

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 three including corrective action for performance issues.

2.0 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

For Quarter three 2012/13 22 performance indicators can be reported upon, of these 77.3% (17 indicators) are achieving or exceeding their target.

3.0 PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

3.1 Performance headlines for children's services include:

7.4% of young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET), exceeding the target of 9% and reduction from 8.8% last quarter. The NEET Action Group (Chaired by 14-19 Team) is now established as the principal group for case conferencing Wirral NEET young people with local training providers.

The support provided by the Family Partnership Worker's (FPW) to young people in The Observatory School has been used as evidence in a recent OFSTED inspection. The profile of NEET Young People at the school has reduced from **48.0% in June 2011 to 20.7%** in June 2012.

A recent LGA research report into the Careers, Information and Guidance transitions to schools has cited the role of Weatherhead School and the Local Authority as case study demonstrating effective practice.

Provisional data related to teenage conceptions indicates a further reduction in quarter three to a rate of 32.9 per 1,000 15-17 year olds compared to 53.5 in quarter one. Targeted work currently undertaken includes development of a drama piece to educate young men on the consequences of unprotected sex and teenage fatherhood, contraception workshops for targeted settings, development of a brief Intervention toolkit for Relationship and Sex Education and collaborative research work with John Moore's University to identify social norms around contraception within Wirral.

The West Wirral Youth Hub organised a Christmas party funded by the Early Intervention Grant, 78 young people attended. Advice and support around alcohol and drugs was also given.

The Young Reporters' Group, reported on a number of stories in the local community. They have received training from the former Web Editor for Teen Wirral about how to write up articles and are going to undertake training in photography and the ethics and legalities of photography in the near future.

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	2012/2013 Q3 Target	2012/2013 Q3 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 53	Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth	34.1%	31.44% (A)	Amber	Improved

Corrective action: Public Health Innovation Fund, (PHIF) funding has been secured for various projects to promote the benefits of breastfeeding including £8,000 for loan of breastfeeding pumps to Wirral breastfeeding mothers to support them to breastfeed and £30,000 to continue to utilise the 'breast milk it's amazing' branding to continue to raise the profile of breastfeeding and increase the acceptance of breastfeeding as the norm e.g. radio advert and bus campaigns for a further 12 months, a variety of promotional materials for professionals and the public and to kick start the breastfeeding incentive scheme by targeting ante-natal women. The impact of these projects will be monitored through the breastfeeding steering group.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2012/2013 Q3 Target	2012/2013 Q3 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 60	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	75.0%	67.7% (P)	Amber	Improved

Context: The proportion of completed core assessments which were completed within 35 working days has steadily risen since April 2012. This is within the context of increased numbers of core assessments undertaken when compared to the previous year. For December 2011, 971 assessments had been opened since the start of the financial year, of which 527 were completed within timescale, less than 55% on time. For December 2012, 1472 core assessments had been opened over the same time period and 997 of these had been completed within timescale. There are over 50% more core assessments than the same period last year. There is an investigation to the reasons for increased numbers of core assessments.

Corrective action: Managers report on a weekly basis around compliance to timescales and give reasons for out of date assessments and their corrective action. Prompts have been added to case records to improve data quality and this support has contributed to improving improved performance. Additional capacity in the short term has helped increase compliance. This area remains under strict management oversight.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2012/2013 Q3 Target	2012/2013 Q3 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services Lifelong Learning	& NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	70.0%	65.3% (P)	Amber	Unchanged
<p>Corrective action: There is a fortnightly meeting between managers of family support and the fostering service to identify placements that may be at risk of disruption and identifying early intervention and support. There is a refreshed campaign to recruit foster carers that commenced late 2012 to support greater placement choice.</p>						

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2012/2013 Q3 Target	2012/2013 Q3 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services Lifelong Learning	& NI 64	Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more	4.0% Lower=Better	4.5% (P)	Red	Deteriorated
<p>Context: Nationally performance of around 5% is "good". This indicator is very sensitive to small numbers. At present a sibling group of 6 children have a child protection plan lasting 2 years or more and are due to be reviewed in May 2013 so are unlikely to affect any further deterioration in performance. This is likely to improve as more children will no longer be subject to CP Plans at year end.</p>						

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2012/2013 Q3 Target	2012/2013 Q3 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.	15.0% Lower=Better	20.3% (P)	Red	Deteriorated
<p>Context: When children are referred for consideration for a child protection conference, initial additional support and diversion activity is considered. For example, Family Group Conferencing is actively being considered for cases of long term neglect and compromised parenting to support and empower families to build resilience against crisis. All the cases that are involved here have been reviewed. Provisional data for January shows a reduction to 18.8% (P) and an increase in first time CP registrations to 81.2% (P) in January from 79.7% (P) at Q3.</p> <p>Corrective action: In the short term a memorandum of understanding has been developed to manage cases between the District Team and the Safeguarding Unit, to ensure that all support opportunities have been explored before a child protection conference is called. Longer term planning is to reduce the number of subsequent time presentations to strengthen family resilience and increase parenting capacity. This will be done via family group conferencing and targeting family support.</p>						

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

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Direction of Travel Summary




% PIs	No. of PIs	
54.5	12	Improved by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
18.2	4	Deteriorated by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
22.7	5	Stayed within +/-2.5% of previous year's performance
4.5	1	Not applicable
100.0	22	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)

Target Summary

% PIs	No. of PIs	
77.3	17	Green (within +10/-5% of the target)
13.9	3	Amber (missed target by between 5% and 10%)
9.0	2	Red (missed target by more than 10%)
0	0	Not Applicable
100.0	22	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 3 Target	Quarter 3 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 51	Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) services	16	16	16	16 (E)	Green	↔
NI 53	Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth	35.1%	31.5%	34.1%	31.5% (E)	Amber	↑
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%	67.7% (P)	Amber	↑
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%	86.7% (P)	Green	↑
NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements	9.0% (Lower is Better)	9.0%	9.6%	7.3% (P)	Green	↑
NI 63	Stability of placements of	70%	70.0%	70.0%	65.3% (P)	Amber	↔

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 3 Target	Quarter 3 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
	looked after children: length of placement						
NI 64	Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more	4.0% (Lower is Better)	4.0%	4.0%	4.5% (P)	Red	↓
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%	20.3% (P)	Red	↓
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%	98.6% (P)	Green	↔
NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	90.0%	90.0%	95.0%	96.8% (P)	Green	↓
NI 70 a	Reduce emergency hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in 0-4 years	240 (Lower is Better)	240	242	209 (E)	Green	↓
NI 113	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 25 year olds	30.00%	32.0%	20.0%	21.8% (E)	Green	↑
LOCAL 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	9% (Lower is Better)	9.0%	9.0%	7.4% (A)	Green	↑
LOCAL 1400a	Number of looked after children	683 (Lower is Better)	680	693	684 (P)	Green	↔
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	76.5 (P)	Green	↑
LOCAL 1406	Number of Foster Carers	35	35	27	30 (P)	Green	↑
LOCAL	Number of Early	0	0	0	0	Green	↑

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 3 Target	Quarter 3 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
1503	Years settings judged inadequate as is	(Lower is Better)			(A)		
LOCAL 1504	Percentage of Early Years settings delivering flexibility in relation to the 15 hour free entitlement	42.0%	50.0%	42.0%	50.0% (A)	Green	
LOCAL 1505a	Percentage of 0 - 5 year olds registered at a Children's Centre	80.0%	83.0%	80.0%	80.3% (P)	Green	
LOCAL 1505b	Percentage of 0 - 5 year olds registered at a Children's Centre (Disadvantaged Backgrounds)	80.0%	88.0%	80.0%	86.5% (P)	Green	
NI 1702	Reduce the under 18 conception rate per 1,000 15-17 year olds	44.9 (Lower is Better)	44.9	44.9	32.9 (E)	Green	n/a