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**Meeting:** Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny  
**Date:** 01 April 2014  
**Subject:** Quarter 3 2013/14 Performance Report  
**Report of:** Cllr Mark Versallion, Executive Member for Children's Services  
**Summary:** The report highlights the Quarter Three performance for the Children's Services Directorate.

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**Advising Officer:** Edwina Grant, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services  
**Contact Officer:** Karen Oellermann, Head of Partnerships, Performance and Workforce Development  
**Public/Exempt:** Public  
**Wards Affected:** All  
**Function of:** Council

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Priorities:**

1. The Quarterly Performance Report ensures that progress on the delivery of the Council's priorities is monitored.

### **Financial:**

2. There are a number of performance indicators within the full corporate suite that have a financial link.
3. It will be important to consider any financial implications in addressing ongoing areas of under performance.

### **Legal:**

4. Not applicable.

### **Risk Management:**

5. Areas of ongoing underperformance are a risk to both service delivery and the reputation of the Council.

### **Staffing (including Trades Unions):**

6. Not applicable.

### **Equalities/Human Rights:**

7. This report highlights performance against a range of indicators which seek to measure how services impact across all communities in Central Bedfordshire, so that specific areas of underperformance can be highlighted for further analysis.

8. As such it does not include detailed performance information relating to the Council's stated intention to tackle inequalities and deliver services so that people whose circumstances make them vulnerable are not disadvantaged. The interrogation of performance data across vulnerable groups is a legal requirement and is an integral part of the Council's equalities and performance culture which seeks to ensure that, through a programme of ongoing impact assessments, underlying patterns and trends for different sections of the community identify areas where further action is required to improve outcomes for vulnerable groups.

**Community Safety:**

9. There are Children's Services indicators that relate to ensuring children and young people are kept safe.

**Sustainability:**

10. Not applicable.

**Procurement:**

11. Not applicable.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the Committee notes and reviews Quarter Three performance.**

**Background**

12. The Council's framework for performance management supports the delivery of the Council's priorities.
13. The following provides an overview of the performance position for Quarter 3. This is supported by the detailed performance information provided in Appendix A.

**Quarter 3 Performance Summary**

14. Final results show that 57.7% of young people achieved 5 or more A\* - C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths. This is an increase compared to last year although our relative position compared to other English local authorities declined to rank 113 of 151. Evidence from student progress data demonstrates that long term interventions will have a positive impact on improved outcomes in 2014.
15. Overall the proportion of schools being classified as good or outstanding has remained stable over the last three years. In Quarter 3 published inspection outcomes show that 84% of schools and colleges are either 'Good' or 'Outstanding'.

16. Following the publication of the Munro Review of Safeguarding and Working Together Statutory Guidance we have implemented a single assessment process, which replaces the previous system of initial and core assessments. This has resulted in two new indicators that align with expectations published by the Department for Education in the Safeguarding Performance Information Framework. Our performance in relation to completing assessments in 45 days is good and as the new system is embedded the ambitious targets around the percentage of referrals are expected to be met. The new process will be well established before 2014/15.
17. The Child Protection reviews within timescales continue to achieve the 100% target. Although timescales for adoption have dipped this quarter as some longer term cases come through the system, with more adoptions planned in Quarter 4 we are on track to meet target by the year end.

**Appendices:**

Appendix A – Performance Indicators

**Background Papers:** (open to public inspection)

Executive (Quarter 3 Performance Report)

**Location of papers:** Priory House, Chicksands