

# PEOPLE (CHILDREN) SCRUTINY

29 November 2012

## QUARTER 2 SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE 2012-13

Report of the Strategic Director for People

STRATEGIC AIM:	<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>		
KEY DECISION	NO	DATE ITEM FIRST APPEARED ON FORWARD PLAN	September 2012

### 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 2 of 2012/13. The children's data (except for the re-referral information) is shared with partners as required by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) performance scorecard.
- 1.2** The draft Local Safeguarding Children Board/Safeguarding Adults Board annual report has just been received and is appended to this report for information (Appendix A).

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

### 3. CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE UPDATE

- 3.1** Performance is good with targets being exceeded and evidence of progress being sustained in relation to the timely completion of initial and core assessments. The action taken to reduce the re-referral rate has been effective and the current re-referral rate is 13.5%. There was an increase in referrals this quarter (107) but a decrease in the percentage of referrals going to initial assessment (53.3%). This decrease has resulted from a change in processes following the Safeguarding and Looked After Children (SLAC) Inspection, whereby all requests for a service are now classed as referrals; referrals are screened to determine which proceed to an initial assessment using the same threshold criteria that were previously used.
- 3.2** The timeliness of initial assessments has improved from 95.4% to 100% within 10 days in the last quarter. All core assessments (100%) have been completed within 35 days. Weekly monitoring and focused action to achieve improvement continues to be effective.
- 3.3** The numbers of children looked after has reduced slightly (25) and children subject to a child protection plan has increased (20). All review child

protection conferences continue to be held within timescale as are Looked After Children Reviews. We continue to achieve stability and permanence for Looked After Children.

- 3.4** There has been a reduction in the numbers of referrals resulting in a Common Assessment Framework (CAF) (the multi-agency assessment tool for identifying early stage difficulties for children and families) this quarter (11) and the work on re-referrals has confirmed the need to improve the interface between the CAF and social care. Proposals in relation to the “step up, step down” processes to and from CAF/social care are being finalised and will shortly be submitted to DMT.

**4. 2012/13 Qtr 2 CHILDREN DATA with Q1 for comparison**

<i>Numbers under 5 have been replaced by a 'x' to avoid the identification of individual service users</i>	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Reporting Frequency
Number of contacts to Children's Social Care (include referrals)	156	180			336	Quarterly
Number of referrals to Children's Social Care	86	107			193	Quarterly
Number of referrals including domestic abuse incidents	9	11			20	Quarterly
Number of referrals made by Emergency Duty Team (EDT)/Out of Hours Team	x	x			6	Quarterly
Number/Percentage of referrals going onto Initial Assessment	65	57			122	Quarterly
	75.6%	53.3%				
Number/Percentage of Initial Assessment carried out within 10 working days	62	57			119	Quarterly
	95.4%	100.0%				
Number/Percentage of Initial Assessments escalated to Core Assessments	x	10			12	Quarterly
	2.6%	17.5%				
Number/Percentage of Core Assessments carried out within 35 working days	20	30			50	Quarterly
	100.0%	100.0%				
Number of new Common Assessment Frameworks (CAFs)	19	11			30	Quarterly
Number/Proportion of Children's Social Care referrals that result in a CAF	11.6%	9.3%				Quarterly
	10	10			20	

Re-referrals				
	Number	Total	Monthly %	Overall %
April	2/17	2/17	11.8%	11.8%
May	7/36	9/53	19.4%	17%
June	8/33	17/86	24.2%	19.8%
July	2/27	19/113	7.4%	16.8%
August	3/31	22/144	9.7%	15.28%

September	4/49	26/193	8.2%	13.5%
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	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Reporting Frequency
Number of children subject to a Child Protection (CP) Plan	13	20				Quarterly
<b>Number/Rate in each Category of Abuse</b>						
<i>Numbers under 5 have been replaced by a 'x' to avoid the identification of individual service users</i>						
Neglect	8	10				Quarterly
Physical	x	x				
Emotional	x	8				
Sexual	0	0				
Multiple	x	x				
<b>Ethnicity of Child on CP Plan</b>						
White	13	20				Quarterly
Mixed	0	0				
Asian	0	0				
Black	0	0				
Other	0	0				
Undetermined	0	0				
Percentage of CP cases which were reviewed within required timescales	57.1%	72.7%				Quarterly Target - 100%
Number of CP cases allocated to a Social Worker	100.0%	100.0%				Target - 100%

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Reporting Frequency
Number of Looked After Children	28	25				Quarterly
<b>Ethnicity of Looked After Children (LAC)</b>						
<i>Numbers under 5 have been replaced by a 'x' to avoid the identification of individual service users</i>						
White	25	22			n/a	Quarterly
Mixed	x	x			n/a	
Asian	0	0			n/a	
Black	0	0			n/a	
Other	x	x			n/a	
Undetermined	0	0			n/a	
<b>Age</b>						
<i>Numbers under 5 have been replaced by a 'x' to avoid the identification of individual service users</i>						
0 - 4	6	x			n/a	Quarterly
5 - 9	9	9			n/a	
10 - 15	7	7			n/a	
16+	6	x			n/a	
<b>Gender</b>						
Male	17	15			n/a	Quarterly
Female	11	10			n/a	

Percentage of LAC at period end with 3 or more placements	0.0%	0.0%				Quarterly Target - 6%
LAC cases which were reviewed within required timescales	100.0%	100.0%				Quarterly Target -75%

## 5. 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	Safeguarding remains a priority for funding.
<b>Profile</b>	High	Safeguarding work continues to be high profile with the potential for significant 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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