

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The Children and Young People's Plan 2012/13 has been produced by partners to address identified needs of children in key priority areas. The plan is delivered by partners working through the five outcome area Strategy Groups. Performance monitoring of the delivery of the plan is conducted via the Children's Trust Executive Board, chaired by the Director of Children's Services and the Wirral Children's Trust Board chaired by the Lead Member for Children's Services and Lifelong Learning.

The delivery of key projects is monitored by reporting on key performance measures identified at the planning process. This report provides an overview of progress made against Children's and Young People's Plan indicators for quarter one including corrective action for performance issues.

2.0 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

For Quarter two 2012/13 37 performance indicators can be reported upon, of these 70% are achieving or exceeding their target.

3.0 PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS


3.1 Performance headlines for children's services include:


- Educational attainment in Wirral continues to improve with the best ever provisional results for children and young people recorded in the academic year 2011/12.
 - Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage improved by 3.1%;
 - The attainment gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the early years Foundation Stage and the rest decreased by 1.7%;
 - Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and maths at Key Stage 2 improved by 2.2%;
 - The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peer achieving the expected level at Key Stage 2 reduced by 2.4%;
 - The achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths improved by 1%;
 - The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stage 4 reduced by 4.5%
 - Looked after children achieving 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths improved by 1% whilst those gaining 5 or more A*-C improved by 16%.
- 100% of child protection cases were reviewed within required timescales.
- Provisional data related to teenage conceptions indicates a reduction in quarter two to a rate of 34.3 per 1,000 15-17 year olds compared to 53.5 in quarter one.


3.2 Performance Indicators


The following indicators have missed the quarter two target and are therefore assessed as red or amber:


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


Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	60	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	67.1%	75%	58.9% (E)	Red	
				(Higher is Better)			
Corrective Action:	Managers now have to report on a weekly basis their compliance and give reasons for out of date assessments and their proposed corrective action. Prompts have been added to the case record to reduce data errors and the procedures in this area have been reviewed. There are still a number of out of date assessments to be completed but this is reducing and additional capacity has been agreed on a short-term basis. This area is under continued oversight.						
Context	Quarter one performance was 49.1% and as a result of the corrective action put in place an improvement has been made to 58.9% in Quarter two. This figure is also an improvement on 2011/12 Quarter two performance of 48.4%.						


Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	70.3%	70%	63.2% (E)	Amber	
				(Higher is Better)			
Corrective Action:	A particular concern is related to teenage placements. A wrap around service for foster carers has been put in place to work with fostering to identify placements at risk of breakdown at an early stage and provide appropriate interventions. The number of long term foster placements where a Special Guardianship order has secured permanence for a child impacts negatively on this indicator						
Context	Performance is following a similar trajectory to 2011/12; performance is expected to improve during the year and is on track to achieve the year end target.						


Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	64	Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more	3.5%	4.0%	6.0%	Red	
				(Lower is Better)			
Corrective Action:	Reviews for all children on a child protection plan are in place and required activity is addressed.						
Context	There are no more children who will have a plan at year end that exceeds 2+ years. This figure will reduce as more children are no longer subject to CP Plans and is likely to meet the year end target.						


Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.	18.6%	15.0%	20.0%	Red	
				(Lower is Better)			
Corrective Action:	A full review of the cases has been undertaken. When children are referred with the same concern for a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time the cases are referred for consideration to a Legal Gatekeeping Meeting. This has been instigated for these cases. Throughout the process there is a clear focus on the children's long term future.						
Context	Keeping children safe is the highest priority and the immediate risk is being appropriately dealt with by placing the children subject to a Child Protection Plan.						


Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and maths)	10.9%	20.0%	12.0% (P)	Red	
		(Higher is Better)					
Corrective Action:	A full review has been undertaken regarding the GCSE results of Looked After Children by the Virtual School Headteacher. As a result a number of additional actions have been put in place. Enhanced pupil tracking by the Educational Progress Officers has been instigated. Additional work with schools to ensure LAC funding is optimised targeting LAC who require additional assistance is being introduced to impact on future outcomes. Individual LAC will be monitored more frequently to track potential outcomes for 2013. This individualised data will also be used when 2013 expectations are discussed.						
Context	Although the challenging target was not achieved out of a cohort of 33 Looked After Children (LAC) a range of GCSE awards were achieved. 4 out of 33 (12%) achieved 5 A*-C EM ; 1 student achieved 4 A*-C EM; 8 further looked after children achieved 5 or more A*-C grades including a grade D in English and/or Mathematics; 3 of these 8 children achieved a grade D in both English and Maths; 3 of these 8 looked after children achieved a C in English but a D in Maths and 2 of these 8 looked after children achieved a C in Maths but a D in English.						

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	102a	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2	20.8%	17.0%	18.3% (E)	Amber	
		(Lower is Better)					
Corrective Action:	Measures put in place both in schools and by the Council have continued to narrow the gap at Key Stage 2 although the challenging target was not achieved. This area is a continued focus for development. The Local Authority will continue to work with schools in all areas including targeting of pupil premium funding.						
Context	Attainment for FSM pupils has increased in all areas. Attainment for non FSM pupils increased in Maths but decreased in English. The gap has narrowed in all areas. The gap has narrowed by 3% points in English to 14.3%. The gap has narrowed in Maths by 0.9% to 14.5%. The English and Maths combined gap has narrowed by 2.4% to 18.3%. All results are significantly narrower than the gap nationally. The Eng/Ma Level 4 + results for the last 3 years indicate a year on year narrowing of the gap.						

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	103a	The percentage of final SEN statements issued within 26 weeks (excluding exceptions)	100%	100%	85.7%	Red	
				(Higher is Better)			
Corrective Action:	This is a temporary fluctuation due to the complexity of a small number of cases. Closer monitoring is in place to keep these to a minimum.						
Context	Three cases out of 31 were not issued within the required timescales.						

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	103b	The percentage of final SEN statements issued within 26 weeks (including exceptions)	100%	100%	90.0%	Amber	
				(Higher is Better)			
Corrective Action:	Reconfiguring of services is underway to increase the number of assessments completed within statutory timescales.						
Context	The volume of assessments has increased by 25% in the last 12 months with the bulk of assessments in the first half of the year. There is increasing demand for assessment particularly in primary schools.						

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	1400a	Number of looked after children	673	645	692	Amber	
				(Lower is Better)			
Corrective Action:	The Looked After Children Project has put in place a high level of scrutiny to children's plans in each of the social work teams, ensuring objectives and timescales are clear and managers are held to account. Social workers and managers have had training on the court pre-proceedings protocol which is designed to reduce delay in care proceedings. This area is under constant scrutiny.						
Context	Whilst the number of looked after children has remained relatively stable in Wirral, other Local Authorities nationally and regionally have experienced increases in numbers.						

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	1411	Percentage of children ceased to be Looked After who become adopted	11.4%	15%	10.5%	Red	
				(Higher is Better)			
Corrective Action:	There is a pre-proceedings protocol in place that will positively affect available Court time but this has yet to take effect and there are still delays in applications for adoption being heard by the courts. There are a small number of children in this category and therefore small variations in number have a significant impact on performance. Wirral also still has a high number of children looked after generally and this has a negative impact on this indicator.						

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2011/12 Year End Actual	2012/2013 Quarter 2		On target	Direction of travel
				Target	Actual		
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	1600	% SEN attainment at Key Stage 2	n/a	18%	14.7%	Red	n/a
				(Higher is Better)			
Corrective Action:	All schools are required to track the progress of vulnerable pupil groups regularly and take corrective action to address under achievement. Principal Managers in the Primary Team are currently working with twenty schools to ensure pupils make a minimum of 2 levels progress by the end of Key Stage 2.						
Context	Attainment in L4+ English has improved from the previous year, whereas attainment in L4+ maths has decreased slightly. The percentage of pupils attaining both English and Maths L4+ has increased. Attainment is showing an upward trajectory.						

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

That Wirral Children's Trust Board note the report.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Children and Young People's Plan Performance Indicator Summary

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APPENDICES



Appendix 1 Children and Young People Performance Indicator Summary





Direction of Travel Summary





% PIs	No. of PIs	
45.95%	17	Improved by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
21.62%	8	Deteriorated by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
24.32%	9	Stayed within +/-2.5% of previous year's performance
0.00%	0	Awaiting data
8.11%	3	Not applicable
100.00%	37	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)

Target Summary

% PIs	No. of PIs	
51.35%	19	Green (within +10/-5% of the target)
10.81%	4	Amber (missed target by between 5% and 10%)
18.92%	7	Red (missed target by more than 10%)
18.92%	7	Over-performing (more than 10% of the target)
0.00%	0	Awaiting data
0.00%	0	Target not set
0.00%	0	Not Applicable
100.00%	37	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)




PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
NI 53	Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth	35.1%	35.1%	33.1%	31.6% (E)	Green		
NI 60	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	75.0%	75.0%	75.0%	58.9% (A)	Red		Managers now have to report on a weekly basis their compliance and give reasons for out of date assessments and their proposed corrective action. Prompts have been added to the case record to reduce data errors and the procedures in this area have been reviewed. There







PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
								are still a number of out of date assessments to be completed but this is reducing and additional capacity has been agreed on a short-term basis. This area is under continued oversight.
NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	90%	90.0%	80%	90.0% (A)	Over Performing		This has been an area of increased focus following the Governments publication of the Adoption Action Plan and Balanced Scorecard for adoption.
NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements	9.0% (Lower is Better)	9.0%	10.3%	9.8% (A)	Green		
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	70%	70.0%	70.0%	63.2% (E)	Amber		A particular concern is related to teenage placements. A wrap around service for foster carers has been put in place to work with fostering to identify placements at risk of breakdown at an early stage and provide appropriate interventions. The number of long term foster placements where a Special Guardianship order has secured permanence for a child impacts negatively on this indicator.
NI 64	Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more	4.0% (Lower is Better)	4.0%	4.0%	6% (A)	Red		There are no more children who will have a plan at year end that exceeds 2+ years. This

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
								figure will reduce as more children are no longer subject to CP Plans and is likely to meet the year end target.
NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.	15.0% (Lower is Better)	15.0%	15.0%	20.0% (A)	Red		A full review of the cases has been undertaken. When children are referred with the same concern for a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time the cases are referred for consideration to a Legal Gatekeeping Meeting. This has been instigated for these cases. Throughout the process there is a clear focus on the children's long term future.
NI 66	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales.	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	95.0% (E)	Green		
NI 67	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0% (A)	Green		
NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	90.0%	90%	97%	100.1% (A)	Green		
NI 70 a	Reduce emergency hospital admissions caused by	240 (Lower is Better)	240	243	223 (A)	Green		




PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
	unintentional and deliberate injuries in 0-4 years							
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	60%	61%	60%	61% (P)	Green	↑	
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2	80%	79%	80%	79% (P)	Green	↑	
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	64%	65.3%	64%	65.3% (P)	Green	↑	
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	27% (Lower is Better)	28.1%	27%	28.1% (P)	Green	↔	
NI 99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	50 %	64.3%	50%	64.3% (P)	Over Performing	↔	In a cohort of 28 children the improved performance represents 4 additional Looked after Children achieving L4+ in English. The reasons for this include improved monitoring, tracking and awareness of the Looked After Children in Primary Schools. Primary

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
								Schools have used the Personal Education Allowance to support Looked After Children, not only this year but in previous years with targeted Looked After Children, this will also have contributed to the success.
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in maths at Key Stage 2	50 %	57.1%	50%	57.1% (P)	Over Performing		In a cohort of 28 children the improved performance represents 2 additional Looked after Children achieving L4+ in Maths. The reasons for this include improved monitoring, tracking and awareness of the Looked After Children in Primary Schools. Primary Schools have used the Personal Education Allowance to support Looked After Children, not only this year but in previous years with targeted Looked After Children, this will also have contributed to the success.
NI 101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and maths)	20%	20.0%	20%	12.0% (P)	Red		4 out of 33 (12%) looked after children achieved 5 A*-C EM in 2012. 1 looked after child achieved 4 A*-C EM. 8 further looked after children achieved 5 or more A*-C grades including a grade D in English and/or Mathematics. 3 of

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
								these 8 children achieved a grade D in both English and Maths. 3 of these 8 looked after children achieved a C in English but a D in Maths and 2 of these 8 looked after children achieved a C in Maths but a D in English
NI 102a	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2	17% (Lower is Better)	18.3%	17%	18.3% (P)	Amber		Attainment for FSM pupils has increased in all areas. Attainment for non FSM pupils increased in Maths but decreased in English. The gap has narrowed in all areas. The gap has narrowed by 3% points in English to 14.3%. The gap has narrowed in Maths by 0.9% to 14.5%. The English and Maths combined gap has narrowed by 2.4% to 18.3%. All results are significantly narrower than the gap nationally. The Eng/Ma Level 4 + results for the last 3 years indicate a year on year narrowing of the gap. This is a continued focus for development.
NI 102b	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 4	29% (Lower is Better)	29.7%	29%	29.7% (P)	Green		
NI 103a	Percentage of final SEN statements	100.0%	89.5%	100.0%	85.7% (A)	Red		Temporary fluctuation due to complexity of small

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
	issued within 26 weeks (Excluding exceptions).							number of cases. Closer monitoring to try to keep these to a minimum.
NI 103b	Percentage of final SEN statements issued within 26 weeks (Including exceptions)	100.0%	90.7%	100.0%	90.0% (A)	Amber		Reconfiguring of services is underway to increase the number of assessments completed within statutory timescales.
NI 113	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 25 year olds	30.00%	30.00%	11.0%	10.5% (E)	Green		
LOCAL 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	9% (Lower is Better)	9.0%	8.7%	8.8% (P)	Green		
LOCAL 1400a	Number of looked after children	615 (Lower is Better)	650	645	692 (A)	Amber		The Looked After Children Project has put in place a high level of scrutiny to children's plans in each of the social work teams, ensuring objectives and timescales are clear and managers are held to account. Social workers and managers have had training on the court pre proceedings protocol which is designed to reduce delay in care proceedings. This area is under constant scrutiny.
LOCAL 1405	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 10 working days of referral	75.0	75.0	75.0	71.4 (A)	Green		
LOCAL 1406	Number of Foster Carers	35	35	18	22 (A)	Over Performing		Initial enquiries to foster are managed

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PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
								effectively through a call centre approach, the team manager monitors the assessment process, and the foster panel has been strengthened by the appointment of a new independent chair.
LOCAL 1411	Percentage of children ceased to be Looked After who become adopted	15 %	15%	15%	10.5% (A)	Red		There is a pre-proceedings protocol in place that will positively affect available Court time but this has yet to take effect and there are still delays in applications for adoption being heard by the courts. There are a small number of children in this category and therefore small variations in number have a significant impact on performance. Wirral also still has a high number of children looked after generally and this has a negative impact on this indicator.
LOCAL 1503	Number of Early Years settings judged as inadequate	0 (Lower is Better)	0	0	0 (A)	Green		
LOCAL 1504	Number of Early Years settings delivering flexibility in relation to the 15 hour free entitlement	42.0%	50.0%	42.0%	50.0% (A)	Over Performing		Increased interest in flexibility from parents has encouraged more pre-schools and day nurseries in particular to consider offering flexibility. The Early Years funding formula incorporates a

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
								flexibility payment to providers which incentivises delivery of flexible provision.
LOCAL 1505a	Percentage of 0 - 4 year olds registered at a Children's Centre	80.0%	80.0%	80.0%	79.4% (A)	Green	↑	
LOCAL 1505b	Percentage of 0 - 4 year olds registered at a Children's Centre (Disadvantaged Backgrounds)	80.0%	85.0%	80.0%	85.0% (A)	Green	↑	
LOCAL 1507	Percentage uptake of schools receiving School Improvement Services.	85.0	94.0	85.0	94.0 (A)	Over Performing	↔	The success of the Education Quality package from the initial launch year of 2011/12 has continued into 2012/13. Although a slight reduction in schools purchasing the service was estimated this has not occurred and buy back has remained at a relatively high level. Fundamental to the success of EQ is the business model adopted of a joint partnership between the Local Authority and schools ensuring the product is fit for purpose and valued by schools.
LOCAL 1600	% SEN attainment at Key Stage 2	18%	14.7%	18%	14.7% (P)	Red	n/a	All schools are required to track the progress of vulnerable pupil groups regularly and take corrective action to address under achievement. Principal Managers in the Primary Team are currently working with twenty schools to ensure

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
								pupils make a minimum of 2 levels progress by the end of Key Stage 2.
LOCAL 1601	% SEN attainment at KS4	10%	10.5 %	10%	10.5% (P)	Green	n/a	
NI 1702	Reduce the under 18 conception rate per 1,000 15-17 year olds	44.9 (Lower is Better)	44.9	44.9	34.3 (E)	Over Performing	n/a	The Wirral Teenage Pregnancy Steering Group continues to implement the Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan with a targeted approach. Plans include implementing a dedicated vulnerable young women's worker (through secondment agreement with the LA) to work with those young women most at risk of becoming pregnant and targeting those wards with the highest number of conceptions recorded.
LOCAL 7031	Percentage of under-age sales of alcohol during test purchase exercises	15% (Lower is Better)	15%	0%	0% (A)	Green	