



CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Monday 13th September 2021

REPORT TITLE:	CHILDREN'S SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of progress made to date on the development of a new performance reporting framework for Members of the Children, Young People & Education Committee. This is not a key decision.

There have been two significant areas of development over recent months, the first being the Performance Report which can be found in Appendix A. In addition to this, a new interactive Councillors Dashboard has also been developed using Power BI which will allow Elected Members to view data at Wirral or Ward level.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Children, Young People and Education Committee is recommended to:

1. Note progress made to date and the next steps involved in developing and rolling out a new performance monitoring framework
2. Note the content of the Performance Report (Appendix A) and highlight any areas requiring further clarification or action

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 To ensure Members of the Children, Young People & Education Committee have the opportunity to monitor, review and challenge performance of the Council's Children's Services Directorate.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 This report has been developed in conjunction with the Chair of the Children, Young People & Education Committee and party spokes. Various options were considered before agreeing on a quarterly Performance Report, supported by automated Children's Services data reports.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Over recent months, there have been two significant areas of development:

- (1) The creation of a Power BI Dashboard for Elected Members, and
- (2) The development of a supplementary Performance Report

3.2 Power BI Dashboard

- 3.3 A dashboard has been developed using Power BI, the Council's business intelligence system. Power BI provides users with access to real-time data whenever they want to see it. It is an interactive tool that allows users to view data across Wirral or drill down to Ward level.

- 3.4 The dashboard has been structured around eight groups, each containing a set of indicators:

- 1) Demand
- 2) Keeping children safe
- 3) Looking after children well
- 4) Schools
- 5) Education
- 6) SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities)
- 7) Workforce
- 8) Budgets

- 3.5 Members of the Children, Young People & Education Committee were invited to attend a Power BI webinar on 25th August. The event provided Elected Members with an introduction to Power BI showing how to access and navigate around the system. Following the event, Elected Members were provided with a logon to the system.

- 3.6 The initial focus was to develop the 'Demand' and 'Keeping Children Safe' reports. Over the coming months we will further develop the dashboard by creating the reports that underpin the other indicator groups.

3.7 Performance Report (Appendix A)

- 3.8 In addition to the Power BI dashboard, a separate Performance Report has also been produced (Appendix A). Similarly to the Power BI Dashboard, this report has also been structured around the eight indicator groups.
- 3.9 The data contained within the Performance Report relates to Quarter 1, 2021/22 (period ending Jun-21). Where Quarter 1 data was not available, the most recent, up to date information has been provided.
- 3.10 The report also contains historic data and a trend line that shows direction of travel.
- 3.11 For each indicator group, there is also a supporting narrative that highlights any changes in performance or areas of concern.
- 3.12 Going forward, we will continue to improve the performance report by providing a more complete dataset and detailed explanations as to what action is being taken to improve performance in certain areas. We will also include benchmarking data so comparisons to England averages can be made.

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: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

- 6.1 There are none arising from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 The Council's Corporate and Directorate Risks Registers are currently under review to reflect the thematic priorities of the Council's new Corporate Plan including the impact and recovery from Covid-19. Information on the key risks faced by the organisation and the associated mitigations and planned actions will be report to Committee once refreshed.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 A Performance Monitoring session was held with the chair of the Children, Young People & Education Committee, and party spokes on 4th March 2021 to review current performance monitoring arrangements and to define a new, improved approach.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision, or activity. There are no equality issues arising from this report.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no environmental or climate implications generated by the recommendations in this report.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Children’s Service Performance Report

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Data and performance information held in Children’s Services Management Information Systems and accessed via the Council’s business intelligence system Power BI.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Children, Young People & Education Committee Children’s Services Performance Management	15/06/2021
Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2019/20 Q3 Wirral Plan Performance	17/03/2020
Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2019/20 Q2 Wirral Plan Performance	11/11/2019
Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2019/20 Q1 Wirral Plan Performance	25/09/2019
Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1) 2019/19 Q4 and year-end Wirral Plan Performance 2) Wirral Improvement Board Databook	03/07/2019
Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2018/19 Q3 Wirral Plan Performance	27/02/2019
Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2018/19 Q2 Wirral Plan Performance	13/11/2018

Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2018/19 Q1 Wirral Plan Performance	25/09/2018
Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2017/18 Q4 and year-end Wirral Plan Performance	03/07/2018