

# PEOPLE (CHILDREN) SCRUTINY PANEL

21 February 2013

## QUARTER 3 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>
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### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report provides children's safeguarding data and analysis and provides an overview of safeguarding activity in Quarter 3 of 2012/13. This data (except for the re-referral information) is shared with partners as required by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) performance scorecard.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

### 3. CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE UPDATE

- 3.1 This report provides an overview of safeguarding activity in Quarter 3 of 2012/13. It aims to highlight good practice and identify areas for development/improvement which will be incorporated into delivery plans for the relevant service areas. The data (except for the re-referral information) is shared with partners as required by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) performance scorecard.
- 3.2 Performance continues to be good with targets being sustained in relation to the timely completion of initial and core assessments. The action taken to reduce the re-referral rate continues to be effective and the current re-referral rate is 17.5%.
- 3.3 There was a decrease in referrals this quarter (83 as opposed to 107 in Q2) The number of contacts recorded between October and December 2012 was 143. This is a 20% decrease from that of Q2. 83 of the 143 contacts (58%) went onto referral.
- 3.4 The timeliness of initial assessments continues to be good at 93.2% within 10 days in the last quarter. The overall percentage of initial assessments carried out within 10 working days (previous NI 59) between April and December 2012 is 96.1% compared to 80.5% for the same period in 2011/12.
- 3.5 All core assessments (100%) have been completed within 35 days. Weekly monitoring and focused action to achieve improvement continues to be effective.

- 3.6 The number of children subject to a child protection (CP) plan has reduced to 12, compared to 20 in quarter 2, a decrease of 40%. Of the 9 CP plans that ended between Oct and Dec 2012, none had been at least 2 years in duration (previous NI 64).
- 3.7 Of children with a child protection plan at 3 Dec 2012, the largest age group was 0 to 4 (5 children) followed by age 5 to 9 (4 children), representing 75% of all children with CP plans. 42% of children with CP plans at the end of March 2012 were male and 58% female. All 12 were White British.
- 3.8 The numbers of children looked after remains the same as last quarter at 25. Of the children in care at 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2012, 3 (12%) were from minority ethnic groups compared to 1.9% of the Rutland population recorded in the 2001 Census.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Reporting Frequency
Number of contacts to Children's Social Care (include referrals)	156	180	143		<b>479</b>	Quarterly
Number of referrals to Children's Social Care	86	107	83		<b>276</b>	Quarterly
Number of Referrals including domestic abuse incidents	9	11	7		<b>27</b>	Quarterly
Number of referrals made by EDT/Out of Hours Team (including those that were recorded as contacts only)	6	4	6		<b>16</b>	Quarterly
Number/Percentage of referrals going onto Initial Assessment	65	66	59		<b>190</b>	Quarterly
	75.6%	61.7%	71.1%			
Number/Percentage of Initial Assessment carried out within 10 working days	62	66	55		<b>183</b>	Quarterly
	95.4%	100.0%	93.2%			
Number/Percentage of Initial Assessments escalated to Core Assessments	2	10	10		<b>22</b>	Quarterly
	2.6%	17.5%	16.9%			
Number/Percentage of Core Assessments carried out within 35 working days	20	30	29		<b>79</b>	Quarterly
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%			
Number of strategy discussion meetings	37	12	9		<b>58</b>	Quarterly
Number of S47 enquiries	29	12	9		<b>50</b>	
Number of CAF referrals	10	10	8		<b>28</b>	Quarterly
Proportion of Children's Social Care referrals that result in a CAF	11.6%	9.3%	1.7%		<b>2</b>	

- 3.9 The largest age group of children in care at 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2012 was age 5 to 9 which represents 32% of the total care population, with 28% aged 10 to 15, 20% age 16 and over and 20% age 0 to 4.
- 3.10 Of the 25 in care at 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2012, no children had experienced 3 or more placements (previous NI 62). This compares to 3.4% reported for 2011/12.
- 3.11 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.
- 3.12 There were 8 referrals to CAF of which 2 were referred by social care this quarter. The percentage of social care referrals that result in a CAF has reduced significantly this quarter to 1.7% and this needs attention. We are undertaking a project to improve the robustness of the “step up, step down” processes to and from CAF/social care; proposals are being finalised and will be implemented as soon as possible.

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	4/27	21/113	14.8%	18.6%
August	3/31	24/144	9.7%	16.7%
September	4/49	28/193	8.2%	14.5%
October	5/33	33/226	15.2%	14.6%
November	10/24	43/250	41.7%	17.2%
December	5/26	48/276	19.2%	17.4%

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Reporting Frequency
Number of children subject to a CP Plan	13	20	12			Quarterly
<b>Number/Rate in each Category of Abuse</b>						
Neglect	8	10	11			Quarterly
Physical	1	1	0			
Emotional	2	8	1			
Sexual	0	0	0			
Multiple	2	1	0			
<b>Ethnicity - Number in each Category</b>						
White	13	20	12			Quarterly
Mixed	0	0	0			
Asian	0	0	0			
Black	0	0	0			
Other	0	0	0			
Undetermined	0	0	0			
<b>Age of Child on CP Plan</b>						

Unborn	1	0	0			Quarterly
0 - 4	5	7	5			
5 - 9	3	7	4			
10 - 15	4	5	2			
16+	1	1	1			
<b>Gender of Child on CP Plan</b>						
Male	7	9	5			Quarterly
Female	5	11	7			
Unborn	1	0	0			
Percentage of CP cases which were reviewed within required timescales						
	72.7%	100.0%	100.0%			Quarterly Target - 100%
Number of CP cases allocated to a Social Worker						
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%			Target - 100%

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Reporting Frequency
Number of Looked After Children	28	25	25			Quarterly
<b>Ethnicity of LAC</b>						
White	25	22	22		n/a	Quarterly
Mixed	1	1	1		n/a	
Asian	0	0			n/a	
Black	0	0			n/a	
Other	2	2	2		n/a	
Undetermined	0	0			n/a	
<b>Age</b>						
0 - 4	6	4	5		n/a	Quarterly
5 - 9	9	9	8		n/a	
10 - 15	7	7	7		n/a	
16+	6	5	5		n/a	
<b>Gender</b>						
Male	17	15	15		n/a	Quarterly
Female	11	10	10		n/a	

Percentage of LAC at period end with 3 or more placements	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%			Quarterly Target - 6%
LAC cases which were reviewed within required timescales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%			Quarterly Target - 75%
Stability of placements of LAC: length of placement	Reported annually					Annual Target - 70%

#### 4. RISK MANAGEMENT

<b>RISK</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<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

**Report Author**  
Wendy Poynton  
Assistant Director: People

Tel No: (01572) 722577  
e-mail: [enquiries@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@rutland.gov.uk)

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