



## Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Wednesday, 27 February 2019

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>2018/19 Quarter 3 Wirral Plan Performance</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Director for Children's Services</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides the 2018/18 Quarter 3 (October - December 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 an overview of the progress in Quarter 3 as well as providing available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

### Quarter Three Wirral Plan Performance Summary

- The take up of the 2-year old offer is at 93.1% achieved through improved analysis, face-to-face contact with those families not engaged, integrated working with partners including promotion in particular by Health Visitors.
- 97.7% of early years childcare providers are judged good or better by Ofsted with none assessed as inadequate. The Early Years team work directly with providers with bespoke packages of support, pre-inspection preparation, cluster meetings to enable best practice operation to be shared and provision of a quality framework and toolkit. This is significant progress compared to the Wirral Plan start of 78% in 2015-16
- Young Chamber work developing young people's aspiration in Quarter 3 included "Introduction to The World of Work" with over 250 young people, presentation skills sessions and the Great Debate at Birkenhead High School Academy.
- Validated Key Stage Four results show the Progress 8 measure for Wirral increased slightly to 0.04 and is above the national average of -0.02 and the North West average of -0.16. Wirral ranks 2nd in the North West. Six Wirral schools are featured in the top ten highest performing schools in Merseyside although there is wide disparity in Wirral with four secondary schools listed in the lowest 346 schools in the country.
- Post 16 participation rates are good with 93.5% 16 and 17 year old cohort (7,134 young people) participating in some form of employment, education and training (EET). The proportions of Wirral young people NEET have been maintained at a low level for the last 4 years; NEET 3.2% and Not Known 1.7% with Northwest figures higher - NEET 3.4% and Not Known 3.1%.

- The children looked after rate has remained relatively stable this year to date but remains high. The recent Ofsted monitoring visit has highlighted improved practice for children in care. There is now a stronger focus on permanence with 34 care orders discharged, and 19 children have been adopted so far this year. However, there is still more to do and there is a continued focus.
- The number of children on Protection Plans (CPPs) is anticipated to remain high in the short term whilst work is focused on reducing the number of children who are unnecessarily subject of Care Orders where there is no improvement for the child.
- MARAC cases continue to rise when compared to last year. Following a reduction in staffing in the Family Safety Unit over the previous quarter, the IDVA service is now back to a fully staffed service and we are able to deal with the demand of new cases. Repeat rate of Domestic Abuse show a worsening trend over the previous 12 months. This increase was expected due to national changes in repeat criteria and we will continue to monitor over the remainder of the plan.
- In October we held the first Wirral Zero Tolerance towards Domestic Abuse Conference. A new Business Quality Mark was launched supporting businesses to tackle Domestic Abuse in their own workforce or communities around them. The conference also saw the launch of [www.itsneverokwirral.org](http://www.itsneverokwirral.org) a website designed to provide information and support for Domestic Abuse victims, survivors and practitioners in one place.

## **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 effective 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 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 2018/19 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. 2017/18 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: <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
- People with Disabilities live Independent Lives – Graham Hodgkinson
- Zero Tolerance to Domestic Violence – Mark Camborne

#### **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>

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## APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Wirral Plan Children and Families Committee 2018/19 Quarter 3 Pledge Reports

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

### SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
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
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee	3 July 2018
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee	25 September 2018
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee	13 November 2018