

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

24 February 2022

### CHILDREN'S SERVICES PERFORMANCE AS AT END OF QUARTER THREE

#### Report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services

Strategic Aim:	Protecting the vulnerable	
Exempt Information	No	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	Cllr D Wilby, Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services	
Contact Officer(s):	Jonathan Weller, Business Intelligence Manager	01572 758233 jweller@rutland.gov.uk
	Dawn Godfrey, Strategic Director for Children's Services	01572 758358 dgodfrey@rutland.gov.uk
Ward Councillors	All	

#### DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

1. Notes year-to-date performance information as at the end of quarter three (April – December) 2021-22.

## 1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT



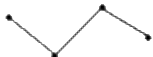

















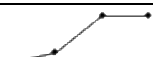




- 1.1 This report provides a table showing the key performance indicators (KPIs) for children's services for consideration and comment by the committee. Key points related to the data are also discussed in a summary commentary.



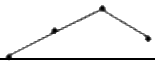




## 2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 The table shows performance against this year's target using a red/amber/green system, along with a trend line showing the last four quarterly positions.
- 2.2 Some measures are included to provide a picture of current demand for services and therefore no targets or trends are shown.

## 3 PERFORMANCE DATA

- 3.1 Table showing 2021-22 performance as at end of quarter three (April – December).

Service/ KPI name	2020-21 outturn	2021-22 end of Q3	2021-22 target		Trend – last four quarters
<b>Contacts and referrals</b>					
Number of contacts received	1,524	1,029	-	-	-
Number of referrals received	248	97	-	-	-
% re-referrals within last 12 months	38%	14%	25%		
<b>Assessments</b>					
Number of single assessments	261	110	-	-	-
% single assessments completed within 45 days	91%	99%	90%		
% children seen as part of an assessment	92%	100%	95%		
Number of CSE cases	9	4	-	-	-
Number of children missing from home/care episodes	27	5	-	-	-
<b>Virtual visits</b>					
% of statutory visits carried out virtually ( <i>started March 2020 due to covid-19</i> )	17%	6%	-	-	-
<b>Children in need (CIN)</b>					
Number of CIN	85	26	-	-	-
% CIN seen in timescale	99%	100%	90%		
% CIN reviews completed in timescale	80%	95%	90%		
<b>Child protection (CP)</b>					
Number of CP cases	8	9	-	-	-
% children subject to CP plan seen in timescale	100%	100%	100%		
% CP reviews on time	100%	90%	100%		
% core groups held on time	97%	100%	100%		
<b>Children looked after (CLA)</b>					
Number of CLA Cases	35	25	-	-	-
% CLA seen in timescale	100%	100%	100%		
% CLA reviews on time	93%	98%	100%		
% children placed in non-LA placements	31%	56%	40%		
Number of in-house fostering households	11	10	-	-	-
<b>Care leavers</b>					
% Care leavers in appropriate accommodation	100%	100%	100%		

Service/ KPI name	2020-21 outturn	2021-22 end of Q3	2021-22 target		Trend – last four quarters
% Care leavers in EET	79%	81%	80%		
% Care leavers we are in touch with	100%	100%	100%		
<b>Early Help and SEND</b>					
Number of current active early help cases (children)	95	69	-	-	-
% of all cases closed in year stepped up to social care	14%	3%	5%		
Total number of children open to CWD	15	15	-	-	-
<b>Education inclusion partnership</b>					
Number of referrals since launch ( <i>launched Feb 2020</i> )	55	117	-	-	-
<b>RCC Staff</b>					
Children's Services staff turnover rate	3.7%	8.6%	-	-	-

## 4 COMMENTARY

- 4.1 Improved re-referral rates (14% compared to 38% last year) continue to be a feature of performance, quarter three seeing just 12% (4 out of 33 cases) re-referrals. Audits of re-referrals continue and show that threshold applications are generally correct. Any learnings from audits are applied to practice and will remain a focus to sustain the improvement seen this year. For comparison, re-referral rates average 25% regionally and 23% nationally.
- 4.2 Assessments completed in timescale stand at 99% (109 out of 110), continuing the long-term trend of improvement. A live data reporting system and ongoing management scrutiny is helping to sustain this performance level. The English average for assessment completion is 88% within timescale.
- 4.3 Children seen as part of an assessment has again been 100%, after dropping below target last year due to differences in the recording of virtual home visits during lockdown. Social workers continue to be supported to engage with children and families safely and there has been an increase in children having face to face visits this year.
- 4.4 Work continues with the children who have been missing to reduce these occurrences. The service is developing a new recording mechanism for missing children to ensure robust data capture and analysis.
- 4.5 Children in need (CIN) seen within timescale is 100% (26 out of 26) for the second consecutive quarter. This continues the trend of improvement from last year, helped by continued management oversight and use of a live data reporting system. CIN reviews completed within timescale is 95% for the year, better than the target. Earlier in the year, several reviews outside of timescale included some avoidable mistakes relating to date and diary planning. This was addressed with individual social workers and performance since August has been 100% every month for this KPI.

- 4.6 All children subject to a child protection plan were seen in timescale and all core groups were held on time for the fifth consecutive quarter. Our current child protection case number per 10,000 children is the third lowest in the country.
- 4.7 Children looked after (CLA) seen in timescale is 100%, meeting target and maintaining the standard set last year. CLA in non-local authority placements is currently 56% (14 children out of 25). This is outside our 40% target and includes recently arrived unaccompanied child asylum seekers in special provision outside of Rutland. CLA reviews held on time is 98% this year (65 out of 66), the one review missing target being in April. This continues a long-term improvement trend (93% last year, 84% the year before).
- 4.8 Our CLA rate per 10,000 children is 32, the fifth lowest rate in England. For comparison, the regional and national averages are 64 and 67 per 10,000 children.
- 4.9 100% of care leavers are in appropriate accommodation. The regional and national averages for this KPI are 90% and 88%. The accommodation ranges from semi-independent living, social housing and flat shares to private rentals.
- 4.10 81% of care leavers (30 out of 37) are currently in employment, education or training, meaning Rutland remains the best performing local authority in England for this KPI. A milestone was achieved in quarter one this year, where we hit our own challenging 80% target for the first time in almost two years. For comparison, the regional average for care leavers in EET is 55% and the national average 52%.
- 4.11 The percentage of early help cases closed and stepped up to social care this year is 3%, or two cases. In both cases the appropriate thresholds had been met.
- 4.12 Information on the number of referrals to education inclusion partnership (EIP) is now part of this report. All primary schools are included, and referrals are most prevalent in years 4 and 5. Of the 117 primary referrals, 89 related to boys and 28 girls. Most referrals continue to be based on social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) or autism needs, a smaller number being for ADHD and 'other' reasons. Secondary school EIP support continues, and monthly risk/case discussion meetings are established with Casterton and UCC. The offer of professional development in relation to SEMH has been accepted by all schools.

## **5 CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 Not applicable.

## **6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 6.1 Not applicable.

## **7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The number of children looked after can have a significant impact on the council's budget. As a result of improved social care practice, the number of children looked after has reduced over the past 12 months resulting in a forecasted underspend at quarter three in relation to this area of the Children's budget of c£250k for the year.

## **8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

8.1 There are no legal and governance considerations.

## **9 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) has not been completed because there are no risks/issues to the rights and freedoms of natural persons.

## **10 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has not been completed because there are no service, policy or organisational changes being proposed.

## **11 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no community safety implications.

## **12 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications.

## **13 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

13.1 It is recommended that the committee continues to receive a regular performance report on children's services which will enable them to consider performance in key areas and areas for further scrutiny.

## **14 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

14.1 There are no additional background papers to the report.

## **15 APPENDICES**

15.1 There are no appendices.

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