



Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday, 3 July 2018

REPORT TITLE:	2017/18 Quarter 4 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance
REPORT OF:	Director for Children's Services

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides the 2017/18 Quarter 4 (January - March 2018) performance report for the Wirral Plan pledges under the remit of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report, which is included as Appendix 1, provides a description of the progress in Quarter 4 as well as providing available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

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

Quarter Four Wirral Plan Performance Summary

- The percentage of women booked to access professional maternity services on or before twelve and six week gestation has a year end position of 76% against a target of 90%. The figure is lower than the previous year (83.3%) and that at the start of the Wirral Plan (80.8%).
- Both infant development check measures have shown an improvement with the percentage of infants who received a check by 8 weeks and (86%) by 12 months (87%) both higher than the previous year (8 weeks 84.9%, 12 months 75.9%) and the start of the Wirral Plan (8 weeks 84.6%, 12 months 66.4%).
- Wirral continues to support a large population of children looked after; the rate has increased each quarter in 2017/18. Targets have been set to safely reduce the number of looked after children in Wirral. January and February 2018 saw the first reduction in the number of CLA however there has been a rise in the last month of 2017/18.
- The CiN rate has risen since January 2018 however it is in line with recent comparator data for the North West Region. A review is underway of children on long-term CiN plans i.e. 9 months and over, to ensure that they are receiving the right levels of support.

- There has been a significant reduction in the Child Protection Plan rate over the last 12 months, with end of year figures (39.3) lower than the rate for the previous year (55.7). A review has been undertaken and has not highlighted any concerns with regards to decision making. The decline in CPP needs to be considered alongside the increased numbers of children looked after.
- Although the take up of the 2 year old offer by eligible families is slightly lower than the previous quarter the year end figure of 91.6% is higher than both the previous year (88.1%) and that at the start of the Wirral Plan (70%). Work is underway with partners to ensure that families receiving Universal Credit have knowledge of the entitlement to enable them to take it up.
- Reporting at quarter 4 continues to illustrate the complex picture of Domestic Abuse in Wirral. The planned approach to increase awareness of domestic abuse has led to an increase in the number of high risk cases compared to the previous year. We are also supporting a higher number of children experiencing domestic abuse and are seeing a significant increase in the rate of referrals to social care for domestic abuse (age 18+ years). The intention is that in future years, once reporting levels have improved, the rate will reduce.

Year End Closedown Summary

The closedown report provides the committee with an overview of progress in 2017-18 to assist with scrutiny of the effectiveness of Wirral Plan delivery. It provides analysis in relation to progress measured through the suite of performance indicators related to the Children and Families Pledges compared to the start of the Wirral Plan, with focus on the areas that did not improve in 2017-18. It also provides a summary of progress against delivery for each of the activities identified in the Pledge strategy action plans. For the Children related pledges a programme of actions were identified to deliver the Pledge outcomes and a summary of progress for each of these is shown.

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION

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

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

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

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

6.1 There are none arising from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

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

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

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

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

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

REPORT AUTHOR: Nancy Clarkson
Head of Intelligence
telephone: (0151) 691 8258

email: nancyclarkson@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Wirral Plan Children and Families Committee 2017-18 Quarter 4 Pledge Reports

Appendix 2: Wirral Plan Children and Families 2017-18 Year End Closedown Report

REFERENCE MATERIAL

N/A

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	8 September 2016
People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	28 November 2016
People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	23 March 2017
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee	20 June 2017
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee	26 September 2017
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14 November 2017
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee	22 March 2018