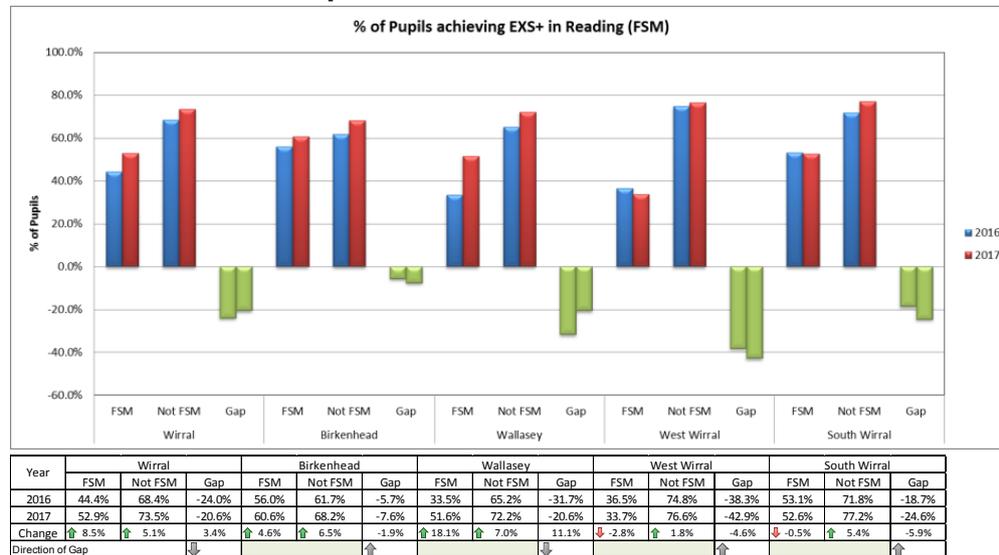


The free school meal gap for all pupils in reading and writing and mathematics combined has reduced by 4.9% to 22.3%. More free school meal pupils (FSM) and non free school meal pupils met the standard. However the improvement of free

school meal pupils attaining the standard (11.8%) was better than the non free school meal pupils (6.9%).

Three localities saw a closing of the free school meal gap. Birkenhead by 6.2% to 9.8%; Wallasey by 4.3%; South Wirral by 1.6%. Of real concern is the FSM gap in West Wirral (42.9%), moreover the gap has widened by 4.1%.

Reading Free School Meal Gaps

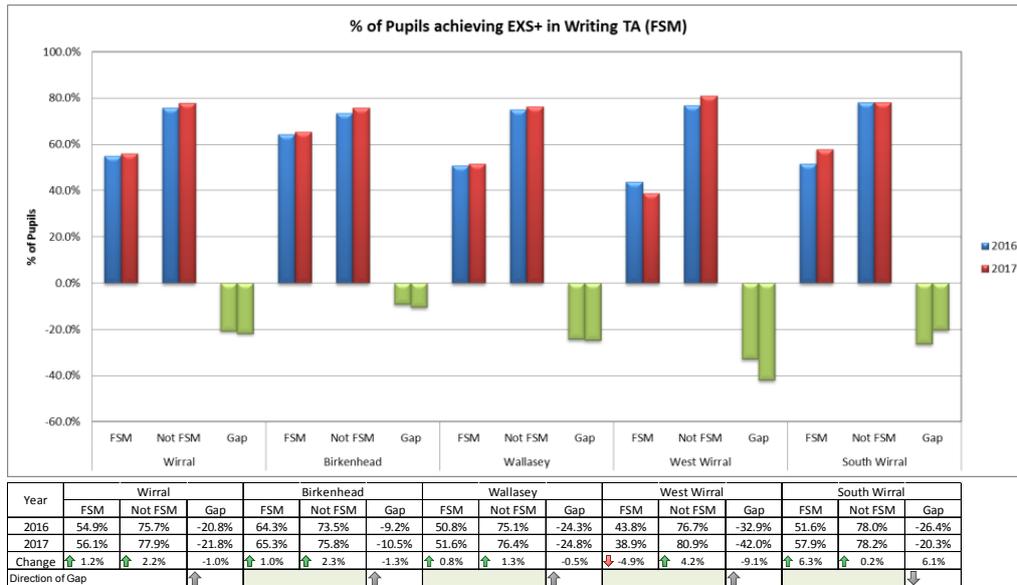


The free school meal gap for all pupils in reading has reduced by 3.4% to 20.6%. More free school meal pupils (FSM) and non free school meal pupils met the standard. However the improvement of free school meal pupils attaining the standard (8.5%) was better than the non free school meal pupils (5.1%).

Only the Wallasey locality saw a closing of the free school meal gap by 11.1% to 20.6%. The other three localities saw the gap widen; Birkenhead by 1.9% to 7.6%; West Wirral by 4.6%; South Wirral by 5.9%. Of real concern is the FSM gap in West Wirral (42.9%).

Writing

Free School Meal Gaps

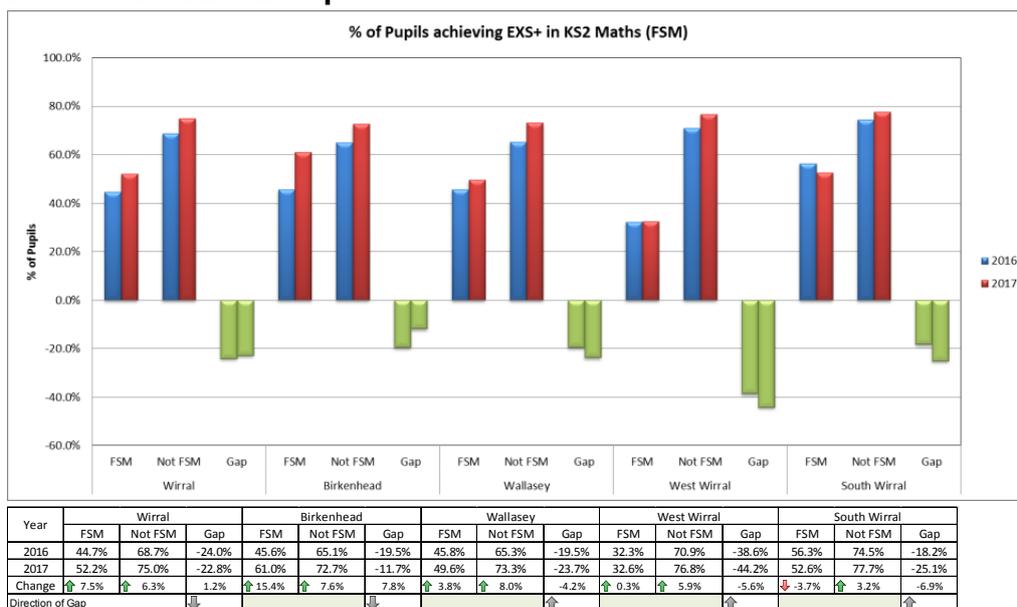


The free school meal gap for all pupils has widened in writing by 1% to 21.8%. More free school meal pupils (FSM) and non free school meal pupils met the standard. However the improvement of free school meal pupils attaining the standard (1.2%) was smaller than the non free school meal pupils (2.2%). Less FSM pupils in West Wirral achieved the standard this year (-4.9%).

Only the South Wirral locality saw a diminishing of the free school meal gap by 6.1% to 20.3%. The other three localities saw the gap widen; Birkenhead by 1.3% to 10.5%; Wallasey by 0.5%; West Wirral by 9.1%. Of real concern is the FSM gap in West Wirral (42%).

Mathematics

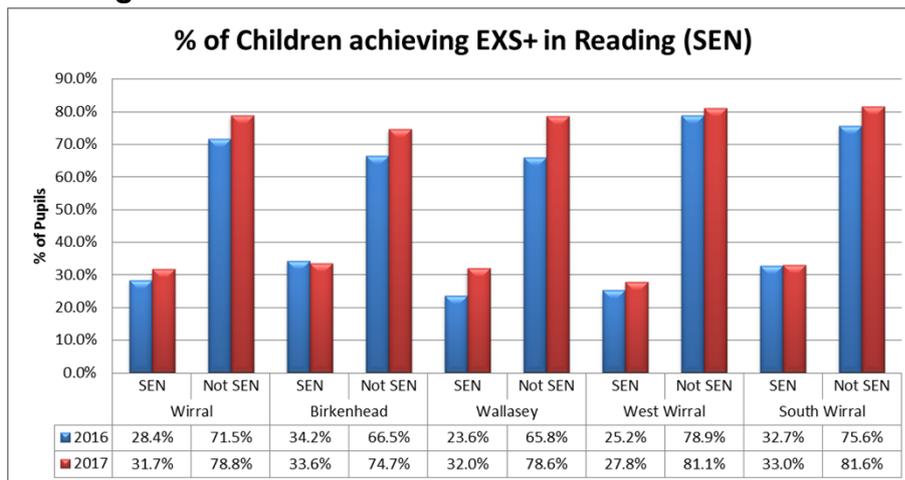
Free School Meal Gaps



The free school meal gap for all pupils has narrowed in mathematics by 1.2% to 22.8%. More free school meal pupils (FSM) and non free school meal pupils met the standard. The improvement of free school meal pupils attaining the standard (7.5%) was greater than the non free school meal pupils (6.3%).

Only the Birkenhead locality saw a diminishing of the free school meal gap by 7.8% to 11.7%. The other three localities saw the gap widen; Wallasey by 4.2% to 23.7%; West Wirral by 5.6%; South Wirral by 6.9%. Of real concern is the FSM gap in West Wirral (44.2%).

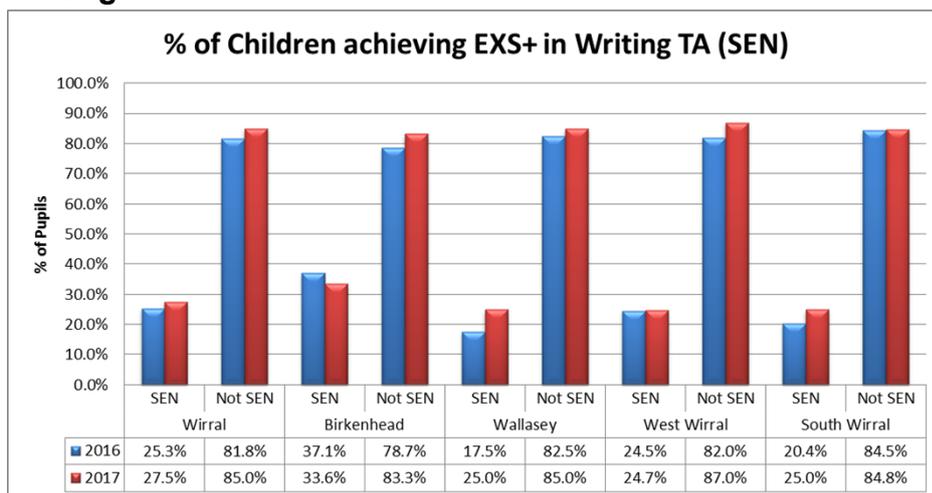
SEN By Locality Reading



The gap between pupils with SEN and pupils without SEN has increased in reading by 4% to 47.1%. More SEN pupils and non SEN pupils met the standard. The improvement of non SEN pupils attaining the standard (7.3%) was greater than the SEN pupils (3.3%). Birkenhead locality was the only one where less SEN pupils achieved the standard.

West Wirral locality saw little change in the attainment gap between SEN and non SEN pupils (0.1%), however the gap is wide (53.8%) The other three localities saw the gap widen; Birkenhead by 8.8% to 41.1%; Wallasey by 4.4% to 46.6%; South Wirral by 5.7% to 48.6%.

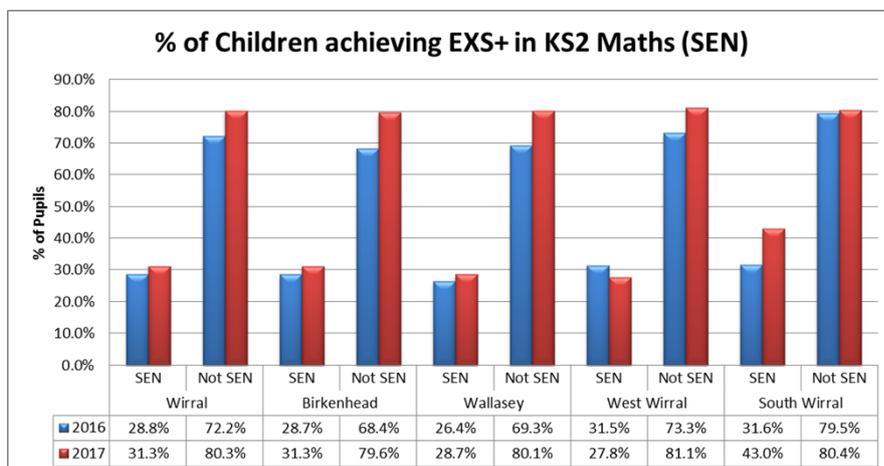
Writing



The gap between pupils with SEN and pupils without SEN has increased in writing by 1% to 57.5%. More SEN pupils and non SEN pupils met the standard. The improvement of non SEN pupils attaining the standard (3.2%) was greater than the SEN pupils (2.2%). Birkenhead locality saw less SEN pupils achieved the standard.

Two localities Birkenhead and West Wirral saw the gap between SEN pupils and non SEN pupils widen 8.1% and 5.2% respectively. Wallasey and South Wirral saw the gap close by 5% and 4.2% respectively. However, the gap is wide in all four localities; Birkenhead 49.7%; Wallasey 60%; West Wirral 62.3%; South Wirral 59.8%.

Mathematics



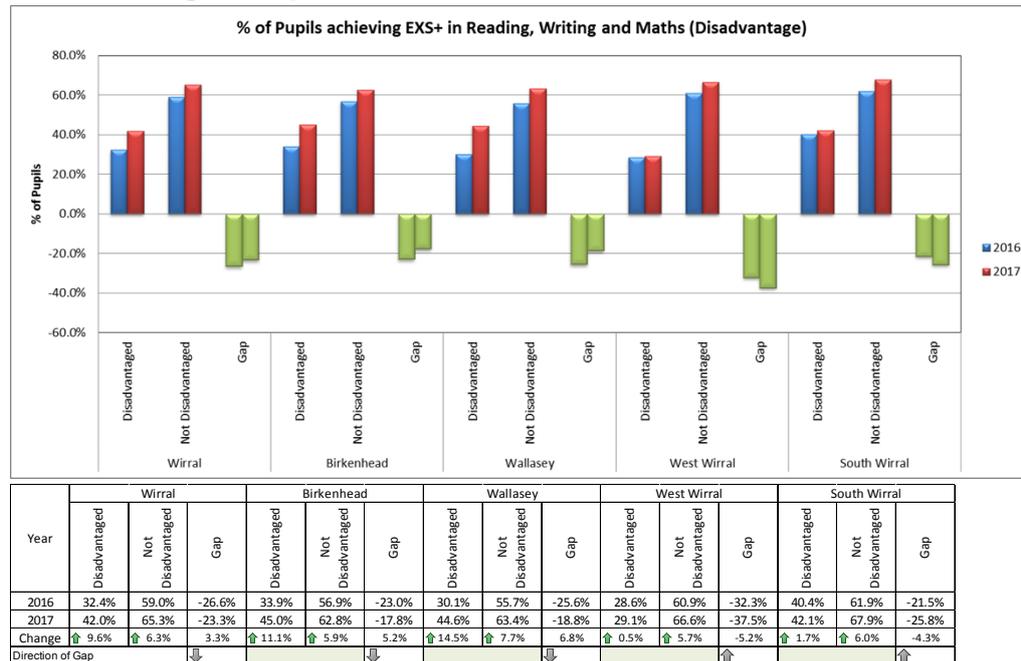
The gap between pupils with SEN and pupils without SEN has increased in writing by 5.6% to 49%. More SEN pupils and non SEN pupils met the standard. The improvement of non SEN pupils attaining the standard (8.1%) was greater than the SEN pupils (2.5%). West Wirral locality saw less SEN pupils achieved the standard.

Three localities Birkenhead, Wallasey and West Wirral saw the gap between SEN pupils and non SEN pupils widen 8.6, 8.5% and 11.5% respectively. South Wirral

saw the gap close by 10.5%. The gap is very wide in three localities; Birkenhead 48.3%; Wallasey 51.4%; West Wirral 53.3%.

RWM

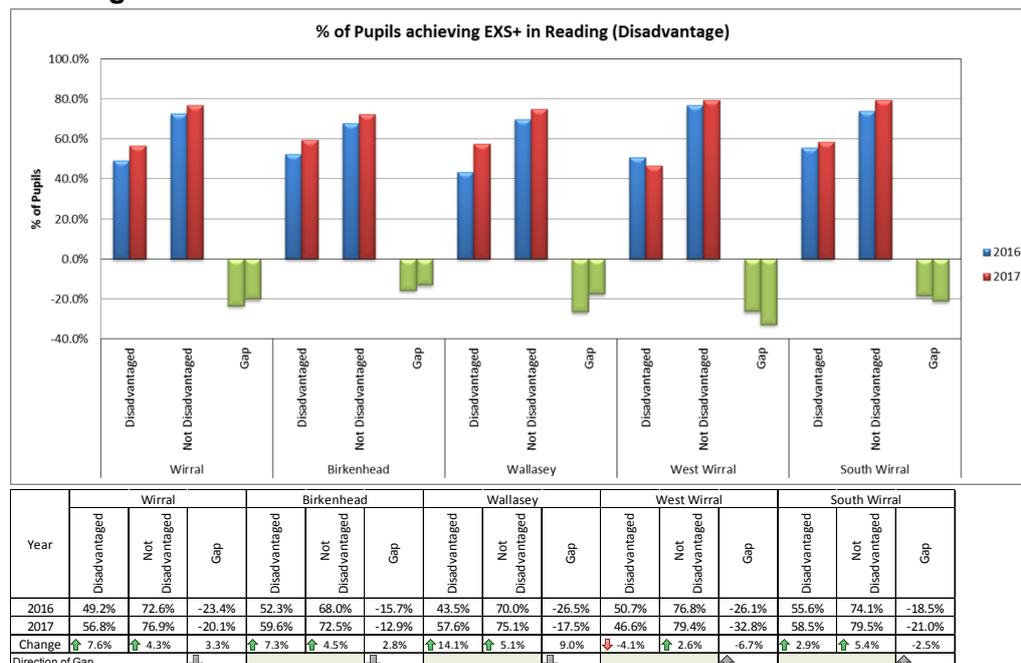
Disadvantaged Pupils



For all Wirral pupils the disadvantage gap for RWM has narrowed by 3.3% and is attributable to more disadvantaged pupils meeting the expected standard this year. Three localities narrowed the gap:- Birkenhead by 5.2% to 17.8%; Wallasey by 6.8% to 18.8% and South Wirral by 4.3% to 25.8%. The gap in West Wirral widened by 5.2% to 37.5%.

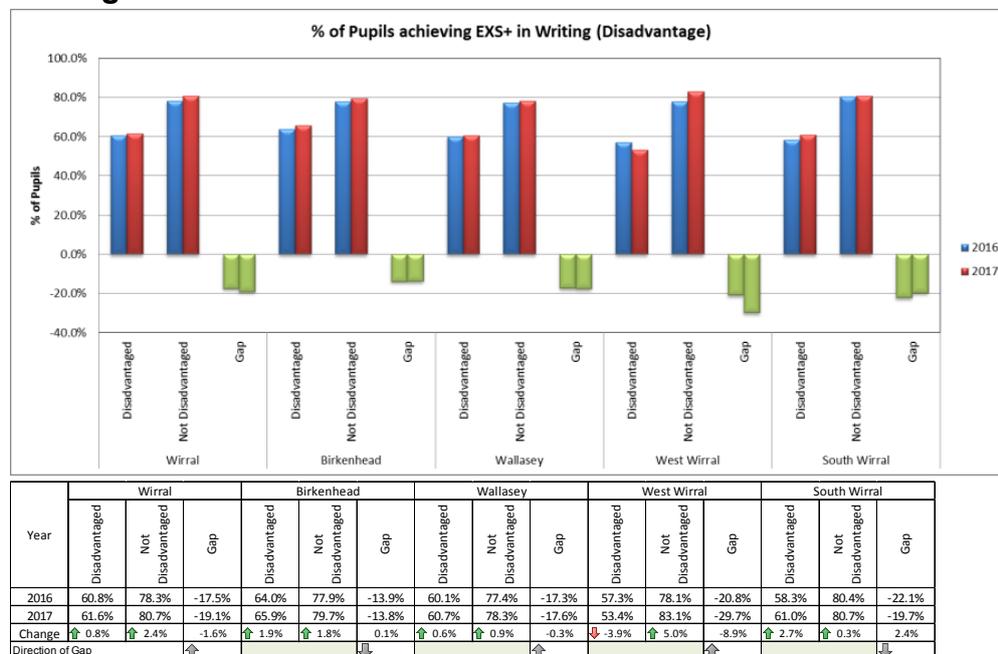
Disadvantaged Pupils

Reading



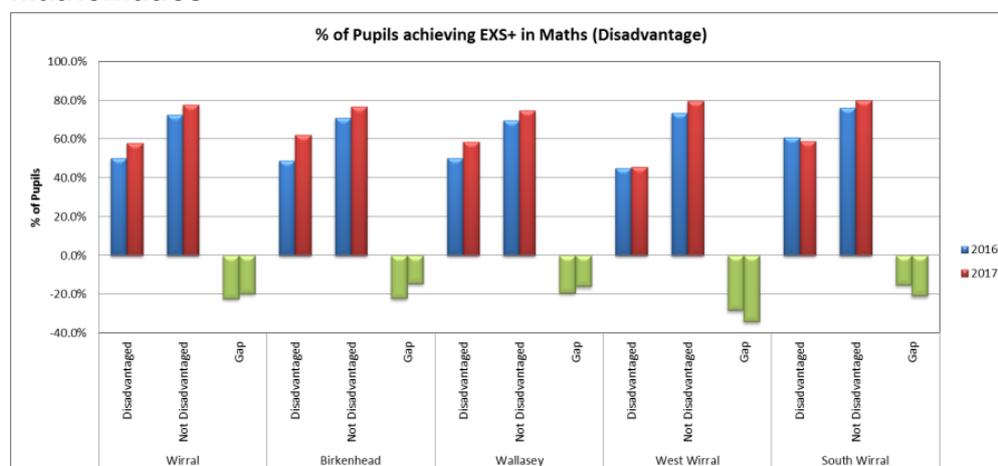
For all Wirral pupils the disadvantage gap in reading has narrowed by 3.3% and is attributable to more disadvantaged pupils meeting the expected standard this year (7.8% increase to 56.8%). Two localities narrowed the gap:- Birkenhead by 2.8% to 12.9% and Wallasey by 9% to 17.5%. The gap in West Wirral widened by 6.7% to 32.8% and in South Wirral by 2.5% to 21%.

Disadvantaged Pupils Writing



For all Wirral pupils the disadvantage gap in writing has widened by 1.6% and is attributable to more non disadvantaged pupils meeting the expected standard this year (2.4% increase to 80.7%). Two localities narrowed the gap:- Birkenhead by 0.1% to 13.8% and South Wirral by 2.4% to 19.7%. The gap in Wallasey widened by 0.3% to 17.6% and in West Wirral by 8.9% to 29.7%.

Disadvantaged Pupils Mathematics



Year	Wirral			Birkenhead			Wallasey			West Wirral			South Wirral		
	Disadvantaged	Not Disadvantaged	Gap												
2016	50.2%	72.6%	-22.4%	48.9%	71.1%	-22.2%	50.3%	69.7%	-19.4%	45.1%	73.4%	-28.3%	60.9%	76.1%	-15.2%
2017	58.1%	77.9%	-19.8%	62.2%	76.7%	-14.5%	58.7%	74.7%	-16.0%	45.6%	79.7%	-34.1%	59.1%	79.9%	-20.8%
Change	↑ 7.9%	↑ 5.3%	2.6%	↑ 13.3%	↑ 5.6%	7.7%	↑ 8.4%	↑ 5.0%	3.4%	↑ 0.5%	↑ 6.3%	-5.8%	↓ -1.8%	↑ 3.8%	-5.6%
Direction of Gap			↓			↓			↓			↑			↑

For all Wirral pupils the disadvantage gap in mathematics has narrowed by 2.6% and is attributable to more disadvantaged pupils meeting the expected standard this year (7.9% increase to 58.1%). Two localities narrowed the gap:- Birkenhead by 7.7% to 14.5% and Wallasey by 3.4% to 16%. The gap in West Wirral widened by 5.8% to 34.1% and in South Wirral by 5.6% to 20.8%.

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Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday, 26 September 2017

REPORT TITLE:	Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 1 2017/18
REPORT OF:	Assistant Director: Finance

REPORT SUMMARY

This report sets out the financial monitoring information for Children and Families in a format consistent across the Overview & Scrutiny Committees. The report provides Members with detail to scrutinise budget performance for this area of activity. The financial information is at close of quarter 1 2017/18.

Information has been drawn from the relevant sections of the most recent Cabinet revenue and capital monitoring reports and combined with additional relevant service information to produce a bespoke report for this Overview & Scrutiny Committee. The report includes the following:

- Performance against the revenue budget (including savings, income and debt)
- Performance against the capital budget

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1 The quarter 1 revenue forecast overspend of £3.2 million be noted.
- 2 The performance of the capital projects within this area be noted.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

1.1 To provide members with details of the financial performance of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's area.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2.1 Not applicable

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 PERFORMANCE AGAINST REVENUE BUDGETS QUARTER 1 (APRIL 2017- JUNE 2017)

3.1.0 CHANGES TO THE AGREED BUDGET

3.1.1 The 2017/18 Budget was agreed by Council on 6 March 2017. Any increase to the overall Council Budget (but not use of the existing budget contingency) requires agreement by full Council. Changes to the Budget since it was set are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: 2017/18 Original & Revised Net Budget by Wirral Plan Themes

	Original Net Budget	Proposed Budget Change Quarter 1 Use of Contingency	Proposed Budget Change Quarter 1 Use of Balances	Approved Budget Changes Qtr 1	Revised Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
People - Children & Families	80,616	5,000	-	-	85,616
Net Cost of Services	80,616	5,000	-	-	85,616

3.2.0 PROJECTIONS AND KEY ISSUES

3.2.1 The projected outturn position as at the end of June 2017 and Wirral Plan: 2020 Vision Themes updates are detailed in the following sections.

Table 2: 2017/18 Projected Budget variations by Wirral Plan Themes

Directorates	Revised Budget	Forecast Outturn	(Under) Overspend Quarter 1	RAGBY Class	Change from prev
People - Children & Families	85,616	88,776	3,160	R	n/a
TOTAL	85,616	88,776	3,160		0

The report classifies the forecast under/overspends for the above areas using a colour RAGBY rating. The ratings are defined as follows:

- Overspends Red (over +£301k), Underspend Yellow (over -£301k).
- Amber (+£141k to +£300k), Green (range from +£140k to -£140k); Blue (-£141k to -£300k).

3.2.2 Children and Families

- The predicted overspend is £3.2 million which is after the allocation of £5 million from the Contingency as highlighted in Section 3.1.
- Agency social worker costs are impacting due to a number of vacant posts within the existing establishment together with a number of posts requiring sickness / maternity cover. Whilst there is an ongoing strategy to recruit Social Work posts the shortages are a regional / national issue. At this stage there is a £1.3 million overspend forecast.
- Care placement numbers have increased over the last 12 months. The projected overspend is £5.7 million with £5 million covered by the Contingency. This assumes a full year provision for children, more of whom are placed through independent fostering agencies. Whilst care placements are carefully managed through the weekly Planning for Children Panel, numbers continue to increase. In the last month there has been a net increase of three residential and eight agency foster care placements increasing costs by £0.5 million.
- Services for children with disabilities are forecast to overspend by £0.8 million as a consequence of the rising costs of domiciliary care and the impact of direct payments together with the savings in this area proving difficult to deliver through increased numbers.

3.3.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF SAVINGS

3.3.1 A summary of the position of 2017/18 Children and Families savings at 30 June 2017 is below.

Table 3: Savings Implementation 2017/18 (£000's)

BRAG	Number of Options	Approved Budget Reduction	Amount Delivered at Q1	To be Delivered
R – High risk of not being achieved	2	1,400	0	1,400
Total at Quarter 1 2017-18	2	1,400	0	1,400

3.3.2 The savings tracker contains an assessment of the 2017/18 savings by the ratings below.

- **Blue:** Represents savings which have already been realised.
- **Green:** Savings on track to deliver.
- **Amber:** Some concerns regarding delivery and will require closer scrutiny and monitoring.
- **Red:** High risk of not being achieved.

3.4.0 INCOME AND DEBT

3.4.1 The table below shows the outstanding debt by Wirral Plan Theme category and then by invoice raised date. This is a different way of showing the debtor information for 2017/18 to make the monitoring report more accessible and informative. At the end of June 2017 total Council arrears stood at £24.7 million with £1.7 million of this relating to Children & Families.

Table 4: Accounts Receivable Outstanding Arrears Analysis

Theme	Less than 30 days	More than 30 days	2016/2017	2015/16	Pre 2015/16	Total at 30.06.17
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Children & Families	320,420	250,414	925,404	138,649	54,305	1,689,192

3.4.2 In accordance with proper accounting practice, income is credited to the relevant financial year's accounts of the service area at the point invoices are raised. A provision for bad debt is maintained and is assessed each year. Should non-payment occur after proceeding through all necessary recovery procedures, any properly authorised write off will be charged against the bad debt provision.

3.5.0 PERFORMANCE AGAINST CAPITAL BUDGETS QUARTER 1 (April-June 2017)

3.5.1 Capital Programme 2017/18 at end of Quarter 1 (30 June)

	Revised Programme	Spend to Date June 2017	Funded by: Council Resources	Funded by: Grants
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children & Families	22,921	2,224	14,764	8,157
Total expenditure	22,921	2,224	14,764	8,157

3.5.2 A small amount of the expenditure charged so far relates to schools related capital (£0.2 million). As with previous years the works to schools are largely programmed to be undertaken during the school holiday periods.

3.5.3 The Transformation Programme includes significant funding (£10 million) in respect of the Improvement Plan for Children's Services which is being implemented with investment in staff across a number of critical areas. These will help address the needs of those leaving care with more PA's, strengthen the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Safeguarding teams, address high caseloads, improve information within the department and enhance Early Help and Prevention services. The costs will be transferred to the Capital Programme during in the year.

3.5.4 Further detail of the Capital Programme and spend is contained within Appendix 1 of this report.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The financial implications of this report are discussed throughout the report. This is essentially a financial monitoring performance update report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The entire report concerns the duty of the Council to avoid a budget shortfall. The Chief Finance Officer has a personal duty under the Local Government Finance Act 1988 Section 114A to make a report to the executive if it appears to them that the expenditure of the authority incurred (including expenditure it proposes to incur) in a financial year is likely to exceed the resources available to it to meet that expenditure.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS; ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

6.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 The possible failure to deliver the Revenue Budget is being mitigated by:

- Senior Leadership Team / Management Teams reviewing the financial position.
- Tracking system of savings options to monitor progress.
- Use of temporary additional support to assist with revenues collection.
- Use of earmarked reserves, General Fund Balances and contingency.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 No consultation has been carried out in relation to this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 This report is essentially a monitoring report which reports on financial performance.

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Principal Accountant
Telephone (0151) 666 3417
Email chriskelly@wirral.gov.uk

SUBJECT HISTORY

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Capital Programme and Funding 2017/18

Council Meeting	Date
Budget Council	6 March 2017
Cabinet – Revenue Monitoring 2017/18 Quarter 1	17 July 2017
Cabinet – Capital Monitoring 2017/18 Quarter 1	17 July 2017

Capital Programme and Funding 2017/18**APPENDIX 1**

People Children & Family	Revised Programme £000	Spend to Date £000	Council Resources £000	Business Rates £000	Grants £000	Total Funding £000
Pensby Wood day service re-modelling	1,697	13	1,532	-	165	1,697
Family support schemes	191	-	191	-	-	191
Stanley Special additional classrooms etc.	4	-	4	-	-	4
School condition allocation	5,457	88	-	-	5,457	5,457
Private Finance Initiative	85	-	85	-	-	85
Basic needs	2,285	36	-	-	2,285	2,285
School remodelling (Primary places) Transformation Programme (including Children's Services(3,202	87	2,952	-	250	3,202
	10,000	2,000	10,000	-	-	10,000
	22,921	2,224	14,764	-	8,157	22,921

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Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday, 26 September 2017

REPORT TITLE:	2017/18 Quarter 1 Wirral Plan Performance
REPORT OF:	Director for Children's Services

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides the 2017/18 Quarter 1 (April – June 2017) performance report for the Wirral Plan pledges under the remit of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report, which is included as Appendix 1, provides a description of the progress in Quarter 1 as well as providing available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

Quarter One Wirral Plan Performance Summary

- The take-up of the two year old offer by eligible families has continued to improve with 92.6% at quarter one, compared to 88.1% in 2016-17.
- Challenging targets have been set for women accessing maternity services with the target not achieved at quarter 1.
- Targets have also not been achieved for the three health check and health visitor reviews, although two of the measures linked to Health Visitor reviews show improved performance compared to the previous year. Analysis indicated that take up of reviews in the community pilot areas was lower than overall take up and additional focus is now in place in these areas.
- School Ofsted inspections have highlighted attendance in a number of schools to be in the lowest 10% nationally. Attendance needs to be a relentless focus for all schools.
- Continuous focus on vulnerable children is in place in response to the 2016 Ofsted Inspection. Both the children in need and children subject to a child protection plan rates have increased at Quarter 1. Work continues on developing joint approaches based on the needs of children such as the Strengthening Families Enhancing Futures programme.
- Work is on track towards the creation of an All Age Disability and Mental Health Service in Wirral. This project is part of the Council's Transformation Programme and will seek to develop better integration across the disability and mental health pathways. This will lead to improved quality and consistency of service provision and reduce service barriers related to age and eligibility.

- The Safer Wirral Hub has now been established and this is leading to developing improved ways of working across the partnership. This new, integrated service delivery model is creating opportunities for all agencies to work more closely and share insight to better problem solve, plan and target services more effectively.
- Reporting at quarter one 2017-18 illustrates the complex picture of Domestic Abuse in Wirral. Agencies are working to ensure victims have confidence to report crimes, and reporting has increased in number of cases per adult female and children and young people experiencing domestic abuse. However repeat incidents and high risk referrals to the Family Safety Unit have also increased. New initiatives through the Safer Wirral Hub are being put in place.
- A new Peer Mentor Coordinator has been appointed to support and develop the work of the Domestic Abuse Community Champions. This will focus on the hotspot areas of Birkenhead, Seacombe and Wallasey. A new focus for this work will be on targeting Children's Centres to identify young parents and families that may be at risk of abuse.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the content of the report and highlights any areas requiring further clarification or action.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 To ensure Members of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the opportunity to scrutinise the performance of the Council and partners in relation to delivering the Wirral Plan.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 This report has been developed in line with the approved performance management framework for the Wirral Plan. As such, no other options were considered.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Wirral Plan is an outcome-focussed, partnership plan which has 18 supporting strategies that set out how each of the 20 pledges will be delivered. For each pledge, a partnership group has been established to drive forward delivery of the action plans set out in each of the supporting strategies.
- 3.2 A Wirral Plan Performance Management Framework has been developed to ensure robust monitoring arrangements are in place. The Wirral Partnership has a robust approach to performance management to ensure all activity is regularly monitored and reviewed.
- 3.3 Data for the identified indicators is released at different times during the year. As a result of this, not all Pledges will have results each quarterly reporting period. Some indicators can be reported quarterly and some only on an annual basis. Annual figures are reported in the quarter they become available against the 2017/18 year end column.
- 3.4 For each of the indicators, a trend is shown (better, same or worse). In most cases, this is determined by comparing the latest data with the previous reporting period i.e. 2016/17 year end. In some cases, i.e. where data accumulates during the year or is subject to seasonal fluctuations, the trend is shown against the same time the previous year. This is indicated in the key at the end of the report.
- 3.5 For some indicators, targets have been set. Where this is the case, a RAGB (red, amber, green, blue) rating is provided against the target and tolerance levels set at the start of the reporting period, with blue indicating performance targets being exceeded.
- 3.6 All Wirral Plan performance reports are published on the performance page of the Council's website. This includes the high level Wirral Plan overview report and the detailed pledge reports which include updates on progress on all activities set out in the supporting strategy action plans. The link to this web page is set out below:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/about-council/council-performance>

3.7 Each of the Wirral Plan Pledges has a Lead Commissioner responsible for overseeing effective delivery. The Lead Commissioners for the Pledges in the report at Appendix 1 are as follows:

- Children are Ready for School – Deborah Gornik
- Children are Ready for Work and Adulthood – Deborah Gornik
- Vulnerable Children Reach their Full Potential – Deborah Gornik
- Reducing Child and Family Poverty (Improving Life Chances) – Fiona Johnstone
- People with Disabilities live Independent Lives – Graham Hodgkinson
- Zero Tolerance to Domestic Violence – Mark Smith

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

6.1 There are none arising from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 The performance management framework is aligned to the Council's risk management strategy and both are regularly reviewed as part of corporate management processes.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 The priorities in the Wirral Plan pledges were informed by a range of consultations carried out in 2015 and 2016 including the Wirral resident survey.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Wirral Plan equality impact assessment can be found at:
<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments/equality-impact-assessments-2014-15/chief>

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Wirral Plan – 2017/18 Quarter 1 Pledge Reports

REFERENCE MATERIAL

N/A

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	8 September 2016
People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	28 November 2016
People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	23 March 2017
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee	20 June 2017

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Appendix 1

Wirral Plan Children and Families Committee

2017-18 Quarter 1 Reports

Wirral Plan 2020

Children are ready for school

Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

The take up of the 2 year old offer has continued to improve and seeing take up at 92% of all eligible children, an increase of nearly 7% over the year. Plans for the year ahead are to ensure that children who are in the care of the local authority consistently take up their offer and to better understand why the remaining 8% of eligible children are not taking up the offer.

Now take up has improved a key priority is to understand and improve the impact that the Early Years Funding Entitlement (2, 3 and 4 year old funding) is having. This will be achieved through the Early Years Tracker that has been developed. A pilot has been operating with a number of providers across the Spring term and is seeing positive results and providers are indicating it is easier and quicker to track children's development and analyse the data to differentiate cohorts of children and then address their needs. Targets have been set which will see 70% of providers using the tracker and implementation will take place from September onwards. The first data analysis will take place in January 2018.

Work has started with partners on collecting information for a service directory of parenting programmes (Local Authority, Health and Voluntary Sector). During the year this will be extended to include the family support and wider community offer and will be developed across the Borough for children and families (0 - 19).

To ensure the quality of childcare can positively impact on improving outcomes for children under 5, a training audit across childcare providers is underway. It will identify need and how to best meet training requirements across the sector paying attention to their hours of operation, location and weekend access.

Health checks during the last year saw an increase of 15% for 12 month reviews and 3.6% increase for 2 year reviews. A small decrease was noted for 6-8 week development checks - seeing Wirral higher than the national average, but lower than the regional average. The contract will continue to be closely monitored against improvements to meet performance targets that have been set for the provider.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Foundation Stage - % achieving a good level of development	Annual Higher is better	62.8% 2013-14 Acad Year	England: 69.3% (2015-16 Acad Year) North West: 66.7% (2015-16 Acad Year)	69.6%			n/a	Latest published performance is for 2015-16 academic year. Provisional data for 2016-17 academic year will be available in quarter 2.
Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend	Comment
The percentage of women booked to access professional maternity services on or before 12+6 weeks gestation	Quarterly Higher is better	80.8% Q3 2014-15		83.3%	Amber Actual: 81.2% Target: 90.0%		Worse	Performance of 81.2% is slightly below last quarter (83.3%). It is rated amber against a more challenging target of 90%, previously this target was 80%.
Take up of 2 year old offer by eligible families as identified by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)	Quarterly Higher is better	70.0% Q1 2015-16		88.1%	92.6%		Better	
The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving a Good Level of Development in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile	Annual Lower is better	19.0% 2014-15 Acad Year	England: 18.0% (2015-16 Acad Year) North West: 19.0% (2015-16 Acad Year)	18.0%			n/a	Latest published performance is for 2015-16 academic year. Provisional data for 2016-17 academic year will be available in quarter 2.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend	Comment
Percentage of children aged 4-5 classified as overweight or obese	Annual Lower is better	22.40% 2014-15	England: 22.10% (2015-16) North West: 23.20% (2015-16)	22.90%			n/a	The 2016-17 year end figure represents the latest annual data for 2015-16 that was released in December 2016.
Percentage of infants who received a 6-8 week Development Check by the time they were 8 weeks	Quarterly Higher is better	84.6% Q1 2015-16	England: 83.6% (2016-17 Q4) North West: 89.6% (2016-17 Q4)	Amber Actual: 84.9% Target: 90.0%			Worse	There is 4 month time lag on the release of this data and the latest release is for 2016-17 year end. Data is currently provisional and due to be finalised in September/October 2017. It is slightly down (0.9%) on 2015-16 year end performance of 85.8%.
Percentage of children who received a 12 month Health Visitor review by the time they turned 12 months	Quarterly Higher is better	66.4% Q1 2015-16	England: 75.9% (2016-17 Q4) North West: 84.0% (2016-17 Q4)	Red Actual: 75.9% Target: 85.0%			Better	There is 4 month time lag on the release of this data and the latest release is for 2016-17 year end. Data is currently provisional and due to be finalised in September/October 2017. Performance has significantly improved by 15% from 2015-16 year end (60.9%).
Percentage of children who received a 2-2½ year Health Visitor review	Quarterly Higher is better	73.0% Q1 2015-16	England: 77.4% (2016-17 Q4) North West: 85.4% (2016-17 Q4)	Amber Actual: 76.7% Target: 85%			Better	There is 4 month time lag on the release of this data and the latest release is for 2016-17 year end. Data is currently provisional and due to be finalised in September/October 2017. Performance has improved by 3.6% from 2015-16 year end (73.1%).
Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (aged 0-4 years), rate per 10,000	Annual Lower is better	133.5 2014-15	England: 129.6 (2015-16) North West: 182.0 (2015-16)	158.6			n/a	Latest data is for 2015-16 which became available in 2016-17. Performance was worse than national data (129.6) but better than North West (182.0)
Percentage of early years childcare providers rated 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted	Quarterly Higher is better	78.0% Aug 2015	England: 93.0% (Mar 2017) North West: 93.0% (Mar 2017)	90.0%			n/a	The latest data available from Ofsted DataView is as at 31 March 2017 (90.0%). This shows a 12% improvement since the start of the Wirral Plan but is slightly lower than national and north west performance of 93%.
Foundation Stage - % of children who are looked after achieving a good level of development	Annual Higher is better	20.0% 2013-14 Acad Year		52.6%			n/a	Latest published performance is for 2015-16 academic year. Provisional data for 2016-17 academic year will be available in quarter 2.

Young people are ready for work and adulthood

Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

Twenty eight schools have been inspected during this academic year. Of those 28 schools 1 was judged outstanding, 17 were judged good, 9 were judged as requiring improvement, 1 was judged to be special measures. Four schools had Ofsted judgements downgraded (2 secondary schools went from good to requires improvement; 1 primary school was downgraded from good to special measures; 1 primary school was downgraded from good to requires improvement). The percentage of schools judged as good or better has remained at 90%.

It is interesting to note that a number of schools attendance was identified by Ofsted to be in the lowest 10% nationally. Attendance needs to be a relentless focus for all schools so that attendance improves and persistent absence decreases. Schools have responded to a survey requesting information about the current provision for parenting/ family support and the school's ability to deliver parenting programmes. Twenty-one schools stated that they would be willing to deliver parenting programmes if training was available. The ADHD pathway is now up and running with referral numbers of around one thousand in the first 9 months far exceeding expectations. So far test results indicate that only half of the children tested so far have ADHD traits. Focus is around appropriate parenting programmes to support families with children exhibiting challenging behaviours not attributable to ADHD.

As part of the Future in Mind programme an advice and duty help line was set up for schools and parents. The number of telephone consultations continues to increase each month, with 342 consultations this quarter. Both headteachers and parents have provided very positive feedback about this service. The Training programme has proved very popular. So far 150 people have attended training courses. Evaluations are 100% very good. Next year's training programme is already fully booked (500 training places) The impact of the programme so far is that referrals received into CAMHS have reduced by 10% this quarter compared to Q1 in 2016. Young people presenting to Accident and Emergency following self-harm or attempted suicide has reduced by 40% this quarter compared to Q1 2016.

Consultation with young people around substance misuse has been completed. This consultation is being used to inform service development. A targeted campaign 'Operation Oriel' led by the police has raised awareness of the issues around using substances such as ecstasy due to increasing concerns of its use with schools and parents.

Young peoples (aged 16 to 19) apprenticeship participation at 885 is the highest rate since 2012. The Apprenticeship Growth Strategy has now been commissioned for the Liverpool City Region (LCR). This will inform and help to update the LCR Apprenticeship Strategy 2020.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Percentage of schools rated 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted	Quarterly Higher is better	84.0% Aug 2015 Aug 2015	England: 89.0% (Mar 2017) North West: 90.0% (Mar 2017)	90.0%			n/a	The latest data available from Ofsted DataView is as at 31 March 2017. This shows a 6% improvement since the start of the Wirral Plan and compares favourably to national performance of 89%.
The % of young people aged 16 and 17 who are not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) or categorised as 'not known' - Post Sept 2016	Quarterly Lower is better	n/a		5.3%	7.0%		n/a	Latest performance reported in quarter 1 is for June 2017. This is a new headline performance measure which combines Wirral's NEET rate and not known rate. This will provide local stakeholders with a much more accurate measure of tracking. NEET rates alone will no longer suggest high performance when in reality there may be a significant number of young people whose activity is not known. It will also be more transparent where Local Authorities have efficient tracking processes and low rates of not knows, but whose NEET rate appears to be above average. The current measure cannot therefore be compared with NEET rates reported prior to September 2016.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend	Comment
Progress 8 Score for Wirral	Annual Higher is better	n/a	North West: -0.15 (2015-16 Acad Year) Statistical Neighbours: -0.22 (2015-16 Acad Year)	-0.04			n/a	Progress 8 is a new Department for Education headline measure that aims to capture the progress a pupil makes from the end of primary school to the end of secondary school. It was reported for the first time in 2016-17. Performance was slightly below the national average of -0.03 but compares favourably to North West neighbours which had an average score of -0.15. Provisional data for 2016-17 academic year will be available in quarter 2.
The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the 'expected standard' in English, reading, English writing and mathematics at the end of key stage 2.	Annual Lower is better	n/a	England: 21.0% (2015-16 Acad Year) North West: 23.0% (2015-16 Acad Year)	27.0%			n/a	Latest published performance is for 2015-16 academic year. Provisional data for 2016-17 academic year will be available in quarter 2.
The percentage of children in good or better schools as rated by Ofsted	Quarterly Higher is better	81.0% Aug 2015	England: 87.0% (Mar 2017) North West: 85.0% (Mar 2017)	90.0%			n/a	The latest data available from Ofsted DataView is as at 31 Mar 2017. This shows a 8% improvement since the start of the Wirral Plan and compares favourably to national performance of 87%.
Reduction in use of medication for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) - Number of items prescribed, rate per 10,000	Quarterly Lower is better	1.55 Q4 2014-15					n/a	Latest update received is for quarter 3 2016-17 (1.80)
The gap in progress between disadvantaged pupils and their peers at Key Stage 4	Annual Higher is better	n/a	England: 0.48 (2015-16 Acad Year) North West: 0.56 (2015-16 Acad Year)	0.75			n/a	This measure monitors the gap in progress of disadvantaged children and their peers from Primary School to the end of Key Stage 4. Progress 8 data was published in the Department for Education performance tables for the first time in 2016. The measure will calculate the overall Wirral figure taking into account progress for all disadvantaged pupils. The co-hort includes children in receipt of FSM; children who are looked after and children who have a parent in the armed services. In 2016 the gap of 0.75 was higher than England (0.48) and North West neighbours (0.56). The aim is to reduce the gap.
The gap in progress between pupils with a SEN statement/EHCP and their peers at Key Stage 4	Annual Lower is better	n/a	England: 1.09 (2015-16 Acad Year) North West: 1.00 (2015-16 Acad Year)	0.86			n/a	This measure monitors the gap in progress of children with a statement of SEN or EHCP and their peers from Primary School to the end of Key Stage 4. Latest published performance is for 2015-16 academic year and shows the progress gap in Wirral at 0.86 compares favourably to national picture (1.09) and North West neighbours (1.00). The aim is to reduce the gap further.
The percentage of persistent absence in Wirral Schools (post 2016)	Annual Higher is better	n/a	England: 10.50 (2016) North West: 10.80 (2016)	12.50			n/a	Latest published performance is for 2015-16 Academic Year.
The percentage of Children Looked After who attained a Level 4 or above in English and Maths at the end of Key Stage 4	Annual Higher is better	n/a					n/a	Provisional data for this new measure will be available in quarter 2.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend	Comment
Progress 8 Score for Children Looked After in Wirral	Annual Higher is better	n/a	England: -1.14 (2015-16 Acad Year) North West: -1.27 (2015-16 Acad Year)	-1.52			n/a	This measure monitors the progress for all children who are looked after from Primary School to the end of Key Stage 4. This measure will calculate the average Wirral figure for the co-hort. In the 2015-16 academic year Wirrals performance was -1.52 which was worse than England (-1.14) and North West neighbours (-1.27).
Reduce the percentage of permanent exclusions in Wirral Schools - primary schools	Annual Higher is better	2012-13	England: 0.02% (2014-15 Acad Year) North West: 0.02% (2014-15 Acad Year)	0.00%			n/a	Latest published performance is for 2014-15.
Reduce the percentage of permanent exclusions in Wirral Schools - secondary schools	Annual Higher is better	0.11% 2012-13 Acad Year	England: 0.15% (2014-15) North West: 0.19% (2014-15)	0.12%			n/a	Latest published performance is for 2014-15.
Rate of hospital admissions due to substance misuse in young people (15-24 years) - per 100,000	Annual Lower is better	166.50 2011/12-13/14	England: 95.40 (2013/14-15/16) North West: 139.60 (2013/14-15/16)	171.90			n/a	Latest published performance is for period 2013-14 to 2015-16
Under 18 conceptions - rate per 1,000	Annual Lower is better	33.7 2013	England: 20.8 (2015) North West: 24.7 (2015)	25.7			n/a	Latest published performance is for 2015 and became available in March 2017.
The % of children achieving 5 good GCSE's (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and Maths) - post 2016	Annual Higher is better	n/a					n/a	Performance will be reported in quarter 2 when provisional figures will be available.

Vulnerable children reach their full potential

Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

The Ofsted inspection in July 2016 concluded that Wirral was not getting it right for our most vulnerable children. Since then we have been working hard to put this right. Ofsted told us that our thresholds required significant improvement, which meant that children were not always getting the help they needed quickly or early enough. For some of these children and over time this resulted in their problems increasing. Putting this right in the short term means we need to do more for these children than if we had helped at an earlier stage. Getting it right means the numbers of children subject to a child protection plan and those looked after have risen since the baseline for the plan was set. Children looked after numbers increasing in this way is a pattern seen in many other local authorities following an inadequate Ofsted judgement. Our challenge over the next 12 months is to stabilise this number whilst ensuring those children who need to be looked after are. As well as ensuring that we meet the needs of the children in our care and their live chances improve.

We are finalising a new improvement plan and all partners have confirmed their commitment to partnership working. The process of joint planning and commissioning enables services to be developed around the needs of children and young people, and which will deliver out comes effectively and efficiently. Embedding prevention and early help will sustain improvement and drive the change in the numbers and outcomes for vulnerable children. There are considerable social and financial benefits in working differently, intervening earlier and reducing dependency on more acute and specialist services whenever possible. Early help is a key priority both for implementing this plan but also in delivering a fair and equitable system that improves outcomes.

To deliver this challenging agenda we have focused on putting in place the key components needed to change the way we deliver services. This has included: working with partners to deliver three 'right service right time' conferences for over 450 people to improve thresholds. Developing and launching a new evidence based model to support all those working with children 'Strengthening Families and Enhancing Futures' which will help staff from all agencies work together, change and improve by ensuring we all stay focused on the needs of children. Launching a new 'Dashboard' to gathering and use data to improve our services, improving case audits to ensure we are getting right and learning what we can do better.

Work alongside HR colleagues has seen us increasing the numbers of social workers and reduced our caseloads so workers have more time to spend with children and families.

Work to reduce the use of agency workers and recruit permanent staff continues and will take time, however where this has been achieved we can see a benefit.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Rate of Looked After Children per 10,000	Quarterly Lower is better	99.3 Jun 2015	England: 60.0 (2015-16) North West: 82.0 (2015-16) Statistical Neighbours: 85.0 (2015-16)	114.5	115.0		Same	Latest data relates to June 2017. Wirral continues to support a large population of children looked after, the rate having risen for ten successive months, albeit at a gradually reducing rate of growth. This is a common trend in local authorities judged inadequate as lack of service earlier has lead to children having increased needs when entering the system. Now as we reach 12 months on from the inspection the challenge is to stabilise these figures and to overtime safely reduce numbers.
Children in Need rate per 10,000 0-17 population	Quarterly Lower is better	426.3 2014-15	England: 337.7 (2015-16) North West: 380.1 (2015-16) Statistical Neighbours: 420.0 (2015-16)	392.6	400.9		Worse	Latest data is for June 2017. The Children in Need (CiN) rate rose in June 2017 follow 4 consecutive months reducing. This still remains below statistical neighbours. The planned introduction from the end of this year of the one model of working with children in Wirral, Strengthening Families Enhancing Futures, will enable partners to work more effectively with families.
Rate of children who became the subject of a child protection plan per 10,000 children 0-17 population	Quarterly Lower is better	34.5 2014-15	England: 43.1 (2015-16) North West: 55.2 (2015-16) Statistical Neighbours: 56.0 (2015-16)	57.3	57.6		Worse	Latest data is for June 2017. 2016-2017 ended with the lowest month-end rate for the year, which was also lower than the rate for March 2016. The rate was just within +1 standard deviation of the 2015-2016 stat. neighbour group average but is currently higher than Wirral's rate in previous years.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend	Comment
Take up of 2 year old offer by eligible families as identified by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)	Quarterly Higher is better	70.0% Q1 2015-16		88.1%	92.6%		Better	
Foundation Stage - % of children who are looked after achieving a good level of development	Annual Higher is better	20.0% 2013-14 Acad Year2013-14 Acad Year		52.6%			n/a	Latest published performance is for 2015-16 academic year. Provisional data for 2016-17 academic year will be available in quarter 2.
The percentage of referrals to Children's Social Care that are within 12 months of one or more previous referrals.	Monthly Lower is better		England: 22.30% (2015-16) North West: 21.90% (2015-16) Statistical Neighbours: 17.00% (2015-16)	21.10%	17.60%		Better	Latest data is for June 2017. The 2016-2017 year-end repeat Referral rate was the lowest for three years and was well within the range of our statistical neighbours. The rate fell further in quarter 1. Children who have been the subject of a relatively recent Referral, i.e. one ending within twelve months of the most recent or subsequent Referral, represent a diminishing proportion of all Referrals. This is good, although the converse interpretation of performance is that a fifth of all children whose Referral ends become the subject of a further one within a year.
Number of Team Around Family episodes closed with needs met	Quarterly Higher is better	n/a			83		n/a	This is a new measure that will be reported in 2017-18, the end of year figure will be used as a baseline for 2018-19 trend.
Children's Centre's sustained contact with priority groups in early years	Quarterly Higher is better	n/a			54.91%		n/a	This is a new measure that will be reported in 2017-18, the end of year figure will be used as a baseline for 2018-19 trend.

Reduce child and family poverty

Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

The Improving Life Chances (ILC) Steering Group has continued to work well to tackle child poverty collectively in Wirral and build on the positive initiatives established in the community pilot areas.

New areas have been added to the pilots to address smoking cessation and working with the Health Visiting Service to increase the impact of the Healthy Child Programme, and considerable progress has been made in getting these additions off the ground.

The food hubs in the community pilots continue to provide a means to engage local communities and case studies that we are collecting are building a picture of the potential of this approach to meet the needs of families. A recent example of this was for a young family that were collecting food who were referred on to Energy Projects Plus, through identification of fuel debts and limited kitchen appliances. There were already 2 young children and the mother was expecting her third child. Through this referral, the family were able to clear the debts and received funding for a fridge freezer and washing machine, The mother reported that this had 'changed her life and made it a lot easier', and that she was managing her finances much better through the debt being cleared, the impact being not only on her physical health, but also her mental wellbeing. The community connectors are also providing vital links between families and locally available services. The recent 'North West in bloom' projects have also provided the opportunity to engage with local communities, 40 projects have been delivered through volunteers in the community pilot areas.

Wirral Credit Union held a roadshow to increase take-up amongst staff and volunteers through raising awareness of benefits for clients. Ask Us Wirral is now well established and a frontline staff learning event took place during June. The event showcased routes to debt and financial advice. There has been high demand for the service (8330 service users have accessed the service in the first 2 months) and we are currently looking into options to ensure community needs are met.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
The Proportion of children in low income families	Annual Lower is better	21.5% Aug 2013	England: 19.9% (Aug 2014) North West: 22.6% (Aug 2014)	23.3%			n/a	The latest update available is a snapshot as at 31st August 2014. This was published in September 2016 due to a two year time lag. The next update will be available in the quarter 2 report.
Increase the employment rate in Wirral	Quarterly Higher is better	66.7 2014- 15	England: 74.4 (Apr 16 - Mar 17) North West: 71.8 (Apr 16 - Mar 17)	69.7	70.8		Better	There has been a 1.1% improvement this quarter (previously 69.7%); this rate of improvement far exceeds the benchmarked national and regional data areas which realised just 0.2% improvement this quarter, thereby reducing the gap.
Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend	Comment
Percentage of smokefree pledges that are still active with those people who have been smokefree for 6 months in Community Pilot areas	Quarterly Higher is better	n/a					n/a	Awaiting commentary around this measure from Julie Graham
Take up of the 2-2½ year Health Visitor child development reviews in the Community Pilot areas	Quarterly Higher is better	65.6% Q1 2015-16	Wirral: 76.7% (2016-17)	70.5%			n/a	Latest data is for 2016-17 outturn performance. This is a new performance measure for this pledge. Take up of the reviews in the community pilot areas is currently lower than the take up overall in Wirral, therefore highlighting the need to develop an alternative approach.
Increase number of organisations signed up to Wirral Credit Union	Annual Higher is better			21			n/a	

People with disabilities live independent lives

Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

Work is on track towards the creation of an All Age Disability and Mental Health Service in Wirral. This project is part of the Council's Transformation Programme and will seek to develop better integration across the disability and mental health pathways. This will lead to improved quality and consistency of service provision and reduce service barriers related to age and eligibility. The service will also improve the experience for young people transitioning into adult care which is an area which is known to cause challenges for services users. The All Age Disability and Mental Health Service Transformation Project has now been developed to Outline Business Case which is due to be reviewed through Overview and Scrutiny in Quarter 2 before being worked up to Full Business Case later in the year.

Work is underway to establish insight into the prevalence of disability in Wirral to assess the future demand for services and housing provision. In terms of housing, visits have been undertaken to review Knowsley's extra care housing offer to look at their approach and new developments. An extra care steering group has now been established and a housing strategy for extra care will be in place by the autumn. This work includes a more detailed needs analysis of peoples housing needs where they have a learning disability. Meetings have been held with Wirral Mencap and supported housing providers to deliver a project called "Building Vision". The aim of this is to reach a wider community of service users and organisations in order to support them collectively build a vision of supported housing for the future. This will feature a number of planned engagement events to deliver this outcome.

In terms of priority two of the strategy to improve access to employment and greater financial resilience, links have been established with Wirral Chamber of Commerce and a meeting set in Quarter 2 to engage their support for this work. In addition to this, a programme of internships within the Council is being proposed in partnership with Wirral Met college and the Department for Work and Pensions who have advisors in place dedicated to identifying work opportunities for disabled people.

A key element of this is signing up more business to be Disability Confident employers. There are currently 32 businesses holding Disability Confident accreditation: one at level 3, six at level 2 and twenty five at level 1. Work will progress in quarter 2 with the Council's commissioners and procurement team to promote the take up of accreditation with contracted service providers and suppliers. The Council is currently working to achieve level 3 accreditation.

The Council continues to develop its Wirral Independence Service Assistive Technology offer. A number of innovative Health and Care Assistive Technology projects are under way and being implemented including:

- The roll out of the Falls Prevention Screening Tool App
- Care Home Teletriage & Community Telehealth
- Care Home and Community Digital Care & Medication Management / Administration
- Supported Living – Just Checking Service.

These new approaches to managing down risk and assessing people more speedily will help with early intervention and prevention meaning that resources can be more focussed on those with greatest need.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Health related quality of life for people with long term conditions	Annual Higher is better	0.698 2014-15	England: 0.741 (Jul 15-Mar 16)	0.695			n/a	This indicator is calculated nationally by NHS England and reported in the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC). The latest value for this indicator is 0.695 for the period Jul 15-Mar 16. New data is due to be released in September 2017.
Employment rate aged 16-64 - Equality Act core or Work Limiting Disabled	Quarterly Higher is better	37.5% Jun 2015	England: 52.4% (Apr 16-Mar 17) North West: 46.8% (Apr 16-Mar 17)	44.0%	43.1%		Worse	There is a time lag with this data which comes from the Office for National Statistics. The Quarter 1 figure relates to the period April 2016 - March 2017.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend	Comment
The gap in progress between pupils with a SEN statement/EHCP and their peers at Key Stage 4	Annual Lower is better	n/a	England: 1.09 (2015-16 Acad Year) North West: 1.00 (2015-16 Acad Year)	0.86			n/a	This measure monitors the gap in progress of children with a statement of SEN or EHCP and their peers from Primary School to the end of Key Stage 4. Latest published performance is for 2015-16 academic year and shows the progress gap in Wirral at 0.86 compares favourably to national picture (1.09) and North West neighbours (1.00). The aim is to reduce the gap further.
Proportion of people with long term conditions who feel supported to manage their condition	Annual Higher is better	66.7% 2014-15	England: 64.3% (Jul 15-Mar 16)	68.0%			n/a	This indicator is calculated nationally by NHS England and reported in the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC). The latest value for this indicator is 68% for the period July 2015 - March 2016. New data is due to be released in September 2017.
The number of disabled people in receipt of personal budgets (including Direct Payments and Personal Health Budgets)	Quarterly Higher is better			669	863		n/a	The figure includes 669 reported by the Department of Adult Social Services and 194 by Children and Young People which includes 184 young people in receipt of Direct Payments, 3 with an Education Health and Care Plan and 7 with Personal Budgets.
Adults with a learning disability who live in stable and appropriate accommodation	Quarterly Higher is better		England: 75.4% (2015-16) North West: 86.8% (2016-17)	84.0%	83.7%		Worse	Ensuring people with disabilities have stable and appropriate accommodation improves their safety, increases their independence and reduces their risk of social exclusion. There were 817 of the 1000 known to Department of Adult Social Services in settled accommodation. Allowing for those incomplete/incorrect records this is 83.71% of the total, with 159 (16.29% making the same allowances) in unsettled accommodation.

Zero tolerance to domestic violence

Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

Progress with work to deliver this pledge remains strong. This is due to improved ways of working across the partnership as a result of the creation of the Safer Wirral Hub. This new, integrated service delivery model is creating opportunities for all agencies to work more closely and share insight to better problem solve, plan and target services more effectively.

There is a continued focus to increase the awareness and reporting of domestic abuse. This will increase the number of referrals to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). This is the reason a direction of improvement of 'higher is better' is being used for a number of the indicators being tracked. It is anticipated that once reporting levels have increased and stabilised to more accurately reflect the number of incidents occurring, the direction of improvement will change to 'lower is better'. The increase in levels of reporting and referral will increase the possibility of early intervention which should lead to a reduction in the number of high risk cases coming through the system.

During Quarter One, a new Peer Mentor Coordinator has been appointed to support and develop the work of the Domestic Abuse Community Champions. This will focus on the hotspot areas of Birkenhead, Seacombe and Wallasey. A new focus for this work will be on targeting Children's Centres to identify young parents and families that may be at risk of abuse. Work is also progressing in partnership with Wirral Change to improve the engagement with and support for the Black and Minority Ethnic communities in Wirral.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Number of domestic abuse Wirral MARAC cases per 10,000 adult females	Quarterly Higher is better	54 2014-15	Most Similar Force Group: 44 (2016-17) National: 35 (2016-17)	52	Green Actual: 13 Target: 13		Better	
Children and young people experience domestic abuse (Wirral MARAC cases)	Quarterly Higher is better	1,289 2014-15		1,211	355		Better	The number of children and young people experiencing domestic abuse at Quarter 1 2017-2018 was 18% higher than the rate for Quarter 1 2016-17.
Percentage of incidents of repeat domestic abuse (Wirral MARAC cases)	Quarterly Lower is better	16% Apr 2014-Mar 15	Most Similar Force Group: 31% (2016-17) National: 26% (2016-17)	28%	Green Actual: 31% Target: 25%		Worse	The percentage of repeat incidents being reported is higher than the 28% for the previous quarter, but is still within the SafeLives recommended target rate of 28% - 40%. The rate has increased due to: - Clients being able to access more agencies, enabling the reporting of further incidents - An increase in the number of cases with identified complex needs of clients and perpetrators - Improved recording systems and information sharing across agencies

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	Year End 2017-18	Trend	Comment
Number of Domestic Abuse cases referred to the Family Safety Unit (FSU)	Quarterly Higher is better	949 Apr 2014-Mar 15		1,092	221		Worse	The Family Safety Unit is a service for cases assessed as high risk; however they do not receive a full Independent Domestic Violence Advisory (IDVA) service and are not referred to MARAC; they are signposted to more appropriate services. This does not deter referrals through our front door that are not high risk as there are limited early intervention services for domestic abuse. However on going work under this pledge, such as the commencement of the Safer Wirral Hub, is increasing the early intervention offer for domestic abuse. It is expected that referrals will continue to rise for at least 12 -18 months, followed by a decrease in high risk cases.
% of children and Young People single assessments authorised with Domestic Violence (DV) related factors	Quarterly Lower is better	n/a		36.7%	35.5%		Better	
Rate of referrals to social care presenting Domestic Violence issues (adults aged 18+ years) per 100,000	Quarterly Higher is better	n/a		12.62	3.15		Same	A total of 8 new referrals have been commenced during Q1 2017-18, this is an increase of 1 (14%) when compared to Q1 of 2016-17. The target is to increase the reporting of domestic violence in the first years, as under- reporting is addressed.

Report Key

Trend - Performance is shown as Better, Same or Worse compared with the last reporting period except for: Take up of the 2 year old offer by eligible families as identified by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), Number of domestic abuse Wirral MARAC cases per 10,000 adult females, Children and young people experience domestic abuse (Wirral MARAC Cases), Number of domestic abuse cases referred to the FSU, % of children and Young People single assessments authorised with Domestic Violence (DV) related factors, Rate of referrals to social care presenting Domestic Violence issues (adults aged 18+ years) per 100,000 which are compared with same period the previous year.

Target - Where targets apply, these are shown as either Blue, Green, Amber, Red based on the agreed tolerance range for individual measures.

Action - These are shown as either:

- Green (on track to deliver on time)
- Amber (off track but action being taken to deliver on time)
- Red (off track and won't deliver on time)

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POLICY INFORM:

Children and Families



Policy Inform- September 2017

The Policy Inform briefings will provide an overview of ongoing and recent national legislation, bills presented to Parliament and emerging policies.

The Policy Inform briefings have been produced specifically to inform Portfolio Holders and Elected Members and will be taken to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees for discussion.

CONTENTS

Contents	Page Number
Introduction	3
Queen's Speech 2017	5
EU Exit Bills	7
Young People are Ready for Work and Adulthood	9
Vulnerable Children Reach Their Full Potential	12
Reduce Child and Family Poverty	15
Zero Tolerance to Domestic Violence	22
Sources	24

INTRODUCTION

The Wirral Plan:

A 2020 Vision which sets out a shared partnership vision to improve outcomes for Wirral residents.

The Plan focuses on three key theme areas:



The Wirral Plan People theme states:

“Wirral is a place where the vulnerable are safe and protected, every child gets a good start in life and older residents are respected and valued.”

This policy briefing focuses specifically on policies and legislation relating to the People Priority and is intended to provide Members of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the latest position on emerging policy and legislative developments to support the committees work programme and future scrutiny work.

The following table outlines the timetable for the preparation and reporting of policy briefing papers:

Overview & Scrutiny Briefings	
September 2017	This policy briefing will provide an overview of emerging policy and legislation outlined within the Queen’s Speech, with a particular focus on legislation emerging as a result of the UK’s exit from the European Union. This policy briefing will also provide an initial analysis of any opportunities and implications for Wirral as a result of emerging policy and legislation.
November 2017	This policy briefing will provide an update on policy and legislation and will consider relevant opportunities and implications for Wirral.
January 2018	This policy briefing will provide an update on emerging on policy and legislation and will further consider any relevant opportunities or implications for Wirral.

The September policy briefing focuses on the key announcements from the Queen’s Speech and provides an overview of emerging policy and legislative developments that have been aligned to the Wirral Plan pledges for consideration.

The Committee may wish to identify specific policy areas to focus upon which are in line with the Committee’s work programme. Detailed briefing papers can be prepared for these subject matters at the request of the Committee which would be in addition to the regular policy briefing papers outlined above.

QUEEN'S SPEECH 2017

On Wednesday 21st June 2017, the Queens Speech was delivered, outlining the Government's programme of legislation and policies for the coming year.

Below is a list of each individual Bill that will have implications for local government that was announced during the speech, including those Bills carried over from the 2016-17 session. The list identifies the Overview and Scrutiny Committee remit that the legislation most closely aligns:

Legislative Plans	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Repeal Bill	EU Exit - All Committees
Customs Bill	EU Exit - All Committees
Trade Bill	EU Exit - All Committees
Immigration Bill	EU Exit - All Committees
Fisheries Bill	EU Exit - All Committees
Agriculture Bill	EU Exit - All Committees
Nuclear Safeguards Bill	EU Exit - All Committees
International Sanctions Bill	EU Exit - All Committees
Automated and Electric Vehicles Bill	Business
High Speed 2 Phase 2A Bill	Business
Good Mortgages Bill	Environment
Smart Meter Bill	Environment
Draft Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill	Children and Families
Courts Bill	Environment
Data Protection Bill	Business
Draft Patient Protection Bill	Adult Care and Health

Draft Tenants' Fees Bill	Environment
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Additional Bills that have been announced are outlined below. These will be monitored in relation to any emerging implications for Local Government and reported to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee as appropriate.

Additional Legislative Plans
Space Industry Bill
National Insurance Contributions Bill
Travel Protection Bill
Civil Liability Bill
Financial Guidance and Claims Bill
Armed Forces Bill

The Bills relevant to Children and Families are discussed in further detail in this paper.

EU EXIT BILLS

This year's Queen's speech came in the wake of a General Election that left the Conservative Government without a majority. Below are the bills within the 2017 Queen's Speech which directly relate to Brexit.

REPEAL BILL

The Repeal Bill will be introduced to repeal the European Communities Act and provide certainty for businesses and individuals; this affects a wide range of laws from workers' rights to the environment. It will allow for a smooth and orderly transition as the UK leaves the EU. This will convert EU law into UK law, this will enable some continuity after what the bill calls "exit day". The UK Parliament will be free to make any future changes to its laws, and where appropriate the devolved legislatures.

It will create temporary powers for Parliament to make secondary legislation, allowing corrections to be made to the laws that do not operate appropriately after exiting the EU. It will also maintain the scope of devolved decision making power immediately after exit and replicate the common UK framework created by EU law.

The Bill includes a clause, "The charter of fundamental rights is not part of domestic law on or after exit day", it is thought this will be opposed by opposition parties. Both Scottish and Welsh governments have said they will try to block the bill, they do not have the power to block Brexit but refusing legislative consent would be difficult for the government.

The Repeal Bill could be an opportunity for local government, if shares of repatriated powers are devolved to local government there is an opportunity to shape legislation.

The Government recognises that the following fields will be particularly affected by Brexit and therefore more extensive legislative intervention will be required at the domestic level.

CUSTOMS BILL

The Customs Bill will ensure that the UK has a standalone UK customs regime on exit. It will establish a degree of flexibility to accommodate future trade agreements with the EU and others. The changes can be made to UK's VAT and excise regimes on exit from the EU, whatever the outcome of negotiations.

It will ensure the government can collect payments of customs duties, tackle duty evasion and administer the customs regime. It will also bring control over the UK's import and export of goods.

TRADE BILL

This Bill will put in place to allow Britain to strike free trade deals with countries around the world while ensuring domestic businesses are protected from unfair trading practices. It will establish an independent trade policy on exit from the EU. It will cement the UK as a leading trading nation, "driving positive global change through trade".

IMMIGRATION BILL

The Immigration Bill will end the free movement of people of EU nationals into the UK and allow the government to control the number of incomers from Europe. However the Bill would still allow the country to attract “the brightest and the best”.

It will allow for the repeal of EU law on immigration (primarily free movement), that will otherwise be saved and converted into UK law by the Repeal Bill. It will also ensure that the migration of EU nationals and their families are subject to relevant UK law upon exiting the EU.

FISHERIES BILL

The Bill will ensure the UK controls access to its waters and sets UK fishing quotas once it has left the EU. It will bring control of its waters back to the UK and allows the government to set its own fishing quotas after Brexit. It is claimed that this will “help ensure prosperity for a new generation of fishermen as well as preserve and increase fish stocks”.

AGRICULTURE BILL

The Agriculture Bill will ensure there is an “effective system” in place to support UK farmers and protect the natural environment after the UK leaves the EU, i.e. leaving the Common Agricultural Policy. It wants to bring about “stability” for farmers.

NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS BILL

This Bill will ensure a nuclear safeguards regime is established as the UK leaves the EU and Euratom (Brexit may require the UK to leave the auspices of Euratom). The UK continues to meet its international obligations for nuclear safeguards, as applies to civil nuclear material through the International Atomic Energy Agency.

This Bill will give the Office for Nuclear Regulation the powers to take on the responsibilities to meet international nuclear rules.

INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS BILL

This Bill will ensure that as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, the UK continue to play a central role in negotiating global sanctions to counter threats of terrorism, conflict and the proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as bringing about changes in behaviour.

This Bill will establish a new UK framework to implement international sanctions on both a multilateral and unilateral basis. It will also return decision making powers on non-UN sanctions back to the UK.

CHILDREN ARE READY FOR SCHOOL

We must make sure that every child is equipped with the emotional, social and developmental skills to be ready to start school and to learn. We achieve this through a range of early interventions, engagement and support for families within our communities.

Our Pledge Ambition:

Currently 63% of our children are achieving a good level of development at the age of 5. Over the life of this plan we want to see a major improvement in this number so more of our young children get the best possible start in life.

Outcome Strategy:

Wirral's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families- Priorities:

1. Children are ready for school
2. Young people are ready for work and adulthood
3. Vulnerable children reach their full potential



Associated Legislation:

Schools (Mental Health and Well Being) Bill

The Bill's first reading was on 6th July 2017 in the House of Lords. The date for the second reading is yet to be confirmed, this will include a general debate on all aspects of the Bill.

The purpose of the Bill is to:

A bill to make provision for state-maintained schools to promote the mental health and well-being of their pupils alongside academic attainment.

This Bill is a [Private Member's Bill](#). These are often not printed until close to the second reading debate.

Associated Emerging Policy:

Secondary School staff get mental health 'first aid' training

DfE, 27/06/2017

Summary-

A fund of £200,000 has been announced to help teachers understand and identify mental health issues in children. Teachers in secondary schools around the country can now take part in a new training programme to help them identify and respond to early signs of mental health issues in children.

Brief Analysis-

The programme will be delivered by the social enterprise Mental Health First Aid, and will start with 1,000 staff and extend in years 2 and 3 to cover every secondary school in England. They will receive practical advice on how to deal with issues such as depression and anxiety, suicide and psychosis, self-harm, and eating disorders.

Teachers will also be invited to become 'first aid champions' to share their acquired knowledge and experiences across schools and local communities. This will help raise awareness and break down stigma and discrimination.

Associated Emerging Policy:

School Improvement: The DfE's Developing a Place Based Approach

LGiU, 27/07/2017

Summary-

The Government are recognising a need for a place-based coordinated approach to school improvement. This places high quality teaching at the centre of improving schools. The Government's preferred solution of a school led system is managed by Multi-Academy Trusts (MAT's) as opposed to Local Authorities.

Brief Analysis-

The main strands gathered under the heading of school improvement are: teacher supply, i.e. initial teacher training (ITT), recruitment and retention of teachers, and continuing professional development (CPD); school improvement support; and the accountability regime. The Secretary of State has raised the importance of creating the space for a greater focus on school improvement by changing the approach to accountability.

The Department of Education have proposed 12 opportunity areas and the Northern Powerhouse as priorities for piloting the approach to place-based working, highlighting improving pupil social mobility, schools in deprivation and pupils with SEND as key areas to consider.

Potential implications for the Wirral Plan as a result of emerging legislation and policy:

There are currently no potential implications as the emerging legislation is in the early stages of development.

The legislation will continue to be monitored and implications will be captured in the next Policy Inform paper which will be published in November 2017.

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE READY FOR WORK AND ADULTHOOD

Our children deserve to be educated in 'good' schools. We want to see continued improvements in literacy and numeracy skills with more of our pupils achieving A- C GCSE level English and Maths. Today, 78.5% of Wirral schools are rated "good" or better by OFSTED.*

Our Pledge Ambition:

By 2020, we want to extend that to cover all Wirral schools. We also want to support improving academic attainment for children in care and those in low income families. It is also important to support teenage parents and vulnerable young people back into education and we will reduce the number of young people classified as NEET- not in employment, education or training.

Outcome Strategy: Wirral's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families- Priorities:

1. Children are ready for school 2. Young people are ready for work and adulthood 3. Vulnerable children reach their full potential.



Young People are Ready for Work and Adulthood



Associated Legislation:

Representation of the People (Young People's Enfranchisement & Education) Bill

Reporting stage: The Bill's first reading was on 19th July 2017 in the House of Commons. The second reading will take place on 17th November 2017 and will include a general debate on all aspects of the Bill.

The purpose of the Bill is to:

A Bill to reduce the voting age to 16 in parliamentary and other elections; to make provision about young people's education in citizenship and the constitution.

Concerns and progress so far:

This Bill is a [Private Member's Bill](#). These are often not printed until close to the second reading debate.

Associated Legislation:

National Living Wage (Extension to Young People) Bill

Reporting stage: The Bill's first reading was on 19th July 2017 in the House of Commons. The second reading will take place on 6th July 2018 and will include a general debate on all aspects of the Bill.

The purpose of the Bill is to:

A Bill to extend the National Living Wage to people aged 18 to 24.

Concerns and progress so far:

This Bill is a [Private Member's Bill](#). These are often not printed until close to the second reading debate.

Associated Legislation- Royal Assent

National Citizen Service Bill

The National Citizen Service Bill received Royal Assent on 27th April 2017.

Together the Act and Royal Charter are designed to make sure NCS is delivered efficiently, effectively and transparently.

The NCS programme brings young people from different backgrounds together and gives them the opportunity to take part in new experiences, develop skills and volunteer in communities across England.

Key Provisions:

- Enables the staff and assets of the NCS Trust to transfer to a Royal Charter Body
- Allows government to provide grant-in-aid funding to the NCS Trust
- Requires the NCS Trust to publish a business plan at the start of each year and produce annual accounts and an Annual Report, ensuring accountability and transparency
- Makes the National Audit Office the auditor of the NCS Trust
- Promotes NCS by giving Government the power to send a letter to young people as they turn 16 on behalf of the NCS Trust.

Associated Emerging Policy:

Ambition for vast majority of students to study core academic GCSEs

[LGIU, 19/07/2017](#)

Summary-

School Standards Minister Nick Gibbs has set out the Government's ambition for 90% of children to study the core academic subjects at GCSE by 2025, and 75% of year 10 pupils starting to study this combination of subjects by 2022.

Brief Analysis-

The EBacc subjects – which are made up of English, Maths, a foreign language, history or geography and sciences - are those which, at A level, open more doors to more degrees, according to the Russell Group.

School Standards Minister Nick Gibb said:

“Pupils, whatever their background, have the right to study a core academic curriculum that provides them with the knowledge and skills for a variety of careers beyond the age of 16.

As we look increasingly outwards as a country, this is more important than ever, and the EBacc ambition will ensure our pupils are able to compete with educational high performers in a global economy.

Alongside the EBacc, the arts are a crucial part of a broad and balanced curriculum and it is great to see that the best schools ensure young people have the option to study both academic and creative subjects.

The Department for Education reconfirmed the ambition in its response to the public consultation on the implementation of the Ebacc.”

Potential implications for the Wirral Plan as a result of emerging legislation and policy:

There are currently no potential implications as the emerging legislation is in the early stages of development.

The legislation will continue to be monitored and implications will be captured in the next Policy Inform paper which will be published in November 2017.

VULNERABLE CHILDREN REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

We want to see Wirral's children thrive and be safe in their own families and communities. Today, nearly 700 young people are living in care on Wirral. Over the term of this plan we aim to reduce that by a third.

Our Pledge Ambition:

By focusing on prevention, more children and young people will avoid the need to enter care, and for those who are looked after, we will provide quality care and services to enable them to reach their full potential.

Outcome Strategy:

Wirral's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families- Priorities:

1. Children are ready for school
2. Young people are ready for work and adulthood
3. Vulnerable children reach their full potential



Associated Legislation

Currently there is no emerging legislation aligned to this Wirral Plan Pledge. The Pledge will continue to be monitored for any developments.

Associated Legislation- Royal Assent

Children and Social Work Act

The Children and Social Work Act received Royal Assent on 27th April.

Key Provisions:

- The creation of a new organisation, Social Work England, to takeover from the HCPC as the profession's regulator.
- A requirement for the new regulator to obtain the education secretary's approval for professional standards.
- New powers for the education secretary to set 'improvement standards' for social workers, and introduce assessments for practitioners.

The legislation will also require councils to provide personal advisers to care leavers up to the age of 25.

Associated Emerging Policy:

£30 million boost for vulnerable pupils

[Gov.uk, 10/07/2017](#)

Summary-

Children's minister Robert Goodwill has announced funding for 24 projects, as part of the Children's Social Care Innovation Programme. In his first address to the children's social care sector since being appointed as Minister, he confirmed that a further 24 projects will receive a share of £30 million to take their important work forward.

Brief Analysis-

This programme has supported 95 projects to date, providing evidence of best practice that is helping to improve children's services across the country. For example, the Credo Care's project, working with Hertfordshire and Staffordshire, aims to find specialist foster placements close to home for young disabled people currently living in out-of-area residential care. This new type of foster caring will focus on young people with the most complex needs.

All of the projects which receive funding through the Innovation Programme are committed to sharing their learning with the sector, and today we are also publishing evaluation reports of some of the remaining projects from round one.

Associated Emerging Policy:

Queen's Speech: Councils response to lack of measures to address children's social care funding pressures

[LGA, 21/06/2017](#)

Summary-

In response to the Queen's Speech and the lack of measures to address the impending crisis in children's social care, Cllr Richard Watts, Chair of the LGA's Children and Young People Board, said: "Councils were hoping for measures to be announced to address the funding gap facing children's social care. Pressures facing children's services are rapidly becoming unsustainable, with a £2 billion funding gap expected to open by 2020."

Brief Analysis-

He went on to add: "Councils are committed to providing the best possible support to vulnerable children and their families, but the fact is that local authority budgets continue to shrink whilst demand for children's social care services has more than doubled. In the last ten years, we've witnessed a 140 per cent increase in child protection enquiries, and this shows little sign of abating.

"Local government leaders are calling on the Government to commit to the life chances of children and young people by acting urgently to address the £2 billion funding gap. This gap will continue to grow unless action is taken now to reduce the number of families relying on the children's social care system for support."

Associated Emerging Policy:

Multi-million fund reaches record number of adoptive families

[DfE, 2/08/2017](#)

Summary-

A fund used to help struggling families who adopt vulnerable children has reached almost 18,000 homes, providing vital emotional support. The £52 million fund released through the Adoption Support Fund has already helped 22,000 children.

Brief Analysis-

Announcing the success of the Adoption Support Fund, Minister for Children and Families Robert Goodwill also confirmed that a further £5 million will be invested in a number of innovative projects across the country, designed to improve families' experiences of adoption. It is part of a government drive to deliver the best possible services for vulnerable children.

Robert Goodwill, Minister for Children and Families, said:

"Every parent wants their child to grow up feeling loved and understood, and anyone with the commitment and compassion to adopt a child should have the backing of a strong support network. We know that caring for these young people, particularly those with more complex needs, can be a struggle at times.

With the right therapeutic support, children and families will be able to embrace the new life ahead of them, and I'm delighted that the Adoption Support Fund has supported so many thousands of people already, as part of our plan for a fairer society".

Associated Emerging Policy:

Closing the Gap? Trends in Educational Attainment and Disadvantage

[Education Policy Institute, 01/08/2017](#)

Summary-

A new review by The Education Policy Institute (EPI) has examined the progress made in closing the gap in attainment between disadvantaged pupils and their peers. Overall, the most disadvantaged pupils in the country have fallen further behind their peers, and are now on average over 2 full years of learning behind non-disadvantaged pupils by the end of secondary school.

Brief Analysis-

For pupils who are persistently disadvantaged (i.e. those that have been eligible for free school meals for 80 per cent or longer of their school lives), the gap at the end of secondary school has widened slightly since 2007, by 0.3 months. In 2016, it stood at 24.3 months, equivalent to over two years of learning.

There is also significant variation across the country. The disadvantage gap is generally smaller in London, the South and the East while in the East Midlands and the Humber, the North and the South West, the gap is significantly larger, at 22 months by the end of Key Stage 4.

Emerging Policy continued:

EPI summarise that the current system is delivering change far too slowly. On the current trend, it will take a staggering 50 years before the gap is closed and disadvantaged pupils finally achieve parity with their more affluent peers.

Potential implications for the Wirral Plan as a result of emerging legislation and policy:

There are currently no potential implications as the emerging legislation is in the early stages of development.

The legislation will continue to be monitored and implications will be captured in the next Policy Inform paper which will be published in November 2017.

REDUCE CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY

We will work in partnership with children, young people and their families, residents and local organisations to ensure that no child in Wirral lives in poverty.

Our Pledge Ambition:

We will continue to work with partners to look at opportunities to tackle child and family poverty in Wirral communities. Sadly, 22.4 % of children in Wirral currently live in low income households. Our long term ambition is to ensure no child in Wirral lives in poverty and we will work with our partners to reduce this level over the five years of this plan.

Outcome Strategy

Wirral Improving Life Chances Strategy Priorities: 1. Supporting parents into sustainable employment 2. Improve life chances for children and young people 3. Supporting families to become financially resilient 4. Tackling the immediate effects of poverty.



Associated Legislation

Currently there is no emerging legislation aligned to this Wirral Plan Pledge. The Pledge will continue to be monitored for any developments.

Associated Emerging Policy:

£35 million of innovative employment schemes to benefit thousands of disadvantaged people

[DWP, 01/08/2017](#)

Summary-

Thousands of disadvantaged people and long term jobseekers are set to receive dedicated support to help them back into work through 6 new pilot schemes. The schemes will be developed and delivered by 6 combined authorities (including Liverpool City Region).

Brief Analysis-

The specialist tailored support is expected to help over 18,000 people – including disabled people and older people – tackle long-term barriers to work and in-work progression. Up to £28 million has been committed by the Department for Work and Pensions for the schemes. This includes support for The Liverpool City Region to test a new approach which focuses efforts on households where 2 or more adults are out of work.

Associated Emerging Policy Continued:

Liverpool City Region Metro Mayor, Steve Rotheram said:

“Improving the employment and skills prospects for our residents is a key priority for the combined authority. Our Households into Work programme is an example of where assisting our residents with tailored support will help them to prosper, as well creating opportunities that they might previously not have been able to access. I look forward to seeing this programme develop over the coming months.”

Associated Emerging Policy:

Immediate Access to Hardship Payments Extended

[DWP, 18/07/2017](#)

Summary-

Extra protection will be put in place for people receiving Jobseeker’s Allowance. These include extra protections for those who have a mental health condition or are homeless and their benefits reduced because of a sanction.

Brief Analysis-

Hardship payments act as a safety net to lower day-to-day living costs. The changes, detailed in new regulations, extend the number of people who can access help immediately, rather than 2 weeks. The new regulations will come into effect from October and will help in the region of 10,000 over the next 4 years. Other vulnerable groups, including people who are pregnant, lone parents, and people with long term physical health conditions an already access payments immediately.

Associated Emerging Policy:

Time for Change: Social Mobility Commission

[LGiU, 12/07/2017](#)

Summary-

The Social Mobility Commission has reported on the social divisions in Britain. The areas discussed are Early Years, Schools, Youth Transitions to adult life and Work, all of which provide to varying degrees support for social mobility and inclusiveness. The report breaks down each area, providing recommendations for consideration by the government and a set of grades on a traffic light scale of red, amber and green. Of the 38 measures used only 7 are rated green, while more of the remainder are red than amber. Early Years and Schools receive overall amber grades, while Youth and Work receive red.

Brief Analysis-

The Commission suggests a series of lessons from its analysis. These include that social mobility and inclusiveness needs to be a cornerstone for all government policy championed by Prime Ministers.

Associated Emerging Policy continued:

Governments must also ensure all policies pass a social mobility test, to ensure that conflicting priorities, such as those that have bedeviled early years, do not undermine the long-term objectives of social mobility.

Long-term goals should be prioritised over short-term change. The report goes on to suggest public resources should be properly lined up with long-term social mobility policies. Governments should not hesitate to focus resources on tackling disadvantage. Budgets should identify how public spending is being redistributed to address geographical, wealth and generational divisions.

Associated Emerging Policy:

Financial Insecurity, Food Insecurity and Disability: The Profile of People Receiving Emergency Food Assistance from the Trussell Trust Foodbank Network in Britain [The Trussell Trust, 01/06/2017](#)

Summary-

A recent analysis have analysed the individual characteristics of those most likely to rely on food banks. It suggests those referred to food banks are an extremely vulnerable population. The findings highlight the depth of poverty, insecurity of incomes, and experiences of food insecurity and material deprivation amongst this group. It also shows the characteristics of those most likely to use food banks.

Brief Analysis-

The main findings of the analysis include:

- Households using food banks face extreme financial vulnerability. All food bank users had, in the last month, an income well below the threshold for low income
- Almost half of households reported their incomes were unsteady from week to week or month to month
- Half of households including someone with a disability
- Lone parents and their children constitute the largest number of people receiving help from food banks, though single male households are the most common household type
- Over 78% of households were severely food insecure
- Food bank users experience multiple forms of destitution- 50% had gone without heating for more than four days in the past 12 months, and 1 in 5 had slept rough in the last 12 months.

Potential implications for the Wirral Plan as a result of emerging legislation and policy:

There are currently no potential implications as the emerging legislation is in the early stages of development.

The legislation will continue to be monitored and implications will be captured in the next Policy Inform paper which will be published in November 2017.

ZERO TOLERANCE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Our focus will remain on prevention and early intervention and we will continue to facilitate an integrated response and effective court system to deal with cases quickly and effectively.

Our Pledge Ambition:

By working with our partners we want to see a significant reduction in repeat incidents of domestic violence by 2020.

Outcome Strategy:

Zero Tolerance to Domestic Violence Strategy Priorities: 1. Partners work towards prevention and early intervention. 2. To ensure Children and Young People at the heart of domestic abuse receive prompt support from services. 3. Partnership come together to create a strong community co-ordinated response. 4. Make victims safer and reduce re-offending.



Associated Legislation:

Draft Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill

Reporting stage: This is a draft Bill expected to be considered by select committees from both Houses before a final version of the Bill emerges.

The purpose of the Bill is to:

Domestic Violence and Abuse Commissioner

The function of the commissioner is to “stand up for victims and survivors, raise public awareness, monitor the response of statutory agencies and local authorities and held the justice system to account in tackling domestic abuse”. The aim is to raise the standard of how police forces deal with domestic abuse everywhere.

Defining Domestic Abuse

Public authorities will have to work with a statutory definition of domestic violence/abuse. The Bill will also create a consolidated new domestic abuse civil prevention and protection order regime.

Increased sentences for Domestic Abuse where children are affected/harmed

This has been announced with little back up information. However, the implication for local government if test for an enhanced sentence is that a child has been “affected/ harmed/ damaged”, which would require evidence from child safeguarding team.

Associated Legislation continued:

Draft Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill

The people within that team are likely to need additional training to recognise incidents of physical assault to which the police are called.

This Bill will allow the government to ratify the Istanbul Convention, this will enable UK courts to prosecute British citizens for domestic abuse wherever in the world the offence was committed.

This Bill links to the Courts Bill, this looks to introduce protections for women giving evidence in abuse cases by ending direct cross examination of domestic abuse victims by their alleged perpetrators in the family courts and allow more victims to participate in trials without having to meet their alleged assailant face-to-face.

Associated Emerging Policy:

£17 million in funding to Domestic Violence activities

[Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/17-million-in-funding-to-domestic-violence-activities) , 05/17/2017

Summary-

The Home Secretary, Amber Rudd, has awarded over £17 million of funding to 41 projects across England and Wales, including support to victims working with perpetrators of abuse to change their behaviour and helping to support children affected by what they have witnessed. The funding has been awarded through the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Service Transformation Fund which is designed to support earlier intervention and prevention so fewer women reach crisis point.

Seventeen of the successful projects include working with perpetrators including programmes with teenage boys to intervene early if they are exhibiting aggressive or worrying behaviour before it escalates into abuse.

Amber Rudd: “tackling violence against women and girls is everyone’s business. It needs a joined up, collaborate response locally, providing support to victims through health, education and social care, as well as the police”.

Potential implications for the Wirral Plan as a result of emerging legislation and policy:

The Draft Domestic Abuse Bill will mean that local authorities will work with a statutory definition of domestic abuse. It may also result in local authorities having to provide additional training staff to recognise and identify incidents of physical assault.

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**Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Tuesday, 26 September 2017**

REPORT TITLE:	Workshop regarding the relationship between scrutiny and Wirral Safeguarding Children Board - Feedback
REPORT OF:	The Chair of the Committee – Councillor Tom Usher

REPORT SUMMARY

A workshop was held on Wednesday 23rd August at which members of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee gained a better understanding of the role and functions of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and explored their future relationship with the Board. This report provides feedback from the workshop.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that Committee:

- 1) notes the report;
- 2) approves the draft protocol regarding the future working relationship between Wirral Safeguarding Children Board and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- 3) agrees the proposed additions to the Committee’s work programme relating to the Youth HIVE and the employment prospects for care leavers.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

The recommendations will enable the relationship between Wirral Safeguarding Children Board and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be strengthened.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Workshop – 23rd August 2017

It is important that members establish scrutiny arrangements which will be effective in the long-term and will remain in place beyond the period of the Improvement Board, which is currently in place to oversee progress as a result of the Ofsted inspection and inadequate judgement of 2016. A number of members attended a safeguarding training event provided by the Centre for Public Scrutiny in January 2017. A key message for the scrutiny of safeguarding arrangements was the establishment of strong relationships with key partner bodies and organisations. The Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is clearly a key partner. Therefore, a workshop was arranged for 23rd August 2017 at which Committee members were better able to understand the key links between scrutiny and the Board and to recommend ways in which those links could be improved. All members of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee were invited to the session and attendees at the workshop are shown in Appendix 1.

The session commenced with a presentation delivered by the Chair of Wirral's Safeguarding Children Board, Professor Maggie Atkinson followed by a wide-ranging discussion with members and key officers. The presentation included the role of the Local Safeguarding Children Board; the relationship between the LSCB and the host Local Authority; and current challenges for the Board.

3.2 Key outcomes from the Workshop

Key outcomes agreed from the workshop were:

- It would be positive to develop a complimentary relationship between Wirral's Safeguarding Children Board and the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee. A draft protocol to enhance the working relationship between the two bodies was discussed. A draft version of the protocol is attached as Appendix 2 to this report for approval by Committee. The draft protocol will also be presented to a meeting of Wirral Safeguarding Children Board, also being held on 26th September 2017.

- During the session, members were informed of the Wood Review which has investigated the future role of LSCBs. This has resulted in recommendations to review the role of LSCBs from 2019. It was agreed that a report on the future of LSCBs should be presented to the meeting of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee scheduled for 26th September 2017.
- The work programme of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee should be amended to include updates on the work taking place at the HIVE and the employment prospects for care leavers.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising from this report

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

The future relationship between Wirral Safeguarding Children Board and the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee will be managed from within existing resources.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not Applicable

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

The workshop was held in order to develop an effective working relationship between members of the scrutiny committee and the LSCB.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

This report is for information to members and there are no direct equality implications.

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APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Workshop attendees

Appendix 2: Draft protocol regarding the working relationship between Wirral Safeguarding Children Board and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

Appendix 1: Workshop Attendees

Members:

Tom Usher (Chair)
Alan Brighthouse
Wendy Clements
Brian Kenny
Maira McLaughlin
Chris Meaden
Walter Smith
Jean Stapleton
Ian Lewis

Officers:

Maggie Atkinson (Chair, Wirral LSCB)
Deborah Gornik (Interim Director of Children's Services, Wirral Borough Council)
Kerry Mehta (Head of Children's Safeguarding Unit, Wirral Borough Council)
David Robbins (Business Manager, Wirral LSCB)
Alan Veitch (Scrutiny Support)
Patrick Torpey (Scrutiny Support)

Apologies:

Tony Jones
Paul Hayes
Cherry Povall

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Protocol between the Wirral Safeguarding Children Board and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Wirral Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee are both involved in scrutinising children’s safeguarding in different ways and, therefore, clear working arrangements and expectations are necessary to ensure effectiveness and to avoid duplication of effort between the two bodies.

Roles

- The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the WSCB are independent of each other;
- The Scrutiny Committee is responsible for holding the Council’s Lead Member for Children’s Services and the statutory Director of Children’s Services (DCS) to account, including via an annual safeguarding assurance report, for the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in the borough, including the functioning of the WSCB; however, they are not responsible for the scrutiny of individual cases;
- The Wirral Safeguarding Children Board is a statutory body with an “independent voice” in local partnership arrangements and is expected to form a view about the quality and effectiveness of safeguarding work in and between local agencies based on scrutiny, audit and evaluation. It has the ability to challenge local organisations and partnerships as necessary; and
- The WSCB is able to scrutinise individual cases of safeguarding.
- The WSCB will present its Annual Report to the Scrutiny Committee and share findings and learning that most impact on outcomes from its function and activities.

Working Together

The Scrutiny Committee will:

- Inform the WSCB of its work programme for each Municipal Year highlighting any topics for review that relate to the safeguarding of children;
- Make available the findings and recommendations of any work relating to the safeguarding of children/ young people and share the findings of relevant task and finish group reports with the WSCB;
- Have regard to the WSCB’s Audit Framework when setting the Annual Scrutiny Committee Work Programme to avoid duplication; and
- Through its Chair, Spokespeople and Scrutiny Officer, maintain regular contact with WSCB as appropriate and when required, invite representatives of the WSCB to attend meetings
- Consider and promote the relevance of WSCB audit activity and findings to other Scrutiny Committees

The WSCB will:

- Inform the Scrutiny Committee of any specific areas proposed for audit via attendance at the pre-agenda setting meetings on at least 2 occasions per year;
- Report into the Scrutiny Committee twice yearly on the story identified via its performance management activity and attend on an annual basis to present its Annual Report
- Receive information and have regard to the reviews and recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee relating to children’s safeguarding;
- Respond to requests for information and attendance at meetings from the Scrutiny Committee.
- Provide opportunities for Scrutiny Committee Members to observe its work.

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**Adult Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Wednesday, 13 September 2017**

**Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Tuesday, 26 September 2017**

REPORT TITLE:	Feedback from member workshop on All Age Disability and Mental Health Transformation Project
REPORT OF:	The Chairs of the Adult Care and Health OSC (Cllr Julie McManus) and the Children and Families OSC (Cllr Tom Usher)

REPORT SUMMARY

As part of their work programme, members have previously agreed to scrutinise proposals arising from the Council's Transformation Programme. This form of pre-decision scrutiny gives non-Cabinet members the opportunity to influence developing proposals. It was, therefore, agreed to hold a workshop to give members the opportunity to review the proposals being developed by the All Age Disability and Mental Health Service Transformation Project. As the project has implications for both children and adult services, it was agreed that members of both the Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be invited to attend. This report summarises the findings of the workshop, which was held on Wednesday 2nd August 2017, and will be reported to both committees at their meetings in September 2017.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that:

- 1) Committee notes the report;
- 2) Committee refers the report to a future meeting of Cabinet.
- 3) The Full Business Case is developed to ensure that the key points made by Elected Members, detailed in the report, are addressed.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

To ensure that the views of scrutiny members relating to the outline business case for the All Age Disability and Mental Health Service Transformation Project are reflected to Cabinet, prior to further relevant decisions being taken.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Pre-decision scrutiny is regarded as good practice and is aimed at strengthening the decision-making process.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Scrutiny workshop – 2nd August 2017

A workshop was held on 2nd August 2017 to review an outline business case which forms part of Wirral Council's Strategic Transformation Programme. The business case relates to the All Age Disability and Mental Health Service Transformation Project. As the scope of the project has potential implications for recipients of both children and adult services, all members of the Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee were invited to attend. Eleven committee members attended the session. The Director of Health and Care and the Assistant Director of Health and Care Outcomes led a presentation to explain the details of the outline business case. This was followed by a question and answer session to give members the opportunity to comment on the proposals.

It is intended that the comments provided by members at the session will be made available to Cabinet prior to further decisions being made regarding the future of the business case.

3.2 Proposal for change

Full details of the proposals for change are available in the outline business case for the All Age Disability and Mental Health Service Transformation Project. The Outline Business Case sets out a proposal to transform the Council's Mental Health Service and the Disability Teams across Children's and Adult Services by developing integrated pathways to work more closely with key partners to drive forward integration and service efficiencies. National policy for 'All Age Disability Integration' and 'Health and Social Care Integration' provides the national direction for change and is a key driver for local transformation across services.

The All Age Disability and Mental Health Service Transformation Project covers a number of areas of provision as detailed in the table below. It will impact upon approximately 145 staff members, across three service areas within the Delivery Division of the Council across Children and Adults Social Care:

	Team	Office Location	Approx. Staff Numbers	Provision/Function
1	Community Mental Health Service (Adults)	St Catherine's Health Centre, Birkenhead.	85 Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment, Care Co-ordination, Care Planning, Support Service, Discharge of Statutory duty under Mental Health Act and Mental Capacity Act Legislation.
2	Integrated Disability Service (Adults)	Old Market House, Birkenhead Moving to Millennium Centre	27 Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment, Care Management, Care Planning, Care Coordination, Back Office/Team Support, Continuing Health Care Reviews.
3	Children with Disability Services	Social Work Team based at Wallasey Locality Office, Wallasey - Moving to Millennium Centre	33 Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment, Care Management, Care Planning, Care Co-ordination, Support Service, Direct Payments, Back Office/Team Support.

The service provision included within the scope of the project is:

- The All age disability social work service providing services to children, young people and adults with a disability, children in need, complex need or health problem;
- The mental health social work service providing services to adults with a range of mental health conditions.

It should be noted that the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and the Special Educational Needs Disability (SEND) Services are not within the scope of the project.

During the course of the project, the number of options was refined to produce four potential Alternative Delivery Models (ADMs):

Ranked	Shortlist of 4 ADM Options
1 st	Formal partnership/contract with a local community public sector health trust/provider – full staff transfer to integrate health and social care colleagues within the All Age Disability and Mental Health Setting.
2 nd	Joint working with other Public Sector health provider/s – Exploring Joint Management arrangements, Joint Committees, Joint Ventures (less formal arrangements than option 1)
3 rd	Remain In-House and Restructure/Re-engineer Services.
4 th	Set up a community interest company/trust as a joint venture with a local health trust.

Following further analysis, the preferred option for the project is for the Council to agree a formal partnership / contract with a local community public sector health trust to integrate health and social care colleagues within the All Age Disability and Mental Health setting. It is the Council's intention to enter into an agreement with Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Trust, delegating the delivery function of assessments and care planning for children, young people and adults with a learning disability, mental health or complex need. This is likely to be via a Section 75 agreement.

Significant stakeholder engagement, including staff and service users is taking place regarding the proposal, with the intention of a Full Business Case being developed for presentation to Cabinet (and the CWP Board) later this year.

3.3 Elected member comments

During the session the following comments were raised by members:

Overview:

Members were supportive of the principles of integration between health and social care and the drive towards more integrated services which span the life of service users across childhood and adulthood.

Service quality

Member Comment: A member asked how service provision could be improved from the perspective of the public.

Response: A number of consultation events, particularly during the development of the All Age Disability Strategy, informed officers that service users want joined up services and "want to tell their story once". This transformation project is aiming to build those comments into future service delivery.

Access to mental health services

Member Comment: A member expressed concern regarding the ease of access to mental health services, with a significant number of mental health patients being identified by the police, rather than being referred to appropriate services by GPs.

Response: Most referrals to the current mental health service are made by GPs. The proposal for the new service includes consideration of a single point of contact for any part of the integrated service. There will then be different pathways for different client requirements within an integrated service. The service would align to four Integrated Care Coordination Hubs (ICCHs), based in each of the four constituencies and will be responsible for providing a coordinated response to the client. The ICCHs are developing strong links with the GP surgeries within their locality. Officers agreed to ensure that

greater emphasis is placed upon GPs having the confidence to make referrals knowing that patients will be dealt with effectively.

Service standards

Member Comment: Will partner organisations be in a position to deliver services to the same standard as the Council has achieved in the past?

Response: Members were reassured that CWP is a very good organisation, which works with a person-centred approach and focussing on people's wellbeing. However, there is also an opportunity to build robust accountability into the service specification. It was also noted that services must also match the requirements of the Care Act and relevant Children's legislation.

Financial efficiencies

Member Comment: Members raised concerns about the ability to achieve long-term financial efficiencies and how the Council can influence that when the service is under NHS management.

Response: The proposal is for all related staff to be transferred to the new service provider, that is, there are no proposals for staffing reductions. Efficiencies will be achieved over a period of time from care provision. Savings will be achieved by working together more effectively, for example, by having more outcome focussed client assessments. In the case of a previous service transfer to Wirral NHS Community Trust, the Council retains the budget for commissioning with call-off against the budget. If at any point the budget is under pressure there will be very close liaison between the two organisations. A similar model is envisaged for the All Age Disability and Mental Health Service. There will be demanding performance management arrangements in place. Joint commissioning of services with Wirral CCG will result in some shared risk with the CCG. However, significant financial pressures remain on the NHS, particularly in the acute care sector.

Staff conditions including pensions

Member Comment: Previous transfers of staff to alternative providers have led to concerns relating to potential erosion of working conditions, including pension entitlements.

Response: During the recent project to transfer social workers to Wirral NHS Community Trust, there were complex issues to resolve regarding staff conditions and, in particular, pensions. As that work has already been done, it is hoped to approach those issues in a similar way. Members were reassured that with the transfer of staff to Wirral NHS Community Trust those staff were supported to remain part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). That approach has now been set as a way of working. Such issues should, therefore, be quicker and easier to work through.

Adaptations to properties

Member Comment: Is the Adaptations Team involved as part of the project? Member concerns were expressed regarding the delivery of the adaptations scheme both currently and in the future. In particular, the ability of social landlords to effectively deliver adaptations on a consistent basis was raised.

Response: Many clients of the all age disability service need specialist equipment, hoists and adaptations. Social workers will assess the needs of the client; the relevant housing provider will arrange for any work to be carried out. Members were informed that the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) is not within the scope of the project. (Note: The DFG is a means-tested financial grant to help meet the cost of adapting a property where a person with disabilities lives). The DFG is passported from the Better Care Fund to the Council, which is responsible for delivering the service.

Staff concerns

Member Comment: During staff consultation, what concerns have been raised to date?

Response: The issues raised by staff have been similar to those raised during the previous staff transfer (to Wirral NHS Community Trust). These are:

- A desire to maintain a social work ethos;
- The need to maintain a culture of social care within a health organisation;
- The danger of the service being diluted within a large organisation;
- Concerns relating to how the NHS manages change;
- Terms and conditions / pensions.

In the case of the Wirral NHS Community Trust transfer, that organisation has responded positively by introducing new positions to focus on the importance of professional standards for social care.

Mental health services for children

Member Comment: It is noted that the commissioning of CAMHS services is not within the scope of the project. However, a recent Ofsted monitoring letter was critical of the CAMHS waiting times.

Response: The lead commissioner for the CAMHS service is Wirral CCG (rather than Wirral Council) and, as it is a commissioned service, this is why it is outside the scope of the project. At present, the CCG and Wirral Council are drafting for the first time an integrated specification where resource will be combined and outcomes and outputs are focused around Future in Mind priorities such as improving waiting times, access to effective support and a focus to support vulnerable groups.

Child protection

Member Comment: Concerns were raised regarding the most appropriate place for child protection (of children with disabilities) within the reorganised structure.

Response: The most appropriate place for the important function of child protection within the new service is part of the detailed service modelling which needs to be agreed. Further discussion needs to take place internally and also with health partners. It is possible that the proposal may be that child protection cases should be referred back to a child protection team which is retained within the Council.

Agile working and computer systems

Member Comment: How will the computer systems of the two organisations be joined up?

Response: It is proposed that Liquid Logic will continue to be used as it is already used by children and adult social workers. This was the model used for the Wirral NHS Community Trust transfer. In terms of agile working, Members were informed that many social workers prefer to enter data into software following meetings with clients (rather than during the meeting).

Community assets

Member Comment: To what extent will community assets be used to support the project?

Response: It is intended that these services will be part of a broader community offer, which enables people to better engage with their communities.

Performance monitoring

Member Comment: How will success be measured?

Response: A range of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be used to measure service provision based on both national and local reporting requirements. The performance measures will include such indicators as response times and experience of the client. Some data is easily collectable from systems; other data is more qualitative.

Summary

Members drew particular attention to the issues relating to:

- the implementation of adaptations to properties for people with disabilities (including the relationship between occupational therapists and the social landlords)
- The process for the referral by GPs of patients with mental health issues to the relevant service.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Although there are financial implications arising from the business cases, there are no financial implications arising from this scrutiny process.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising from this report

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

Although there are resource implications arising from the business cases, there are no resource implications arising from this scrutiny process.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not Applicable

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

This scrutiny process is part of the consultation process for the transformation project.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct equality implications of this report.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Workshop attendees

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

Appendix 1: Workshop Attendees

Members:

Tom Usher
Julie McManus
Moirá McLaughlin
Brian Kenny
Alan Brighthouse
Paul Stuart
Phil Gilchrist
Chris Meaden
Christina Muspratt
Adrian Jones
Irene Williams

Officers:

Graham Hodkinson
Jason Oxley
Michael Murphy
Elaina Quesada
Ursula Bell
Mike Callon
Alan Veitch

Apologies:

Leslie Rennie
Tony Jones
Tom Anderson
Wendy Clements
Jean Stapleton
Gerry Ellis
Cherry Povall
Bruce Berry
Tracey Pilgrim
Gillian Wood
Treena Johnson

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**Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Tuesday, 26th September 2017**

REPORT TITLE:	Reality Check visit to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) - Feedback
REPORT OF:	The Chair of the Committee – Councillor Tom Usher

REPORT SUMMARY

Committee members have previously agreed the principle of undertaking a series of Reality Check visits by small groups of members to enable those members to engage directly with frontline staff. The first of these visits took place to the Integrated Front Door / Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) at Moreton on Thursday 7th September 2017. This report provides feedback from that visit.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that Committee:

- 1) notes the report;
- 2) considers any points to be learned prior to the next of the Reality Check visits;
- 3) adds a further visit to the Integrated Front Door / MASH to the Reality Check work programme once the service has transferred to the new location at Solar Campus.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

The Reality Check visit and subsequent recommendations will enable Committee members to complete part of the Committee's work programme.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Principles of Reality Check visits

Key to the success of scrutiny is the ability of Members to check evidence from a variety of sources. While members routinely receive reports from senior management and have access to performance monitoring reports, it is suggested that greater access to frontline staff and service users would enable scrutiny members to triangulate evidence with other sources and would give members greater confidence in the outcomes of their scrutiny work. It was, therefore, agreed at the meeting of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee held in June to establish a programme of Reality Check visits through which scrutiny members could engage independently and directly with frontline staff.

Key operating principles for the visits include:

- A programme of visits will be scheduled and will form part of the Committee's work programme. A visit will normally take place approximately every eight weeks. Visits will be set or amended taking into account the programme of externally set scrutiny by Ofsted and the Department of Education.
- There will be no direct relationship between each visit. Therefore, Members may volunteer to participate in any particular visit.
- Prior to each visit, a short briefing note will be prepared to inform members of the function of the service area, background information and any issues directly relevant to the Ofsted report.
- Each visit will comprise a maximum of six members supported by a scrutiny officer. A visit will usually take a maximum of 2 hours.
- The visits will give Members the opportunity to talk directly to staff so they can understand their perspective of the service. Members will be able to ask questions directly, for example, on caseloads, support offered to staff, auditing of cases and the outcomes for children and families.
- The findings from each visit will be reported to the next meeting of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

A programme of Reality Check visits is being established, the first of which was the visit to the Integrated Front Door / Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) at Moreton on 7th September 2017. Subsequent visits are proposed to the Leaving Care team and also to the Early Childhood Service. This report

will, therefore, give members the opportunity to reflect on the effectiveness of the process as well as providing specific feedback from the visit to the MASH.

3.2 Visit to the MASH – 7th September 2017

The visit to the Integrated Front Door and the MASH in Moreton took place on Thursday 7th September. Cllrs Tom Usher (Chair), Alan Brighthouse, Wendy Clements, Moira McLaughlin and Chris Meaden took part in the visit, which was hosted by Liz Davenport (Head of the Integrated Front Door). She was accompanied by Debbie Prescott (Team Manager, MASH) and Anne Rannard (Detective Inspector, Police). Following a presentation relating to the operation of the Integrated Front Door and MASH, members talked to individual members of staff across a number of disciplines.

3.3 Background to the Integrated Front Door and the MASH

The Integrated Front Door inclusive of the MASH provides a multi-agency response to requests for service in relation to vulnerable children. The agencies represented include: social workers (Including Early Help social workers), Police, Health, Education, Catch22, Family Safety Unit, Probation and Workforce & Pensions.

This forms the first point of contact for professionals, families or members of the public if they have any welfare or safeguarding concerns for a child. This can be via phone or secure email using the multi-agency request for service. The integrated hub deals with all incoming requests for service which are initially triaged. The needs of children are prioritised depending on the nature of concerns or requests for service and a 'threshold of need' level is identified to provide the most appropriate response to meet the needs of the child and reduce or respond to the presenting risk.

Once triaged by staff at the Integrated Front Door, next steps can be:

- Further information to support the assessment can be made to the MASH in order to identify the most appropriate threshold of need. Information sourcing and sharing will take place and a threshold decision will be made. The MASH hub is an intelligence gathering hub where information can be shared by agencies safely and securely.
- The First Response Team is a new team which has increased capacity and specialism and is used when an immediate safeguarding intervention is required (under section 47 of the Children's Act 1989). A case will be passed to the First Response Team, which is made up of experienced qualified social workers and police officers who provide an immediate safeguarding response where there is a potential risk of significant harm to a child or young person.
- Where cases may not meet Level 4 but where there are significant concerns, they will be passed to Early Help and CAF to facilitate a multi-agency or Team Around the Family response.

3.4 Findings from the Members' visit to the MASH

Key conclusions reached by the Members were:

3.4.1 Specific to the MASH visit

Positives

- Members were impressed by the warm welcome which was received during the visit and the willingness of all organisations to participate in discussion.
- Considerable partner agency buy-in was evidenced by the number of organisations actively engaged within the Integrated Front Door / MASH environment.
- Timely information sharing between the different agencies was demonstrated during the visit.
- The deployment and increase of social workers within the MASH on a permanent basis appears to have created a more stable working environment and enabled the application of more consistent processes / thresholds.

Challenges

- The volume of referrals is significant. Members were informed that approximately 450 requests for service per week are received by the Integrated Front Door.
- Members were told that capacity can be challenging at certain times, for example, due to staff absence, such as leave, sickness and training. There are also periods when there are spikes in workload, for example, prior to school holiday times when schools are concerned that in their absence needs may increase.
- Requests for service to the Integrated Front Door are triaged and RAG rated. The nature and context of the concerns received determine a required response time (Red – less than 4 hours; Amber – less than 24 hours; Green – less than 72 hours). Performance data suggests response times for dealing with requests for service identified as red or amber threshold were acceptable. The target time achieved for contacts which are RAG rated green (lower priority) is approximately 85%. This potentially sees capacity deployed to higher level cases as they come in, but also indicates that contacts and referrals to the front door by professionals across the wider Children's workforce still require a better understanding of thresholds.
- Members were shown some performance data during the visit and request that further consideration be given to identifying a range of performance data which would enable scrutiny members to monitor performance relating to the safeguarding of children on an on-going basis.
- Concerns exist relating to the high rate of re-referral of cases in Wirral compared to statistical and geographical neighbours.

- An open case observed during the visit raised concerns about a child looked after and placed via a Special Guardianship Order (SGO). Issues regarding SGOs have been raised previously by scrutiny members who, in some instances, have offered challenge to the appropriateness and use of SGOs.

It is suggested that members visit the Integrated Front Door / MASH again once the service has transferred to the new location at Solar Campus.

3.4.2 Lessons learned for future Reality Check visits

Some of the lessons from the visit which may help in preparation for future visits are:

- The principle of undertaking Reality Check visits is welcomed by those members who took part.
- A two-hour visit is very short. It is essential that time is used effectively.
- Clear lines of enquiry which members may like to pursue could be established prior to the visit.
- Consideration could be given to holding a presentation and Q&A session based on the briefing paper at a separate time. This would allow longer for discussion with frontline staff during the visit.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not Applicable

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

This report is for information to members and there are no direct equality implications.

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APPENDICES: None

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date



Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 26th September 2017

REPORT TITLE:	Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee - work programme update
REPORT OF:	The Chair of the Committee – Councillor Tom Usher

REPORT SUMMARY

This report explains the process of developing and managing the scrutiny work programme for the municipal year. The Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee, in cooperation with the other three Overview & Scrutiny Committees, is responsible for proposing and delivering an annual scrutiny work programme. This work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the delivery of the Wirral Plan pledges which are within the remit of the Committee.

The report provides an update regarding progress made since the last Committee meeting held on 20th June. The current work programme is made up of a combination of scrutiny reviews, workshops, standing items and requested officer reports. This update report provides the committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year. The current work programme for the Committee is attached as an appendix to this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

Members are requested to:

1. Approve the updated Children & Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2017/18, making any required amendments.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

To ensure members of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee have the opportunity to contribute to the delivery of the annual work programme.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 UPDATE ON CURRENT SCRUTINY ACTIVITY

Since the Committee meeting held on 20th June 2017, activity has taken place relating to the following:

Statutory Care Plan Scrutiny Review

A task and finish group comprising Councillors Alan Brighthouse, Paul Hayes, Tony Jones, Moira McLaughlin, Chris Meaden and Cherry Povall has been established. The work of this group will focus on the effectiveness and timeliness of statutory care plans. It is intended that an initial meeting will be held in October to review the draft scope document and plan the review in more detail.

Reality Check Visits

At the committee meeting held on 20th June 2017, members approved the principle of holding Reality Check visits which will give a small group of members the opportunity to meet with frontline staff and service users in order to triangulate evidence from other sources. The first of these visits took place on 7th September when members visited the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub). A report regarding the outcomes of the visit is included as a separate item on this agenda.

It is proposed that the next Reality Check visit will take place to the Leaving Care team in mid-October, with the subsequent visit being to the Early Childhood Service in December. Members will be notified of the dates for these visits in due course, with a maximum of six volunteers being sought for each visit.

Working relationship with the Local Safeguarding Children Board

While the Improvement Board is currently in place, it is important that members establish scrutiny arrangements which will be effective in the long-term. A number of members attended a safeguarding training event provided by the Centre for Public Scrutiny in January 2017. A key message for the scrutiny of safeguarding arrangements was the establishment of strong

relationships with key partner bodies and organisations. The Local Safeguarding Children Board is clearly a key partner. Therefore, a workshop was arranged for 23rd August 2017 at which Committee members were better able to understand the key links between scrutiny and the Board and to recommend ways in which those links could be improved. A report regarding the outcomes of the workshop is included as a separate item on this Committee agenda.

All Age Disability and Mental Health Transformation Project

A workshop was held on Wednesday 2nd August to provide members with an opportunity to review proposals for the transformation of the All Age Disability and Mental Health services. As the proposals will impact on service delivery for both children and adults, a joint workshop was held with members of both the Children and Families OSC and the Adult Care & Health OSC invited to attend. A report summarising the findings of the workshop is included as a separate item on this evening's meeting agenda. The same report was also included on the agenda of the Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting on 13th September.

3.2 FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

Spotlight session - Specialist Transport

During scrutiny of the 2017 / 18 budget proposals, former members of the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee requested further updates regarding future proposals to re-model the Specialist Transport service. As any proposals will impact on service delivery for both children and adults, it is suggested that a joint workshop will be held with members of both the Children and Families OSC and the Adult Care & Health OSC invited to attend. It is currently envisaged that the session will be held before the end of 2017.

Training session for members

Further to comments raised by some members at the previous Committee meeting held on 20th June 2017, it is proposed that a training session be held later in the year. It is proposed that the session will include an overview of Children's Services. The session will also be used to inform the future scrutiny work programme.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

The delivery of the scrutiny work programme will be met from within existing resources.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not Applicable

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

This report is for information to Members and there are no direct equality implications.

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APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Work programme

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – Tues 26th September 2017

Item	Format	Officer
Minutes from Children & Families OSC (20 th June)	Minutes	
Improvement Plan – Update (including performance data tracker) (Note: Refreshed Improvement Plan to be included in the report pack)	Report / Presentation	Deborah Gornik
Merseyside Police – Role in safeguarding procedures	Report	To be arranged
Children and Social Work Act – Implications for the Wirral safeguarding Children Board	Report	David Robbins
Domestic Abuse – update on the delivery of the strategy	Report	Mark Smith / Mark Camborne
Educational attainment in Wirral 2016/17	Report	Sue Talbot
Financial Monitoring – 2017/18 Q1	Report	Peter Molyneux / Andrew Roberts to provide report
Performance monitoring – 2017/18 Q1	Report	Mike Callon to provide report
Policy Inform	Report	Rachel Howey to provide report
Feedback from workshop regarding the relationship between scrutiny and LSCB	Report	Report of the Chair (Alan Veitch to provide report)
Feedback from joint workshop on All-age Disabilities and Mental Health transformation project	Report	Report of the Chair (Alan Veitch to provide report)
Report from Member’s Reality Check visit to the MASH	Report	Report of the Chair (Alan Veitch to provide report)
Work programme update	Report	Report of the Chair (Alan Veitch to provide report)
Deadline for reports to be with Committee Services: Monday 11th September 2017		

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – Tues 14th November 2017

Item	Format	Officer
Minutes from Children & Families OSC (26 th September)	Minutes	
Improvement Plan – Update	Presentation	Deborah Gornik
Safeguarding Children Annual Report (2016/17)	Report	Kerry Mehta / David Robbins
Financial Monitoring – 2017/18 Q2	Report	Peter Molyneux / Andrew Roberts to provide report
Performance monitoring – 2017/18 Q2	Report	Mike Callon to provide report
Statutory Care Plan scrutiny review	Report	Report of the Chair (Patrick Torpey to provide report)
Report from Member’s proposed Reality Check visit to the Leaving care Team	Report	Report of the Chair (Alan Veitch to provide report)
Work programme update	Report	Report of the Chair (Alan Veitch to provide report)
Deadline for reports to be with Committee Services: Monday 30th October 2017		

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS – WAITING TO BE SCHEDULED

Item	Format	Approximate timescale	Lead Departmental Officer
Children, Young People and Families - update on the delivery of the strategy	Report	To be agreed	Deborah Gornik
Overview of case file audits during the preceding 2 / 3 months	Report	To be agreed	
Improving Life Chances strategy – update on the delivery of the strategy (last provided: March 2017)	Report	To be agreed	Fiona Johnstone
The HIVE – progress report	Report	To be agreed	
Care leavers – employment prospects	Report	To be agreed	

WORK PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE COMMITTEE

Item	Format	Timescale	Lead Departmental Officer	Progress / Comments
Statutory Care Plans	Task & finish group	To be agreed	To be confirmed	
All-age Disabilities and Mental Health transformation project	Workshop	Wed 2 nd Aug 2017, 6.00pm	Graham Hodgkinson/ Jason Oxley	Joint workshop with members of Adult Care & Health OSC
Safeguarding governance - Scrutiny's relationship with the LSCB	Workshop	Wed 23 rd Aug 2017, 5.30pm	David Robbins	
Reality Check visit: MASH	Member visit	Thurs 7 th Sept, 2017 10.00am	Simone White / Liz Davenport	
Reality Check visit: Leaving Care Team	Member visits	Mid Oct 2017	Simone White	Potential visit
Specialist Transport	Workshop	Nov / Dec 2017	Julie Barnes	Potential joint workshop with members of Adult Care & Health OSC
Member training session: Children's Services	Training session	Nov / Dec 2017	Carly Brown	
Reality Check visit: Early Childhood Service	Member visits	Dec 2017	To be agreed	Potential visit
Transformation Programme – business cases	Workshop	As and when required		
Budget scrutiny 2018 / 19	Workshop	To be agreed		
Looked after children - Follow-up review	Evidence day	Deferred	Liz Davenport	Waiting until post-Ofsted planning for scrutiny is complete
Children ready for school	Task & finish group	Deferred	Deborah Gornik	

FORMER CHILDREN SUB-COMMITTEE

OUTSTANDING WORK PROGRAMME ITEMS (For information only)

Item	Format	Timescale	Lead Departmental Officer
Exception reports highlighting positive and negative aspects arising from school Ofsted inspection reports	Report	Standing item	Sue Talbot
Governance arrangements and the role of scrutiny in safeguarding	Report	To be agreed	
Devolution of the Further education budget and the apprenticeship framework	Report	To be agreed	
Quality Assurance process of care plans	Report	To be agreed	
Outcomes of the audit of case files in children's social care	Report	To be agreed	
Edge of care service (as suggested at Children Sub Committee – 08/03/17)	Report	To be agreed	Deborah Gornik
A Children Sub Committee member's workshop proposed the following as regular items in terms of monitoring the Improvement Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of minutes from recent Improvement Board meetings – standing item; Copy of the most recent version of the Improvement Plan – standing item; Performance data tracker Overview of case file audits during the preceding 2 / 3 months – a regular presentation; Future models of care as being developed by the Transformation Team. 	Reports	To be agreed	
Statutory Care Plans (as agreed by members at the Children Sub-Committee workshop – 29/03/17) Scope for the review has been agreed.	Task & Finish Group	To be agreed	
A programme of Reality Check visits will be arranged (as agreed by members at the Children Sub-Committee workshop – 29/03/17)	Member visits followed by report back to Committee	To be agreed	
Follow-up to the original Looked after children scrutiny review (August 2013)	To be agreed	To be agreed	
Follow-up to the previous Safeguarding scrutiny review (December 2015)	To be agreed	To be agreed	