

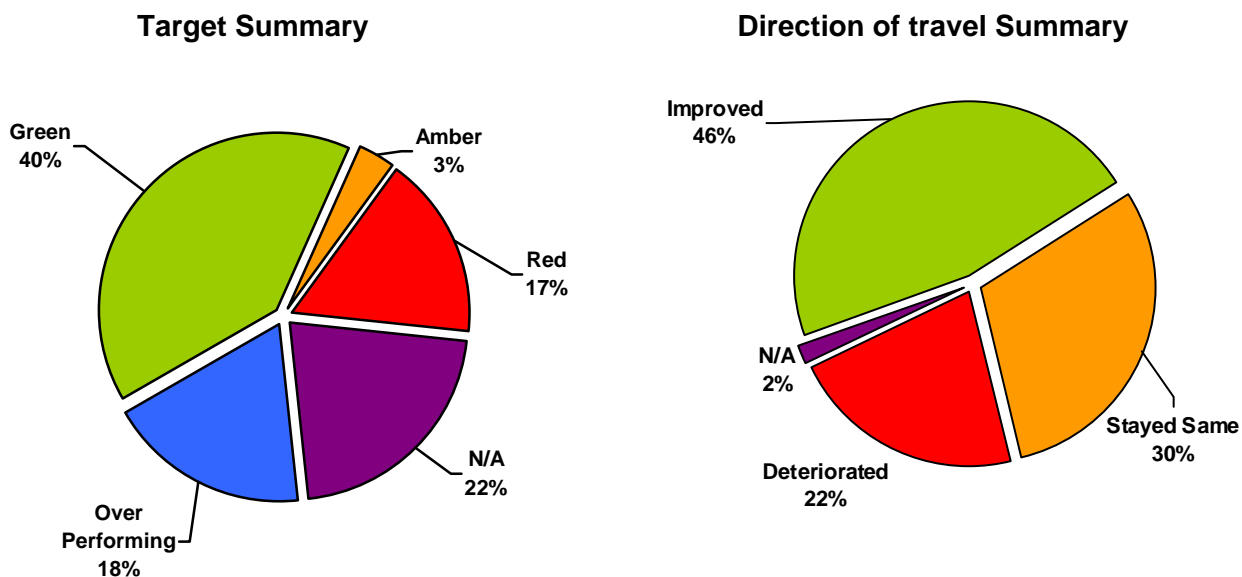
1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides an overview of progress made against Children's Services indicators for 2010/11 Quarter 4.

2.0 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

2.1 The following charts provide a summary of performance at quarter four in relation to targets set and the direction of travel compared to prior year quarter four position.

2.2 There are 60 indicators that can be reported at the final quarter period.



2.3 Appendix 1 provides the status of all indicators that can be reported to the Board for quarter four.

3.0 PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

3.1 Performance headlines for children's services include:

- The rate of permanent exclusions from school has fallen considerably after the "Managed Moves" process has been in place. The current rate is estimated at 0.04 compare to 0.07 for the previous year.
- The rate of persistent absence in secondary schools has exceeded the target and continues to fall year on year. The Wirral figure of 3.7% is lower than National (4.2%) and Northwest (4.4%) averages.

- The percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment has exceeded the annual target; this indicates that appropriate referrals into social care and effective use of thresholds are being applied.
- The number of participants in youth work has increased by over 60%, 8,625 young people have been involved in youth work over 2010/11 compared with 5,347 the previous year.
- The percentage of children with Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more continues to be very low highlighting sustained good practice and exit strategies.
- Reports of antisocial behaviour and levels of vehicle nuisance have continued to perform well against targets show a further annual reduction.
- Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 25 year olds has exceeded the annual target.

3.2 Performance Indicator Exceptions

The following indicators have not met the quarterly target by more than 10% and are therefore assessed as **red** or have missed the target by between 5% and 10% and are assessed as **amber**:

Data Key	
Actual	(A)
Estimate	(E)
Provisional	(P)

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 53	Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth	35.1%	31.3%	Red	Improved

Corrective Action: The following actions have taken place since the last report: A radio campaign on Heart FM to promote the Breastmilk its Amazing website started in February and will continue over the next 12 months. The campaign on Juice FM has been extended until May 2011 with on-line competitions, Blog and Twitter. A performance monitoring group has been set up to co-ordinate and monitor the breastfeeding figures. The service specification for the breastfeeding peer support programme has been revised and the programme extended to support 1,400 new mothers annually until 2013.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 55	Obesity in primary school age children in Reception	9.50% (Lower is Better)	10.64%	Red	Deteriorated

Context: This years figure have shown a slight increase in the percentage of children in reception that are overweight (up by 0.3%) and an even greater increase by one percentage in children that are obese from 9.6% to 10.6%. These local figures are above the regional and national average. It is very difficult to explain why there has been an increase this year, particularly when last year we had managed to maintain the obesity levels for reception. However, 97% of Wirral school children were measured in reception and year 6 which is above the regional and national average. Wirral's coverage was the highest for Cheshire and Merseyside Primary Care Trusts and second highest for the North West, therefore due to the excellent participation by children the figures show a true reflection of childhood overweight and obese levels.

Corrective Action: The following actions have progressed since the last report in Q3: The new provider for the child weight management services has been selected and a Paper prepared for the PCT Informal Board meeting in April. Once the Board has approved the provider this service will be set up to deliver these services till 2013. The Service level Agreement for the early years physical activity provider has been updated and extended till 2013. A further days training of the HENRY programme for early years practitioners will take place in May 2011. The service specification for the breastfeeding support programme has been revised and the programme extended to support 1,400 new mothers annually until 2013.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	80%	70% (P)	Red	Deteriorated

Context: Small numbers affect this indicator. 12 out of 17 children have been adopted within 12 months of the decision being made that the child should be placed for adoption. Some children are harder to place; these include 2 siblings, 2 further siblings with medical complexities and one older child who has experienced placement disruption. This information is collected annually from the SSDA 903 statistical return. The return is to be submitted to the DfE at the end of May. An actual figure will be available at this time.

Corrective Action: The Adopters Recruitment Strategy has been revised to improve availability and choice of placements for older children and those children with more complex needs. This will enable more timely family finding for these harder to place children.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.	14.0% (Lower is Better)	17% (E)	Red	Unchanged

Context: (Estimate) - This information is collected annually from the Children in Need (CIN) Census statistical return. The return is to be submitted to the DfE at the end of May. An actual figure will be available at this time.

Corrective Action: Children who become subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second and subsequent time are monitored closely. This is done through the case file auditing process and the local trigger report which is completed by the Safeguarding and Review service. There is additional management scrutiny of this group of children with a view to determining appropriate action. This is reported to the Children's Services Management Team on a monthly basis.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 89a	Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category - Number of Schools	0 (Lower is Better)	3	Red	Deteriorated

Corrective Action: Of the three primary schools in OFSTED category, two schools continue to make good progress. To assist schools in category the Local Authority provide Statements of Action which are verified by OFSTED. The Head of Branch for Learning and Achievement, Strategic Service Manager, the schools' Head Teachers and Chair of Governors monitor the action plan on a half-termly basis. All schools have had OFSTED monitoring visits; two are very positive and one satisfactory. We are expecting that 2 of the 3 schools will have a full inspection in the Spring Term 2011 and we have high confidence that they will be taken out of category.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 105	The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap – achieving 5 A*-C GCSE inc. English and Maths	41% (Lower is Better)	52.6%	Red	Deteriorated

Context: The data indicates that pupils who have been identified as having Special Educational Needs (SEN) have improved when compared with previous academic years. However, pupils who are not classified as having SEN have improved at a greater rate than those with SEN.

Corrective Action: Consultation with English and Maths principal managers is taking place to analyse the data and establish cause of the increase in the gap between those on Special Educational Needs and those who are not. Challenging targets are to be set with a view to significantly reducing the gap during the 2010/11 academic year. Targets to be shared with secondary schools and flagged as a priority area of improvement with Speech and Language Therapists, English/Maths leads and SEN coordinators.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 112	Percentage reduction in the under 18 conception rate	-39% (Lower is Better)	-13.1%	Red	Deteriorated

Context: The most recent data demonstrates that Wirral experienced an under-18 conception rate of 44 (per 1000 15 to 17 year olds) in 2009. This indicates an increase in conceptions from 2008 figures (40 per 1000 15 to 17 year olds) and looks unlikely that Wirral will reach the 50% reduction target when 2010 figures are released next year. Despite Wirral's rate now falling behind that of the North West and the rest of England, an overall downward trend since the 1998 baseline is evident and the area would not be unique in failing to reach the 50% target. Rates within some Wirral wards remain at more than twice the national average and it is within these areas that targeted support for the most vulnerable groups is offered in order to reduce the rate for the area as a whole. The National Teenage Pregnancy Strategy has now come to an end and indications suggest there will be no dedicated strategy post March 2011. Although the commitment to reduce the under-18 conception rate remains at a national level, future responsibility for this will lie at a local level, with locally established targets and strategies. Further direction around teenage pregnancy work is expected from the national sexual health/teenage pregnancy paper due to be released Spring 2011, however, until then, Wirral will continue to implement its local action plan and ensure teenage pregnancy remains a priority area for all local services.

Corrective Action: Wirral's Teenage Pregnancy Steering Group continues to implement and monitor the local strategic action plan and this will be refreshed following national recommendations in 2011/12. Work within teenage pregnancy hotspot areas continues and targeted interventions for the most vulnerable groups include the following: - Teenage Pregnancy Sub-Groups continuing to progress work around the support and prevention agendas - Ongoing monitoring of NHS Wirral Sexual Health Programme and programme refresh submitted for 2011/12 - Teenage Pregnancy Peer Mentoring Programme commissioned January 2011 and due to be rolled out until end of March 2013 - Virtual Baby Education

Programme now available to all Wirral secondary schools and community groups - Commissioning of Health Services in Schools additional services (contraception, smoking cessation, mental health) - Ratification and distribution of guidance for Further Education providers to encourage teenage parents to remain in education/training - Review and restructuring of workforce development programme by Sex and Relationships Curriculum and Policy Lead - Evaluation of young father support programme being undertaken by Wirral Brook and consideration for progression of work in 2011/12 - Distribution of Fraser guideline postcards by Wirral Brook, training sessions around confidentiality and safeguarding scheduled for 2011/12 - Continued communication with Teenage Pregnancy Champions group - Investment in sex and relationships education resources from teenage pregnancy budget - Acknowledgement of adolescent domestic violence work within planned EIG allocations, further decisions to be made 2011/12 and expected to impact on teenage parents. Adolescent domestic violence to be included as priority area within Staying Safe refreshed plan for 2011/12 - Healthy Schools Team now taken on You're Welcome agenda and continuing to progress local implementation - Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator continuing to undertake presentations and information sharing with key strategic groups - Family Nurse Partnership now recruited full cohort and plans for expansion to programme through 2011/12.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	6.9% (Lower is Better)	8.6%	Red	Improved

Corrective Action: There are a number of innovative programmes being commissioned via European Social Funds which focus specifically on the differing needs of the NEET cohort in order to provide an enhanced bespoke, targeted offer. The 14-19 Strategic Partnership with providers is ensuring that 'offer' in Wirral is flexible in its responses. There continues to be a strategic and multi-agency approach to reducing the numbers of young people NEET. This is currently being done by targeted case loading and a NEET case conference group. The group is comprised of Connexions, Local Authority, Work Based Learning and Further Education providers.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	LOCAL 1400	Number of looked after children	565 (Lower is Better)	686 (P)	Red	Deteriorated

Context: (Provisional) - This information is collected annual from the SSDA 903 statistical return. The return is to be submitted to the DfE at the end of May. An actual figure will be available at this time.

Corrective Action: The LAC Strategic Change Project is underway with a number of milestones met including the establishment of a LAC Performance Board to improve the monitoring and outcomes for children leaving care. The Safeguarding and Looked After Children Action plan has been developed following the OFSTED Inspection with clear actions and timescales to meet the areas for development but also the areas the inspection identified as good to move those areas to outstanding. The Corporate Parenting Group strategy has been approved and is in place for delivery in 2011/12.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	LOCAL 1700c	Participation in and outcomes from youth work: Accredited Outcomes	28%	15.6%(P)	Red	Deteriorated

Context: In 2009/10 1,171 young people gained an accredited outcome, whereas, in 2010/11 the number increased by 177 to 1,348. Therefore, in actual accredited outcome numbers there has been an improvement (i.e. a 15% increase).
However, this figure is calculated as a percentage of the actual participants in youth work. Therefore, as the number of participants has increased by 3,278 on the previous year (i.e. an increase of 61%) the accredited outcome percentage has decreased accordingly.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 59	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral.	76%	70% (E)	Amber	Improved

Corrective Action: (Estimate) - Over the previous 12 months this indicator has continued to improve on the 2009/10 outturn. It is expected to fall short of the 76% target. From April 2011 the national timescale for completion will move to 10 working days. (The current figure for which is 78%) Managers and staff have been briefed regarding the new timescale which will continue to be monitored and reviewed at monthly management meeting to address any issues in performance.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	72%	65% (E)	Amber	Unchanged

Context: (Estimate) This information is collected annual from the SSDA 903 statistical return. The return is to be submitted to the DfE at the end of May. An actual figure may be supplied at this time.

Corrective Action: Foster care recruitment campaign at a local and regional level is underway. The main launch will happen in Foster Care fortnight, during May 2011. There has been a move of initial enquiries to the call centre and development work is being undertaken with the Fostering Network on efficiencies in the assessment process. The increased number of foster carers will improve choice and matching and reduce exemptions. The revised Special Guardianship Order (SGO) policy approved by Cabinet in March will be briefed out to staff and carers to enable a greater number of children fostered to be secured with a permanent family.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

That Wirral Children's Trust Board note the report.

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APPENDICES Appendix 1 – Performance Indicator Summary

Appendix 1: Performance Indicator Summary (Report Date 05/05/2011)



















Direction of Travel Summary

% PIs	No. of PIs	
46.6%	28	Improved by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
21.7%	13	Deteriorated by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
30.0%	18	Stayed within +/-2.5% of previous year's performance
1.7%	1	Not applicable
100.0%	60	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)

Target Summary

% PIs	No. of PIs	
40.0%	24	Green (within +10/-5% of the target)
3.3%	2	Amber (missed target by between 5% and 10%)
16.7%	10	Red (missed target by more than 10%)
18.3%	11	Over-performing (more than 10% of the target)
21.7%	13	Not Applicable
100.0%	60	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)

PI No.	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 51	Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) services	16	16	Green	↔
NI 53	Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth	35.1%	31.3%	Red	↑
NI 55	Obesity in primary school age children in Reception	9.50%	10.64% (Lower is Better)	Red	↓
NI 56	Obesity in primary school age children in Year 6	20.9%	20.33% (Lower is Better)	Green	↔
NI 58	Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children	-	12 (E) (Lower is Better)	-	↔
NI 59	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral.	76%	70%	Amber	↑
NI 60	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	80%	80%	Green	↑

PI No.	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	80%	70%	Red	
NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements	9.0%	9.3% (Lower is Better)	Green	
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	72%	65%	Amber	
NI 64	Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more	4.0%	1.8% (Lower is Better)	Over Performing	
NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.	14.0%	17% (Lower is Better)	Red	
NI 66	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales.	100.0%	96%	Green	
NI 67	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales	100.0%	100%	Green	
NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	75%	90%	Over Performing	
NI 70	Reduce emergency hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people	-	131.76 (Lower is Better)	-	
NI 71	Children who have run away from home or care	15	15	Green	
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy	57%	58%	Green	
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2	78%	75%	Green	
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	57.0%	58.7%	Green	
NI 76	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 55% of pupils achieve level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2	16	6 (Lower is Better)	Over Performing	
NI 78	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths	2	1 (Lower is Better)	Over Performing	
NI 79	Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	-	77.9%	-	
NI 80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	-	50.7%	-	
NI 81	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	-	36% (Lower is Better)	-	

PI No.	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 82	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	-	59.7%	-	↑
NI 84	Achievement of 2 or more A* - C grades in Science GCSEs or equivalent	60.6%	70.2%	Over Performing	↑
NI 85a	Post-16 participation in physical sciences (Physics)	-	148	-	↑
NI 85b	Post-16 participation in physical sciences (Chemistry)	-	278	-	↑
NI 85c	Post-16 participation in physical sciences (Maths)	-	331	-	↑
NI 86	Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour	90%	90%	Green	↔
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	5.5%	3.7% (Lower is Better)	Over Performing	↑
NI 89a	Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category - Number of Schools	0	3 (Lower is Better)	Red	↓
NI 89b	Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category - Time taken	0	0	Green	↔
NI 90	Take up of 14-19 Learning Diplomas	-	124	-	n/a
NI 91	Participation of 17 year-olds in education or training	-	85%	-	↔
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	28.6%	27.6% (Lower is Better)	Green	↑
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	87%	86%	Green	↔
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	82%	85%	Green	↑
NI 99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	53.1%	52%	Green	↓
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in maths at Key Stage 2	56.3%	56%	Green	↑
NI 101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and maths)	6.3%	7.8%	Over Performing	↑
NI 102a	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2	21%	22% (Lower is Better)	Green	↑
NI 102b	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 4	35.8%	36% (Lower is Better)	Green	↔
NI 103a	Percentage of final SEN statements issued within 26 weeks (Excluding exceptions).	95.0%	97.7%	Green	↔

PI No.	Title	2010/2011 Target	2010/2011 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 103b	Percentage of final SEN statements issued within 26 weeks (Including exceptions)	94.0%	94.2%	Green	↓
NI 104	The Special Educational Needs SEN/non-SEN gap – achieving Key Stage 2 English and Maths threshold	50%	47.7% (Lower is Better)	Green	↑
NI 105	The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap – achieving 5 A*- C GCSE inc. English and Maths	41%	52.6% (Lower is Better)	Red	↓
NI 107b	Key Stage 2 attainment gap for Black and minority ethnic groups (Any Other White Background)	-	83.8	-	↑
NI 109	Delivery of Sure Start Children's Centres	100%	100%	Green	↔
NI 112	Percentage reduction in the under 18 conception rate	-39%	-13.1% (Lower is Better)	Red	↓
NI 113	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 25 year olds	35%	24.74% (Lower is Better)	Over Performing	↔
NI 114	Rate of permanent exclusions from school	0.07	0.04 (E)	Over Performing	↑
NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	6.9%	8.6% (Lower is Better)	Red	↑
NI 147	Care leavers in suitable accommodation	96%	91% (E)	Green	↔
NI 148	Care leavers in education, employment or training	-	50% (E)	-	↔
LOCAL 1400	Number of looked after children	565	686 (Lower is Better)	Red	↓
LOCAL 1700a	Participation in and outcomes from youth work: Participation	22%	30.8%	Over Performing	↑
LOCAL 1700b	Participation in and outcomes from youth work: Recorded Outcomes	64%	76.2%	Over Performing	↑
LOCAL 1700c	Participation in and outcomes from youth work: Accredited Outcomes	28%	15.6%	Red	↓