

Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee

Friday 10 March 2017

10.00 am Luttrell Room - County Hall,
Taunton



To: The Members of the Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee

Cllr L Redman (Chairman), Cllr D Huxtable (Vice-Chairman), Cllr M Adkins, Cllr A Dimmick, Cllr J Dyke, Cllr D Hill, Cllr J Hunt, Cllr J Lock, Cllr D Yeomans, Eileen Tipper, Richard Berry, Ruth Hobbs.

All Somerset County Council Members are invited to attend meetings of the Cabinet and Scrutiny Committees.

Issued By Julian Gale, Strategic Manager - Governance and Risk - 2 March 2017

For further information about the meeting, please contact Neil Milne on 01823 359045 or ndmilne@somerset.gov.uk

Guidance about procedures at the meeting follows the printed agenda.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

This agenda and the attached reports and background papers are available on request prior to the meeting in large print, Braille, audio tape & disc and can be translated into different languages. They can also be accessed via the council's website on www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers



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AGENDA

Item Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee - 10.00 am Friday, 10 March 2017

**** Public Guidance notes contained in agenda annex ****

1 **Apologies for Absence**

to receive Members' apologies

2 **Declarations of Interest**

Details of all Members' interests in District, Town and Parish Councils will be displayed in the meeting room. The Statutory Register of Member's Interests can be inspected via the Community Governance team.

3 **Minutes from the previous meeting** (Pages 7 - 12)

The Committee is asked to confirm the minutes are accurate.

4 **Public Question Time**

The Chairman will allow members of the public to ask a question or make a statement about any matter on the agenda for this meeting. **These questions may be taken during the meeting, when the relevant agenda item is considered, at the Chairman's discretion.**

5 **Scrutiny Work Programme** (Pages 13 - 22)

To discuss any items for the forthcoming work programme. To assist the discussion, the following documents are attached:

- a) – The Cabinet's latest published forward plan;
- b) – Current Work Programme for the Committee;
- c) – Outcome Tracker.

6 **Addressing drug and alcohol safeguarding concerns in families** (Pages 23 - 32)

To consider this report.

7 **Youth Offending Team update** (Pages 33 - 34)

To consider this report.

8 **Data Handling update**

To receive an update.

9 **School Performance 2016** (Pages 35 - 44)

To consider this report.

10 **Team Around the School** (Pages 45 - 48)

Item Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee - 10.00 am Friday, 10 March 2017

To consider this report.

11 **Children and Young People's Plan 2016-2019 - improvement programme 6 update** (Pages 49 - 58)

To consider this report.

12 **Any other urgent items of business**

The Chairman may raise any items of urgent business.

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Guidance notes for the meeting

1. Inspection of Papers

Any person wishing to inspect Minutes, reports, or the background papers for any item on the Agenda should contact the Committee Administrator for the meeting – Neil Milne on 01823 359045 or email: ndmilne@somerset.gov.uk
They can also be accessed via the council's website on www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers

2. Members' Code of Conduct requirements

When considering the declaration of interests and their actions as a councillor, Members are reminded of the requirements of the Members' Code of Conduct and the underpinning Principles of Public Life: Honesty; Integrity; Selflessness; Objectivity; Accountability; Openness; Leadership. The Code of Conduct can be viewed at: <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/organisation/key-documents/the-councils-constitution/>

3. Minutes of the Meeting

Details of the issues discussed and recommendations made at the meeting will be set out in the Minutes, which the Committee will be asked to approve as a correct record at its next meeting.

4. Public Question Time

If you wish to speak, please tell the Committee's Administrator by 12 noon the (working) day before the meeting.

At the Chairman's invitation you may ask questions and/or make statements or comments about any matter on the Committee's agenda – providing you have given the required notice. You may also present a petition on any matter within the Committee's remit. The length of public question time will be no more than 30 minutes in total.

A slot for Public Question Time is set aside near the beginning of the meeting, after the minutes of the previous meeting have been signed. However, questions or statements about any matter on the Agenda for this meeting may be taken at the time when each matter is considered.

You must direct your questions and comments through the Chairman. You may not take a direct part in the debate. The Chairman will decide when public participation is to finish.

If there are many people present at the meeting for one particular item, the Chairman may adjourn the meeting to allow views to be expressed more freely. If an item on the Agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

An issue will not be deferred just because you cannot be present for the meeting. Remember that the amount of time you speak will be restricted, normally to two minutes only.

5. Exclusion of Press & Public

If when considering an item on the Agenda, the Committee may consider it appropriate to pass a resolution under Section 100A (4) Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, as defined under the terms of the Act.

6. Committee Rooms & Council Chamber and hearing aid users

To assist hearing aid users the following Committee meeting rooms have infra-red audio transmission systems (Luttrell room, Wyndham room, Hobhouse room). To use this facility we need to provide a small personal receiver that will work with a hearing aid set to the T position. Please request a personal receiver from the Committee's Administrator and return it at the end of the meeting.

7. Recording of meetings

The Council supports the principles of openness and transparency. It allows filming, recording and taking photographs at its meetings that are open to the public - providing this is done in a non-disruptive manner. Members of the public may use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings and a designated area will be provided for anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings. No filming or recording may take place when the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting. As a matter of courtesy to the public, anyone wishing to film or record proceedings is asked to provide reasonable notice to the Committee Administrator so that the relevant Chairman can inform those present at the start of the meeting.

We would ask that, as far as possible, members of the public aren't filmed unless they are playing an active role such as speaking within a meeting and there may be occasions when speaking members of the public request not to be filmed.

The Council will be undertaking audio recording of some of its meetings in County Hall as part of its investigation into a business case for the recording and potential webcasting of meetings in the future.

A copy of the Council's Recording of Meetings Protocol should be on display at the meeting for inspection, alternatively contact the Committee Administrator for the meeting in advance.

Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee held on Friday 27 January 2017 at 10.00 in the Luttrell Room, County Hall, Taunton.

Present

Cllr L Redman (in the Chair)

Cllr S Coles (Substitute)

Cllr A Dimmick

Cllr D Huxtable

Cllr J Hunt

Cllr J Lock

Cllr D Yeomans

Apologies: Cllr M Adkins, Cllr J Dyke and Cllr D Hill.
Helen Fenn – Church rep; Richard Berry – Schools Forum.

Church representatives present:

Parent Governor representatives present: Mrs Ruth Hobbs.

Schools Education Partnership Board & Schools Forum representatives present:
Eileen Tipper.

Cabinet Members present: Cllr D Hall, Cllr Le Hardy, and Cllr F Nicholson.

Other Members present: Cllr Davies.

164 Declarations of Interest – agenda item 2

164.0 Cllr Coles, Cllr Hunt, Cllr Redman, and Cllr Yeomans, all declared a personal interest as a District and/or City/Town, Parish Councillor.

164.1 Eileen Tipper declared a personal interest as a lay member of the Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and as a trustee of CHYPPS.

165 Public question time – agenda time 3

165.0 There were no members of the public present.

166 Minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2016 – agenda item 4

166.0 The Committee agreed the minutes of the last meeting were accurate, and the Chairman signed them.

167 Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee work programme – agenda item 5

- 167.0 The Committee considered and agreed its own work programme and the future agenda items listed. The Chairman requested an update on the status of Members Disclosure and barring Service (DBS) checks, and this was provided by the Scrutiny Manager.
- 167.1 The Committee considered and noted the Council's Forward Plan of proposed key decisions in forthcoming months including Cabinet meetings up to 15 March 2017.
- 167.2 The Committee also accepted the updated outcome tracker and the Scrutiny Manager reminded Members that once an outcome had been agreed as complete (Green) and reported to the Committee, it would be retained on the master copy but not reported again.

168 MTFP – Revenue Budget update – agenda item 6

- 168.0 The Committee received a report from the Director of Finance and Performance which gave an overview of the 2017/18 Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement as well as the 2017/18 Medium Term Financial Plan.
- 168.1 The Committee heard that the Financial Settlement was broadly in line with expectations and this included a new Adult Social Care Support Grant of £2.5m. The Settlement confirmed the continuing reduction of Revenue Support Grant which would reduce from £42m last year to £26m this, a loss of £16m. The settlement meant that based on current projections there would be a budgetary shortfall of £18.1m next year.
- 168.2 The Committee then received a report confirming the MTFP approach for 2017/18. The new approach meant that the search for savings to balance the budget has been led much more by the Commissioning Managers across the Council than by Finance Officers and the work of the Council had been distilled in to 7 themes to manage costs, demand and resources.
- 168.3 The 7 themes are: Technology and People (TAP); Productivity & Culture; Commercial & Third Party Spend; Stronger Communities; Partnership & Integration; Service Redesign; and Transport. The report contained a specific appendix with further details about each of the 7 themes. In total these propose savings targets of £18.1m for next year with the majority coming from service redesign. It was explained that the savings proposals would become decision reports over the next few months and would then follow the normal governance process.
- 168.4 The Committee discussed the new approach with some Members expressing that they found the new approach more difficult to scrutinise. Attention turned to each of the 7 themes with Members asking questions and receiving answers and some Members indicated that they would prefer to look at each decision in full as it goes through the decision-making process.
- 168.5 The Committee accepted the report and there were no specific recommendations regarding the proposed savings. There was a discussion

about the amount of money the Council had spent on agency staff and the Director of Finance and Performance and how those had differed from information provided in a freedom of information request and he undertook to provide further clarification.

- 168.6 The Committee considered and discussed the approach to setting the Council's budget, as it differed from the method previously used and Members sought and received reassurance from the Director of Finance and Performance that the savings targets were achievable and he confirmed he had confidence in the overall budget setting approach and that he savings it outlined would be achieved.
- 168.7 The Chairman concluded that the new process seemed reasonable but that the Committee would wish to see more detail around individual decisions, particularly those affecting Children's Services and areas of Council activity that currently enabled or provided services for children, young people and families in Somerset.

169 Children and Young People Plan 2016-2016 – agenda item 8

- 169.0 The Committee considered this report that provided details of progress made up to quarter 3 and invited Members to identify barriers to progress for quarter 4 and beyond. The reports also contained an executive summary of progress to the end of December 2016. Each of the 7 improvement programmes were also detailed in a highlight report with demonstrated progress made since the last update with details of current performance and direction of travel.
- 169.1 The Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance introduced the report and Lead Officers provided an overview of progress made against each of the 7 improvement progress with explanatory details of direction of travel and likely prospects for change.
- 169.2 Attention of the Committee turned to consideration of performance in each of the 7 programmes. The Chairman noted that 5 of the 7 programmes now benefitted from having a Committee Champion and those Members were able to explain and provide more information about where progress had been made and what measures were being used to bring about further improvement for the improvement programme they were supporting.
- 169.3 In respect of Improvement Plan 1 an update report was requested a future meeting on the West Somerset Social Mobility project.
In respect of Improvement Programme 3 an update report was requested a future meeting regarding the vacant posts in the Children Looked After Team, including the Psychologist posts.
- 169.4 The Committee accepted the report.

170 Impact of proposed financial changes to Schools – agenda item 7

- 170.0 The Committee received a presentation that provided Members with an update

about proposed changes that national funding formula for schools. It was stated that the National Funding Formula (NFF) would be implemented from 2018/19, the forthcoming financial year being a transition year with local flexibility on setting the formula.

- 170.1 From 2019/20 there would be a hard NFF with the DfE setting the values and factors, although it was envisaged there would be some continued local flexibility for premises related to school costs. It was reported that the funding formula had been designed in such a way as to ensure that no school would face an overall reduction of more than 3% per pupil.
- 170.2 Several charts were shown to demonstrate the design of the fairer funding system and the factors taken in to account to calculate how much each local authority area would be allocated. It was noted that overall in Somerset 243 Schools would benefit from higher funding, 9 would have lower funding, meaning an overall net increase in funding of £12.958m a 4.85% increase.
- 170.3 Members welcomed the positive news and hoped that the long awaited fairer funding for Somerset would go some way to redress the balance for school age children in Somerset after years of funding allocations that were much less than the national average. The Committee encouraged Officers to continue to lobby for these proposed changes to be made so the higher funding materialised.

171 Young Carers Task and Finish Review – agenda item 11

- 171.0 The Committee considered this report that provided an overview of a proposed review in to the service provision for Young Carers. The aims of the proposed T&F review were listed as being:
- 171.1
- To put the voice of young carers at the heart of the findings and recommendations;
 - To scrutinise the services and support available to young carers and ensure they are fit for purpose;
 - To establish the effectiveness of integrated working between adult carers service, education, adult's & children's social care, health, and the voluntary sector in identifying and working with young carers aged 0-18, and ensuring young adult carers are supported between 16 and 25;
 - To identify methods to improve empowering young carers to approach the authority for help and increase identification of young carers;
 - To identify methods to improve transition of young carers to adult services.
- 171.2 The Committee agreed to proceed with the Task and Finish Group and the Chairman and Eileen Tipper volunteered to sit on the Group.

172 Team Around the School – Implementation update – agenda item 9

- 172.0 The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this report to the March meeting, due to other agenda items over running.

173 School Performance 2016 – agenda item 10

173.0 The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this report to the March meeting, due to other agenda items over running.

174 Any other business of urgency – agenda item 12

174.0 The Chairman, after ascertaining there were no other matters arising, thanked all those present for attending and reminded Members that immediately after the meeting there would be a briefing by Ann Reeder from Centre for Public Scrutiny providing feedback following observation and workshop sessions last year.

The meeting closed at 12:35.

**Cllr Leigh Redman
Chairman – Scrutiny for Polices, Children and Families Committee**

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Scrutiny for Policies Children and Families Committee Work Programme

Committee meetings	Link to CYPP	Lead Member & Officer
7 April 2017		
Child Sexual Exploitation update report		Julian Wooster
Pathways to Independence (P2i) update		Philippa Granthier
West Somerset Opportunity Area		Sue Rogers
Young Carers Task and Finish Group Report		Task & Finish Group
Committee's End of Quadrennium Report		Committee Members
16 June 2017		
Early Years Capital Bid to EFA		Dave Farrow + Charlotte Wilson
Fostering Recruitment Update report		Julian Wooster + Becky Hopkins
CYPP programme 6 update		Claire Winter
SEND update and EHCP Plans		Julia Ridge
CYPP – Q4 Update 2016/17		Philippa Granthier
28 July 2017		
Children's Social Care Statutory Customer Feedback report		Simon Clifford
15 September 2017		
20 October 2017		
17 November 2017		
8 December 2017		

Note: Members of the Scrutiny Committee and all other Members of Somerset County Council are invited to contribute items for inclusion in the work programme. Please contact Jamie Jackson, Governance Manager Scrutiny, who will assist you in submitting your item. jajackson@somerset.gov.uk 01823 359040.

(What impact does that have on Children in Somerset?)

Scrutiny for Policies Children and Families Committee Work Programme

(What impact does that have on Children in Somerset?)

Somerset County Council Forward Plan of proposed Key Decisions

The County Council is required to set out details of planned key decisions at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken. This forward plan sets out key decisions to be taken at Cabinet meetings as well as individual key decisions to be taken by either the Leader, a Cabinet Member or an Officer. The very latest details can always be found on our website at:

<http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=134&RD=0&FD=1&bcr=1>

Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 defines a key decision as an executive decision which is likely:

- (a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the relevant local authority.

The Council has decided that the relevant threshold at or above which the decision is significant will be £500,000 for capital / revenue expenditure or savings. Money delegated to schools as part of the Scheme of Financial Management of Schools exercise is exempt from these thresholds once it is delegated to the school.

Cabinet meetings are held in public at County Hall unless Cabinet resolve for all or part of the meeting to be held in private in order to consider exempt information/confidential business. The Forward Plan will show where this is intended. Agendas and reports for Cabinet meetings are also published on the Council's website at least five clear working days before the meeting date.

Individual key decisions that are shown in the plan as being proposed to be taken "not before" a date will be taken within a month of that date, with the requirement that a report setting out the proposed decision will be published on the Council's website at least five working days before the date of decision. Any representations received will be considered by the decision maker at the decision meeting.

In addition to key decisions, the forward plan shown below lists other business that is scheduled to be considered at a Cabinet meeting during the period of the Plan, which will also include reports for information. The monthly printed plan is updated on an ad hoc basis during each month. *Where possible the County Council will attempt to keep to the dates shown in the Plan. It is quite likely, however, that some items will need to be rescheduled and new items added as new circumstances come to light.* Please ensure therefore that you refer to the most up to date plan.

For general enquiries about the Forward Plan:

- You can view it on the County Council web site at <http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=134&RD=0&FD=1&bcr=1>
- You can arrange to inspect it at County Hall (in Taunton).
- Alternatively, copies can be obtained from Scott Wooldridge or Julia Jones in the Community Governance Team by telephoning (01823) 359027 or 357628.

To view the Forward Plan on the website you will need a copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader available free from www.adobe.com
Please note that it could take up to 2 minutes to download this PDF document depending on your Internet connection speed.

To make representations about proposed decisions:

Please contact the officer identified against the relevant decision in the Forward Plan to find out more information or about how your representations can be made and considered by the decision maker.

The Agenda and Papers for Cabinet meetings can be found on the County Council's website at:
<http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=134&Year=0>

Weekly version of plan published on 6 February 2017

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/16/12/06 First published: 3 January 2017	Not before 13th Feb 2017 Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care	Issue: Specialist mental health carers services Decision: To award a contract for the provision of specialist mental health carers services		Part exempt The item is likely to contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).	Rhian Bennett, Senior Commissioning Officer Tel: 01823 359793
FP/16/12/05 First published: 3 January 2017	Not before 13th Feb 2017 Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care	Issue: Specialist mental health day services Decision: To award a contract for the provision of specialist mental health day services		Part exempt The item is likely to contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).	Rhian Bennett, Senior Commissioning Officer Tel: 01823 359793
FP/16/10/04 First published: 3 October 2016	Not before 13th Feb 2017 Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure	Issue: Award and enter a contract for the delivery of broadband services for Lot 1 of the CDS SEP procurement Decision:			Katriona Lovelock, Economic Development Officer Tel: 01823 359873
FP/16/10/04 First published: 3 October 2016	Not before 13th Feb 2017 Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure	Issue: Award and enter contract for the delivery of broadband services for Lot 4 of the CDS SEP procurement Decision:			Katriona Lovelock, Economic Development Officer Tel: 01823 359873

Weekly version of plan published on 6 February 2017

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<p>FP/17/01/03 First published: 16 January 2016</p>	<p>15 Feb 2017 Cabinet Member for Business Investment & Policy</p>	<p>Issue: Contract for the provision of SME Business Support for Hinkley Point C Supply Chain and Nuclear South West Inward Investment Expertise Decision: Contract for the provision of SME Business Support for Hinkley Point C Supply Chain and Nuclear South West Inward Investment Expertise</p>	<p>Hinkley Point C supply chain business support contract</p>		<p>Paul Chadwick, Senior Economic Development Officer Tel: 07977413850</p>
<p>FP/17/01/06 First published: 23 January 2017</p>	<p>Not before 20th Feb 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families</p>	<p>Issue: Capital Investment Programme 2017: Early Years Sufficiency Decision: Approves the allocations for capital funding to enable early years build projects to be commissioned</p>	<p>Early Years Commissioning Capital Project allocation Early Years and School Place Planning Infrastructure Growth Plan 2016 Key Decision taken by the cabinet member for children and families 'Capital bid to the EFA: Early Years projects to support delivery of 30 hours funded childcare' 19th December 2016</p>		<p>Charlotte Wilson, Service Manager Early Years Commissioning Tel: 01823 357386</p>

Weekly version of plan published on 6 February 2017

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<p>FP/17/01/04 First published: 23 January 2017</p>	<p>20 Feb 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families</p>	<p>Issue: Early Years Single Funding Formula 2017/18 Decision: To amend the Early Years Single Funding Formula to reflect revised rates per hour for early years providers offering the early years entitlement from 1st April 2017</p>	<p>Summary of responses to consultation with Somerset's funded early years providers Dec – Jan 2017 Analysis of responses to DfE call for evidence on the cost of providing childcare Early Years National Funding Formula allocations and guidance Early Years Single Funding Formula 2017/18</p>		<p>Charlotte Wilson, Service Manager Early Years Commissioning Tel: 01823 357386</p>
<p>FP/16/12/11 First published: 3 January 2017</p>	<p>23 Feb 2017 HR & OD Director</p>	<p>Issue: Procurement of the South West Regional Partnership 2 'Step Up to Social Work' Higher Education Institute (programme provider) Decision:</p>	<p>Step Up To Social Work</p>		<p>Anna Elliott, Principal Social Worker and Service manager Tel: 01823 355225</p>
<p>FP/17/02/03 First published: 7 February 2017</p>	<p>Not before 7th Mar 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families</p>	<p>Issue: Creation of three New Academies in Somerset Decision: The Secretary of State for Education has directed via an Academy Order, the conversion to Academy Status for the following three schools Chilton Trinity, Westover Green Community School, Puriton Primary</p>	<p>Academies Act 2010</p>		<p>Elizabeth Smith, Service Manager – Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823 356260</p>

Weekly version of plan published on 6 February 2017

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/17/02/05 First published: 8 February 2017	Not before 8th Mar 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Issue: Capital Investment Programme: Schools Basic Need, Schools Condition & Schools Access Initiative - 2017/18 Decision: That the Cabinet Member for Children and Families approves the capital allocations for 2017/18			Elizabeth Smith, Service Manager – Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823 356260
FP/17/02/04 First published: 7 February 2017	Not before 13th Mar 2017 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	Issue: Use of National Productivity Investment Fund Grant Decision: To agree how the National Productivity Investment Fund Grant Allocation for highways and transport networks for 2017/18 will be used			Mike O'Dowd-Jones, Strategic Commissioning Manager – Highways and Transport Tel: 01823 356238
FP/17/01/07 First published: 30 January 2017	Not before 13th Mar 2017 Cabinet Member for HR Health and Transformation	Issue: Public Health Savings Plan 2017 - 18 Decision: This paper sets out the plan to achieve the savings for the national grant cut for 2017/18.			Christina Gray, Consultant in Public Health Tel: 01823 359436
FP/17/01/05 First published: 23 January 2017	Not before 13th Mar 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Issue: Implementation of Prescribed Alterations - Special Schools Decision: To agree to implement the recently consulted on proposals relating to 7 of Somerset's maintained special schools.	Prescribed Alterations at Special Schools – Consultation Report		Phil Curd, Service Manager: Specialist Provision and School Transport Tel: 01823 355165

Weekly version of plan published on 6 February 2017

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/16/11/10 First published: 27 September 2016	15 Mar 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Children's Services Improvement - Somerset's Children and Young People's Plan 2016-19 progress Decision: To consider the report and agree necessary actions.	Report to Cabinet 29 April	Open	Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director Childrens Services Tel: 01823 359054
FP/16/12/01 First published: 8 December 2016	15 Mar 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Award contract for a carers support service Decision: Agree the decision to award for a carers support service following conclusion of a competitive tender process.		Part exempt confidential tender information anticipated.	Vicky Chipchase, Senior Commissioning Officer Tel: 07775 406590
FP/17/02/06 First published: 14 February 2017	15 Mar 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Award of Family Based Care (fostering) Peninsula Framework Decision: The five peninsula authorities have jointly tendered for a framework of fostering agencies, assessed for quality and value for money. Cabinet is asked to approve the results of this tender.	Report on Somerset's proposed award Peninsula report on the process and results of tender	Part exempt	Louise Palmer, Strategic Commissioner
FP/16/05/02 First published: 9 January 2017	Not before 3rd Apr 2017 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	Issue: Road Safety Strategy Update Decision: To agree to adopt the updated Road Safety Strategy			Sunita Mills, Service Commissioning Manager Tel: 01823 359763

Weekly version of plan published on 6 February 2017

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/17/01/08 First published: 30 January 2017	12 Apr 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Decision to award the contract for the Yeovil Western Corridor Improvement Scheme Decision: To consider the report	Tender evaluation report	Part exempt	Nisha Devani
FP/17/02/01 First published: 14 February 2017	Not before 22nd May 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Issue: Award of Contract for the provision of a 3 Classroom Block at Court Fields School, Wellington Decision: To approve the awarding of the contract to the successful contractor	Confidential Financial Report Capital Programme Paper	Part exempt	Carol Bond, Project Manager, Property Programme Team Tel: 01823 355962
FP/16/08/05 First published: 15 August 2016	Not before 29th May 2017 Cabinet Member for Business Investment & Policy	Issue: Enterprise and Incubation Hub at SEIC - approval to accept ERDF Funding Decision: Enterprise and Incubation Hub at SEIC - approval to accept funding	ONKD Paper signed by P Hewitt – 'Approval to submit expressions of interest for European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF for CDS and SEIC)' dated: 27th April 2015		Lynda Madge Tel: 01823 356766

Somerset County Council
Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee –
10 March 2017

Addressing drug and alcohol safeguarding concerns in families

Lead Officer: Christina Gray

Author: Amanda Payne

Contact Details: apayne@somerset.gov.uk, 01823 357641

Cabinet Member: Cllr Anna Groskop – Cabinet Member for HR, Health and Transformation

Division and Local Member: All

1. Summary

- 1.1. Drug and alcohol use has a huge negative impact on children, young people and families. The impact is detrimental whether the young person or adult use drugs and alcohol themselves or is affected by someone else's use. The impact can pose both immediate risks on young people or adults, as well as children and young people's longer term ability to thrive.

Somerset County Council is responsible for commissioning a range of responses to address the safeguarding concerns in families where there is drug and /or alcohol use. The responses are linked to population need, recognising that drug and alcohol misuse is a complex issue. While the number of people with a serious problem is relatively small, someone's dependency affects everybody around them.

This report is designed to give Members an understanding of what services are available and how drug and alcohol use and the safeguarding concerns associated with it in families are addressed.

- 1.2. This work contributes to the previous and new County Plan:
County Plan 2013 – 2017, Our priority is that Somerset is a safer and healthier place where:

- our most vulnerable people have the care they need and the choices they want
- our children feel protected and safe

The County Plan 2016 – 2020:

- Adults health and Wellbeing - Long term prevention – We will reduce early deaths from preventable causes
- Children's health and wellbeing – Help yourself - we will make it easier to find the right information and support to help families help themselves.
- Partnerships - working partnerships across the public sector, but also with the voluntary sector and private industry too in order to succeed.

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

2.1. Members are asked to consider:

- The progress being made to develop a joint working approach between the services dealing with drug and alcohol misuse, domestic abuse and mental health.
- The work of the public health commissioned services to respond to drug and alcohol misuse especially Somerset Drug and Alcohol Service and Targeted Youth Support team.

Members appreciate the impact of drug and alcohol use on children, young and families.

Members acknowledge the importance of the addressing drug and alcohol use and of maintaining a balance between the preventative and treatment responses across Somerset.

3. Background

- 3.1. The strategic approach in Somerset to addressing drug and alcohol concerns recognises that there are different levels of need within the population which require different levels of response in terms of promotion, prevention, early intervention and specialist treatment. This approach is illustrated in the diagram below.

The higher the pyramid the smaller the numbers and the more complex the need. The Somerset 16+ population is estimated to be around 390,000 (2014). Around 2000 (0.5%) of whom access specialist treatment services at any time.



- 3.2. **Universal drug and alcohol work** focus on the provision of evidence based, accurate and up to date information and advice on drugs and alcohol for everyone. Evidence suggests that ‘changing norms’ and ‘challenging assumptions’ are important aspects of influencing beliefs and behaviours around drugs and alcohol.

Somerset supports a range of national campaigns such as Dry January to ensure people have the information to adopt sensible drinking within their lives. This encourages people to live healthy and independent lives, a key ambition of the County’s Health and Wellbeing Board.

- 3.3.** Promotion of local and national digital sources of self-help are also delivered using tools such as Somerset Choices <https://www.somersetchoices.org.uk/> and <http://www.talktofrank.com/>.

Public Health in the last year has updated, in line with outcome to the consultation on the Chief Medical Officers Guidance *How to keep health risks from drinking alcohol to a low level: public consultation on proposed new guidelines*, all the locally developed information on alcohol. Examples include:

- for adults - One too many? and for young people aged 16-24 Look Out For Your Mates <http://www.somersetdap.org.uk/page/alcohol-brief-interventions>
- <http://www.lookoutforyourmates.co.uk>

- 3.4.** The outcomes on the consultation nationally was produced in August 2016 and can be found at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/545911/GovResponse2.pdf

- 3.5.** Nationally, 38% of secondary school pupils aged 11-15 reported ever having drunk alcohol, 18% reported ever having smoked tobacco, and 15% ever having taken drugs.¹ These are the lowest proportions since the surveys of Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use among Young People in England started.

The decline in use of alcohol since 2014 can in part be explained by the increasing proportion of young people who reported not drinking at all.²

Alcohol however, remains widely available and at an affordable price. A high proportion (40%) of 11-15s who had drunk alcohol reported being able to purchase alcohol from a shop; this was more common amongst older pupils and those who drank 10 units or more in the past week.³

Despite the reductions in reported use, the proportion of children in the UK drinking alcohol remains well above the European average and those that do drink consume more than children from most other European countries.⁴ The Chief Medical Officers revised their advice on low risk drinking in 2016. They reiterated their advice issued in 2009 that an alcohol free childhood is best, and if a child

¹ HSCIC, *Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People in England – 2014*, <http://digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB17879>

² HSCIC, *Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People in England – 2014*, <http://digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB17879>; PHE, *Data intelligence summary: Alcohol consumption and harm among under 18 year olds*, https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/542889/Alcohol_consumption_and_harms_in_under_18s.pdf

³ HSCIC, *Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People in England – 2014*, <http://digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB17879>; PHE, *Data intelligence summary: Alcohol consumption and harm among under 18 year olds*, https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/542889/Alcohol_consumption_and_harms_in_under_18s.pdf

⁴ Public Health England, *JSNA support pack prompts for young people 2016* <http://www.nta.nhs.uk/uploads/jsnasupportpackpromptsyoungpeople2016-17.pdf>

does drink it should not be until at least age 15.⁵

- 3.6.** A programme of training for non drug and alcohol specific services is provided to ensure that anyone working in Somerset (whether in paid employment or as a volunteer) is confident and competent to respond to drugs and alcohol issues at a level that is right for them and the setting they are working in.

The training programme focusses on: knowledge, skills and tools to support responses, so that anyone can act on what they hear and see when working with young people and parents. The training stresses the need to think family in working with any individual to ensure best outcomes from early interventions.

- 3.7. Targeted drug and alcohol work** acknowledges the need to do specific prevention and intervention work with groups in the population, who have a particular of higher level of risk. Public Health currently commissions Somerset County Council Targeted Youth Support Service (TYS) to deliver early drug and alcohol interventions with their client base aged 13-19 years old.

This targeted work in addressing the drug and/or alcohol use is to intervene to safeguard young people. It seeks to identify drug and/or alcohol use and provide evidence based interventions in line with NICE guidance to reduce the use, provide relapse prevention support to maintain reduction of use, and as needed, support the young person to access specialist support.

- 3.8.** In 2015/16 TYS worked with 237 cases (172 new in that year) where the young person had drug/alcohol use in their profile. The table below provides a breakdown of new TYS clients assessed with a substance use issue by substance type in 2015/16

	Alcohol Only	Alcohol and Non-Opiates	Non-Opiates Only	Opiates	Total
Total	23	103	46	0	172
% Total	13%	60%	27%	0%	100%

In the same time period, TYS closed 141 of their substance use cases. The table below provides a breakdown of TYS substance use cases closed by substance type 2015/16.

	Alcohol Only	Alcohol and Non-Opiates	Non-Opiates Only	Opiates	Total
Total	28	74	39	0	141
% Total	20%	52%	28%	0%	100%

- 3.9.** Looking at outcomes for those young people in relation to alcohol use:
- 102 young people identified as drinking alcohol (either alcohol only, or with non-opiates) had their cases closed.
 - Measurement of change was identified by use of the AUDIT-C tool.
 - Of the 102 young people using alcohol with their cases closed, 58% who TYS delivered an intervention to reduced their alcohol use.

⁵ Department of Health, *UK Chief Medical Officers' Alcohol Guidelines Review 2016*

3.10. Outcomes for those young people in using non-opiates:

- 113 young people were identified as using non-opiates had their case closed.
- Of the 102 young people who had been using cannabis, 48% had reduced or made a positive change in their use.

3.11. Commissioners are working with TYS to improve data quality so we better understand the outcomes for those cases closed because of disengagement.

3.12. Specialist drug and alcohol work

Our specialist treatment service in Somerset is an integrated young people's and adults alcohol and drug treatment system. It works with all ages; and is a single service delivered by three providers working together, known as Somerset Drug and Alcohol Service (SDAS). It provides a service to dependent drug and alcohol users and the family, and friends of those users.

SDAS has a single point of contact for referrals - 0300 303 87 88 – 24 hours / 7 days a week; and has 5 area bases from which the staff work (Taunton, Bridgwater, Yeovil, Frome and Minehead); along with outreach in Wells and Chard.

3.13. Alcohol and drug treatment is evidence based and compliant with national standards set through NICE guidance. The service is subject to clinical governance and one part of it has recently been inspected by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

3.14. In September 2016 Somerset's drug and alcohol treatment service was inspected by the CQC for the first time against the new CQC framework for community substance misuse services. The final CQC report was published 5th December 2016 and can be read in full at <http://www.cqc.org.uk/location/1-226794829>. Overall the report findings are very positive; some improvements have been identified and the service is working on an action plan to address improvements, which will be monitored through contract management process.

3.15. Appendix 1 visually shows the overall profile of Somerset's in treatment profile Q1 2014/15 to Q3 2016/17 split by:

- Opiates,
- Alcohol only,
- Non-opiates,
- Non-opiates & alcohol
- Young people (under 18)

In terms of one of the key measures, successful completions for all drug groups are either near to or within the upper quartile for national performance, indicating that Somerset is gaining excellent return on its investment in drug and alcohol treatment.

3.16. Safeguarding is central to SDAS; for with anyone coming into treatment whatever their age 'thinking family' is critical. The case studies discussed at the meeting

illustrate this approach.

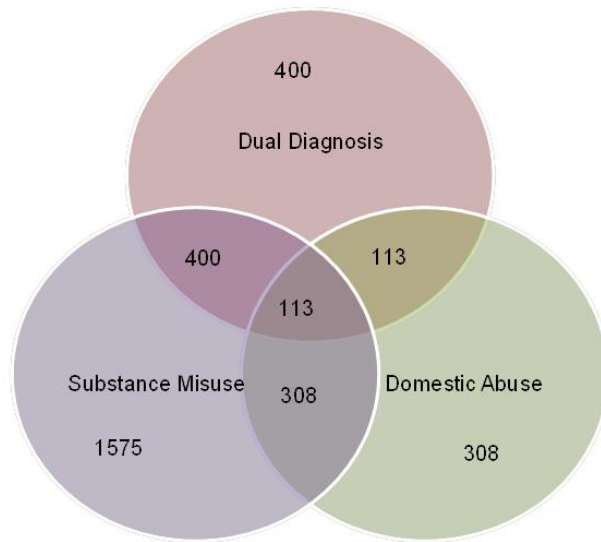
Following the Hidden Harm Needs Assessment (January 2015), Somerset County Council Public Health commissioned The Training Exchange to provide external facilitation of a joint working project, to develop and improve the outcomes for children and parents affected by the trio of substance misuse, domestic abuse and mental health. The project ran from September to November 2015 with a follow up in September 2016.

- 3.17.** One of the key products of this is a shared working protocol that describes the joint approach that will be taken by staff in Somerset Drug and Alcohol Service (SDAS), Somerset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (SIDAS) and Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, in respect of parents and children affected by co-existing domestic abuse, mental health, and substance misuse problems.
- 3.18.** The core of the protocol is that each agency looks for the other 2 issues and as part of the assessment process each of the 3 services has a responsibility to:

 - identify parental status of the person and associated children
 - identify the other 2 issues - *ask the question about the trio of issues*
 - identify if the other specialism's are involved i.e. MH &/or SM &/or DA
 - consider the needs of the child[ren] affected by those issues
 - identify what other services might be involved e.g. CSC, getset, health visitor, probation etc.
- 3.19.** Representatives of the 3 service areas with commissioners continue to meet to progress actions identified as part of implementing the protocol.
- 3.20.** Looking at the issue from a drug and alcohol perspective we have been able to update the information on parents in drug and alcohol treatment who are also affected by other issues particularly mental health and domestic abuse.

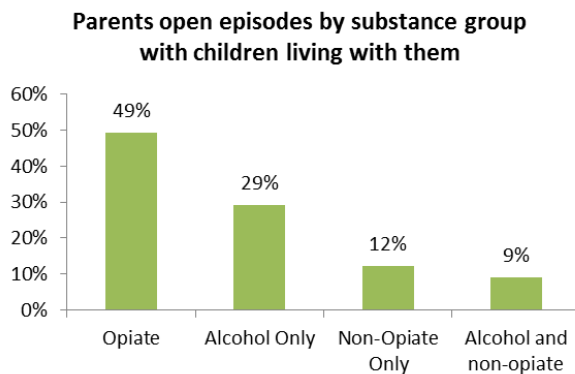
The diagram below show the number of open episodes in 12 months from the 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2016, who are parents⁶ who have substance misuse issues, dual diagnosis and/or are affected by domestic abuse.

⁶ Parent is shorthand for a wider definition that can include biological parents, step parents, foster parents, adoptive parents and guardians. It also includes de facto parents where an adult lives with the parent of a child or the child alone (for example, clients who care for younger siblings or grandchildren) and have taken on full or partial parental responsibilities. The minimum period of cohabitation would be one month



3.21. Looking at 12 months from the 01/01/2016 to the 31/12/2016, o note is:

- 58% ($n = 1575$) of the people in treatment are parents (64% males/ 36% females)
- 20% ($n = 549$) parents in treatment have a child living with them (48% males/ 52% females)
- The chart below breakdown the parents with a child(ren) living with them by substance



These parents are being supported by a SDAS working in partnership with other agencies to safeguard the children and improve outcomes for the whole family.

The Public Health England quarterly report on Somerset indicates that the current outcomes for substance misusing parents are high indicating that families engaged in treatment will be gaining the intended benefits. Whilst positive news for Somerset, locally commissioners require providers to review any re-presentation of a parent. This means the service with partner agencies learn from previous experience, to ensure support following treatment is sufficient to sustain recovery in the community.

4. Consultations undertaken

- 4.1.** In designing the tiered response to drug and alcohol use, two public consultations were undertaken; alongside extensive work with partners in health, police and

probation as well as others within and outside the County Council.

- 4.2. Commissioned services are all required to undertake user involvement in the development, review and assessment of the service. This is monitored through contract management process regularly. In addition SDAS actively seeks to involve ex-service users and people in recovery from drug and alcohol dependency through its peer mentoring and volunteer programmes. These help to raise the profile of recovery to new people coming into treatment.
- 4.3. Public Health commissioners have contract management arrangements in place with all commissioned services quarterly to monitor outcomes and developments for continuous improvement.

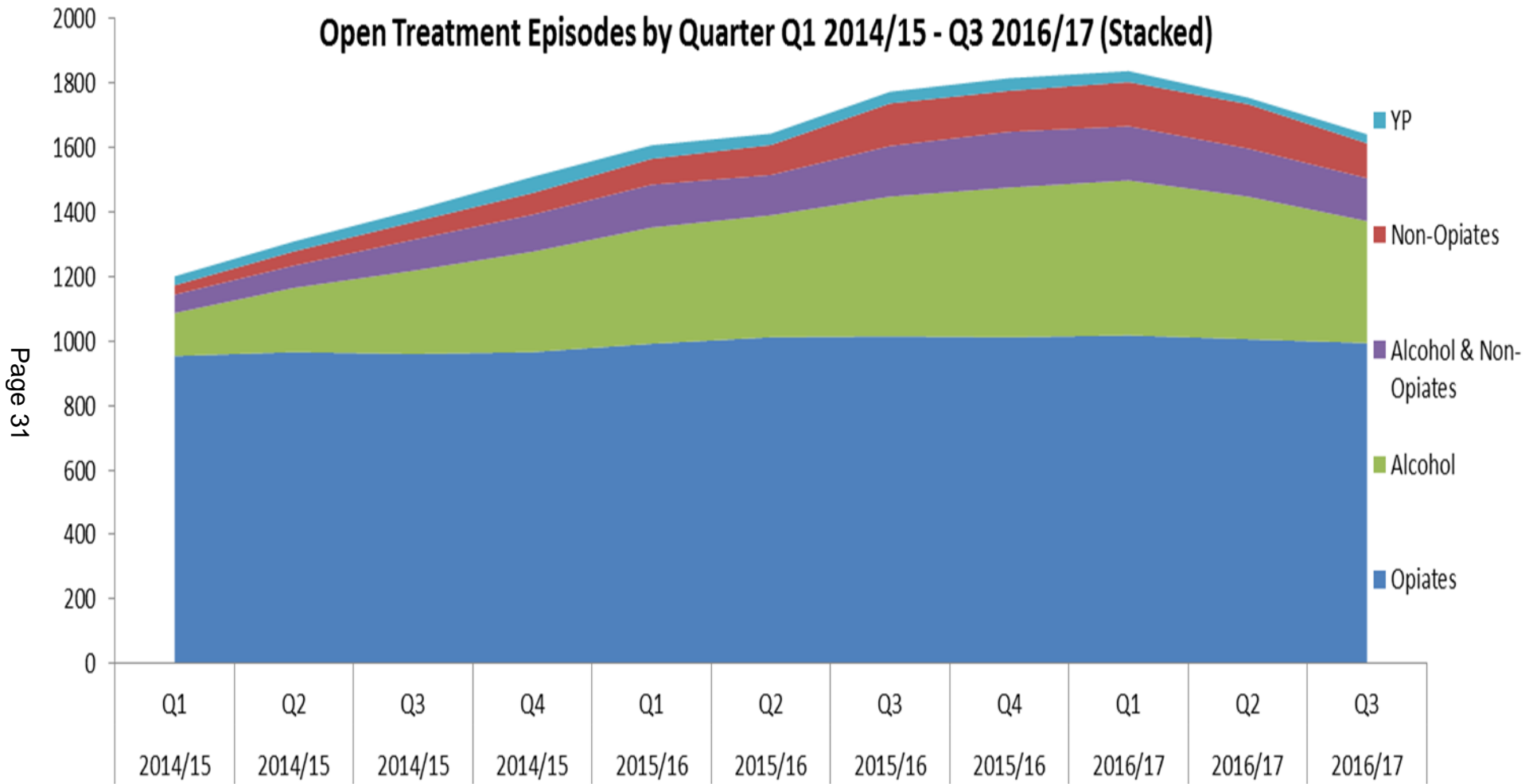
5. Implications

- 5.1. Addressing drug and alcohol use is a complex issue. While the number of people with a serious problem is relatively small, the safeguarding concerns require intensive multi-agency responses.
- 5.2. To maintain the smaller number of people needing treatment, it is important to maintain the ability for preventative work to minimise the escalation of use and associated impact on children.

6. Background papers

- 6.1.
 - Commissioning Future Drug and Alcohol Services in Somerset (May 2013)
 - Specification for Recovery Focused Drugs and Alcohol Services for Young People and Adults (May 2013)
 - Hidden Harm Needs Assessment (January 2015)
 - Improving outcomes for children and parents affected by the trio of substance misuse, domestic abuse and mental health, A joint working project for Somerset, Summary Report (April 2016)
 - Working Together to respond to parents and children affected by the trio of domestic abuse, mental health and substance misuse, A protocol between: Somerset Drug and Alcohol Service (SDAS), Somerset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (SIDAS) and Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (January 2016)
 - Further information about drugs and alcohol can be found at:
 - www.talktofrank.com/
 - www.lookoutforyourmates.co.uk/
 - www.somersetdap.org.uk

Note: For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author



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Youth Justice Review 2016

Lead Officer: Tom Whitworth

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Cabinet Member: Frances Nicholson

Division and Local Member:

1. Summary

- 1.1. After considerable delay, the Youth Justice Review authored by Mr Charles Taylor was published in December 2016. On the same day the Government published its response. Overall the Government response makes clear that, apart from some specific points, the recommendations of the review will be considered over the longer term and no change in legislation or guidance is currently planned.
- 1.2. County Plan – safer and healthier place
Social Policy – “target young people who are involved in/at risk of offending and positively engage with them”

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1. Members are asked to consider and comment on the report with particular reference to the outcome of the Taylor review.

3. Background

- 3.1. The central and local funding and resourcing provided to Somerset Youth Justice services has fallen steadily over the past decade lead to a reduction in overall YOT resources from a value of £2.7m in 2005/6 to a approximately £1.2m in 2016/17. The impact of this reduction has been mitigated by a reduction in the number of children entering the Youth Justice system. In the same period the active statutory caseload in Somerset has fallen from around 300 to about 100. Of course, the resources required to deliver some Youth Justice services do not fall in direct proportion to the size of the caseload and the caseload itself consists generally of more challenging young people. Nonetheless, the combination of a reduced caseload, efficiencies in management and support roles and close collaboration with the Targeted Youth Support Service, Youth Offending Team to sustain good performance levels.
- 3.2. The reduction in resources and workload reflects that national position and it was in the light of these changes that the Ministry of Justice commissioned the national review.
- 3.3 The Review and Government Response address five core areas
 - Devolution of Youth Justice
 - Taylor recommends removing the duty to have a YOT, removing the ring fence from the Youth Justice Grant and transferring statutory Youth Justice tasks to the Local Authority.

- The Government says it will continue to ring fence the Youth Justice Grant and will look further at the proposals to see how local authorities can be given more flexibility
- Children in contact with Youth Justice system
 - Taylor makes a number of recommendations for improvements to pre-court processes.
 - The Government identifies current development addressing most of these areas
- Children in Court
 - Taylor makes a number of suggestions for radical reform of Courts and sentencing.
 - The Government says it will work to develop an approach to sentencing reform incorporating the Taylor principles.
- Secure Schools
 - Taylor recommends that Education should be at the heart of custody and that “secure schools” should be set up.
 - The Government agrees that Education should be at heart of custody and will set up two “secure schools”
- Role of Central Government
 - Taylor recommends that the Youth Justice Board should be replaced with a Youth Justice Commissioner and an expert committee to advise on youth justice should be established
 - The Government says it will work with the YJB to review the governance and accountability framework for the whole system.

3.4 Thus, the overall indications are that there will be no change in the current statutory arrangements for the provision of Youth Justice Services. Two unknowns remain: the figures for the 17/18 Youth Justice Grant have not yet been notified; the format for the 17/18 Youth Justice Plan has not yet been published

4. Consultations undertaken

4.1. The contents of the Taylor Review and Government response were presented to the Somerset Youth Justice Partnership Board meeting in December 2016 which agreed that the Review did not itself drive a need for local change.

5. Implications

5.1. Any reshaping of Youth Justice services will be in the context of the current legislation

6. Background papers

6.1. Youth Justice Review 2016
Government Response to Review 2016

Note: For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author

Somerset County Council
Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee
10 March 2017

School Performance 2016 – National Curriculum Test and Public Examination Results

Lead Officer: Sue Rogers

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Cabinet Member: Frances Nicholson

Division and Local Member: ALL

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report provides a summary of the Somerset Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Assessments, KS1 and KS2 Standard Assessment Tests (SATs), GCSE and A Level results for 2016. The report includes comparison to national data where available. It also reports on vulnerable groups against each Key Stage. This is not final validated data so caution needs to be given to the accuracy of all current results and some national comparative data is still unavailable for some indicators. Where possible comparison to statistical neighbours is also provided.

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1. The members of the Committee are asked to:

- (i) consider the improvement in many areas of school performance in 2016
- (ii) Recognise the areas that still require significant improvement and the priorities for action to ensure that improvement is achieved
- (iii) to read the report in connection with the strategic education vision for Somerset 'Achieving Excellence for All 2016-2020

<http://www1.somerset.gov.uk/council/board3d/2016%20May%2011%20Item%206%20Paper%20B%20%20Annex%201%20Education%20Strategic%20Vision.pdf>

3. Background

- 3.1. This report contains a review of all available data to cover all the Key stages mentioned above. The commentary reflects a summary of the key points for each key stage and the priorities for action in 2016/2017.
- 3.2. Early Years Foundation Stage refers to children who at age five have completed their Reception year in primary, infant or first schools. Key Stage One refers to children who have completed Year 2 in primary, first or infant schools and are aged seven years old. Key Stage 2 refers to children who have completed Year 6 in primary, junior or middle schools and are aged 11 years old. Key Stage 4 refers to young people who have completed Year 11 and are aged 16. Key Stage 5 refers to young people who have completed Year 13 and who are aged 18.

Whilst this report covers the attainment in 2016 national results it is important to stress what is in place to support schools and settings with their improvement

programmes. Schools either as academies or as maintained schools have increasing autonomy and the Local Authority works in partnership with schools to maximise this autonomy and to increase school effectiveness. Following the development of the strategic vision 'Achieving Excellence for All' the Local Authority has put in place a number of key activities to support the areas for improvement that the following report describes. These include:

- The appointment of Somerset education Partners to support every school with their improvement priorities
- The establishment of a new funding regime that necessitates schools bidding for school improvement funding by working with groups of schools to address priorities
- The setting up of a new Somerset Education Partnership Board that holds schools, the LA and other partners to account for the impact on pupil outcomes of the available funding
- The design of a new vulnerable group approach to support schools with closing the gap between vulnerable groups and their peers
- A greater engagement with colleges and Early Years in the school improvement agenda
- Developed and implemented the Team Around the School programme which ensures that learners needs are met early allowing them to maximise their education experience
- Designed and implemented the new core standards for Special Education Needs which support schools in providing the appropriate level of resource and support for children with additional needs prior to a request for an education, health and care plan.

3.3. Early Years Foundation Stage

The main overall indicator for children at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage is the percentage of children achieving a good level of development (GLD) for which they need to achieve Expected or Exceeding in all prime Learning Goals (including Literacy and Mathematics). In Somerset 68.7% of children achieved GLD in 2016. This is 2 percentage points higher than in 2015 and continues a 5 year improvement trend. This is just in line with the national average of 69.3%. However, this is the first time for some years that the result dips just below the National Average (NA). Our top Statistical Neighbour (SN) is East Sussex at 75.7% with Devon next at 72.2%. We have set a target of 70% for 2017 but expect to exceed that ambition as the Early Years Foundation Stage will be a significant focus in 2017.

Gender

Girls continue to outperform boys on most indicators, including the GLD indicator. Girls achieved 75.3%, boys achieved 62.1%. Whilst the gender gap has widened very slightly 0.1%, we are still better than NA and SN in terms of the difference in performance between boys and girls. We are not complacent in this area and are focused to narrowing the gap further in 2017.

Literacy, including writing remains the weakest area with only a small improvement for girls of 0.6% and boys 0.3%. Speaking remains the weakest prime aspect although achievement was 87% for all children; girls 90.8% and boys 83.2%.

Free School Meals

The achievement gap between those in receipt of Free School Meals and their peers is 19.3% for the GLD. This is a very slight increase on 2015.

3.4. Priorities for Action

- To further develop collaborative partnerships and provide the highest quality support and opportunities for all children and families leading to self-improving communities
- Ensure communication and information is relevant, clear and accessible to parents, carers and providers.
- Identify and recognise the number of transition points a child has in their first 5 years and develop timely, multi-agency strategies to support positive transitions and continuity across the 0-5 age range
- Improvement in the quality of Teaching and Learning across all settings and schools
- Secure high quality and resilient leadership and governance in every school and setting and strengthen workforce development through on-going self-improvement

3.5. Key Stage 1

In 2016 a new assessment system was implemented for the first time in Key Stage 1. Instead of levels children are now assessed as reaching Expected Standard (ES) or Higher Standard (HS). This assessment is used for all indicators of performance either as a combined result or separately as Reading, Writing, or Mathematics.

The combined Reading, Writing, Mathematics (RWM) Expected Standard for Somerset was 61% against a national average of 60%. Those children gaining the HS were 8% against a national average of 9%. We are therefore in line with the national performance.

In terms of progress, assessment is now measured on a scale where 0 is average. Anything below 0 is slightly below or below average, and anything above is slightly above or above average. For RWM Expected Standard, Somerset was - 2 and for progress at the higher standard we were also - 2. We are therefore slightly below NA but not significantly. Ofsted describes this as in-line with National Average.

In Reading, Writing and Maths we were in line with National Average on all indicators with the exception of the HS for Maths where we were 2.5% below NA. Maths is a major focus for improvement in 2017.

Phonics

In 2016 the phonics result for KS1 was 78.5% against a national performance of 81%. This is an improvement on 2015 but still requires greater focus in this academic year.

Vulnerable Group Difference

The gap between Free School Meals children and their peers on the RWM combined indicator widened this year from 17% in 2015 to 22% in 2016. Gaps continue to widen between children with SEND and their peers. This is disappointing. We are focussed on all vulnerable groups in 2017 and remain determined to narrow the gaps through supporting and challenging our schools.

3.6. Priorities for Key Stage 1

- Continue to improve the quality of provision in Key Stage 1 overall to ensure that the direction of improvement takes Somerset schools well above the national average.
- Establish a plan of support for Key Stage 1 schools where the expected level of achievement was not reached and where the gap between FSM and non- FSM is significant.
- Implement a bespoke programme of professional development for all Key Stage 1 classes requiring additional support to improve the quality of teaching.
- To improve the trend patterns of boys in all three areas at key Stage 1.
- To ensure that with the introduction of Assessment without levels that schools are confident in tracking the progress of all children.

4. Key Stage 2

In 2016 a new assessment system was implemented for the first time in Key Stage 2. Instead of levels, children are now assessed as reaching Expected Standard (ES) or higher standard (HS). This assessment is used for all indicators of performance either as a combined result or separately for areas such as Reading, Writing or Maths.

The combined Reading, Writing, Maths Expected Standard for Somerset was 52% against a national average of 52%. Those children gaining the HS were 8% in Somerset against 8% nationally. In 2015 the NA was 80% and Somerset achieved 78.4%, so a difference of 1.6%. In 2016 the NA was 52% and Somerset achieved 52%. Therefore Somerset has reduced the gap from 1.6 to 0 in 2016. A very good achievement.

In terms of progress, again the new national average is 0. For Reading, Writing, Maths at Expected Standard for KS2, Somerset achieved - 3%. So below the national average. This is an important focus for improvement in 2017.

Reading and Writing are in line with the National Average, whilst Maths and Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation (SPAG) are slightly below.

Gender

In Reading, Writing, Maths combined girls continue to do better than boys. 49.4% girls to 55% boys. The gender gap is therefore 5.6%. Nationally the gender gap is 7.5. Somerset continues to do well in narrowing this difference.

Vulnerable group difference

The gap between Free School Meals children and their peers is 17.3%. This is slightly higher than 2015 and is wider than the national FSM gap of 14.5%. The gap between children requiring SEND support and those without SEND narrowed in 2016 by 7 percentage points. Whilst this is encouraging, the gap between the two groups remains unacceptably wide. The gap between Children Looked After and all pupils is 32%. This again is a positive narrowing of the gap from 45% in 2015.

4.1. Priorities for Key Stage 2

- To continue to support and challenge all schools to secure further improvement.
- To continue to challenge all schools to set and achieve aspirational targets for all pupils.
- To further work with schools to ensure that all vulnerable groups are making accelerated progress.
- To further develop the school to school support network to ensure the sharing of best practice.

5. **Key Stage 4**

In 2016 the assessment arrangements for KS4 have changed. This means that for the majority of indicators it is not possible to look at trends. It is therefore important to consider Somerset's performance against the national and regional attainment and achievement.

In terms of the 5 A* to C English and Math Somerset achieved 62% which was exactly in line with the National Average.

KS4 progress which measures the value that secondary schools add from the KS2 data, showed a progress score of + 0.03. This is significantly above the National Average of 0. This was the strongest performance across the whole of the South West. In terms of the percentage of A* to C English and Maths, we were absolutely in line with national average at + 0%.

Higher performing groups included first language not English, Black Caribbean, Other Asian, Black and African and Female. It is important to note that with the exception of females, these groups are very small in Somerset and are not statistically significant.

Lower performing groups include those pupils with an Education, Health and care Plan, Free School Meals (FSM), SEN support and FSM in the last 6 years plus those that joined in Year 10 or 11.

Gender difference shows a 0.5 bias to girls but this is a relatively positive situation between the two genders. The progress difference is more significant with a – 0.11 for boys to + 0.17 for girls.

Pupil Premium attainment at 4.0 is significantly below the all pupil attainment of 5.0. Again progress is significantly below the all pupil achievement. - 0.36 for FSM in the last 6 years compared to + 0.13 for all pupils. This difference applies to all FSM indicators and must be a focus for improvement in 2017.

SEN pupils either in receipt of SEN support or with an ECP do not attain as well as their peers. This is equally true for progress indicators. Whilst attainment may be lower as a result of pupils' individual needs it is not acceptable that the progress they make from their starting point is significantly weaker than their peers.

Ofsted now describes gaps as “diminishing difference”. We are focused on ensuring that the differences between vulnerable groups and their peers does indeed diminish and rapidly.

5.1 Priorities for Key Stage 4

- To support more good schools to achieve an outstanding grading
- To improve the proportion of students attaining 5 or more GCSE A*/A grades
- To even out the variation in performance amongst providers with lower performance amongst some larger providers.
- Closing the gaps for our most vulnerable groups remains an on-going focus

5.2 A Level

In 2016 there were 4073 students completing their Key Stage 5 education. 1011 were in schools with sixth forms and the remainder at the four colleges.

The average point score (APS) per entry for those attending Somerset schools was 31.58. This was slightly above the National Average (NA) of 31.52. For Somerset overall when combining the colleges and schools results the APS entry was slightly below the NA at 29.31.

For those taking A levels in schools 17.1% achieved AAB or better which is above the NA of 16.7%. For Somerset overall including the colleges the result was 13%.

In vocational terms the APS per entry for Applied General Students in schools was 40.82 above the NA of 34.70. The entry for technical level student was 30.7 slightly below the NA of 30.83. The combined school and college data shows that Somerset was above the NA for both general and technical students per entry.

The overall grade at A level was a C- which was exactly in line with the NA. The average grade for a student's best 3 A levels was a C+ and again we were exactly in line with the NA. The proportion of students attaining 3 A* to A grades was 11% which was again in line with NA.

5.3 Priorities for Key Stage 5

- Promote the raising of standards in sixth forms and colleges.
- Improve teaching and learning, student progress tracking and intervention.
- Support improvement in the quality of provision offered by different school sixth forms in order to support their work in ensuring a suitable range of post 16 options are made available to young people in Somerset.

5.4 Children in Care – The Virtual School

The Virtual School (VS) is a national construct designed to improve the educational outcomes of Children who are Looked After (CLA). The VS is led by a Virtual Head teacher and has a staffing compliment of advisory teachers and education support workers. The Virtual Head works closely with Children's social care to ensure education is a pivotal aspect in reviewing children and young people's placements, any potential moves as well as transitions in schooling terms.

The results for the VS can be difficult to interpret as many factors such as small

cohorts in age groups, time spent in care, special educational needs as well as significant trauma all impact on the ability of children to be able to learn appropriately and to achieve in the same way and time frame as their peers.

However the potential complexity of these children and young people applies to all CLA nationwide and therefore it is important that we look to compare Somerset's performance against the national indicators.

Key Stage 1 (14 children)

43% of 7 year old CLA achieved the expected standard in Reading, 29% in writing and 36% in Mathematics. In the combined 29% achieved the expected standard. It is important to note that 64% (9 children) had some form of SEND. 57% (3 children) had SEN support with 7% (1 child) having a statement of SEN.

Key Stage 2 (25 children)

32% of 11 year old CLA achieved the expected standard in Reading, 44% in Writing, 40% in Maths. In the combined 20% achieved the expected standard against 53% of their peers. It is important to note that 64% (16 children) had some form of SEND. 40% (10 children) had SEN support and 24% (6 children) had a statement of SEN.

Key Stage 4 (45 students)

13% (6 children) of CLA achieved their 5+ A* to C including English and Maths against 62% of their peers. 20% (9 children) achieved their 5+ A* to C. This is broadly in line with 2015 although the cohort is 40% larger in 2016.

68% of this cohort had some form of SEND. 50% of the cohort attended an independent school, a special school or a Pupil referral Unit. In 2015 this figure was 29%.

Of those children who attended a mainstream setting, 28% (5 children) achieved 5+ A* to C including English and Maths. 44% (8 children) achieved 5+ A* to C and 89% (16 children) achieved 5 + A* to G. These are good results for CLA in mainstream education.

Priorities for the Virtual School

- A Virtual School post 16 College Link advisor is now in place, but this is a part time support worker role which will need developing.
- There is still work to be done to enhance and embed the VS and education within CSC and other services but there has been significant change in the last 6 months
- Activities specifically aimed at KS2 and KS4 to improve outcomes
- More involvement with young people outside of personal education plan meetings
- Enhanced training on attachment and trauma for schools
- Development of the Children Missing Education Panel as a forum for scrutinising children on part time / no provision
- Recording of information in one secure place (Capita) for all CLA in and out of county and in all types of provision

- Virtual School to be involved in all decisions around educational plans and school moves

5.5 Conclusion

While there has been some improvement in many areas of Somerset schools in 2016 there is still wide variability in performance. Our new Education Strategic Vision has set our ambition at a faster improvement rate per year through to 2020. The monitoring of our improvement is increasingly complex given the changes to the assessment arrangements in 2016. Primary assessment will remain the same in 2017 but once again Key Stage 4 will change meaning we will not have the ability to compare 2016 with 2017 except against national performance data.

The improvements in the EYFS represent good progress over the last five years. Key Stage 1 and 2 remain in line with the national position on almost every indicator. Our ambition is to be significantly above all national indicators and we are therefore building on a very solid base, This was reflected in the recent annual conversation with Ofsted on Somerset's performance.

However, gaps between our most vulnerable groups and their peers remain our most urgent priority. Schools are very aware of this and our focus to support school improvement through the Somerset Education Partner programme will enable more focused and specific support for those schools struggling with closing the gaps.

Gender differences continue to be significant, opening up markedly in the EYFS and continuing to be a key issue at all key stages so that by GCSE just over half of boys achieve a good outcome. Boys are over-represented in figures for SEN, exclusion from school, children looked after and the NEET data. Improving their progress and attainment is a key element in raising standards overall in Somerset and in achieving full participation for all young people.

Slow progress is being made in improving progress and narrowing the gaps in attainment for pupils with special educational needs. In spite of some improvement in the outcomes for Children Looked After their achievement gaps continue to be a concern and a key priority for improvement in 2016-17.

It remains very disappointing that, in spite of additional resources through the pupil premium of approximately £17 million per year in Somerset, the attainment gaps for pupils on free school meals have shown little improvement overall. This is a major priority for 2016-17.

Educational attainment gaps result in low social mobility. Children's life chances should not be determined so young and with so little chance of catching up for those who are less advantaged. Recent national and international reports have highlighted this key issue for the economy and for individual life chances. The OECD Skills Outlook Report 2013 highlighted the low literacy and numeracy skills of 16-24 year olds in the UK compared to other countries. The Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission Annual Report, October 2013, focused on what more should be done to improve social mobility through the education system and other government policy areas. A recent report from Save the

Children, 'Too Young to Fail' provides a powerful analysis of achievement gaps and what we can do to improve. This is our top priority in Somerset as we move forward with our Education Strategic vision. With West Somerset identified as one of the six priority areas for social mobility by the department for Education, we are actively engaged in a three year programme of improvement. We will ensure that learning from this work is replicated in areas of need across Somerset as a whole.

Note: For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author.

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Somerset County Council
Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee
10 March 2017

Team Around the School (TAS) – Implementation Update

Lead Officer: Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency

Author: Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency

Contact Details: dfarrow@somerset.gov.uk 01823 356258

Cabinet Member: Frances Nicholson

Division and Local Member: All

1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to set out the background to the development of the Team Around the School (TAS) model and to update the Committee on the progress being made to implement the model across the Local Authority..
- 1.2. The TAS model is a key early help approach that supports the targets set out in the County Plan relating to Childrens Services in particular those relating to improving our Children's Services Ofsted rating and improving educational outcomes for disadvantaged children. TAS is also a key delivery vehicle for the Children and Young People's Plan.

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1. Scrutiny Committee is asked to review the progress being made in relation to the implementation of the TAS model.

3. Background

- 3.1. One of the judgements made by Ofsted following its inspection of our Children's Services was that we needed to progress the early help strategy more swiftly, ensure that it was well embedded in practice across the partnership and that thresholds for services were better understood and implemented to reduce the number of inappropriate referrals and re-referrals to children's services.
- 3.2. Following discussions with school leaders, through The Compact, now the Somerset Education Partnership Board, and with GP federations in the spring term 2015, it was agreed that schools were best placed to be the drivers for improving early identification of need and the coordination of early support as they are a universal service with regular and consistent access to the vast majority of the children and young people within the County.
- 3.3. An Early help Steering Group was established consisting of LA, school, Getset and Parent and Family Support Advisors (PFSA) representatives to determine how this work could be taken forward .
- 3.4. The issues that needed to be addressed were agreed as follows:
 - **Our vulnerable children are not doing well in Somerset** – previous reports to scrutiny on educational outcomes has identified this as an issue and it is a clear priority for improvement in The County Plan, The Children and Young Peoples Plan and the County Education Vision and Strategy

- **Strengthen local/partner relationships** – Ofsted identified that partnership working was an area for improvement. From discussions with school and other agency staff it was clear that this was an area that needed to improve
- **Better deployment of multi-agency resources** – it was apparent through discussions with staff from a range of agencies that there was duplication of some work taking place and confusion in families about what support was being delivered by whom. It was recognised that this was both unnecessary and inefficient
- **Better support network for frontline staff (ie.– PFSA's are managed by school based staff and often work in isolation without effective professional supervision and support.**
- **Need to address the 'refer on' culture and all partners hold appropriate level of risk** – at the time that discussions were taking place about what model should be put in place to deliver the changes required the schools sector was one of the highest referring sectors to Somerset Direct with the lowest conversion rate.
- **Consistent application of thresholds** – it was clear from referrals to Somerset Direct and from discussions with school staff that there was a lack of understanding around the application of the Thresholds leading to inappropriate referrals and frustration when cases were referred back as not meeting the Thresholds for a particular level of support.
- **Pockets of good practice across County** – there was a need to identify and build in what were recognised as effective models of working which had the potential to deliver the changes required
- **Align Early Help with school improvement** – improving outcomes for vulnerable pupils could not just be achieved by schools in isolation from other agencies. It is recognised that early identification of need and effective early help from a range of agencies alongside high quality teaching are essential in supporting vulnerable pupils to achieve their potential.

3.5. Two schools, King Alfred's, Burnham on Sea and The Blue School, Wells were already operating a way of working that involved regular multi-agency meetings, coordinated by senior staff of the school and involving feeder school staff that discussed pupils causing concern, agreed what support was required from which agency and then monitored impact. It was agreed by the Early Help Steering Group that this model should be explored further as a formal pilot and Wadham Community School agreed to join the pilot and coordinate the work in their area of the County i.e. Crewkerne and Ilminster.

3.6. Working with these schools has led to the development of the TAS model with the following aims:

- To provide a mechanism for schools to meet with family support services and other key partners on a regular basis in order to have shared conversations about children and young people where concerns have

been identified and plan the delivery of and monitor the impact of support (aimed at Level 2 'Additional' need)

- To build trust and improve communication across agencies
- To ensure early help resources from all agencies involved are utilised in the most effective way
- To reduce exclusions, improve attendance, educational outcomes and overall wellbeing

3.7. The Early Help Steering Group also agreed a set of principles that should apply to the TAS:

- Ensure the support is wrapped round the child and family in a suitably timely fashion for our 0-25 year olds
- Close gaps for all vulnerable groups
- Removing barriers to learning as early as possible
- Create well managed supportive but challenging networks
- Build trust and improve communication so that information and data is shared effectively and suitably.
- Ensure the alignment of a number of agency agendas all focused to the principle of the child at the centre and without any sense of agency 'barriers' to meeting need
- Simple referral systems, one pathway approach and clear monitoring and evaluation of an outcomes based approach
- Track and monitor the child, young person and family's progress; using the Behaviour and Vulnerability Profiling Tool (BVPT), an assessment model developed by a Somerset Pupil Referral Unit, and Early Help Assessment framework as necessary.

3.8. Towards the end of the summer term 2016 a simple evaluation of the impact of the model in the three pilot areas was undertaken and the following findings were made:

- Partners are starting to see the benefits of regular multi-agency meetings
- Chair of TAS has oversight of children from other schools when those school heads are not in attendance
- Schools are reporting that actions are being taken more swiftly by other agencies
- Good spirit in holding partners to account
- Strengthening relationships between partners – discussions help to understand thresholds
- Been helpful to use the behaviour and vulnerability profiling tool (BVPT)
- Highlighting pressures on PFSA's (high caseloads)
- Reinforcing the need to complete Early Help Assessments to start building evidence early on
- Good way of keeping up to date with changes (ie in CSC)
- Difficult to show impact on academic progress
- Saving other agencies time - School Nursing Team, Education attendance, Police
- Struggling to get attendance from some agencies due to stretched resources
- The majority of pupils supported through programmes put in place by the TAS had reduced scores on the BVPT, increased attendance, reduced exclusions and reduced use of reduced timetables.

- 3.9. A recent analysis of calls to Somerset Direct now shows that the schools sector is one of the lowest referring agencies with one of the highest conversion rates which is a significant change from a year ago. Whilst this cannot be solely attributed to the delivery of the TAS model it is reasonable to assume that it is a significant contributory factor
- 3.10. As a result of the pilot work a Team Around the School Handbook and Toolkit has been developed and the model is being rolled out across the County. The concept has been enthusiastically received by schools and other agencies although it is recognized that as we scale up the model agencies and services will have to consider how best to support the working of the model. All Community Learning Partnerships are engaged with the majority having started TAS meetings although it is reasonable to say that they are at different stages of maturity. The intention is that the model will be embedded across the County by the end of this academic year 2016-2017.
- 3.11. Childrens Social Care has agreed to provide group supervision to PFSAs in each area and have also committed to attending each TAS on a monthly basis.
- 3.12. The Early Help Steering Group has been replaced by the TAS Strategy Group which has responsibility for overseeing the development and delivery of the model across the County and considering how it could develop in to the future.
- 3.13. Over the remainder of the academic year we will be monitoring implementation across the County and developing an audit tool to support the assessment of the delivery and effectiveness of the model. This will include the development of a set of performance indicators to support that assessment in particular looking at how the work of the TAS contributes towards improved educational outcomes for those pupils supported through the process
- 3.14. The work of the TAS is reported through both the Early Help Strategic Commissioning Programme Board and the Childrens Trust Executive.

4. Consultations undertaken

- 4.1. The initial proposals around the development of the TAS Model arose following consultation with schools and GP federations.

5. Implications

- 5.1. The successful roll out and further development of the TAS model across the County is a key component of delivering the Children and Young Peoples Plan and improving outcomes for vulnerable groups

6. Background papers

- 6.1. Team Around the School Handbook
Team Around the School Toolkit

Note: For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author




CYPP - Improvement Programme 6 Highlight Report

This highlight report updates the Somerset Children's Trust Executive (SCT) about the project's progress to date. It also provides an opportunity to raise concerns and issues with the SCT, and alert them to any changes that may affect the project.

Complete all fields where applicable and state 'nil return' where there is nothing to report in this period.

Programme:	Programme 6 - Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and developing an excellent children's social work service		
Delivery Group:	CSC/LSCB	Year:	2016/7
Delivery Group Chair:	Claire Winter/Sally Halls	Report Date:	21.2.17 for the period ending 31 st January 2017

1. Overall Improvement Programme Status

Current Status:	Amber <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>	Status Trend:	 <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Reason for current status:	<p>Whilst most areas are on target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability to appoint to the Assistant Director Quality Assurance is impacting on senior management capacity across the partnership. • Health have not been able to recruit to Clinical Psychologists posts to join the emotional health and well-being team and this means the team is not yet able to function at capacity • There remain challenges in recruiting permanent staff to South Somerset safeguarding teams. • Edge of care work is progressing more slowly than anticipated due to capacity. A Strategic Manager for Prevention will be in post from February 2017 and will drive this work forward. • Placement stability remains a concern for children who have been looked after for more than 2 and half years. Examination of the data indicates that some foster carers struggle to manage children as they approach adolescence. A revised training programme for 17/18 focussing on building carer and child resilience is one of a range of measures in place to address this. 		

2. Progress since last Highlight report

Include evidence of how the plan has incorporated the voice and needs of children

Achievements:

- Family group conferencing service is now fully staffed with conferences to be rolled out across the county in February 2017.
- Strategic Manager Prevention appointed – due to start in February 2017 – to develop services specifically for adolescents on the edge of care.
- Ofsted Monitoring visits for Assessment (November 2016) and Safeguarding (January 2017) stated that adequate progress is being made in Children's Social Care.
- Care leaver now engaged in work experience at Viridor and conversations with Skanska and local Chamber of Commerce underway to extend the model.
- Significant improvement in permanent staffing in South Somerset Assessment and Children Looked After teams
- The partnership CSE strategy group is making good progress under police leadership.
- Unaccompanied asylum seeking children's (UASC) team is now in place, the team have been trained and all UASC children in the service are now held in this team.

Slippage (give reasons and remedial actions)

- Poor response to advertisement for psychologists to join the emotional health and well-being team means the team is not yet able to function at capacity
- There remain challenges in recruiting permanent staff to South Somerset safeguarding teams.
- Edge of care work is progressing more slowly than anticipated due to staffing issues. A Strategic Manager for Prevention will be in post from February 2017 and will drive this work forward.

Placement stability remains a concern for children who have been looked after for more than 2 and half years. Examination of the data indicates that some foster carers struggle to manage children as they approach adolescence. A revised training programme for 17/18 focussing on building carer and child resilience is one of a range of measures in place to address this.

3. Key Milestones and Deliverables *(as per your plan; noting any slippage – anything significant that has an impact on key actions/outputs):*

Milestones	Planned Completion Date	Progress/Slippage/Remedial Actions
Re-advertisement of psychologist posts for Emotional Health and Well-being team	24 th January 2017	Prioritising well-being of children looked after and care leavers

4. Actions and outputs for the next period:

- Rollout of Family group conferencing service across the county from February 2017
- Development of Teenage strategy, particularly in relation to edge of care support, beginning February 2017.
- Recruitment fair and "Try before you Apply" social worker recruitment initiatives during March/April 2017 with a focus on South Somerset and Taunton

5. Most significant current risk/s:

- Permanent staff recruitment in South Somerset and Taunton offices remains fragile. If we are unable to recruit to a significant number of the posts to be filled, consistent progress towards improved quality of practice may falter.
- Placement stability for children looked after has deteriorated. Placement breakdown can adversely affect children's emotional health, meaning that they require more expert care at higher cost. Delayed recruitment of psychologists to the emotional health and well-being team reduces the capacity of this team to support placements in crisis.

6.

- An overview of audit activity and the outcomes of the two recent Ofsted monitoring visits indicate that although volatility and variability in workflow and practice quality has reduced, both issues remain in the service. Sustained focus is required to maintain improved threshold understanding and adherence and to continue to develop improvements in practice.









7. Variances:

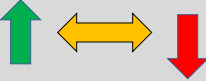


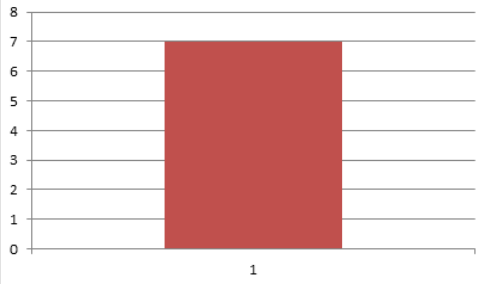
Give details of any other change to your programme (where applicable e.g. to the benefits, assumptions, timescales, quality or scope):

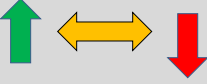
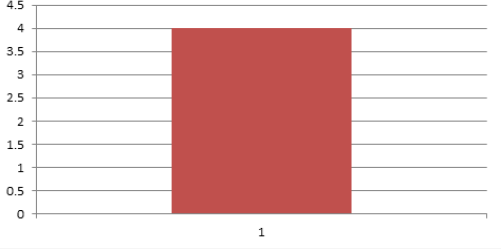



The police continue to have challenges in managing front line safeguarding duties in line with Working Together 2015. This means that child protection strategy meetings and information provided about risk to children are not always timely, reducing partnership ability to ensure that children are consistently safe.







8. Decisions required from Somerset Children's Trust:

That the Trust continues to ensure that Agencies prioritise the needs of Children Looked After.








Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel   
1. Strengthen Family Support for Children in need of help and protection			
Percent of children on second or subsequent Child Protection Plans (within two years of the previous plans end data).	20.7% (SN average 2015/16)	12.9% (69/535) Rolling 12 months January 2017	13.9% (71/510) Rolling 12 months December 2016 
Child Protection statutory visits that took place on time	95%	92.3% Rolling 12 months January 17	92.4% Rolling 12 months December 2016 
Percentage of children subject to Child Protection Plans for 2 years or more.	2.5% (31 st March 2016 SN average)	0.5% (2/378) January 17	0.5% (2/384) December 2016 
Length of time children are subject to a child in need (CIN) plan (<i>current, open CIN cases</i>)	3 months or less = 22.2% More than 3 months, but less than 6 months = 12.5% More than 6 months but less than 1 year = 16.3% 1 year but less than 2 years = 19.2% 2 years and over = 29.8% 31 st March 2016 SN average	0-6 weeks = 26.4% 6 weeks to 3 months = 17.4% 3-6 months = 13.2% 6 months to 1 year = 18.8% Over 1 year = 24.3% January 17	0-6 weeks = 24.1% 6 weeks to 3 months = 14% 3 to 6 months = 15.2% 6 months – 1 year = 21.9% Over 1 year = 24.8% December 2016 
Number of cases where there has been no recorded activity during the previous 6 weeks.	Internal target of 0 (excluding children with disabilities [CWD])	46 of which 13 are CWD, residual cases 33 (January 2017)	44 of which 22 are CWD, residual cases 22. (December 2016) 
Number of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) during the last 12 months	62.9 rate per 10,000 child population (15/16 SN average)	52.5 rate per 10,000 child population (December 2016)	48.7 rate per 10,000 child population (September 2016)
Number of children on Child Protection Plans	560 (15/16 SN average)	384 (December 2016)	371 (September 2016)

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel 
Distribution of working days taken from a referral being received to an assessment being completed	1 to 10 working days = 17.88% 11-20 working days = 18.6% 21-30 working days = 16.8% 31-40 working days = 17.5% 41-45 working days = 8% 46 or more working days = 17.6% (15/16 SN average)	0 working days = 7.8% 1-10 working days = 13.3% 11-20 working days = 17.6% 21-30 working days = 20.4% 31-40 working days = 17.7% 41-45 working days = 10.1% 45+ working days = 13% (Rolling 12 months December 2016, taken on 10 th Jan 16)	0 working days = 8.13% 1-10 working days = 14% 11-20 working days = 17.3% 21-30 working days = 20.5% 31-40 working days = 16.6% 41-45 working days = 9.3% 45+ working days = 14.2% (Rolling 12 months Sept 16, taken on 3rd October 16) 
2. Secure stability for children through improved permanence planning			
Placement stability – the number of children looked after who have been looked after for at least 2.5 years who have been in their current placement for the past 2 years	70%	54.5% (85/156) Rolling 12 months January 17	56.5% (87/154) Rolling 12 months December 2016 
Number of emergency placements made	For information only	<p style="text-align: center;">Jan-17 Emergency Placeme</p> 	Approximately 3 emergency placements made in December 2016

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel 
Number of Parent and Child placements made	For information only	<p style="text-align: center;">Jan-17 P&C Placements</p> 	3 Parent and Child Placements made in December 2016
Percentage of CLA that have been looked after for 4 months+ where a permanence plan is recorded	95%	95.14% January 2017	95.7% December 2016 
3. Improve the outcomes for Children Looked After and Care leavers through effective Corporate Parenting			
Percentage of Children looked After placed more than 20 miles from home	28.7% (15/16 SFR903 SN average)	31.5% (149/473) January 17	30.9% (150/485) December 2016 
Percentage of Children Looked After in residential care	12.2% (including: Secure units, Children's homes and semi-independent living accommodation) 2015/16 SN average	14.9% (as at 30/01/2017) Includes: secure unit inside and outside LA, Children's homes and family or mother and baby units.	4.6% (as at 10 th January 2017) (Revised methodology)
Percentage of Children Looked After with in-house Foster Carers	61.1% own provision, not exclusively own FC provision (15/16 SN average)	62.2% based on 224 children currently looked after by SCC foster care and 136 children in other foster care (as at 30 th Jan 2017)	62.2% based on 229 children currently looked after by SCC foster care and 144 children in other foster care (as at 10 th January 2017) 
Expenditure on external fostering placements, year to date	For information only	£4,943,674 (YTD January 17)	£4,305,094 (YTD December 16)

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel   
Expenditure on external residential placements, year to date	For information only	£7,279,407 (YTD January 2017)	£6,313,278 (YTD December 16)
Number of Foster Carers approved to take children over the age of 10	For information only	227 (30 th January 2017)	224 (10 th January 2017) 
Average number of days between a child becoming looked after and being placed for adoption (for all children placed)	For information only	443 (YTD January 17)	468.15 (YTD 31 st December 2016) 
Percent of Somerset children looked after who are placed within Somerset	66.4% (15/16 SN average)	73.6% taken on 30 th Jan 2017	73% taken on 10 th January 2017 
Percentage of children looked after at or above the Expected Standard in reading, writing and maths combined at key stage 2	53.1% Gap between CLA pupils and the full cohort is 26.4 percentage point difference (14/15 SN average)	18% (4/22) (provisional 2016) Gap between CLA pupils and the full cohort is 43 percentage point difference	35% in 2015 Gap between CLA pupils and the full cohort is 43 percentage point difference Not comparable with 2016 provisional figures
Percentage of children looked after achieving 5+ GCSEs A* to C.	22.8% Gap between CLA pupils and the full cohort is 43 percentage points (14/15 SN average)	20% (provisional 2016) 9 out of 44 Attainment gap between CLA and the full cohort is not yet available as comparative data has not yet been published by the DfE[6 out of the cohort of 44 achieved 5+ A*-C including English and Maths representing 14%]	17.1% in 2015 Gap between CLA pupils and the full cohort is 50.9 percentage point difference in 2015
Percentage of care leavers who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	42.2% (care leavers aged 19,20 and 21) 2015/16 SN average	44.8% (124/277) of care leavers all ages (Jan 17) 17 year olds – 60% (3/5) 18 year olds – 35.2% (19/54) 19 year olds – 47.2% (25/53) 20 year olds – 39.8% (33/83) 21 year olds – 53.7% (44/82)	42.8% of Care Leavers all ages (December 2016) 17 year olds – 40% (2/5) 18 year olds – 34.7% (17/49) 19 year olds – 43.4% (23/53) 20 year olds – 37.3% (31/83)

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel ↑ ↔ ↓
			21 year olds – 52.4% (43/82) ↓
4. Commission cost effective services to improve outcomes for children in need			
Percentage of children subject to a child protection plan, who have attended their child protection conferences	For information only	7.67% (32/417) last 3 months ending January 2017	9% (36/398) last 3 months ending December 2017
Number of young people supported by PROMISE advocates in CP proceedings	For information only	62 (22 ICPC's) January 2017	40 (15 ICPC's) December 2016
Percentage of care leavers who are in suitable accommodation	84.8% (15/16 SN average)	95.3% (January 2017)	95.2% (December 2016) ↔
5. Strengthen Partnership working for Children in Need			
Percentage of contacts to children's social care from different agencies and their rate of conversion to referrals	For information only	Overall 18% of all contacts progressed to referral Education – 7%, conversion rate 41.2% Friends – 12% contacts, 19.6% conversion rate Health – 10% contact, 25% conversion rate LA – 11% contact, 21.6% conversion rate Other – 20% contact, conversion rate 17.9% Police – 40% contact, conversion rate 11.5% Self – 0% contacts, conversion rate 0% January 17 (last 3 months)	Overall 18 % of all contacts progressed to referral Education = 7%, conversion rate of 39.2% Friends and Family = 11%, conversion rate of 20.9% Health = 10%, conversion rate of 26% LA = 12%, conversion rate of 21.1% Other = 19%, conversion rate of 13.6% Police = 42%, conversion rate of 12% Self = 0%, conversion rate of 18.2% (2/11) December 2016 (last 3 months) ↔

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel   
Percentage of return home interviews completed	Internal target is 50%	44.7% (YTD Jan 17)	44.1% (YTD December 2016) 
Percentage of assessments completed on time in accordance with the priorities set	90%	76.4% rolling 12 months January 17	75.6% Rolling 12 months December 2016 
Number of children who go missing more than once	For information only	183 (Police data rolling months to December 2016)	183 (police data rolling 12 months to September 2016)
Partner attendance at CSE subgroup meetings	90%	79.6% (43/54) YTD January 2017	83.7% (36/43) YTD December 2016 
Percentage of new referrals that lead to an assessment	80%	81.4% (3762/4619) Rolling 12 months December 2016	83.3% (3636/4364) Rolling 12 months September 2016 
Rate of Section 47 enquiries completed	126.9 rate per 10,000 child population (2015/16 SN average)	131.6 rate per 10,000 child population (rolling 12 months December 2016)	126.9 rate per 10,000 child population (rolling 12 months) September 2016
6. Further develop the capacity of the Social Work Workforce			
See Highlight Report for Priority 7 – “Embedding a Think Family approach across the workforce”			

Please note that rows highlighted in blue are indicators that will be updated on a quarterly basis

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