

Committee: Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 09 November 2016

Agenda item:

Wards: All wards

Subject: Performance monitoring 2016/17 (Q2/September 2016)

Lead officer: Paul Ballatt, Assistant Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Performance, Children Schools and Families

Lead member(s): Councillor Katy Neep; Councillor Caroline Cooper-Marbiah.

Forward Plan reference number: n/a

Contact officer: Naheed Chaudhry, Head of Policy, Planning and Performance.

Recommendations: That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel;

- A. Discusses and comments on appendix one: September 2016 Performance Index
 - B. Discusses and comments on appendix two: Performance Indicators – Rationale and linkages
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. To provide the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel with a regular update on the performance of the Children, Schools and Families Department and key partners. Data provided in appendix one is as at the end of September 2016. October data was not complete at the point of publication.

2. DETAILS

- 2.1. At a Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel meeting in June 2007 it was agreed that the Children Schools and Families Department would submit a regular performance report on a range of key performance indicators.
- 2.2. This performance report acts as a 'health check' for the Panel and as such is over and above the more detailed thematic reports scheduled to the Panel which relate to specific areas of activities such as the annual Schools Standards report, Corporate Parenting Report, MSCB annual report etc.
- 2.3. **2016 performance workshop**
- 2.4. The Scrutiny performance index is periodically reviewed in line with good performance monitoring practice. During October such a review took place at a workshop with the Panel's nominated performance lead and other panel members. Officers presented an overview of the CSF Performance Framework and the range of broader service and outcome reports scheduled for Scrutiny which provide detail far greater than the performance index.
- 2.5. It was agreed that the current basket of performance measures presented to the CYP Panel in the index should be retained but that it could evolve gradually if/when needed. For example, any addition might be made if members want to review a specific measure on an on-going basis or, if through their scrutiny, they decide that a specific issue requires additional focus. It was also agreed that officers would

report on other indicators, not in the index, by exception should they have particular concerns or if they wished to report particularly good performance.

2.6. Officers were asked to provide 'volumes' as well as percentage outturns in order to allow members to gain a sense of scale and relativity, these volume figures have been added for the year to date (see Index, appendix one).

2.7. Members also requested that further description be provided in relation to each indicator to help members understand its rationale and purpose. It was noted that the lead performance member is keen to understand and share with the panel the linkages between measures. Officers have responded to this request with detail as presented in appendix two.

2.8. It was agreed that measures in the index that remain green will continue to be reported as they continue to be worthy of scrutiny oversight and can refer to practice that our regulators would expect to be regularly monitored by elected members.

2.9. **September 2016 Performance**

2.10. As at September 2016, there is only one indicator underperforming.

2.11. **Indicator 3: Percentage of new Education, Health and Care plans issued within statutory 20 week timescale (new, including exceptions) – Red.**

2.12. As at the end of quarter two 20% of new requests for EHCPs were completed within 20 weeks, below the national benchmark. We have seen a significant increase in new requests for EHCPs, in response to the demand issues we are using SEN Implementation Grant to increase the capacity within the SEND team, reconfiguring roles and streamlining business processes to enable improved performance. During September/October the SEN Team has successfully recruited permanent staff to some vacant posts and with the use of the of the SEN Implementation Grant to fund fixed term posts it is anticipated this will alleviate some of the demand pressures and increase our completion timeliness.

2.13. Alongside responding to new requests for EHCPs, we are managing an ongoing challenging agenda, set by central government in relation to the transfer of SEN Statements and Learning Disability Assessments (LDA Section 139A) to EHCPs. LDAs are due to be transferred to EHCPs by December 2016 and all existing Statements of Special Educational Needs to EHCPs by March 2018. In respect of the target to transfer all existing SEN Statements to EHC plans, Merton is currently performing relatively well, ranked 7th in London.

1. **APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT**

Appendix 1: CYPP performance index 2016/17 (September 2016)

Appendix 2: Children's Performance Indicators – Rationale and linkages

2. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

CSF Performance Management Framework <http://intranet/departments/csf-index/csf-performance.htm>