

# PEOPLE (CHILDREN) SCRUTINY PANEL

16 August 2012

## QUARTER 1 SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE 2012-13

Report of the Strategic Director for People

STRATEGIC AIM:	<p><b>Creating a safer community for all</b>  <b>Creating a brighter future for all</b>  <b>Meeting the health and wellbeing needs of the community</b></p>
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### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides children's safeguarding data and analysis and provides an overview of safeguarding activity in Quarter 1 of 2012/13.

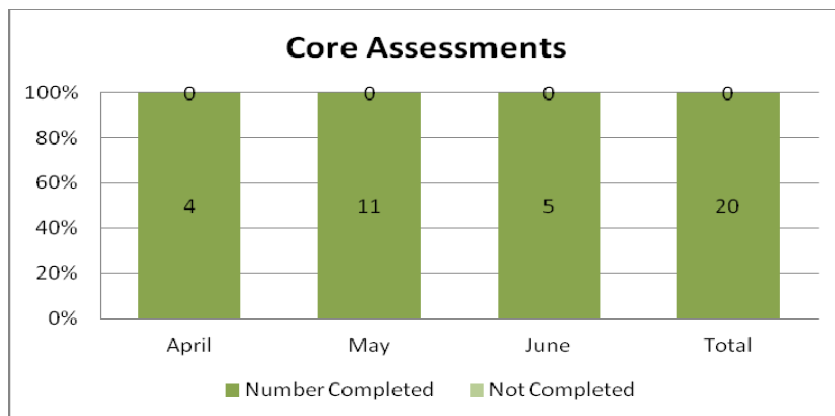
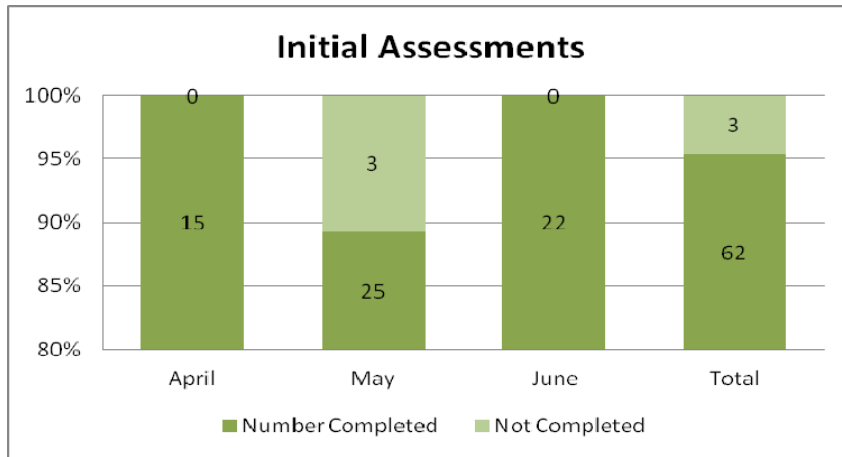
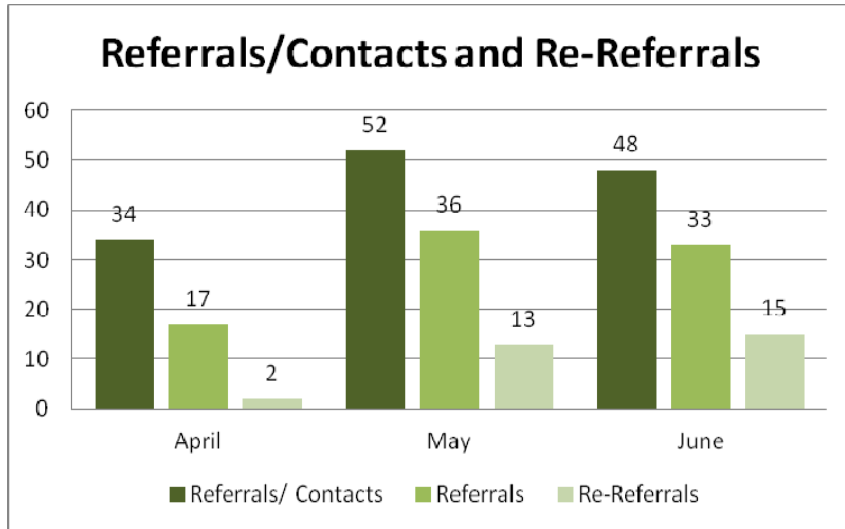
### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

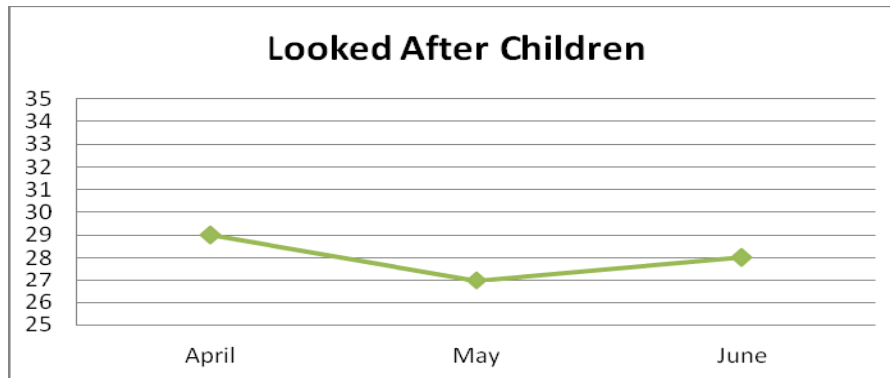
- 2.1 That Scrutiny Panel notes the content of the report.

### 3 CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE UPDATE

- 3.1. Performance in relation to children is good with targets being exceeded and evidence of progress being made in relation to the timely completion of initial and core assessments. Re-referrals continue to require attention.
- 3.2. The current rate of re-referrals is 35% (representing 13 families). There appears to be three main reasons. These include the need for the criterion within the national guidance to be fully implemented, better data cleansing and managers, not other staff, should make the decision about whether a contact/referral is a re-referral. Action is being taken to address these issues. It is expected that there will be a marked improvement in the next quarter.
- 3.3. The timeliness of initial assessments has improved to 95.4% from 80% within 10 days in the last quarter. All core assessments (100%) have been completed within 35 days, which is an improvement from 57% during the last quarter. Weekly monitoring and focused action to achieve improvement has been effective.
- 3.4. The numbers of children looked after (29) and children subject to a child protection plan (13) as at the end June 2012, have remained steady.
- 3.5. Looked after children reviews and child protection conferences continue to be held within timescales although there was one initial child protection conference held out of timescale due to issues relating to the parent's inability to attend the conference on the date set.

4 2012/13 QUARTER 1 CHILDREN DATA





## 5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The staffing budget is overspent due to a number of interim staff.

## 6 RISK MANAGEMENT

RISK	IMPACT	COMMENTS
<b>Time</b>	Low	Within agreed reporting timescales.
<b>Viability</b>	Low	Performance within agreed parameters.
<b>Finance</b>	Low	Should referral rates continue to rise additional there is a low risk that staffing funding may be required in the future.
<b>Profile</b>	High	Safeguarding work continues to be high profile in both areas particularly in relation to possible negative media attention.
<b>Equality &amp; Diversity</b>	Medium	This area of work is across a diverse spectrum of vulnerable groups in the community which may raise issues in relation to E&D

**Background Papers**  
None

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A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.