

Families and Social Care Directorate – End of Year Business Plan Report 2012/13

Division: Specialist Children's Services

Priority:	Progress
1. Deliver high quality, rigorous and consistent frontline practice to safeguard children and young people.	Green
2. Provide a streamlined continuum of early intervention services for children and families.	Green
3. Deliver effective corporate parenting and improve outcomes for children in care and care leavers.	Green
4. Increase LAC permanency and stability to ensure LAC feel safe and nurtured in a home setting, including reducing the number of adolescents becoming looked after, where appropriate and safe to do so.	Green
5. Ensure the most robust and effective child protection arrangements.	Green
6. Develop high quality child and family centred services which promote personalisation and respond to the needs of disabled children, young people and their families.	Amber
7. Deliver services through a locality based integrated structure which is fit for purpose, strongly managed, and staffed by experienced and competent social workers.	Amber
<p>Key Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on these priorities has contributed to positive Ofsted inspections this year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inspection of Local Authority arrangements for the protection of children, judgement of adequate ○ Inspection of fostering agency. Judgement of adequate with good areas • The establishment of the multi-agency central referral unit (CRU) has improved information sharing, consistency and strengthened decision making at the point of initial contact and referral. • The fostering service has successfully restructured. Foster care support has become part of the area children in care teams. • Exceeded target of 140 new foster carers approved • Increased number of KCC foster carers by 5.1% to a total of 820. • All 3 Multi Agency Specialist Hub (MASH) buildings in East Kent are operational, with health and education staff. • Increase in overall provision of short break services for disabled children. • Early intervention and prevention service providers have been through a robust re-commissioning process to ensure that they are delivering the services required. • All five short break residential units are delivering a high quality service to children and their families in Kent. This is reflected in the Ofsted Inspections with one unit achieving an "Outstanding" rating and all other units achieving a "Good" rating. The units are delivered in partnership with Health and the revised Health model. • The ePEP has been introduced and rolled out across the county. Training is in place for schools and social workers and a training manual will be provided to foster carers. Monitoring of the quantity and quality of PEPs remains a priority for VSK • The OCPYC (our children and young people council) has been established and continues to develop in response to the views of young people. . • A participation plan is in place, with participation events taking place for children in care during every school holiday. Four activity days have been held in 2013; which had a total 	

of 121 different children attend with 26 children attending more than one day.

- The VSK Young People's website has been developed and has recently instigated a "you said, we did" page to ensure young people receive feedback.
- Increase in the number of children placed for adoption from 68 in 2011 to 2012 to 143 in 2012 - 2013
- Increase in the number of children adopted from 70 in 2011 - 2012 to 105 in 2012-2013
- Increase in the number of adopters approved from 67 in 2011 -2012 to 87 in 2012-2013.
- The adoption service has established a dedicated family finding team.

Key issues:

- Many of the targets and priorities outlined in the business plan are ongoing, there remains a continued focus on quality, effectiveness and consistency of practice
- Recruitment remains an on-going challenge

Division: Strategic Commissioning

Priority:	Progress
PRIORITY 1: Strategic Commissioning Transformation Programme	Green
PRIORITY 2: Restructure Strategic commissioning	Green
PRIORITY 3: Ensure we provide the most robust and effective public protection - ADULTS	Green
PRIORITY 4: Develop and commission a range of outcome based preventative services to avoid unnecessary family breakdown	Green
PRIORITY 5: Deliver high quality early years services that provide value for money and are targeted at the most vulnerable families in Kent (Children Centre FSO)	Amber
PRIORITY 6: Develop and commission services to improve outcomes for children and young people in care and seek to reduce the number of adolescents becoming looked after where appropriate and safe to do so	Green
PRIORITY 7: Ensure KCC deliver statutory services that offer value for money and support the delivery of efficiency savings	Green
PRIORITY 8 : Improve how we procure and commission services	Green
PRIORITY 9: Advice, information and Guidance	Green
PRIORITY 10: Support for carers	Amber
PRIORITY 11: Review use of residential care – building on prevention, enablement and avoiding long term admissions wherever possible.	Amber
PRIORITY 12: Developing a range and choice of services that support people in the community and help them to be as independent as possible	Green
PRIORITY 13: Accommodation & Housing Solutions	Green
PRIORITY 14: Sensory Services	Amber
PRIORITY 15: Business Continuity	Green
PRIORITY 16: Continuously review performance information and scrutiny to support and improve operational business and outcomes for service users	Green
PRIORITY 17: Support the delivery of FSC key business objectives with timely, relevant, effective information management	Green
Key Achievements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1 – Appointment of Efficiency Partner to support implementation and identify levels of savings • Priority 2 – New Strategic Commissioning Structure implemented with effect 1.10.12 • Priority 3 – The delivery of the Post Winterbourne Conference in March 2013 • Priority 3 – The implementation of the new arrangements for the Deprivation of Liberty (DOLS) • Priority 4 – Outcome based specifications acknowledged in the peer led improvement review. • Priority 8 – 2 consortia bids successful as part of the Early Intervention Framework 	

- Priority 11 – Carer Assessments and Support Services – new contracts let and work is on-going with new providers to embed new contracts and ensure smooth handover for carers from one organisation to another.
- Priority 12 – New Supporting Independence Services Contract in place, with a review in place to respond to feedback from providers about the consequences of new contract.
- Priority 12 – Single Tender Action with current meal delivery provider, with agreed price negotiation to remove bandings and generate savings. Re-let of contract will be part of the Transformation Programme.
- Priority 13 – A Place to Live – Accommodation Strategy being developed in line with Transformation Blue Print – full document due in November with appendices to be developed over the following years
- Priority 16 – have made use of EY Web mandatory, resulting in significant efficiency and cost savings (due to split of Children’s Performance Team - now responsibility of ELS)
- Priority 16 – Development of KNet – use of SharePoint for publishing Performance Monitoring reports
- Priority 17 – significant improvements in safeguarding data and performance, through 1:1 support and training with the teams, ensuring staff are aware of safeguarding procedures and the correct data input.
- Priority 17 – allocation of personal budgets has met the new National targets, with on-going support to the teams.

Key issues:

- Priority 3 – Volume of safeguarding alerts has increased significantly, and over 40% of alerts are from residential settings requiring more complex investigations.
- Priority 5 - is reported as Amber due to the complexity of the Children Centre FSO review which has meant that there has been a revised timetable put in place.
- Priority 10 – Short Breaks Commissioning Strategy to be delivered as part of the Transformation Programme
- Priority 11 – will be delivered through the Transformation Programme – Efficiency partners now appointed.
- Priority 12 – Day Opportunities – no new procurement pending commissioning strategy and transformation. Grants now end 2014 (was 2013) to allow this to happen.
- Priority 14 – is reported as Amber due to the delay of the Sensory Commissioning Strategy, which is now expected to be completed October 2013. Procurement of Sensory Services will follow, and commence this year 2013/14

RAG Rating Definition

Red – Project/Action/Milestone is not complete and will not be completed

Amber – Project/Action/Milestone is partially complete or continuing

Green – Project/Action/Milestone has been completed