

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

Matt Dunkley, CBE, Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education

To: Corporate Parenting Panel – 25th July 2019

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 April 2019 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 April 2019.

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.
- 2.3 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 – April 2019

3.1 The report contains key statistics and performance results against the targets for 26 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), which are assessed using a Red/Amber/Green (RAG) Status.

3.2 Of the 26 KPIs included in the report, the RAG status for April 2019 is as follows:

- 15 are rated Green – target achieved or exceeded
- 11 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 29th May 2019 was for March 2019. During the period between the two reports the RAG status of 2 KPIs has changed, the details of which are provided below.

3.3.1 **Average number of days between court authority to place a child for Adoption and the decision on a match.** The average number of days increased from 121 days to 125 days between March 19 and April 19. The nationally set target for this measure is 121 days. Kent's performance has moved just above the target and as a result the RAG banding has moved from Green to Amber.

3.3.2 **Percentage of Care Leavers with a Pathway Plan updated in the last 6 months.** Performance against this measure dropped from 92.2% in March 2019 to 91.3% in April 2019. The change in RAG rating, from Green to Amber, is a result of the increased Target set for 2019/20 which is 95%, compared to 90% for 2018/19.

3.4 Performance against the 11 measures which have not achieved their Target is as follows:

Two of the measures are covered above 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 above.

One of the previous reporting lines has been converted into a performance Indicator for 2019/20.

3.4.1 **Percentage of children in care who ceased to be looked after who became subject of a Special Guardianship Order (SGO).** Whilst information has previously been reported on the number of SGOs a Target and RAG rating have been applied for 2019/20. The 11.0% Target has been set to be in line with National and Statistical Neighbour performance (excluding UASC). Kent's performance for April was 8.6%, with 51 children/young people ceasing their care episode in the previous 12 months as a result of an SGO. Performance for this indicator is impacted by the success we have had in achieving early permanence for children through our Family Group Conference model. Consequently, a number of children are made subject to SGOs without needing to come into care.

Three of the measures showed just a 0.1% decrease in performance

3.4.2 **CIC Placement stability: % with 3 or more placements in the last 12 months** moved from 10.1% to 10.2%, remaining close to the 10.0% Target which has been set against the England average.

3.4.3 **% of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Relatives and Friends (excluding UASC)**, moving from 82.3% to 82.2% and close to the 85.0% Target.

3.4.4 **% of CIC placed within 20 miles from home (excluding UASC)**, moving from 76.6% to 76.5%, which below the 80.0% Target.

Three of the measures improved from the previous month:

3.4.5 **% of Care Leavers in employment, education or training (of those we are in touch with)**. Performance improved slightly from 64.4% to 64.6% which is now only 0.4% below the 65.0% Target.

3.4.6 **% of CIC team posts filled by KCC Permanent QSW**. Performance improved from 77.1% to 77.8%, against a Target of 85.0%.

3.4.7 **Average Caseloads of social workers in CIC Teams (District Teams Only)**. In the period between the two reports average caseloads decreased from 15.9 to 15.8, remaining above the target of 15 children and young people.

The remaining two showed a decrease in performance.

3.4.8 **% of CIC for 18 months and allocated to the same worker for the last 12 months**. Performance decreased slightly, from 56.5% to 54.8%, which is below the Target of 60.0%

3.4.9 **% of Returner Interviews completed within 3 working days for Children in Care**. Performance decreased slightly from 74.6% to 76.4% against a Target of 80.0. It should be noted that this is a locally set target which has been set in the absence of any comparative data from other local authorities. The completion rates for Returner Interviews for children in care that go missing remains high at 90.2% and, for some young people, undertaking a Returner Interview outside of 3 working days will be appropriate.

4. Recommendations

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| 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

Children in Care Scorecard – April 2019

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s89678/Item%208%20-%20Children%20in%20Care%20Scorecard.pdf>

6. Contact details

Lead Officer

Maureen Robinson
Management Information Service Manager
03000 417164
Maureen.Robinson@kent.gov.uk

Lead Director

Sarah Hammond
Director of Integrated Children's Services
03000 411488
sarah.hammond@kent.gov.uk