

# Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee

Friday 17 November 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 J Lock, Ms Helen Fenn, Mrs Eileen Tipper, Mr Richard Berry, Cllr N Bloomfield, Cllr A Bown, Cllr M Dimery, Cllr N Hewitt-Cooper, Ruth Hobbs, Cllr M Pullin (Vice-Chairman), Cllr J Williams and Cllr N Taylor

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 - 9 November 2017

For further information about the meeting, please contact Neil Milne on 01823 359045 or [ndmilne@somerset.gov.uk](mailto: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](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers)



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# AGENDA

Item Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee - 10.00 am Friday 17 November 2017

**\*\* Public Guidance notes contained in agenda annexe \*\***

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 held on (Pages 7 - 10)**

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 11 - 32)**

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 **Children's Social Care Annual Performance Report (Pages 33 - 78)**

To consider this report.

7 **Children and Young People's Plan 2016-2019 (Pages 79 - 164)**

To consider this report.

8 **Children's Services Commissioning Report (Pages 165 - 190)**

To consider this report.

9 **Young Carers Update (Pages 191 - 198)**

To consider this report.

10 **Any other urgent items of business**

Item Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee - 10.00 am Friday 17  
November 2017

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](mailto:ndmilne@somerset.gov.uk)  
They can also be accessed via the council's website on [www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers](http://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 20 October 2017 at 10.00 in the Luttrell Room, County Hall, Taunton.

## Present

Cllr Pullin (Vice Chair in the Chair)

Cllr M Caswell (Substitute)

Cllr M Dimery

Cllr N Hewitt-Cooper

Cllr J Lock

Cllr N Taylor

Cllr J Williams

Cllr R Williams

**Apologies:** Cllr L Redman, Cllr A Bown, Cllr N Bloomfield.

**Church representatives present:** None

**Parent Governor representatives present:** Mrs Ruth Hobbs.

**CHYPPS & Schools Forum representatives present:** Mrs Eileen Tipper (CHYPPS).

**Cabinet Members present:** Cllr F Nicholson, Cllr G Verdon

**Other Members present:**

## 30 Declarations of interest – agenda item 2

30.0 Cllr Caswell, Cllr Dimery, Cllr Hewitt-Cooper, Cllr Lock, Cllr N Taylor, and Cllr J Williams, all declared a personal interest as a District and/or City/Town, Parish Councillor.

## 31 Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2017 – agenda item 3

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

## 32 Public question time – agenda time 4

32.0 It was agreed to listen to the public speakers who both wanted to speak on item 7 Family Support Services at the start of the item.

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

33.0 The Committee considered and agreed its own work programme and the future agenda items listed. It was agreed to add Children's Safeguarding Board to 17 November 2017 meeting and to add January joint scrutiny meeting with the Adults and Health Committee to the work programme.

- 33.1 The Committee considered and noted the Council's Forward Plan of proposed key decisions in forthcoming months including Cabinet meetings up to 17 January 2018.
- 33.2 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.

#### **34 Information Management**– agenda item 6

- 34.0 The Committee received a presentation regarding an update on Children's ICT and Information Sharing.
- 34.1 The presentation explained where Children's ICT was in 2015, what improvements had been made, the progress on addressing issues and the current position of what was working well and what was not working well and the focus for the next three months. There was explanation about the Technology and People programme and its plan for the next 5 months.
- 34.2 Members asked about resilience in the event of IT hostile attacks, sharing data with partner organisations, and new data protection laws. They were informed that data was stored in multiple locations to protect information, work was ongoing to improve sharing data with partners, and the new office 365 surfaces would help the Council be compliant with new data protection laws.
- 34.3 The Committee agreed to note the update.

#### **35 Family Support Services** – agenda item 7

- 35.0 The Committee heard from Katherine See, a patron of Children's Centres, and she spoke about the proposed changes to Family Support Services. She felt these services needed to be protected and felt the proposals were short-sighted. She also raised concerns about the public consultation and the online questionnaire which she felt was poorly publicised and had leading questionnaires.
- 35.1 Assistant Director of Children's Services Philippa Granthier responded and said the public consultation was open for 10 weeks for people to fill in. The online questionnaires or hard copies were available at various places including children's centres and GP surgeries. In addition there were drop-in evening sessions being held and other events to publicise the ongoing consultation. There was room after each question on the online questionnaire to type in answers and raise any concerns.
- 35.2 The Committee then heard from Nigel Behan from UNITE trade union, who questioned whether the proposals were about rationing services rather than meeting needs. He asked about what data was being analysed to determine places where centres were most needed and access to services and if the options appraisal would consider existing and future needs, and how quality and cost would be taken into account.



- 35.3 Philippa Granthier responded and said the proposal to limit centres would not limit access to the service. This was not about reducing service. Information about population and further evidence and research including the experience of other local authorities would be analysed. The proposal was for centres to be located in the most deprived areas.
- 35.4 The Committee then considered the report which provided an update on the progress to create 'early help hubs' in local communities, agreed as a key priority in the Children and Young People's Plan 2016-2019. The hub service would offer multi-agency integrated services to identify and support children and families who need additional help and quick intervention, and over time help reduce the gap in outcomes for those in deprived areas.
- 35.5 Further debate on this item included: possible future venues for services, online support for families, ensuring that those who were less likely to get involved in the consultation were listened to, linking with property and the libraries programmes, concerns about reducing services, recognising the importance of early help support, flexible working hours for staff, encouraging more community support, and ensuring that people knew how to access support.
- 35.6 The Committee agreed to note the update and request a further update at the 8 December meeting.

A short break in the proceedings took place here at 11.40am.

## **36 West Somerset Opportunity Area – agenda item 7**

The meeting resumed here at 11.40am.

- 36.0 The Committee considered a report about the West Somerset Opportunity Area, part of the Government's programme to tackle social mobility and improve opportunities for young people across the county. West Somerset was identified as area 324 out of 324 social mobility areas due to a combination of factors.

A number of priorities had been identified around children having a good start in life, educational excellence in the classroom, transition to adulthood, and skills for employment and business. The progress of this would be reported through the Children's Trust plan.

Further discussion on this included: recognising the importance of mental health of young people, support for parents who were isolated, working with schools in West Somerset and the surrounding areas, funding for the plans for each of the priorities, other government initiatives benefiting West Somerset, working with organisations such as the Somerset Parent Care Forum, encouraging more young families into the area, greater forward planning work between planning and housing services, and recognition that the issue in West Somerset is much bigger than education alone.

The Committee noted the report and it was agreed that an update on this would be given in 6 months.

**37 Any other business of urgency – agenda item 9**

37.0 The Chairman, after ascertaining there were no other matters arising, thanked all those present for attending.

(The meeting closed at 12.20pm )

**Cllr Mike Pullin**  
**Vice Chairman – Scrutiny for Polices, Children and Families Committee**

## 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 Michael Bryant in the Democratic Services Team by telephoning (01823) 357628 or 359500.

To view the Forward Plan on the website you will need a copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader available free from [www.adobe.com](http://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 1 November 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
<b>FP/17/09/14</b> First published: 26 September 2017	2 Nov 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Issue: Expansion of Norton Fitzwarren Primary School Decision: Approval to fund expansion of Norton Fitzwarren Church School (an Academy) to meet Local Authority Statutory Duty to provide sufficient school places	Cabinet Member Key Decisions Oct 2017		Elizabeth Smith, Service Manager – Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823 356260
<b>FP/17/08/01</b> First published: 14 August 2017	3 Nov 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Issue: AdoptSW, Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) virtual Adoption Panel Decision: Operating an AdoptSW adoption panel is a first step to regionalisation ahead of the move to full regionalisation on 1st April 2018.	Adopt SW Decision Report		Suzanne Lyus, Operations Manager, Resources - Fostering Adoption Placements Tel: 01823357146
<b>Fp/17/03/11</b> First published: 29 March 2017	8 Nov 2017 Commercial & Business Services Director	Issue: Asset Rationalisation and Review of the Corporate Asset Management Plan Decision: Sets out our principles for a refreshed approach to assets and disposals with a more proactive approach working with services in order to deliver the council's priorities	Asset Rationalisation and Review of the Corporate Asset Management Plan		Claire Lovett, Head of Property Tel: 07977412583

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<p><b>FP/17/07/10</b> First published: 24 July 2017</p>	<p>9 Nov 2017 Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure, Finance &amp; Performance Director</p>	<p>Issue: Wells Technology Enterprise Centre (WTEC) – Approval to start a procurement process, to accept ERDF/LEP funding and sign the grant funding agreements Decision: Approval to accept the ERDF/LEP funding and sign the grant funding agreements for the WTEC development. Approval to start the procurement process to find a suitable supplier for the development of the WTEC.</p>	<p>Wells Technology Centre Procurement Process - Decision Report Equality Impact Assessment</p>	<p>Part exempt</p>	<p>Nathaniel Lucas, Senior Economic Development Officer Tel: 01823359210</p>
<p><b>FP/17/06/07</b> First published: 26 June 2017</p>	<p>13 Nov 2017 Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure, Commercial &amp; Business Services Director</p>	<p>Issue: Authorise the purchase of Land at Cathedral Park, Wells for the development of Wells Technology Enterprise Centre. Decision: Authority to: • Purchase of land at Cathedral Park, Wells for the development of the Wells Technology Enterprise Centre</p>	<p>Any relevant decision paper which have acted as precursors to this decision paper. Wells technology enterprise centre Equality Impact Assessments for WTEC</p>		<p>Nathaniel Lucas, Senior Economic Development Officer Tel: 01823359210</p>
<p><b>FP17/09/07</b> First published: 13 September 2017</p>	<p>Not before 13th Nov 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Commercial &amp; Business Services Director</p>	<p>Issue: Creation of two 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 two schools - King Alfred School and Pawlett Primary School. This is a technical decision to facilitate the transfer of land and non fixed assets</p>			<p>Elizabeth Smith, Service Manager – Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823 356260</p>

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<b>FP17/7/06</b> First published: 19 July 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 - proposed revenue savings Decision: To consider the proposed revenue themed savings and proposed approach			Kevin Nacey Tel: 01823 359014
<b>Fp/17/09/15</b> First published: 2 October 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Annual report of the Director of Public Health Decision: To receive the annual report and comment on any issues raised			Trudi Grant, Public Health Director Tel: 01823 359015
<b>FP/17/10/01</b> First published: 12 October 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Children's Services Improvement Programme - Workforce update Decision: to consider an update from the HR & OD Director			Chris Squire, HR & OD Director Tel: 01823 310055
<b>Fp/17/08/12</b> First published: 16 August 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: County Vision 2017-2021 - an update Decision: to consider the proposed approach to developing the County Vision ahead of consideration in February 2018			Simon Clifford, Customers & Communities Director

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<b>FP/17/08/05</b> First published: 16 August 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Quarter 2 Revenue and Capital Budget monitoring reports Decision: to consider the Quarter 2 position in relation to the Council's revenue and capital budgets for 2017/18			Elizabeth Watkin, Service Manager - Chief Accountant Tel: 01823359573
<b>Fp/17/08/06</b> First published: 16 August 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Quarter 2 2017/18 Performance monitoring report Decision: to consider the quarter 2 update against the council's performance targets			Emma Plummer, Strategic Manager Performance Tel: 01823 359251
<b>FP/17/08/07</b> First published: 16 August 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: 2018/19 Proposed Capital Programme Decision: to consider and recommend to November's Full Council the proposed Capital Programme for 2018/19			Elizabeth Watkin, Service Manager - Chief Accountant Tel: 01823359573
<b>FP/17/08/11</b> First published: 16 August 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: 2017/18 Treasury Management mid-year report Decision: to consider and recommend to November's Full Council the mid-year report			Alan Sanford, Principal Investment Officer Tel: 01823 359585



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<b>Fp17/09/11</b> First published: 25 September 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Heart of the South West - Productivity consultation response Decision: To consider the proposed Productivity Plan consultation response for submission			Paul Hickson, Strategic Manager - Economy and Planning Tel: 07977 400838
<b>FP/17/09/10</b> First published: 25 September 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Heart of the South West - Proposed Joint Committee Decision: To consider a report setting out the proposed Joint Committee arrangements			Julian Gale, Strategic Manager - Governance & Risk and Monitoring Officer Tel: 01823 359047
<b>FP/17/09/12</b> First published: 26 September 2017	15 Nov 2017 Cabinet	Issue: Somerset Waste Partnership Draft Business Plan 2018-2023 Decision: To consider the draft Business Plan and provide any comments back to the Somerset Waste Board on behalf of SCC			Mickey Green, Strategic Manager - Commissioning Development Tel: 01823356897
<b>FP/17/07/05</b> First published: 13 July 2017	Not before 20th Nov 2017 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	Issue: Award of specialist traffic signals contract. Decision: To approve the procurement of specialist Traffic Signals design services via a Framework contract.	Notification for Traffic Signals Specialist services Framework contract Confidential tender appendix	Part exempt	Bev Norman, Service Manager - Traffic Management, Traffic & Transport Development, John Kitchen, Traffic Control Engineer, Traffic Control, Traffic & Transport Development Tel: 01823358089, Tel: 01823358140

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<p><b>FP/17/08/01</b> First published: 9 August 2017</p>	<p>Not before 20th Nov 2017 Cabinet Member for Resources and Economic Development</p>	<p>Issue: Disposal of Surplus Land at Castle Cary Decision: Authority to conclude negotiations for the disposal of surplus (former) farm land (13 acres, land only) at Castle Cary. Authority to conclude negotiations for the disposal of surplus (former) farm land (13 acres, land only) at Castle Cary.</p>	<p>Disposal of Surplus Land</p>		<p>Richard Williams, Commercial &amp; Business Services Director Tel: 01823 359007</p>
<p><b>FP/17/10/02</b> First published: 19 October 2017</p>	<p>Not before 20th Nov 2017 Commercial &amp; Business Services Director</p>	<p>Issue: County Hall A Block - Priority 1 repairs and maintenance Decision: Approval of Priority 1 design and repair works to A Block boiler and decant costs to clear A Block in readiness to carry out boiler works</p>	<p>Key Decision paper: Early works and decant phase equalities impact assessment Critical works cost summary Capital Investment Proposal for A Block Priority 1 works submitted 11/8/17</p>		
<p><b>FP/17/09/16</b> First published: 10 October 2017</p>	<p>Not before 20th Nov 2017 Commercial &amp; Business Services Director, Cabinet Member for Children and Families</p>	<p>Issue: Creation of a new Academy in Somerset Decision: West Buckland Community Primary School - This is a technical decision to facilitate the transfer of land and non fixed</p>			<p>Elizabeth Smith, Service Manager – Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823 356260</p>

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<p><b>FP/17/09/08</b> First published: 15 September 2017</p>	<p>Not before 22nd Nov 2017 Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure, Finance &amp; Performance Director</p>	<p>Issue: SCC to proceed with the delivery of the iAero (Yeovil) Centre project at risk, pending final approval of the entire £6.84 million external funding package (ERDF and Growth Deal) Decision: SCC proceeding with the delivery of the iAero (Yeovil) Centre project at risk, pending final approval of the entire external funding package</p>			<p>Lynda Madge, Commissioning Manager – Economy &amp; Planning Tel: 01823 356766</p>
<p><b>FP/17/09/18</b> First published: 10 October 2017</p>	<p>Not before 22nd Nov 2017 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport</p>	<p>Issue: West Somerset Railway - Funding of Phase two of the level crossing upgrade at Seaward Way, Minehead Decision: That the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport authorises the expenditure of £850,000 for Phase Two of the West Somerset Railway (WSR) level crossing upgrade at Seaward Way, Minehead</p>			<p>Neil Guild, Highways Asset Improvement Officer</p>

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<p><b>FP/17/08/16</b> First published: 1 September 2017</p>	<p>23 Nov 2017 Cabinet Member for Resources and Economic Development</p>	<p>Issue: Library Service Redesign - Strategy Decision: Agree the recommendation of commissioners (following a strategic review of delivery model options) to continue to manage the Library Service predominantly in-house and not to pursue an alternative / externalised delivery model for the whole service for the next three years. 2. Agree a revised outcomes framework for the Library Service for the period to 2020/21. 3. Agree a 3 year strategy for the library service to put the service on a sustainable, affordable financial footing whilst maximising the delivery of outcomes, having regard to potential impacts assessed. 4. Endorse the proposed process and timetable for developing and consulting on specific proposals to implement the overarching service re-design strategy.</p>	<p>Appraisal of alternative service delivery model options Library service redesign Cabinet Report - December 2015</p>	<p>Part exempt</p>	<p>Oliver Woodhams, Strategic Manager, Community and Traded Services Tel: 07977400667</p>
<p><b>FP/17/02/01</b> First published: 14 February 2017</p>	<p>Not before 27th Nov 2017 Commercial &amp; Business Services Director</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Confidential Financial Report Capital Programme Paper</p>	<p>Part exempt</p>	<p>Carol Bond, Project Manager, Property Programme Team Tel: 01823 355962</p>

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<b>FP/17/09/02</b> First published: 11 September 2017	Not before 27th Nov 2017 Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure	Issue: Somerset Energy Innovation Centre - Building 2 (2,000 sq m) Decision: The acceptance of the offer of ERDF FUNDING (£869,090), subject to legal acceptability of the final funding agreement for the Somerset Energy Innovation Centre, Phase 2			Lynda Madge, Commissioning Manager – Economy & Planning Tel: 01823 356766
<b>FP/17/09/03</b> First published: 11 September 2017	Not before 27th Nov 2017 Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure, Finance & Performance Director	Issue: iAero (Yeovil) Aerospace Centre (2,500 sq m) Acceptance of Growth Deal Funding Decision: The acceptance of the offer of Heart of the South West LEP Growth Deal funding, commence the procurement process for a management operator the the iAero (South) Centre, and commence procurement process for the construction of the iAero (South ) Centre			Lynda Madge, Commissioning Manager – Economy & Planning Tel: 01823 356766
<b>FP/17/09/04</b> First published: 11 September 2017	Not before 27th Nov 2017 Finance & Performance Director, Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure	Issue: iAero (Yeovil) Aerospace Centre (2,500 sq m) Acceptance of ERDF Funding Decision: The acceptance of the offer of ERDF funding (£2.8 million), for the iAero (Yeovi) Aerospace Centre			Lynda Madge, Commissioning Manager – Economy & Planning Tel: 01823 356766

Weekly version of plan published on 1 November 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><b>FP/17/10/03</b> First published: 19 October 2017</p>	<p>Not before 27th Nov 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families</p>	<p>Issue: Proposed ASD Base at Holway Park Primary School, Taunton Decision: To approve the appointment of a contractor</p>			<p>Carol Bond, Project Manager, Property Programme Team Tel: 01823 355962</p>
<p><b>FP/17/09/01</b> First published: 11 September 2017</p>	<p>Not before 4th Dec 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families</p>	<p>Issue: Prescribed Alteration to Selworthy School - Implementation Decision: To implement the proposal to expand Selworthy School on to a second site in Taunton</p>			<p>Phil Curd, Service Manager: Specialist Provision and School Transport Tel: 01823 355165</p>
<p><b>FP/17/09/06</b> First published: 13 September 2017</p>	<p>Not before 6th Dec 2017 Cabinet Member for Children and Families</p>	<p>Issue: The transfer of Educational services within North Somerset to SCC's Support Services for Education Decision: The transfer of Educational services within North Somerset and associated staff to Support Services for Education from April 2018.</p>			<p>Ian Rowswell</p>

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><b>FP/17/07/03</b> First published: 10 July 2017</p>	<p>Not before 11th Dec 2017 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport</p>	<p>Issue: To agree to the purchase of the land for the construction of the M5 Junction 25 Highways Improvement Scheme. Decision: The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport agrees to: • the acquisition of land required for the construction of the M5 Junction 25 highways scheme • the continued development of the scheme.</p>	<p>Cabinet Member Key Decision - M5 Junction 25 – decision to proceed with consultation, design, planning and procurement – 19 Aug 2016 Cabinet Member Key Decision - To agree to enter into a funding agreement with the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (HotSW LEP) for the M5 J25 Improvement scheme – 13 Jan 2017</p>	<p>Part exempt</p>	<p>Sunita Mills, Service Commissioning Manager Tel: 01823 359763</p>
<p><b>FP/17/04/08</b> First published: 24 April 2017</p>	<p>Not before 11th Dec 2017 Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure, Finance &amp; Performance Director</p>	<p>Issue: Approval to accept Highways England Growth &amp; Housing Fund award toward the M5 J25 improvement scheme. Decision: To accept the funding awarded by Highways England &amp; sign the funding agreement</p>	<p>Copy of the funding agreement to be signed.</p>		<p>Sunita Mills, Service Commissioning Manager Tel: 01823 359763</p>
<p><b>FP/17/09/13</b> First published: 26 September 2017</p>	<p>13 Dec 2017 Cabinet</p>	<p>Issue: Decision to conclude the award of a contract for the provision of highway improvements at Colley Lane Southern Access Road Decision: Agree to let a contract for highway bridge construction and associated works at Colley Lane Southern Access Road</p>			<p>Sunita Mills, Service Commissioning Manager Tel: 01823 359763</p>

Weekly version of plan published on 1 November 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
<b>FP/17/08/12</b> First published: 17 August 2017	17 Jan 2018 Cabinet	Issue: Full Business Case for proposed Joint Strategic Commissioning Function Decision: to consider the full business case for establishing a new Joint Strategic Commissioning Function with NHS England and Somerset CCG			Trudi Grant, Public Health Director Tel: 01823 359015
<b>FP/17/09/05</b> First published: 26 September 2017	17 Jan 2018 Cabinet	Issue: South West Peninsula Framework Contract for Independent Fostering Decision: Cabinet will be asked to agree Officer recommendations on award of the contract			Louise Palmer, Strategic Commissioner
<b>FP/17/08/09</b> First published: 16 August 2017	7 Feb 2018 Cabinet	Issue: 2018/19 - 2021/22 Medium Term Financial Plan Decision: to consider and recommend the 2018/19 MTFP and Annual Revenue Budget proposals to February's Full Council meeting			Elizabeth Watkin, Service Manager - Chief Accountant Tel: 01823359573
<b>Fp/17/08/12</b> First published: 6 November 2017	7 Feb 2018 Cabinet	Issue: County Vision 2017-2022 Decision: to consider the proposed County Vision to recommend to February's Full Council			Simon Clifford, Customers & Communities Director



Weekly version of plan published on 1 November 2017

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<b>FP/17/08/08</b> First published: 16 August 2017	7 Feb 2018 Cabinet	Issue: Quarter 3 2017/18 Revenue and Capital budget monitoring report Decision: to consider the quarter 3 update for the 2017/18 revenue and capital budgets			Elizabeth Watkin, Service Manager - Chief Accountant Tel: 01823359573
<b>FP/17/08/08</b> First published: 16 August 2017	7 Feb 2018 Cabinet	Issue: 2017/18 Quarter 3 Performance Update Decision: to receive the quarter 3 performance update			Emma Plummer, Strategic Manager Performance Tel: 01823 359251
<b>FP/17/09/17</b> First published: 10 October 2017	7 Feb 2018 Cabinet	Issue: Proposed new secondary provision for Selworthy School on the former St Augustine's School site Decision: To approve the appointment of a contractor at gross maximum expenditure	Financial Report Capital Programme Paper		Carol Bond, Project Manager, Property Programme Team Tel: 01823 355962
<b>FP17/08/14</b> First published: 29 August 2017	7 Feb 2018 Cabinet	Issue: Retendering for insurance cover for all external policies and for South West academies. Decision: To approve the appointment of the successful tenderer following an OJEU procurement process for insurance cover. To approve the tender for an all-encompassing insurance policy for academies in the South West (to be administered by SCC but full external cover).	CIPFA Insurance Benchmarking Club 2017 Report Gallagher Bassett Audit for Somerset County Council May 2017	Part exempt	Martin Gerrish, Strategic Manager - Financial Governance and Finance Officer for SWP Tel: 01823 355303

Weekly version of plan published on 1 November 2017

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<b>FP/17/08/13</b> First published: 25 August 2017	7 Feb 2018 Cabinet	Issue: Family support services for Somerset - Final report on recommendations and proposals Decision: to consider the consultation results and full business case			Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director - Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning Tel: 01823 359054
<b>FP/17/11/01</b> First published: 6 November 2017	7 Feb 2018 Cabinet	Issue: Treasury Management Strategy 2018/19 Decision: Recommend the proposed Treasury Management Strategy 2018/19 to Council for approval			Alan Sanford, Principal Investment Officer Tel: 01823 359585
<b>FP/17/11/02</b> First published: 6 November 2017	7 Feb 2018 Cabinet	Issue: Admission Arrangements for Voluntary Controlled and Community Schools for 2019/20 Decision: seeks authority for Cabinet to determine the Local Authority admission arrangements for all VC and community schools for 2019/20 as required by the School Admissions Code			Jane Seaman, Access and Admissions Manager Tel: 01823 355615

## Scrutiny for Policies Children and Families Committee Work Programme

Committee meetings	Link to CYPP	Lead Member & Officer
<b>17 November 2017</b>		
CYPP 2017/18 – Q2 Update		Philippa Granthier
Young Carers Update report		Tom Whitworth
Children’s Social Care Annual Performance Report		Tony Johnson & Mark Barratt
Children’s Services Commissioning Report		Louise Palmer
<b>8 December 2017</b>		
Update on Family Based Care (fostering) Peninsula Framework		Louise Palmer
SEND Peer review - update		Rowina Clint-Stanley
Regional Adoption Agency - update		Julian Wooster
Somerset Safeguarding Children’s Board		Sally Halls + Helen MacDonald
Family Support Services		Philippa Granthier
<b>12 January 2018</b>		
<b>Joint meeting with Adults &amp; Health Committee – Mental health themed</b>		Scrutiny Manager & Committee Chairs
<b>26 January 2018</b>		
MTFP		Kevin Nacey
Exam performance 2017		Neal Chislet
<b>16 March 2018</b>		
CYPP 2017/18 – Q3 Update		Philippa Granthier
School Performance		Julian Wooster
Addressing drug and alcohol safeguarding concerns in families		Amanda Payne
<b>20 April 2018</b>		

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

## Scrutiny for Policies Children and Families Committee Work Programme

<b>18 May 2018</b>		
West Somerset Opportunity Area		Julia Ridge
<b>15 June 2018</b>		
CYPP 2017/18 – Q4 & Year 2 Update		Philippa Granthier
<b>20 July 2018</b>		
<b>14 September 2018</b>		
CYPP 2018-19 – Q1 Update		Philippa Granthier
<b>19 October 2018</b>		
<b>16 November 2018</b>		
CYPP 2018-19 – Q2 Update		Philippa Granthier
<b>7 December 2018</b>		

**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. [jjackson@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:jjackson@somerset.gov.uk) 01823 359040.

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

## Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

Agenda items	Link to Former Imp Plan	Action owner	Agreed Outcome	RAG Status
<b>13 May 2016</b>	<b>Link to CYPP</b>			
Focus on the education of vulnerable children (To include Children Looked After, Special Educational Needs and Free School Meal recipients)	All	Julian Wooster	The update was accepted and it was suggested that to help improve information available for and communications with all service users a <b>decision tree</b> (visual aid in the form of a diagram/flow chart) for the benefit of service users be considered.	Pending
<b>9 September 2016</b>				
DBS checks	All	Scrutiny Manager	Officers to ensure all Members of the Committee, as well as those on the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee and the Corporate Parenting Board have completed a DBS check	Members will be required to complete DBS checks.
<b>11 November 2016</b>				
Work Programme	All	Leigh Redman	Chairman to liaise with the Chairman of Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee to discuss the possibility of a joint meeting.	Joint Committee meeting, scheduled for 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
<b>27 January 2017</b>				
Impact of proposed financial changes to Schools	All	Julian Wooster	The Committee encouraged Officers to continue to lobby for these proposed changes to be made so the higher funding materialised.	Pending
<b>10 March 2017</b>				
Addressing drug and alcohol safeguarding concerns in families		Amanda Payne	The update was accepted and it was suggested that an update report be provided at a future meeting in 12 months.	March 2018

## Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

School Performance 2016		Julian Wooster	The report was accepted with an update requested in 12 months.	March 2018
<b>7 April 2017</b>				
Data Handling update		Sarah Moore	The update was accepted and it was suggested that an update report be provided at a future meeting.	Completed Oct '17
Young Carers Task and Finish Final report		Gemma Pickford-Waugh	The Committee agreed the suggested recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Children and Families/Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and requested a follow-up/update report in 6 months.	Pending for Nov meeting
<b>28 July 2017</b>				
Fostering Recruitment Activity		Becky Hopkins	It was requested that the final version of the revised progression scheme of fee payments be circulated to the Committee once approved.	When available
<b>15 September 2017</b>				
School Exam Results		Julian Wooster	Interim results to be circulated electronically to all County Councillors	As soon as possible
School Exam Results		Julian Wooster	Final results to be reported to the Committee	Jan 2018 meeting
<b>20 October 2017</b>				
Family Support Services		Philippa Granthier	The committee agreed to note the update and request a further update at the 8 December meeting	Pending for December meeting
West Somerset Opportunity Area		Julia Ridge	The Committee noted the report and it was agreed that an update on this would be given in 6 months.	Pending for May '18

**The CYPP has been produced following a multi-agency process, overseen by Somerset Children's Trust. Seven improvement programmes have been identified – our work is focused on ensuring progress and achievement within these 7 programmes:**

1. Supporting children, families and communities to become more resilient
2. Promoting healthy outcomes and giving children the best start in life
3. Improving emotional health and wellbeing
4. Building skills for life

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

## Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

5. Providing help early and effectively
6. Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and developing an excellent children's social work service
7. Embedding a think family approach across the workforce

Key:

Completed	Action complete and will be removed from tracker for next meeting.
Pending	Action on-going or plans in place to address.
Incomplete	No action currently in place with a minimum of 3 months since action agreed.

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## **Children Social Care – Annual Performance Report 2016/17**

Lead Officer: Mark Barratt

Author: Tony Johnson

Contact Details: [mbarratt@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:mbarratt@somerset.gov.uk)

Cabinet Member: Frances Nicholson

Division and Local Member: All Members

### **1. Summary**

- 1.1. The report provides members with a summary of information contained within the Children's Social Care Annual Performance Report 2016/17. The report is intended to highlight to members any areas of potential concern identified within the Annual Report together with actions underway to address these issues.
- 1.2. The report has clear links to the County Plan Target "Keeping children safe – We will improve our Ofsted rating at next inspection of child protection services and continue to make year-on-year service improvements"
- 1.3. There are also direct links to the Children and Young Peoples Plan [CYPP] programme 6 - Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and developing an excellent children's social work service

### **2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations**

- 2.1. Members are asked to review the performance information contained within the Annual Report recognising areas of strong and improving performance and for those areas of deteriorating performance identified, additionally members are asked to review associated actions being undertaken to address these areas as set out in section 3.6 below.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The Children's Social Care Annual Report is produced by the Children's Business Intelligence Team once a year and forms part of the wide range of performance reports available to Children's Social Care.
- 3.2. The report looks at performance across a range of service areas and specifically compares performance in the year 2016/17 with the previous year, identifying trends and areas of improving and deteriorating performance.
- 3.3. Additionally the Report also compares the Council's performance with the statistical neighbour group of similar authorities as well as average performance across England as a whole. Each service area section of the report contains tables and graphs of information as well as a narrative commentary on performance.
- 3.4. There are 38 indicators included within the report. Assessments of comparative performance can be made against 23 of these indicators, of these 19 [83%] have shown an improvement when compared to previous performance whilst

performance has deteriorated against 4 indicators.

- 3.5.** This improvement mirrors improvement seen across Children's Social Care driven by the Improvement Programme supporting delivery of the CYPP and specifically Programme 6 - Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and developing an excellent children's social work service
- 3.6.** The report identifies 4 specific indicators where performance has deteriorated compared to the previous year. These areas are set out below along with commentary and actions currently being undertaken to address performance.

### **Child Protection Conferences**

#### **The proportion of Initial Child Protection Conferences [ICPCs] completed on time fell slightly, from 97.0% (2015/16) to 94.9% (2016/17).**

- This represents a small drop in timeliness, but needs to be seen in the context of steadily increasing CP numbers throughout the period (from 280 in 2015/16 to 413 2016/17 – 48% increase), This remains under weekly review through senior management performance meetings.
- When we consider benchmarking figures (in the same period, figures for statistical neighbours were 76.1% on time, and England figures 79.1% on time), Somerset's performance in this area remains very positive.

#### **The percentage of Review Child Protection Conferences [RCPCs] on time has reduced marginally, from 99.0% (2015/16) to 98.5% (2016/17).**

- Though this is a drop in performance, it is marginal. As indicated above, positive performance in this area has been maintained despite steadily increasing CP numbers within the county, and performance remains better than statistical neighbours (93.7%) and England as a whole (93.7%)

### **Children Looked After**

#### **The percentage of children placed more than 20 miles from the home address has risen from 28.7% to 32.1%.**

- Under recent national changes to this indicator, the definition has been revised to 'The percentage of children placed more than 20 miles from home and not within Somerset'
- Performance issues relate back to availability of suitable placements
- The fostering recruitment campaign is ongoing
- A Placements summit was held in October 2017 to explore issues and an action plan developed to focus upon placement sufficiency and creating capacity; with a focus upon developing clear commissioning arrangements with local providers to increase placement choice; improving placement stability and support; diverting children from care; focusing on reunification of young people where safe and appropriate.
- A sufficiency plan has been developed and implemented, with engagement and scrutiny enhanced reflecting a full system approach and linked to the work of the CYPP plan.
- Distant placements are reviewed through the children looked after tracking and permanence panel to regularly review whether better local options are available for young people. With the Independent Reviewing Officers

presenting greater challenge and scrutiny of care plans through the statutory review process.

**The percentage of children looked after for more than a year, that have had their Dental Assessment has reduced, from 88.5% to 72.9%.**

- This indicator remains a priority, reflecting greater scrutiny and process requirements to be strengthened. A wider service response has been developed to encompass foster carers, social workers and IROs.
- The children looked after service has been tasked to review all cases where dental checks have not been recorded as complete, and take remedial action to ensure that all children looked after are receiving appropriate dental oversight. This work will inform future planning and operational activity.

**4. Consultations undertaken**

- 4.1. This report has been shared with The Children's Social Care Senior Management Team and will be presented to Corporate Parents Board in January 2018.

**5. Implications**

- 5.1. There are no specific implications resulting from this report. Information regarding age, ethnicity and disability of child is considered routinely as part of service development and delivery

**6. Background papers**

- 6.1. Children's Social Care Annual Report 2016/17 – attached as an appendix

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

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**Somerset County Council**  
**Children's Social Care**  
**Annual Report**  
**April 2016 – March 2017**  
**Summary & key Findings**

# 1. Introduction

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The Performance & Management Information Team are committed to providing high quality, consistent and needs led data reports, to assist social work teams and front-line staff deliver a quality service for the children, young people and families of Somerset.

In order to achieve this we will continually monitor performance data, and highlight any areas of concern through in depth 'Performance Challenge' reports. The strategy is to provide the service with a full suite of data along with details of any risks uncovered to improve service delivery.

***This report looks at data taken from the system between April and March for the periods 2015/16 and 2016/17 – due to the 'live' nature of the dash boards, these figures may differ to those published and submitted for the annual returns.***

## 2. Summary of Key Findings

---

(key **text** = worse than last year, **text** = better than last year)

### **Contacts, Referrals & Assessments**

- The number of contacts made to Children's Social Care (CSC) has reduced by 1.5% on the previous year.
- Referral numbers have increased by 19.1% on 2015/16 pushing the rate of referrals per 10 000 children up from 377.5 to 461.2.
- The percentage of re-referrals as a proportion of overall referrals has reduced by 3.9 percentage points (pp) from 24.7 to 20.8% for 2016/17.
- The number of referrals progressing to assessment has increased for 2016/17 by 24.9% from 3157 to 3943.
- The percentage of C&F Assessments completed on time according to the priority set has increased for 2016/17, rising from 54.6% to 76.7%.
- The percentage of C&F Assessments completed within 45 days has also improved, rising from 66.0% on time in 2015/16 to 87.6% for 2016/17.
- The number of C&F Assessments cancelled has fallen by 72.2%, from 688 in 2015/16 to 188 for 2016/17.
- The number of S47s completed has increased by 19.2%, from 1297 during 2015/16 to 1546 in 2016/17.
- The proportion of S47s completed within 10 days has improved by 5 percentage points (pp), rising from 82.8% to 88.4%.

### **Child Protection**

- CP numbers have increased by 41.0% for 2016/17, from 290 at the end of March 2016 to 409 at the end of March 2017.
- The CP rate per 10 000 children increased from 25.6 to 37.5.
- The number of plans ending has reduced on the previous year by 31.7%, from 656 to 448.
- The proportion of children subject to CP for 2 years or longer has reduced from 4.7% in 2015/16 to 2.0% for 2016/17.

- The number of children starting a CP Plan has risen by 40.8%, from 412 in 2015/16, to 580 over the course of 2016/17.
- The proportion of children experiencing a re-plan within 2 years of a previous plan has fallen since 2015/16, from 13.5% to 12.8%.
- The number of stat visits undertaken increased by 11.5% for 2016/17, rising from 7209 to 8038.
- The percentage of Stat Visits completed on time climbed for 2016/17, rising from 88.3% to 93.3%.
- The percentage of children that have had ALL of their CP Stat visits on time improved for 2016/17, rising from 48.9% to 58.3%.
- The proportion of ICPCs completed on time fell slightly, from 97.0% (2015/16) to 94.9% (2016/17).
- The percentage of RCPCs on time has reduced marginally, from 99.0% (2015/16) to 98.5% (2016/17).

### **Children in Need**

- CiN numbers have increased 14.2%, from 1503 (March 2016) to 1716 (March 2017).
- The percentage of CiN without a plan or those where the revision is over 3 months old has remained stable for 2016/17, with the figure remaining at 37.6%.
- The percentage of CiN that did not have a visit recorded has reduced, with March 2017 showing 21.4% of of CiN affected, compared to 33.2% CiN in March 2016.
- The percentage of CiN 'stepped down' from CP has reduced from 14.6% in March 2016 to 11.2% in March 2017.
- The percentage of CiN 'stepped down' from CLA has also reduced by 1.2 pp, from 6.4% to 5.2%.

### **Children Looked After**

- CLA figures have reduced by 5.6% from 502 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 to 474 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
- The proportion of long-term CLA that have been in their current placement for 2 years or longer has increased, from 56.6% to 57.2% as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
- The proportion of CLA that have experienced 3 or more placement moves has decreased on 2015/16 figures, with a reduction of only 4.5pp, from 15.0% to 10.5%.
- The percentage of children placed more than 20 miles from the home address has risen from 28.7% to 32.1%.
- The percentage CLA Stat Visits completed on time has increased slightly on 2015/16, rising from 92.5% to 93.3%.
- The proportion of CLA Reviews completed on time has also increased on 2015/16, rising from 96.8% to 98.0%.
- The percentage of children looked after for more than a year, and have had their Health Assessments improved for 2016/17, rising from 75.1% to 87.1%.
- The percentage of children looked after for more than a year, that have had their Dental Assessment has reduced, from 88.5% to 72.9%.
- The proportion of children looked after aged 4 and above that have had a SDQ recorded has increased, rising from 68.0% to 86.3 %.

### **Care Leavers**

- The total number of Care Leavers has reduced 34.9%, from 315 at the end of March 2016 to 205 March 2016.

- The number of Care Leavers 'in touch' has improved by 2.3 pp for 2016/17, rising from 96.2% to 98.5%.
- The percentage of Care Leavers that are NEET has improved from 2016/17, reducing from 50.55 to 42.4%.
- The percentage of care Leavers that are 'suitably accommodated' has improved for 2016/17, rising from 91.1% to 95.6%.



**Somerset County Council**  
**Children's Social Care**  
**Annual Report**  
**April 2016 – March 2017**

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- The percentage of CiN without a plan or those where the revision is over 3 months old has remained stable for 2016/17, with the figure remaining at 37.6%.
- The percentage of CiN that did not have a visit recorded has reduced, with March 2017 showing 21.4% of CiN affected, compared to 33.2% CiN in March 2016.
- The percentage of CiN 'stepped down' from CP has reduced from 14.6% in March 2016 to 11.2% in March 2017.
- The percentage of CiN 'stepped down' from CLA has also reduced by 1.2 %, from 6.4% to 5.2%.

### **Children Looked After**

- CLA figures have reduced by 5.6% from 502 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 to 474 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
- The proportion of long-term CLA that have been in their current placement for 2 years or longer has increased, from 56.6% to 57.2% as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
- The proportion of CLA that have experienced 3 or more placement moves has decreased on 2015/16 figures, with a reduction of only 4.5%, from 15.0% to 10.5%.
- The percentage of children placed more than 20 miles from the home address has risen from 28.7% to 32.1%.
- The percentage CLA Stat Visits completed on time has increased slightly on 2015/16, rising from 92.5% to 93.3%.
- The proportion of CLA Reviews completed on time has also increased on 2015/16, rising from 96.8% to 98.0%.
- The percentage of children looked after for more than a year, and have had their Health Assessments improved for 2016/17, rising from 75.1% to 87.1%.
- The percentage of children looked after for more than a year, that have had their Dental Assessment has reduced, from 88.5% to 72.9%.
- The proportion of children looked after aged 4 and above that have had a SDQ recorded has increased, rising from 68.0% to 86.3 %.

### **Care Leavers**

- The total number of Care Leavers has reduced 34.9%, from 315 at the end of March 2016 to 205 March 2016.
- The number of Care Leavers 'in touch' has improved by 2.3 % for 2016/17, rising from 96.2% to 98.5%.
- The percentage of Care Leavers that are NEET has improved from 2016/17, reducing from 50.55 to 42.4%.

- The percentage of care Leavers that are 'suitably accommodated' has improved for 2016/17, rising from 91.1% to 95.6%.

### 3. Contacts, Referrals & Assessments

#### 3.1 Indicator Summary

Indicator	Totals 2016/17	Totals 2015/16	%/Ppts Change in Number	Somerset Rate per 10 000 2016/17 or %	Somerset Rate per 10 000 2015/16 or %	Stat Neighbour Rate per 10 000 2015/16 or %	National Rate per 10 000 2015/16 or %
No of Contacts	30153	30606	1.5%				
No of Referrals	5036	4229	19.1%	461.2	377.5	478.4	532.2
No of Re-Referrals	1047	1045	-0.2%				
% Re-Referrals	20.8	24.7	-3.9			21.1%	22.3%
No Referrals progressing to Assessment	3943	3157	24.9%				
No of Assessments completed	4965	4456	11.4%	454.7	404.2	463.7	489.5
No of C&F Assessments on time according to priority set	3810	2432	64.6%				
% C&F Assessments completed on time according to priority set	76.7%	54.6%	22.1				
No of C&F Assessments completed in 45 days	4348	2939	47.9%				
% of C&F Assessments completed within 45 days	87.6%	66.0%	21.6				
No of Cancelled C&F Assessments	188	688	-72.2%				
No of S47 Enquiries completed	1546	1297	19.2%	141.6	118.8	126.9	147.5
No of Section 47 Enquiries completed within 10 days	1367	1074	27.3%				
% of Section 47 Enquiries completed within 10 days	88.4%	82.8%	5.6				

Table 1 – (key text = worse than last year, text = better than last year)

#### 3.2 No of Contacts

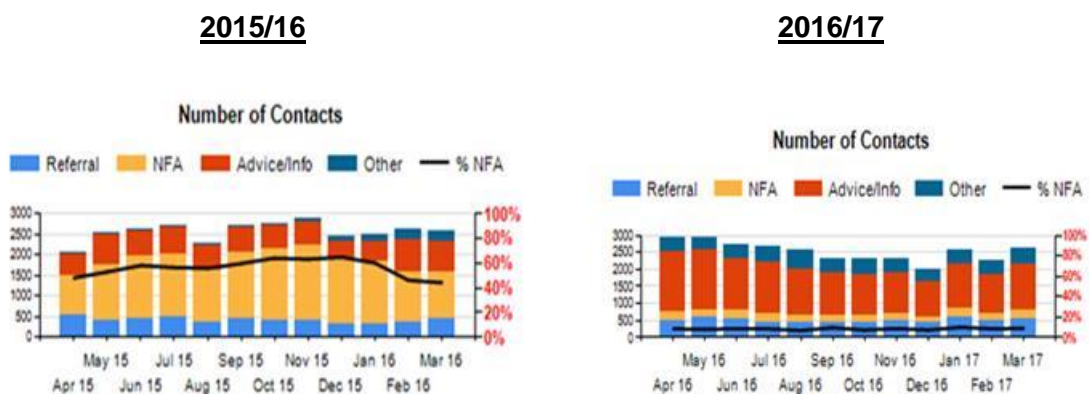


Table 2

2016/17 has seen a reduction in the number of contacts of 1.5%, falling from 30606 to 30153.

The proportion of contacts resulting in 'No Further Action' (NFA) has changed significantly due to a change in process in how these are captured on the system; this has resulted in much lower numbers declared NFA, and a resulting increase in those that are give advice and information.

The chart below shows the distribution of contacts across the county along with the percentage change between the years 2015/16 and 2016/17:-

Area	Contacts (2016/17)	Contacts (2015/16)	% Change
Other	24676	26617	-7.3%
TWS	1545	958	61.3%
CwD	286	136	110.3%
South Somerset	1450	1050	38.1%
Mendip	1044	657	58.9%
Sedgemoor	1152	1228	-6.2%

Table 3

The 'Other' area is primarily made up of contacts via Somerset Direct and account for the bulk of contacts. Area teams should generally only receive contacts directly when a case is already open to them.,

### 3.3 Referrals

Area	Total Referrals (2016/17)	% of Referrals 2016/17	Total Referrals (2015/16)	% of Referrals (2015/16)	%Change in No of Referrals
Other	1409	28.0%	1037	24.5%	35.9%
TWS	944	18.7%	793	18.8%	19.0%
CwD	114	2.3%	193	4.6%	-40.9%
South Somerset	987	19.6%	844	20.0%	16.9%
Mendip	598	11.9%	498	11.8%	20.1%
Sedgemoor	984	19.5%	864	20.4%	13.9%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5036</b>		<b>4229</b>		<b>19.1%</b>

Table 4

Although a reduction in the number of contacts was seen during 2016/17, referral numbers have increased by 19.1%, from 4229 in 2015/16 to 5036 for 2016/17.

CwD have seen the number of referrals fall by 40.9%, reducing their portion of the county total from 4.6% to 2.3%. This reduction is as a result of the introduction of the early support team for children with disabilities. The proportion held by the area teams remains broadly the same as last year.

### 3.4 Re-Referrals

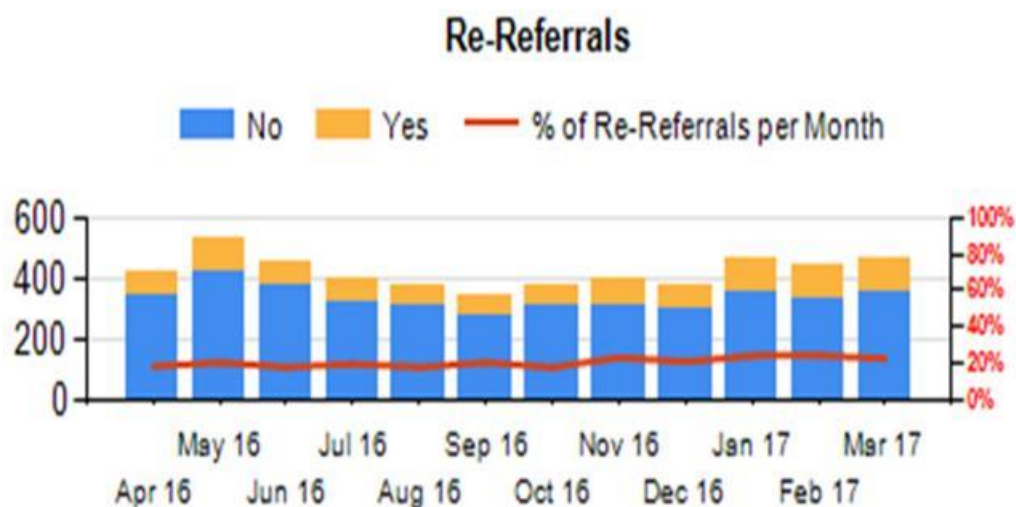


Table 5 – Data for 2016/17

The percentage of re-referrals over the year was 20.8% (1047/5036), 3 percentage points lower than 2015/16 where 1484 of 5541 referrals were re-referrals.

Area	Total Re-Referrals (2016/17)	% Re-Referred (2016/17)	Total Re-Referrals (2105/16)	% Re-Referred (2015/16)	%Change Re-referred
Other	232	22.2%	214	20.5%	8.4%
TWS	212	20.2%	196	18.8%	8.2%
CwD	9	0.9%	38	3.6%	-76.3%
South Somerset	242	23.1%	241	23.1%	0.4%
Mendip	119	11.4%	113	10.8%	5.3%
Sedgemoor	233	22.3%	243	23.3%	-4.1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1047</b>		<b>1045</b>		<b>0.2%</b>

Table 6

The number of re-referrals received across the county has remained broadly the same as the previous year with a reduction seen of 0.2%.

CwD has seen the greatest change in the proportion of re-referrals in the county, reducing from 3.6% (38/1045) of the county total, to 0.9% (9/1047); a 76.3% reduction in number overall. This is as a result of the early support team implementation.

South Somerset has the highest number of re-referrals, accounting for 23.1% (231/982) of re-referrals in the county, the same proportion as last year.

Sedgemoor have seen the number and proportion fall slightly, with a reduction of 1 % %off their proportion of county re-referrals and 4.1% fewer re-referrals overall for 2016/17.

### 3.5 Referrals Progressing to Assessment



Table 7 – Data for 2016/17

The overall percentage of referrals progressing to assessment for 2016/17 was 78.5% (3953/5036), a rise of 3.4 percentage points on 2015/16.

Area	No of Referrals Progressing to Assessment (2016/17)	% Progressing to Assessment (2016/17)	No of Referrals Progressing to Assessment (2015/16)	% Progressing to Assessment (2015/16)	% Change in Number Progressing to Assessment
Other	538	38.2%	654	63.1%	-17.7%
TWS	892	94.5%	661	83.4%	34.9%
CwD	104	91.2%	100	51.8%	4.0%
South Somerset	923	93.5%	671	79.5%	37.6%
Mendip	570	95.3%	402	80.7%	41.8%
Sedgemoor	926	94.1%	689	79.7%	34.4%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3953</b>	<b>78.5%</b>	<b>3177</b>	<b>75.1%</b>	<b>24.4%</b>

Table 8

The 5 main teams have all seen the proportion of referrals progressing to assessment increase. Mendip has seen the greatest rise of 41.8%, from 402 referrals progressing to assessment, to 570.



### 3.6 C&F Assessments Completed on Time

#### i. In Accordance with Priority Set

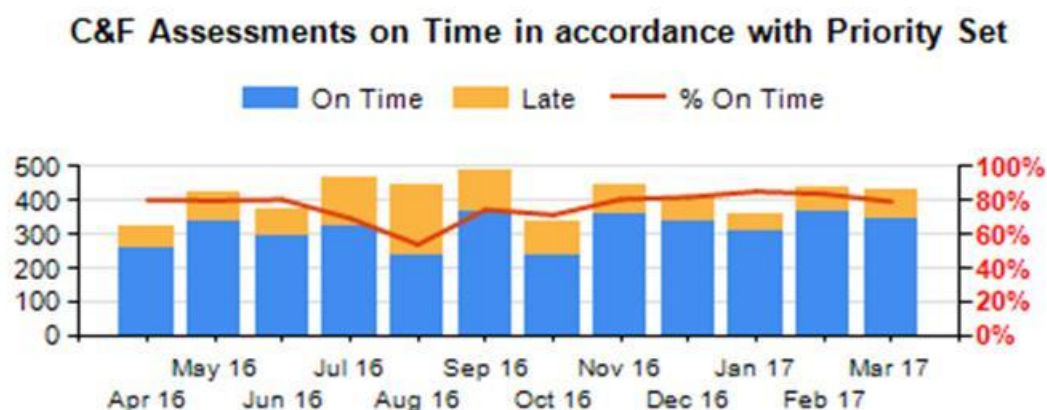


Table 9

The number of assessments completed has increased for 2016/17, rising 11.4% from 4456 to 4965.

Over the past 12 months, 76.7% (3810/4965) of C&F Assessments have been completed on time (according to the priority set). This is a significant improvement on 2015/16 where 54.6% was achieved. (The 2015/16 figure was due in part, to a number of cases (approx. 300) that were re-opened under the direction of the Ofsted Inspection in the earlier part of 2015).

A dip in performance can be seen over the Summer period, which could be attributed to higher levels of staff annual leave.

Area	Assessments On Time (2016/17)	Assessments completed (2016/17)	% On Time (2016/17)	Assessments On Time (2015/16)	Assessments completed (2015/16)	% On Time (2015/16)
Other	23	27	85.2%	15	22	68.2%
TWS	1097	1327	82.7%	600	1139	52.7%
CwD	133	213	62.4%	139	316	44.0%
South Somerset	939	1344	69.9%	674	1190	56.6%
Mendip	600	761	78.8%	366	681	53.7%
Sedgemoor	1018	1293	78.7%	638	1108	57.6%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3810</b>	<b>4965</b>	<b>76.7%</b>	<b>2432</b>	<b>4456</b>	<b>54.6%</b>

Table 10

All areas except for CWD have seen both the number of assessments and those completed within timescale of priority set improved.

CWD saw numbers reduce from 316 completed in 2015/16 to 213 in 2016/17 however, the proportion on time rose by 18.5 %

Taunton (TWS) saw the greatest rise in performance with a 30 %% increase in the proportion on time compared to the previous year and achieved 82.7% (1097/1327) on time.

South Somerset has seen the lowest level of improvement with a 13.2 %% increase on the previous year, with 69.9% (939/1344) of assessments completed on time. This places them below the county average of 76.7% of assessments on time.

CwD completed the lowest number of assessments on time with 62.4% (133/213), substantially below the county average.

ii. **Within 45 Days**

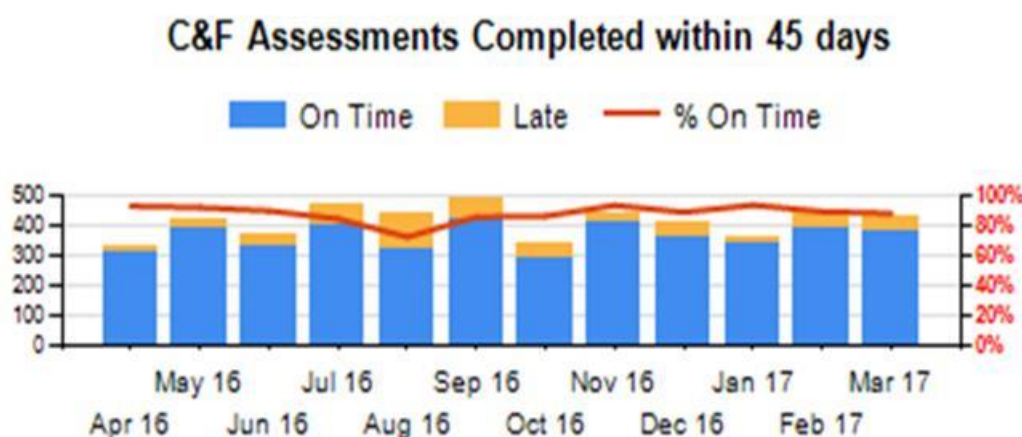


Table 11

Attainment of assessments completed within 45 days came in slightly higher than according to the priority set, at 87.6% (4348/4965), higher than the 66.0% (2939/4456) achieved in 2015/16. These have been affected by the same issues as noted above.

Area	Assessments Within 45 Days (2016/17)	Assessments completed (2016/17)	% Within 45 Days (2016/17)	Assessments Within 45 Days (2015/16)	Assessments completed (2015/16)	% Within 45 Days (2015/16)
Other	27	27	100.0%	21	22	95.5%
TWS	1217	1327	91.7%	784	1139	68.8%
CwD	158	213	74.2%	183	316	57.9%
South Somerset	1169	1344	87.0%	726	1190	61.0%
Mendip	664	761	87.3%	430	681	63.1%
Sedgemoor	1113	1293	86.1%	795	1108	71.8%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4348</b>	<b>4965</b>	<b>87.6%</b>	<b>2939</b>	<b>4456</b>	<b>66.0%</b>

Table 12

All areas saw a rise in the proportion of assessments completed within 45 days.

South Somerset saw the biggest improvement, with a rise of 26 % from 61.0% (726/1190) of assessments completed within 45 days to 87.0% (1169/1344). This places the team near to the county average.

CwD completed the lowest percentage within 45 days with 74.2% (158/213).

### 3.7 Cancelled C&F Assessments

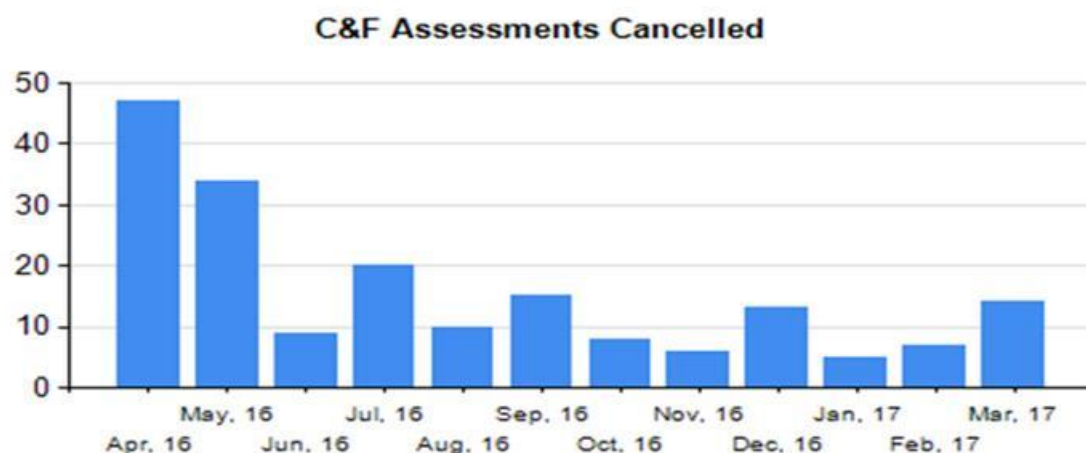


Table 13

As mentioned previously, a high number of cases were re-opened during 2015 and may be responsible for the high number of cancellations in the early part of the year.

Cancelled assessments numbers fell from 688 in 2015/16 to 188 for 2016/17; this is a 72.7% reduction.

Area	Cancellations (2016/17)	% of County Total (2016/17)	Cancellations (2015/16)	% of County Total (2015/16)	% Change in Number
South Somerset	60	31.9%	217	31.5%	-72.4%
Taunton and West Somers	58	30.9%	176	25.6%	-67.0%
Sedgemoor	21	11.2%	131	19.0%	-84.0%
Children with Disabilities	18	9.6%	113	16.4%	-84.1%
Other	18	9.6%	35	5.1%	-48.6%
Mendip	13	6.9%	16	2.3%	-18.8%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>188</b>		<b>688</b>		<b>-72.7%</b>

Table 14

All area teams have seen reductions in the number of cancelled assessments.

Mendip shows a low number with just 16 during 2015/16 and 13 for 2016/17.

South Somerset has the highest number and accounts for over a third of cancellations in the county with 60/188.

### 3.8 Section 47 Enquiries

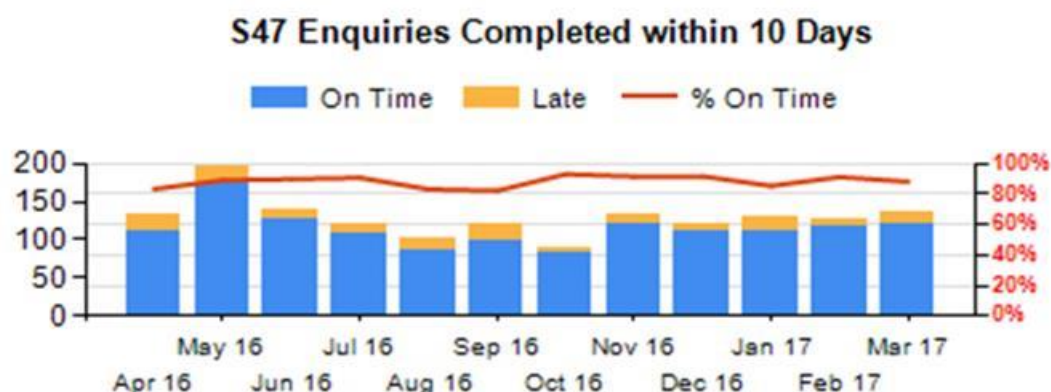


Table 15

Overall, the number of Section 47 Enquiries (S47s) completed has remained stable over the year. 2015/16 saw 1297 S47s completed; this has risen to 1546 for 2016/17. The proportion completed within 10 days improved significantly for 2016/17, rising from 79.5% to 88.4% (1367/1546).

## 4. Child Protection

### 4.1 Indicator Summary

Indicator	Totals 2016/17	Totals 2015/16	%/Ppts Change in Number from 2015/16	Somerset Rate per 10 000 or % 2016/17	Somerset Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16	Stat Neighbour Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16	National Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16
No of Children subject of a CP Plan as at 31st March	409	290	41.0%	37.5	25.6	43.1	43.1
CP Ending in Year	457	687	-33.0%	41.9	59.8	52.4	53.7
Children CP for 2 years+ Ending in Year	9	31	71.0%				
% of children CP for 2 years+ Ending in year	2.0%	4.7%	-2.7				
CP Starting in Year	580	412	40.8%	53.1	37.6	55.6	54.2
No of children with a Re-Plan within 2 Years of Previous Plan	52	42	5.0%				
% of children with a Re-Plan within 2 Years of Previous Plan	12.8%	13.5%	-0.7				
No of Strategy Discussions	1789	2474	-27.7%				
No of CP Stat Visits Completed	8038	7209	11.5%				
% CP Stat Visits on Time	93.3%	88.3%	5.0				
% of Children subject of a plan who had all of their visits on time	58.3%	48.9%	9.4				
% of Children whose ICPC was on time	94.9%	97.0%	-2.1				
% of children whose RCPC was on time	98.5%	99%	0.5	98.5%	99.0%	91.1%	93.7%

Table 16

## 4.2 Child Protection Numbers

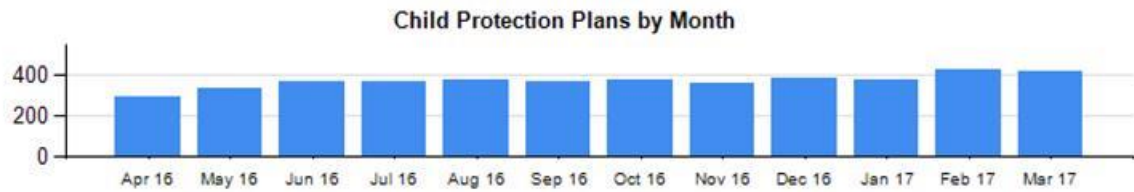


Table 17

The number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan (CP) has risen over the year, beginning at 290 and ending the year at 409, a 41% increase.

The end of year figure for 2016/17 shows a rate per 10 000 children CP of 37.5, lower than the 2015/16 return figure of 43.1 seen with our Statistical Neighbours.

## 4.3 CP Plans Ending in the Last 12 Months

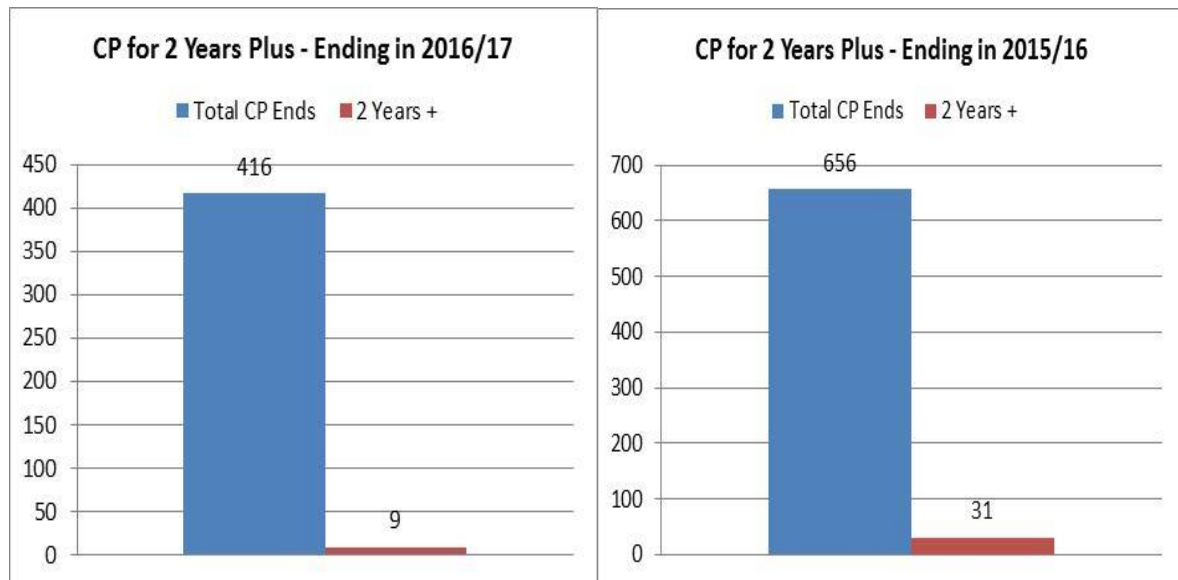


Table 18

As the charts above show, the number of plans ending has reduced for 2016/17, by 31.7% on the previous year.

The proportion of these that have lasted 2 years or longer has reduced, 4.7% (31/656) to 2.0% (9/448). This is due to an increased the focus upon permanence planning in area teams.

CP Plans Ending where the Child has been CP for 2 Years +						
Area	2016/17 Total CP Ends	2016/17 CP for 2 Years +	2016/17 % Ends CP for 2 Years +	2015/16 Total CP Ends	2015/16 CP for 2 Years +	2015/16 % Ends CP for 2 Years +
South Somerset	125	3	2.4%	211	18	8.5%
Sedgemoor	136	3	2.2%	191	6	3.1%
Taunton and West Somerset	105	0	0.0%	168	6	3.6%
Mendip	70	3	4.3%	66	0	0.0%
Other	1	0	0.0%	5	1	20.0%
Children with Disabilities	11	0	0.0%	15	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>4.7%</b>

Table 19

In terms of total closures, Mendip has seen a rise in numbers, going from 66 to 70. They have also seen an increase in the proportion of plans ending that had gone beyond 2 years; having 0 during 2015-16, this stood at 4.3% (3/70) for 2016/17.

#### 4.4 CP Re-plans within 2 Years

Children becoming CP in the last 12 Months within 2 years of a previous Plan

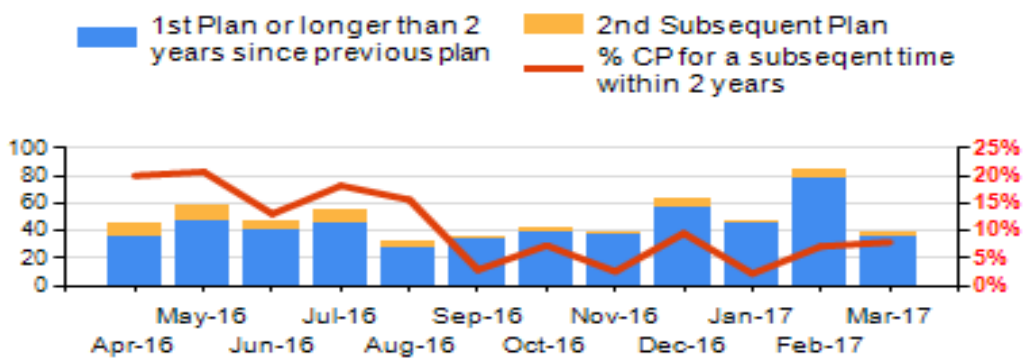


Table 20

An overall increase in the number of children starting a CP Plan has been seen since 2015/16, with numbers rising 40.8%, from 412 to 580 over the course of 2016/17.

For 2016/17, 10.9% (63/580) of children that became CP had previously been subject to a CP Plan in the 2 years preceding. This is a reduction on 2015/16, where 14.6% (60/412) were subject to a re-plan within this time.

CP Re-Plans within 2 Years						
Area	2016/17 Total CP Starts	2016/17 CP 2nd + Time	2016/17 % CP 2nd+ Time	2015/16 Total CP Starts	2015/16 CP 2nd + Time	2015/16 % CP 2nd+ Time
Taunton and West Somerset	174	11	6.3%	102	18	17.6%
South Somerset	163	20	12.3%	106	15	14.2%
Sedgemoor	143	22	15.4%	109	15	13.8%
Mendip	78	9	11.5%	67	6	9.0%
Children with Disabilities	18	1	5.6%	18	5	27.8%
Other	4	0	0.0%	10	1	10.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>13.5%</b>

Table 21

The number of children becoming the subject of a CP plan has risen 31.0% over the last 12 months; TWS saw the biggest rise in numbers during the year, rising 70.6% from 102 in 2015/16 to 174 in 2016/17.

The number of children presenting as CP for a 2<sup>nd</sup> or subsequent time over the 12 months increased by 23.8%, rising from 42 to 52.

Taunton (TWS) have seen the proportion of second child protection plans reduced by 11.3 %, from 17.6% in 2015/16 to 6.3% for 2016/17. Their proportion of the county total of re-plans has also reduced, from 42.9% (18/42) to 21.2% (11/52).

Sedgemoor has seen their percentage of re-plans increase slightly, by 1.6 %, from 13.8% (15/109) to 15.4% (22/143). Their proportion of the county total of re-plans has risen from 31.2% (15/42) to 42.3% (22/52).

#### 4.5 Children Subject to CP that have had ALL of their Statutory Visits on time

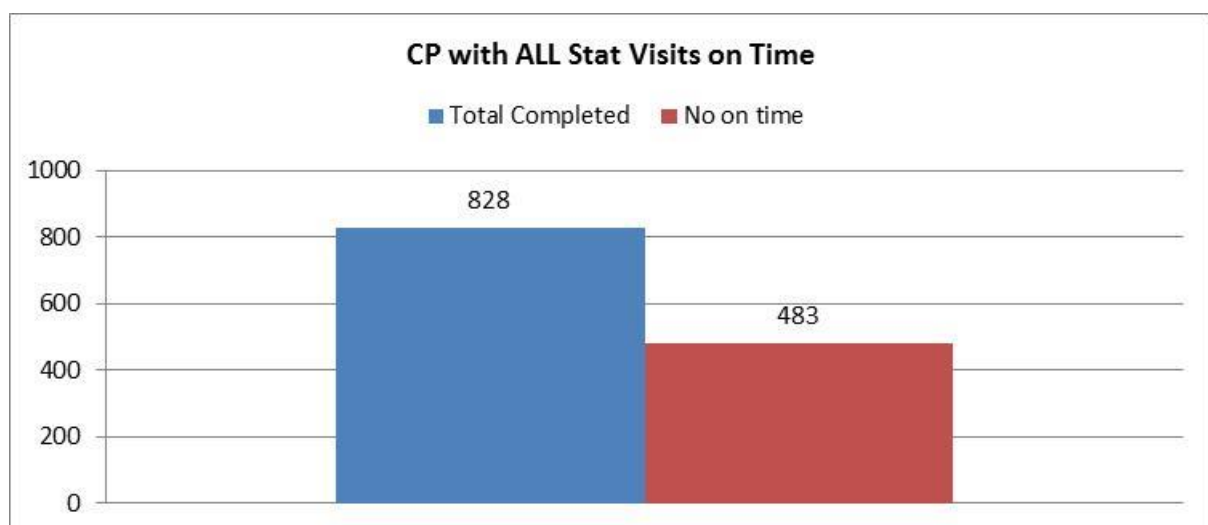


Table 22

As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, 58.3% (483/828) of children subject to a CP Plan had all of their Statutory Visits on time. This is higher than the figure achieved for 2015/16,



which stood at 48.9% (431/882). There was a corresponding decrease of 6.1% in the number of children in receipt of child protection plans. Benchmarking data is not available for 2015/16, however, during 2014/15, Statutory Neighbours achieved 69.1% and the figure overall for England was 63.7%.

CP who have had ALL of their Stat Visits on time						
Area	2016/17 No of Children with Stat Visits completed	2016/17 No of Children with Stat Visits on Time	2016/17 % with ALL visits on time	2015/16 No of Children with Stat Visits completed	2015/16 No of Children with Stat Visits on Time	2015/16 % with ALL visits on time
South Somerset	233	106	45.5%	286	94	32.9%
Sedgemoor	213	138	64.8%	254	135	53.1%
Taunton and West Somerset	237	146	61.6%	209	137	65.6%
Mendip	125	90	72.0%	115	58	50.4%
Children with Disabilities	20	3	15.0%	17	6	35.3%
Other	0	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>58.3%</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>48.9%</b>

Table 23

Of all of the area teams, Mendip has achieved the highest proportion of children where **all** of their statutory visits have been completed on time, with 72.0% (90/125), much improved on 2015/16 where 50.5% (58/115) was achieved. South Somerset has also improved with a rise in proportion of all CP visits on time of 12.6 %

Both Taunton and CwD have seen the proportion of children with **all** visits on time reduce; 4 % for Taunton and 20.3 % for CWD.

#### 4.6 Monthly CP Statutory Visits

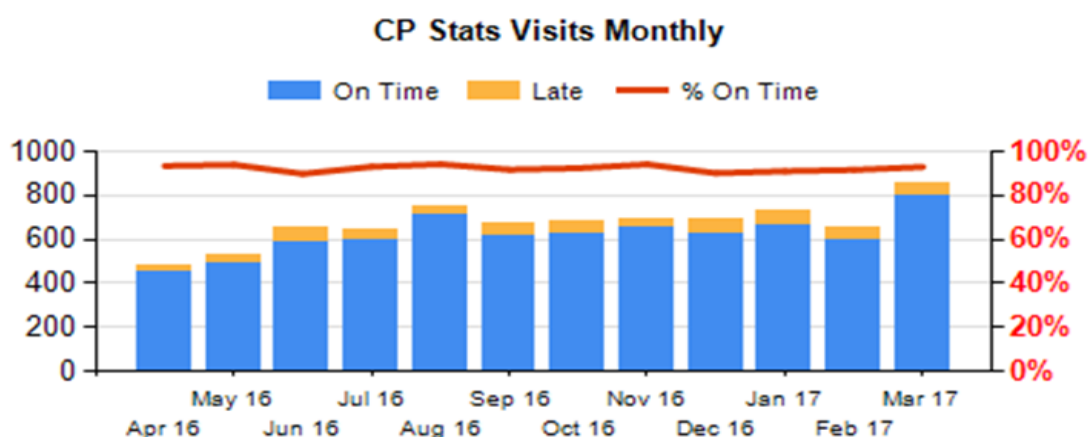


Table 24

2016/17 has seen the number of Statutory Visits required increase as the year has progressed. Beginning the year with 481 visits required during April, the end of the



year saw this figure stand at 856 for the final month, a 78% increase. This is due to CP plan visiting frequency becoming more responsive to individual children’s needs.

Over the entire 12 month period, 8038 Stat Visits were completed, 7418 of which were on time, equating to 93.3% on time. This is an improvement on last year’s figure of 88.3% (6367/7209).

#### 4.7 ICPCs on Time

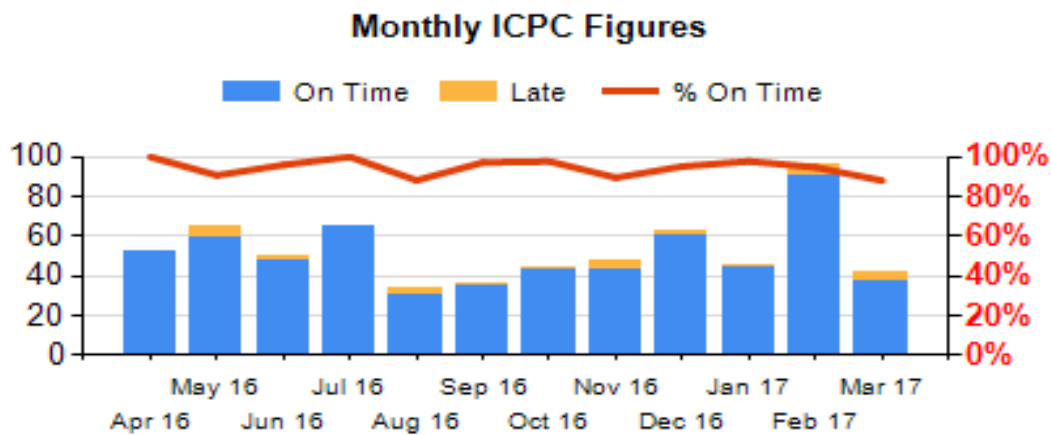


Table 25

Timeliness of ICPCs has been high across the year, with 94.9% completed on time in the last 12 months, slightly lower than the 97.0% figure of 2015/16.

#### 4.8 RCPCs on Time

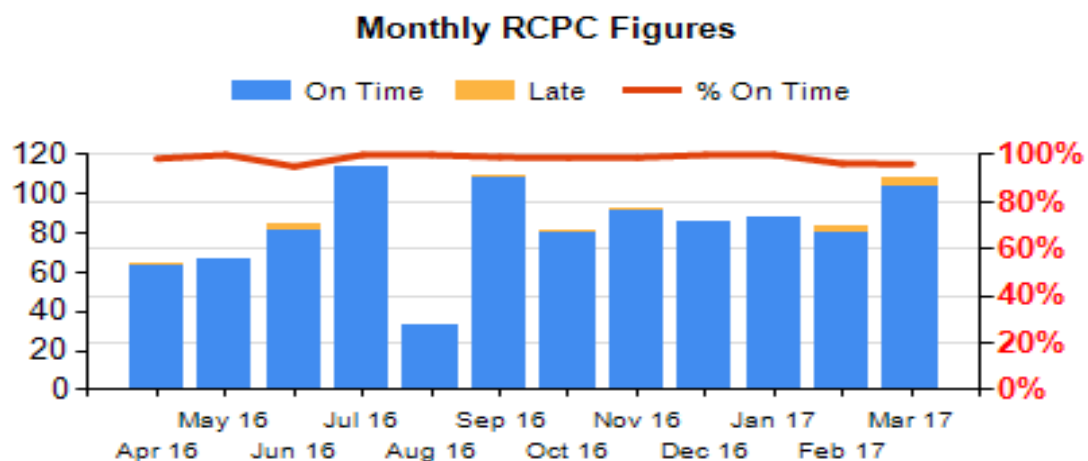


Table 26

Performance in respect of the timeliness of RCPCs continues to be strong, with 98.5% (980/995) achieved for 2016/17. This is marginally below the 2015/16 outturn of 99.4%.

## 5. Children in Need

### 5.1 Indicator Summary

Indicator	Totals 2016/17	Totals 2015/16	%/Ppts Change in Number from 2015/16	Somerset Rate per 10 000 or % 2016/17	Somerset Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16	Stat Neighbor Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16	National Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16
CiN as at 31st March (excl CLA, CP & OT)	<b>1716</b>	1503	<b>14.2%</b>				
% CiN without a Plan or Revision is over 3 months old (as at 31st March)	<b>37.6%</b>	37.6%	<b>0</b>				
% CiN with no visit recorded in the last 6 weeks (as at 31st March)	<b>21.4%</b>	33.3%	<b>-11.9</b>				
% CiN Stepped Down from CP	<b>11.2%</b>	14.6%	<b>3.4</b>				
% CiN Stepped Down from CLA	<b>5.2%</b>	6.4%	<b>1.2</b>				

Table 27

### 5.2 Number of CiN (excl. CP, CLA & OT)

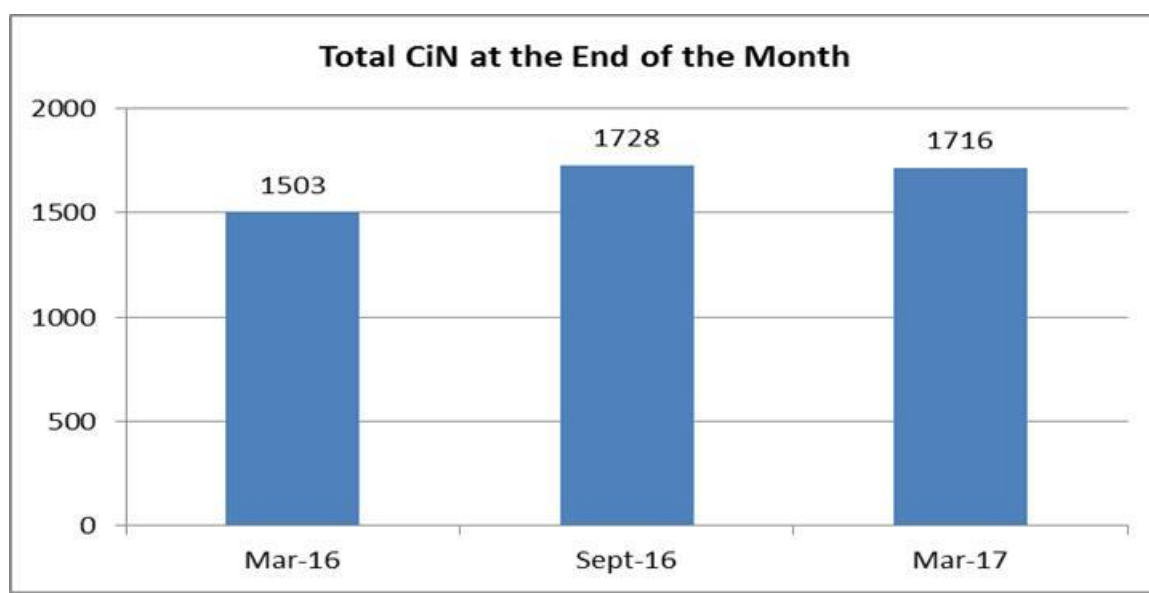


Table 28

CiN numbers have climbed slightly over the 12 month period, rising from 1503 to 1716, up 14.2%

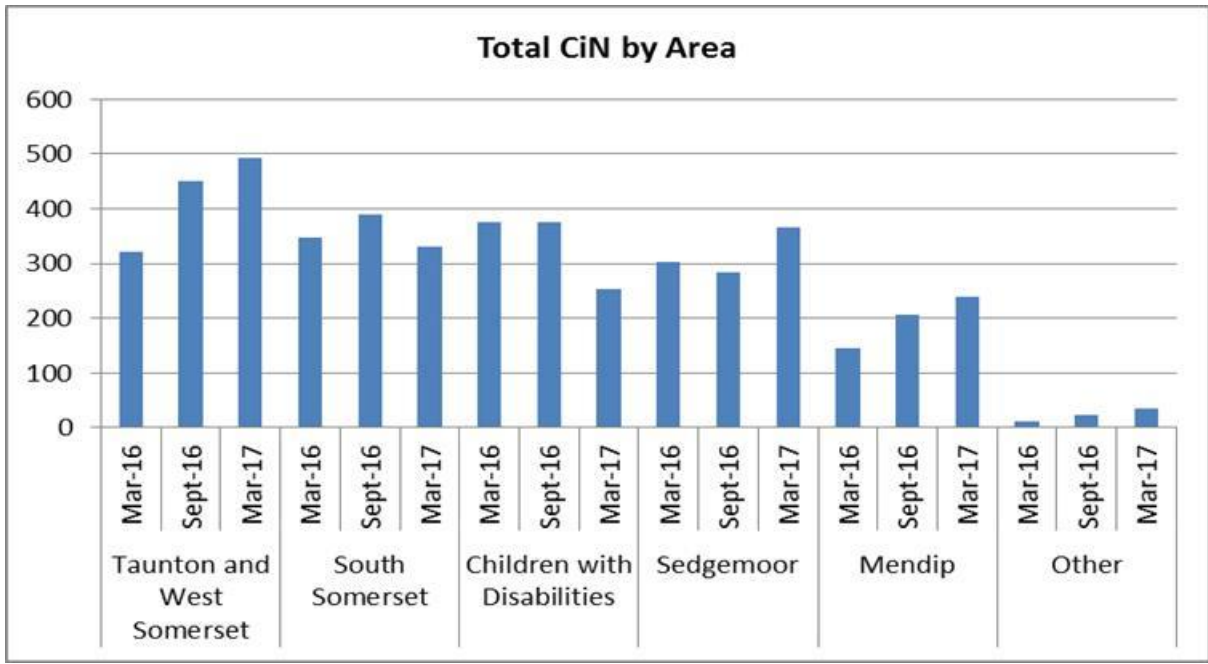


Table 29

Most area teams have seen an increase in CiN numbers over the course of the year, with Mendip seeing the largest, with a 66.7% increase rising from 144 to 240. Taunton saw numbers rise 52.7% from 322 to 492 and Sedgemoor 21.5% (302 to 367).

CwD have seen a significant reduction in CiN numbers, falling 32.7%, from 376 to 253, due to the introduction of the early support team. South Somerset saw a small reduction of just 4.9%.

**5.3 CiN without a Plan or Revision is over 3 months old**

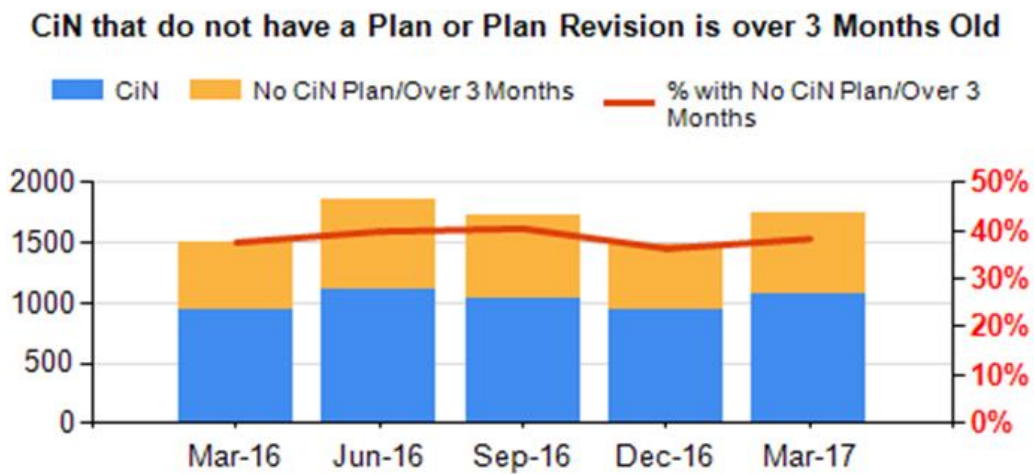


Table 30

The above chart plots CiN at specific points during the year and shows how CiN numbers have climbed slightly and performance remained reasonably stable in respect of ensuring plans are in place and reviewed appropriately.

At the end of March 2016, 37.6% (565/1503) of CiN did not have a plan or their plan revision was over 3 months old and this remains the same at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 with 646/1716 CiN without a plan/revision out of date.

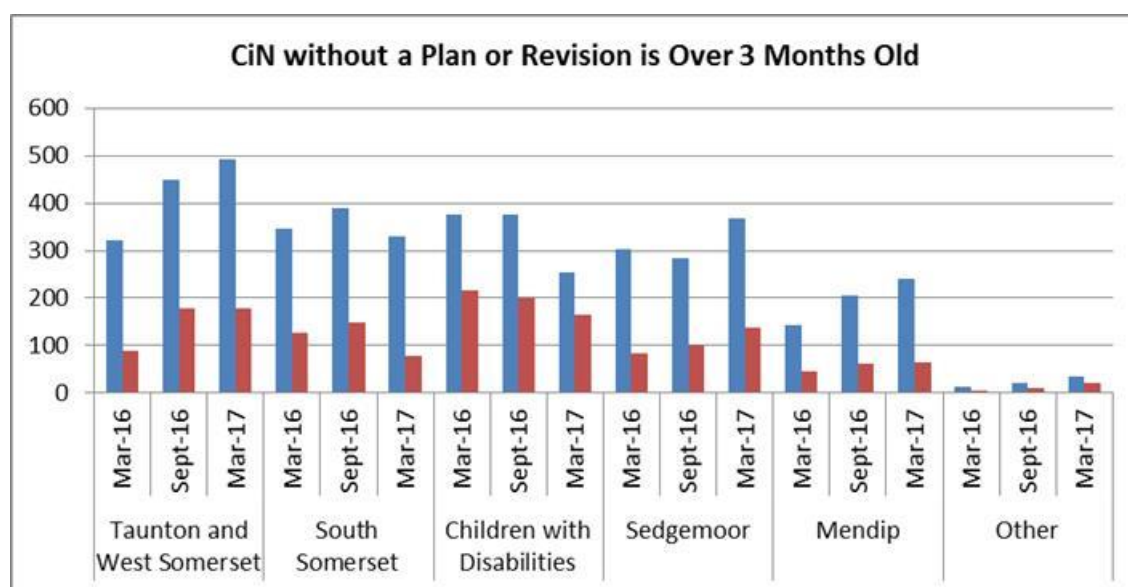


Table 31

All areas except for South Somerset and Mendip have seen the proportion of CiN without a plan (or the revision is over 3 months old) rise. South Somerset has fallen from 36.3% (126/347) to 23.3% (77/330) and Mendip from 31.3% (45/144) to 27.1% (65/240). Of the area teams, Taunton has seen the greatest rise, from 27.3% (88/322) to 36.2% (178/492).

#### 5.4 CiN without a Visit recorded in the last 6 weeks

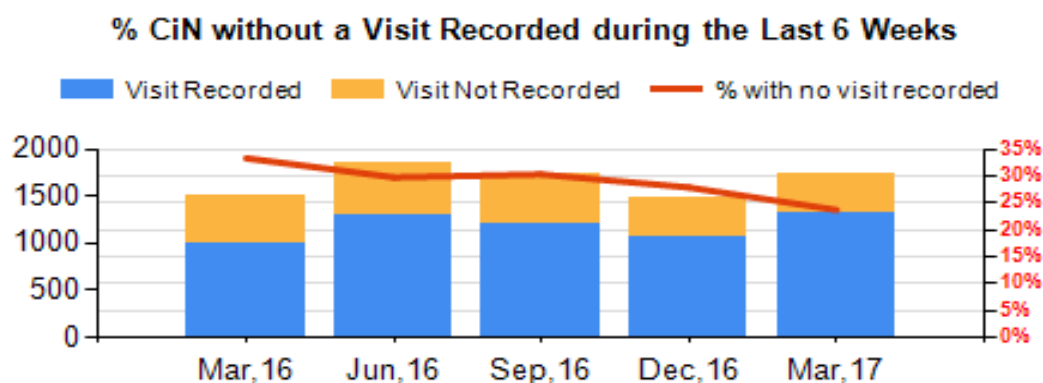


Table 32

The above chart shows CiN at specific points in the year and tracks the proportion of children who have not been visited in the last 6 weeks.

At the end of March 2016, 33.3% (500/1503) of CiN had no visit recorded within the previous 6 weeks. By March 2017, this figure has reduced to 21.4% (367/1716).

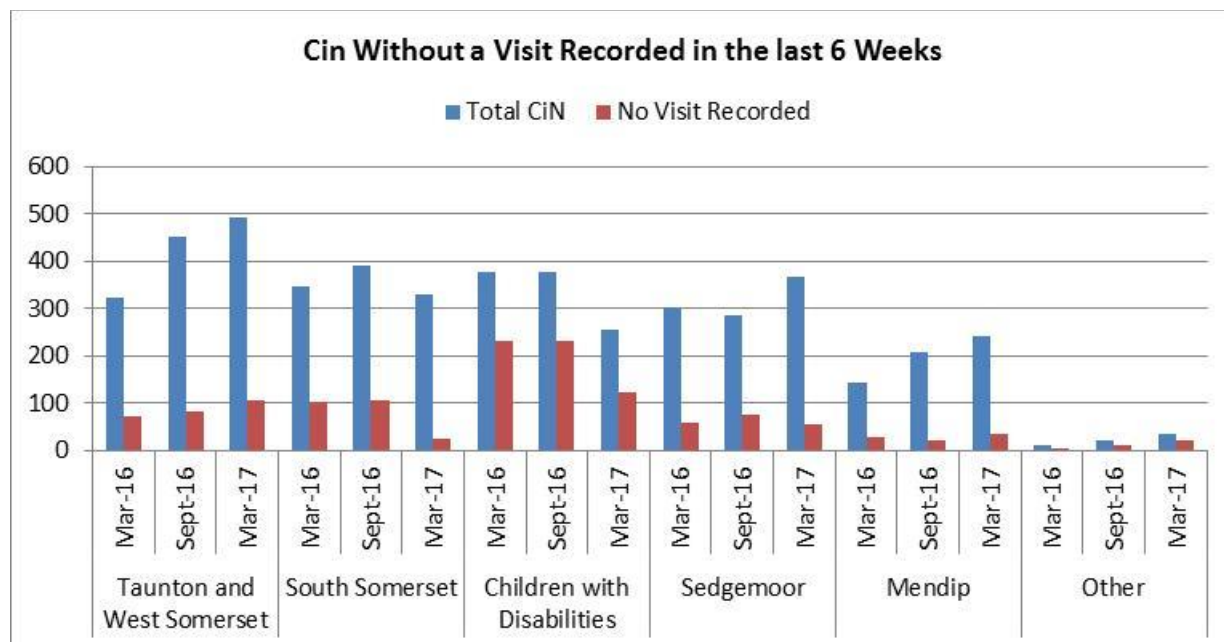


Table 33

Further improvements have been seen since last year, with the area breakdown showing that all area teams have once again seen a reduction in the proportion of CiN without a visit recorded.

South Somerset has seen the greatest improvement, with the proportion falling from 29.7% (103/347) at the end of March 2016 to 7.65% (25/330) for March 2017, the lowest in the county.

CwD has the highest proportion within the area teams at 49.0% (124/253) without a visit. (*Visiting frequency for CWD varies according to need and can be outside the system set timescale of minimum 6 weekly where families require less frequent support*).

## 5.5 CiN that have Stepped Down from a CP Plan

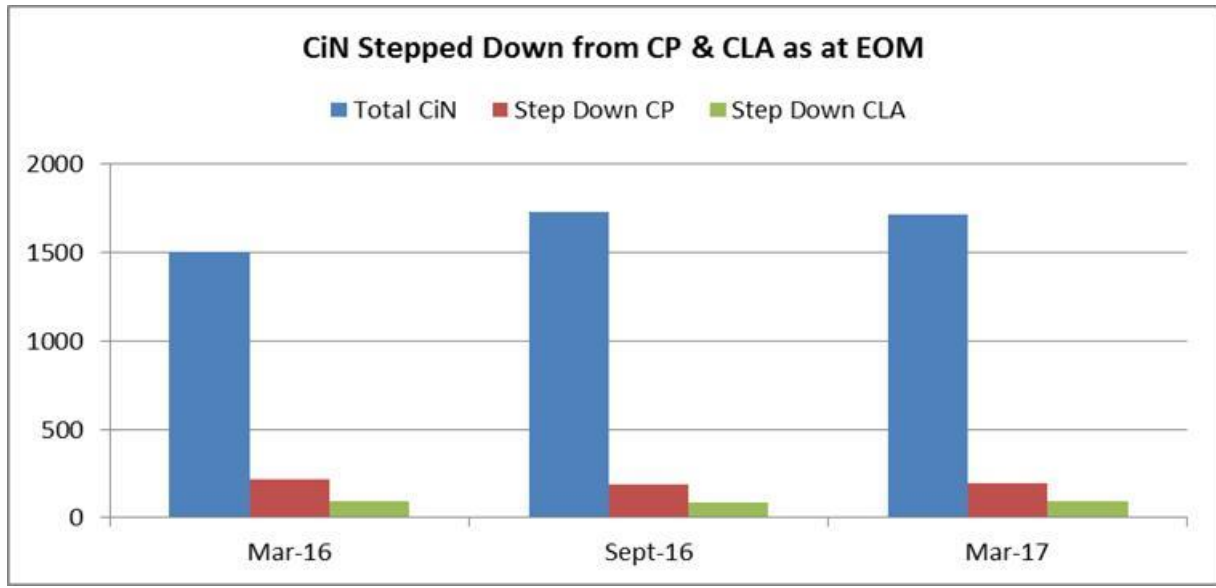


Table 34

Comparing March 2016 to March 2017, the number of CiN that have 'Stepped Down' from both CP and CLA reduced, from 219 to 192 and 96 to 90 respectively.

The reduction in overall CiN numbers has lowered the proportion of CiN that have 'Stepped Down' from CP, falling from 14.6% (219/1503) in March 2016 to 11.2% (192/1716) for March 2017. CiN stepping down from CLA has also reduced by 1.2 %, from 6.4% (96/1503) March 2016 to 5.2% (90/1716).

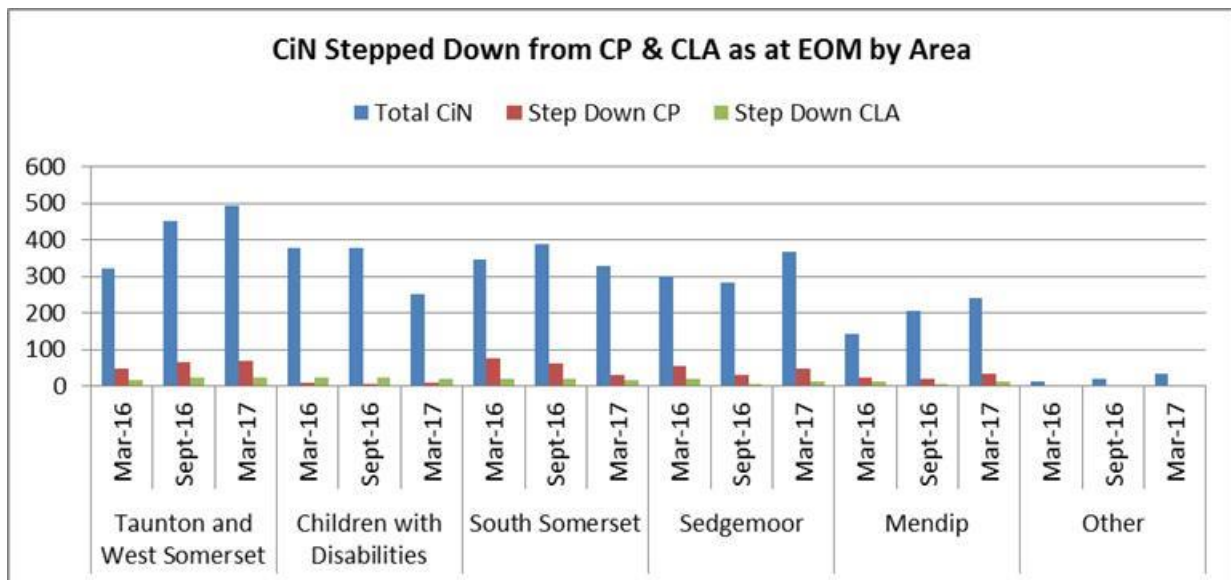


Table 35

All area teams have seen the proportion of CiN stepping down to both CP and CLA reduce, apart from CwD where they have increased; CP by 1.1 % and CLA 1.3 %.

South Somerset has seen the greatest change, with 9.7% (32/330) of children stepping down from CP in March 2017 compared to 22.5% (78/347) in March 2016.

## 6. Children Looked After

### 6.1 Indicator Summary

Indicator	Totals 2016/17	Totals 2015/16	%/Ppts Change in Number from 2015/16	Somerset Rate per 10 000 or % 2016/17	Somerset Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16	Stat Neighbor Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16	National Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16
No of CLA as at 31st March	474	502	-5.6%	43.4	46.0	53.0	60.3
% of CLA for 2.5 Years + that have been in their current placement for 2 years +	57.2%	56.6%	0.6				
% of children with 3 or more placements as at 31st March	10.5%	15.0%	-4.5				
% of CLA Placed more than 20 Miles from home address	32.1%	28.7%	3.4%			26.1%	18.0%
% CLA Stat Visits on time	93.3%	92.5%	0.8				
% of CLA Stat Reviews on Time	98.0%	96.8%	1.2				
% of CLA > 28 days that have had their IHA	82.7%	79.1%	3.6				
% of CLA > 12 Months that have had their Health Assessments	87.1%	75.1%	12.0			89.2%	90.0%
% of CLA >12 Months that have had their Dental Assessment	72.9%	88.5%	-15.6			82.0%	84.1%
% of Children aged 4+ that have been CLA > 12 months that have had a SDQ recorded	86.3%	68.0%	18.3			71.1%	75.0%

Table 36

## 6.2 Number of Children Looked After

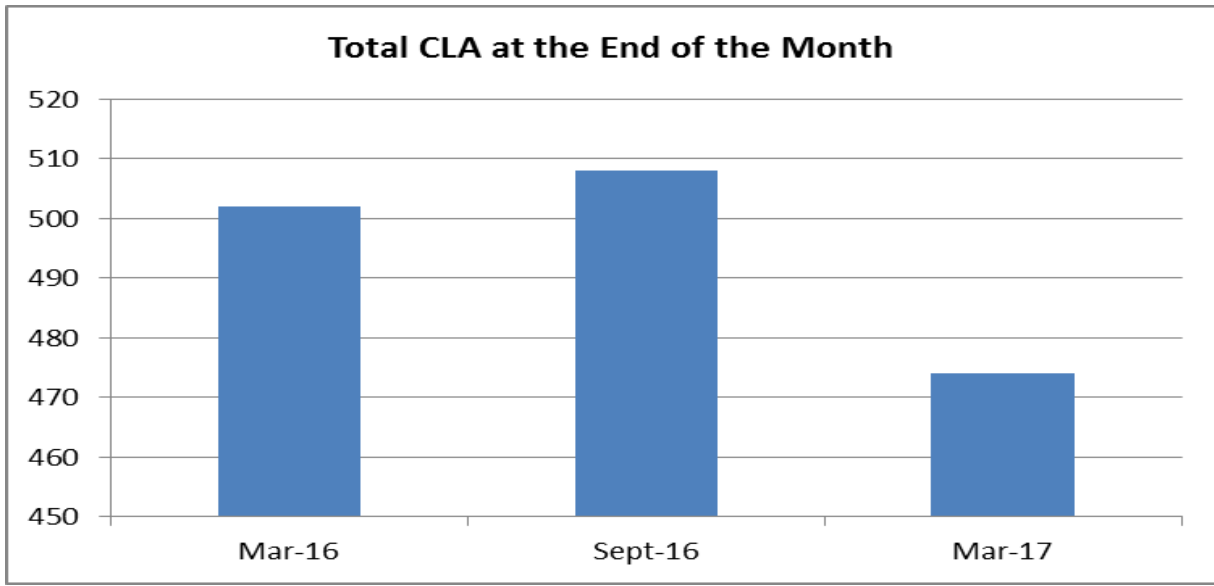


Table 37

The number of children looked after has reduced by 5.6%, from 502 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 to 474 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

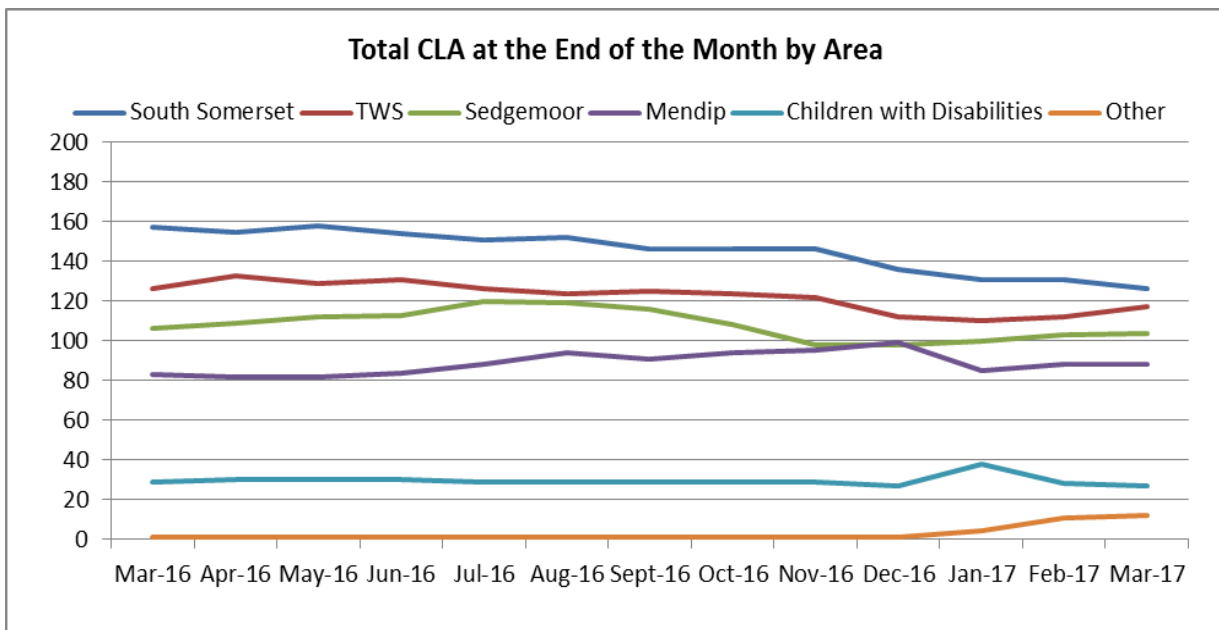


Table 38

South Somerset has seen CLA numbers decline the most, reducing 19.8% from 157 in March 2016 to 126 for March 2017.

Of the area teams, Mendip is the only one to see a rise in CLA numbers comparing March 2016 to March 2017 with 83 and 88 CLA for the respective months.

Specifically, June – December 2016 saw numbers of CLA in Mendip increase whereas other areas saw numbers fall during this period.



**6.3 CLA for at Least 2.5 Years that have been in their current placement 2 years or more**

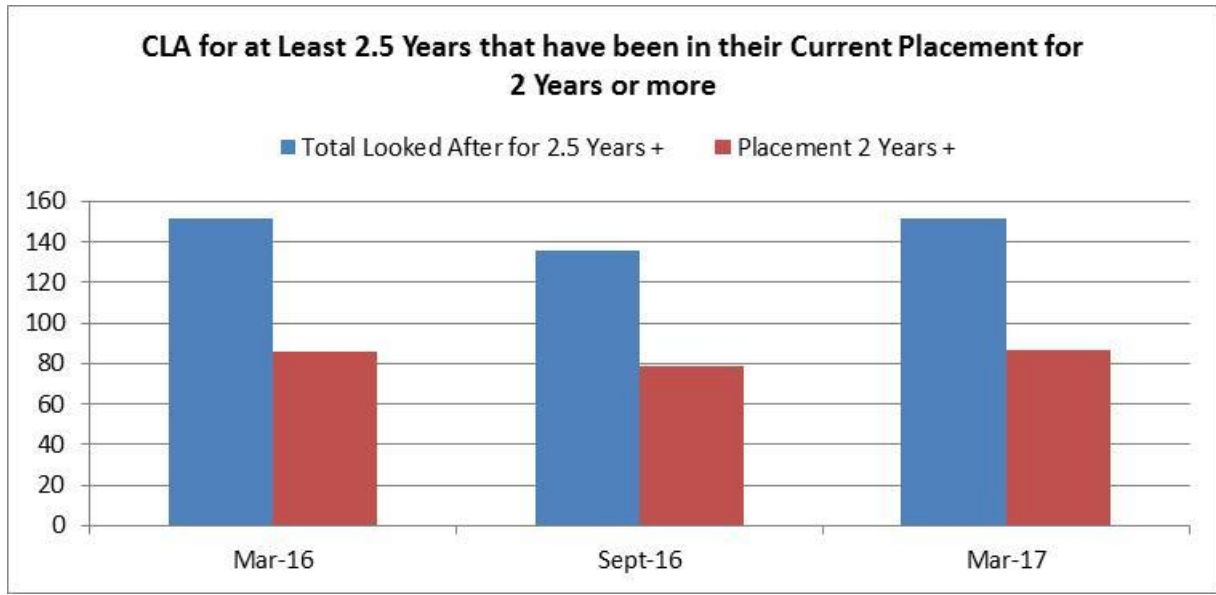


Table 39

The number and proportion of long-term looked after children who have been in their current placement for 2 years or longer has not changed significantly this financial year. Standing at 56.6% (86/152) in March 2016 this rose to 58.1% (79/136) in September and reduced to 57.2% (87/152) for March 2017.

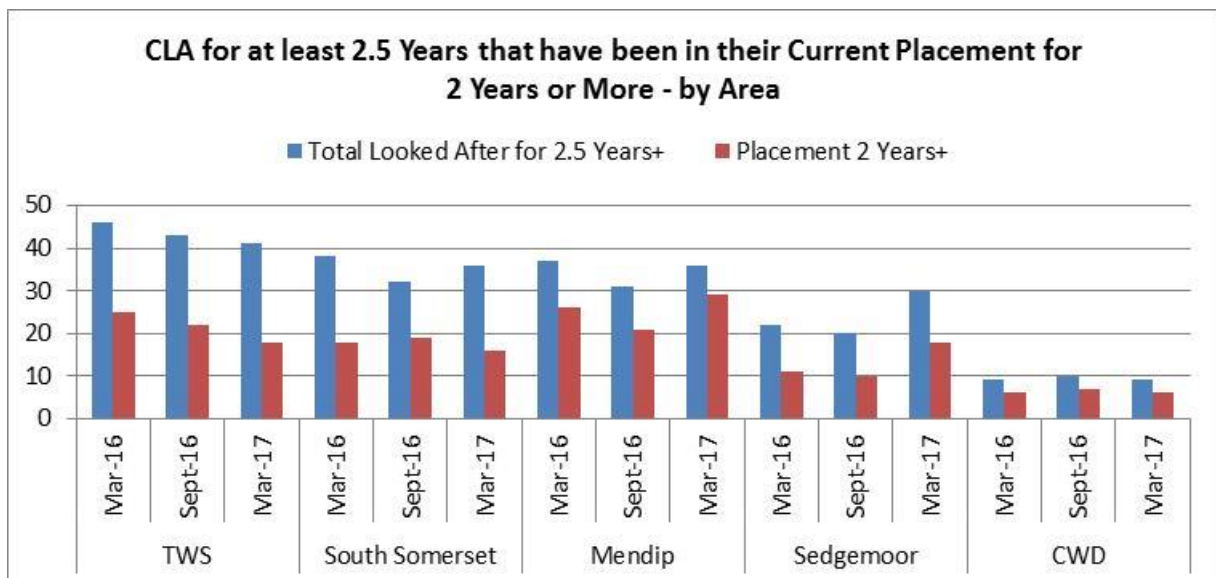


Table 40

Most areas have seen small reductions in the number of long term CLA, apart from Sedgemoor where the number has increased 36.4% from 22 to 30.

Two area teams have seen the proportion of long-term CLA who have been in their current placement for 2 years or longer reduce since last year. Taunton has seen this fall from 54.3% (25/46) to 43.9% (18/41) and South Somerset from 47.4% (18/38) to 44.4% (16/36).

Both Mendip and Sedgemoor have seen the proportion of stable placements rise; Mendip from 70.3% (26/37) to 80.6% (29/36) and Sedgemoor 50.0% (11/22) to 60.0% (18/30).

#### **6.4 CLA with 3 or more Placements in the last 12 Month by Area**

Area	3+ Placements 2016/17	Total CLA 2016/17	% 2016/17	3+ Placements 2015/16	Total CLA 2015/16	% 2015/16
Taunton and West Somerset	14	117	12.0%	24	125	19.2%
Sedgemoor	13	104	12.5%	17	107	15.9%
Mendip	4	88	4.5%	7	83	8.4%
South Somerset	17	126	13.5%	26	156	16.7%
Children with Disabilities	1	27	3.7%	1	29	3.4%
Other	1	12	8.3%	0	1	0.0%
Total	50	474	10.5%	75	501	15.0%

Table 41 – figures taken from LCS May 2016

The county figure for the proportion of children looked after who have experienced 3 or more placement moves has reduced comparing 2015/16 to the end of year figure for 2017, falling from 15.0% (75/501) to 10.5% (50/474).

All of the area teams have seen the proportion fall, with Taunton seeing the greatest reduction of 7.2 %. Sedgemoor, Mendip and South Somerset saw moderate reductions of 3.4, 3.9 and 3.2 %s respectively.

Taunton and South Somerset account for 62.0% (31/50) of CLA with 3 or more placements in the county – this is 10.7 % above the overall proportion of CLA in each area.

*(It is worth bearing in mind that when this report was compiled these figures had not been cleansed to meet the requirements of the DfE Annual Return).*

## 6.5 CLA Placed more than 20 Miles from home address

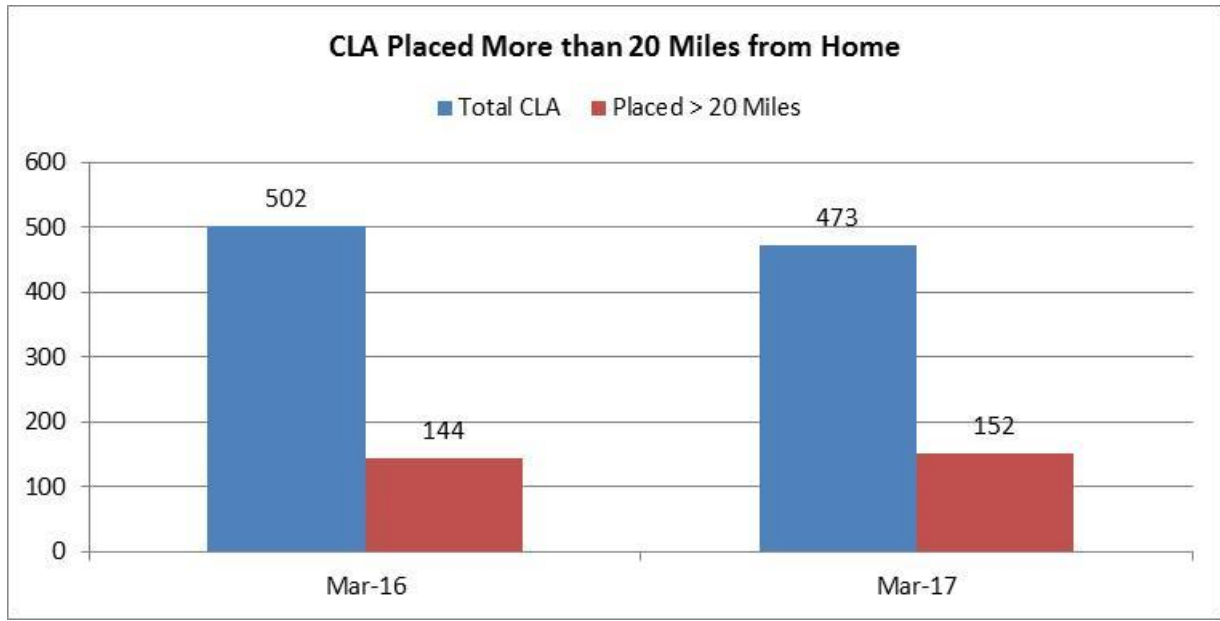


Table 42

The percentage of children placed more than 20 miles from their home address at the commencement of their care episode has increased for 2016/17, rising from 28.7% (144/502) to 32.1% (152/473).

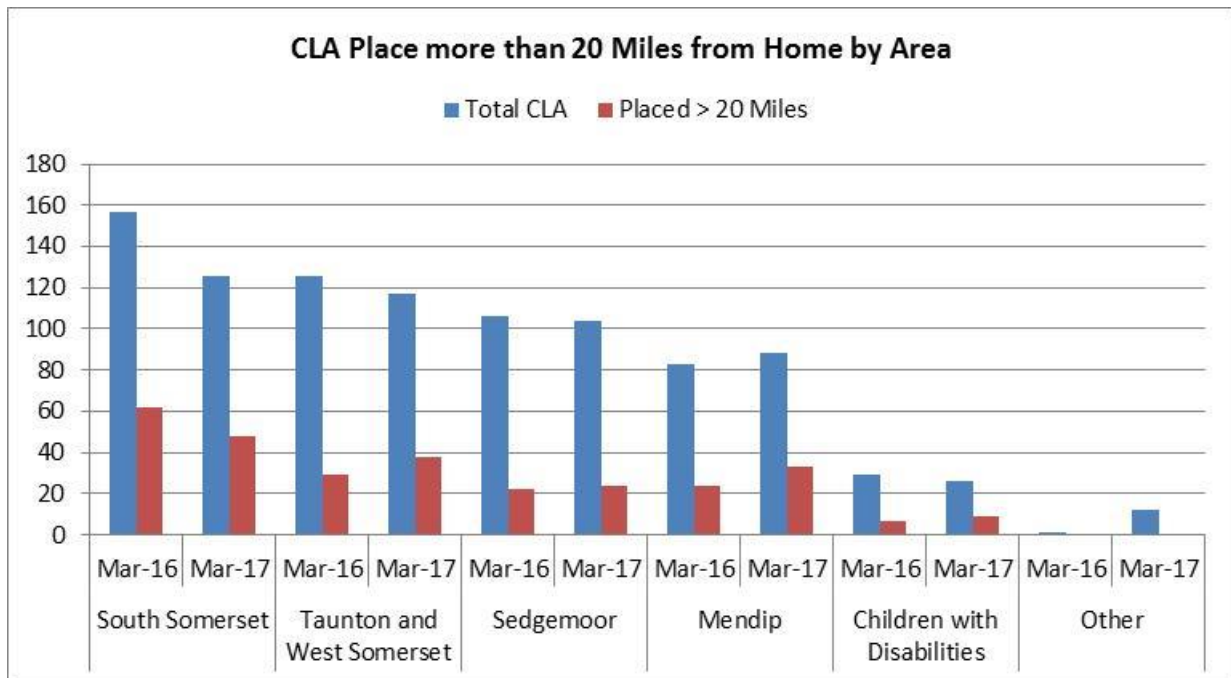


Table 43

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, South Somerset is the only area team to see a small reduction in both the number and proportion of CLA placed more than 20 miles from home, with a 2017 figure of 38.1% (48/126) compared to 39.5% (62/157) the previous year. South

Somerset have also seen their proportion of the county total of children placed more than 20 miles reduce, from 43.1% (62/144) to 31.6% (48/152).

Taunton has seen the number of CLA in the area reduce, but the proportion placed more than 20 miles from home increase, from 23.0% (29/126) March 2016 to 32.5% (38/117). Their share of the county total has also increased, by 4.9 %.

CWD has seen the proportion placed more than 20 miles from home increase by 10.5 %, rising from 24.1% (7/29) to 34.6% (9/26). It should be noted that this relates to 2 children.

Mendip has also seen an increase in proportion of children placed more than 20 miles from the home address, of 8.6 %, rising from 28.9% (24/83) to 37.5% (33/88). Their share of the county total has also risen by 5 %.

Of the county total of CLA placed more than 20 miles from home, 31.6% (48/152) are in South Somerset.

### 6.6 CLA Statutory Visits on Time

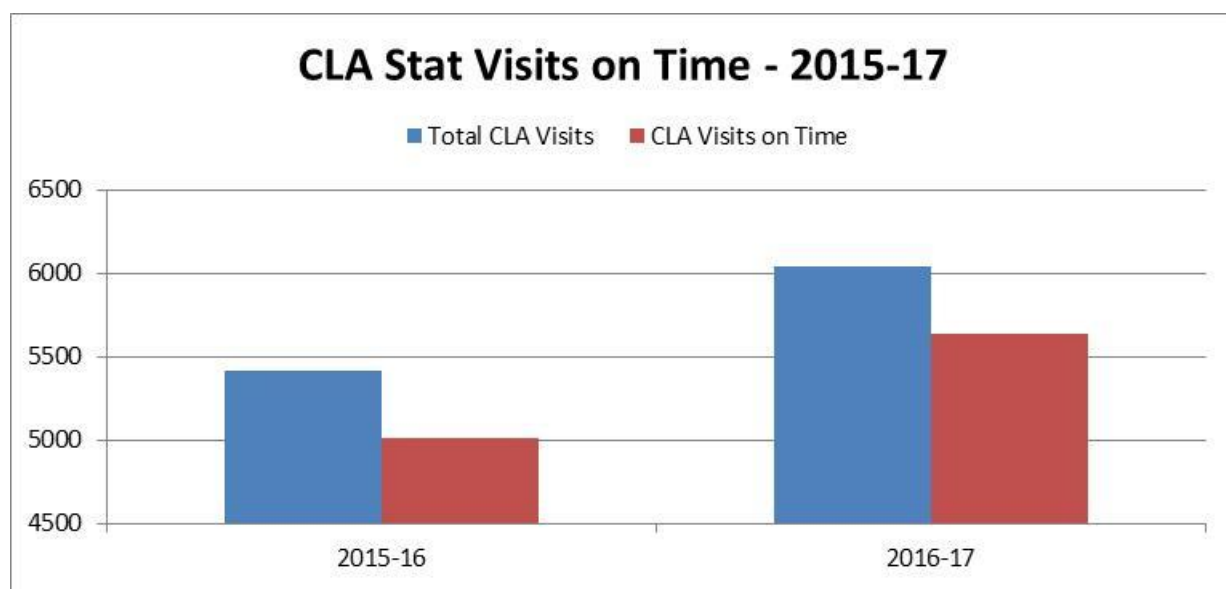


Table 44

The number of CLA Stat Visits taking place on time in 2016/17 has increased by 11.5% on the previous year, from 5420 to 6041.

93.3% (5636/6041) have been completed on time, an increase on 2015/16 where 92.5% (5015/5420) of visits took place on time.

CLA who have had ALL of their Stat Visits on time						
Area	2016/17 No of CLA with Stat Visits completed	2016/17 No of CLA with Stat Visits on Time	2016/17 % with ALL visits on time	2015/16 No of CLA with Stat Visits completed	2015/16 No of CLA with Stat Visits on Time	2015/16 % with ALL visits on time
South Somerset	1904	1780	93.5%	1733	1567	90.4%
Sedgemoor	1255	1120	89.2%	1201	1108	92.3%
Taunton and West Somerset	1419	1335	94.1%	1347	1274	94.6%
Mendip	1076	1042	96.8%	838	804	95.9%
Children with Disabilities	312	285	91.3%	281	245	87.2%
Other	75	74	98.7%	20	17	85.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6041</b>	<b>5636</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>5420</b>	<b>5015</b>	<b>92.5%</b>

Table 45

Of the 4 area teams, Mendip have seen the greatest increase in number of stat visits completed, rising 28.4%, from 838 to 1076. Mendip also has the highest proportion completed on time in the county, with 96.8% (1042/1076).

Sedgemoor have the lowest percentage completed on time in the county, with 89.2% (1120/1255), down from the 92.3% (1108/1201) seen during 2015/16.

## 6.7 CLA Reviews on Time

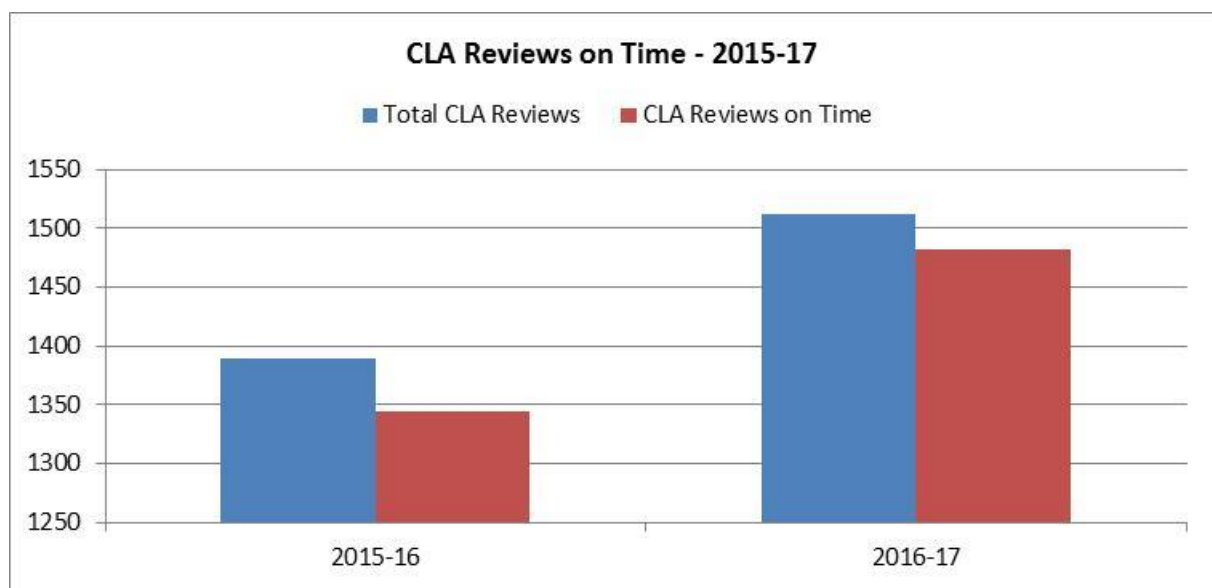


Table 46

The number of CLA reviews completed in 2015/16 has increased by 8.9% on the previous year, from 1389 to 1512.

98.0% (1482/1512) have been completed on time in 2016/17 compared to 96.8% (1345/1389) the previous year.

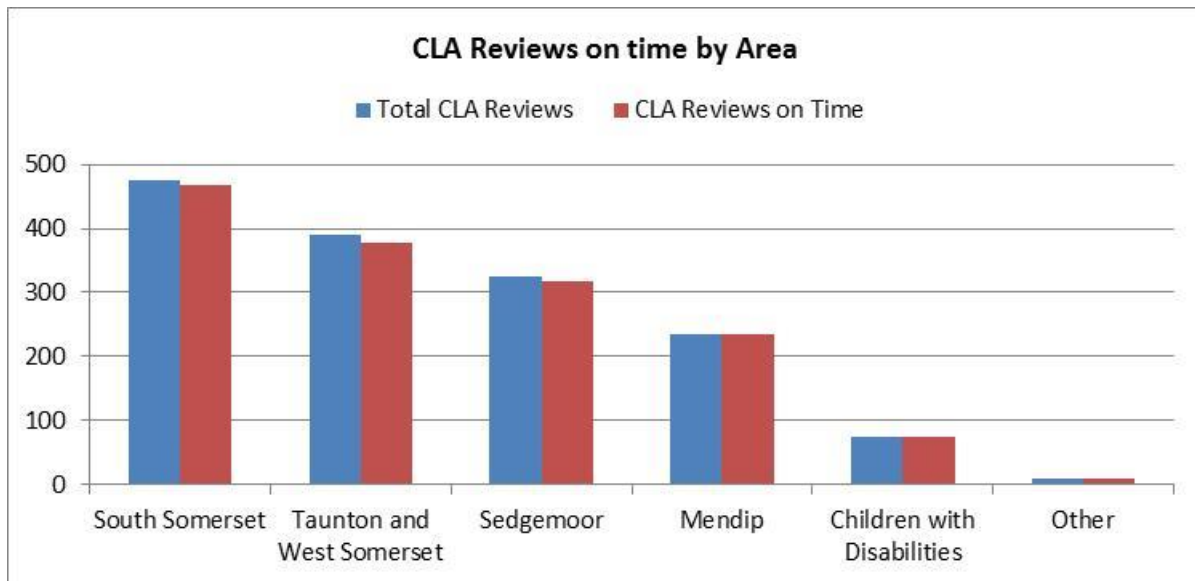


Table 47

### 6.8 CLA Initial Health Assessments

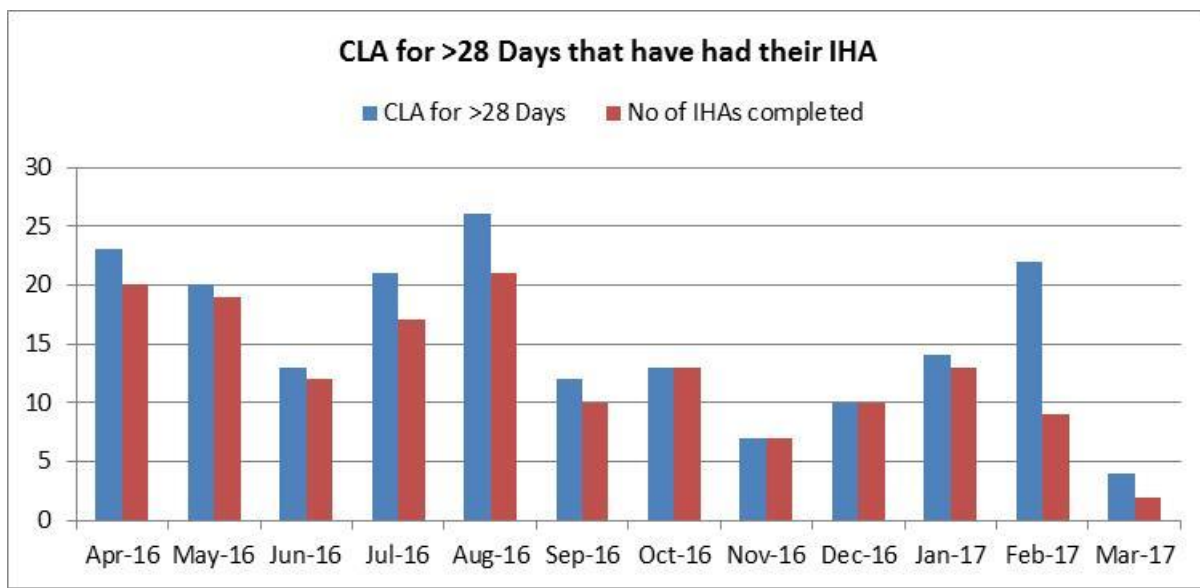


Table 48

82.7% (153/185) of children looked after for more than 28 days have had their initial health assessments across the 12 month period, slightly higher than the 2015/16 figure of 79.1% (148/187).

February saw the figure reduce to just 40.9% (9/22).

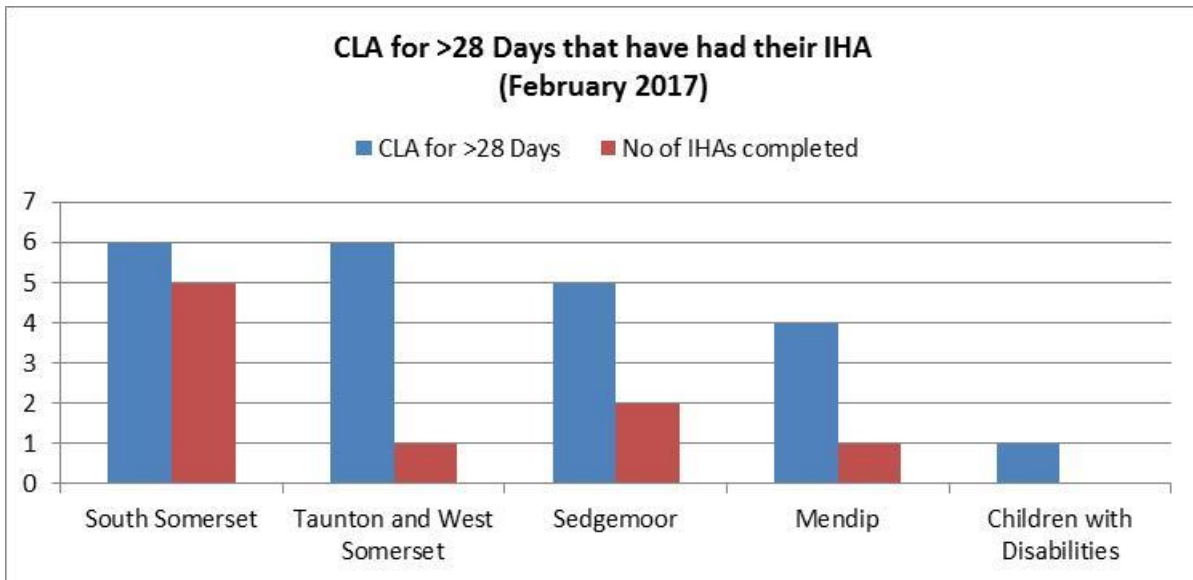


Table 49

Sedgemoor and Mendip were particularly affected with 40.0% (2/5) and 25.0% (1/4) completed respectively.

## 6.9 CLA Health & Dental Assessments

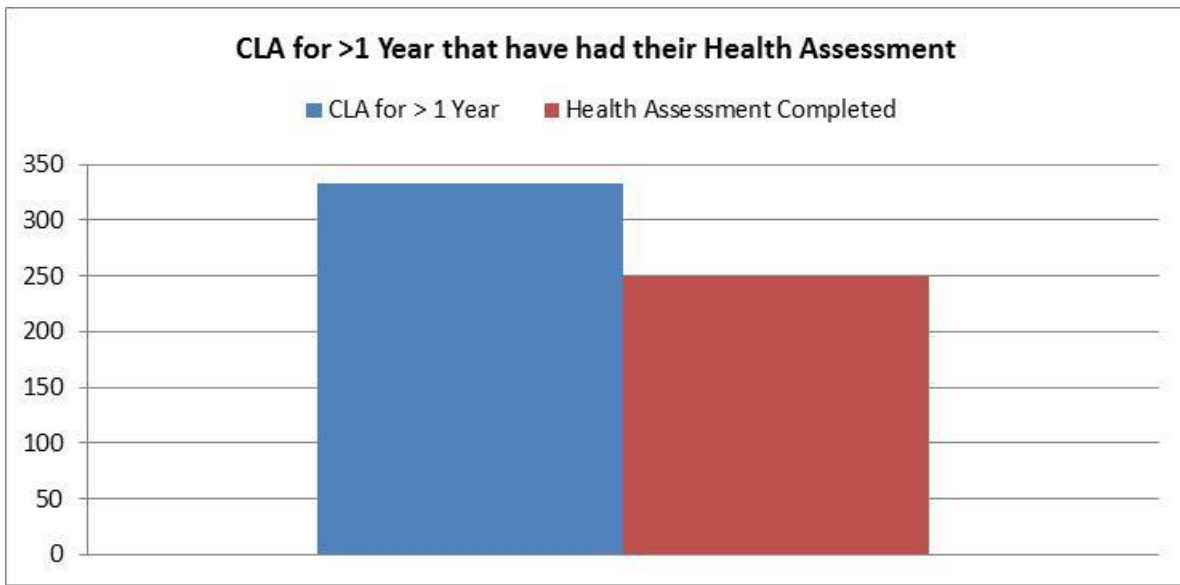


Table 50

87.1% (296/340) of children that have been looked after for longer than a year have had their Health Assessments during 2016/17. This is higher than the figure for 2015/16, where 77.6% (260/335) was achieved.

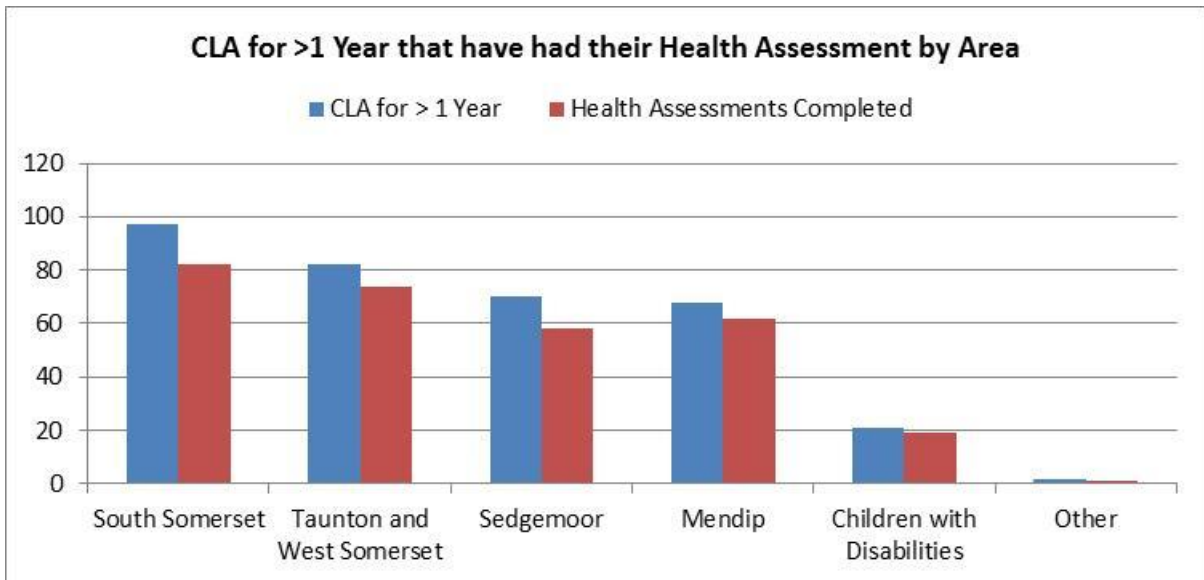


Table 51

Mendip and Taunton have achieved the highest proportion of health assessments, with 91.2% (62/68) and 90.2% (74/82) respectively. South Somerset achieved 84.5% (82/97) and Sedgemoor 82.9% (58/70). 90.5% (19/21) of CWD that have been looked after for longer than a year had their health assessment during 2016/17.

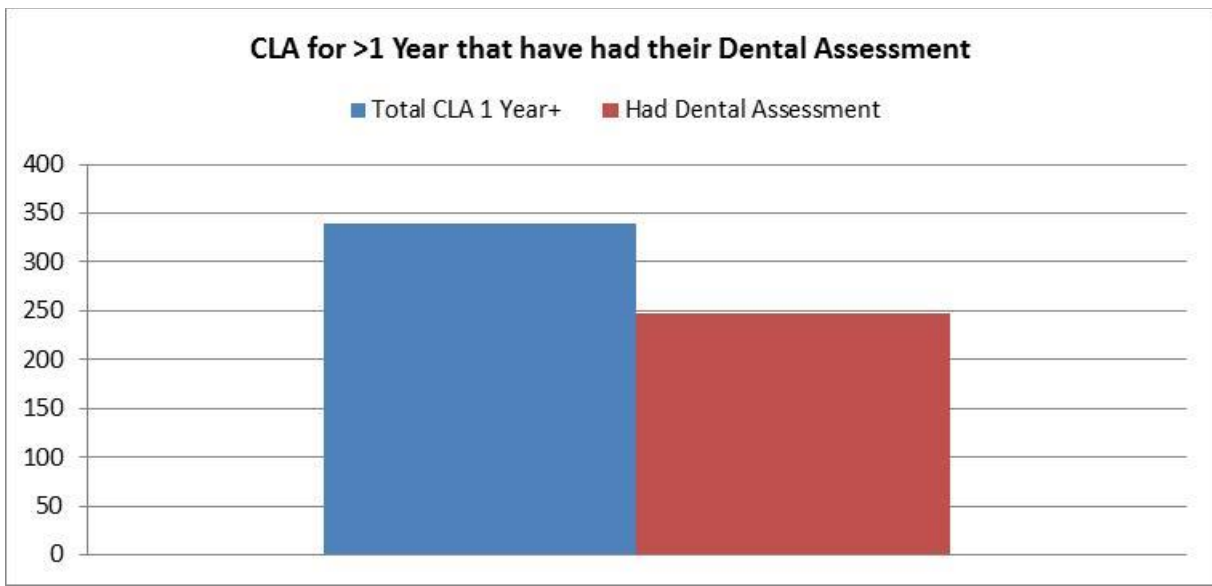


Table 52

72.9% (248/340) of children looked after for longer than a year have their Dental Assessments during 2016/17. This is lower than the previous year, where 77.6% (260/335) was achieved.

Manual intervention for the annual return will improve this figure.



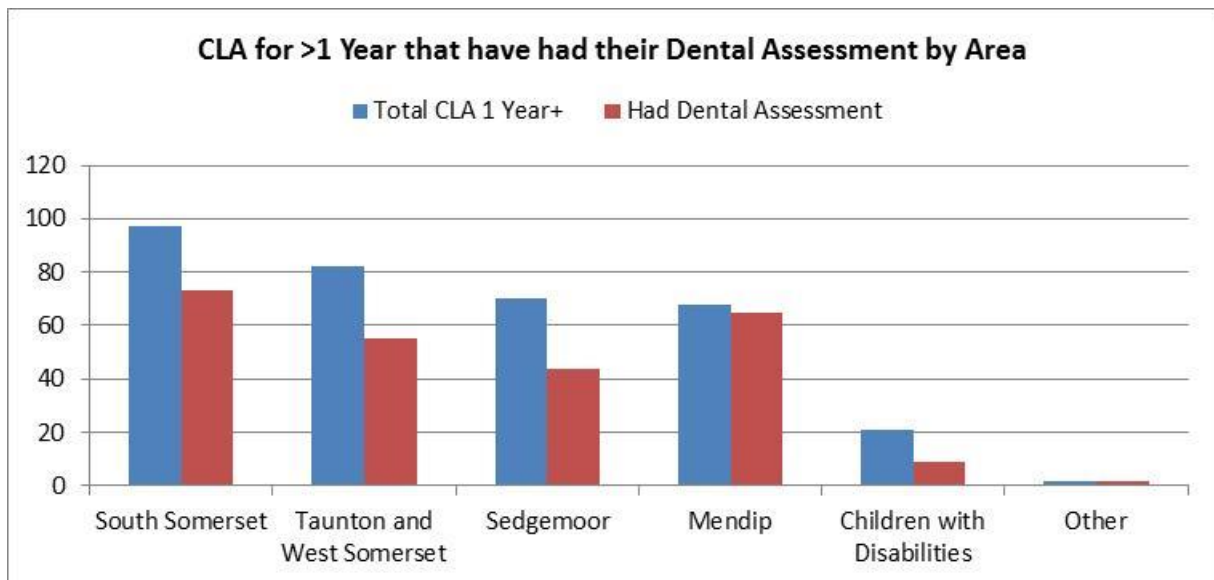


Table 53

Mendip achieved the highest proportion of dental assessments completed in the county, with 95.6% (65/68) of children. South Somerset completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest, with 75.3% (73/97), TWS achieved 67.1% (55/82) and Sedgemoor 62.9% (44/70). Finally, 42.9% (9/21) of CWD looked after for longer than a year had their dental assessment.

### 6.10 CLA Strengths & Difficulties Questionnaires

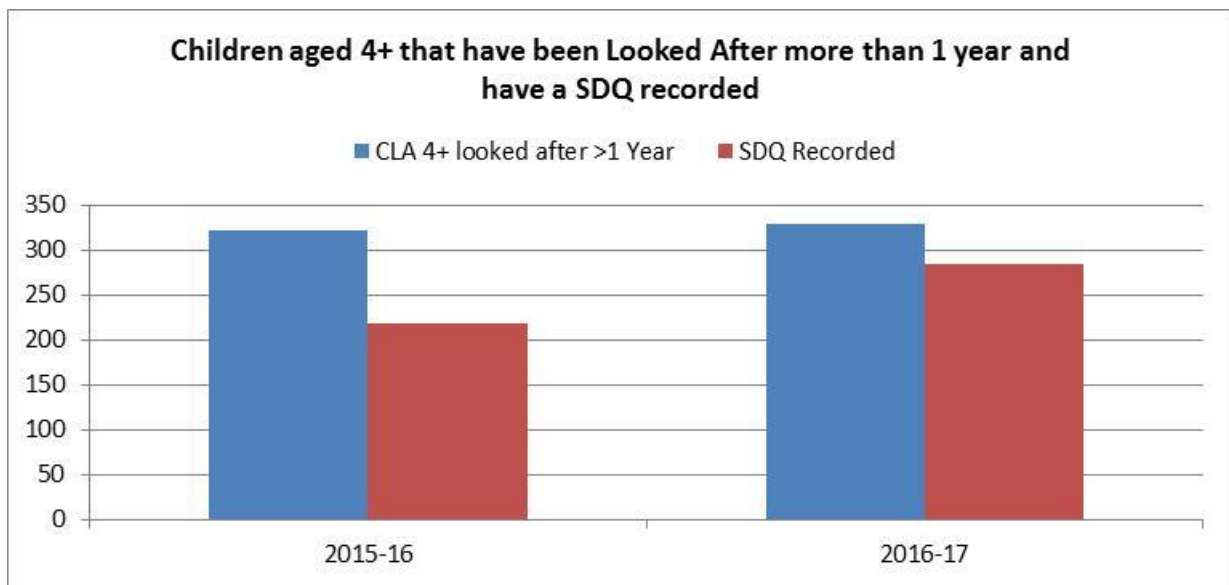


Table 54

86.3% (284/329) of children aged over 4 years who have been looked after for longer than 1 year have a “Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire” recorded, higher than the 2015/16 figure of 68.0% (219/322).

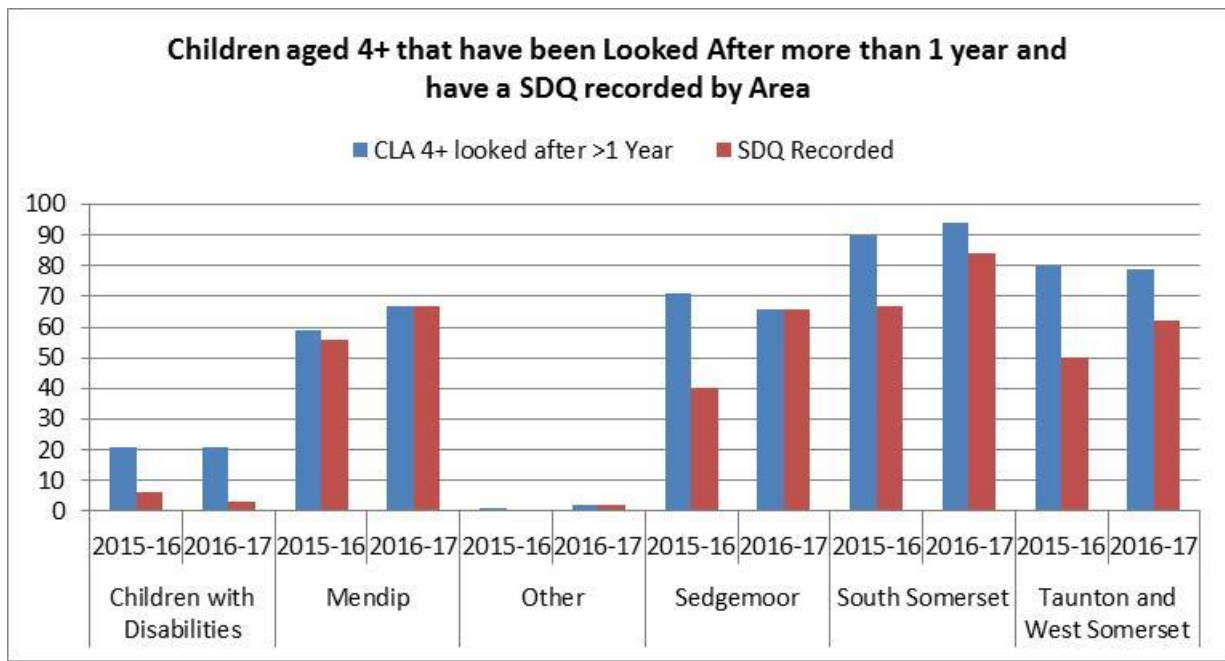


Table 55

All of the four main area teams increased the number of SDQs completed for 2016/17, with Sedgemoor making the most dramatic improvement, rising from 56.3% (40/71) completed during 2015-16, to 100% (66/66) for 2016/17.

## 7. Care Leavers

### 7.1 Indicator Summary

Indicator	Totals 2016/17	Totals 2015/16	%/Ppts Change in Number from 2015/16	Somerset Rate per 10 000 or % 2016/17	Somerset Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16	Stat Neighbour Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16	National Rate per 10 000 or % 2015/16
No of Care Leavers	205	315	-34.9%				
% of Care Leavers In Touch	98.5%	96.2%	2.3				
% of ALL Care Leavers NEET	42.4%	50.5%	-8.1				
% of All Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation	95.6%	91.1%	4.5				

Table 56

## 7.2 Care Leaver Numbers

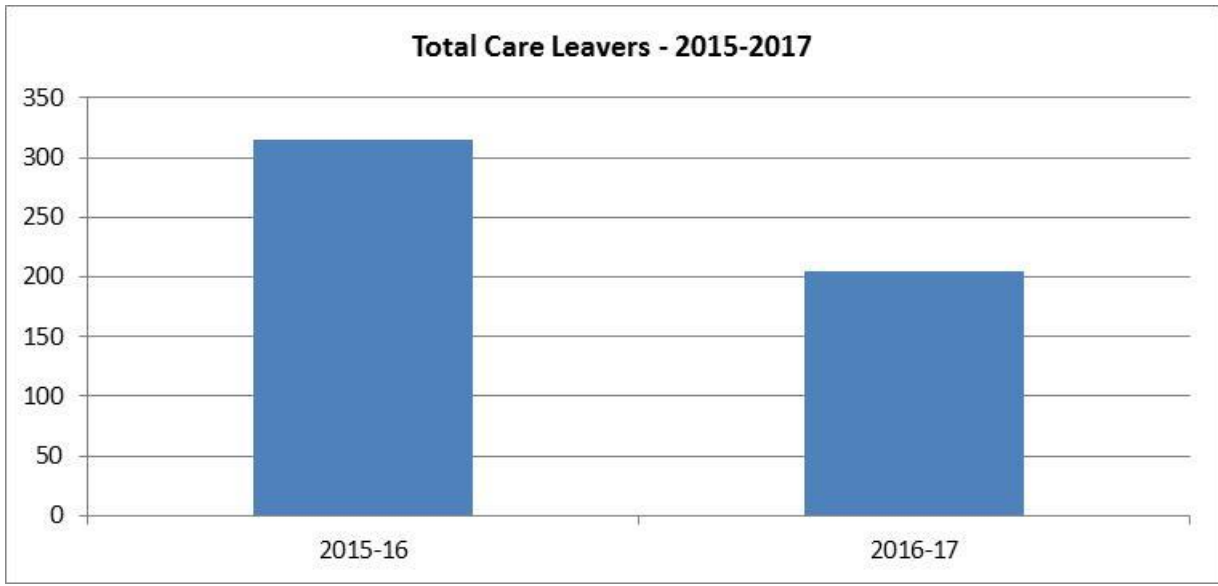


Table 57

The number of care leavers has reduced 34.9%, falling from 315 as at the end of March 2016, to 205 at the end of the 2016/17 financial year.

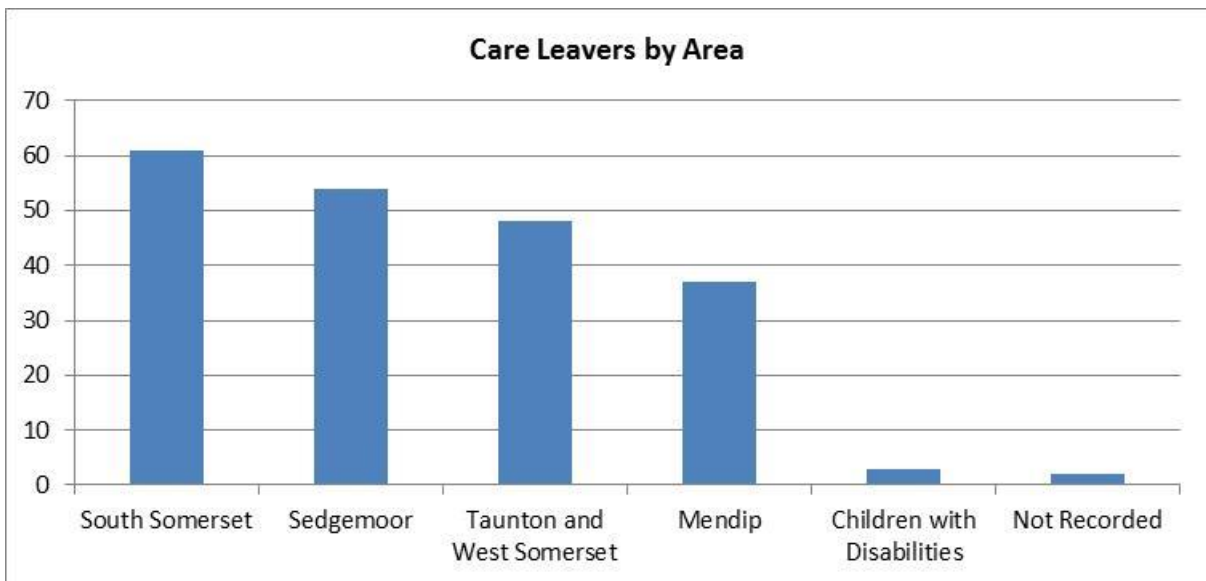


Table 58

29.8% (61/205) of care leavers are allocated to the South Somerset team, 26.3% (54/205) Sedgemoor, 23.4% (48/205) Taunton, Mendip 18.0% (37/205) and 1.5% (3/205) sit with the CWD Team.

### 7.3 Care Leavers In Touch

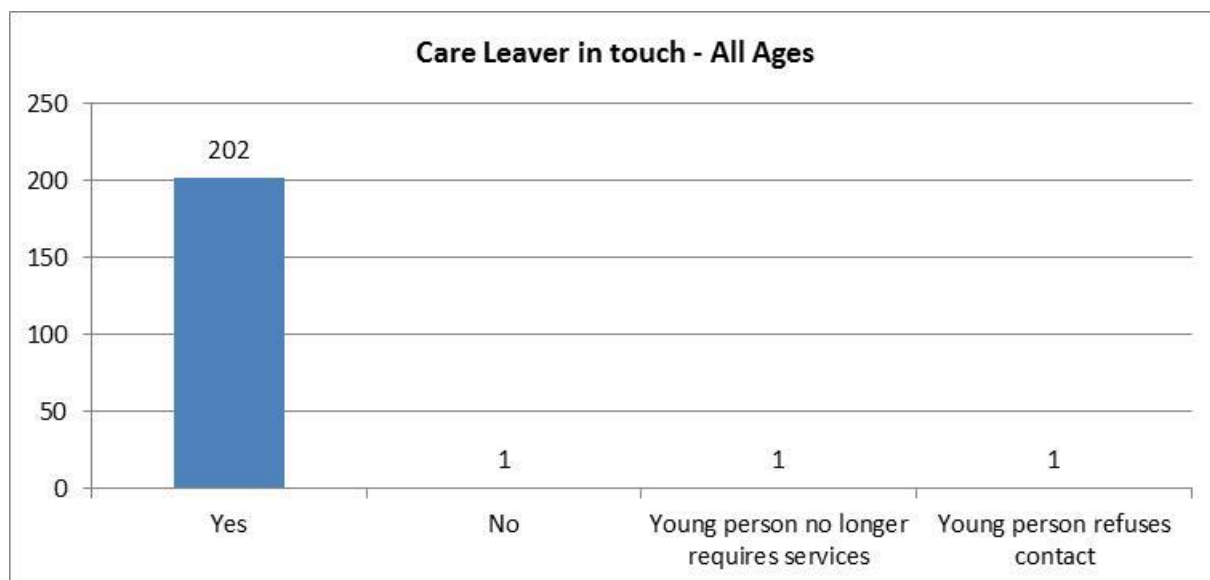


Table 59

Of the 205 care leavers at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, 98.5% (202/205) were in touch at a date three months prior to and one month after their birthday.

### 7.4 Care Leavers that are NEET

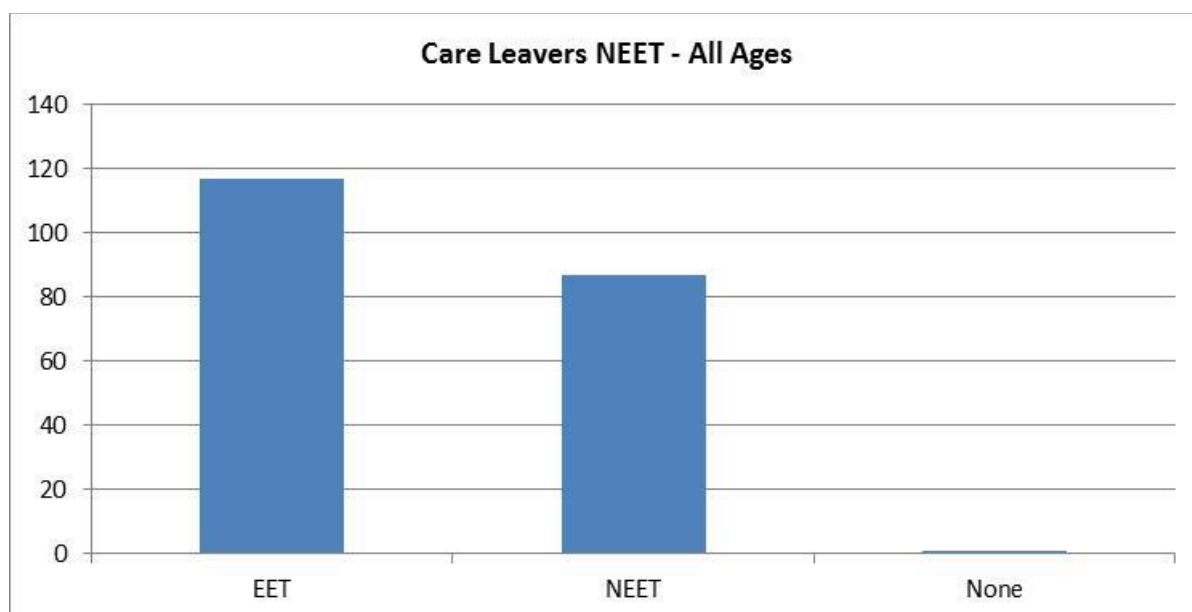
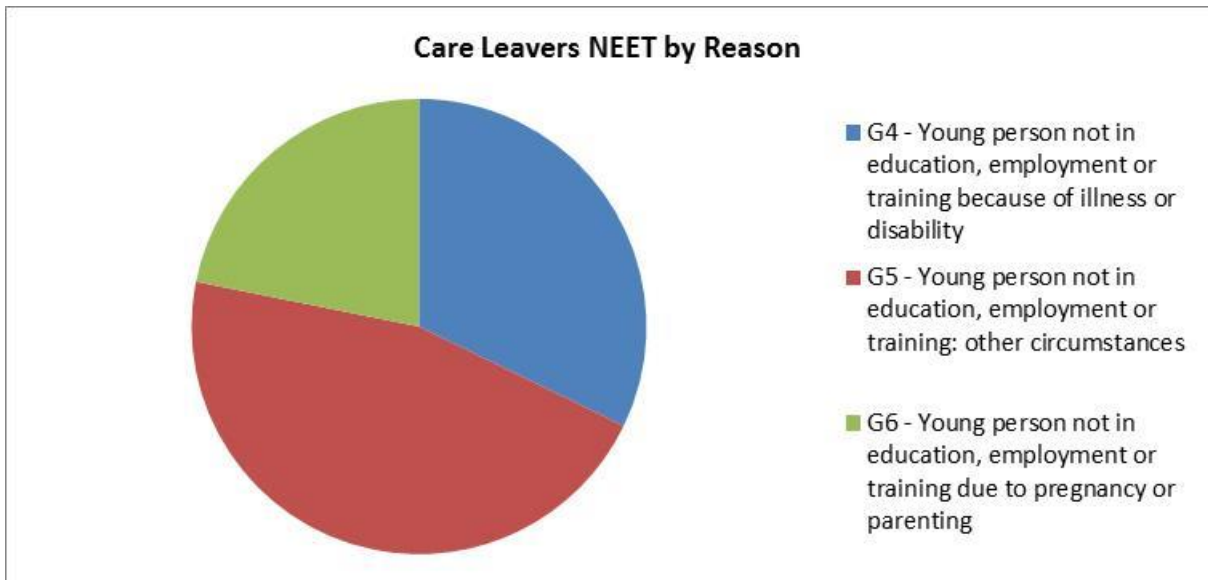


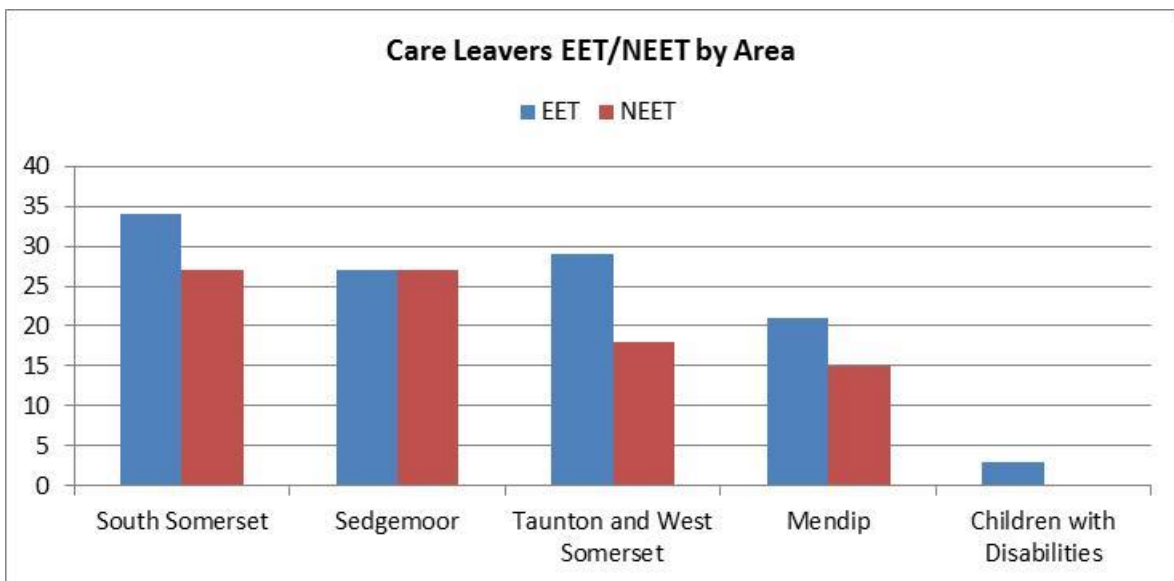
Table 60

At the end of March 2017, 42.4% (87/205) of Care Leavers were not in employment, education or training, lower than the 2016 figure of 50.5% (159/315).



**Table 61**

Of those care leavers who are NEET, 46.0% (40/87) are due to 'Other Circumstances', 32.2% (28/87) due to illness of disability and 21.8% (19/87) due to 'pregnancy or parenting'. Illness or disability has seen a 2 % increase on the previous year and pregnancy or parenting a 0.2 % reduction.



**Table 62**

50% (27/54) of Sedgemoor Care Leavers are NEET, 44.3% (27/61) for South Somerset, 41.7% (15/36) for Mendip and Taunton has the lowest at 38.3% (18/47).

Mendip is the only area not to see a reduction in the proportion of care leavers that are NEET, and this in fact rose, from 37.7% (20/53) last year, to 41.7% (15/36) in 2016/17.

Taunton has seen the proportion of care leavers NEET reduce by 14.7 %, South Somerset by 8.1 % and Sedgemoor by 4.6 %.

## 7.5 Care Leavers who are in Suitable Accommodation

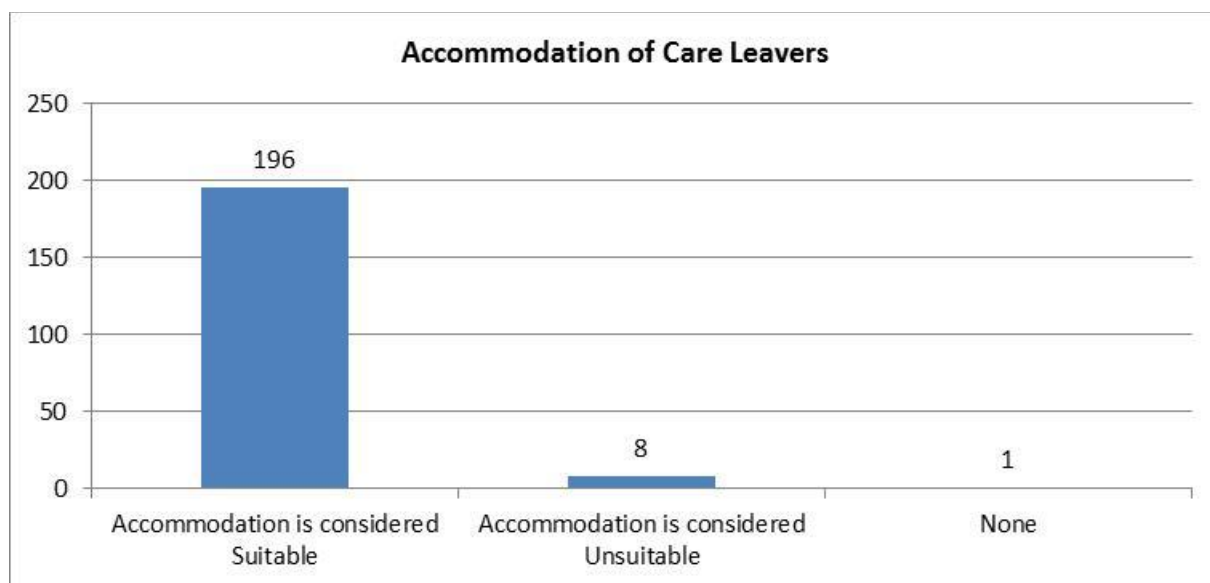


Table 63

95.6% (196/205) of care leavers were suitably accommodated at a date three months prior to and one month after their birthday as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. This is an improvement on the 2016 figure, where 91.1% (287/315) was reported.



Table 64

8 care leavers are considered to be unsuitably accommodated, 5 of whom are in Sedgemoor, 2 in South Somerset and 1 in Taunton.

## **Children and Young People's Plan 2016-19**

Lead Officer: Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director – Commissioning and Performance

Author: Fiona Phur, Partnership Business Manager – Children's Commissioning

Contact Details: [FZPhur@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:FZPhur@somerset.gov.uk); 01823 355259

Cabinet Member: Frances Nicholson, Lead Member for Children and Families

Division and Local Member: All

### **1. Summary**

**1.1.** Somerset County Council has developed a three year Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) commencing April 2016 setting out the actions we and our partners are taking to continue and sustain improvements in children's services. The plan follows a multi-agency approach, overseen by Somerset Children's Trust. Seven improvement programmes, managed by the relevant Board for each improvement area are in place, as follows:

1. Supporting children, families and communities to become more resilient
2. Promoting healthy outcomes and giving children the best start in life
3. Improving emotional health and wellbeing
4. Building skills for life
5. Providing help early and effectively
6. Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and developing an excellent children's social work service.
7. Embedding a 'Think Family' approach

**1.2.** Children and families are a key theme within the County Plan 2016-20, recognising the importance of providing the information and advice families need to help themselves and of focusing our help early and effectively when needed. The key priorities are to improve children's safeguarding services; to improve exam results, particularly for the most vulnerable pupils; and to improve children's health and wellbeing.

### **2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations**

**2.1.** The Children and Young People's Plan 2016-19 is the strategic plan for Somerset Children's Trust, providing the focus for partners' actions and investment and the means by which the Department for Education will measure our improvement. The plan is reported upon on a quarterly basis and we are now reporting upon the activity of the second quarter (July to September 2017) of Year 2 which provides a summary of activity and progress, supported by each of the 7 programmes' Highlight Reports. During this quarter the CYPP has been promoted through each Improvement Programme's delivery board, partnership meetings, The Journey newsletter, the Practitioner Champions Yammer group and other events within Children's Trust partners and their staff.

This meeting therefore provides an opportunity for members to comment on the progress at the end of the second quarter and to consider the actions set to progress the Plan through its second year. Attached are the Quarter 2 Executive Summary (appendix 1) from the Somerset Children's Trust Executive group,

and the 7 Highlight Reports from each of the 7 delivery groups (appendix 2).

### **3. Background**

- 3.1.** On 6 November 2015 Somerset County Council received a Direction Notice from the Secretary of State for Education requiring us to develop and implement by April 2016, a three year Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) which the Department for Education judge likely to be effective in furthering and sustaining improvement of children's social care functions. This plan is now implemented and reporting upon second year progress.
- 3.2.** The focus of the Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA) in 2016 was vulnerable children and young people and it has informed the priorities for inclusion in the CYPP.
- 3.3.** The seven improvement programme action plans are developed annually and monitored within the nominated delivery groups. The Partnership Business team supports the delivery groups and the SCT Executive and Board by attending meetings, developing task and finish functions for areas of concern and supporting data collection and report writing across all 7 programmes to ensure the impact of the CYPP is realised and evidenced.  
Quarter 2 of year 2 of the Children & Young People's Plan 2016 – 2019 (CYPP) reflects some actions completing ahead of target date and some slippages on key actions that are due to complete this quarter. Reporting this month has been against a background of senior staff changes and preparations for Children's Social Care and SEND Ofsted inspections. Notable achievements include improved transition progresses, progress with self-harm reduction, roll out of talent academies and some high quality social care training.  
Areas of slippage include delay in the work around improving the Local Offer, delays to accessing funding for perinatal mental health services and more work needed in partnership working, recruitment and retention.  
At the end of Quarter 2 the Improvement Programmes are all currently rated as being on track to meet their target dates by March 2018, and all show a status trend of Green.
- 3.4.** Some of the key activities from quarter 2 that will require challenge and support from Scrutiny members include:
  - Challenge whether the partnership is maturing as we approach the half way point of the CYPP
  - Support the development of Year 3 planning and beyond
  - The launch of the consultation on Family Support Services
  - Consider how to mitigate against slippages that might mean actions do not complete to achieve the required outcomes
  - Support the work in place to improve recruitment, retention and therefore lower children's social care caseloads
  - Lack of active participation of scrutiny member champions

### **4. Consultations undertaken**

- 4.1.** In developing the new CYPP, all those organisations and groups including under the duty to co-operate as stipulated in the Children Act 2004 were consulted, as well as children, young people and their parents and carers and other key



partners.

**4.2.** Consultation undertaken includes:

- Somerset UK Youth Parliament Advisory Group
- The Unstoppables (SEND)
- CAMHS Participation Group
- Somerset In Care and Leaving Care Councils
- Young Healthwatch
- Young Carers
- Somerset Parent Carer Forum

The voice of children, young people and their families is regularly captured through the Children Trust's Participation Network which supports its members to consult, listen and feedback their views. Further work is underway in Quarter 2 to widen the scope and to ensure the voice of children and young people truly influences our developments and activity by producing a Participation Toolkit for partners to use.

## **5. Implications**

- 5.1.** Financial: The CYPP has been implemented in a climate of continuing financial austerity for the public sector. The priorities outlined in the plan are to be met within the agreed budgets and staffing resources of SCC and its partners, taking into account anticipated reductions over the next three years.
- 5.2.** Equality & Diversity: Somerset Children's Trust seeks to deliver measurable improvements for all children and young people. This incorporates the need to tackle inequalities and narrow gaps, paying suitable regard to the 2010 Equality Act's General Duty.
- 5.3.** Legal: Local Children's Trust arrangements are underpinned by the 'duty to cooperate' (Section 10, Children Act 2004) and there are no plans to repeal this duty. The Children's Trust holds its individual members to account for delivering their agreed contributions to the shared plan, and has agreed to review progress against the Plan on a quarterly basis.

The Direction Notice referred to in para 3.1 above was issued under section 497A (4B) of the Education Act 1996.

## **6. Background papers**

- 6.1.** [\*Children and Young People's Plan 2016-19\*](#)

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

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## Somerset Children's Trust – Children & Young People's Plan (CYPP) Executive Summary

### *Progress as at: end September 2017*

#### **1. Overall**

This report gives an update on the period July to September 2017 (Quarter 2) of year 2 of the Children & Young People's Plan 2016 – 2019 (CYPP). There has been some good progress with significant pieces of work underway, some actions completing ahead of target date and some slippages. Reporting this month has been against a background of senior staff changes and preparations for Children's Social Care and SEND Ofsted inspections.

At this halfway point of the CYPP the executive is reflecting on the strength of the partnership to deliver the full 3 year plan. Based on the values and behaviours set out in the CYPP around the commitment of everyone who works with children, young people and families to achieve our seven improvement programmes, the children's trust delivery groups are self-evaluating partnership working against the areas of collaboration, commitment to ownership of actions, organisation and evidence of the voice of the child, young person and their families and carers in our work. The view is that we are still developing as a partnership and there is a need to see greater ownership of the plan, increased pace and greater aspiration for our children and young people.

The Partnership team is working more closely with the data management team and the team's skills and understanding is improving.

However there are still issues of partners missing reporting deadlines, and a lack of ownership of some actions.

Further work will be undertaken in Quarter 3 by individual boards and groups to consider what more needs to be done to promote better partnership working.

In order to prepare fully for year 3 SCT has agreed a partnership 1 day workshop in early 2018 that includes all SCT Executive members, improvement programme leads and action owners to produce the year 3 plan. This event would also start to consider forward planning the next CYPP from 2019 onwards.

#### **2. Achievements and Target dates were met on the following programmes:**

- Transition planning arrangements for children with long term conditions and illnesses moving to adult services has now been determined in the co-produced Choices for Life strategy; leading to an improved process and including the voice of the child.
- Work on self-harm reduction is underway with a task and finish group established.

- The roll out of the Talent Academies for the 14 – 16 vocational curriculum has commenced.
- The development of the new Family Support Service and proposals for the future of children's centre buildings is now out for consultation until December 2017.
- The Institute of Family Therapy Systemic leadership and supervision training is underway and masterclasses for social workers with leading academics now in place.
- The target date for sustaining Troubled Families has been met as this is now embedded in the getset service delivery and outcomes are monitored through the Families Outcomes Framework. Some progress has been made on the Think Family outcomes with a co-produced strategy now directing this work and continued collaboration with agencies involved in working with vulnerable families.

### **3. Slippage on Target Dates, reported Issues and Risks**

- Programme 1 reports slippage on redefining and improving the SEND local offer; the delay in target date is because a new web platform is being developed which is due to complete in Quarter 4.
- Submissions of bids to NHS England for specialist perinatal services has been postponed to November 2017.
- The Early Help Board has identified issues around partner engagement and understanding around the agreed processes and framework in place for Early Help; this is being addressed by establishing ongoing communications activity and utilising the EH data dashboard to identify organisations that need help in embedding early help.
- Programme 7 identifies the risk of insufficient collaboration on the Think Family work which means progress is slow, combined with not yet having a clear communications strategy for Think Family.
- Average caseloads for social workers have risen from 16.8 to 17.05 since last quarter.
- The report also highlights concerns around getset family support workers and social worker recruitment and retention.

### **4. The Executive should be aware of quarter 3 planned activity that will be reported on as follows:**

- The Early Help Board will be considering the feedback and final proposals from results of Family Support Services and Children's Centres consultation ending 1st Dec 2017.
- Programme 2 will be reporting on decisions to be made following public health consultation on the end of the Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Weight Management contract.
- Programme 3 will continue to develop data flows across services and complete Self-Harm Action Plan draft.
- The Clinical Commissioning Group will be undertaking a review of maternity and paediatric services.
- The Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB) will be monitoring Team Around the Schools who will be piloting the support to

pupils subject to multiple fixed term exclusions. Additionally they will implement revised arrangements for Schools Causing Concern Group and a complete review of funding and management arrangements for Parent Family Support Advisors (PFSA) for 2018/19 academic year, for Programme 4.

- The impact of Family Group Conferences to support children to remain in their families/communities will be evaluated.
- The Workforce Board will be completing the Think Family Strategy for wider partnership discussion and developing a business case to consider implementation of the Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG) approved Whole Family Working training for Programme 7.


**Decisions Required:**

- That the SCT Executive notes the progress for all 7 programmes at the end of year 2 quarter 2.
- That the SCT Executive approves the proposal for a partnership workshop in early 2018 to prepare for year 3 action plans, assess the health of the children's trust partnership and start to consider preparation for the next CYPP.

**1. Programme 1 – Supporting children, families and communities to be more resilient**


**Delivery Group : Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board**

**Delivery Group Interim Chair :Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning & Performance, SCC**

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	The majority of actions are due for completion in March 2018 and have reported sufficient progress towards their targets to be able to state a status trend of GREEN. However, it should be noted that actions personal budgets, a Charter Mark for Inclusive Communities and a plan to strengthen advocacy for parents are still in an embryonic position. An improved web platform is being developed for the SEND Local Offer. The West Somerset Opportunity Area Action Plan was published in late Autumn 2017 and this will support the priority for children, families and communities to be empowered with the tools, skills and information to help themselves; however, the long term outcomes of this programme will not be fully		



evident by the end of next year.  
 At this halfway point of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) the Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board is well established and meeting monthly in order to cope with the demands of this programme and programme 5. However, it requires more ownership of the programme and a motivation to continue to drive the early help agenda in members own organisations. The Board has talked about the partnership understanding of early help and is developing a stronger communication strategy for practitioners to be confident in their use of the process, the framework and the Tools to do the Job.  
 As this Board also holds responsibility for Priority 5 of the SEND intervention work, membership was reviewed in May 2017 and additional agencies are now represented through the Board.

**2. Programme 2 – Promoting Healthy Outcomes and giving children the best start in life**  
**Delivery Group: Children & Young People Health & Wellbeing Group**  
**Delivery Group Chair: Alison Bell, Consultant in Public Health**

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b>	
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**Reason for current status:** There have been some positive achievements in Quarter 2 especially the launch of the public consultation on Family Support Services and Children's Centres; evidence of the positive impact of a systems approach to parenting; the co-produced Choices for Life strategy and several successful further training programmes - perinatal and infant mental health pathway and breastfeeding volunteers; and a further decline in women smoking at the point of delivery. There was little slippage against the plan this quarter – a delay in the timeline for bids to NHS England's specialist perinatal services funding; and therefore, progress can be shown as a status trend of GREEN.

**3. Programme 3 – Improving Emotional Health & Wellbeing**  
**Delivery Group: Commissioning Group for Children & Young People's Mental Health, Emotional and Psychological Wellbeing**  
**Delivery Group Chair: Deborah Howard – Head of Joint Commissioning, CCG**

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	This programme shows a status trend of GREEN as there have been some successes against target, notably the Schools Health and Resilience Education (SHARE) service is now implemented; there is increased training and support available for parents; the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) participation is operating well, work around self-harm reduction is now underway following the establishment of a Self-Harm Reduction Task and Finish Group. Some slippages have occurred – no central data dashboard yet established and the new psychologists for the Emotional Health and Wellbeing team are not yet in post.		
<b>4. Programme 4 – Building Skills for Life</b> <b>Delivery Group: Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)</b> <b>Delivery Group Interim Chair: Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, SCC</b>			
<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	This programme shows a status trend of GREEN due to the following reasons: Provisional outcomes suggest that at KS1 and KS2 outcomes in Somerset schools have improved but this is mirrored nationally; for KS1 Somerset's performance is slightly above the national average but is slightly below at KS2 and revised assessment arrangements at KS4 mean it is not possible to compare performance against previous years and national data is not yet published. The report on the impact of 2016/17 funded activities in schools not yet reported to SEPB and the revised priorities and activities for Programme 4 not yet agreed by SEPB. Finally, progress on the service level agreement (SLA) with Support Services for Education (SSE) for High Needs Budget funded activities is delayed.		

<b>5. Programme 5 – Providing help early and effectively</b> <b>Delivery Group: Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board</b> <b>Delivery Group Interim Chair: Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning &amp; Performance, SCC</b>			
<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	<p>Quarter 2 shows no slippage on the programme and some early completions. Currently, progress against actions due to complete in March 2018 show sufficient activity to rate the status trend as GREEN.</p> <p>The Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board which delivers this programme is meeting regularly and with a newly revised membership that can support some of the challenges around the development of a new Family Support Service model and how we identify and support children and young people with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) earlier.</p> <p>Although the Board is maturing, ownership of their programme and the motivation to drive the early help agenda in individual organisations has not progressed fast enough. A key current issue is around embedding Early Help processes across all agencies, shown by the recent increase of inappropriate contact and re-referrals to social care.</p> <p>The Board has therefore identified the need for more effective and ongoing communication of the Early Help process and framework and has considered options around a webpage to signpost all the Early help support available.</p>		
<b>6. Programme 6 - Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and developing an excellent children's social work service</b> <b>Delivery Group: Children's Social Care/Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board</b> <b>Delivery Group Chair: Claire Winter, Deputy Director Children and Families / Sally Halls, Independent Chair of the Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board</b>			



<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	Most areas of the plan are in progress but not yet completed, as target dates not yet been reached. Sufficiency of care placements continues to be a major concern due to a sustained crisis in the availability of care placements nationally. The main achievements of this programme this quarter are around the implementation of quality training, a new children's emergency duty service is now in place and a new rapid response adolescent service has been developed ready for implementation in Quarter 4. Progress on joint work with the Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board has led to the ratification of the Neglect Strategy, the launch of the Unborn Baby Protocol and the re-launched Missing Children protocol this quarter. The highlighted risk for this programme continues to be the difficulty in recruiting sufficient social workers to work effectively and meet children's needs.		
<b>7. Programme 7 - Embedding a Think Family Approach across the Workforce</b> <b>Delivery Group: Workforce Board</b> <b>Delivery Group Chair: Chris Squire, Director of HR, SCC</b>			
<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	There is continued focus on engaging partners in the Think Family concept. There have been some difficulties in engaging with the police in relation to the emerging Think Family theme. Two more Task and Finish Group meetings are planned in order to co-produce a final draft of the Think Family Strategy. This will be launched in early 2018. This quarter showed a focused effort on increasing the establishment of permanent social workers.		

**Somerset's Children and Young People's Plan 2016-2019**

**Seven Improvement Programmes Key Risks for 2017/18**

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<b>CYPP Programmes</b>	<b>Key Risks</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
<b>1. Supporting children, families and communities to become more resilient</b>	<b>Risk that the Somerset partners will not be able to keep pace with the improvement activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns regarding Police capacity to manage workflow and respond to joint enquiries in a timely manner</li> <li>Refer-on culture deeply embedded amongst Somerset services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SCC Senior Leaders providing leadership (&amp; support) across the partnership and driving the agenda.</li> <li>Increased culture of multi-agency collaboration and critical friend challenge at Strategic levels</li> <li>Progress is reported through the Safeguarding Board and Children's Trust.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Promoting healthy outcomes and giving children the best start in life</b>	<b>Pressures in the NHS could lead to a lack of capacity / focus to improve the outcomes for vulnerable children</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity of CCG to Commission Children's Services</li> <li>Health capacity for children looked after and their carers</li> <li>Reduced capacity within prevention and early intervention programmes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased awareness by CCG of need to focus resource on children's services</li> <li>Concerns and progress are being reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board</li> <li>Exploring increased specialist medical capacity through the Regional Adoption Agency initiative</li> </ul>
<b>3. Improving emotional</b>	<b>Risk that the 'CAMHS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delays in recruiting to key</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corporate Parenting Board taking</li> </ul>

CYPP Programmes	Key Risks	Impact	Mitigation
<b>health and wellbeing</b>	<b>transformation plan' does not deliver sufficient transformation to ensure early help and preventative activities are prioritised for all vulnerable groups in particular children looked after</b>	NHS posts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited NHS partnership with Schools</li> </ul>	leadership in monitoring progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior leaders engaging with CCG Commissioners and providers to progress developments and monitor performance</li> <li>Concerns and progress are being reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board</li> <li>LA match resourcing support to develop a specialist team for children looked after.</li> <li>Multi-Agency Complex Cases Protocol</li> <li>Implementation of new support to schools by Somerset Partnership commissioned by CCG</li> </ul>
<b>4. Building skills for life</b>	<b>Risk that Schools do not improve the outcomes for vulnerable groups – children look after, special educational needs and children in receipt of pupil premium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools achieving well overall in outcomes / inspection judgements despite overall poor outcomes for vulnerable pupils</li> <li>Excellent local practice by some schools not shared by others because of weak partnerships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LA leading the education strategic vision is giving priority to schools to focus on school improvement &amp; pupil outcomes and not structural redesign</li> <li>Investment by the LA in Somerset Education Partnerships to provide 'critical friend' support to all head teachers</li> <li>Challenging school providers in relation to pupil outcomes</li> <li>Strengthening the role and capacity of the Virtual School Head</li> <li>Roll out of the Team around the School model to encourage multi-agency support to schools where they are best placed to meet child's needs, in particular vulnerable</li> </ul>

CYPP Programmes	Key Risks	Impact	Mitigation
<b>5. Providing help early and effectively</b>	<b>Risk that the Somerset partners will not be able to keep pace with the improvement activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer-on culture deeply embedded amongst Somerset services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>groups</li> <li>West Somerset Opportunity Area</li> <li>SCC Senior Leaders providing leadership (&amp; support) across the partnership and driving the agenda</li> <li>Increased culture of multi-agency collaboration and critical friend challenge at Strategic levels</li> <li>Progress is reported through the Safeguarding Board and Children's Trust</li> <li>Development of multi-agency tools which aid collaboration and joint working including a collaboration platform to enable better quality sharing of information in a secure way, and the simplification of Early Help processes to aid engagement and ownership</li> </ul>
<b>6. Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and developing an excellent children's social work service</b>	<b>Risk that improvements will not be sustained and consistency of social work practice will remain a cause for concern</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recent increase in demand and difficulties of recruitment led to dip in morale</li> <li>Inconsistent practice amongst staff</li> <li>Permanent staff not always clear about 'good' practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managers taking action to control work flow</li> <li>QPRM monthly meetings</li> <li>Case Audits</li> <li>Briefing events led by senior leaders on the journey travelled</li> <li>Showcasing good practice</li> </ul>
<b>7. Embedding a think family approach across the</b>	<b>Risk that permanent social work vacancies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level of locums in some teams is too high</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan in place to achieve 75% permanent staffing</li> </ul>

CYPP Programmes	Key Risks	Impact	Mitigation
<p><b>workforce (year one focus is on developing the permanent social care workforce)</b></p>	<p><b>are not filled at fast enough pace and an over reliance on recruitment of ASYEs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seasonal difficulties in recruiting experienced locums</li> <li>• Neighbouring LA responding to their own difficulties with higher social work salaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASYE support by designated Consultant Social Work posts</li> <li>• Focused recruitment activity for Experienced Social Workers</li> <li>• Increasingly mature response by managers in terms of balancing pressures and maintaining quality</li> <li>• Clarity provided to multi-agency workforce of desired values and behaviours necessary to deliver the plan</li> <li>• Using the IR35 changes as an opportunity to convert locums to permanent staff</li> <li>• Looking after our own events focussed on resilience of the workforce</li> </ul>

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## CYPP - Improvement Programme 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*

<b>Programme:</b>	<b>1 Supporting children, families and communities to be more resilient</b>		
<b>Delivery Group:</b>	Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board	<b>Year:</b>	2017/18
<b>Delivery Group Chair:</b>	Interim: Philippa Granthier – Assistant Director, Commissioning & Performance	<b>Report Date:</b>	16/10/2017
<b>Scrutiny Committee Champion:</b>	Cllr. Josh Williams		

### 1. Overall Improvement Programme Status

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b> <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	<p>The majority of actions are due for completion in March 2018 and have reported sufficient progress towards their targets to be able to state this programme is amber and currently on course to meet targets. However, it should be noted that actions around personal budgets, a Charter Mark for Inclusive Communities and a plan to strengthen advocacy for parents are still in an embryonic position.</p> <p>At this halfway point of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) the Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board is well established and meeting monthly in order to cope with the demands of this programme and programme 5. However, its progress requires more ownership of the programme and a motivation to drive the early help agenda in members own organisations. The Board has talked about the partnership understanding of early help and is developing a stronger communication strategy for practitioners to be confident in their use of the process, the framework and the Tools to do the Job.</p> <p>As this Board also holds responsibility for Priority 5 of the SEND priority work, membership was reviewed in May 2017 and additional agencies are now represented through the Board.</p> <p>The West Somerset Opportunity Area Action Plan is due to be published in Autumn 2017 and this will support the priority for children, families and communities to be empowered with the tools, skills and information to help themselves; however, the long term outcomes of this programme may not be</p>		

fully evident by the end of next year.

## 2. Progress since last Highlight report

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

### Achievements:

- Four work streams established for the West Somerset Opportunity Area and awaiting alignment to the imminent Department for Education (DfE) High level plan.
- The work around the improved Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) local offer has received results of a recent survey of all schools and Further Education (FE) colleges in Somerset, in collaboration with the Parent/Carer Forum. Results reveal that there is an average 27% improvement in their SEND offer regarding a SEN Information Report, a SEN policy, accessibility plan and link to the Somerset Choices Local Offer web pages. The most significant improvements being in the production of an Accessibility plan and links from school to Somerset Choices Local Offer.
- The mapping activity around partnership Early Help resources with a major focus on emotional health and wellbeing which took place in Qtr 1 has now completed with information collated and shared with the Strategic Commissioning Group for Children & Young People's Mental Health, Emotional and Psychological Wellbeing and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to further identify needs and support through deep dive analysis. Will now be monitoring number of Early Help Assessments (EHAs) open where primary need is emotional health and wellbeing (EH&WB) and number of EHAs closed with EH&WB needs met and available from quarter 3.
- The finalised Parent & Carer toolkit [www.cypsomersehealth.org](http://www.cypsomersehealth.org) is now being disseminated to Early Years settings, schools, getset, school nursing, Parent Family Support Advisers, health visiting teams and parent FaceBook page. A focus group has been developed to evaluate the information.
- The Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) is now able to annually record on savings made in each district following information and advice given on the helpline. In 2015/16 a total fuel saving for vulnerable families of over £117K was made in Somerset.
- Case study to show the impact of Programme 1 attached:





P1 Short Breaks  
Case Study.docx






### Slippage (give reasons and remedial actions)






- The work on redefining and improving the SEND local offer, due to complete in Sept 17, has been delayed due to a new platform being developed with an expectation of completion by Jan 2018 (as per SEND priority 4 Participation)
- Health reports following Summer SEND roadshows have not been received to evidence service user's feedback on quality of health provision
- The work to commence a Charter Mark for Inclusive Communities has been delayed due to a vacancy in the SEND Commissioning post, but due to start in early 2018 once staff in place.






<b>3. Actions and outputs for the next period:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will be promoting opportunities for new trustees onto early years and school governance bodies during National Trustee Week 13<sup>th</sup> November.</li> <li>Monitoring number of EHAs opened where primary need is EH&amp;WB and number of EHAs closed with EH&amp;WB needs met</li> <li>VCSE representative to join the Early Help Board; recruitment underway</li> <li>A draft Statement of Intent for parents of children with SEND that explains how all three policies (health, education and care) supports personal budgets is awaiting sign off in October.</li> <li></li> </ul>
<b>4. Most significant current risk/s:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no mechanism in place to robustly receive feedback from children, young people and their families on the quality of their health services – the recent results from the POET (Personal Outcomes Evaluation Tool) around Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) are too small to be reliable. The Somerset Parent Carer Forum is reviewing how to capture this information.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Most significant current issue/s:</b>
<i>nil return</i>
<b>6. Variances:</b>
<i>nil return</i>
<b>7. Decisions required from Somerset Children's Trust:</b>
<i>nil return</i>

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
<b>1. Provide information, advice, tools for families to help themselves</b>			
Number of visits to Somerset Choices Website		39,177 (R12 months ending September 17)	33,025 Sessions (R12 months ending June 2017) 
Number of providers/services listed on Somerset Choices Website		1170 providers 106 services (September 2017)	1199 providers 88 services (June 2017) 
Infant mortality	Annual England average 3.9 (2013-2015)	4.2 deaths per 1000 live births (70 infants) (2013-2015)	4.2 deaths per 1000 live births (70 infants) (2012-2014)

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel (delete as appropriate)
			
Chlamydia detection rate	Annual National Target = 1,900	1,815 per 100,000 (1,056 people) 2016	1,532 per 100,000 (904 people) 2015 
Teenage pregnancy rates	England Average = 20.8 per 1,000	17.1 per 1,000 2015	17.2 per 1,000 females aged under 18 (169 conceptions) (2014) 
Take up of personal budgets for children with disabilities		214 [as at month 6]	not previously reported
<b>2. Supporting parents in their role</b>			
Number of Parents attending and completing targeted parenting programme		390 year to date	not previously reported
<b>3. Supporting Communities in the third sector</b>			
Increased number of employment and training opportunities for vulnerable groups e.g. leaving care.		9 young people have taken up work experience, traineeships and apprenticeships. (September 2017)	Not previously reported
% of children in west Somerset achieving a GLD at the end of the EYFS stage		65% (2016/17)	56.9% (2015/16) 
KS 2 attainment in west Somerset compared to national average - % pupils reaching the		West Somerset 49.8% England 61% 2016/17	West Somerset 47.2% England 53% 2015/16 

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel (delete as appropriate)
<b>expected standard in reading, writing and maths</b>			
KS4 attainment in west Somerset compared to national average		West Somerset 43.0% England 39.1% 2016/17 graded 5 or better at GCSE in both English and Maths (2017):	West Somerset 57.0% England 59.3% 2015/16 graded C or better at GCSE in both English and Maths 
Level of participation in west Somerset 16-18 year olds		90.1% (September 2017)	90.5% as at 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2017 
Number of volunteers recruited in SCC	Getset = 82 Leaving Care = 10 Short Breaks = 10 Young Carers = 24	Getset = 37 Leaving care = 2 Short breaks = 3 Young carers = 14 SEND Untouchables = 1 September 2017	Getset = 29 Leaving care = 1 Short breaks = 1 Young carers = 14 SEND Untouchables = 1 June 2017 
Volunteer satisfaction rate		100% of volunteers say they are happy in their current role (36 volunteers surveyed during 2016/17)	100% of volunteers said they are happy in their current role (36 volunteers responded since April 2016 to June 2017) 
Number of VCS organisations engaged with VCSE forum		Around 35 different organisations represented 90% rating forum 7 or higher out of 10 in terms of successfully improving cross-sector relationships 95% rating forum 7 of higher as an effective means for the VCSE to	around 35 different organisations are represented 

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
		increase involvement in county-wide strategic issues	
<b>KEY</b>			
Shows improvement 	Stayed the same 	Has deteriorated 	


## CYPP - Improvement Programme 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*

<b>Programme:</b>	<b>2 Promoting healthy outcomes and giving children the best start in life</b>		
<b>Delivery Group:</b>	Children & Young People Health & Wellbeing Group	<b>Year:</b>	2017/18
<b>Delivery Group Chair:</b>	Alison Bell, Consultant in Public Health, Somerset County Council	<b>Report Date:</b>	29/09/2017
<b>Scrutiny Committee Champion:</b>	Mrs Eileen Tipper		

### 1. Overall Improvement Programme Status

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b> <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	Work progressing according to the action plan – not yet seeing impact of actions on outcomes		

### 2. Progress since last Highlight Report

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

#### Achievements:

- Launch of the public consultation on development of the family support service
- Since May 2017, 200 professionals trained on perinatal and infant mental health pathway. 4 new Better Births posts in maternity with a focus on perinatal and infant mental health
- Continued decline in the proportion of women smoking at the time of delivery (now 13.2%)
- Breastfeeding volunteer champion training has been completed in all Somerset districts. There are 37 trained champions across the county. The recruitment drive from the world breastfeeding week and campaign has secured further applicants. All volunteer champions are registered at Somerset You Can Do - a process to ensure the volunteers are being utilised efficiently includes recommending other volunteer opportunities to those with greater availability i.e. getset volunteer opportunities. The scheme is working really effectively in Mendip
- Case studies to show the impact of a systems approach to providing parenting support

attached:



Case Study Prog 2 -  
Parent support EC - '

- Choices for life strategy co-produced which is a document to lay out how we will prepare children for adulthood

### Slippage (give reasons and remedial actions)

- Timeline for submissions of bids to NHS England for specialist perinatal services has been moved back to November 2017

### 3. Actions and outputs for the next period:

- Q3 get sign up to plan for actions on addressing speech and language delay from early years providers and schools and then implement during Q4
- Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) undertaking review of maternity and paediatric services – which will result in recommendations that will be consulted on
- The Public Health contract for Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Weight Management with Somerset Partnership (Zing Somerset) is coming to an end at the end of December 2017. To inform the new approach Somerset County Council undertook a consultation on a proposed model that focuses on healthy eating and physical activity advice. A lot of feedback focused on the absence of weight management support to severely obese children (Tier 3 services). This issue has been raised in the past by primary and secondary care clinicians. The pathway and support available remains unclear and falls outside the remit of Public Health. The healthy eating and physical activity support model from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 will be an offer to the whole population to inform, enable and support all families to lead healthier lives according to their needs. It will not provide the intensive multi-disciplinary support that more complex obese requires – this information has been fed into the CCG review.

### 4. Most significant current risk/s:

- Getting whole system action to improve the health and well-being of children and young people

### 5. Most significant current issue/s:








*nil return*

### 6. Variances:




*nil return*

### 7. Decisions required from Somerset Children's Trust:

*nil return*

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel (delete as appropriate)
<b>(A) Deliver The Healthy Child Programme (0-19 years) consisting of integrated pathways across maternity, health visiting, school nursing, children's centres, early years settings and schools</b>			
Children aged 5 years with one or more decayed missing or filled teeth	24.8%	23.1% 2014/15	
New birth visits conducted by Health Visitor by day 14	90%	85%	75% 
Perinatal & infant mental health – indicator in development	To be developed		
<b>(B) Improve breastfeeding uptake and develop peer support programmes in areas of deprivation</b>			
Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks	England average 43.2%	46.4% (Q1)	44% Q4 (2016/17) 
<b>(C) Ensure all children and young people and their families have access to health promoting information and activity</b>			
Children in reception classified as very overweight	9.3%	8.4%	
Children in year 6 classified as very overweight	19.8%	15.3%	
Percentage of new mothers smoking at the time of delivery	10.6%	13.2%	12.9% Q4 
Hospital admissions of 0-14 year olds following injury	104.2/10,000 (2015/16)	120.6 per 10,000 1078 children (2015/16)	

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
<b>(D) Identify and work with children and young people engaged in multiple risky behaviours and engage them in meaningful activity to boost self esteem</b>			
Percentage of schools engaging in health and wellbeing survey	To be developed	Next survey to be undertaken in 2018	57 Infant and Primary schools and 26 Secondary schools and FE's
Percentage of schools undertaking an intervention to improve the health and wellbeing of their children – based on survey findings	To be developed	Next survey to be undertake in 2018	Not previously reported
Chlamydia detection rate among 15-24 year olds	National Target 1,900/100,000	1,815 per 10,000 1,056 people (2016)	1,523 per 100,000 904 people (2015)
<b>E) Improve health and well-being outcomes for children and young people with Special Education Needs &amp; Disabilities</b>			
Number of young people at year 9 identified as requiring support through transition	To be developed by Choices for Life Panel and reported in due course		
Number of young people allocated to Adult Social Care from 16	To be developed by Choices for Life Panel and reported in due course		
Percentage of young people successfully transitioning to adult services at the appropriate time	To be developed by Choices for Life Panel and reported in due course		

<b>KEY</b>		
Shows improvement 	Stayed the same 	Has deteriorated 




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<b>Programme:</b>	<b>3 Improving Emotional Health and Wellbeing</b>		
<b>Delivery Group:</b>	Commissioning Group for Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional and Psychological Wellbeing	<b>Year:</b>	2017/18
<b>Delivery Group Chair:</b>	Deborah Howard - Head of Joint Commissioning (Mental Health and Learning Disabilities) Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group	<b>Report Date:</b>	04/10/17
<b>Scrutiny Committee Champion:</b>	Cllr. Ann Bown		

### 1. Overall Improvement Programme Status

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b> <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	Some actions changed from amber to green but still a majority of actions in progress		

### 2. Progress since last Highlight report

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

#### Achievements:





- Schools Health and Resilience Education (SHARE) service now implemented
- Increased training and support available for parents
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) participation operating well, including CAMHS Participation Group members being on the panel for all interviews for CAMHS posts
- Work around self-harm reduction now underway following the establishment of a Self-Harm Reduction Task and Finish Group

#### Slippage (give reasons and remedial actions)

- Central data dashboard not yet established.
- Psychologists recruited to the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Team have not yet commenced in post

<b>3. Actions and outputs for the next period:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to develop data flows across services</li> <li>Complete Self-Harm Action Plan draft</li> <li>Update on local Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health Services to be published on CCG website</li> </ul>
<b>4. Most significant current risk/s:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work being carried out by health, education, social care and other sectors such as the voluntary sector needs to be joined up and carried out in partnership otherwise there is a risk of duplication or gaps in overall provision which could prevent children and young people's outcomes being met</li> </ul>
<b>5. Most significant current issue/s:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment issues continue to leave some gaps in the system however these gaps have significantly reduced over the past year and are currently not reported as significantly impacting on overall service delivery</li> <li>Quality and quantity of data being shared for children and young people mental health and emotional wellbeing services across the system needs to be improved</li> </ul>
<b>6. Variances:</b>
<i>nil return</i>
<b>7. Decisions required from Somerset Children's Trust:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To note progress and next period's actions.</li> </ul>

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Number of Mental Health First Aid courses	All secondary schools	2 schools providing training- 32 staff trained	↑
Numbers trained through Emotion Coaching	Increase	300	↑
Unique hits on parent information pages on Public Health CYP website	Increase	603	↑
Number of referrals into CAMHS Single Point of Access	Increase	Q1- 731 Q2 (July and August only)- 437	↑
Referral to assessment times for CAMHS routine referrals	95% assessed within 8 weeks	83%	Newly reported

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Referral to treatment times for CAMHS routine referrals	95% starting treatment within 18 weeks	99.4%	Newly reported
Referral to treatment times for CAMHS emergency referrals	95% seen within 24 hours	100%	
Referral to treatment times for CAMHS urgent referrals	95% seen within 7 days	100%	
Number of young people registered with Kooth online counselling	No maximum	166	
Number of young people receiving online counselling through Kooth	100 hours of counselling to be delivered/ month (can include repeat sessions for same young person)	46	
Number of 'requests for support' made to Phoenix service (Child Sexual Abuse support service)	NA	Q1- 82	New service and measure
Number of consultations provided by Phoenix service to professionals	NA	Q1- 6	New service and measure

#### KEY

Shows improvement



Stayed the same



Has deteriorated



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## CYPP - Improvement Programme Highlight Report

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<b>Programme:</b>	<b>4 Building Skills for Life</b>		
<b>Delivery Group:</b>	Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)	<b>Year:</b>	2017/18
<b>Delivery Group Chair:</b>	Interim lead: Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council	<b>Report Date:</b>	12/10/2017
<b>Scrutiny Committee Champion:</b>	Cllr. Martin Dimery & Cllr Mike Pullin		

### 1. Overall Improvement Programme Status

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b> <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisional outcomes suggest that at Key Stage 1 (KS1) and Key Stage 2 (KS2) outcomes in Somerset schools have improved but this is mirrored nationally. For KS1 Somerset's performance is slightly above the national average but is slightly below at KS2.</li> <li>Revised assessment arrangements at KS4 mean it is not possible to compare performance against previous years and national data is not yet published</li> <li>Report on impact of 2016/17 funded activities in schools not yet reported to Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)</li> <li>Revised priorities and activities for Programme 4 not yet agreed by SEPB</li> <li>Progress on Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Support Services for Education (SSE) for High Needs Budget funded activities delayed</li> </ul>		

## 2. Progress since last Highlight report

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

### Achievements:

- Team Around the School (TAS) Development Plan 17/18 agreed by TAS Steering Group and SEPB
- Revised categorisation of schools undertaken using a wider range of data to assess risk and determine support required
- Revised Somerset Education Partner programme agreed and implemented
- Progress being made to address issues identified through the Gloucester Peer Review of SEND provision in the area
- Collaborative Improvement Bids agreed for 2017/18 projects
- Choices for Life Strategy agreed
- Education Business Partnership application passed through first stage
- Talent Academies to meet demand for 14 – 16 vocational curriculum being rolled out

### Slippage (give reasons and remedial actions)

- Revised priorities and activities for Programme 4 not yet agreed by SEPB as detailed national data on outcomes wasn't available – being considered on the 14 November
- Assessment of impact of last year's Collaborative Improvement Bids (CIB) not yet reported to SEPB for same reason as above – being considered on the 14 November
- SLA for High Needs Funded services delivered by SSE not yet complete due to delays in announcement of future funding arrangements – will be completed by the end of the calendar year







## 3. Actions and outputs for the next period:








- Pilot approach to utilising TAS to support pupils subject to multiple fixed term exclusions and build requirement for TAS referral in to process for referral to Panel for Excluded and Vulnerable Pupils
- Agree revised priorities and activities for Priority 4 at SEPB on 14 November 2017
- Implement revised arrangements for Schools Causing Concern Group to separate out brokering of support from high level monitoring of progress of schools causing significant concern
- Report on impact of 16/17 Collaborative Improvement Bid (CIB) funded activities to November SEPB
- Complete review of funding and management arrangements for PFSAs for implementation in 18/19 academic year

## 4. Most significant current risk/s:

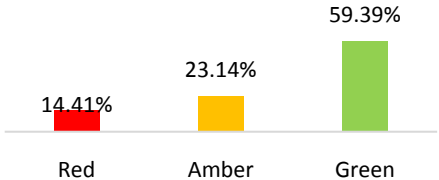
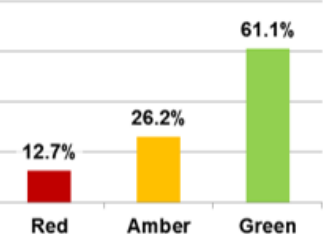






- Provisional KS 2 outcomes indicate that Somerset pupil's performance is below national average and the attainment gap is not closing



<b>5. Most significant current issue/s:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns regarding recruitment for teachers in shortage subjects in secondary schools and impact on outcomes – actions will be proposed in revised priorities</li> <li>Continued increase in exclusions in 17/18 academic year with disproportionate effect on vulnerable groups</li> </ul>
<b>6. Variances:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delays in reporting to SEPB on 16/17 Collaborative Improvement Bid (CIB) impact and revised priorities and actions for Building Skills for Life</li> </ul>
<b>7. Decisions required from Somerset Children's Trust:</b>
<i>nil return</i>




Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Percentage of schools that are an academy/percentage of pupils that attend an academy		34.3% are academies/ 51.1% of pupils are in academies	32.4% / 49% May 17 
Percentage of Primary schools that are academies/Percentage of pupils that attend a primary academy		26.9% of primary schools are academies/ 32.3% of pupils are in a primary academy (September 2017)	24.7% / 28.7% May 17 
Percentage of Secondary schools that are academies/Percentage of pupils that attend a secondary academy		75% of secondary schools are academies/ 75.6% of pupils are in a secondary academy (September 2017)	75% / 75.6% May 17 
Percentage of early years settings (including childminders) that are judged as good or outstanding		95.2% (September 2017)	94.5% May 17   
LA risk analysis of early year's settings, including child minders		10 settings being supported of which: 4 are red 3 are amber 3 are yellow (September 2017)	13 settings being supported of which: 4 are red 6 are amber 3 are yellow June 17

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Increase number of childcare settings to offer the Early Education Entitlement for 2-4 year olds to ensure that all eligible children are able to access quality education and childcare		100% (September 2017)	100% June 2017 
Percent of 3 and 4 year old children benefitting from funded early education, in a good or outstanding provider	94.6% Stat neighbour average 2016/17	95% (16/17 Jan census)	85% (15/16 Jan census) 
Percent of 2 year old children benefitting from funded early education in a good or outstanding provider	96.9% Stat neighbour average 2016/17	95% (16/17 Jan census)	84% (15/16 Jan census) 
Percentage of primary schools judged as good or outstanding	90.5% of primary schools in the South West	90.24% (September 2017)	89.96% (June 2017) 
Percentage of Secondary schools judged good or outstanding	80.2% of secondary schools in the South West	78.38% (September 2017)	78.38% (June 2017) 
Percentage of pupils attending good or outstanding primary schools	90.3% in the South West	88.44% (September 2017)	87.16% (June 2017) 
Percentage of pupils attending good or outstanding secondary schools	84.7% in the South West	82.08% (September 2017)	82.08% (June 2017) 



Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>																
LA risk analysis of primary schools		<p style="text-align: center;">Primary Schools</p>  <table border="1"> <tr><th>Risk Level</th><th>Percentage</th></tr> <tr><td>Red</td><td>14.41%</td></tr> <tr><td>Amber</td><td>23.14%</td></tr> <tr><td>Green</td><td>59.39%</td></tr> </table>	Risk Level	Percentage	Red	14.41%	Amber	23.14%	Green	59.39%	<p style="text-align: center;">Primary Schools</p>  <table border="1"> <tr><th>Risk Level</th><th>Percentage</th></tr> <tr><td>Red</td><td>12.7%</td></tr> <tr><td>Amber</td><td>26.2%</td></tr> <tr><td>Green</td><td>61.1%</td></tr> </table>	Risk Level	Percentage	Red	12.7%	Amber	26.2%	Green	61.1%
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Green	59.39%																		
Risk Level	Percentage																		
Red	12.7%																		
Amber	26.2%																		
Green	61.1%																		
LA risk analysis of secondary schools		Awaiting re-assessment																	
LA risk analysis of special schools		Awaiting re-assessment																	
Persistent Absence rates in Primary Schools	7.63% Stat Neighbour average 2016	10.7% September 2017	8.1% 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 																
Persistent Absence in Secondary schools	13.36% Stat Neighbour average 2016	12.9% September 2017	14.5% 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 																
Percentage of 16-18 year old NEETs re-engaging in education, employment or training		0.1% September 2017	3.2% June 2017 																
Percentage of EHCPs completed within 20 weeks	52.07% Stat Neighbour average (excluding exceptions) 2016	69% YTD September 2017	54% YTD May 2017 																
Percentage of PEPS that are current		84.5% September 2017	88.13% 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 																
Percentage of children at or above the expected standard in reading, writing and maths combined at KS2	51.2% Stat Neighbour 2015/16	58.9% (provisional) 2017	52% 2016 																

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Percentage of CLA achieving at or above the expected standard in reading, writing and maths combined at KS2	21.5% Stat Neighbour 2015/16	23% (provisional) 2017	18% 2016 
Percentage of disadvantaged learners (CLA and FSM) achieving at or above the expected standard in reading, writing and maths in KS2	34% Stat Neighbour 2015/16	37% (provisional) 2017	36% 2016 
Percentage of children achieving 5 GCSEs A* to C grade including English and maths	58.03% Stat Neighbour 2015/16	This measure is no longer available. Replaced by attainment 8 average score 45.5 (provisional) 2017	not comparable
Percentage of CLA achieving a [standard] pass in English and maths	21.58% Stat Neighbour 2014/15	5.9% [provisional 2017]	Not comparable, new assessment
Percentage of disadvantaged learners achieving a [standard] pass in English and Maths	33.68% Stat Neighbour 2014/15	39.3% [provisional 2017]	Not comparable, new assessment

KEY		
Shows improvement 	Stayed the same 	Has deteriorated 


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

<b>Programme:</b>	<b>5 Providing help early and effectively</b>		
<b>Delivery Group:</b>	Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board	<b>Year:</b>	2017/18
<b>Delivery Group Chair:</b>	Interim: Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance	<b>Report Date:</b>	24/10/17
<b>Scrutiny Committee Champion:</b>	Cllr. Jane Lock		

### 1. Overall Improvement Programme Status

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b> <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	Quarter 2 shows no slippage on the programme and some early completions. The Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board which delivers this programme is meeting regularly and with a newly revised membership that can support some of the challenges around the development of a new Family Support Service model and how we identify and support children and young people with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) earlier. Although the Board is maturing, ownership of their programme and the motivation to drive the early help agenda in individual organisations has not progressed fast enough. A key current issue is around embedding Early Help processes across all agencies, shown by the recent increase of inappropriate contact and re-referrals to social care. The Board has therefore identified the need for more effective and ongoing communication of the Early Help process and framework and has considered options around a webpage to signpost all the Early help support available.		

### 2. Progress since last Highlight Report

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

### **Achievements:**

- The public consultation on Family Support Services and Children's Centres was launched in Oct and completes 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2017
- A multi-agency Young People's Strategy Steering Group has been established for the development of the Young People's Strategy with Stage 1 to be completed in December 2017
- The Family Outcomes Framework is now completed and embedded into ways of working
- Discussions are ongoing with Liquid Logic on extension of Early Help Case management system
- Work to align Capita Identification numbers and LCS in order to increase joint working between schools and Early help Services to ensure support for children with SEND within their communities
- 1913 professionals have now registered with Professional Choices which continues to be promoted at multi-agency events
- Four multi-agency SEND conferences ran across the county in October 2017 in Somerset to ensure practitioners understand our SEND offer and processes
- The Early Help Area Advisory Boards (EH AAB) are actively engaging with the Early Help Board and will be locally consulting in order to feed in to the Family Support Services and Children's Centres Consultations. The Sedgemoor EH AAB recently held a poverty and debt workshop for practitioners
- A Young Carers action plan has been produced for Children Services Scrutiny in order to better identify and support young carers in Somerset
- The recently approved Neglect Strategy will now be used to underpin a Practitioners Guidance and will be launched at the November Neglect Conference. Additionally, the Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board is prioritising child neglect in its annual work programme

### **Slippage (give reasons and remedial actions)**

- None reported in Quarter 2

### **3. Actions and outputs for the next period:**

- Decisions made following results of Family Support Services and Children's Centres consultation, ending 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2017
- Approve stage 1 of the Young People's Strategy developments at January 2018 Early Help Board
- A Neglect Conference will be held in November to launch the Neglect Strategy
- Greater analysis of the Early Help Dashboard is needed to understand outcomes at closure and early identification of children with SEND
- Developing better Early Help communications across the partnership including a letter from the Early Help Board, inclusion in newsletters and social media and promotion at events

### **4. Most significant current risk/s:**

*nil return*

### **5. Most significant current issue/s:**



- Practitioners' adherence across the partnership to the agreed Early Help processes and framework is not yet consistent and the Board is now addressing this






## 6. Variances:


*nil return*




## 7. Decisions required from Somerset Children's Trust:

- That the Executive approves the progress to date and makes recommendations towards future progress and meeting outcomes

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
<b>1. Strengthen early help support for known vulnerable groups</b>			
% of Early Help workforce that feels confident in the identification of need for vulnerable groups		81% of people reported evidence of changing working practices (knowledge/attitudes/understanding) 2016/17 Percentage of people responding to the post training survey	Not previously reported
% of Early Help workforce that feel confident in assessing the risk of poor outcomes and therefore meeting the needs identified for vulnerable groups (where they are best placed to do so)		81% of people reported evidence of changing working practices (knowledge/attitudes/understanding) 2016/17 Percentage of people responding to the post training survey	Not previously reported
<b>2. Improve quality and consistency of support for families</b>			
Inappropriate contacts to social care (No Further Action Contacts)		16% last 3 months ending 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	9.7% last 3 months ending 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 
Re-referrals to social care (rate per 10,000 population)		104.87 rate per 10,000 rolling 12 months ending September 2017	97.39 rate per 10,000 rolling 12 months June 2017 

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Calls to consultation helpline		177 last 3 months ending September 2017	225 last 3 months ending June 2017 
Number of Virtual Meeting Rooms set up increases each month (from Sept 16 onwards)		189 active in the week ending 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2017	188 active in the week ending 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2017 
Number of practitioners listed in the directory		1170 providers, 106 services (September 2017)	1199 providers, 88 services on the Somerset Choices website (June 2017) 
Number of Troubled Families achieving positive outcomes		336 families successfully claimed for in the Troubled Families Programme with an additional 506 claims in progress (September 2017)	The number of families successfully claimed for in the Troubled Families Programme is 274 (June 2017) 
Length of time of open cases <i>Length of Early Help Assessment episode.</i>		1-7 days = 40 2-4 weeks = 92 1-3 months = 389 4-6 months = 423 7-12 months = 316 1-2 years = 44 Open cases last 3 months ending September 2017	Not comparable - change of source
Percentage of re-referrals to social care	21.07% Stat Neighbour Average 2016	22% rolling 12 months September 2017	21.2% rolling 12 months June 2017 

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
School attendance rates	96.01% Primary Stat neighbour 2016 94.71% Secondary Stat neighbour 2016	96.7% Primary school 95.4% Secondary school 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	95.8% Primary Attendance 94.3% secondary attendance 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 
Overall number of EHA's received		1171 contacts to getset in the last 3 months ending September 2017	Not comparable – change of source
Number of EHA open episodes		1304 cases open at the 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	Not comparable – change of source
Overall number of EHAs closed		887 episodes have closed over the last 3 months ending September 2017	Not comparable – change of source

KEY		
Shows improvement 	Stayed the same 	Has deteriorated 

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## CYPP - Improvement Programme 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.*

<b>Programme:</b>	<b>6 Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and developing an excellent children's social work service</b>		
<b>Delivery Group:</b>	Children's Social Care / Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board	<b>Year:</b>	2017/18
<b>Delivery Group Chair:</b>	Claire Winter, Deputy Director Children and Families / Sally Halls, Independent Chair of the Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board	<b>Report Date:</b>	28/10/2017
<b>Scrutiny Committee Champion:</b>	Cllr. Leigh Redman		

### 1. Overall Improvement Programme Status

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b> <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	Most areas of the plan are in progress but not yet completed, as the agreed end date has not yet been reached. Red status continues to be in place in relation to ensuring sufficient care placements locally for children in our care due to a sustained crisis in the availability of care placements nationally. While progress can be made in developing the market this outcome is unlikely to be fully met by April 2018.		

### 2. Progress since last Highlight report

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

#### Achievements:

##### a) Training

- Institute of Family Therapy Systemic Leadership and supervision training is underway with cohort one due to complete in January 2018.
- Masterclasses with leading academics and practitioners are now in place



Masterclass  
Flyer.pdf



masterclass  
Biography.docx

- b) A new children's emergency duty service is now in place.
- c) Staffs have been recruited to the out of hours rapid response adolescent service, which will go live in January 2018.
- d) Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB)
  - Neglect strategy ratified at July 2017 Board
  - Unborn baby protocol completed and launched July 2017
  - Missing Children protocol reviewed, revised and relaunched July 2017

#### Slippage:

Average caseloads continue to rise. (currently 17.05 average), This is a result of a 20% increased referral rate over the last 18 months and the difficulties in recruiting both locum and permanent staff, meaning that existing staff caseloads rise and some vacancies are unfilled. In mitigation:

- Invest to save funding has been agreed to recruit 4 aspiring team managers and up to 16 further ASYEs across the county over the next 12 months, to reduce pressures and grow the permanent workforce more quickly.
- A tier 3 community adolescent team is also being developed, to be piloted in the Taunton and West Somerset area from January 2018. This team will reduce the need for social care intervention by providing intensive family support where adolescents are on the edge of care, using an early help model.

### 3. Actions and outputs for the next period:

1. Review of Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) QA Framework
2. Evaluate impact of Family Group Conference Service in supporting children to remain in their family/ community
3. SSCB audit of effectiveness of early help approaches including Early Help Assessment and team around the school approach.

### 4. Most significant current risk/s:

- Continued difficulty in recruiting sufficient permanent and locum social workers to work effectively with children and their families may stall the improvement journey.
- Insufficient foster placements locally both in house and with external providers locally means children are being placed inappropriately at some distance from Somerset and in residential settings. Where children are inappropriately placed they can become more distressed and placements break down. This cycle often leads to more complex behaviours and rising charges from providers who offer to care for these children, causing greater pressure on Council budgets.

### 5. Most significant current issue/s:

- Difficulty recruiting sufficient permanent and locum social workers to work effectively and meet children's needs.

- Insufficient children looked after placements of appropriate type and in the Somerset area to meet children's needs.


## 6. Variances:

Revised timescales are noted in:



- Review of social care services for children with disabilities (2.i) – moved to a start date of January 2018 due to competing commissioning priorities.
- Review of the effectiveness of the Emergency Duty Service (2.v) - moved to February 2018 start date due to extended consultation and pilot period which resulted in new model being implemented in full on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017.
- (2.ii) – Area based quarterly conferences have been replaced with a series of 8 county wide masterclasses, led by external experts.




## 7. Decisions required from Somerset Children's Trust:



To note the risks and issues in 4 and 5, re-enforcing the need for the Partnership to work together to address the mental and emotional health needs of our children looked after.




Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
<b>1. Developing a confident social work workforce</b>			
Number of Social Work workforce that are permanent		167.3 FTE (August 2017)	Not comparable – change of source
Percentage of agency workers within the current social work workforce	25%	22% of FTE (52.53/238.74) August 2017	Not comparable – change of source
Average Caseloads		Average caseloads across all teams = 17.05 (September 2017)	Average caseloads across all teams = 16.8 June 2017 
<b>2. Delivering excellence in social work practice</b>			
Number of area based conferences run per quarter		Now South West Master Classes and as such no specific data is available [this metric will be removed from future reporting]	

<b>Outcome measure/Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Current performance</b>	<b>Direction of travel</b> <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Audit of casework evidences improved and more consistent social work practice county wide		20% of cases were good or outstanding (January 2017)	Not previously reported
Percentage of staff observations completed each quarter (by each service area)		42.3% Q2	Not previously reported
Annual supervision audit identifies impact of practice observation on professional development		95% (32/34) of records showed staff development was addressed 68% (25/34) of records had all 4 domains covered indicating appropriate range to strengthen SW practice October 2016	Not previously reported
Percent of case papers submitted to legal department which require no amendment		In Development. Available November 2017	Not previously reported
Percent of cases where social work recommendation is final court outcome		30 cases concluded with the social work recommendation 1 case had no recommendation 2 cases where proceedings withdrawn	Not previously reported

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
<b>3. Supporting families to care for their children</b>			
The percent of Family Group Conferences completed each quarter that result in children remaining safely in their family network		25 Completed FGC's  Of those 25 cases completed, at time of FGC plan: 1 young person was to return from Local Authority placement to home. 2 cases prevented Local Authority placement being sourced. 14 cases identified kinship carers if necessary in the future 0 FGC's resulted in the plan being to remove any child/young person into Local Authority care	N/A no previous data held, will be updated in next report
Percentage of children looked after who are aged 12 and above.		59.36% (295/497) 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	56.63% (286/505) 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 
The percent of Early Help Assessments where effective change is the outcome increases for the 12 plus age group		In Development. Available November 2017	
<b>4. Strengthen quality safeguarding across all agencies</b>			
Number of schools using Team Around the School approach increases		230/254 (September 2017)	132/ 254 (June 2017) 
Percent of Early Help Assessment outcomes that are successful increases		In Development. Available November 2017	

<b>Outcome measure/Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Current performance</b>	<b>Direction of travel</b> <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Number of open Early Help Assessments where neglect is a factor		In Development. Available November 2017	
The percent of children who receive a return home interview	50%	62.2% (426/685) YTD September 2017	67.4% YTD June 2017 
The percent of missing children interviewed within 72 hours of returning home		45.7% September 2017	Not previously reported
Number and effectiveness of Police Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) disruption activities		In Development. Available November 2017	
<b>5. Embed good corporate parenting</b>			
Reduction in Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) care leavers		38.1% (90/236) September 2017	39.4% (84/213) June 2017 
Number of work experience opportunities taken up by care leavers		3 young people (includes traineeships)	Not previously reported
Number of apprenticeships taken up by care leavers		6 young people	Not previously reported
Percent of Somerset children looked after who are placed within Somerset	66.4% (15/16 SN average)	71.43% (355/497) 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	72.87% (368/505) 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Percent of children looked after placed more than 20 miles from home and outside Somerset geographically	15%	19.4% (97/500) September 2017	19.8% (99/499) June 2017 
<b>6. Achieving permanence for children in care and care leavers</b>			
Percent of children looked after that have been looked after for 4+ months where a permanence plan is recorded	95%	93.08% September 2017	94.42% June 2017 

<b>KEY</b>		
Shows improvement 	Stayed the same 	Has deteriorated 

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## CYPP - Improvement Programme 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*

<b>Programme:</b>	<b>7 Embedding a Think Family Approach across the Workforce</b>		
<b>Delivery Group:</b>	Workforce Board	<b>Year:</b>	2017/18
<b>Delivery Group Chair:</b>	Chris Squire, Director of HR, Somerset County Council	<b>Report Date:</b>	06/10/2017
<b>Scrutiny Committee Champion:</b>	Cllr. Nigel Taylor		

### 1. Overall Improvement Programme Status

<b>Current Status:</b>	This Programme is currently rated as being on track to meet target dates for all actions by March 2018	<b>Status Trend:</b> <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>	
<b>Reason for current status:</b>	There is continued focus on engaging partners in the Think Family concept. There have been some difficulties in engaging with the police in relation to the emerging Think Family theme. Two more Task and Finish Group meetings are planned in order to co-produce a final draft of the Think Family Strategy. This will be launched in early 2018. This quarter showed a focused effort on increasing the establishment of permanent social workers.		

### 2. Progress since last Highlight Report

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

#### Achievements:

- Focused effort on increasing the establishment of permanent social workers in particular working towards recruiting additional ASYEs with a view to growing our own
- Think Family Task and Finish Group is continuing with a draft Think Family Strategy being co-produced. Continued collaboration with other agencies involved in working with vulnerable families

#### Slippage:

- Difficulties with engaging the appropriate level of officer within Avon and Somerset Constabulary that has prevented strategic conversations around aligning the police Think

Family programme (centred on anti-social behaviour) from the more strategic direction of the Think Family partnership.

- Difficulties with reaching target numbers of permanent experienced social workers due to national shortage

### 3. Actions and outputs for the next period:

- Completion of Think Family Strategy. Progression of actions coming from Think Family Task and Finish Groups by January 2018.
- Develop Business case for Whole Family Working training for front line staff and managers by end of December 2017. To be piloted in Children's Services in the following year. The Whole Family Working training has been endorsed by the DCLG and is available at no cost to Somerset. We will need to identify a trainer to deliver the training.
- Aspiring Team Manager Programme available to create career pathways for internal staff and enable us to recruit up to 16 additional ASYE posts.
- Systemic Leadership and Systemic Supervision Programmes are underway and have a Think Family focus. Feedback and learning to be tracked.

### 4. Most significant current risk/s:

- Time taken to develop a genuine collaborative approach to Think Family
- Communications Plan not yet developed and will need to ensure that it is sufficiently robust to be applicable across the partnerships
- If recruitment and retention are not sustained this will negatively impact the improvement journey

### 5. Most significant current issue/s:








- Engagement from partners
- Social Worker/Getset recruitment and retention concerns



### 6. Variances:




- Although progress has been slow and the postponement of the October task and finish group has slowed momentum, there is confidence that we will meet the action deadlines by early 2018

### 7. Decisions required from Somerset Children's Trust:

- Ownership of the Think Family Agenda

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
Recruit 30 Assisted & Supported Year in Employments (ASYE) to Fieldwork Teams in 2017/18	30	15 placed and 17 in the pipeline to be placed	
Aim to provide 35-50 student placements at levels 2 and 3 in 2017/18	Conversion of 60% of students to ASYE	19 student placements  10 cohort 5 Step Up Students starting January 18  14 Open University SW degree students commencing this month  75% of cohort 4 Step Up now on ASYE	
75% permanent workforce in 2017/18	75%	67.8% (all SW qualified roles)	
Average caseload of 14	14	16.47	
12% staff turnover target	12%	11.34% (all SW qualified roles)	
Vulnerable young people and families are more emotionally resilient and capable of resolving problems including being directly involved in helping themselves and encouraged to help others through volunteering or peer mentoring		Significant number of resources provided to this group and support coordinated across the service.	
Number of young carers of	All identified in target	Targeted work with 47	

Outcome measure/Performance Indicators	Target	Current performance	Direction of travel <i>(delete as appropriate)</i>
parents with mental health problems and drug and alcohol problems have access to advice and support and know how to call for help when needed	group	individuals identified to date	
Troubled Families data warehouse identifies vulnerable families (Tableau) to ensure data sets align to identify vulnerable groups		This has been rolled out to external partners through Professional Choices.	
All professionals and staff who work with adults and children and young people understand the concept of 'think family' and are alert to the effects of adult behaviours on children and young people and know how to take action to respond appropriately	Think Family Strategy in place and implemented	Think Family Strategy in co-production.	

<b>KEY</b>		
Shows improvement 	Stayed the same 	Has deteriorated 

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 1: Supporting children, families and communities to be more resilient
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board
<b>Chair:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council

Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
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**(A) Empower children, families and communities by enabling them to have the tools, skills and information they need to help themselves and that allows them to manage the common challenges of family life within their families and communities**

i	Produce and publish a West Somerset Opportunity Area (WSOA) plan to address the social mobility issues of West Somerset	Julia Ridge - Strategic Manager, Early Years & Schools Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	For Children in West Somerset: % of children achieving good levels of development at end of Early Years foundation stage % of children reaching the expected standard at key stage one % of young people achieving level 2 and 3 qualifications at 16 years old Number of young people accessing a broader more accessible learning offer and progressing to university Number of young people who are prepared for work and take up apprenticeships	<b>Families and communities are thriving and resilient and support each other</b>
ii	Define and improve the SEND local offer by raising the profile of Somerset provision to meet children and young peoples holistic needs for the duration of their childhood	Sharon Longden - Interim Strategic Manager for SEND, Somerset County Council	Sep-17	Customer feedback on ease of use - add a % figure Recommendations from external reviews and Surveys i.e. Personal Outcomes Evaluation Tool (POET) More children with SEND placed in Somerset schools and colleges	<b>Young people and families are in control and know where to access help and advice to manage their own health, learning and wellbeing</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 1: Supporting children, families and communities to be more resilient
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board
<b>Chair:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council

	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
iii	Map partnership early help resources with a major focus on emotional health and wellbeing	Fiona Abbey - Commissioning / Programme Manager for Children & Young People's Mental Health & Wellbeing Services, Clinical Commissioning Group	Sep-17	Number of Early Help Assessment's open where the primary need is emotional health and wellbeing Number of Early Help Assessment's ended where emotional health and wellbeing needs have been met	<b>Ensure children and their families have access to information, advice and support</b>
iv	Publicise Parenting Offer	Fiona Moir - Health Promotion Manager, Children's Health, Public Health	Jun-17	100% of parenting offer is included and accessible on the Local Offer	<b>Ensure children and their families have access to information, advice and support</b>
v	Define a partnership approach to personalisation and agree a Personalisation Strategy	Philippa Granthier - Assistant Director, Commissioning & Performance, Somerset County Council Sharon Longden - Interim Strategic Manager for SEND, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Baseline number of personalisation packages for young people Number of personal budgets available for families, children & young people with SEND	<b>Young people and families are in control and know where to access help and advice to manage their own health, learning and wellbeing</b>
<b>(B) Empower parents to have the confidence, knowledge and skills to undertake their parenting responsibilities</b>					

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 1: Supporting children, families and communities to be more resilient
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board
<b>Chair:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council

	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
i	Increase number of volunteers working within Somerset County Council through 'You Can Do'	Chris Philips - Service Manager, Community Development, Customers & Communities, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Increase in number of volunteers Volunteer satisfaction rates  Current end of contract targets - getset (82), Leaving care (10), Short Breaks (10), Young Carers (24)  Annual feedback survey of voluntary sector organisations engaged in Voluntary and Community Sector Enterprise (VCSE) Strategic Forum  KPI's from original contract - Transport - Support for families - Support for schools	<b>Families and communities are thriving and resilient and support each other</b>
ii	Promote across Somerset volunteering opportunities, including peer support groups, that support local people and local communities				
iii	Utilise and cascade to partners national public health campaigns and the resources available e.g. Change 4 Life, Sugar Smart Campaign, Snack Swappers, 10 Minute Shake Up, Be Food Smart.	Louise Woolway - Public Health Consultant, Public Health	Mar-18	Public Health statistics	<b>Young people and families are in control and know where to access help and advice to manage their own health and wellbeing</b>
iv	Promote inclusion in communities through developing a Charter Mark that supports aspiration and achievements of vulnerable groups e.g. Children With Disabilities (CWD)	Julian Wooster - Director of Children's Services, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Charter mark created Numbers of organisations and groups achieving charter mark status	<b>Families and communities are thriving and resilient and support each other</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 1: Supporting children, families and communities to be more resilient
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board
<b>Chair:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council



	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
v	Develop a plan to strengthen and promote advocacy for parents to be able to support their children and challenge services. (Pilot in West Somerset)	Julia Ridge - Strategic Manager, Early Years & Schools Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number of parents accessing advocacy	<b>Parents / carers are in control and know where to access help and advice to manage their children's health, learning and wellbeing</b>
vi	Receive feedback from service users with SEND on the quality of their health services to ensure they receive appropriate support.	Sharon Longden - Interim Strategic Manager for SEND, Somerset County Council	Sep-17	Reported satisfaction rates with health services	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives.</b>
<b>(C) Work with communities to improve housing standards and reduce fuel poverty.</b>					
i	Continue to work with Strategic Housing to develop a plan to reduce the level of fuel poverty in Somerset with particular consideration of families in crisis - homelessness and poor housing conditions	Dave Baxter, Strategic Housing, Sedgemoor District Council	Mar-18	% reduction in fuel poverty at 2014 (Sub-regional Fuel Poverty data, Office of National Statistics 2016) Taunton Deane 11.3% South Somerset 13% Mendip 12.4% Sedgemoor 12% West Somerset 14.5%	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives.</b>
ii	Continue to offer support for debt advice and access to benefits for families through both Somerset Choices and troubled families programme activity	Gill Bawler, Troubled Families Coordinator, Children's Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Numbers of families identified through Early Help Assessment with debt issues Number of families now able to manage debt and access benefits	<b>Families can manage debts and access the benefits they are entitled to</b>



## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 2: Promoting healthy outcomes and giving children the best start in life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Children & Young People's Health & Well Being Group
<b>Chair:</b>	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council



Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
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**(A) Deliver The Healthy Child Programme (0-19 years) consisting of integrated pathways across maternity, health visiting, school nursing, children's centres, early years settings and schools.**

i	Consultation and implementation of the new public health nursing service	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council  Rachael Parker, Public Health Specialist, Somerset County Council	Apr-18	Ante Natal Clinic = 910 New Born Visits = 97% 6-8 wks = 97% 12 mths = 91% 2.5 yrs = 81%  As per national measures  Number of children identified with SEND pre school	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives.</b>
ii	Implement the perinatal mental health care pathway for vulnerable mothers experiencing mental health problems	Rachael Parker, Public Health Specialist, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	These KPI's are under revision to align with recent developments and national performance measures:  Monitor no. of mothers pre and post natal identified as requiring structured emotional support  Number of mothers pre and post natal receiving support from specialist community mental health services  Number of mothers admitted to a specialist psychiatric unit without their baby  Number of mothers reporting a positive experience of mental health support during maternal period  Number of pregnant /postnatal women supported by IAPT (Improving Access to Psychological Therapies) service	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives.</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 2: Promoting healthy outcomes and giving children the best start in life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Children & Young People's Health & Well Being Group
<b>Chair:</b>	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council

	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
iii	Continue parenting support offer in Somerset with specific focus on attachment and parenting	Fiona Moir, Health Promotion Manager, Somerset County Council	Jun-17	Reduced exclusions Reduced number of children attending school out of area	<b>Young people and families are in control and know where to access help and advice to manage their own health and wellbeing</b>
iv	Improve transition planning to adult services for children with long term conditions and disabilities	Claire Merchant-Jones, Manager Transitions Services, Somerset County Council	Sep-17	Number of young people at year 9 identified as requiring support through transition Number of young people allocated to Adult Social Care from 16 Percentage of young people successfully transitioning to adult services at the appropriate time	<b>Young people and families are in control and know where to access help and advice to manage their own health and wellbeing</b>
<b>(B) Improve breastfeeding uptake and develop peer support programmes in areas of deprivation</b>					
i	Promote breastfeeding and peer support programmes in a further two areas of deprivation in 2017-18	Emily Hutt, Public Health Officer, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number of Somerset venues accredited as breastfeeding friendly. Number of lay supporters recruited.	<b>Health outcomes for children and young people growing up in areas of higher need are improved</b>
<b>(C) Ensure all children and young people and their families have access to health promoting information and activity</b>					
i	Evaluation of the impact of fitting child safety equipment inline with the Somerset Child Accident Prevention Strategy implementation	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	124.4 per 10,000 hospital admissions for accidental injuries Reduction in the number of 0-14 year olds following injury (2014/15) Public Health Outcomes Framework indicators	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 2: Promoting healthy outcomes and giving children the best start in life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Children & Young People's Health & Well Being Group
<b>Chair:</b>	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council



	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
ii	Improve identification of children aged under 5 years with speech and language delay and promote speech and language development universally	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Increase uptake of bookstart plus % of children aged 2-2.5 years achieving expected level of development within speech and language development on ASQ3 questionnaire (west Somerset ASQ3 scores)	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives</b>
iii	Continue to identify and support women to stop smoking during pregnancy through the Mums2Be programme	Stewart Brock, Public Health Specialist, Somerset County Council and Maternity Providers	Mar-18	% of mothers smoking at time of delivery 14.1% of new mothers smoke at time of delivery (2014/15) Public Health Outcomes Framework	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives</b>
<b>(D) Identify and work with children and young people engaged in multiple risky behaviours and engage them in meaningful activity to boost self esteem</b>					
i	Continue the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Programme, and relaunch the school health improvement award in all school and other education settings	Michelle Hawkes, Public Health Specialist, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Teenage conceptions - 22.2 under 18 years conceptions /1,000 females age 15-17 years, Q2 2015 Chlamydia detection rate - 1,395 / 100,000 15-24 year olds chlamydia detection rate (Jan-March 2016)	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives</b>
<b>(E) Improve the health and wellbeing of children looked after through access to timely health assessments which they can engage with, provide a health care plan and passport for care leavers, and provide information for SEND</b>					
i	Raise awareness with practitioners of the possible need for a SEND assessment and how to access this	Lydia Woodward, Service Development and Clinical Engagement Manager, Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group	Sep-17	Number of requests for assessment increases at earlier age	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives.</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 2: Promoting healthy outcomes and giving children the best start in life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Children & Young People's Health & Well Being Group
<b>Chair:</b>	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Alison Bell, Public Health Consultant, Somerset County Council



	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
ii	Improve early identification of children with SEND amongst all partners	Lydia Woodward, Service Development and Clinical Engagement Manager, Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group	Sep-17	Numbers of children identified via Early Help Assessment with SEND Numbers of children supported via MAISEY (Multi-Agency Identification and Support in the Early Years) meetings	<b>Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives.</b>
iii	Practitioners to contribute to Education, Health and Care Plans in a timely fashion with SMART outcomes	Leighton Philips, Designated Medical Officer, Taunton & Somerset NHS Foundation Trust	Sep-17	Number of Education Health and Care Plan's (EHCP) completed on time	

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 3: Improving emotional health and well being
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Strategic Commissioning Group for Children & Young People's Mental Health, Emotional & Psychological Wellbeing
<b>Chair:</b>	Deborah Howard - Head of Joint Commissioning (Mental Health and Learning Disabilities), Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Deborah Howard - Head of Joint Commissioning (Mental Health and Learning Disabilities), Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group



Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome measure
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### (A) Ensure all staff working with children and young people and their families are equipped with the knowledge and skills to promote good emotional health and wellbeing

i	Increase confidence and capability, ensuring that training and support for professionals working across universal services is in place (to include: parents, teachers, Emotion Coaching, Tuning into Kids, Mental Health First Aid Training)	Fiona Moir, Health Promotion Manager, Children's Health, Public Health	Mar-18	Number of Mental Health First Aid Courses Number of schools adopting a whole school approach to mental health Numbers trained through Emotion Coaching Number of teachers and parents trained through schools service (Schools Health and Resilience Education service) Reduced exclusions Reduced number of children attending school out of area	<p><b>More children and young people will have good emotional health and wellbeing and a reduction in mental health problems: young people will be emotionally resilient and equipped to manage their lives.</b></p> <p><b>Staff in universal settings are able to support and assist children and young people's emotional wellbeing</b></p>
ii	Ensure targeted mental health services are co-ordinated well between children, families and schools so that an effective, holistic response can be provided	Louise Palmer, Strategic Commissioner for Vulnerable Children and Young People, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	% of Team Around the School meetings supported by Primary Mental Health Link Workers	<b>Children and young people with emotional health and wellbeing and mental health needs are identified early and supported in community settings reducing the need for access to more specialist services</b>
iii	Provide support and education for parents to enable increased understanding and awareness of emotional and mental health issues along with strategies to support children and young people including access to tools and additional support where needed	Fiona Moir, Health Promotion Manager, Children's Health, Public Health  Fiona Abbey, Commissioning/ Programme Manager for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, CCG	Mar-18	Number of lessons provided for parents Number of children using resources to support transition to secondary school Measures on website unique hits on parent information pages reduced exclusions Reduced NEETS (SEND) Improved Education Outcomes Reduced scores in the Behaviour Vulnerability Tool	<b>More children and young people will have good emotional health and wellbeing and a reduction in mental health problems: young people will be emotionally resilient and equipped to manage their lives</b>

### (B) Ensure children and young people with acute mental health difficulties are cared for and supported within a safe environment as close to home as possible

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 3: Improving emotional health and well being
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Strategic Commissioning Group for Children & Young People's Mental Health, Emotional & Psychological Wellbeing
<b>Chair:</b>	Deborah Howard - Head of Joint Commissioning (Mental Health and Learning Disabilities), Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Deborah Howard - Head of Joint Commissioning (Mental Health and Learning Disabilities), Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group



Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome measure	
i	Ensure children and young people are cared for and supported within a safe environment appropriate to their needs and as close to home as possible	Fiona Abbey, Commissioning/ Programme Manager for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, CCG	Mar-18	Number of out of area mental health placements Number of children and young people on the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Enhanced Outreach Team caseload Number of children and young people supported by the mental health liaison nurses in the acute hospitals	<b>Children and young people with emotional health and wellbeing and mental health needs are identified early and supported in community settings reducing the need for access to more specialist services</b>
<b>(C) Ensure support is in place for parents and carers in caring for children and young people accessing Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)</b>					
i	Continue to develop the new Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) services and embed the new posts created in 2016-17 with integrated pathways to join services up	Fiona Abbey, Commissioning/ Programme Manager for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, CCG	Mar-18	Use identified new service data received by PMIT team Exception reporting for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Transformation services and projects Number of referrals into Single Point of Access (SPoA) Referral to Treatment times for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)	<b>More children and young people will have good emotional health and wellbeing and a reduction in mental health problems: young people will be emotionally resilient and equipped to manage their lives</b>
ii	To safely implement a new service for sexual abuse - ensuring that this service supports building of wider capability and capacity across the system	Louise Finnis, Health Promotion Manager - Mental Health, Public Health, Somerset County Council	Jun-17	No. of children supported (awaiting service commencement) No. of staff trained	<b>Support is personalised and empowering to individual needs, with timely access to treatments and interventions that work</b>
<b>(D) Provide access to early help and support for children and young people with emotional health and wellbeing concerns through locally commissioned services so that these are addressed early reducing reliance on specialist services and improving emotional health and wellbeing for children and young people</b>					
i	Support vulnerable groups via the provision of specialist advice, support and interventions including two new mental health professionals being placed in the Children Looked After Team and with a focus on those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	Claire Winter, Operations Director Children's Social Care, Somerset County Council	Jun-17	Increase average Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) score for emotional wellbeing of Children Looked After (CLA) Monitor number of Children Looked After (CLA) in Somerset in receipt of specialist mental health support	<b>Children looked after are enabled to become emotionally resilient, through provision of the appropriate level of advice, guidance and support that they individually require and make a positive transition to adult life</b>



## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 3: Improving emotional health and well being
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Strategic Commissioning Group for Children & Young People's Mental Health, Emotional & Psychological Wellbeing
<b>Chair:</b>	Deborah Howard - Head of Joint Commissioning (Mental Health and Learning Disabilities), Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Deborah Howard - Head of Joint Commissioning (Mental Health and Learning Disabilities), Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group

Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome measure	
ii	Ensure multi-agency involvement in the pathway review work led by Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and work in partnership to gain an understanding of crisis care needs and to prevent hospital admissions for mental health	Fiona Abbey, Commissioning/ Programme Manager for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, CCG	Mar-18	Number of mental health admissions to hospital Average length of stay for mental health admissions Emergency admissions	<b>Professionals working across mental health services have a better understanding of the wider pathway and are able to work collaboratively to prevent escalation of mental health issues</b>
iii	Increase access to, and quality of, counselling services for children and young people through school counselling and online services	Fiona Abbey, Commissioning/ Programme Manager for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, CCG  Deborah Howard, Head of Joint Commissioning, Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group	Mar-18	Number of schools providing counselling services Number of school counselling services meeting minimum standards Number of young people accessing Kooth online counselling services % of young people using Kooth who would recommend the service to a friend	<b>Children and young people with low level mental health needs are able to easily access therapeutic support appropriate to their level of need</b>
iv	Undertake an exercise to map resources and availability of services against need to inform future commissioning intentions, including considering the role of the voluntary sector	Strategic Commissioning Group	Oct-17	n/a	<b>Children and young people are able to access appropriate support to meet their needs through a comprehensive emotional health and wellbeing offer in Somerset</b>
v	Support the development of engagement/ participation groups and activities and ensure Children and Young People's views are used to inform commissioning and service delivery	Fiona Phur, Partnership Business Manager, Childrens Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number of Children and Young People engaging with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Participation Groups	<b>Children and young people feel involved with and able to influence decisions about their care</b>
<b>(E) Provide access to advice and guidance via CAMHS for all professionals working with children and young people, so that children and young people have the right support and structured environment to meet their emotional health and wellbeing needs and to prevent the development of serious mental illness</b>					
i	Create a data dashboard to collate data from a range of mental health services, across all tiers, to monitor use of services and their performance across the system	Fiona Abbey, Commissioning/ Programme Manager for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, CCG  Louise Palmer, Strategic Commissioner for Vulnerable Children and Young People, Somerset County Council  Alison Bell - Consultant in Public Health, Somerset County Council	Jul-17	Data to be included for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), getset, Educational Psychology, Primary Mental Health Link Workers, SCC/CCG funded voluntary sector services	<b>Assurance is gained that services are working in a joined up way to ensure support is available across the whole system</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 3: Improving emotional health and well being
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Strategic Commissioning Group for Children & Young People's Mental Health, Emotional & Psychological Wellbeing
<b>Chair:</b>	Deborah Howard - Head of Joint Commissioning (Mental Health and Learning Disabilities), Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Deborah Howard - Head of Joint Commissioning (Mental Health and Learning Disabilities), Somerset County Council & Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group



	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome measure
ii	Reduce levels of self-harm, by ensuring all professionals are equipped to identify signs of self-harm and provide advice and support	Louise Finnis, Health Promotion Manager - Mental Health, Public Health, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number of admissions to hospital for self-harm.	Children and young people with emotional health and wellbeing and mental health needs are identified early and supported in community settings reducing the need for access to more specialist services
iii	Embed the Community Eating Disorder Service for Children and Young People (CEDS-CYP)	Fiona Abbey, Commissioning/ Programme Manager for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, CCG	Mar-18	New Targets for access to Eating Disorder services to come in place for April 2017 Reduce Number of admissions for eating disorders Collect baseline data (awaiting service commencement)	Support is personalised and empowering to individual needs, with timely access to treatments and interventions that work
iv	Embed the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Single Point of Access (SPoA)	Fiona Abbey, Commissioning/ Programme Manager for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, CCG	Mar-18	Number of referrals Number of referrals accepted for assessment Sources of referral	Professionals working with children and young people are able to make straightforward and seamless referrals for specialist treatment for children and young people with poor mental health
v	Develop an Action Plan specifically to combat high levels of self harm	Louise Finnis, Health Promotion Manager - Mental Health, Public Health, Somerset County Council	Aug-17	Action Plan produced	Children and young people with emotional health and wellbeing and mental health needs are identified early and supported in community settings reducing the need for access to more specialist services
vi	Refresh the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Transformation Plan with partners via a multiagency event / workshop and wider engagement	Fiona Abbey, Commissioning/ Programme Manager for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, CCG	Oct-17	Refreshed Transformation Plan	Children and young people with emotional health and wellbeing and mental health needs are identified early and supported in community settings reducing the need for access to more specialist services



## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 4: Building Skills for Life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)
<b>Chair:</b>	David Derbyshire, Head Teacher Wadham Community School
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council

Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome	
<b>(A) Raise our expectations for all children and young people, and minimise any barriers to learning and maximise the opportunities for every child achieve their full potential by having the opportunity to attend a local good or outstanding early years setting and school and benefit from excellent teaching</b>					
i	Review performance targets for end of Key Stage assessments in Achieving Excellence for All in light of 2016/17 outcomes to ensure they remain aspirational and achievable	Dave Farrow- Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council	Aug-17	Key Stage outcomes for all phases are above National Average (NA) and South West (SW) neighbours. Increasing % uplift each year dependent on national performance each year.	<b>Improved standards at all Key Stages and in EY settings.</b>
ii	Request bids for funding for activities from schools and groups of schools and early years settings that support the delivery of the targets set out in Achieving Excellence for All and monitor the delivery and impact of the Activities throughout the year	Neal Chislett - Strategic Manager, Educational Effectivness, Somerset County Council	Aug-17	Key Stage outcomes for all phases are above National Average (NA) and south west (SW) neighbours. Increasing % uplift each year dependent on national performance each year	<b>Improved standards at all Key Stages and in EY settings.</b>
iii	Monitor the performance of all schools through the Somerset Education Partnership (SEP) programme and the analysis of performance data and other information to identify those schools at risk of not achieving a Good or better Ofsted judgement, deploy support accordingly and monitor impact through the Schools Causing Concern Group	Neal Chislett - Strategic Manager, Educational Effectivness, Somerset County Council	For each Somerset Education Partnership Board meeting	Proportion of Schools judged Good or Better Proportion of pupils attending a Good or Better school Proportion of schools assessed by the Local Authority (LA) as being at risk of not achieving a Good or Better judgement Proportion of pupils attending schools assessed by the LA as being at risk of not achieving Good or Better judgement	<b>Improved Ofsted judgements both overall and in relation to leadership and management and quality of teaching and learning.</b> <b>Improved educational outcomes as set out in the Education Vision and Strategy.</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 4: Building Skills for Life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)
<b>Chair:</b>	David Derbyshire, Head Teacher Wadham Community School
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council

	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
iv	Monitor the performance of all early years settings through the Local Authority monitoring programme and the analysis of performance data and other information to identify those settings at risk of not achieving a Good or better Ofsted judgement, deploy support accordingly and monitor impact through the Early Years Performance Group	David Theobald - Senior Primary Advisor, (SSE) Somerset County Council	For each Early Years Monitoring / Performance Group meeting	Proportion of Early Years settings judged Good or Better  Proportion of Early Years settings assessed by the LA as being at risk of not achieving a Good or Better judgement	<b>Improved Ofsted judgements both overall and in relation to leadership and management and quality of teaching and learning.</b>  <b>Improved educational outcomes as set out in the Education Vision and Strategy.</b>
v	Improve education outcomes for Children Looked After (CLA), pupils with SEND and pupils from low income families	Zoe Heywood - Virtual School Head, Somerset County Council  Neal Chislett - Strategic Manager, Educational Effectiveness, Somerset County Council	Aug 2017 Aug 2018	Improved educational outcomes for vulnerable groups  Closing the gaps between these groups and their peers.	<b>Improved educational outcomes for vulnerable pupils</b>
vi	Understand those schools who are supporting vulnerable groups to deliver good outcomes and share best practice Identify those schools who are less effective at improving outcomes and provide effective support and challenge	Emily Walters - Head Advisor, SEND Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Regular reports to the SEP Board	Opportunities to share best practice on closing the gaps  Effective challenge by SEPs in November	<b>Improved Ofsted judgements both overall and in relation to leadership and management and quality of teaching and learning.</b>  <b>Improved educational outcomes as set out in the Education Vision and Strategy.</b>

**(B) Ensure the early identification and assessment of vulnerable children and young people including children looked after and those from low income families, so that every child makes good progress and no child gets left behind**

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 4: Building Skills for Life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)
<b>Chair:</b>	David Derbyshire, Head Teacher Wadham Community School
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council

Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
i Continue to develop the Team Around the School Model and monitor the impact and effectiveness of early identification and support	Dave Farrow- Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council	Regular feedback from Team Around the School meetings collated into reports for Somerset Education Partnership Board	Frequency of Meetings Agency Attendance Number of Cases Referred Proportion of Improved BVPT scores Attendance Data (unauthorised and authorised absence) Exclusion data (perm and fixed term) Cases closed following initial intervention Referrals to Level 3/4 resulting in action at that level (Step up) Referrals to Level 3/4 resulting in no action and referral back (inappropriate referrals) Cases stepped down from level 3/4 following intervention and subsequently closed by TAS Cases stepped down from Level 3/4 following intervention and subsequently referred back	<b>Improved attendance and educational outcomes for all pupils</b>
ii Continue to improve the effectiveness of the Virtual School ensuring every child and young person looked after and care leavers have support to access appropriate education and benefit from excellent teaching	Zoe Heywood - Virtual School Head, Somerset County Council	Regular reporting to QPRM and Corporate Parenting Board	% of Virtual School attendance and Personal Education Plan (PEP) meetings Quality of Personal Education Plans End of key stage Data for Children Looked After (CLA) Attendance/exclusion data for Children Looked After (CLA)	<b>Improved educational outcomes for vulnerable pupils</b>



<b>Action Plan - Year 2017/2018</b>	
<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 4: Building Skills for Life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)
<b>Chair:</b>	David Derbyshire, Head Teacher Wadham Community School
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Deadline for Completion</b>	<b>KPI</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
iii	Work with schools and other agencies to ensure that all pupils are attending school or are receiving appropriate education elsewhere	Dave Farrow- Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council	Regular reporting to the Somerset Education Partnership Board	Children Missing out on Education data Attendance data Exclusion data Reduced timetable data Elective Home Education data	<b>Improved attendance and educational outcomes for all pupils</b>
<b>(C) Improve outcomes for all children with SEND ensuring the early identification of need and the effective provision of appropriate support</b>					
i	Ensure children and young people with SEND, their families and carers are provided with robust, timely appropriate advice and information	Julia Ridge - Strategic Manager, Early Years & Schools Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Dec-17	Timely completion of Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs) Reduction in mediation and tribunals Reduction in exclusions Reduction in children educated out of area	<b>Improved educational outcomes for vulnerable pupils</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 4: Building Skills for Life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)
<b>Chair:</b>	David Derbyshire, Head Teacher Wadham Community School
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council

	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
ii	Implement the SEND core standards, SEND Self Audit and review funding for supporting pupils with SEND	Emily Walters - Head Advisor, SEND Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Dec-17	Timely completion of Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs) Proportion of Education Health Care Plans agreed within 20 weeks Proportion of Education Health Care Plan requests that result in EHCPs Proportion of requests for High Needs Funding agreed Reduction in the number of schools requesting support with undertaking the appropriate interventions Review and design new decision making guidance for Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs) Prepare an implementation and training plan	<b>Improved Ofsted judgements both overall and in relation to leadership and management and quality of teaching and learning.</b>  <b>Improved educational outcomes as set out in the Education Vision and Strategy.</b>
iii	Agree Service Level Agreement with Support Services for Education (SSE) on behalf of Schools Forum regarding use of High Needs budget	Julia Ridge - Strategic Manager, Early Years & Schools Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Jun-17	Service Level Agreement (SLA) in place	<b>Effective support is provided to schools and appropriate use of the high needs funding</b>
iv	Promote inclusion by ensuring children access the most appropriate education settings that suits their needs.	Julia Ridge - Strategic Manager, Early Years & Schools Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Reduce the number of children educated outside the area Reduce the cost of Special Educational Needs (SEN) school transport Improve education outcomes	<b>More children are supported in Somerset state schools</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 4: Building Skills for Life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)
<b>Chair:</b>	David Derbyshire, Head Teacher Wadham Community School
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council

Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
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**(D) Provide an improved range of opportunities that enable disadvantaged children and young people to be able to have similar options and choices as their peers, so that they can successfully move into education, employment, training and independent adult life and participate in society**

i	Ensure people with SEND and health and social care needs, their families and carers are provided with robust, timely and appropriate advice and information to enable them to gain employment, and schedule a programme of workshops for local employers to raise awareness about the support available to employers and the benefits of employing people with SEND and health and social care needs.	Julie Young - Education Outcomes, Children's Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS) for SEND	<b>Children with SEND access employment and training opportunities</b>
ii	Develop an Apprenticeship preparation training programme and coordination of Apprenticeship Ambassador Initiatives in schools.	Julie Young - Education Outcomes, Children's Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Training programme developed Numbers of apprenticeships created	<b>Children from disadvantaged groups access employment and training opportunities</b>
iii	Defined 12-24 pathways into employment for SEND learners, linking to pupil premium and with bespoke employer involvement.	Julie Young - Education Outcomes, Children's Commissioning, Somerset County Council Claire Merchant-Jones - Transistions, Health Interface Service, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS) for SEND	<b>Children with SEND access employment and training opportunities</b>
iv	Develop a detailed re-engagement strategy and activities and implement to improve transition and retention at 16, 17 and 18, through improved communication and joint working practices including SEND	Julie Young - Education Outcomes, Children's Commissioning, Somerset County Council Claire Merchant-Jones - Transistions, Health Interface Service, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS) for vulnerable groups	<b>Children from disadvantaged groups access employment and training opportunities</b>



## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 4: Building Skills for Life
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Somerset Education Partnership Board (SEPB)
<b>Chair:</b>	David Derbyshire, Head Teacher Wadham Community School
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Dave Farrow, Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council

	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
v	Collect data and identify the reasons for drop-out/barriers to participation in Further Education and Higher Education and develop solutions for how these might be overcome	Julie Young - Education Outcomes, Children's Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS)	<b>Children access appropriate education, employment and training opportunities</b>
vi	Recommission a joined up approach to identifying, tracking and supporting young people into Education, Employment and Training	Emma Good - Senior Commissioning Officer, Children's Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Dec-17	Revised service specification in place Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS) indicators	<b>Children access appropriate education, employment and training opportunities</b>
<b>(E) Support schools to work more effectively together to drive up standards and develop their role as community hubs</b>					
i	Review the role of Community Learning Partnerships (CLPs), in the context of the changing shape of the education system including the development of Multi Academy Trusts (MATs), in coordinating the early identification of need and the delivery of support to vulnerable pupils and those with SEND	Dave Farrow- Head of Outcomes and Sufficiency, Somerset County Council	Dec-17	Numbers of Early Help Assessments (EHAs) undertaken by schools	<b>Children are supported to achieve good educational outcomes</b>
ii	Support groups of schools in developing collaborative working that enables them to share resource/expertise and commission services to meet their needs	Neal Chislett - Strategic Manager, Educational Effectiveness, Somerset County Council	Dec-17	Proportion of schools that are in federations / Multi Academy Trusts (MATs)	<b>Improved teaching and learning in schools Improved educational outcomes for children</b>
<b>(F) Ensure all settings meet their duties under the Equalities Act i.e. making reasonable adjustments</b>					
i	Develop advice for schools on ensuring that settings are meeting their duties under the Equalities Act, and develop a monitoring processes on an area basis to ensure that the Equalities Act is being followed	Peter Newman - Virtual HT, Education Outcomes, Somerset County Council	Dec-17	Monitoring indicators to be agreed Educational outcomes for children in disadvantaged and minority groups	<b>All children regardless of their background achieve good educational outcomes</b>

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## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Plan 5: Providing help early and effectively
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board
<b>Chair:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning Somerset County Council

Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
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### (A) Establish early help hubs in local communities offering multi-agency integrated services that identify and support children and families who need additional help and can intervene quickly and effectively

i	Develop a Somerset model for early help multi-agency hubs, and consult on the new approach to provision of children's centre services encompassing the commissioning of public health nursing services within a wider partnership of health, education and community support	Philippa Granthier - Assistant Director - Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning  Alison Bell - Consultant in Public Health, Public Health, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number of children school ready Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) measures  ASQ 3 measures at age 2 years  Reducing exclusion  Increase school attendance	<b>Families receive good quality multi-agency help to support parents or carers in changing behaviour so risks to children are reduced</b>  <b>Support for SEND in local community</b>
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### (B) Provide a comprehensive early help offer within a simplified identification and support system

i	Develop Somerset Adolescent's Strategy that addresses the particular issues faced by vulnerable young people	Lise Bird - Strategic Manager Prevention, Somerset County Council  Emma Good - Senior Commissioning Officer, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	See strategy for KPI's	<b>Young People receive timely and effective services</b>
ii	Embed the new Somerset Family Outcomes Framework	Gill Bawler - Troubled Families Coordinator, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number of families achieving positive outcomes and reported under the troubled families programme  Reduce the gap between known and worked with families	<b>Families receive good quality multi-agency help to support parents or carers in changing behaviour so risks to children are reduced</b>
iii	Implement the Early Help Case Management System for getset Services	Philippa Granthier - Assistant Director - Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning	Jun-17	Case management system fully implemented  Benefits identified from business case realised	<b>Staff have tools and skills to undertake their roles effectively</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Plan 5: Providing help early and effectively
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board
<b>Chair:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning Somerset County Council

	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
iv	Develop a business case for extending Early Help Case Management System where appropriate	Philippa Granthier - Assistant Director - Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning	Mar-18	Number of additional services utilising the Early Help Case Management System (EHCMS)	<b>Staff have the tools that support them in their roles</b>
v	Increase joint working between schools and Early Help services to ensure the needs of children with SEND and vulnerable groups are supported within the community	Sharon Longden, Interim Strategic Manager for SEND, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number of Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) requests that are agreed increases Number of Early Help Assessment's increase for children & young people with SEND Reduction in school exclusions for children & young people with SEND Reduction of children & young people placed out of county (including a reduction in the number placed in the independent and non-maintained education sector)	<b>Families receive good quality multi-agency help to support parents or carers in changing behaviour so risks to children are reduced</b>
vi	Embed Professional Choices as a tool to do the job	Jeff Brown, Service Manager, Children's Commissioning, Children's Services Commissioning	Mar-18	Professional Choices Virtual Meeting Room (VMR) usage metrics Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) data Who's Who - number of staff registered by agency	<b>Staff have the tools that support them in their roles</b>
vii	Use the shared intelligence of partners within Early Help Area Advisory Board's to target resources more effectively to the needs within different localities within Somerset	Emma-Jane Roberts and Angie Baxter, Operations Managers for getset Service, Children's Services, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Case Studies taken to Early Help Board Locality data profiles developed Mapping of support and services available in each local area	<b>Families receive good quality multi-agency help to support parents or carers in changing behaviour so risks to children are reduced</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018



<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Plan 5: Providing help early and effectively
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Early Help Strategic Commissioning Board
<b>Chair:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning Somerset County Council
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	(Interim) Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director, Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning Somerset County Council

	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
viii	Take forward the recommendations from the Scrutiny Task & Finish Group to ensure partners identify and support young carers	Wendy Jenner, Targeted Youth Support Operational Manager, Vulnerable Young People, Children's Services Operations, Somerset County Council	Dec-17	Number of young carers identified and supported	<b>Children and their families receive effective support</b>
ix	Supporting leaders and managers to recognise the challenges involved in responding to Neglect, and provide effective support, training and challenge to practitioners - aligned to Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) priority on Programme 6 - Neglect Task & Finish Group (SSCB)	Claire Winter, Deputy Director for Children and Families, Children's Services, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Numbers of children identified with neglect recorded via Early Help Assessment and Behaviour & Vulnerability Profiling (BVP) tool	<b>Families receive good quality multi-agency help to support parents or carers in changing behaviour so risks to children are reduced</b>

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Action Plan - Year 2017/2018	
<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Plan 6: Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and develop an excellent children's social work service
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Children's Social Care/ Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB)
<b>Chair:</b>	Claire Winter, Operations Director Children's Social Care, SCC/Sally Halls, Chair SSCB
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Claire Winter, Operations Director Children's Social Care, SCC/Sally Halls, Chair SSCB



Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome	
<b>(A) Developing a confident social work workforce - Lead: Paul Shallcross</b>					
i	Implement Workforce Strategy recruitment and retention plan for permanent children's social workers, with a focus on Taunton and South Somerset	HR Director / Principal Social Worker (PSW) / Deputy Director Children's Services	Apr-18	75% of social work workforce is permanent overall (breakdown for South Somerset and Taunton separately)	<b>Increasingly experienced and permanent workforce who's practice is consistently improved at Ofsted requires improvement grade or above</b>
ii	Maintain manageable caseloads at average 14 children per social worker	Operations Management group	Apr-18	Average caseload for social work teams by team type and by area office	
iii	Provide a high quality training programme across the workforce focussing on relationship based and resilient practice for social workers and foster carers	Principal Social Worker (PSW) / Learning and Development Team	Apr-18	n/a	
iv	Develop leadership and management skills through the delivery of systemic leadership and supervision training	Deputy Director Children's Services / Principal Social Worker (PSW)	Apr-18	n/a	
<b>(B) Delivering excellence in social work practice - Leads: Anna Elliot, Wendy Hesford</b>					
i	Review social care services for children with disabilities and their families	Senior Children Commissioner / Operations Manager Children with Disabilities	Apr-18	n/a	<b>Children with disabilities and their families have access to the right services at the right time to allow these children to achieve their full potential</b>
ii	Consultant social work group to run: a) research based area based conferences quarterly to develop practice skills b) weekly professional development sessions in each area office on themes and issues arising from audit, complaints and compliments	Principal Social Worker (PSW)	Apr-18	a) Number of area based conferences run per quarter b) Audit of casework evidences improved and more consistent social work practice county wide	<b>Service learning is embedded in social work practice</b>
iii	Social workers and social care staff are observed in practice, by their manager, at least once every quarter, with good practice shared and development areas as are addressed in supervision	Children's Social Care (CSC) Team Managers	Apr-18	a) % staff observations completed each quarter (by service area) b) Annual supervision audit identifies impact of practice observation on professional development	<b>Service learning is embedded in social work practice</b>
iv	Develop social worker legal skills and understanding by: a) improving quality of documents submitted to court b) working with Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS) to develop more coherent planning for children across both organisations c) ensuring social workers are confident in their ability to present their case in court	Deputy Director Children's Services / Senior Child Care Lawyer	Apr-18	a) % of case papers submitted to legal department which require no amendment b) % of cases where social work recommendation is final court outcome	
v	Review the effectiveness of the emergency out of hours service (joint review with commissioning and placements team)	Operations Manager - Emergency Duty Team / First Response / Commissioner	Feb-18	n/a	<b>Service users report a high level of satisfaction with the service provided</b>

Action Plan - Year 2017/2018	
<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Plan 6: Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and develop an excellent children's social work service
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Children's Social Care/ Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB)
<b>Chair:</b>	Claire Winter, Operations Director Children's Social Care, SCC/Sally Halls, Chair SSCB
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Claire Winter, Operations Director Children's Social Care, SCC/Sally Halls, Chair SSCB



Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome	
<b>(C) Supporting families to care for their children - Leads: Richard Burrows and Colin Dryden</b>					
i	Evaluate the impact of the Family Group Conferencing service in supporting children to remain in their family/community	Strategic Manager Vulnerable Youth	Dec-17	Of the number of Family Group Conference's (FGC's) completed each quarter, and the % that result in children remaining safely in their family network	<b>Family group conferencing supports children to remain safely at home or with family members</b>
ii	Develop an adolescent strategy and service plan to embed support for teenagers in their family home/ community across all levels of service and prevent escalation to care wherever possible and safe to do so	Strategic Manager Prevention / Commissioner	Apr-18	a) % of care population aged 12 plus reduces b) % of Early help assessments where effective change is the outcome increases for the 12 plus age group	<b>More children aged 12 and over are supported to remain living in their family</b>
<b>(D) Strengthen quality safeguarding across all agencies - SSCB Lead: Sally Halls</b>					
i	Early identification of needs and support embedded across all agencies, using Team Around the School and Early Help Assessment processes	Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) Chair	Apr-18	a) Number of schools using Team Around the School approach increases b) % of Early Help Assessment outcomes that are successful increases	<b>Children and families are well supported in their own communities</b>
ii	Neglect - strategy and action plan implemented	Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) Chair	Jul-17	Number of Early Help Assessment's where neglect as a factor increases	<b>Children who experience neglect are identified and supported early</b>
iii	Missing protocol revised including amended return home interview process	Strategic Manager Vulnerable Young People	Jul-17	a) % of children who receive a return interview b) % of children interviewed within 72 hours	<b>Fewer children go missing from home or care</b>
iv	Implement Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Action Plan, focussing on disrupting activity (Pursue workstream)	Chair, Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB), Child Sexual Exploitation Subgroup	Apr-18	Number and effectiveness of disruption activities	<b>Perpetrators of CSE are effectively disrupted in their activity, thus safeguarding victims</b>
v	Launch Multiagency Pre-birth protocol	Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) Chair	Jul-17	n/a	<b>Professionals understand and implement multiagency pre-birth planning well</b>
vi	Review Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) Quality Assurance Framework	Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) Chair	Dec-17	n/a	<b>Multi agency data identifies key areas of risk and strength in the safeguarding system</b>

Action Plan - Year 2017/2018	
<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Plan 6: Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and develop an excellent children's social work service
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Children's Social Care/ Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB)
<b>Chair:</b>	Claire Winter, Operations Director Children's Social Care, SCC/Sally Halls, Chair SSCB
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Claire Winter, Operations Director Children's Social Care, SCC/Sally Halls, Chair SSCB



Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome	
<b>(E) Embed good corporate parenting - Lead: Jason Pincott /Fiona Phur</b>					
i	Increase capacity in the virtual school to incorporate post 16 provisions, specifically further education, apprenticeships and promoting university applications	Virtual Head	Sep-17	Reduction in Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) care leavers (by age group)	<b>More care leavers are in employment, training or education</b>
ii	Ensure care leavers are prioritised for work experience and apprenticeship opportunities with Somerset County Council and contractors	HR Director / Strategic Manager OD		a) Number of work experience opportunities taken up by care leavers b) Number of apprenticeships taken up by care leavers	<b>Somerset County Council carries out it's Corporate Parenting role well in relation to employment opportunities for care leavers</b>
iii	Ensure sufficient quality placements locally for children in our care	Senior Commissioner	Apr-18	a) Reduced % of children placed in non-local authority provision b) Reduced % of children in care placed more than 20 miles from home and outside Somerset geographically	<b>More Somerset children in care live in Somerset</b>
iv	Promotes roles and responsibilities of Corporate Parents with Somerset County Council and District Council staff through exhibitions of Somerset in Care Council work, Corporate Parenting Board training and If This Was My Child Roadshows	Participation Officer		a) Number of exhibitions b) Number of Training sessions c) Number of training participants d) Number of roadshows e) Number of roadshow attendees	<b>Corporate Parents understand and engage in their role.</b>
<b>(F) Achieving permanence for children in care and care leavers - Lead: Suzanne Lyus</b>					
i	Improve timeliness and effectiveness of permanence planning	Operations Manager Permanence / Adoption	Apr-18	Increase % children in care with permanence plans at 4 month review	<b>Children in care have a suitable permanent home as soon as possible</b>

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## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 7: Embedding a think family approach across the workforce
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Workforce Development Board
<b>Chair:</b>	Chair Workforce Development Board
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Chris Squire - HR & Operations Director, Somerset County Council



Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
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**(A) Build a high quality workforce who have the skills and confidence required to respond to changing needs in families and identify parental vulnerabilities**

i	Develop and commission a comprehensive professional workforce development programme to address recruitment issues, and identify core competencies and training requirements so that practitioners have the knowledge and confidence to talk to their families about a range of different issues without having to "refer on" to others	Chris Squire - HR & Operations Director, Somerset County Council	Mar-18		<b>All professionals and staff who work with adults and children and young people understand the concept of 'Think Family', and are alert to the effects of adult behaviours on children and young people and know how to take action to respond appropriately</b>
ii	Increase the awareness of all staff to their responsibilities for providing information, advice about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and incorporate SEND training in the induction programme for staff working in children's, adults, Support Services for Education (SSE) and Public Health	Julia Ridge - SEND, Strategic Manager - Early Years & Schools Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	The number of requests to assess for Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) where the needs are met without the need for an EHCP and the number of requests to assess that require and EHCP to be issued.	
iii	Embed a permanent, confident and valued social work workforce whose caseloads are manageable	Chris Squire - HR & Operations Director, Somerset County Council  Claire Winter - Deputy Director, Children & Families, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Social work turnover rate (%) Average caseloads  Number of new permanent social workers recruited  75% of. Permanent social workers in the front-line teams	<b>All professionals and staff who work with adults and children and young people understand the concept of 'Think Family', and are alert to the effects of adult behaviours on children and young people and know how to take action to respond appropriately</b>

**(B) Maximise the use of the approach, tools, data analysis and learning from the national Troubled Families Programme to support practitioners working with our families**

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## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 7: Embedding a think family approach across the workforce
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Workforce Development Board
<b>Chair:</b>	Chair Workforce Development Board
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Chris Squire - HR & Operations Director, Somerset County Council



	Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
i	Develop and promote a Think Family Strategy	Think Family Multi-Agency Task and Finish Group  Gill Bawler - Troubled Families Coordinator, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Oct-17	Completion of a Think Family Protocol to include action plan, and communication plan	<b>All professionals and staff who work with adults and children and young people understand the concept of 'Think Family', and are alert to the effects of adult behaviours on children and young people and know how to take action to respond appropriately</b>
ii	Embed Think Family Strategy and incorporate into relevant training	Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB)	Mar-18	100% of partner agencies signed up to information sharing/Think Family Protocol  Ensure Think Family is included in all staff inductions and safeguarding training	<b>All professionals and staff who work with adults and children and young people understand the concept of 'Think Family', and are alert to the effects of adult behaviours on children and young people and know how to take action to respond appropriately</b>
iii	Young carers of parents with mental health problems and drug and alcohol problems have access to advice and support and know how to call for help when needed	Wendy Jenner - Targeted Youth Support Operational Manager, Vulnerable Young People, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Publish on the Local Offer  Feedback on quality	<b>All professionals and staff who work with adults and children and young people understand the concept of 'Think Family', and are alert to the effects of adult behaviours on children and young people and know how to take action to respond appropriately</b>
<b>(C) To deliver a successful DCLG Troubled Families programme, that is embedded in mainstream delivery of the early help hubs</b>					
i	Undertake first annual self-evaluation of the partnership's approach to early help to inform future actions and ensuring continuous improvement	Gill Bawler - Troubled Families Coordinator, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Jul-17	Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) matrix	<b>Staff have the skills and knowledge to identify issues early in families and to address those quickly effectively</b>

## Action Plan - Year 2017/2018

<b>Improvement Programme:</b>	Improvement Programme 7: Embedding a think family approach across the workforce
<b>Lead Delivery Group:</b>	Workforce Development Board
<b>Chair:</b>	Chair Workforce Development Board
<b>SCT Lead Sponsor:</b>	Chris Squire - HR & Operations Director, Somerset County Council



Action	Action Owner	Deadline for Completion	KPI	Outcome
ii Plan sustainability of Troubled Families approach by embedding in mainstream delivery of the Early Help Hub's	Gill Bawler - Troubled Families Coordinator, Children's Services Commissioning, Somerset County Council	Mar-18	Number of families achieving positive outcomes and reported under the troubled families programme Payment by Results Claims Number of Partners sharing data	<b>Families receive good quality multi-agency help to support parents or carers in changing behaviour so risks to children are reduced</b>

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## Commissioning Report

Lead Member: Frances Nicholson  
 Author(s): Louise Palmer, Strategic Commissioner  
 Contact Details: 07818 529 158  
 Division and Local Member: All

### 1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update members of the Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee on the purpose and improvements made within children’s services commissioning service; acknowledging the journey so far, and the further progress the commissioning team is expected to make.
- 1.2 The report highlights the work of children’s commissioning team across the seven improvement programmes of the Somerset Children and Young People’s Plan, noting particular focus and achievement in programme 6 “Achieving effective, multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and develop and excellent children’s social work service”.
- 1.3 The report explains the council’s approach to commissioning using the Commissioning Cycle below. Somerset County Council’s definition of commissioning is *“How we identify needs and creatively work with everyone involved to make things happen to meet those needs in the most appropriate and cost effective way”*
- 1.4 The broad role of commissioners includes:
- analysing data, need and demand,
  - planning using strategies and co-production,
  - securing services by procurement, grant funding, piloting or partnership working, and
  - reviewing outcomes, service performance and provider approach, holding services and providers to account while working in partnership to achieve the best for our children, young people and families.



SCC Commissioning Cycle

**1.5** Maintaining good communication with providers is essential to the development, diversity and health of the market, so the Children's Commissioning team have produced a 'Communications plan' (Appendix A), explaining how we ensure regular contact and engagement with provider organisations, partner agencies and internal colleagues. This will particularly apply to fostering and residential providers, where communication is key to finding placements for our most vulnerable children and young people.

**1.6** Placement Sufficiency in Somerset is a significant issue, even though there are more residential beds available in the county than we need, and limited, but available, capacity in the independent fostering market. Commissioners are working more closely with providers to understand their issues and sharing the detail of our needs to ensure the right provision is available and that Somerset is the preferred commissioner.

**1.7** In this report we have highlighted the recent commissioning of a number of new models for the council which will increase our Early Help offer, including:

- 'Safe Families for Children', a DfE Innovation programme to prevent children coming into care and increase family support in the community,
- Pathways to Independence (P2i), an innovative, outcomes based housing solution for young people run in partnership with the YMCA and our District Council colleagues, and
- Family Group Conferencing which aims to identify strengths and resources within families and communities to support them to thrive without state intervention.

**1.8** Children's Services commissioners are committed to achieving excellence through a quality assurance cycle, ensuring continuous improvement of both externally and internally provided services. Information gained from a variety of sources to inform current performance, is used to shape future service delivery, which improves outcomes for children and families. We hold responsibility for reviewing all contracts across children's services. These services are reviewed quarterly or more frequently, depending on the perceived need and risk, which is analysed through the contract register (Appendix B).

## **2. Issues for consideration**

**2.1.** Members are asked to consider the breadth and complexity of work undertaken by children's commissioners now, compared with the more limited approach experienced 18 months ago. In particular, the lack of supplier engagement and market development activity previously has contributed to issues with placement sufficiency, leading to a new focus on relationship management

**2.2.** Members are asked to acknowledge and support the future progress of commissioning in children's services

## **3. Background**

**3.1.** Since 2015, there have been extensive developments in children's

commissioning, including staffing restructure and recruitment, and development of skills.

- 3.2.** The former commissioning structure focussed on project management, with operational staff holding and managing contracts. This has been transformed and all commissioning activity now sits with Commissioners. Each Commissioner now specialises in particular areas of children's services, enabling them to follow the whole commissioning cycle for each area of work on a consistent basis
- 3.3.** Key achievements are detailed in the report, and include the development and embedding of the Children and Young Peoples Plan, a revised and fit for purpose Sufficiency Statement, the re-commissioning of the Pathways to Independence (P2i) approach to youth homelessness, delivering a nationally recognised best practice service for young people in Somerset and raising the profile of commissioning throughout children's services with a shared understanding of commissioning, a common language and agreed approach that is both creative and compliant. We are creating and improving partnerships with other local authorities in the South West and South Central by collaborating where this is beneficial, as well as securing good relationships with colleagues in adult social care, Public Health and the CCG.

#### **4. Background Papers**

For sight of individual background papers Please contact the report author

- 4.1.** Communications Plan
- 4.2.** Contracts Register
- 4.3.** Children & Young People's Plan Governance Structure

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# Childrens Services Commissioning Report

## Somerset County Council Children's Services

**November 2017**

## 1. Executive Summary

The Children's Services Commissioning Team has undergone a transformational change of personnel, culture and approach in the last two years. In 2015, the team consisted of 4.6 WTE focusing mainly on procurement activity, project management and supporting disparate pieces of work while operational staff were holding and managing contracts.

There has been an extensive restructure of staffing with the addition in January 2016 of a new Assistant Director of Commissioning and Performance, and in January 2017 a new Strategic Commissioning Manager for Vulnerable Children and Young People. The team currently has 7 WTE, but there are short term plans to increase that further, particularly to support Early Help, mental health and SEND activity. This small initial increase in the team has grown capacity and skills and has led to the team becoming an embedded part of children's services, and a significant presence in the authority and the Peninsula (a partnership of Cornwall, Devon, Plymouth, Torbay and Somerset local authorities). Each commissioner now holds a portfolio of work, specialising in particular areas of children's services, enabling them to follow the whole commissioning cycle for each area of work on a consistent basis.

Relationships with operational staff and managers have been nurtured and improved over the last two years. The development of the Children and Young Peoples Plan led by Commissioning, has engendered trust and reliance on Commissioners who now have a reputation for being useful, purposeful and high quality. Relationships with Procurement and Commercial colleagues have also improved dramatically with a fresh look at responsibilities and roles and a new perspective of innovation, creativity and support in a productive partnership. The Corporate Commissioning Development Team has created specialist training and expertise for commissioners, as well as raising the profile of commissioning within the Council as a whole.

### Key achievements:

- The development and embedding of the Children and Young Peoples Plan delivering a shared and common purpose and priorities for the sector
- Children's Placement team now sits within Children's Commissioning team with revised and efficient processes and procedures in place
- Creation of Individual Placement Agreements (IPA's) for all residential and fostering placements for looked after children and education placements for SEND, ensuring we are compliant with statutory and legal obligations
- Development of a detailed position and options appraisal on Residential Provision within Somerset and out of county placements which led to the closure of all local authority residential children's homes to raise quality and reduce costs
- Review and re-contracting or decommissioning of existing contracts within children's services with estimated negotiated savings of over £100k
- Revised and fit for purpose Sufficiency Statement and associated Action Plan
- The re-commissioning of the Pathways to Independence service to reduce youth homelessness, delivering a nationally recognised best practice service for young people in Somerset

- Raising the expertise and profile of the Children's Services Commissioning team both internally and with partner agencies in Somerset and beyond
- Raising the profile of commissioning throughout children's services with a shared understanding of commissioning, a common language and agreed approach that is both creative and compliant.

This report is the first commissioning report for children's services outlining the commissioning approach within Somerset children's services. The work supports the delivery of Somerset's Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2016-19, a multi-agency strategic plan that outlines the county's priorities for children, as part of the improvement journey overseen by the Department for Education (DfE) and our improvement partners, Essex County Council.

The report shows the work completed and in progress for commissioning staff across children's services. The first part of the report focusses on the seven improvement programmes for the Children and Young Peoples Plan, and highlights the contribution from commissioning staff to each one. The second part focusses on the Council's approach to commissioning, outlining the commissioning cycle, demonstrating what has been achieved and what more the team needs to deliver.

## **2. The Somerset Children and Young People's Plan 2016-2019**

The Somerset Children and Young People's Plan provides a clear strategic direction for the Somerset Children's Trust and enables partners to focus their joint efforts on shared priorities and targets in order to make the necessary changes to improve outcomes for children, young people and families locally, to review progress and to measure success. The Somerset Children's Trust, both collectively and by individual partner organisations as appropriate, monitors and evaluates performance against this plan, and the supporting strategies and action plans. The Plan has identified the following seven priority improvement programmes:

1. Supporting children, families and communities to become more resilient
2. Promoting healthy outcomes & giving children the best start in life
3. Improving emotional health and wellbeing
4. Building skills for life
5. Providing help early and effectively
6. Achieving effective multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and developing an excellent children's social work service
7. Embedding a think family approach across the workforce

Annual action plans are in place for each of the programmes. There are nominated governance arrangements responsible for the delivery of each of the seven programmes of work (shown at appendix B). There has been a concentrated effort of commissioning resources into Programme 6 as this has a direct impact for the most vulnerable and complex children and young people. Similar effort will now be made into the other programmes of work.

## **Improvement Programme 1.** **Supporting children, families and communities to be more resilient.**

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Most children grow up in loving families and supportive communities, becoming independent, resilient adults. We want this for more children and young people in Somerset, so they and their families can support themselves by engaging with and contributing to their local communities. We want to promote individual responsibility, moving away from a culture of dependency and entitlement. This involves using evidence to target our work, concentrating resources on the most vulnerable, focussing on building resilience so services can focus on those who need it the most.

### **What have we done?**

- Developed Somerset Choices, a website providing advice and guidance for adults and children, communicating the local offer for SEND and early years
- Strengthened relationships with independent and voluntary providers, sharing our vision to improve the offer for families by developing stronger communities
- Worked with the DfE to develop and publish the West Somerset Opportunity Area action plan to address social mobility in the area
- Increased council volunteers (56) through the 'You Can Do' contract, promoting opportunities such as peer support groups for local people and communities
- Supported the Young Carers task and finish group with elected members from the Children and Families Scrutiny Committee to review provision. An action plan has been developed to address the findings.

### **What are we doing to improve?**

- We are exploring using Community Connectors to improve local voluntary support. A model for 'Children's Community Connect' will be ready by April 2018
- We will explore developing a shared lives scheme for children and young people in partnership with adults and health commissioning by March 2018
- Engaging with the STP Stronger Communities programme to develop resilient and strong communities throughout Somerset with all partners.
- SCC Digital team will co-produce a new and improved website with partners and service users to present the local offer by 31 December 2017.
- Personal budget policies across education, social care and health are being reviewed, aligned and finalised with adult social care and health partners. This will be completed by March 2018, including staff training and engagement of service users on the scope and positive benefits of personal budgets
- A co-produced 0-25 Short Breaks Strategy will be in place by December 2018 following the Children with Additional Needs Joint Commissioning Strategy (December 2017) providing a steer to this work. A draft has been developed with the Parent Carer Forum, the NHS and adult social care commissioners.

### **What outcomes will this achieve?**

- Young people & families are in control and know how to access help and advice.
- Children, families and communities are equipped with the tools, skills and information they need to help themselves.
- Parents have the confidence, knowledge and skills to be effective parents.
- Families and communities are thriving and resilient and support each other.

## Improvement Programme 2.

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### Promoting healthy outcomes in families and giving children the best start in life.



We want our children to get the best start in life with mothers who are healthy during pregnancy, enabling critical early attachment between parent and child and laying the foundation for better outcomes. We want all children to develop communication and language skills in line with developmental milestones and all children to receive a 2 year old review so any development issues can be identified early and the right intervention and help given. We will have a focus on promoting health for children and young people looked after and for children and young people with disabilities and long term conditions who have an increased risk of ill health. We recognise good housing contributes to the health and wellbeing of children and families.

#### What have we done?

- Reviewed and published [The Somerset Parent and carer Toolkit](#), providing an online resource for parents and carers to help them to parent well
- We have developed a protocol ensuring the hidden harms of adult behaviours on children are addressed.
- Our domestic abuse service employs Young Peoples Domestic Violence Advisors. We use a stay put model with safe house provision, reducing multi-occupancy hostel use and creating stability and family privacy.
- We have commissioned integrated community sexual health services to include targeted outreach to young people and vulnerable groups.
- We commission an all-age specialist drugs & alcohol service, and a targeted tier 2 service for vulnerable young people, limiting transition risks to adult services
- We invested in PSHE and Healthy Relationship support to schools and colleges.

#### What are we doing to improve?

- Improving transition to adult services for children with long term conditions and disabilities. A Transition Strategy with partners will be finalised in early 2018.
- A scope for a joint review of therapy services (Speech and Language Therapy, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy). will be available in January 2018
- We will procure a new drug and alcohol service and domestic abuse service in 2018, prioritising the needs and impact on children.
- Reviewing the MARAC process ensuring children and families' needs are systematically addressed
- The Zing Somerset contract ends in December 2017. The new model being consulted on will continue to focus on physical activity and healthy eating using community development to empower individuals, families and communities.

#### What outcomes will this achieve?

- Children, young people and their families are enabled to lead healthy lives.
- Improved health outcomes for children and young people in areas of higher need.
- Children and young people safely manage long term physical and mental health conditions and disability and are supported to manage transition to adult services
- Person centred healthcare is delivered effectively in a timely way, as close to home as possible in young people friendly settings by appropriately qualified staff

## Improvement Programme 3. Improving emotional health and wellbeing

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We want children and young people in Somerset to enjoy good emotional wellbeing and mental health, including the ability to learn, to feel, express and manage a range of positive and negative emotions, to form and maintain good relationships with others and to cope with and manage change and uncertainty. All professionals working with children and young people have a responsibility to help them be emotionally and mentally healthy. Mental health is everyone's business.

### What have we done?

- Worked with the CCG on the CAMHS transformation plan, reviewed annually, This has implemented a number of new initiatives e.g. Kooth online counselling, community eating disorder service, and the Single Point of Access to CAMHS.
- Invited by NHS partners to jointly evaluate Somerset Partnership NHS Trust's CAMHS. The assurance report will be used to improve performance.
- The Commissioning Group for Children and Young People's Mental Health & Psychological Well-being completed a mapping exercise to understand what support exists in Somerset. This will be used to address gaps in provision
- Despite recruitment issues we have now established an emotional health and wellbeing service for children looked after, within the children's social care team.
- The public health school's survey of health & emotional wellbeing identified low self-esteem and anxiety. In response, we commissioned the 'Emotion Coaching programme' ensuring staff have the skills to address emotional health needs.
- Delivered Perinatal and infant mental health awareness training to the workforce with health partners, ensuring maternal mental health is addressed effectively.

### What are we doing to improve?

- Develop strategies and systems by April 2018 for young people who self-harm. This is part of the multi-agency Self harm Steering Group alongside Public Health
- In 2018 we will review support for emotional health & wellbeing needs, including Parent & Family Support Advisers and Primary Mental Health Link Workers
- We are facilitating development of the 'Team Around the School' model across Somerset, ensuring targeted mental health services are co-ordinated well.
- Developing a data dashboard with the Commissioning Group for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Psychological Well-being to monitor CAMHS performance. This will enable joint planning and ensuring gaps are addressed.
- We will review emotional wellbeing pathways for the LGBTI community in December 2017, identifying gaps and ways to work with partners to fill these.

### What outcomes will this achieve?

- Young people will be emotionally resilient and equipped to manage their lives.
- Children and young people with emotional and mental health needs are identified early and supported in community settings reducing need for specialist services.
- Universal services, school and early years staff can help children & young people to promote emotional wellbeing and respond to distress caused by life events.
- Children looked after are enabled to become emotionally resilient, through provision of individual advice, guidance and support
- Support is personalised and empowering, with timely access to treatments and interventions that work.



## Improvement Programme 4. Building Skills for Life

Our vision is for Somerset to be the most forward looking area in England for education and learning; the best place for children and young people to grow up, learn, develop and achieve. Our strategic vision **Achieving Excellence for All** will drive this aspiration and ambition. Somerset will be a place where families thrive and all children learn and develop well from the earliest years so that they are ready to succeed at school, have excellent foundations for learning and are equipped well for achievement in life, no matter what their background or home location. We have expectations for every child and young person to make good progress in their learning, to achieve well and have the best opportunities for an independent economic and social life as they become young adults.

### What have we done?

- We monitor performance of all provision through the Early Years Performance Group and Schools Causing Concern Group, providing support to early years settings and schools, securing rapid sustained improvement where needed.
- We have agreed and published core standards so that parents and carers of children with SEND know what support they can expect in mainstream schools
- We have developed the 'Team Around the School' model and are facilitating embedding this across Somerset.
- We are working across agencies in the Pathway to Employment Group enabling young people to develop skills and resilience to be successful.
- We are active participants on the Corporate Parents Strategy Sub Group for enabling care leavers into education and employment pathways
- We have developed an effective Virtual School, with a presence in all panels so that education is highlighted as a priority for all children looked after

### What are we doing to improve?

- We will review the Achieving Excellence for All strategy and action plan and use that to inform our commissioning intentions in to the future
- We will review our Service Level Agreements with SSE on behalf of the Schools Forum particularly in relation to the use of the High Needs budget
- We will develop commissioning arrangements with Teaching Schools and others ensuring we access a range of funding and support to deliver improvement plans
- We will continue to develop the work of the Pathways to Employment group, including apprenticeships, NEETS tracking and youth provision.

### What outcomes will this achieve?

- Every child will achieve well above expectations and not be held back by their social and personal backgrounds, special educational needs or disabilities
- All children get the best start in the early years; all pupils can go to a good school and have high aspirations for their future
- Young people are empowered to be employable and economically responsible to provide for their own future
- Every young person benefits from pathways to further learning and employment for their own achievement and for the success of Somerset's economy

## Programme 5. Providing help early and effectively

Our multi-agency Early Help Charter defines early help as everyone's responsibility; we want children, families, communities and agencies to work together so that families are assisted to help themselves and are supported as soon as a need arises, thereby improving the overall wellbeing and quality of life of all Somerset's children, young people and their families.

### What have we done?

- The first year of this plan established the context for effective work, including Somerset Choices, and Professional Choices which provides early help guidance and tools for practitioners to work effectively
- We have implemented the Somerset Family Outcomes Framework which identifies families in need of support. We have implemented a new Early Help case management system within the getset service and for p2i.
- We have worked with the Local Safeguarding Board to develop and implement the Neglect Strategy and the regional tool for neglect, approved in 2017.
- Short breaks (including holiday activities, club opportunities, discount cards and activity passes) are co-produced with children, young people and their families who review, evaluate and help improve the services offered. Recently we have developed the 'Buddy Volunteering Programme' which trains college students and sixth formers to support disabled young people in the local community

### What are we doing to improve?

- We are developing a new model for an early help multi-agency Family Support service, including Public Health Nursing (Health visitors and school nurses) and Somerset's Getset service (children's centre services and family support workers for 0-19 year olds). We are currently consulting on what families value from these services, and proposals for future use of children's centre buildings. There will be increased joint working and full integration of these services by April 2019.
- We have researched other authorities' commissioning approaches to early help, including from our improvement partners, Essex County Council on their redesigned Pre-birth to 19 service.
- We are developing a Young People's Strategy to address the crises and complexity of issues faced by our young people and too often results in them requiring support from children's social care

### What outcomes will this achieve?

- Families receive good quality multi-agency help to support parents or carers in changing behaviour so risks to children are reduced
- Fewer children and families will need high cost, statutory interventions
- Staff have the skills and knowledge to identify issues early in families and to address those issues quickly and effectively



## Improvement Programme 6.

### Achieving effective, multi-agency support for more vulnerable children and young people and develop and excellent children's social work service

We want to make sure children who have had a difficult start in life have the best opportunities we can offer, to be safe and live with their families wherever possible.

We will listen to children and work with our partners to provide creative and effective services that meet the needs of children and their families – providing the right services to the right children in the right place. When children are at their most vulnerable, such as missing from home or at risk of sexual exploitation – we will work with the children, their families and partner agencies to safeguard them. When children need to come into care we will provide a family environment for them to live in so that they learn positive relationships and are supported into adulthood.

#### What have we done?

- A new service for children and young people experiencing CSE has been commissioned in partnership with neighbouring authorities and Avon & Somerset Police. This will improve the capacity and skills of our workforce to support children holistically, reducing the number of professionals and 'hand-overs', with a more effective and positive experience supporting wellbeing and development.
- We have established the Phoenix service for children who have experienced sexual abuse, providing information, advice and some direct therapeutic support, as well as training and support for staff to enable them to improve practice.
- Following an internal audit, we have undertaken significant work to analyse and improve our processes for making placements for children looked after.
- Our Sufficiency Statement for Children Looked After and Care Leavers 2016-2019 was recently published, setting out our approach to providing a sufficient number of appropriate placements. The statement has an accompanying action plan which is updated and monitored quarterly by the Corporate Parenting Board.
- Our Pathways to Independence Service (P2i) provides a systematic approach to sustainable independence for young people. It provides prevention, mediation, emergency accommodation, 200 supported accommodation placements and support programmes enabling independence and accommodation move-on. The service was designed and procured with young people and will be monitored by them in the future.
- We are retendering our Fostering Framework for 2018-2022 in partnership with the Peninsula authorities, to commence in April 2018.
- We have grant funded a DfE innovation programme 'Safe Families for Children' for 18 months to work with vulnerable children and families on the edge of care. The service will start in April 2018 and will work with up to 72 families.
- Commissioners meet regularly with fostering providers to discuss barriers, issues and increasing provision, improving commissioning and social care's work.
- In July 2017, we held an event for fostering providers, attended by 20+ representatives. We relayed feedback from individual visits ('you said, we did') and discussed ways to work more closely together to ensure sufficiency.
- Established Family Group Conferencing service which will be evaluated for effectiveness

- We have analysed one-off spend on crisis intervention support and drafted a specification to formalise our arrangements and achieve value for money
- Placements made in unregulated provision (services not inspected by Ofsted or CQC) are subject to an initial visit and evaluation by a Senior Placements Officer, to ensure the provision is of a good standard, is safe, and provides good value.

### **What are we doing to improve?**

- We are working with residential and fostering providers to implement more creative, innovative solutions for children looked after. Our next event on 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017 will engage providers to improve the quality and sufficiency of placements.
- An annual refresh of the Sufficiency Statement is underway, published March '18.
- Exploring options of joint working with the South Central Framework on residential provision, including potential to block contract as local partnerships.
- We are a member of Adopt South West, the Regional Adoption Agency which consists of joint working and information sharing with Devon, Plymouth and Torbay. These arrangements are intended to be formalised in 2020.
- We will develop personalisation as part of a market development strategy during 2018. We will engage organisations with the principles of personalisation, and prepare businesses to work for individuals, marketing their services accordingly.
- We are developing transition pathways for children with disabilities and long term conditions to move into adult services and/or independence.
- We are currently embedding a revised placements process, ensuring this has effective governance, as well as being efficient and swift when required.
- We will increase capacity in the Placements Team to ensure IPAs (Individual Placement Agreements) are completed in a timely way and to a high standard.
- We will finalise the SEND needs assessment and joint commissioning strategy and action plan by December 2017.
- P2i outcomes based contract will have its first annual review completed by young people, using a methodology designed by young people.

### **What outcomes will this achieve?**

- Children and young people are protected from harm and well cared for at home wherever possible, reducing the number of children coming into care.
- Children who cannot remain at home safely are offered permanent family based alternative care as quickly as possible, in a safe place where they can grow, thrive and reach their potential
- A reduced reliance on residential settings and the ability to place children no more than 20 miles from home where ever this is appropriate to their needs
- Somerset has sufficient and suitable placements available for children looked after and care leavers, with all placements are managed within agreed frameworks and contracts, including expectations of cost and value for money.
- Children and young people have mechanisms for personalised care and individual budgets.
- Young people experience successful transitions into adulthood.
- A stable, skilled, confident, motivated workforce who are empowered to work creatively with others on a joined-up offer which achieves positive outcomes

## Improvement Programme 7.

### Embedding a think family approach across the workforce.

Research shows addressing the needs of a family in a holistic way is more likely to lead to sustained improvements for children. The influence of family members, adult behaviour, friendships and community, cannot be overestimated on a child's development. We want to establish a Think Family approach across the children's and adults workforce so we all understand the parental vulnerabilities that may present hidden harm and help address the issues within the family, not just the child or the adult.

#### What have we done?

- The Troubled Families Programme takes a Think Family approach, and champions this with colleagues throughout adult and children's services
- Implemented revised transitions protocols for children moving onto adult services so they are well prepared and supported, and agencies understand the change in service delivery required, including the need for joint commissioning
- Supported appropriate information sharing across partners by providing guidance and a multi-agency collaboration tool: the Professional Choices online portal.
- We have promoted Somerset Choices within the workforce so they use it with families to find local support

#### What are we doing to improve

- We are developing a Think Family Strategy to embed this approach within the workforce in 2018
- Implementing a new service delivery model to enable successful transitions based on integrated, multi-agency and multi-disciplinary ways of working
- We are reviewing the support available to parents who have repeat removals of children from their care, and assessing the need for more specialist intervention, reporting on this by December 2017.
- Use the shared intelligence of partners to target resources effectively by sharing data and knowledge safely and securely
- Continue to promote Professional Choices, particularly the Who's Who Guide, so practitioners know who else can help them in supporting their families.
- Commission, subject to agreement, the DCLG approved whole family working training for the workforce

#### What outcomes will this achieve?

- Vulnerable young people and families are more emotionally resilient and capable of resolving problems
- Vulnerable young people and families are directly involved in helping themselves and encouraged to help others through volunteering or peer mentoring.
- Young carers of parents with mental health and drug and alcohol problems have access to advice and support and know how to call for help when needed
- Professionals and staff who work with adults, children and young people understand the 'think family' concept, recognise the effects of adult behaviours on children and young people and know how to respond appropriately.



### 3. Somerset County Council’s Approach to Commissioning

Within Somerset County Council we define commissioning as *“How we identify needs and creatively work with everyone involved to make things happen to meet those needs in the most appropriate and cost effective way”*. In order to commission well it is essential that staff are focussed on the three pillars of commissioning in all activity and at all points of the commissioning cycle. These are:

- Outcome focus - The impact, result or effect of an intervention on an individual or community. We are agnostic about how we achieve outcomes e.g. in-house, contracted, grant funded, partnership, community delivery
- System Leadership - We focus on securing the best outcomes for our local communities by making best use of all available resources and all our levers. We don’t just look in isolation at individual services or the Council’s part in a system/customer pathway
- Co-production - A way of working whereby decision makers, customers, families, carers and service providers collaborate to create solutions which work for them all.

Underpinning these principles is the need to work together with others to achieve the outcomes that matter to a particular place or population. Doing this means that we don’t do things to people (we do things with people), we don’t always do things for people (we need to rebalance our relationship with the public) and we don’t assume we’re best to do it (we are focussed on outcomes not services).

The nine commissioning principles need to be followed at each stage of the commissioning cycle and should guide all commissioning activity within the Council and with our partnership activity.

OUTCOME FOCUS	SYSTEM LEADERSHIP	CO-PRODUCTION
<p>A. We are flexible about how we achieve outcomes, focusing on quality and impact</p> <p>B. We aim to reduce inequalities and enable others</p> <p>C. All activity is needs and evidence based and we build new evidence through evaluation</p>	<p>A. Our role is to ensure value for money (incl. social value) across whole systems</p> <p>B. We seek to prioritise prevention and early intervention</p> <p>C. We build relationships, culture and partnerships to work across systems and pathways</p>	<p>A. We actively involve people, partners and providers by building on their strengths</p> <p>B. We balance working in partnership with the need to act commercially</p> <p>C. Our approach will be open, transparent and collaborative throughout the commissioning cycle</p>

Figure 1: SCC’s Commissioning Principles

Our commissioning is defined by the four stages of the commissioning cycle shown below. At each stage many different activities are undertaken (for example the 'do' stage might involve a procurement, out-sourcing, in-sourcing, shaping a market, restructuring).



Figure 2: SCC's Commissioning Cycle

There are many different commissioning cycles in different organisations. This cycle is important to us because it is:

- **Sequential and cyclical:** All stages are equally as important and our commissioning principles apply throughout. We need to test and learn from what we've done and continuously improve.
- **Customer centred:** Good commissioning means we need to understand legislation, our financial envelope, political priorities, our partners priorities, the state of the market, demographics, healthcare and people's needs. Most importantly though, we need to keep the person's (or customer's) needs and the outcomes they want to achieve at the centre of every stage of the process.

### What do we have in place?

- Children's services have strategies for the following areas:
  - [Children and Young Peoples Plan 2016-2019](#)
  - [Early Help Strategy 2016-2019](#)
  - [SEND Strategy 2016-2019](#)
  - [Strategy for Achieving Excellence for All \(Education\) 2016-2019](#)
  - [Engagement and Participation Strategy 2016-2019](#)
  - [Somerset County Council Sufficiency Statement for Children Looked After and Care Leavers 2016-2019](#)

- Somerset County Council currently have a single [Market Position Statement](#), which identifies the council's commissioning intentions and partnership needs
- Commissioners use a variety of means to assess demand, need and supply, to inform commissioning direction and strategic intent. This includes:
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment](#) (JSNA) when developing strategies or new services. This was particularly relevant when developing the Children and Young People's Plan
  - The Troubled Families team have created a data warehouse, overlaying statutory and voluntary sector data sources onto a map of Somerset. This shows correlations and 'hotspots' across the county, eg showing geographical relationships between families in poverty and children with disabilities.
  - Data dashboards have been developed for a number of areas in children's services including children's social care, early help, SEND and mental health, which provide useful analysis and rich information.
  - Performance data is collected from the Children Looked After Placements Team, enabling analysis of placement trends, gaps and challenges
  - Data and need is collated from customer complaints and feedback including engagement work with young people, the Young Commissioners project, the participation team and the Independent Reviewing Officer information.
- Commissioners work closely with the Procurement Department to ensure all procurement options are explored, ensuring the right solution for each service.
- Fostering and residential placements are sourced through the Peninsula frameworks, using the system agreed with the Peninsula Children's Services Commissioning Board (Cornwall, Devon, Torbay, Plymouth & Somerset local authorities). Any services purchased from organisations not on the framework receive a 'spot contract', providing the same terms as the framework providers. Once the placement is made, an Individual Placement Agreement (IPA) is produced to secure costs and outcomes expected for that child.
- The Peninsula frameworks are run by Devon County Council on our behalf. There are 19 providers on the Peninsula residential framework, 18 on the SEND independent schools framework, and 16 providers on the fostering framework. If a framework provider cannot supply the service required, we purchase outside the framework. Currently only 13 providers have spot contracts with us.
- Once secured, contracts are listed on [Pro-Contract](#) (A public list of tendered contracts) and on the Children's Services Commissioning Contracts Register
- The Council has developed a Contract Monitoring Toolkit through the Contract Manager's group, which will be standard practice within the Children's Commissioning Team by December 2017.
- We have developed and implemented the Somerset Academy, which develops leadership and collaboration skills across a range of agencies in Somerset.
- We are funding a post-graduate commissioning qualification, following a long period of weak training opportunities for commissioners.

### What will we do?

- Placement Sufficiency in Somerset is an increasing issue, even though there are more residential beds available in the county than we need, and limited, but



- available, capacity in the independent fostering market. Commissioners are understanding this complex market, building positive relationships with providers and sharing the detail of our needs to ensure the right provision is available and that Somerset is the preferred commissioner.
- The Commissioning Development Team are creating an interactive Market Position Statement with providers, using dynamic communication to highlight capacity and innovative ideas. Supporting this, we will develop a Children's Market Position Statement by March 2018, enabling providers to get the detail they need to work closely with us.
- We will produce Commissioning Strategies to support a range of market segments, including fostering, residential, edge of care, emotional wellbeing and children with disabilities. These documents will link to the overall Market Position Statement, addressing demand and supply.
- Maintaining good communication with providers is essential to the health of the market, so the Children's Commissioning team have produced a 'Communications plan' (Appendix A), explaining how we ensure regular contact and engagement with provider organisations, partner agencies and internal colleagues. This will particularly apply to fostering and residential providers, where communication is key to finding placements for our most vulnerable children and young people.
- Childrens Commissioning will continue to work with other LAs across regional partnerships when this is beneficial to Somerset. The established South West Peninsular work for Residential, Fostering and SEND placements will continue to be reviewed and evaluated for efficiency and best value.
- Joint Commissioning with the CCG is still developing; currently a Joint Commissioning Strategy for children with additional needs is being finalised by December 2017 which will outline the principles and mechanisms for enabling joint commissioning including personal health budgets and EHCP processes.
- Contracts for individual children (Individual placement agreements or IPAs) are currently not always completed well, or in a timely manner. Strengthening the capacity and capability of the Placements Team is a key priority, which will enable closer working relationships with social workers, education staff and providers to resolve issues quickly and effectively.
- The council's Participation Team ensures children and young people have influence and impact on a range of issues. We have exciting plans to strengthen young people's influence on commissioning and commissioned services, developing mechanisms for co-production across the commissioning team.
- Commissioners will set up outcomes based contracts, and monitor these with both quantitative and qualitative information, focussing on using feedback from service users and using creative ways to measure performance accurately.
- Contracts will be proportionately managed by risk, including financial value and impact on the service user. The highest risk services will be held by a Senior Commissioner, and will involve frequent contact and review. The lowest risk will be held by a Commissioning Officer, and will be reviewed annually.
- We are developing a small Quality Team, focussed on proactively reviewing and driving improvement of residential, fostering and unregulated accommodation services. In time, this team will include all internal and external provision
- We will recruit additional staff to the children's commissioning team, driving through changes required to achieve our aspiration of "good".

## 4. Co-production

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Commissioners will work alongside service user groups, making their work available for the group to engage with, as well as inviting groups to work with us for a concentrated period of time on particular projects such as procurements, contract reviews, recruitment and strategy creation. Where a service user group does not exist or is not able to engage, commissioners will support the development of a group which is able to support co-production.

Existing groups include:

- The Parent Carer Forum (Parents and carers of children with disabilities)
- The Unstoppables (young people with disabilities)
- SICC (young people in care)
- SLICC (Young people leaving care)
- Youth Parliament
- 2BU (Young people identifying as LGBTI)

We do not currently have access to a group representing children with mental health difficulties – though this may be possible through Somerset Partnership’s CAMHS group. We also do not have access directly to children with SEND, though we are indirectly able to gain their views through the Parent Carer Forum, and through young people in the Unstoppables group who have recently left the school system.

## 5. Quality Assurance

Quality Assurance is a high priority for Children’s Services. The service adheres to quality outcomes frameworks to ensure the highest quality of services, accountability and achievement of the best outcomes for children and families.

Quality Assurance ensures that all staff working in Children’s Services:

- Keep children safe
- Improve outcomes
- Think about the impact of all their actions on children and families

This enables us to answer the following questions:

- Are we doing the right things?
- Are we making a difference?

The purpose of quality assurance is to improve outcomes for children by improving staff practice and therefore quality of the service provided. We achieve this through:

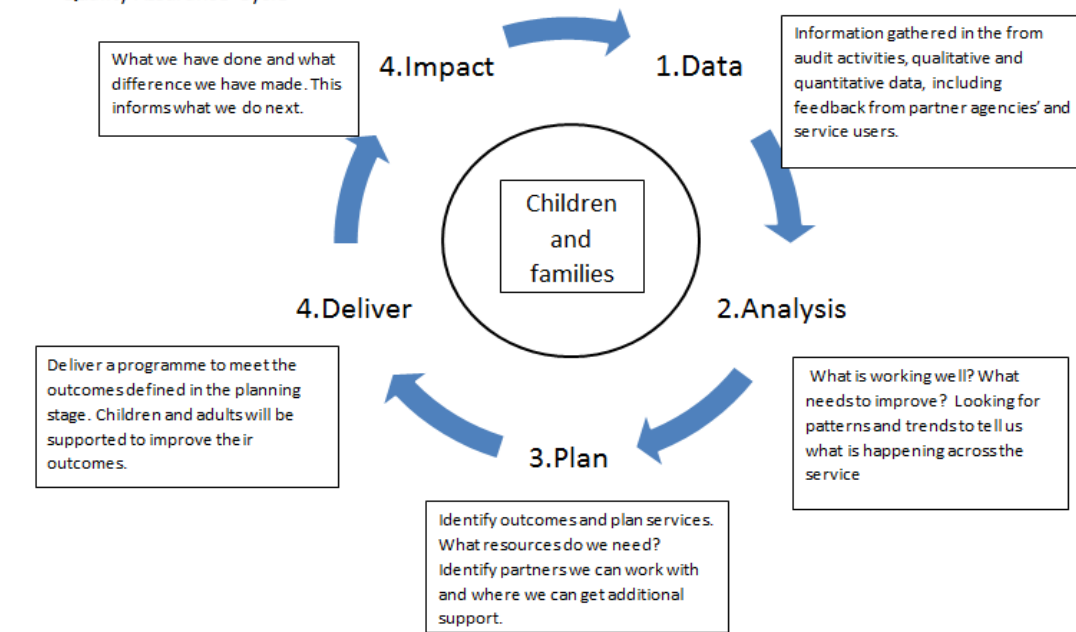
- Measuring and monitoring performance against required standards and agreed targets
- Identifying areas of strength as well as shortfalls in practice
- A whole system approach linking individual supervision training and planning to the findings of quality assurance activity
- Helping staff understand their quality assurance roles and responsibilities, and that everyone has a role to play in improving quality
- Providing a feedback cycle which drives a learning culture where problems are addressed openly and honestly



## Somerset Children's Services Quality Assurance Cycle

Quality Assurance Cycle

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- Children's Services commissioners are committed to achieving excellence through a quality assurance cycle, ensuring continuous improvement. Information gained from a variety of sources to inform current performance, is used to shape future service delivery, which improves outcomes for children and families.
- The Children's Commissioning team currently hold responsibility for reviewing all social care contracts across children's services. These services are reviewed quarterly or more frequently, depending on the perceived need and risk.
- The team use service specifications in contracts to ensure each party understands their role and remit. These specifications will have KPIs and outcomes where possible, which will be reviewed and managed regularly. Where appropriate, we will often ask for case studies and reports from providers on their progress, in order to capture the wider, more subjective benefits of the service. Where performance falls short of the specification, this is raised with the provider and solutions are discussed, with the expectation that performance is improved quickly and efficiently.
- We are developing a dataset to show the impact of the Children's Commissioning Team on quality, cost and performance of services, as well as the subsequent impact of this work on service users and the Directorate.
- We aim for improved outcomes through tighter contract monitoring and negotiating with services to meet needs identified through data.

## Appendices

- A Communications Plan**
- B Children & Young People's Plan Governance Structure**

## Appendix A: Communications Plan

Communications Plan						
Campaign Communication Lead:						
Campaign Service lead: Philippa Granthier						
Last updated: By:						
Deadline	Action	Purpose	Additional detail	Outcomes	Audiences	Responsible Officer/s
<b>September</b>						
Daily	Daily Operation Communications	Finding placements	Look at CRM solution		Providers	Placements Team
Monthly	Contract Monitoring Review	Improved arrangements		Cost savings and raising standards	Commissioning Team	Senior Commissioning Manager
Monthly	Social Care Manager's Meeting (OMM)	Sharing concerns and solutions, supporting joint working		Improving efficiency and communication	Social Care Teams	Louise Palmer/Richard Pears
Monthly	CCG/SCC Commissioners meeting	Sharing concerns and solutions, supporting joint working		Improving efficiency and communication	CCG Commissioners	Philippa Granthier/Louise Palmer
Quarterly	South West Commissioners Forum	Best practice sharing, central/IPC messages, peer support	Themed each quarter	Opportunities for joint working re efficiencies Improved understanding of central policy Sharing best practice to improve services	South West Commissioners	Louise Palmer/Jo Sangster
<b>October</b>						
Daily	Daily Operation Communications	Finding placements	Look at CRM solution		Providers	Placements Team
Monthly	Contract Monitoring Review	Improved arrangements		Cost savings and raising standards	Commissioning Team	Senior Commissioning Manager
Monthly	Social Care Manager's Meeting (OMM)	Sharing concerns and solutions, supporting joint working		Improving efficiency and communication	Social Care Teams	Louise Palmer/Richard Pears

Monthly	CCG/SCC Commissioners meeting	Sharing concerns and solutions, supporting joint working		Improving efficiency and communication WWW.SOMERSET.GOV.UK	CCG Commissioners	Philippa Granthier/Louise Palmer
Quarterly	South West Fostering Network Meeting	Sharing concerns and information	Commissioners by invitation	Improved Communication and Information Sharing / Improved Provider Engagement	South West Fostering Providers	Louise Palmer/Carrie-Anne Hiscock
Oct - Dec 2017	Family Support Service and Children's Centre Consultation	Re-design of family support services and integration of Public Health	Online consultation / Promotion / Engagement Events	To inform decisions around future services	Service users and stakeholders	Philippa Granthier, Alision Bell, Mark Ford, Andrew Hedges
01/09/17	Essex Visit - Commissioning/CCG - Pre-birth to 19	Sharing Best Practice		Sharing Best Practice to Improve Service	Partnership Commissioners	Philippa Granthier
<b>November</b>						
Daily	Daily Operation Communications	Finding placements	Look at CRM solution		Providers	Placements Team
Monthly	Contract Monitoring Review	Improved arrangements		Cost savings and raising standards	Commissioning Team	Senior Commissioning Manager
Monthly	Social Care Manager's Meeting (OMM)	Sharing concerns and solutions, supporting joint working		Improving efficiency and communication	Social Care Teams	Louise Palmer/Richard Pears
Monthly	CCG/SCC Commissioners meeting	Sharing concerns and solutions, supporting joint working		Improving efficiency and communication	CCG Commissioners	Philippa Granthier/Louise Palmer
Ongoing	Information Sharing - digital channels	Strategic / Central Messages / Information Sharing / Peer Support	LinkedIn Yammer Twitter	Improved Communication and Information Sharing / Improved Provider Engagement		
Oct - Dec 2017	Family Support Service and Children's Centre Consultation	Re-design of family support services and integration of Public Health	Online consultation / Promotion / Engagement Events	To inform decisions around future services	Service users and stakeholders	Philippa Granthier, Alision Bell, Mark Ford, Andrew Hedges
01/11/17	Engagement with Youth Sector	To inform the Young Persons Strategy	Visits to Youth Activities	To inform development of Young Persons Strategy	Commissioners of Young Persons	Emma Good

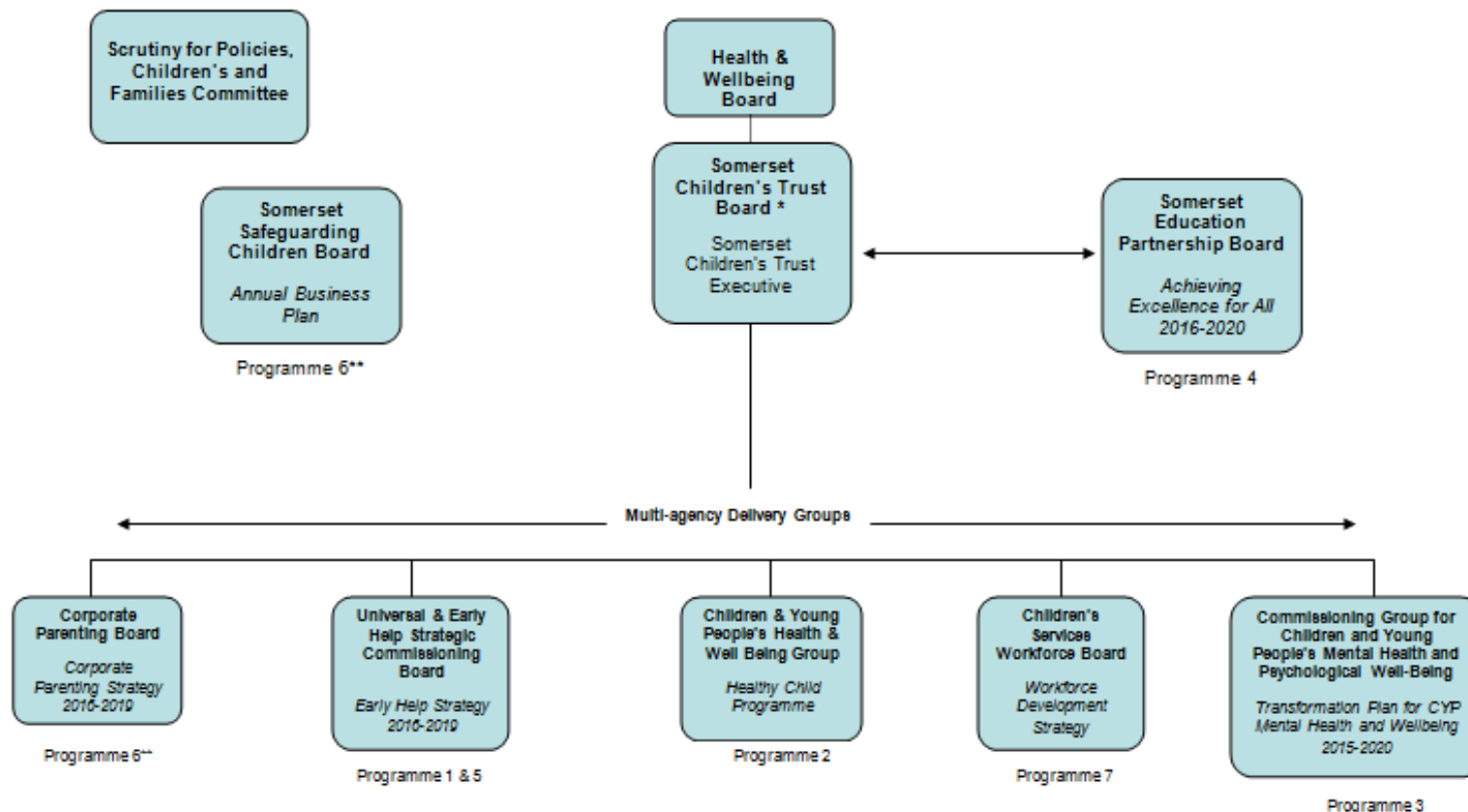
				WWW.SOMERSET.GOV.UK	Services Provider (Business Development Managers)	Senior Commissioner
24.11.2017	Whole Provider Event	Market Development and Engagement	Venue / Comms/ Promotion / Agenda	Additional Quality Placements / Better Outcomes for Children Looked After / More Trusted Relationships		
<b>December</b>						
Daily	Daily Operation Communications	Finding placements	Look at CRM solution		Providers	Placements Team
Monthly	Contract Monitoring Review	Improved arrangements		Cost savings and raising standards	Commissioning Team	Senior Commissioning Manager
Monthly	Social Care Manager's Meeting (OMM)	Sharing concerns and solutions, supporting joint working		Improving efficiency and communication	Social Care Teams	Louise Palmer/Richard Pears
Monthly	CCG/SCC Commissioners meeting	Sharing concerns and solutions, supporting joint working		Improving efficiency and communication	CCG Commissioners	Philippa Granthier/Louise Palmer
Quarterly	South West Commissioners Forum	Best practice sharing, central/IPC messages, peer support	Themed each quarter	Opportunities for joint working re efficiencies Improved understanding of central policy Sharing best practice to improve services	South West Commissioners	Louise Palmer/Jo Sangster
Ongoing	Information Sharing - digital channels	Strategic / Central Messages / Information Sharing / Peer Support	LinkedIn Yammer Twitter	Improved Communication and Information Sharing / Improved Provider Engagement		
Ongoing	Engagement with Forums	Widening Participation and Engagement	VCSE Forum,			
Oct - Dec 2017	Family Support Service and Children's Centre Consultation	Re-design of family support services and integration of Public Health	Online consultation / Promotion / Engagement Events	To inform decisions around future services	Service users and stakeholders	Philippa Granthier, Alision Bell, Mark Ford, Andrew Hedges
01/12/17	Engagement with Youth Sector	To inform the Young Persons Strategy	Visits to Youth Activities	To inform development of Young Persons Strategy	Commissioners of Young Persons Services	Emma Good



# Appendix B: Children & Young People’s Plan Governance Structure

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## Governance Arrangements for the Somerset Children and Young People’s Plan 2016-2019



\* Plus partners' own Statutory Requirements e.g. Somerset County Council, NHS Commissioners & providers, Avon and Somerset Police, Voluntary & Community Sector

\*\* Safeguarding and social care activity is monitored by a number of different Boards and internally by Somerset County Council Children's Services own performance management arrangements.

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Somerset County Council  
Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee  
17 November 2017

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## Young Carers Update

Lead Member: Cllr Leigh Redman, Task and Finish Group Chairman

Author(s): Wendy Jenner, Targeted Youth Support and Gemma Pickford Waugh,  
Children's Commissioning

Contact Details: 01458 449117 / 01823 359109

Division and Local Member: All

### 1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update members of the Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee on progress of the Young Carers Strategic Steering Group following the committee's recommendations in April 2017.
- 1.2. The work of the Young Carers Project contributes to the Somerset Children and Young People's Plan priority 1. "Supporting children, families and communities to become more resilient" and 7. "Embedding a 'think family' approach across the workforce".

### 2. Issues for consideration

#### 2.1. Action Plan

Members are asked to consider the progress Young Carers Strategic Action Plan (Appendix A) and actively support its work; in particular supporting recruitment of a Councillor to be the Young Carers Champion.

### 3. Background

- 3.1. The Task and Finish Group reviewed arrangements for young carers in Somerset in April 2017 and provided a number of recommendations to improve identification and support to our young carers.
- 3.2. 190 young carers have been identified; all have a Young Carers Assessment.
  - 14 have an allocated Social Worker as a result of being assessed as a Child In Need (CIN) or Child Protection (CP) case.
  - Over the last 18 months, 34 young carers have been in one or other of these categories on CIN or CP.
  - 42 Young Carers' parent(s) have a mental health issue and 5 Young Carers' parent(s) have a substance misuse issue.
- 3.3. A Young Carers Strategic Action Plan has been formed to take forward those recommendations, as detailed in Appendix A. Key achievements to date, grouped as per original recommendations, include:
  - 3.3.1. **Schools**
    - We have identified and are writing to all school Safeguarding Leads asking them to nominate a lead person to act as Young Carers Champion.
    - We are working closely with Alison Boulton, of the "School Information Management System" Team, regarding the collection and analysis of school data centrally. A draft report in a test school system has been developed. Schools will be formally informed about collection of the information. Some

multi-academy trusts such as Diocesan MATS do not use SIMS, which will restrict our ability to collect this information systematically.

- Five pilot projects have taken place in schools in each district to raise awareness of the service and the needs of Young Carers. These schools are Whitstone, King Arthurs, Robert Blakes and Kingsmead. We are continuing to identify and target schools in each area of the County to roll out these pilots.
- A school survey will take place in March 2018 commissioned by Public Health; there will be a specific question on caring by young carers. This will give a more accurate picture of who is caring and how much caring is being provided.

### 3.3.2. **Adult Services**

- The Young Carers' Forum has produced a job description to recruit a Councillor to be a Young Carers Champion.
- A Choices for Life Strategy has been developed and Choices for Life Panels have been set up. Young Carers who require a Joint Transition Assessment will be discussed at these Panels. We have worked to develop the Pathway for Young Carers and aim for this to increase the number of assessments completed, as none have been created in 2017.
- A new service provider for Carers has been commissioned. This is the 'Carers Agent Service'. Referral pathways have been agreed.
- Restrictions in budgets within front line Adult Health and Social Services mean that adults generally have to meet a higher threshold of need to access services, which results in some Young Carers being left to undertake inappropriate levels of care

### 3.3.3. **Health**

- Public Health has planned a training event for Senior Leads in schools with places for 100 delegates.
- We are unaware of work planned to encourage GPs to identify and refer Young Carers. A lead for this work needs to be identified.
- We have received a grant of £5k to provide Mental Health resource bags for young people.

### 3.3.4. **The Council**

- An extensive programme of holiday activities has been delivered to provide respite opportunities funded by the Friends Charity and staffed by Young Carers staff. The 6 events gave 314 individual breaks to the Young Carers that attended, and 70% of Young Carers open to the Service attended at least one event. The respite activities included:
  - Bristol - Cinema and Air hop with 75 young carers.
  - A 3 day residential at Skern in Devon with 37 young people aged 10-17. Many of the younger carers had not attended a school camp or been away from home before.
  - Go Ape, Kilve Court and Greenbank swimming pool which was attended and supported by the Rotary Club
- The summer programme cost of £15,888.00 for transport and activities



which was funded entirely by the Friends of Young Carers Charity and from an external grant.

- The Young Carers Forum has agreed a 'Job description' for a Councillor Champion; we would welcome assistance in identifying a member to take on this role
- Year 11 Young Carers are offered specialist careers advice by Targeted Youth Support Specialist Advisors to support transitions to college or university.
- The budget for transport to groups is supported by funding from Targeted Youth Support.
- The Young Carers' Facebook page and website is now operational and is used to maintain contact with Young Carers.
- In March 2017, a pilot project to increase transition assessments ended. This pilot involved adult services providing a worker to undertake transition assessments and develop pathways for young carers into adulthood.

#### **4. Consultations undertaken and Fact finding**

- 4.1. The initial Scrutiny Task and Finish Group had met with Young Carers, Young Carer Professionals, Young Adult Carers, Public Health and Somerset Parent Carer Forum to identify its recommendations in April 2017.
- 4.2. The Young Carers Strategic Steering Group was not successful in set-up and so the work has been driven by key staff in the Youth Service, frequently in communication and partnership with stakeholders.
- 4.3. The Young Carers Forum have developed the job description for the Young Carers Champion to ensure the role can meet their needs.

#### **5. Background papers**




- 5.1. Young Carers Strategic Steering Group Action Plan (Appendix A);  
Young Carers Task & Finish Group Report to 7 April 2017 committee meeting;  
Children's Commissioner (December 2016) [The support provided to Young Carers in England](#).

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

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**APPENDIX A**

**Young Carers Strategic Action Plan**

#	Action	What success looks like	Owner	RAG, due date and direction of travel.	Progress notes and planned activity.
1	Draft & agree a Memorandum of Understanding between children and adult social care services describing 'no wrong door' for young carers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The needs of young carers are included in Adult Social Care (ASC) plans.</li> <li>• Support from Adult Social Care (ASC) is timely.</li> <li>• No care package shall rely on children to meet the needs of an adult.</li> <li>• Ensure all staff are aware of who to contact for support in either department</li> </ul>	Tom Whitworth, Strategic Manager & Vicky Chipchase, Senior Commissioning Officer	Amber Ongoing 	<p>An agenda item for Young Carers is now included in every Choices for Life Area panel, 3 times per year. This will include representatives from Adult Social Care and the new Care Agents. Transition plans for each young person are discussed with a range of professionals ensuring the young person's needs are met, including consideration for the needs of any people they care for.</p> <p>Young Carers Safeguarding Policy is in draft. To be presented to Safeguarding Board, Childrens Trust and Health and Well Being Board setting out clear responsibilities to identify and address the needs of young carers.</p>
2	Create a role description and recruit a councillor to be a Young Carer Champion.	Awareness is raised of the existence, voice and needs of young carers.	Young Carers' Forum / Dave Willis, Professional Practitioner	Amber 17/11/17 	<p>Role description is completed the job description has been produced by the Young Carers Forum.</p> <p>Councillor to be identified to lead as Young Carer Champion.</p>
3	Establish clear training programmes for education, health and social care professionals for adults and children's services.	Professionals already working with children and young people recognise the role of a Young Carer and make appropriate referrals in a timely manner.	Fiona Moir, Health Promotion Manager & Dave Willis, Professional Practitioner	Amber June 2018 	Public health are leading this work. Event planned for teachers in June 2018, with 100 delegates invited

4	Review & improve data collection and sharing protocols between children and adults services and schools.	Young Carers are identified at an early stage and only have to tell their story once.	Penny Johnson, Youth Offending Information Manager & Wendy Jenner, Targeted Youth Service Operational Manager	Amber January 2018 	Data to be collected directly from schools via Schools Information Management (SIMS) Team. Contact made and costs have been identified. Meeting and Plan in place. Young carer data from caseload information is regularly reviewed at getset Quality Performance Review (QPR) meetings.
5	Review Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFC) proposals in relation to impact on Young Carers to ensure funding for Young Carers to access social support is maintained as per Scrutiny recommendation.	Young Carers access to social support is maintained.	Tom Whitworth, Strategic Manager	Green Ongoing 	Young Carers transport budget subsidised by Targeted Youth Service (TYS). Friends of Young Carers Charity paid for Summer Activity Programme and are financing transport for a Taunton group.
6	Support schools and colleges to...			.	
6.1	a) Put in place processes that identify Young Carers and provide appropriate support.	Young Carers are identified and support enables them to have the same opportunities and choices as those without caring responsibilities.	Dave Willis, Professional Practitioner	Green Ongoing 	Pilot project with 4 schools started April 2017. Report on school projects complete and other schools are being targeted. Facebook and Website are operational
6.2	b) Develop a whole school approach to raise awareness and remove stigma.	Young Carers feel able to discuss their needs and any problems they face without fear.	Fiona Moir, Health Promotion Manager	Amber June 2018 	Training will be delivered June 2018
7	Work with Somerset Local Medical Committee (LMC) to encourage and support GPs to 'think family' when working with adults with caring needs.	GPs recognise the role of Young Carers and make appropriate referrals in a timely manner.	To identify lead	Amber March 2018 	Draft young carers safeguarding policy currently underway. This will to be taken to a multi-agency board including adults and health to raise the issue with system leaders.



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