

## Quarter 1 (April – June) 2015/16 Performance Report

Report of Councillor Carole Hegley Executive Member for Social Care and Housing, and Lead Member for Children's Services

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**Purpose of this report:** The report highlights Quarter One (April – June 15) performance for the Children's Services Directorate.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to:

1. Consider and comment on Quarter One performance.

1. The Council's framework for performance management supports the delivery of the Council's priorities.
2. The following provides an overview of the performance position for Quarter One. This is supported by the detailed performance information provided in Appendix A. Details of statistical neighbours are included in Appendix B.

### Quarter 1 Performance Summary

3. 84% of schools and colleges are good or outstanding – which is good performance. Ofsted publish a similar indicator which does not include colleges or sponsored Academies which are yet to be inspected. This shows Central Bedfordshire compares well to statistical neighbours and national averages - as at 31 March 2015, 84% of Central Bedfordshire Schools are good or better and the Statistical Neighbour Average was 82% and England 82%.

4. At the last Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny meeting (18 August 15) members were provided with information on provisional A Level results. Further information has been included for all Key Stages in Appendix C. (Provisional results must be treated with caution as they may be subject to change.)
5. Gilbert Inglefield Academy was inspected on 14 January 2015 and was judged to require Special Measures (the inspection report was published on 21 April 2015). The school continues to address the issues identified.
6. Child protection reviews continue to be completed within timescales and we are achieving the 100% target. National and statistical neighbour comparator data for 2014/15 is expected to be available in December 2015.
7. 76.8% of referrals have led to the provision of a social care service, this is slightly below the recently increased target of 80% (target was 75%). Some recording issues have however been identified and corrective action has been taken. Monthly monitoring is showing that performance is expected to be above target again in Quarter 2. This indicator reflects the proportion of referrals that go on to further social care input, in most cases this will be to start an assessment. Detailed analysis of completed referrals has shown that assessments are started where needed and continue to focus correctly on the right children who need our services. This is a local measure – national and statistical neighbour comparator data is not available.
8. The ambitious 90% target for assessments completed within 45 days has been achieved. The Q1 figure 92.8% demonstrates that performance is good. With processes now well established, good performance is expected to continue through 2015/16. National and statistical neighbour comparator data for 2014/15 is expected to be available in December 2015.
9. Children are placed in their permanent home without undue delay which is particularly important in helping very young children to form positive emotional attachments. The average timescales from entering care and moving in with adoptive family for the 3 years ending 30 June 15 was 529 days. Whilst this is 57 days above the nationally set target, the timings remain in the best interests of the child and the adoptive family. This is 95 days below the comparator average for 2011/14 and Central Bedfordshire continues to compare well to other local authorities. With more adoptions planned and shorter timescales in most cases it is expected that improvements will be apparent in the coming year. This indicator is based on a 3 year rolling cohort. National and statistical neighbour data for 2012/15 is expected to be available in December 2015.

## **Council Priorities**

10. The quarterly performance report ensures that progress on the delivery of the following Council's priorities is monitored:
  - improved educational attainment
  - promote health and well being and protect the vulnerable

## **Corporate Implications**

### **Legal Implications**

11. This report considers a number of performance indicators against those of previous years as such there are no specific legal implications in respect of this report.

### **Financial Implications**

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

### **Risk Management**

14. Areas of ongoing under performance are a risk to both service delivery and the reputation of the Council. Regular quarterly monitoring of performance supports effective risk management.

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

15. Not applicable.

### **Equalities Implications**

16. 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.

17. 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.

### **Public Health**

18. The report includes performance against measures which contribute to Council priorities including the following:
- promote health and wellbeing and protecting the vulnerable.

### **Community Safety**

19. The Council has a statutory duty to ensure that across all of its functions it does all that it reasonably can to reduce crime and disorder. The use of this performance data by Children's Services enables us to monitor indicators that may indicate community safety concerns for children and young people that the Council needs to address.

### **Sustainability**

20. Not applicable.

### **Procurement**

21. Not applicable.

### **Appendices**

22. The following Appendices are attached:

Performance Report Appendix A Quarter One 2015/16  
Appendix B – Details of Statistical Neighbours.  
Appendix C – Provisional Results 2015