



## Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Thursday, 25 January 2018</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Committee Room 1 - Wallasey Town Hall</b>

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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 - 10)**

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2017.

4. **IMPROVEMENT JOURNEY - UPDATE**

Presentation.

5. **PREVENTING FAMILY BREAKDOWN - CHILDREN ON THE EDGE OF CARE**

Presentation.

6. DELIVERY OF 'CHILDREN READY FOR SCHOOL' PLEDGE -  
UPDATE (Pages 11 - 18)
7. REALITY CHECK VISIT - EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICE -  
FEEDBACK REPORT (Pages 19 - 26)
8. SUMMARY OF STANDARDS, PROVISIONAL OUTCOMES FOR  
KEY STAGE 4 AND KEY STAGE 5 (Pages 27 - 48)
9. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OSC - FEEDBACK FROM BUDGET  
SCRUTINY (2018/19)
10. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OSC - WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE  
REPORT (Pages 49 - 58)

## CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 14 November 2017

Present: Councillor T Usher (Chair)

Councillors	M McLaughlin	C Povall
	T Anderson	J Stapleton
	A Brighouse	A Sykes
	W Clements	G Wood
	P Hayes	A Leech (In place of B Kenny)
	T Jones	D Realey (In place of W Ward)
	C Meaden	I Williams

### 26 MINUTES SILENCE

The Chair paid tribute to ex-Mayor of Wirral and Labour member for Bebington, Councillor Walter Smith, who had recently passed away. The Chair informed that Councillor Smith had been involved in local politics for more than 40 years first as a member of Birkenhead County Borough Council, and subsequently as a member on Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council. He added that Walter Smith embodied all the ideals of a public servant, giving selflessly of his time and commitment to his ward and to Wirral. The Committee, and those members of the public in attendance for the meeting, stood for a minute's silence in tribute to his memory.

### 27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Kenny and W Ward; co-opted members Ms J Johnson, Mr Chris Penn; and CWP representative V McGee.

### 28 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / PARTY WHIP

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 the nature of the interest.

Members were reminded that they should also declare whether they were 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. The following declaration was made:

Councillor Chris Meaden	Personal – by virtue of her daughter's employment within the CYPD.
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29 **MINUTES**

**Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 26 September 2017, be confirmed as a correct record.**

30 **IMPROVEMENT JOURNEY - UPDATE**

Ms Deborah Gornik, the Interim Director of Children's Services introduced her presentation that provided Members with an update on the Council's Improvement Plan and a number of actions that had been taken since the last report to the Committee in September. These included the new appointment for the position of Director of Children's Services previously reported now has a start date for 4 the December, , which will see Mr Paul Boyce, currently the Executive Director for Children at Knowsley Council, take up post .

Ms Gornik further informed that the Local Government Association launched a paper titled 'Bright Futures – Getting the Best for Children, Young People and Families at the National Children and Adult Services Conference in October. The conference also referenced the stark financial position in respect of a predicted £2 billion funding gap for children's services by 2020, which currently sees a national overspend position in the region of £605 million across England.

The presentation advised that that the fourth Ofsted monitoring visit had been arranged for the 11/12 December 2017, a Department for Education visit had also been scheduled for January 2018 as had the annual conversation with Ofsted.

The Interim Director of Children's Services went on to present key statistics that provided Members with information on current levels of poverty (including those where parents are in work), how one in ten children in England had a diagnosable mental health condition.

The presentation highlighted Wirral's position against comparator data (regional, statistical neighbours and national data) for children looked and how this information had supported future projections to be reached.

Data highlights that whilst Wirral historically had higher levels of children in the looked after population recent growth is more in line with other local authorities.

Members noted the Council's action plan now in place and that the target for 2021 represented a reduction of 152 children looked after over 3 years from the current numbers.

Members questioned the Interim Director of Children's Services on some of the detail contained in the Action Plan, in particular to matters relating to the levels of Children Looked After, including a review of the fostering service and actions to increase the number of foster care placements.

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

**Resolved – That the presentation be noted.**

31 **SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN ANNUAL REPORT (2016/17)**

Dr Maggie Atkinson, Independent Chair of the Wirral Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB), introduced her presentation summarising the WSCB Annual Report 2016/17 and priorities for 2016/18.

Dr Maggie Atkinson's presentation provided the Committee with information on the statutory objectives and functions of the WSCB as contained in Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 and how the WSCB operated as an independent multi-agency body under the direction of the Independent Chair, and was not subordinate to any other body. The Independent Chair informed the Committee of five priorities outlined in the WSCB business plan 2016/18.

The Independent Chair of the WSCB then updated the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the impact of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. She informed that the Act had received Royal Assent in April 2017 and included provision to abolish LSCB's and replace with local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. Responsibility for the arrangements lies with the three statutory safeguarding partners of the LA, Police and CCG. Changes now include removal of requirement for an independent chair, revised frameworks for case reviews and child death reviews and requirement to publish arrangements which must be independently scrutinised.

Members noted that 'Working Together' (2018) statutory guidance was currently being consulted on, with final guidance anticipated in April 2018 with new local arrangements to be in place by September 2019.

At the end of the presentation members questioned Dr Maggie Atkinson on matters relating to a recent serious case review, where a decision not to publish had been taken. Dr Maggie Atkinson reiterated the position had been reached with due diligence being given to section 1 of the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1992, and where publication of details might lead to the identification of the victim. Members commented on the lack of disclosure to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, suggesting that an appropriately redacted copy should overcome the issue. Dr Maggie Atkinson stated she would stand firm on her decision not to publish, previously advised to Members through lengthy correspondence, had been endorsed by the DfE National Panel - the Panel reporting directly to the Minister who would have had to be informed of that backing. Dr Atkinson further informed the committee that the independent author, who was experienced in that role, tried for several weeks to redact the text sufficiently and could not do so. Dr Atkinson went on to confirm that a meaningful action plan will be published.

Members further commented on the benefit of local knowledge (specifically referencing late night take-aways and taxi licensing) that may be helpful in further investigations. Dr Atkinson advised that any such information, particularly if relating to criminal activity i.e. grooming, should be reported to the Police.

Members noted that when renewing taxi licences, drivers undertook training on this topic.

**Resolved – That the presentation be noted.**

## 32 **DOMESTIC ABUSE - STRATEGY DELIVERY UPDATE**

Mr Mark Camborne, Lead Commissioner Community Services & Resilience introduced his report that provided an update on the progress made implementing the Wirral pledge – Zero Tolerance towards Domestic Abuse.

The report provided a highlight on the work that had been undertaken across all statutory agencies and the voluntary and third sector in the 18 months since the launch of the Pledge. In addition the report also described the future steps in the bid to eradicate domestic abuse and harmful practices.

The report reaffirmed that Domestic Violence and Abuse was usually perpetrated by men against women but not exclusively. Nationally the Office of National Statistics estimates around 1.2m woman and 784,000 men experience Domestic Violence and Abuse a year. However, evidence showed women were significantly disproportionately affected by Domestic Violence and Abuse at high risk levels and were more likely to experience serious physical harm or death from a partner, as well as serious coercive and controlling behaviour. In Wirral 97% of high risk cases engaged with an IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) were females.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted that underpinning the action plan was the recognition that both genders, as well as the wider communities, were part of the solution to preventing and reducing violence and abuse. Domestic Violence and Abuse was non-discriminate: it occurred in all groups and sections of society, but domestic violence and abuse may be experienced differently due to, and compounded by race, sexuality, disability, age, religion, culture, class or mental health.

The report also informed that the Zero Tolerance towards Domestic Abuse pledge methodology was based around a 4 P's approach which was familiar to many of the partners. The 4 P's being:

- Prevention – and Early Intervention
- Provision
- Partnership
- Perpetrators

## **Resolved – That**

- (1) the progress made in the first stages of the delivery against the Zero Tolerance towards Domestic Abuse pledge be noted;**
- (2) the next steps in the Pledge Action Plan 2017/18 be endorsed; and**
- (3) Members pledged their support of the Wirral Domestic Abuse Alliance and the Zero Tolerance campaign.**

### **33 FINANCIAL MONITORING - 2017/18 Q2**

Mr Andrew Roberts, Senior Manager Financial Management introduced the regular report of the Assistant Director: Finance and Section 151 Officer that set out the projected revenue and capital monitoring position for 2017/18 as at the close of quarter 2 (30 September 2017).

The report summarised information that had 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 the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee that included the following:

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

The Senior Manager Financial Management provided Members with a summary presentation that set out the budgetary figures for 2017/18 as follows:

	<b>£m</b>
Safeguarding and Social Work	15.9
Commissioned Care	25.4
Early Help	6.9
Disability / SEND	4.8
Transport Adults and Children's	5.5
Other Children's Services	6.7
Assets and Teacher retirement	17.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>82.9</b>

Members were apprised of budget and forecast costs for the Commissioned Care figure (being the largest element of the CYP budget), as below:

	<b>Budget £000</b>	<b>Forecast cost £000</b>
Residential	8,971	10,534
Foster Agency	3,181	3,854

Foster in house	6,384	6,085
Special Guardianship Order / Residence Order	3,138	3,375
Adoption	1,253	1,352
Stay Put / Greenbank	474	384
Contingency / other	31	331
Commissioned Services	2,004	1,929
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,435</b>	<b>27,844</b>

Members were further apprised of the numbers and unit costs in relation to the Commissioned Care, as below:

	<b>Number</b>	<b>£ week</b>	<b>£ p.a.</b>
Residential	73	2,842	48,000
Semi Res	12	1,545	81,000
Foster Agency	99	832	43,000
Foster in house	521	200	10,400
Special Guardianship Order / Residence Order	417	155	8,100
Adoption	173	42	7,400
Staying Put	36	211	11,000
Greenbank	2	764	40,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,338</b>		

#### **Resolved – That**

**(1) the quarter 2 revenue forecast overspend of £3.9 million be noted; and**

**(2) the performance of the capital projects be noted.**

#### **34 2017/18 QUARTER 2 WIRRAL PLAN PERFORMANCE**

Ms Deborah Gornik, the Interim Director of Children's Services introduced her report that provided the 2017/18 Quarter 2 (July – September 2017) performance report for the Wirral Plan pledges under the remit of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report provided a description of the progress in Quarter 2 as well as providing available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

The Interim Director's report informed of a range of key indicators and performance targets, namely:

- Foundation stage - percentage of children achieving a good level of development year end forecast 2017/18 was 69.4% with a slight drop in performance compared to the 2016/17 figure of 69.6% - Wirral still leading in national / regional comparisons, which is encouraging.

- Take up of the 2 year old offer by eligible families as identified by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) offer is 92.6% (Q1) – Data collected on a termly basis, next update in Q3).
- Percentage of children who received a 12 month Health Visitor review by the time they turned 12 months, was 64.4%, now 86% (performance improvement from Red to Green).
- Percentage of infants who receive a 6-8 week development check by the time they reach 8 weeks 84.9% – GP data better return (note: now flagged as Amber, was Red).
- Officers would continue to focus on the best way to gather data on the use of medication for Attention Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) – the CCG is currently unable to provide updated data and are reviewing alternative methods to report in future quarters.
- Permanent exclusions – Discussions have taken place with the Regional Schools Commissioner regarding the increased numbers, and the Local Authority is challenging schools appropriately in order to address the higher than average number of exclusions.

The Interim Director informed that a more detailed report on educational attainment in Wirral schools would be presented to the next meeting of the Committee by the Lead commissioner Schools.

The report informed that there had been an overall decline in the Child Protection Plan rate over the last 12 months and work was underway to ensure effective review of these cases.

Members noted that the percentage of repeat referrals to children's social care had shown a continuing decrease and was similar to the most recently available statistical neighbour values.

The Interim Director reported that quarter two continued to illustrate the complex picture of Domestic Abuse in Wirral. The launch of the Safer Wirral Hub was enabling an improved multi-agency approach to embed the Council's zero tolerance approach across Wirral.

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

**Resolved – That the report be noted.**

## 35 **REALITY CHECK VISIT TO THE LEAVING CARE SERVICE - FEEDBACK**

The Chair introduced his report that provided feedback from a visit to the Leaving Care Service on Wednesday 18 October 2017.

The Chair informed that Committee Members had previously agreed the principle of undertaking a series of Reality Check visits by small groups of Members, and that this had been the second in the proposed series of visits.

A number of Members commented on the value of the visits that enabled those Members to engage directly with frontline staff. The Chair informed that the principle of the visits had come about from a recommendation contained in a Working Group Scrutiny Review on the subject of Children Looked After.

The Committee noted the content of the report that contained a detailed summary of the visit, background to the Leaving Care Service and Members key conclusions.

**Resolved – That the report be noted.**

### 36 **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE REPORT**

The Chair introduced his report that provided an update regarding progress made since the last Committee meeting held on 26 September 2017. The report informed that the current work programme was made up of a combination of scrutiny reviews, workshops, standing items and requested officer reports. The Chair advised that the agenda report provided the Committee with the opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year. The current work programme for the Committee was attached as an appendix to the report. The report also informed that the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in cooperation with the other three Overview and Scrutiny Committees, was responsible for proposing and delivering an annual scrutiny work programme.

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

- that the Statutory Care Plan scrutiny review was now underway, the scope having been agreed and further task and finish group meetings being scheduled. It was hoped that the final report would be available for the March 2018 meeting of the Committee;
- Reality Check Visits – the next visit to the Early Childhood Service was expected to take place on or about the 6/7 December 2017. The Chair asked for Members to take part in the visit – the following Members volunteered to attend:

Councillor Tom Usher  
Councillor Alan Brighthouse  
Councillor Paul Hayes  
Councillor Moira McLaughlin  
Councillor Chris Meaden  
Councillor Jean Stapleton;

- a training session for members was being planned, and a provisional date had been set for 16 January 2017; and
- it was anticipated that workshops would be held for members of each of the Scrutiny Committees to review proposals as the 2018/19 budget is developed. The most likely timing of which would be during January 2018.

**Resolved – That the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme update for 2017/18 be noted.**

Prior to closing the meeting the Chair expressed his gratitude and thanks of the Committee for all the work undertaken by Ms Deborah Gornik in her role as Interim Director of Children's Services.

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**Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
**Thursday, 25 January 2018**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	Children Are Ready for School Pledge
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Chair of the Early Childhood Reference Group, Elizabeth Hartley (Senior Manager Children's Services)

## **REPORTS SUMMARY**

The Children Are Ready for School pledge is co-ordinated and delivered through the multi-agency Early Childhood Reference Group. Within the group there are four Priority Action Leads who work in partnership with various professionals to deliver the outcomes of their specific action plans. On a quarterly basis, the Early Childhood Reference Group meets to receive updates from the Priority Action Leads, provide advice and support, offer challenge and agree progress updates for corporate pledge reporting.

The report provides the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee with information on the four Priority Areas for the Children Are Ready for School pledge.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Committee notes the report.

## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1** The Children Are Ready for School pledge is co-ordinated and delivered through the multi-agency Early Childhood Reference Group. Within the group there are four Priority Action Leads who work in partnership with various professionals to deliver the outcomes of their specific action plans. On a quarterly basis, the Early Childhood Reference Group meets to receive updates from the Priority Action Leads, provide advice and support, offer challenge and agree progress updates for corporate pledge reporting.

## **2.0 Priorities**

- 2.1** There are four Priority Areas for the Children Are Ready for School pledge, these are:

- Priority 1- To improve multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and protect our youngest children;
- Priority 2- Children in Wirral will start life well;
- Priority 3- Children receive sensitive and responsive care from their main caregivers in the first years of life; and
- Priority 4- Increase the % of children achieving a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

- 2.2** Priority 1 was added following the refresh of the Wirral Plan in advance of the 2017-18 financial year. This addition was made in direct response to two specific *serious incident notifications* for under 5s and the tragic death of a Birkenhead toddler. The Early Childhood Reference Group felt strongly that the pledge work needed to respond to those circumstances by providing focus on safeguarding for infants and young children.

## **3.0 Overview of progress**

- 3.1** The body of this report seeks to provide Members with an overview of activity and outcomes delivered through each pledge priority area. The report focusses specifically on activity completed during the 2017-18 financial year and does not include activity from earlier stages of the Wirral Plan period.

### 3.2 Priority 1

<b>Priority 1:</b> To improve multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and protect our youngest children
<b>What we said we would do:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Establish processes to identify vulnerable parents-to-be (and infants) in order to provide co-ordinated packages of care.</li> <li>(ii) Increase opportunities for contact with parents and infants during the early years.</li> <li>(iii) Undertake a review of all children under 1 who became subject to a child protection plan or became a looked-after child in the previous 12 months, to better understand vulnerability factors in order to deliver more proactive services.</li> <li>(iv) Deliver an awareness raising campaign on the particular vulnerabilities of infants.</li> </ul>
<b>What we've done so far:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Embedded multi-agency pre-birth pathway and pre-birth liaison meeting.</li> <li>(ii) Launched a new Wirral parenting offer (<i>Set Sail on a Parenting Journey</i>) which, through an integrated approach between the Local Authority and Health Services, increases the number of contact points/home visit opportunities in the early years.</li> <li>(iii) Commenced a review of 50 cases where under 1s have become subject to child protection or looked after processes, including developing a bespoke audit tool, defining terms of reference and completed the first stage of data collection from an individual agency perspective.</li> <li>(iv) Initiated discussions with Birkenhead Foundation Years Trust to undertake a promotional campaign with Wirral families on the value of parenting.</li> <li>(v) Rolled out a marketing promotion with Children's Social Care re engaging with Children's Centres to support vulnerable children under 5.</li> </ul>
<b>What difference it's making:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Year to date (YTD) figures show 104 unborns have been discussed at the pre-birth liaison meeting, with 82 receiving additional support.</li> <li>(ii) Increase in number of unborns supported through a co-ordinated Team Around the Family approach. YTD figure is 56 against the 2016-17 figure of 12.</li> <li>(iii) Increase in the number of under 5s being supported through a Team Around the Family approach. YTD figure is 532 against the 2016-17 figure of 234.</li> <li>(iv) Target group registration with Children's Centres has increased from 81.6% in 2016-17 to 86.8% YTD.</li> <li>(v) Sustained contact for target groups with Children's Centres has increased from 51.0% in 2016-17 to 61.5% YTD.</li> <li>(vi) There has been a reduction in Serious Incident Notifications for under 5s. However, we have not yet been able to demonstrate an impact on the number of children under 5 becoming a looked after child.</li> </ul>
<b>What we need to do next:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Develop a means by which to evaluate the impact of support given through co-ordinated care packages.</li> <li>(ii) Complete the review of under 1s becoming subject to child protection or looked after children by undertaking the multi-agency analysis, delivering a report and recommendations, and using the findings to inform interventions.</li> <li>(iii) Improve registration and sustained contact for children in need, those subject to child protection plans and children who are looked after.</li> <li>(iv) Implement the <i>Preventing Family Breakdown</i> strategy for under 5s.</li> <li>(v) Roll out pre-birth assessment training.</li> <li>(vi) Roll out the raising awareness promotion and complementary parenting campaign.</li> </ul>

### 3.3 Priority 2

<b>Priority 2: Children start life well</b>
<b>What we said we would do:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Deliver against the outcomes that contribute to the <i>Healthy Child Programme</i> in Wirral.</li> <li>(ii) Develop an approach to promoting healthy eating in the early years.</li> <li>(iii) Roll out the 2 ½ Year Integrated Review with an information system to inform the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.</li> <li>(iv) Develop co-ordinated approaches to engage early years settings in thematic issues such as use of dummies, increasing physical activity and speech &amp; language.</li> <li>(v) Deliver locally applicable recommendations of the North West Sector-Led Infant Mortality Study to address modifiable risk factors.</li> </ul>
<b>What we've done so far:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) A weight management programme for pregnant women has been launched.</li> <li>(ii) The <i>breast start</i> app is being promoted and complements the support and peer support groups for continued breastfeeding.</li> <li>(iii) A localised approach, working in partnership with Children's Centres and foodbanks, has been agreed to increase the uptake of <i>Healthy Start</i> vitamins.</li> <li>(iv) Weaning groups continue to be well-attended.</li> <li>(v) The recently launched guide, <i>Eat Better-Start Better</i> has been distributed across all early years settings.</li> <li>(vi) Feedback from participants in the 2 ½ Year Integrated Review has been collected and shows a very positive picture from the perspective of parents and professionals.</li> <li>(vii) A targeted piece of work is underway to increase take up of the 2 ½ Year Integrated Review in areas where participation is low (Bidston, Seacombe and Beechwood). Learning from successful areas within Wallasey will be used to drive improvements.</li> <li>(viii) <i>Link Health Professionals</i> have commenced a schedule of attending early years settings and providing professionals with support and advice.</li> <li>(ix) The Children's Continence Service has established a pathway for support which involves providing training and consultative support for universal practitioners.</li> </ul>
<b>What difference it's making:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) % of infants who received a 6-8 week development check by 8 weeks is 84.0%, against a year-end target of 90.0%</li> <li>(ii) % of children who received a 12 month Health Visitor Review by 12 months is 83.0% against a year-end target of 85%</li> <li>(iii) % of children who received a 2 ½ Year Integrated Review is 81% against a year-end target of 85%</li> <li>(iv) Since the beginning of the Wirral Plan the % of children aged 4-5 classified as overweight or obese has increased from 22.4% to 25.6% (2016-17).</li> </ul>
<b>What we need to do next:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Continue to increase take up of 2 ½ Year Integrated Review in priority areas.</li> <li>(ii) Use the findings of the North West Sector-Led Infant Mortality Study to improve safe sleeping arrangement. This will include midwives seeing the baby's sleeping arrangements and health visitors discussing safe sleeping at the first ante-natal review.</li> <li>(iii) Develop the information system to collect data on the 2 ½ Integrated Review which will inform the Joint Strategic Needs Analysis.</li> <li>(iv) Continue to further embed the role of the Link Health Professional.</li> </ul>

### 3.4 Priority 3

**Priority 3:** Children receive sensitive and responsive care from their main caregivers in the first years of life

**What we said we would do:**

- (i) Deliver multi-agency training for early years practitioners which focuses on the attachment needs of babies.
- (ii) Continue to embed the *Cherish Programme* across the early years workforce.
- (iii) Ensure training and support is available to all foster carers of children looked after under 5.
- (iv) Develop a Wirral-wide parenting pathway of evidence based parenting programmes, peer-led and community-based activities to address all areas of need through joint working between the Local Authority and Health Services.

**What we've done so far:**

- (i) Cherish Programmes are underway, with 3 to be held during quarter 4.
- (ii) An Attachment Seminar has been devised by the Educational Psychology Team and will roll out as multi-agency events in quarter 4.
- (iii) Nurture training for Foster Carers has been delivered.
- (iv) Co-delivery of Nurture training by Early Childhood Service and Children's Social Care is in planning.
- (v) Mapping of parenting provision in Wirral has been completed.
- (vi) A database of parenting provision has been established and contributes to the Early Help Service Directory, making services more accessible to local families.
- (vii) The mapping of parenting provision has enabled gaps and duplication of services to be identified, with findings being reported to the Children's Joint Commissioning Group.
- (viii) A data dashboard has been developed for parenting programmes and signed off by the Children's Joint Commissioning Group. Data is being shared by providers, however for most agencies the lack of sophisticated data collection makes this a laborious task.
- (ix) A consultation with parents regarding parenting programmes has commenced and seeks to provide further insight into *what works*.

**What difference it's making:**

There are no defined performance indicators for this priority area. Evaluating the impact of training and parenting programmes is underdeveloped. Whilst it is possible to report on the number of participants attending training/programmes we do not have systems in place to demonstrate the impact this has. This is both a local and national issue.

**What we need to do next:**

- (i) Implement joint delivery of the Nurture programme for Foster Carers with Children's Social Care and roll out across localities.
- (ii) Deliver the programmes and training scheduled for quarter 4, collecting evaluation from participants.
- (iii) Develop a means to standardise and improve data collection across providers.
- (iv) Work with the Birkenhead Foundation Years Trust to develop a means by which to evaluate and demonstrate impact of training/parenting programmes.
- (v) Continue to utilise the Parenting Steering Group to reduce duplication and address gaps in parenting provision, and inform commissioning arrangements.

### 3.5 Priority 4

<b>Priority 4:</b> Increase the % of children achieving a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage
<b>What we said we would do:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Implement a data tracking tool across early year's settings to better support early identification of and track progress of vulnerable individuals and groups.</li> <li>(ii) Work with early years childcare providers to increase the percentage of schools and childcare settings rated <i>good</i> or <i>outstanding</i> by Ofsted.</li> <li>(iii) Provide targeted support and intervention for schools identified, from analysis of Early Years Foundation Stage Profile data, as in need of improvement.</li> </ul>
<b>What we've done so far:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Developed and rolled out a cohort progress tracker, with access to an online portal for data sharing. Currently 60% of providers are engaged. Submission of data has commenced and analysis will begin in January 2018.</li> <li>(ii) Moderation clusters have been established in pilot areas and will commence activity in January 2018, with a view to sharing data more effectively and improving transitions.</li> <li>(iii) Birkenhead Foundation Years Trust has been working in 8 PVI settings and 9 primary schools delivering PEEP Learning Together Programme with parents to improve the Home Learning Environment.</li> <li>(iv) 9 Parent Champions have been recruited to promote 2 Year Old Funding opportunities and Home Learning.</li> <li>(v) A consultation with the BME community has been completed regarding take up of funded nursery places. A <i>walking bus</i> will commence in January 2018, from a Children's Centre to local nurseries for this cohort.</li> <li>(vi) A group for Asylum Seekers and Refugees has been set up in Birkenhead to ensure a co-ordinated approach for those with children under 5.</li> <li>(vii) A <i>pop up</i> Healthy Child Clinic has been established for BME families to increase engagement with service and particularly the 2 ½ Year Integrated Review, which will identify developmental needs.</li> </ul>
<b>What difference it's making:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Take up of the 2 Year Old Funded Nursery places has increased from 88.1% at beginning of quarter 1 to 95.0% YTD.</li> <li>(ii) The % of early years providers rated <i>good</i> or <i>outstanding</i> by Ofsted is 90%, an increase of 12% since the beginning of the Wirral Plan.</li> <li>(iii) The % of children achieving a good level of development decreased by 0.2% in 2016-17, from 69.6% to 69.4%.</li> <li>(iv) The achievement gap for disadvantaged children has increased by 3.4%, from 18.0% in 2015-16 to 21.4% in 2016-17.</li> <li>(v) The percentage of children looked after who achieved a good level of development decreased in 2016-17 to 47.8% from 52.6% in the previous year. It should be noted that due to an increase in the cohort size, the actual number of children who achieved GLD increased by 12 children.</li> </ul>
<b>What we need to do next:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Quickly use analysis of progress tracker data to identify need and respond.</li> <li>(ii) Avoid a plateau for good level of development by working with partners and external colleagues from Action for Children and Birkenhead Foundation Years Trust to implement strategies for the Home Learning Environment.</li> <li>(iii) Establish the local learning networks to improve transition and joint working between childminders, nurseries and primary schools.</li> </ul>

## **4.0 Challenges**

**4.1** The Early Childhood Reference Group has identified the following challenges to ensuring school readiness, and will continue to respond collaboratively as a partnership:

- Improving outcomes for disadvantaged children;
- Avoiding a plateau for good levels of development outcomes;
- Increasing service integration and formalising arrangements between the Local Authority and Health;
- Improving information sharing and harnessing the full resource available for early years across the partnership;

**4.2** A new focus for the Early Childhood Reference Group is learning from other local authority areas and findings from studies such as the *State of the Nation-Social Mobility Report*. The group is able to identify areas which have overcome similar challenges to those listed above and seeks to learn from their experiences in order to ensure that children in Wirral are achieving and are ready for school.

## **5.0 Financial implications**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

## **6.0 Legal implications**

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

## **7.0 Resource implications: ICT, staffing and assets**

There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.

## **8.0 Relevant risks**

Not applicable.

## **9.0 Engagement/Consultation**

Not applicable

## **10.0 Equality implications**

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

### **Report Author:**

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**Appendices: None**

**Reference Material**

**Subject History (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
N/A	

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**Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
**Thursday, 25 January 2018**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Reality Check visit to the Early Childhood Service - Feedback</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>The Chair of the Committee – Councillor Tom Usher</b>

## **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. This report provides feedback from a visit to the Early Childhood Service on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017

## **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.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

The reality 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.

#### **3.2 Visit to the Early Childhood Service 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

The visit to the Early Childhood Service took place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at Seacombe Children's Centre. Cllrs Tom Usher (Chair), Alan Brighthouse, Paul Hayes, Moira McLaughlin, Chris Meaden and Jean Stapleton took part in the visit, which was hosted by Elizabeth Hartley (Senior Manager). Elizabeth was accompanied by a number of representatives from the teams which make up the service.

### 3.3 Overview of the Early Childhood Service

Early Childhood Services are delivered in partnership by the Local Authority and a wide range of partners. Collaboration is as follows:

Local Services	Authority	Function
Children's Centres		Parenting- evidence-based programmes, one-to-one support, group sessions, courses for foster carers and general advice Early Education- evidence-based programmes, crèche, parent-child sessions, home learning and advice Community engagement- events and signposting
Business Team	Support	Free early years education- facilitation and administration of 2, 3 and 4 year old funded places including the extended offer and brokerage for parents regarding childcare more generally Administration of Early Years Pupil Premium- support to access and appropriately utilise EYPP Business support to providers- networks and one-to-one support for childminders, public, private and voluntary providers
Quality Assurance & Improvement		Practice Improvement- individual and cluster group support to improve quality, engagement and safeguarding practice in-line with statutory guidelines Progress Tracking- facilitating progress monitoring for the cohort Training- facilitation of appropriate training to meet needs of providers and improve children's outcomes
Family Information Service		Access to information, advice and guidance- a tiered system of information and advice for parents, carers, and providers on service availability and access
Early Years SEND Team		Assessment- support to families and providers on the early identification of need and access to provision Intervention- advice and training for parents, carers and families on how to meet the need of children with SEND Access to Inclusive Practice Funding- facilitation of access to funds to support individual children's learning needs
Partner Services		Function
0-19 Health Services		Midwifery- ante-natal groups, one-to-one appointments, booking in appointments, access to specialist provision Health Visiting- baby clinics, 1-2-1 appointments, group sessions Family Nurse Partnership- delivering intensive one-to-one support for parents 24 and under
Family Intervention and Support Service		Parenting and Family Support- co-delivery of parenting and domestic abuse programmes, one-to-one support

Community & Voluntary Groups	Breast-feeding- one-to-one and group sessions Family Support- access to community-based and volunteer befriending services Home Learning- community parenting groups and programmes Financial Support- links to foodbanks, debt management, CAB Housing Support- links to support services and charities
Job Centre Plus	Learning Opportunities- access to training, employment, education and volunteering Advice on benefits and Universal Credit- one-to-one support, advice and guidance

### **Children's Centres and their Core Purpose**

The core purpose of Children's Centres is to improve outcomes for young children and their families and to reduce inequalities between families in greatest need and their peers in: child development and school readiness; parenting aspirations and parenting skills; and. child and family health and life chances.

In Wirral Children's Centres are organised in hubs and satellites, managed by the Local Authority, which deliver services for under 5s in an integrated and co-ordinated way. Children's Centres make available both universal and targeted services, although the focus is particularly upon target groups.

There are approximately 70,500 children in Wirral of which just over 19,000 are under 5. Of those 19,000 more than 11,000 belong to a target group. This includes Children in Need, children on Child Protection plans, Children Looked After, those in Lower Super Output Areas, children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND), children eligible for funded nursery places, children from black and minority ethnic groups (BME) and those with English as an additional language.

### **Advisory Boards**

Each Children's Centre is governed by an Advisory Board. This board has membership from the community, partner agencies, parents, local authority staff and relevant parties. The Advisory Board is charged with holding each centre to account in relation to service delivery, outcomes, performance, engagement and meeting the needs of the local community. The Advisory Boards meet regularly and complete an Annual Conversation with the Local Authority in order to review progress, accountability and overcome any obstacles to achieving the best outcomes for children.

### **Current Priorities**

- Complete a formal review of under 1s becoming subject to a Child Protection plan or becoming Children Looked After to better understand and provide preventative services.
- Implementing a 1001 Critical Days Pathway (from conception to 2 years) to improve attachment, bonding, development, parenting and more integrated services.
- Implement the Preventing Family Breakdown Strategy (Edge of Care) to work intensively and purposefully with those parents most likely to have their babies removed.

- Embedding the use of a Wirral-wide Progress Tracker for Early Years development to improve Good Level of Development outcomes.
- Ensuring all Children Looked After under 3 have a good quality Personal Education Plan.
- Increase registration and sustained contact for children supported by Children's Social Care.
- Develop and implement an approach, with Birkenhead Foundation Years Trust, to utilise home learning strategies to decrease the achievement gap in Good Level of Development.

### **Summary**

Since the launch of the Early Childhood Service in April 2016, significant progress has been made in defining the core purpose of the service, increasing activity within centres, re-engaging both partners and service users, upgrading facilities, aligning resource (such as the SEND team) and re-branding/marketing of the service. This comprehensive approach combined with the passion and commitment of all staff and partners to deliver the *Children Are Ready for School* pledge has led to significant improvement which can be demonstrated through performance data. There is continued commitment to improve and for Wirral to become a leading authority on best practice and improved outcomes for children and families.

### **3.4 Findings from the Members' visit to the Early Childhood Service**

Members were taken on a tour of Seacombe Children's Centre and were shown around the new Birthing Suite which is currently under construction. This will be a pilot scheme providing twenty-four hour community based, Midwife led birthing facilities alongside existing ante-natal care. It is hoped that this will ensure greater continuity of care for local mothers in line with NHS priorities. When complete, this may be the first community based facility of its kind in the UK.

Midwifery services offered at the centre also include aromatherapy and foot massage for overdue women, and ante-natal drop-in.

Members were shown one of the four contact rooms at the centre. These are used for supervised contacts, with the décor and furniture being designed specifically to create a warm, homely environment for contact visits.

Seacombe and Pensby Children's Centres are now open over holiday periods and the Service Manager explained that the service ambition is to move away from a Monday to Friday 9 to 5 model of services and offer weekend and evening opening times. Increased opening hours are possible due to the range of health services and appointments being offered in the Centres.

Members were informed of a potential development of a community café in the centre which, it is hoped, would provide a community focal point and meeting place.

Members were also shown the early learning room, soft play area and specialist sensory room. The Centre is also home to the privately operated Jack and Jill Day Nursery.

Members then talked to a number of representatives from the services provided at the centre.

Penny Bishop, Team Leader for Early Years Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Team. Penny explained to Members that the SEND Team

has been based within the Early Childhood Service for around one year. Penny explained the Portage Service, which is a home-visiting educational service for pre-school children with SEND, and their families. The Portage Service works with up to 30 children on a home visit basis and up to 300 children via support provided to childcare settings.

Staff agreed that it was a positive step bringing the SEND team into the ECS and recognised the benefit to children and providers. It was agreed that the challenge is to encourage more children with special educational needs or disabilities to use children's centres and ultimately to go into mainstream education.

Lyndsey Costello, Health Visitor. Lyndsey informed Members of the close working relationship between Health Visitors and the Seacombe Children's Centre. Hot desking facilities at Seacombe allow Health Visitors to work from the Centre. Health Visitors encourage families to use centre services and hold Healthy Child drop-ins at the centre. Good relationships have been built between the different teams. Performance data for the Wallasey area has improved as a consequence of increased integration, with the number of missed appointments reducing, as an example.

Lyndsey explained that other agencies are using the centre to provide advice around benefits, and workshops and tutorials to promote healthy eating, cooking skills etc. This was an example of how teams are becoming more creative about preventative and health promotion activities, and making services easier to access.

Elizabeth Hartley explained that an exercise to map the parenting journey has led to an advice leaflet being produced charting key contact points for parents along the journey from pregnancy to the child starting school. More service contacts have been added along this journey as the team noticed gaps in contact where engagement may drop. The team recognised the importance of encouraging continued engagement with services during this period. The leaflet uses the 'My Child Can...' branding, developed for the service with Wirral's marketing team.

Sarah Harper, Business Support Team. The Business Support Team manages the data and statistics on registration, engagement and levels of development of children in the target groups. Data suggested that children who attend children's centres and take up the 2 year old funding offer are more likely to achieve a Good Level of Development (GLD).

The Business Support Team also aims to embed the use of a Progress Tracker for Wirral childcare providers to manage and analyse their own data more effectively. This is aimed at improving the number of children achieving GLD. There are also plans to provide training for practitioners to improve the consistency of assessments.

Daniel Franklin, Quality Improvement Officer. Daniel summarised the work carried out to support practitioners and child minders. The Quality Improvement team works with providers prior to their first Ofsted inspection to prepare them for visits. The team also works with those who have received 'poor' or 'inadequate' Ofsted ratings. The aim is to ensure that all practitioners provide a consistent level of service, rated as 'good' or above by Ofsted. The

team organised their first Early Years Conference event this year, for providers to network and share best practice. The team delivers Childminding Information sessions and provides ongoing training and telephone or email support to all providers. Currently, just under 95% of registered childcare providers in Wirral are rated as 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted.

### **3.4.1 Key conclusions reached by the Members**

#### **Positives**

- Members were very impressed with the amount of partnership and co-operation work in evidence, and the enthusiasm of staff from all teams to work together to provide improved outcomes for children and families.
- The use of data to monitor performance and target services to those most in need was welcomed, as was the level of advice, support and training offered to childcare providers.
- Members noted the focus on improving outcomes such as the Good Level of Development.
- The 'My Child Can...' service branding for the Children's Centres and advice and information materials provides a positive message to families. The 'My Child Can...' film viewed by Members demonstrated the range of support, activities and groups available to parents and revealed how highly users value the services.
- The Birthing Suite was welcomed by Members as an innovative development. Members would be interested in receiving an update on usage and feedback from users after the suite has been in operation for a number of months.
- The encouragement of children with special educational needs or disabilities to integrate with mainstream services in Children's Centres was welcomed as a positive approach.

### **3.4.2 Challenges**

- Health Visitors integration / co-location. There was evidence of good practice at Seacombe and an enhanced offer to children and families as a result of close links between Health Visitors and Centre staff. Members noted that this was an informal arrangement and would be interested to find out if this was replicated at other Children's Centres around the borough and to understand any barriers to formal integration or co-location of teams.

### **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.

### Report Author:

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**Appendices: None**

**Reference Material**

**Subject History (last 3 years)**

Council Meeting	Date
N/A	



## **Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee** **Thursday, 25 January 2018**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Summary of Standards, Provisional Outcomes for Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Director for Children's Services</b>

### **REPORT SUMMARY**

The GCSE and GCE Standards 2017 report provides an executive summary followed by a more in depth analysis for the pupil outcomes at the age of 16 (GCSEs) and the age of 18 (GCEs).

#### **GCSEs**

There have been significant changes to the content and grading system of GCSEs. The changes have been designed to make subject content and exams more challenging. Most exams will be taken at the end of the two-year course rather than on completion of modules. In 2017 grading of outcomes in English and mathematics moved to a 9-1 scale, with grade nine being roughly equivalent to a top A\* grade and a grade four equivalent to a low to mid grade C. 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 the report will be amended.

The percentage of Wirral pupils achieving a grade 4 or above in English (77.1%) or mathematics (71.7%) was above the national average. Outcomes in English were higher than in mathematics. The percentage of Wirral pupils attaining a Grade 4+ in English and Mathematics was above the national average by 7.9%.

The percentage of Wirral pupils attaining a grade 5 or higher in English was significantly above the national average. The percentage of pupils attaining a level 5 or higher in mathematics was just above the national average. Overall the percentage of Wirral pupils attaining a grade 5 or higher in English and mathematics is higher than the national average by 4.6%.

#### **GCEs**

GCE A levels have been reformed. The main features of these new qualifications are that assessment will be mainly by exam, with other types of assessment used only where they are needed to test essential skills. A levels are assessed at the end of the two year course. The courses are no longer divided into modules and there are no external examinations in January. AS and A levels have been decoupled. This means that AS results will no longer count towards an A level, in the way they have done previously.

To date there is no comparative data with statistical neighbours for the provisional 2017 results. Initial results show that the average points per A level entry has increased. The average points per academic entry, applied general entry and technical level entry have increased. The average point score for a student's best 3 A levels has decreased slightly though the average grade remains at B-.

More Wirral students achieved two A levels than the national average. Both boys and girls achieved better than the national average.

The percentage of students achieving 3A\*- A was significantly higher than the national average. The percentage of Wirral girls achieving three A\*-A was higher than the national average whereas the percentage of Wirral boys was lower than the national average.

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 Key Stage 4 in the secondary phase of education.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough and is therefore a key decision.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

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

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

The Key Stage 4 Standards 2017 report has been produced to 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 at the end of Key Stage 4 are scrutinised by school improvement officers when the data is initially received in August and September each year. At this point the data is provisional with national averages confirmed. The provisional data is used to determine where there have been improvements and where standards have declined. 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 (as and when the data becomes available) to determine underachievement and key areas for development.

Further scrutiny has taken place this year to benchmark attainment (Attainment 8) and progress (Progress 8) with similar schools nationally. For example, the Department for Education published recently the national averages for Attainment 8 and Progress 8 measures for selective schools and non-selective schools in selective areas. These comparisons are detailed in the report.

A more detailed scrutiny is undertaken by each of the four localities to determine which schools have underperformed in particular subjects. Conversely school faculties/departments are identified where performance is good so that best practice can be shared.

### **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 Key Stage 4 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 March 2018.

## **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 has been shared with all secondary headteachers in November 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** Key Stage 4 Standards 2017 Report  
A Level Outcomes 2017 Report

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

### **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>

## A Level Outcomes August 2017

### **Changes to GCE Courses and Examinations**

GCE A levels have been reformed. The main features of these new qualifications are that assessment will be mainly by exam, with other types of assessment used only where they are needed to test essential skills. A levels are assessed at the end of the two year course. The courses are no longer divided into modules and there are no external examinations in January. AS and A levels have been decoupled. This means that AS results will no longer count towards an A level, in the way they have done previously.

The content for the new A levels has been reviewed and updated. Universities played a greater role in this for the new qualifications than they did previously. The content is greater as well as more difficult. Many subjects such as biology, geography, physics and chemistry require students to have a good understanding of A level mathematical concepts.

The 'reformed A level' courses have been phased in over three academic years. The new GCE specifications and examinations have caused some problems. Teachers and students were unable to access exemplar material early enough to impact positively in the examinations.

### **GCE 2016 Outcomes**

When compared to statistical neighbours Wirral ranked fourth on the following measures:-

Average points per A level entry

Average points per academic entry

When compared to statistical neighbours Wirral ranked third for the grade and points achieved by students in their best 3 A levels.

With regard to the percentage of students achieving AAB or higher in at least two facilitating subject Wirral ranked second.

	Ave Points per A level Entry	Ave Points per Academic Entry	Ave Points per Applied General Entry	Ave Points per Tech Level Entry	Grade and Points student's best 3 A levels	% Achieving AAB or higher in at least 2 facilitating subjects
<b>2016</b>						
<b>Wirral</b>	31.41	31.55	37.06	29.69	B- 35.46	15.1
<b>2017</b>						
<b>Wirral</b>	33.81	33.74	40.02	31.73	B- 35.03	14.87

To date there is no comparative data with statistical neighbours for the provisional 2017 results. Initial results show that the average points per A level entry has

increased. The average points per academic entry, applied general entry and technical level entry have increased. The average point score for a student's best 3 A levels has decreased slightly though the average grade remains at B-.

	<b>Average Point Score per entry (APS)</b>	<b>Best 3 A levels as a grade</b>	<b>% achieving 2 A levels</b>	<b>3 A*-A</b>	<b>AAB</b>
All Wirral	35.3	B-	77%	11%	19.4%
National	34.75	C+	76.2%	10.7%	18.7%
Wirral Girls	33.13	C+	81.9%	11.1%	20.6%
National Girls	32.15	C+	77.1%	9.6%	18%
Wirral Boys	29.57	C	71.2%	10.8%	17.6%
National Boys	30.18	C	69.9%	12.1%	19.6%

Nationally the average point score (APS) per entry increased for A level, applied general and tech level students, compared to equivalent 2016. Nationally the APS per entry expressed as a grade for A level increased from C to C+.

The APS for Wirral was higher than the national average. Girls' APS was higher than the national average whereas the boys' APS was below. The Wirral average A level grade for the best 3 A level outcomes at B- is higher than the national average (C+). Interestingly both boys' and girls' grade is in line with the national average.

More Wirral students achieved two A levels than the national average. Both boys and girls achieved better than the national average.

The percentage of students achieving 3A\*-A was higher than the national average. The percentage of Wirral girls achieving three A\*-A was higher than the national average whereas the percentage of Wirral boys was lower than the national average.

The percentage of Wirral students achieving AAB was higher than the national average. The percentage of girls achieving AAB was above the national average whereas the percentage of Wirral boys was significantly lower.

The table below captures the data currently available so far.

School Name	Year			
		Average Points Score	Progress Score	Average Grade
<b>England</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>30.45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>C</b>
	<b>2017</b>			<b>C+</b>
Bebington	2016	26.17	0.12	C-
	2017	28.17		C-
Birkenhead High School Academy	2016	29.48	-0.03	C
	2017	32.19		C+
Birkenhead Sixth Form College	2016	29.72	0.25	C
	2017			
Calday	2016	33.52	-0.13	C+
	2017	33.7		C+
Hilbre	2016	22.94	-0.17	D+
	2017	23.84		D+
Pensby	2016	23.05	-0.37	D+
	2017	20.33		D
South Wirral	2016	21.45	-0.38	D
	2017	24.72		D+
St Anselms	2016	29.09	-0.06	C
	2017	35.65		B-
St John Plessington	2016	28.63	0.22	C
	2017	29.8		C
St Marys	2016	23.94	-0.27	D+
	2017	31.9		C+
The Kingsway Academy	2016	16.88	-0.75	D-
	2017			
The Mosslands School	2016	18.25	-0.63	D-
	2017	21.71		D+
The Oldershaw Academy	2016	17.99	-0.6	D-
	2017	21.85		D+
Upton Hall	2016	35.54	-0.01	B-
	2017	38.36		B
Weatherhead	2016	28.95	-0.04	C
	2017	31.53		C
West Kirby	2016	37.66	-0.19	B-
	2017	36.17		B-
Wirral Boys	2016	33.32	-0.15	C+
	2017	32.86		C+
Wirral Girls	2016	40.24	-0.01	B
	2017	43.35		B+

The amount of progress students make from their GCSE results (end of Key Stage 4) to their GCE outcomes (end of Key Stage 5) is now measured as a progress score. The progress scores for 2016 indicate that only two schools/education establishments had a progress score well above the national average (St. John Plessington Catholic College and Birkenhead Sixth Form College). Six schools had a progress measure close the national average of 0. Nine schools had progress measures below the national average.

Using the provisional data sent in by schools eight schools showed an increase in the average grade. St. Mary's Catholic College saw the most improvement, a whole grade from a D+ to a C+. The average grade for seven schools remained the same.

## Overview of Outcomes at Key Stage 4

### Executive Summary

*Provisional Outcomes September/October 2017*

There have been significant changes to GCSEs. The changes have been designed to make subject content and exams more challenging. The new style GCSEs have been slowly introduced in England and Wales over the last two years. Most exams will be taken at the end of the two-year course rather than on completion of modules. Grading is moving to a 9-1 scale, with grade nine being roughly equivalent to a top A\* grade and a grade four equivalent to a low to mid grade C. The new grades have been introduced to signal that GCSEs have been reformed and to better differentiate between students of different abilities.

Old Grades	New Numerical Grades
A*+	9
A*/A	8
A	7
B	6
B/C	5
C	4
D	3
E/F	2
G	1

GCSE students receiving results this summer 2017 are the first to receive results under this number system, but only in English literature, English language and maths. They'll receive alphabetical grades for the rest of their subjects; these in turn will move over to the numerical system over the next two years.

Fewer grade 9s will be awarded than A\*s. English language, English literature and maths are the first to be graded from 9 to 1 in 2017. Another twenty subjects will have 9 to 1 grading in 2018, with most others following in 2019. During this transition, students will receive a mixture of letter and number grades.

In the first year each new GCSE subject is introduced, broadly the same proportion of students will get grades 1, 4 and 7 and above as would have got grades G, C and A and above respectively in the old system.

There will be fewer 'bite-sized' questions and more essay-style questions.

The content will be more challenging, with more substantial texts in English literature and a number of new topics in maths. All pupils will have to study at least two science GCSEs (single science options have been dropped as of 2016). Coursework and controlled assessment will disappear from most subjects, apart from practical ones such as art, dance and drama.

#### **Grade 4+ - the Expected Standard**

The percentage of pupils achieving a grade 4 or above in English (77.1%) or mathematics (71.7%) was above the national average. Outcomes in English were higher than in mathematics. This was the same for each locality. In English Wallasey was the only locality with outcomes below the national average. In mathematics outcomes in the Wallasey and Birkenhead localities were well below the national average.

The percentage of Wirral pupils attaining a Grade 4+ in English and Mathematics is above the national average by 7.9%. Only Wallasey locality (47.5%) is below the national average.

When compared to similar schools five of the six grammar schools are above the national average and one is below. Seven non selective schools are above the national average and eight are below. Of the two sponsored secondary school academies one is above the national average and one is below.

At the moment there are no published figures nationally for disadvantaged pupils. When this data is available the report will be updated. In Wirral the gap between all pupils and disadvantaged pupils is greatest for those pupils meeting the expected standard in English and mathematics.

### **Grade 5+**

The percentage of pupils attaining a grade 5 or higher in English is significantly above the national average. Only Wallasey locality was below the national average in English. The percentage of pupils attaining a level 5 or higher in mathematics is just above the national average. Birkenhead and Wallasey localities are below the national average.

Overall the percentage of Wirral pupils attaining a grade 5 or higher in English and mathematics is higher than the national average by 4.6%. South and West Wirral localities are above the national average, whereas Birkenhead and Wallasey localities are below.

One of the six grammar schools is above the national average. Five non selective schools are above the national average; two are in line; eight are below. Of the two sponsored secondary school academies both are below.

Significantly more disadvantaged Wirral pupils attained a grade 5 in English than in mathematics.

### **Percentage of Pupils Achieving the threshold in English and Mathematics**

The percentage of pupils meeting the expected standard (grade 4+) in both English and mathematics showed a slight increase from comparable data in 2016 and is above the national average. Wallasey and West Wirral showed an increase in the number of pupils meeting the expected standard.

Attainment of disadvantaged pupils meeting the threshold has increased. The gap between all pupils and disadvantaged pupils meeting the threshold standard has narrowed by 1.5%.

### **Attainment 8**

Attainment 8 for Wirral pupils saw a decrease of 3.9 percentage points. Nationally the decrease was 4.3. South Wirral and Wallasey localities saw the biggest decreases though only Wallasey saw a decrease bigger than the national.

Attainment 8 for both Wirral boys and girls is higher than the national average. The gap between national and Wirral has increased positively with Attainment 8 being higher than the national for both the boys and the girls.

Nationally only one group of pupils showed an increase in Attainment 8 from 2016, i.e. girls in selective schools. Overall Attainment 8 for pupils attending a selective school remained the

same at 69.1. Overall Attainment 8 for pupils in non selective schools decreased by 5.1. For all pupils Attainment 8 decreased by 3.9.

No Wirral grammar school has an Attainment 8 score above the national average for similar schools. Seven of the fifteen non selective schools have an Attainment 8 score above the national average for similar schools.

For disadvantaged pupils Attainment 8 for three localities decreased, with Wallasey locality showing the largest decrease (3.9%). Attainment 8 in West Wirral remained at 42.9%.

### **Progress 8**

The Wirral average Progress 8 improved and is now in line with the national average. Boys' Progress 8 has decreased while girls' Progress 8 has improved.

The Wirral Progress 8 for English has decreased mirroring the national picture. Nationally the Progress 8 Maths score remained the same whereas Wirral's has decreased.

The national English baccalaureate has decreased whereas Wirral's has improved. The Open pillar demonstrates Wirral schools are doing much better than other schools nationally.

Nationally, Progress 8 has improved for girls attending a selective school, but has decreased for girls attending non selective schools. Overall the Progress 8 for girls improved. Nationally, Progress 8 has improved for boys attending a selective school, but has decreased for boys attending non selective schools. Overall the Progress 8 for boys has decreased. Nationally, Progress 8 has improved for all pupils attending a selective school, but has decreased for all pupils attending non selective schools. Overall the Progress 8 for all pupils has stayed at 0. One grammar school has a progress 8 score above the national for similar schools. Two non selective girls schools have a progress 8 score above the national for similar schools. Five of the eleven non selective mixed schools have a Progress 8 score above the national average.

### **Percentage of Pupils achieving Grades 7 - 9 in English, Mathematics & English and Mathematics**

Nationally more pupils achieved the higher grades (7 to 9 {A\* and A equivalent}) than last year in English. Outcomes for Wirral pupils in English were above the national average. In Mathematics nationally more pupils achieved the higher grades (7 to 9 {A\* and A equivalent}) than last year from 16% to 19.9%. However attainment in Wirral was below the national average. The percentage of pupils achieving 7 to 9 in English **and** Mathematics was significantly below the national average.

The disadvantage gap for pupils attaining the higher level in English is widest in South Wirral locality. The disadvantage gap for pupils attaining the higher level in mathematics is widest in West Wirral locality. The disadvantage gap for pupils attaining the higher level in English and mathematics is widest in South Wirral locality.

### Detailed Analysis

#### Grade 4+ in English, Mathematics & English and Mathematics

	% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in English	% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in Mathematics	% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in English & Mathematics
<b>All Wirral</b>	77.1	71.7	66.4
<b>National Average</b>	72.5	70.7	58.5
<b>Birkenhead</b>	74.6	66.9	61.7
<b>South Wirral</b>	83.3	77.7	73.3
<b>Wallasey</b>	61.4	54.8	47.5
<b>West Wirral</b>	84.3	81.1	76.3

The percentage of pupils achieving a grade 4 or above in English (77.1%) or mathematics (71.7%) was above the national average. Outcomes in English were higher than in mathematics.

Outcomes in English were higher in each locality than for mathematics. In English Wallasey was the only locality with outcomes below the national average. In mathematics outcomes in the Wallasey and Birkenhead localities were well below the national average.

The percentage of Wirral pupils attaining a Grade 4+ in English **and** Mathematics is well above the national average by 7.9%. Only Wallasey locality (47.5%) is below the national average.

#### Grade 4+ in English and Mathematics by Distinct School Group

	% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in English & Mathematics
National average for selective schools	96.2
National average for non selective schools	55.2
National average for sponsored academies	50.7

Selective Schools	% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in English & Mathematics
Wirral Girls	98.8
West Kirby	98
Upton	97.1
Wirral Boys	97
Calday	97
St. Anselm's	93.1
National average for selective schools	96.2

Five of the six grammar schools are above the national average; one is below.

Non Selective Schools	% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in English & Mathematics
Prenton High	64
BHSA	64
SJP	62
Pensby High	61
Woodchurch High	60
Weatherhead	60

Seven non selective schools are above the national average; six are below.

<b>South Wirral</b>	<b>55.8</b>
Hilbre High	53
Oldershaw	51.7
Bebington High	51.1
Ridgeway	42
Mosslands	42
BPS	41
<b>National average for Non selective schools</b>	<b>55.2</b>

<b>Sponsored Academies</b>	<b>% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in English &amp; Mathematics</b>
<b>Kingsway</b>	<b>51.6</b>
St. Mary's Catholic College	37
<b>National average for Sponsored academies</b>	<b>50.7</b>

Of the two sponsored secondary school academies one is above the national average and one is below.

### Grade 5+ in English, Mathematics & English and Mathematics

	% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in English	% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in Mathematics	% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in English & Mathematics
<b>All Wirral</b>	61.8	50.2	43.7
<b>National Average</b>	55.4	49.7	39.1
<b>Birkenhead</b>	57.5	43.4	37.4
<b>South Wirral</b>	72.2	54.9	51.3
<b>Wallasey</b>	40.4	29.7	22.3
<b>West Wirral</b>	70.3	63.9	55.3

The percentage of pupils attaining a grade 5 or higher in English is significantly above the national average. Only Wallasey locality was below the national average in English. The percentage of pupils attaining a level 5 or higher in mathematics is just above the national average. Birkenhead and Wallasey localities are below the national average.

Overall the percentage of Wirral pupils attaining a grade 5 or higher in English **and** mathematics is higher than the national average by 4.6%. South and West Wirral localities are above the national average, whereas Birkenhead and Wallasey localities are below.

### Grade 5+ in English and Mathematics by Distinct School Group

	% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in English & Mathematics
<b>National average for selective schools</b>	90.4
<b>National average for non selective schools</b>	31

<b>National average for sponsored academies</b>	30.3
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<b>Selective Schools</b>	<b>% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in English &amp; Mathematics</b>
<b>West Kirby</b>	<b>93</b>
Wirral Girls	88.3
Calday	87
Wirral Boys	84
Upton	82.1

St. Anselm's	72.2
<b>National average for selective schools</b>	<b>90.4</b>

One of the six grammar schools is above the national average.

<b>Non Selective Schools</b>	<b>% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in English &amp; Mathematics</b>
St. John P	34
Woodchurch High	33
BHSA	33
Prenton High	32.2
Weatherhead	32.2
Pensby High	30.9
South Wirral	30.5
Oldershaw	28.6
Hilbre	26
Ridgeway	25
Bebington High	20.9
Birkenhead Park	18
Mossands	17
<b>National average for non selective schools</b>	<b>31</b>

Five non selective schools are above the national average; two are in line; eight are below.

<b>Sponsored Academies</b>	<b>% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in English &amp; Mathematics</b>
St. Mary's Catholic College	18
Kingsway	16.5
<b>National average for Sponsored academies</b>	<b>30.3</b>

Of the two sponsored secondary school academies both are below the national average for similar schools.

### Percentage of Pupils Achieving the Threshold Measures in English and Mathematics

	<b>A*-C in English &amp; Mathematics 2016</b>	<b>Grade 4+ in English &amp; Mathematics 2017</b>	
<b>All Wirral</b>	66	65.2	↓
<b>National Average</b>	59.3	58.5	↓
<b>Birkenhead</b>	66.3	61.7	↓
<b>South Wirral</b>	75	73.3	↓
<b>Wallasey</b>	47.2	47.5	↑
<b>West Wirral</b>	73.9	76.3	↑

The percentage of pupils meeting the expected standard (grade 4+) in both English and mathematics showed a slight decrease but is above the national average. Wallasey and

West Wirral showed an increase in the number of pupils meeting the expected standard in contrast to Birkenhead and South Wirral localities where less pupils met the standard.

### Attainment 8

	2016	2017	
<b>All Wirral</b>	51.8	47.9	↓
<b>National Average</b>	48.5	44.2	↓
<b>Birkenhead</b>	48.7	45.3	↓
<b>South Wirral</b>	56.8	52.6	↓
<b>Wallasey</b>	44.6	39.9	↓
<b>West Wirral</b>	55.4	53.5	↓

Attainment 8 for Wirral pupils saw a decrease of 3.9 percentage points. Nationally the decrease was 4.3. South Wirral and Wallasey localities saw the biggest decreases though only Wallasey saw a decrease bigger than the national.

<b>Attainment 8 GENDER</b>	2016	2017	
<b>Wirral Boys</b>	49.6	45.3	↓
<b>National Boys</b>	47.7	41.4	↓
<b>GAP</b>	+1.9	+3.9	↓
<b>Wirral Girls</b>	53.8	50.5	↓
<b>National Girls</b>	52.3	47.2	↓
<b>GAP</b>	+1.5	+3.3	↓
<b>National Average (All pupils)</b>	48.5	44.2	↓

Attainment 8 for both Wirral boys and girls is higher than the national average. The gap between national and Wirral has increased positively with Attainment 8 being higher than the national for both the boys and the girls.

### Attainment 8 – Schools

<b>Schools</b>	<b>A 8</b>
Wirral GGS	68.2
West Kirby GS	67.8
Upton Hall	65
Calday GS	62.7
Wirral BGS	61.8
St. Anselm's	56
<b>National average for selective schools</b>	<b>69.1</b>

No Wirral grammar school has an Attainment 8 score above the national average for similar schools.

<b>Schools</b>	<b>A 8</b>
<b>SJP</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>BHSA</b>	<b>49.1</b>
<b>Weatherhead</b>	<b>45.9</b>
<b>Pensby High</b>	<b>44.7</b>
<b>Woodchurch</b>	<b>43.6</b>
<b>SWHS</b>	<b>43.3</b>
<b>Prenton High</b>	<b>42.8</b>
Oldershaw	41.1
Ridgeway	40.4
St. Mary's	39.6
Hilbre	39.6
Beb High	39
Mosslands	38
Birkenhead PS	37.2
Kingsway	34.2
<b>National average for non selective schools</b>	<b>41.8</b>

Seven of the fifteen non selective schools have an Attainment 8 score above the national average for similar schools.

National Attainment 8	2016	2017
<b>GIRLS</b>		
Selective schools	70.0	70.7
Non Selective schools in a selective area	48.9	44.1
All	52.8	49.2
<b>BOYS</b>		
Selective schools	68.3	67.6
Non Selective schools in a selective area	44.8	39.5
All	48.8	44.5
<b>ALL</b>		
Selective schools	69.1	69.1
Non Selective schools in a selective area	46.9	41.8
All	50.8	46.9

Nationally only one group of pupils showed an increase in Attainment 8 from 2016 i.e. girls in selective schools.

Overall Attainment 8 for pupils attaining a selective school remained the same at 69.1. Overall Attainment 8 for pupils in non selective schools decreased by 5.1. For all pupils Attainment 8 decreased by 3.9.

### Grammar Schools – Attainment 8

Girls Schools	A 8
Wirral Girls	68.2
West Kirby	67.8
Upton	65
National average for selective schools for girls	<b>70.7</b>

Boys Schools	A 8
Caldy GS	62.7
Wirral BGS	61.8
St. Anselm's	56
National average for selective schools for boys	<b>67.6</b>

The Attainment 8 score of every Wirral grammar school was below the national average for similar schools.

### Non Selective Single Sex Schools

Girls Schools	A 8
BHSA	49.1
Weatherhead	45.9
Prenton	42.8
National average for non selective schools for girls	<b>44.1</b>

Boys Schools	P 8
Mosslands	38
National average for Non selective schools for boys	<b>39.5</b>

Two non selective girls schools were above the national average for similar schools.

### Non Selective Mixed Schools

Mixed Schools	A 8
SJP	50
Pensby High	44.7
Woodchurch	43.6
SWHS	43.3
Oldershaw	41.1
Ridgeway	40.4
St. Mary's	39.6
Hilbre	39.6
Beb High	39
Birkenhead PS	37.2
Kingsway	34.2
National average for Non selective mixed schools	<b>46.9</b>

Only one non selective mixed school had an Attainment 8 school above the national average.

## Progress 8

	2016	2017	
All Wirral	-0.4	0	↑
National Average	0	0	→
Boys	-0.21	-0.24	↓
National Boys	-0.12	-0.2	↓
Girls	0.10	0.26	↑
National Girls	0.13	0.2	↑

The Wirral average Progress 8 improved and is now in line with the national average. Boys' Progress 8 has decreased while girls' Progress 8 has improved.

Progress 8	2016	2017
English	0.01	-0.05
Eng National	-0.04	-0.03
Maths	-0.19	-0.18
Maths National	-0.02	-0.02
Eng Bacc	-0.08	0.03
Eng Bacc National	-0.02	-0.03
Open	0.06	0.13
Open National	-0.04	-0.04

The Wirral Progress 8 for English has decreased mirroring the national picture. Nationally the Progress 8 Maths score remained the same whereas Wirral's has decreased.

The national English baccalaureate has decreased whereas Wirral's has improved. The Open pillar demonstrates Wirral schools are doing much better than other schools nationally.

National Progress 8	2016	2017
<b>GIRLS</b>		
Selective schools	0.4	0.62
Non Selective schools in a selective area	0.08	0.04
All	0.13	0.2
<b>BOYS</b>		
Selective schools	0.26	0.29
Non Selective schools in a selective area	-0.19	-0.34
All	-0.12	-0.2
<b>ALL</b>		
Selective schools	0.33	0.46
Non Selective schools in a selective area	-0.05	-0.14
All	0	0

Nationally, Progress 8 has improved for girls attending a selective school, but has decreased for girls attending non selective schools. Overall the Progress 8 for girls improved.

Nationally, Progress 8 has improved for boys attending a selective school, but has decreased for boys attending non selective schools. Overall the Progress 8 for boys has decreased.

Nationally, Progress 8 has improved for all pupils attending a selective school, but has decreased for all pupils attending non selective schools. Overall the Progress 8 for all pupils has stayed at 0.

## Selective Schools – Progress 8

Girls Schools	P 8
Upton	0.93
Wirral Girls	0.48
West Kirby	0.46
National average for selective schools for girls	0.62

Boys Schools	P 8
St. Anselm's	-0.08
Calday	-0.11
Wirral Boys	-0.11
National average for selective schools for boys	0.29

Only one grammar school has a progress 8 score above the national for similar schools.

## Non Selective Single Sex Schools

Girls Schools	P 8
BHSA	0.45
Weatherhead	0.25
Prenton	-0.01
National average for non selective schools for girls	0.04

Boys Schools	P 8
Mosslands	-0.56
National average for Non selective schools for boys	-0.34

Two non selective girls schools have a progress 8 score above the national for similar schools

## Non Selective Mixed Schools

Mixed Schools	P 8
St. John P	0.68
Pensby	0.13
Woodchurch	0.04
South Wirral	0.01
Oldershaw	-0.08
Ridgeway	-0.17
Beb High	-0.21
St. Mary's	-0.24
Hilbre	-0.31
BPS	-0.58
Kingsway	-0.8
National average for Non selective mixed schools	-0.14

Five of the eleven non selective mixed schools have a Progress 8 score above the national average.

## Progress 8 – 2016 and 2017 Comparisons

The following chart indicates the Progress 8 measures nationally, for Wirral and for individual schools for the last two academic years. Nationally the Progress 8 measure for Ebacc subjects has declined, whereas for Wirral it has increased from -0.08 to 0.03 and is above the national. Progress 8 in the additional approved qualifications for Wirral has increased and remains above the national average.

	Type of school	Locality	Year	Number of pupils included in Progress 8 measure	Overall	English	Maths	Sciences, computer science, history, geography & languages	Additional approved qualifications
England - state-funded schools only			2016	512053	-0.03	-0.04	-0.02	-0.02	-0.04
England - state-funded schools only			2017	N/A	0	-0.03	-0.02	-0.03	-0.04
Wirral			2016	3269	-0.04	0.01	-0.19	-0.08	0.06
Wirral			2017	3,356	0.01	-0.05	-0.18	0.03	0.13
West Kirby Grammar School	Academy	West Wirral	2016	168	0.47	0.60	0.07	0.57	0.57
West Kirby Grammar School	Academy	West Wirral	2017	177	0.47	0.82	-0.07	0.57	0.49
St John Plessington Catholic College	Academy	South Wirral	2016	216	0.45	0.17	0.11	0.53	0.79
St John Plessington Catholic College	Academy	South Wirral	2017	215	0.68	0.24	0.12	0.37	1.66
Birkenhead High School Academy	Academy	Birkenhead	2016	103	0.44	1.08	0.09	0.17	0.51
Birkenhead High School Academy	Academy	Birkenhead	2017	104	0.45	1.01	-0.14	0.37	0.54
Wirral Grammar School for Girls	Academy	South Wirral	2016	160	0.42	0.42	0.15	0.68	0.34
Wirral Grammar School for Girls	Academy	South Wirral	2017	171	0.48	0.49	-0.08	0.88	0.45
Calday Grange Grammar School	Academy	West Wirral	2016	149	0.36	0.50	0.14	0.62	0.15
Calday Grange Grammar School	Academy	West Wirral	2017	204	-0.11	-0.29	-0.18	0.35	-0.39
Upton Hall School FCJ	Academy	West Wirral	2016	126	0.32	0.27	0.43	0.50	0.11
Upton Hall School FCJ	Academy	West Wirral	2017	140	0.93	1.39	0.59	1.03	0.74
Wirral Grammar School for Boys	Academy	South Wirral	2016	155	0.22	0.24	-0.03	0.52	0.08
Wirral Grammar School for Boys	Academy	South Wirral	2017	158	-0.11	-0.15	-0.31	0.26	-0.33
Weatherhead High School	Academy	Wallasey	2016	248	0.19	0.30	0.27	0.27	-0.01
Weatherhead High School	Academy	Wallasey	2017	199	0.25	0.6	-0.11	0.39	0.13
Prenton High School for Girls	Academy	Birkenhead	2016	145	0.09	0.59	0.06	-0.46	0.32
Prenton High School for Girls	Academy	Birkenhead	2017	121	-0.01	0.5	-0.12	-0.14	-0.15
The Mosslands School	Maintained School	Wallasey	2016	136	0.05	0.09	-0.19	-0.23	0.48
The Mosslands School	Maintained School	Wallasey	2017	121	-0.56	-1.06	-0.34	-0.8	-0.13
Woodchurch High School	Academy	West Wirral	2016	264	0.04	0.20	-0.32	-0.14	0.36
Woodchurch High School	Academy	West Wirral	2017	275	0.04	-0.04	-0.16	-0.04	0.3
Pensby High School	Maintained School	West Wirral	2016	136	-0.01	-0.18	-0.23	0.02	0.22
Pensby High School	Maintained School	West Wirral	2017	152	0.13	-0.04	-0.18	0.14	0.44
South Wirral High School	Maintained School	South Wirral	2016	136	-0.09	0.01	-0.32	-0.09	0.02
South Wirral High School	Maintained School	South Wirral	2017	154	0.01	-0.13	-0.2	0.1	0.16
St Anselm's College	Academy	Birkenhead	2016	96	-0.24	-0.25	-0.10	0.00	-0.55
St Anselm's College	Academy	Birkenhead	2017	144	-0.08	-0.02	0.05	0.18	-0.48
The Oldershaw Academy	Academy	Wallasey	2016	97	-0.30	-0.24	-0.17	-0.75	0.03
The Oldershaw Academy	Academy	Wallasey	2017	91	-0.08	-0.32	-0.3	-0.19	0.32
Hilbre High School	Academy	West Wirral	2016	176	-0.31	-0.51	-0.13	-0.23	-0.36
Hilbre High School	Academy	West Wirral	2017	168	-0.31	-0.53	0.04	-0.02	-0.69
Birkenhead Park School	Academy	Birkenhead	2016	115	-0.36	-0.36	-0.50	-0.14	-0.50
Birkenhead Park School	Academy	Birkenhead	2017	104	-0.58	-0.7	-0.92	-0.05	-0.8
Bebington High Sports College	Maintained School	South Wirral	2016	126	-0.62	-0.20	-0.63	-1.25	-0.26
Bebington High Sports College	Maintained School	South Wirral	2017	140	-0.21	-0.24	-0.28	-0.43	0.07
St Mary's Catholic College	Maintained School	Wallasey	2016	257	-0.62	-0.94	-1.05	-0.63	-0.12
St Mary's Catholic College	Maintained School	Wallasey	2017	232	-0.23	-0.53	-0.59	-0.44	0.4
Ridgeway High School	Maintained School	Birkenhead	2016	103	-0.68	-0.68	-0.63	-0.95	-0.44
Ridgeway High School	Maintained School	Birkenhead	2017	109	-0.17	-0.82	-0.03	-0.67	0.67
Clare Mount Specialist Sports College	Special School	Wallasey	2016	31	-0.81	-0.65	-0.60	-1.25	-0.62
Clare Mount Specialist Sports College	Special School	Wallasey	2017	37	-0.89	-0.65	-0.54	-0.93	-1.24
The Kingsway Academy	Academy	Wallasey	2016	92	-0.97	-0.59	-0.94	-1.35	-0.86
The Kingsway Academy	Academy	Wallasey	2017	90	-0.8	-0.8	-0.42	-1.27	-0.57
The Observatory School	Special School	Birkenhead	2016	9	-2.17	-2.16	-1.43	-2.48	-2.35
The Observatory School	Special School	Birkenhead	2017	13	-1.63	-2.33	-0.5	-2.02	-2.22
Kilgarth School	Special School	Birkenhead	2016	11	-2.72	-2.32	-2.27	-2.75	-3.24
Kilgarth School	Special School	Birkenhead	2017	15	-2.37	-2.69	-0.9	-2.43	-3.07

Six Wirral secondary schools had significantly high Progress 8 scores in English (highlighted in blue). One Wirral secondary school had a significantly high Progress 8 score in

Mathematics. Six Wirral secondary schools had significantly high Progress 8 scores in Ebacc subjects. Seven Wirral secondary schools had significantly high Progress 8 scores for approved qualifications.

### Percentage of Pupils achieving Grades 7 - 9 in English, Mathematics & English and Mathematics

	% of pupils attaining Grade 7 - 9 in English	% of pupils attaining Grade 7 - 9 in Mathematics	% of pupils attaining Grade 7 - 9 in English & Mathematics
<b>All Wirral</b>	22.1	18.3	11.2
<b>National Average</b>	18.6	19.9	18.6
<b>Birkenhead</b>	18.2	13.6	7.3
<b>South Wirral</b>	28.1	23.4	13.9
<b>Wallasey</b>	10.6	6.7	3.1
<b>West Wirral</b>	27.4	24.5	16.5

Nationally more pupils achieved the higher grades (7 to 9 {A\* and A equivalent}) than last year in English. Outcomes for Wirral pupils in English were above the national average. Nationally more pupils achieved the higher grades (7 to 9 {A\* and A equivalent}) than last year from 16% to 19.9% in Mathematics. However attainment was below the national average. Outcomes in English and mathematics in South Wirral and West Wirral were above the national average.

The percentage of Wirral pupils achieving 7 to 9 in English **and** Mathematics was significantly below the national average.

Schools	% of pupils attaining grade 7 - 9 in English & Maths
West Kirby Grammar School	45.0
Upton Hall School FCJ	38.6
Wirral Grammar School for Girls	37.4
St Anselm's College	18.1
Calday Grange Grammar School	17.2
Wirral Grammar School for Boys	17.1
St John Plessington College	10.0
Weatherhead High School	7.5
Prenton High School for Girls	5.0
Birkenhead Park School	5.0
Birkenhead High School Academy	4.0

Woodchurch High School	3.3
Pensby High School	2.6
St Mary's Catholic College & VA Academy	2.6
Ridgeway High School	2.0
South Wirral High School	1.9
The Oldershaw Academy	1.1
Hilbre High School	1.0
The Mosslands School	0.8
Bebington High School	0.7
Kingsway Academy	0.0
<b>Wirral Average</b>	<b>11.2</b>

### Disadvantaged Pupils

#### Grade 4+ in English, Mathematics & English and Mathematics

	% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in English	% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in Mathematics	% of pupils attaining Grade 4+ in English & Mathematics
<b>All Wirral</b>	77.1	71.7	66.4
<b>National Average</b>			
<b>Disadvantaged</b>	60.3	52.3	45.1
<b>GAP</b>	16.8	19.4	21.3

At the moment there are no published figures for disadvantaged pupils. When this data is available the tables will be updated. The gap between all pupils and disadvantaged pupils is greatest for those pupils meeting the expected standard in English **and** mathematics.

<b>All Birkenhead</b>	74.6	66.9	61.7
<b>Disadv B'Head</b>	65	46.8	42.4
<b>GAP</b>	9.6	20.1	19.3

<b>All South Wirral</b>	83.3	77.7	73.3
<b>Disadv S Wirral</b>	67.3	60.2	52.6
<b>GAP</b>	16	17.5	20.7

<b>All Wallasey</b>	61.4	54.8	47.5
<b>Disadv Wallasey</b>	51	43.3	35.9
<b>GAP</b>	10.4	11.5	11.6

<b>West Wirral</b>	84.3	81.1	76.3
<b>Disadv W Wirral</b>	68.2	61.6	53.2
<b>GAP</b>	16.1	19.5	23.1

Birkenhead locality has the smallest attainment gap for pupils meeting the expected standard in English, but has the widest gap in Mathematics. West Wirral has the widest gap with fewer pupils attaining a grade 4 or higher in English and mathematics.

#### Grade 5+ in English, Mathematics & English and Mathematics

	% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in English	% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in Mathematics	% of pupils attaining Grade 5+ in English & Mathematics
<b>All Wirral</b>	61.8	50.2	43.7
<b>National Average Disadvantage</b>			
<b>Disadvantage</b>	42.3	29.3	22.8
<b>GAP</b>	19.5	20.9	20.9

Significantly more disadvantaged pupils attained a grade 5 in English than in mathematics. The gap for pupils attaining a grade 5 or higher in mathematics and English and mathematics combined was the same at 20.9%

<b>All Birkenhead</b>	57.5	43.4	37.4
<b>Disadv B'Head</b>	38.4	26.8	20.8
<b>GAP</b>	19.1	16.6	16.6

<b>All South Wirral</b>	72.2	54.9	51.3
<b>Disadv S Wirral</b>	51.8	31.5	26.6
<b>GAP</b>	20.4	23.4	24.7

<b>All Wallasey</b>	40.4	29.7	22.3
<b>Disadv Wallasey</b>	31.2	19.9	14
<b>GAP</b>	9.2	9.8	8.3

<b>All West Wirral</b>	70.3	63.9	55.3
<b>Disadv W Wirral</b>	52.1	42.2	33.1
<b>GAP</b>	18.2	21.7	22.2

The widest gap in pupils disadvantaged pupils achieving grade 5+ in English is in South Wirral locality, though the attainment of disadvantaged pupils is the second highest of all the localities. The smallest gap is in Wallasey but this is the locality where attainment of all pupils and disadvantaged pupils is lower than any other locality. More disadvantaged pupils achieved a grade 5 or higher in mathematics in the West Wirral locality but the gap is wide.

### Percentage of Disadvantaged Pupils Achieving the threshold in English and Mathematics

	A*-C in English & Mathematics 2016	Grade 4+ in English & Mathematics 2017	
All Wirral	66	66.4	↑
National Average for Disadvantage	43.1		↑
Disadvantaged Pupils	43.2	45.1	↑
Wirral GAP	22.8	21.3	←

Disadvantaged Pupils	A*-C in English & Mathematics 2016	Grade 4+ in English & Mathematics 2017	
Birkenhead	49.6	42.4	↓
South Wirral	51.3	52.6	↑
Wallasey	33.8	35.9	↑
West Wirral	47.1	53.2	↑

Attainment of disadvantaged pupils meeting the threshold has increased. The gap between all pupils and disadvantaged pupils meeting the threshold standard has narrowed by 1.5%. Less pupils in Birkenhead met the threshold this year, a reduction of 7.2%. West Wirral locality saw the greatest improvement (6.1%).

### Attainment 8 for Disadvantaged Pupils

	2016	2017	
All Wirral	51.8	48.7	↓
National Average for Disadvantage	41.1		
Wirral Disadvantage Pupils	41.3	38.9	↓
Birkenhead	39.9	36.5	↓
South Wirral	45.5	42.8	↓
Wallasey	39.1	35.2	↓
West Wirral	42.9	42.9	

Attainment 8 for three localities decreased, with Wallasey locality showing the largest decrease (3.9%). Attainment 8 in West Wirral remained at 42.9%.

### Percentage of Disadvantaged Pupils achieving Grades 7 - 9 in English, Mathematics & English and Mathematics

	% of pupils attaining Grade 7 - 9 in English	% of pupils attaining Grade 7 - 9 in Mathematics	% of pupils attaining Grade 7 - 9 in English & Mathematics
All Wirral	22.1	18.3	11.2
National Average	19.9	19.9	18.6
Disadvantaged Pupils	10	7	3.9
GAP	12.1	11.3	7.3

More disadvantaged pupils attained the higher grade GCSE outcomes in English but the attainment gap is wider.

<b>All B'Head</b>	18.2	13.6	7.3
<b>Disadv Birkenhead</b>	10.7	7.4	4.5
<b>GAP</b>	7.5	6.2	2.8

<b>All South Wirral</b>	28.1	23.4	13.9
<b>Disadv S Wirral</b>	13	9.1	3.9
<b>GAP</b>	15.1	14.3	10

<b>All Wallasey</b>	10.6	6.7	3.1
<b>Disadv Wallasey</b>	4.8	3.6	1.1
<b>GAP</b>	5.8	3.1	2

<b>All West Wirral</b>	27.4	24.5	16.5
<b>Disadv W Wirral</b>	13.6	9	7.2
<b>GAP</b>	13.8	15.5	9.3

The disadvantage gap for pupils attaining the higher level in English is widest in South Wirral locality. The gap is narrowest in Wallasey but the attainment of all pupils and disadvantaged is lower than other localities.

The disadvantage gap for pupils attaining the higher level in mathematics is widest in West Wirral locality. The gap is narrowest in Wallasey but the attainment of all pupils and disadvantaged is lower than other localities.

The disadvantage gap for pupils attaining the higher level in English **and** mathematics is widest in South Wirral locality. The gap is narrowest in Wallasey but the attainment of all pupils and disadvantaged is lower than other localities.



## **Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee** **Thursday, 25 January 2018**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Children and Families Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee - work programme update report</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>The Chair of the Committee – Councillor Tom Usher</b>

### **REPORT SUMMARY**

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 14<sup>th</sup> November. 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 14<sup>th</sup> November 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. The review will also test the effectiveness of special guardianship orders.

The first evidence sessions took place in October and December 2017. Further sessions will give members of the task & finish group an opportunity to review randomly selected anonymised care plans as well as meetings with social workers, team managers, Independent Reviewing Officers, a Head teacher representative, foster carers and Special Guardians. A focus group will also be held with children and young people. It is anticipated that this scrutiny review will be completed in time to report back to the Children & Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

##### Reality Check Visits

The third of the Reality Check visits took place on 7<sup>th</sup> December when a group of members visited the Early Childhood Service at Seacombe Children's Centre. 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 focus on staff responsible for operating and monitoring the Performance Dashboard. It is proposed that the visit will take place during February, with a maximum of six members being sought for the visit.

### Budget scrutiny 2018 / 19

In line with previous municipal years, workshops were held for members of each of the scrutiny committees to review proposals as the 2018 / 19 budget is being developed. The workshop relating to the remit of the Children and families Overview & Scrutiny Committee was scheduled to take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January. A report regarding the outcomes of the workshop is included as a separate item on this Committee agenda.

### Training session for members

Further to comments raised by some members at a previous Committee meeting, a training session was scheduled to be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018. It was intended that the session would include an overview of Children's Services and would also be used to inform the future scrutiny work programme.

## **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 in February 2018.

### Universal Credit

At a meeting of the Chairs of the four Overview & Scrutiny Committees, it was agreed to undertake further scrutiny of Universal Credit in February 2018 when the implications of implementing Universal Credit may be better known and the relevant data could be made available to Members. Although not formally part of this Committee's work programme, it is anticipated that members of all four scrutiny committees will be invited to participate. The following approach was agreed in principle:

- A workshop style approach to be adopted with dates for a series of workshops to be scheduled for February 2018.
- Workshops to cover the wide ranging themes extending across all four O&S committees, such as IT, housing and homelessness.
- The workshops would be open to all Members who sit on any of the four O&S Committees to ensure inclusivity and to reflect the wider-ranging views and experiences of these Members.
- The Business O&S Committee would 'own' this piece of work to ensure that there is no overlap or duplication. Consideration can be given for these workshops to be chaired by different O&S Chairs relevant to the themes of the workshop.
- A report to be completed and reported to the Business O&S Committee in March 2018 to ensure that the work remains current.

As part of scrutiny work planning sessions for the next municipal year, each committee will be better informed as to where the issues lie in respect to their remit and can then focus further scrutiny activity as appropriate.

This approach ensures inclusivity for all O&S Members as it has an impact for all wards in Wirral. It is also a theme that cuts across the remit of all four O&S Committees due to the wide-ranging impact affecting a number of service delivery areas. It also mitigates the risk of duplication and overlap in scrutiny work if each O&S committee unilaterally agrees to carry out scrutiny of Universal Credit at this time. Further information will be provided to Members when the arrangements have been finalised.

#### **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

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**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

Item	Format	Officer
Minutes from Children & Families OSC (14 <sup>th</sup> November)	Minutes	
Improvement Journey – Update	Presentation	Paul Boyce
Preventing family breakdown - Children on the edge of care	Presentation	Lindsay Davidson
Delivery of ‘Children Ready for School’ pledge - Update	Report	Elizabeth Hartley
Report from Member’s Reality Check visit to Early Childhood Service	Report	Report of the Chair (Patrick Torpey to provide report)
Educational attainment in Wirral 2016/17 (GCSEs and A Levels)	Report	Sue Talbot
Feedback from budget workshop	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: <b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b>		

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – Tues 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

Item	Format	Officer
Minutes from Children & Families OSC (25 <sup>th</sup> January)	Minutes	
Improvement Journey – Update (including performance data tracker)	Presentation	Paul Boyce
Future safeguarding arrangements - progress	Report	David Robbins
Improving Life Chances Strategy – Pledge Update	Report	Fiona Johnson / Julie Graham
Learning from Audit	Report	Simone White
Statutory Care Plan scrutiny review	Report	Report of the Chair (Patrick Torpey to provide report)
Financial Monitoring – 2017/18 Q3	Report / Presentation	Peter Molyneux / Andrew Roberts to provide report
Performance monitoring – 2017/18 Q3	Report	Mike Callon to provide report
Report from Member’s Reality Check visit to discuss the Performance Dashboard	Report	Report of the Chair (Alan Veitch to provide report)
Policy Inform	Report	(Rachel Howey to provide report)
Work programme update	Report	Report of the Chair (Alan Veitch to provide report)
Deadline for reports to be with Committee Services: <b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b>		

**ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS – WAITING TO BE SCHEDULED**

Item	Format	Approximate timescale	Lead Departmental Officer
The HIVE – progress report	Possible report	To be agreed	
Care leavers – employment prospects	Possible report	To be agreed	
School strategy – update on the delivery of the strategy	Report	To be agreed	Sue Talbot
All-age disability service transformation – update on progress (as requested at OSC on 14/11/17)	Report	To be agreed	

## WORK PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE COMMITTEE

Item	Format	Timescale	Lead Officer	Progress / Comments
Task and Finish work				
Statutory Care Plans	Task & finish group	To be agreed	Ian Godfrey / Gani Martins / Pat Torpey	
Reality Check visits				
Reality Check visit: MASH	Member visit	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 2017 10.00am	Simone White / Liz Davenport / Alan Veitch	Complete
Reality Check visit: Leaving Care Team	Member visit	18 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2017	Ian Godfrey / Pat Torpey	Complete
Reality Check visit: Early Childhood Service	Member visit	7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2017	Elizabeth Hartley / Pat Torpey	Complete
Reality Check visit: Performance Dashboard	Member visit	Feb 2018	Carly Brown /	
Meet with group(s) of care leavers	Member visit	To be agreed		
Reality Check visit: MASH (re-visit to Solar Campus)	Member visit	To be agreed	Simone White / Liz Davenport	
Spotlight sessions / workshops				
All-age Disabilities and Mental Health transformation project	Workshop	Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug 2017, 6.00pm	Graham Hodkinson/ Jason Oxley / Alan Veitch	Joint workshop with members of Adult Care & Health OSC. Complete
Safeguarding governance - Scrutiny's relationship with the LSCB	Workshop	Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> Aug 2017, 5.30pm	David Robbins/ Alan Veitch	Complete
Member training session: Children's Services	Training session	Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2018	Carly Brown / Pat Torpey	
Specialist Transport	Workshop	Jan / Feb 2018	Julie Barnes / Alan Veitch	Potential joint workshop with members of Adult Care & Health OSC
Corporate scrutiny / Other				
Transformation Programme – business cases	Workshop	As and when required		
Budget scrutiny 2018 / 19	Workshop	11 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Paul Boyce / Alan Veitch	

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