

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

1. Introduction

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 31st March 2016 to 474 at 31st 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 31st 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%.