

By: Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

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To: Corporate Parenting Panel – 19th September 2018

Subject: **PERFORMANCE SCORECARD FOR CHILDREN IN CARE**

Classification: Unrestricted

Electoral Divisions: All

Summary: The performance Scorecard for Children in Care identifies the key performance data and targets that need to be monitored to promote the best outcomes for children and young people looked after by Kent County Council. The latest performance Scorecard for June 2018 is attached to this report.

Recommendation: Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are asked to **NOTE** and **COMMENT** on the performance data in the Children in Care scorecard.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Performance scorecards have been developed to identify and monitor progress on a range of areas where improvements in performance and practice will lead to better outcomes for children and young people.
- 1.2 This report includes the latest Children in Care Scorecard which is for June 2018.

2. Context

- 2.1 The Children in Care Scorecard has been developed to provide the Corporate Parenting Panel with an overview of the key performance measures for Children in Care.
- 2.2 The report is split into sections and includes a range of performance indicators and activity information.
- 2.4 The Children in Care Scorecard is currently focused on information provided by Children's Social Care Services. It is intended that performance reports from partners will also be shared with Corporate Parenting Panel so that performance issues can be further understood across organisations resulting in improved outcomes for children and young people.

3. Summary of Performance – June 2018

- 3.1 The report contains key statistics and performance results against the targets for 24 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), which are assessed using a Red/Amber/Green (RAG) Status.
- 3.2 Of the 24 KPIs included in the report, the RAG status for June 2018 is as follows:
- 14 are rated Green – target achieved or exceeded
 - 10 are rated Amber – below target but above floor standard
 - 0 are rated Red – below floor standard
- 3.3 The CIC Scorecard submitted to the previous Corporate Parenting Panel on 17th July 2018 was for May 2018. During the period between the two reports the RAG status of 1 KPIs changed. The detail of this change is provided below:
- 3.3.1 **Percentage of CIC who turned 18 during the month with a health history.** Performance for this measure improved from 93.9% in May 2018, to 100.0% in June 2018, achieving the Target of 100.0% and moving the RAG rating from Amber to Green.
- 3.4 For the 10 KPIs rated as Amber an update on performance is provided below.

Five of these KPIs show improved performance between May and June 2018:

- 3.4.1 **Percentage of CIC for 18 months and allocated to the same Social Worker for the last 12 months.** Performance against this measure continues to show improvement, moving from 46.0% in May 2018 to 48.4% in June. Performance for one Area, South Kent, remains low at 29.7% which is a consequence of high rates of maternity leave in that Area. Performance for South Kent has been showing month-on-month improvement since March 2018 when it was 23.0%.
- 3.4.2 **Percentage of Initial Health referrals made to Health within 5 days of a child/young person coming into care.** Performance for this measure improved from 83.9% to 84.8% between May and June 2018. Regular meetings continue to be held with Health colleagues to review records for children where referrals have not been made in time, with the aim of preventing delays in arranging timely health assessments.
- 3.4.3 **Percentage of Initial Health Assessments taking place within 20 working days.** Performance against this measure improved from 77.8% to 80.1% between May and June 2018 and continues the trend of month-on-month improvements towards the target of 85.0%
- 3.4.4 **Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for CIC.** Performance improved from 73.9% to 74.1% between May and June 2018. This remains some way off from the Target of 85% however this target has been set locally, and in the absence of any comparative data from any other local authority. It should also be noted that there are

some issues within the authority's IT system which is likely to have led to an under-reporting of the actual performance figure. These issues are due to be rectified by the software supplier in a future system upgrade.

- 3.4.5 **Average caseloads of Social Workers in CIC Teams.** The average caseload for social workers in the Children in Care teams reduced from 17.0 to 15.8 between May and June 2018 and closer to the Target of 15 cases.

For 2 KPIs performance for June 2018 and May 2018 remained the same.

- 3.4.6 **CIC Placement stability: Percentage with 3 or more placements in the last 12 months.** Performance has remained at 11.2%, which is above the Target of 10.0%. The Target has been set to be in line with the National Average for England for 2016/17.

- 3.4.7 **CIC Placement stability: Percentage in the same placement for the last 2 years.** Performance has remained at 69.1% for the last three months, and is close to the Target of 70.0%, which has been set to be in line with the National Average for England for 2016/17.

The remaining 3 KPIs showed a decrease in performance between May and June 2018.

- 3.4.8 **Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Relatives and Friends placements (excluding UASC).** The reduction in performance is minimal, from 84.3% in May 2018 to 84.2% in June 2018 and the variance between the numerator and denominator figures for both periods equate to a difference of one child.

- 3.4.9 **Percentage of CIC placed within 20 miles from home (excluding UASC).** Performance for this measure has decreased from 77.4% in May 2018, to 76.7% in June 2018. In June there were 300 children and young people that were placed 20 miles or more from home, which compares to 297 children in May 2018.

- 3.4.9 **Percentage of CIC team posts filled by KCC Permanent QSW (excluding teams in the Fostering and Adoption services).** The number of permanent qualified Social Workers in the CIC Teams reduced from 91.1 FTE in May 2018 to 89.4 FTE in June 2018, a reduction of 1.7 FTE.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Recommendations: Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are asked to NOTE and COMMENT on the performance data in the Children in Care scorecard.
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5. Background documents

None

6. Contact details

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