

## **Quarter 2 Performance and Financial Monitoring: Questions from G. Waller relating to People Directorate**

1. Why are we still comparing ourselves, especially in the people directorate indicators, with the national position and not statistically similar areas? If we were to compare with similar areas would we lose by the comparison?

Data from 2016 shows that Rutland compares very favourably with our statistical neighbours; outperforming them in most areas. We are currently awaiting 2017 data.

2. Why is the progress between KS1 and KS2 showing negative progress in writing? Why is progress for reading and maths described as broadly average compared to the national average when the government website clearly shows Rutland as below national average for maths? (performance report para 6.3)  
<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=phase&region=857&geographic=la&phase=primary>

Progress scores in writing in 2017 showed improvement from that attained in 2016 (2016 -1.3 2017 -0.3). In 2017; just over 50% of schools had positive progress scores. A negative score of one

school of -8.5 (a cohort of just 4 pupils) impacted on the overall LA progress score being just below national average. However improving progress across KS2 is still an area of improvement across the authority and a focus of challenge to all primary schools from the LA.

+0.2 progress score for maths falls in the average band (around 60% of schools nationally). The link Cllr Waller refers to is 2016 data

We, as members, have been raising the issue of Rutland's results at primary school for a number of years and yet improvement doesn't seem to be happening, why?

- Improved Key Stage 1 performance with outcomes in reading, writing and mathematics remaining above the national average in 2017
- An improving trend in Key Stage 2 outcomes in reading, writing and mathematics combined from a very low starting point in 2013 and further decline in 2014. Rutland's results for L4 RWM was below all but one other LA in England in 2014 and is now well above in 2017. Particular improvement is evident in Key Stage 2 mathematics in 2017.
- An improving picture in Key Stage 1-2 progress in all subjects, most particularly writing

The following has been identified as areas that need further improvement:

- Whilst end of Key Stage 1 outcomes have been consistently above the national average, the proportion of pupils achieving at greater depth is below that seen nationally in writing and mathematics indicating that further challenge and support to schools for setting high expectations is a priority for 2017-18.
- Whilst there is a clear upward trend in 2017 Key Stage 2 pupil outcomes for primary aged pupils in Rutland schools, the high outcomes of some schools mask the continued under performance of others. For example, whilst local authority Key Stage 2 attainment at the expected standard was above the national average in all subjects in 2017, six schools were below the national standard in reading and writing and ten schools were below in mathematics.
- Although there is much to be celebrated in the outcomes achieved by children and young people in Rutland schools, there is evidence that there are inconsistencies in the performance of some groups of pupils over time. Owing to the relatively small number of pupils in Rutland schools and approximately 400 pupils in Rutland schools in each school year, data for groups of pupils is aggregated over three or more years to help to identify where there are patterns or trends of underperformance of groups.

3. Why are girls performing 2% worse than the national average at KS2 (para 6.5)?

The gender gap at both Key Stage 2 and 4 is currently narrower than national averages. At Key Stage 2 the gap is 5% compared to 9% nationally (which is a positive measure where smaller is better). Data for girls at KS2, at the expected standard, show girls in Rutland to be significantly above all girls nationally

**Fig A2.1.11 – Attainment by gender – KS2 combined reading, writing and mathematics**

KS2 R,W,M	% Expected Standard			% Achieving a high score		
	All	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls
National	61	57	65	9	7	10
East Mids	58	54	62	8	6	9
Rutland	67	62	72	9	9	8
Difference:	+6	+5	+7	0	+2	-2

*SFR43/2017: National curriculum assessments at key stage 2, 2017 (provisional)*

I think the reference is to those girls achieving a high score which is a key focus area for 2017-18

4. Why is the staff absence rate in People directorate proportionally higher than in other directorates?

Due to the nature of the services people's services usually exhibits a greater sickness level that other areas

in many councils. The level of sickness in the peoples directorate also needs to be put into context of sickness in local government in general. The days lost due to sickness per FTE employee in peoples was 1.83 this compares to an average sickness for single and upper tier authorities of 9.4 days.

Further the level of sickness in People's has reduced from 1.95 in Q1 to 1.83 in Q2 and the number of people on long term sick have been halved from 8 in Q1 to 4 in Q2.