

Committee: Council

Date: 1 February 2017

Wards: ALL

Subject: Strategic Objective Review – Children and Young People

Lead officer: Yvette Stanley – Director, Children Schools and Families Department

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

Contact officer: Paul Ballatt – Assistant Director, Commissioning, Strategy and Performance

Recommendations:

- A. That Council considers the content of the report.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Council at its meeting in March 2016 approved the Business Plan 2016-2020. The Business Plan represents the way in which the council will lead the delivery of the Community Plan via a number of thematic partnerships and strategic themes. Performance against these themes, plus an additional theme of corporate capacity, is monitored by Council.
- 1.2 Each meeting of Council will receive a report updating on progress against one of these strategic themes. This report provides Council with an opportunity to consider progress against the priorities under the ‘children and young people’ theme.
- 1.3 The ambition for the theme as outlined in the council’s Business Plan 2015-19 is to ‘improve health outcomes, maintain robust safeguarding, improve educational outcomes, promote children and young people’s positive contribution and their economic wellbeing’.
- 1.4 The portfolio holders are Cllrs Katy Neep and Caroline Cooper-Marbiah
- 1.5 The Business Plan can be viewed at www.merton.gov.uk/businessplan.

2 DETAILS

Background

- 2.1 The Children Schools and Families Department aims to improve outcomes for children and young people in Merton through commissioning and providing a range of universal, targeted and specialist services. These include:
- Early years services in children’s centres and settings
 - Primary, secondary and special schools
 - Services for pupils with Special Educational Needs
 - School admissions, pupil place planning and school capital strategy
 - School improvement

- Education Inclusion including universal youth services
 - Social work assessment and casework – Safeguarding; children in need; children looked after; care leavers
 - Family and Adolescent Services including youth justice; Transforming Families
 - Integrated services for children with disabilities
 - Commissioning, procurement and contract management
 - Policy, planning and performance management
- 2.2 The Department leads the local Children’s Trust, a partnership of agencies from the statutory, community and voluntary sectors which develops strategy and plans for the delivery of co-ordinated and integrated services for children, young people and families. Many of the Council’s children’s services are provided through this partnership approach with, for example, joint commissioning, integrated teams, multi-agency jointly delivered services and some co-location of staff.
- 2.3 Strong partnership working is at the heart of our approach to ensuring that children and young people are healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and enjoy economic wellbeing. In addition to the Children’s Trust Board, governance of local children’s services is undertaken by Merton’s Local Safeguarding Children Board; the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Safer and Stronger Thematic Partnership.
- 2.4 In 2013, the Merton Partnership refreshed the Community Plan. In seeking to promote ‘better opportunities for youngsters’, children’s services partners expressed the following vision:
- “We are committed to delivering outstanding services which improve outcomes and life chances for all the borough’s children and young people. We are also determined to help those facing real challenges to overcome them and narrow the gap in outcomes.”
- 2.5 The vision recognises the need to provide the highest quality universal services while focusing particularly on children and young people vulnerable to poorer outcomes. This more targeted approach, prompted not least by the financial pressures faced by the public sector, has been reflected in the borough’s Children and Young People’s Plan for some years now. The current plan, covering the period 2016-19 contains the following key priorities:
- Children in need of early help
 - Children requiring timely and effective safeguarding
 - Children looked after and care leavers
 - Children with special educational needs and disabilities
 - Improving overall and narrowing gaps in educational outcomes and opportunities
 - Preventing, diverting and deterring young people from criminal behaviour to enable better outcomes

Performance relating to Children and Young People

- 2.6 Children's services are amongst the most highly regulated of public services with several hundred performance measures applied by a range of government departments. At a local level, relevant performance data is used routinely by managers and is monitored by governance bodies noted above and by the CYP Scrutiny Panel. Key performance data has been extracted for the purposes of this report and is contained in **appendix one**.

Commentary and key achievements relating to Children and Young People

- 2.7 In common with all Local Authorities, services provided by Merton council and its partners for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers are subject to regular external inspection by Ofsted on, broadly, a three year cycle. The last inspection of these services in Merton took place in 2012, at which point all these services were assessed as 'good'. Since 2012 there have been changes to the inspection framework and a general 'raising of the bar' in respect of Ofsted's expectations. There has been some slippage in the national programme of inspection and Merton now expects our inspection to be imminent. As part of our preparation we have undertaken self-evaluation against the 'new' Single Inspection Framework. Key areas of strength identified in our self-evaluation include:

- Strong political leadership of the local children's services agenda embodied in the 'July Principles' with consistent cross party commitment and support on children's issues
- Shared ambitions across children's services agencies and a culture of support and challenge from key governance bodies – Children's Trust; Local Safeguarding and Health and Wellbeing Boards
- A long tradition of partnership working between the council, schools, NHS commissioners and providers, the police service and the community and voluntary sectors
- A consistent drive for continuous improvement through creating a learning culture, using evidence based practice and innovating with new developments in the last few years including the establishment of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH); the commissioning of Multi Systemic Therapy for families; the establishment of a 'Single Point of Access' into child and adolescent mental health services; the establishment of a co-located Education, Health and Care Planning team for children with disabilities and SEN; the co-location of health staff into Merton's children's centres
- A strong focus on recruiting, retaining and developing a high quality social care workforce supported by effective learning and development, evidence based practice tools, manageable workloads and fit for purpose structures
- A longstanding commitment to listening to the voice of service users in individual care planning and service development through, for example, the Children in Care Council; Your Shout group; Young Inspectors

- 2.8 These strengths have enabled children's services to deliver significant service improvement. Key achievements include:

- Over 80% of families from areas of deprivation in the borough have accessed children's centres services in 2015-16
- All Merton's children's centres are currently rated good or outstanding, better than London and national benchmarks
- Improving statutory assessment timeliness with Merton's performance better than London and National benchmarks
- Improving child protection review compliance with Merton's performance better than London and national benchmarks
- Delivering one of the most effective and well evaluated Troubled Families initiatives nationally and being selected as an 'early starter' for phase two of the national programme
- Reducing first time entries into the criminal justice system by just under 60% since 2013-14
- Improving timeliness of care proceedings in respect of looked after children, reducing the time taken to complete applications by over 50%
- Improving the average time for matching a looked after child with an adoptive family with Merton's performance better than the national average
- Recruiting over 50 new fostercarers for Merton's looked after children since 2011 enabling a reduction in use of independent agency placements
- Significantly more care leavers are living in suitable accommodation and in education, training or employment than national averages
- More Merton schools are rated good or better by Ofsted and more Merton pupils attend schools rated good or better than London and National benchmarks
- Attainment of Merton pupils in 2016 at Key Stage 2 (expected standards in reading, writing, maths) was above national average
- Attainment of Merton pupils in 2016 at Key Stage 4 (Attainment 8 Score) was above national average
- Expanding over 20 primary schools to accommodate the additional demand for school places in Merton and progressing plans to ensure the sufficiency of secondary and special school places over the medium term

Key Challenges

Service Transformation

2.9 The significant budget reductions affecting the council since 2010 have been a major challenge. The council is responding to this challenge through its 'transformation' programme designed to re-engineer organisational structures and models of service delivery. CSF Department's overall approach to service transformation has been to focus on our statutory duties, to strengthen our approach to commissioning and to progress our longstanding commitment to partnership working. Some of the major 'transformation' ahead includes:

- Reorganising the department into two divisions, relocating the management of the department's strategic functions

- Embedding changes to practice and management following the transfer of casework with children with disabilities and their families into the mainstream Social Care and Youth Inclusion division
- Retaining the strongest focus on robust safeguarding practice and ensuring our structures for casework with children in need of help and protection, looked after children and care leavers remain fit for purpose
- Further strengthening performance management of casework practice through use of the new Mosaic client information system and through continuing to focus on single and multi-agency quality assurance processes
- Continuing to develop a 'Merton approach' to social work practice through embedding evidence based practice tools such as Signs of Safety and motivational interviewing
- Engaging with partners in the statutory and voluntary sectors to review Merton's Child and Young Person's Wellbeing Model to ensure it provides the framework and procedures to support the earliest possible identification of, and intervention with, children and young people with additional needs
- In the area of Early Years services, further increasing provision for vulnerable 2 year olds to meet government targets. Work will continue to increase alignment and integration of CSF, Clinical Commissioning Group and Public Health commissioning of under 5's health services and to further develop integrated working with community health staff now co-located in our children's centres
- Continuing work to transform universal youth services in Merton through implementing a partnership commissioning and delivery model and working with MVSC and youth organisations with a view to developing a 'youth foundation' approach across the borough which would enable alternative funding streams to be accessed eg through charitable trusts
- Continuing to develop the integrated approach to Education, Health and Care assessment and planning for children with SEN and disabilities introduced in the Children and Families Act 2014. Following the recruitment of the health staff co-located in the SENDIS service, this will particularly involve embedding and developing further the integrated processes involved in implementing new Education, Health and Care Plans for children previously subject to SEN statements
- Establishing a new integrated CSF, Public Health and Merton CCG commissioning team, hosted by the Director of Public Health, to seek economies of scale and efficiencies in use of commissioning budgets and deployment of commissioning capacity

- School improvement capacity will continue to be more sharply targeted to schools requiring improvement and on narrowing gaps in progress and attainment for certain pupil groups. Officers will continue to support the development of the Merton Education Partnership and to develop sustainable ways of providing support and challenge to Merton's schools
- Delivering sufficient secondary school places through ongoing work with the Education Funding Agency and Harris Federation to establish the new Free School on High Path in South Wimbledon and providing sufficient special school places through further expansions of Perseid and Cricket Green schools and reviewing the functions and capacity of our SEN 'bases' in mainstream schools

Public Policy Issues

- 2.10 Successive governments have sought to increase the volume and pace of adoption as a preferred means of achieving permanency for children who cannot remain looked after within birth families. Existing separate arrangements for recruiting adoptive parents and matching with children are seen to be barriers to achieving these ambitions and the present government is now seeking to establish regional arrangements by 2020. In London, the ALDCS submitted a proposition for the capital that regionalises some adoption functions but which also retains strong local connections. This has been agreed by DfE and London Boroughs including Merton are now engaged in establishing a more detailed model for possible implementation from 2017-18.
- 2.11 National reviews have been undertaken during 2016-17 on the future of Youth Offending Services and on the governance of local safeguarding arrangements. In respect of young people in the criminal justice system, the Taylor review has advocated a greater focus on welfare as opposed to punishment through the courts process and has challenged national government to implement changes which promote a more impactful approach to changing lives of the most troubled young people.
- 2.12 The Wood review of the governance of safeguarding arrangements concluded that national prescription of how local services should be held accountable for the effectiveness of safeguarding at a local level is no longer appropriate and advocated for local areas to develop their own solutions to effective governance with a stronger focus on improving outcomes supported by the strengthening through legislation of the current 'duty to cooperate'.
- 2.13 While full government responses to these reviews have not yet been made, partner agencies in Merton, led by the council, will need to consider implications for the model of youth offending service delivery and the functioning of Merton's Local Safeguarding Children's Board going forward.
- 2.14 Central government has been consulting on fairly radical changes to the national funding formula for schools. An analysis of 'illustrative allocations' undertaken by London Councils suggests that Merton would gain in the region of £5 million from the new formula (likely to be phased in, however) against a background of reduction in London as a whole. A new formula for early years funding is also being introduced with Merton expecting to benefit from in the region of £4 million additional funding in 2017-18. The overwhelming majority of these gains will go directly to schools and settings, alleviating to some extent concerns within the local childcare and schools sectors about budget pressures.

- 2.15 Members will be aware of the current government's commitment to increase the numbers of Academies inc Free Schools and to enable the establishment of new Grammar schools. Merton's administration continues to be committed to local authority maintained schools providing the core education offer locally. It has taken a pragmatic approach in respect of the relatively few Academies and Free Schools which have either been established or are in planning in the Borough. While these schools are autonomous, the council is committed to their engagement in the wider schools 'community' in Merton and CSF department enjoys effective working relationships with all current sponsor organisations. The current administration does not support the establishment of Grammar Schools in the borough.
- 2.16 Children's services and schools continue to be some of the most regulated and inspected services delivered by the council and partner agencies. We continue to prepare for the major 'Single Inspection' of services for children in need of help and protection, looked after children and care leavers which is now significantly overdue. Additionally, Ofsted has recently commenced a new inspection programme examining the effectiveness of local agencies' implementation of the SEN and Disabilities elements/duties of the Children and Families Act 2014. In particular, the inspection will examine progress in the implementation of Education, Health and Care Plans; the 'local offer' of services provided or available to this group; arrangements for the preparation for adulthood of young people with SEND and transitions arrangements with adults' services. In preparation for this inspection, officers are preparing a self-evaluation and are engaging with key partner agencies in this process.

Reports of Overview and Scrutiny Commission/Panels

- 2.17 The Children and Young People Scrutiny and Overview Panel continues to exercise its statutory function in relation to children's social care, including child protection.
- 2.18 The Cabinet Member for Children Services has attended all but one Panel meeting during this municipal year to provide an update on her responsibilities. Issues that have been highlighted include participation in children's services, housing provision, childhood obesity and Education, Care and Health Plans.
- 2.19 Reviewing the priorities for the Children, Schools and Families Department as set for the next four years is an essential part of the Panel's remit. Performance monitoring information from the department is provided at each meeting. This is presented by a relevant department officer and subject to scrutiny by members.
- 2.20 The basket of performance indicators presented at each meeting includes a range that enable the Panel to monitor children's services:
- In June 2016, the Panel noted the number of children who become subject to a Child Protection Plan for the second or subsequent time. Officers informed the Panel that this will be monitored through the quality assurance process, DMT and the Safeguarding Board. It was noted that whilst families have been supported to achieve change, how to make this resilient to other factors and allow families to recognise their own strengths to achieve systematic change is being pursued;
 - Panel members have noted and congratulated officers on their success in recruiting foster carers. This is allowing the department to decrease its use of agency foster carers and reduce their associated higher costs; and

- The percentage of Education, Health and Care plans issued within the statutory 20 week timescale continues to be monitored by the Panel as this is currently falling behind target. It has been highlighted that this is a national issue and that Merton's performance is on par with other London councils. As part of the budget process, members have been informed that Merton will receive a £150K funding allocation as Government recognises the work involved in achieving this target.

2.21 Departmental updates have been used to brief members on changes affecting social workers:

- It is Government policy to develop more regional approaches to the delivery of some elements of children's social care. Panel members have received updates on Merton's work with London Councils in planning for the regionalisation of adoption functions. This has been most recently reviewed by the Panel as part of the budget process. Proposed savings to be achieved from this new multi-borough adoption service are a work in progress and will continue to be refined as the deadline gets closer. Members sought reassurance that this would not destabilise important services; and
- Members have congratulated the department on its reduced reliance on agency social workers.

2.22 At its meeting in November 2016, the Panel received the annual report of the Merton Safeguarding Children Board. Keith Makin, the independent chair of the board, Superintendent Steven Wallace, the Acting Borough Commander and Yvette Stanley, Director, Children, Schools and Families attended the meeting to answer members' questions. The meeting established that:

- Effective partnership working, good lead member representation and multi-agency quality assurance are all strengths;
- The provision of training, listening to the voice of children and young people and the link with the safeguarding adults board have been key focuses during the year;
- The board has undertaken a self evaluation ready for Ofsted inspection;
- A serious case review has been conducted and the board has undertaken a number of task and finish groups looking at *Prevent*, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), neglect and the performance management data set; and
- Over the next year the three key focuses for the board will be on 'think family' approaches, supporting vulnerable adolescents and early help for families to support them in strengthening their own resilience to address problems.

2.23 At its meeting in January 2017, the Panel received a report from the Public Health Team on services for children. This highlighted that waiting times to access a tier three Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service assessment has shortened by three weeks since 2013/14 and that whilst the childhood obesity

target has been achieved, there are still 4,000 overweight children in the borough. The Panel resolved to receive a further, more detailed update on childhood obesity.

- 2.24 At its meeting in February 2017, the Panel will again receive the annual schools standards report. This looks in-depth at the performance of Merton's schools including for defined cohort groups such as looked after children.
- 2.25 At its meeting in March 2017, the Panel will receive the annual corporate parenting report. This will allow Panel members to further examine priorities for the scrutiny of children's services which were identified during last year's review:
- The percentage of children in and leaving care that are 'not in education, employment or training' (NEET);
 - How the changing profile of the LAC population in Merton (coming into care at an older age) is affecting outcomes at KS4 for some pupils;
 - Increasing the number of foster carers and reducing use of foster care agencies;
 - Increasing the range of housing options for young people coming out of care; and
 - Reviewing the need for and use of residential care for looked after children
- 2.26 The focus on corporate parenting at the Panel's meeting in March 2017 will also provide the opportunity to look at housing solutions for care leavers as well as housing pressures that affect families and children. Officers from Community and Housing will support this session.
- 2.27 Additionally, the Panel has chosen over the last year to focus its task group capacity on how to better support vulnerable cohorts into employment including children in and coming out of care. The task group has accepted that there are sufficient local employment programmes and has instead focused on how to add value to these and make them more effective. The task group has looked at a variety of successful initiatives to inform its recommendations which include provision of work taster/work experience opportunities. The final report and recommendations of the task group will go to the Panel meeting in February 2017.
- 2.28 Councillor Neil has just started to conduct a rapporteur scrutiny review of participation in children services with a focus on looked after children and care leavers. The aim is to report back to the Panel at its March 2017 meeting on how looked after children can participate and influence services. The terms of reference for this rapporteur review were agreed by the Panel at its January 2017 meeting.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1 Not applicable – this report is for information only.

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

- 4.1 None for the purposes of this report.

5 TIMETABLE

5.1 N/A

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The department continues to experience significant budget pressures across the local authority controlled budget, in particular in respect of placements for looked after children and care leavers; SEN Transport and providing services for unaccompanied asylum seekers and families with no recourse to public funds.

6.2 Although the 2016-17 target for recruitment of in house foster carers is expected to be met, ongoing use of independent sector fostering placements and residential care is needed because of the increasingly complex needs of some looked after children. Numbers of young people resident in semi-independent placements have grown significantly in meeting our increased responsibilities towards care leavers. We are currently reviewing the use of these placements and exploring the availability of alternative housing options which could be more affordable to the council.

6.3 In respect of SEN Transport we have achieved some success in reducing overspend in year through more robust application of eligibility, implementing a successful strategy to promote the use of Personal Budgets and beginning to use a Dynamic Purchasing System for the procurement of taxi providers. The clienting of taxi procurement is to be transferred to the department in April 2017.

6.4 More unaccompanied asylum seeking young people and families with no recourse to public funds have required support over the last year and this is likely to continue with Merton continuing to take responsibility for these young people and families through the London-wide rota and national dispersal schemes. Much of the spending by the council is unfunded by central government and this means relevant budgets will continue to be subject to significant pressures going forward.

6.5 The administration has recognised the need to add growth into CSF department's budget and £2.5 million additional funding over three years has been agreed, subject to council's approval of the overall budget in March 2017.

7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no specific legal or statutory implications arising from this information report.

8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no specific human rights, equalities or community cohesion implications arising from this information report.

9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this information report.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no specific risk management or health and safety implications arising from this information report.

11 APPENDICES – the following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report

Appendix I: Performance Data

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1 2016-2020 Council Business Plan

Appendix I: Performance Data

No.	Priority area 1: Early Help - Deliver early help and improve outcomes for those subject to the effects of disadvantage	Benchmarking and trend				2016/17 Target	2016/17 Quarter 1	2016/17 Quarter 2	2016/17 Quarter 3
		Merton 2015/16	Merton 2014/15	England 2014/15	London 2014/15				
1	Number of Common and Shared Assessments undertaken (CASAs) YTD	589	443	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	144	258	342
2	Percentage of parents referred completing 'parenting programmes'	81% (Q1 15/16)	75%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	70%	67%	Data not reported this period	DNA
3	Percentage of 0-5 year olds from areas of deprivation (IDACI 30%) accessing Children's Centre services (estimated Census 2011 population) YTD	72%	78%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	75%	34%	48%	58%
4	Number of two year olds accessing 'Free child places'	1492	917	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Summer - 637 (Q2) Autumn - 751 (Q3) Spring - 886 (Q4)	408	Data not reported this period	396
5	Percentage achieving 'A Good Level of Development' at Early Years Foundation Stage (4 to 5 year olds)	68% (AY 2014/15)	60% (AY 2013/14)	66% (AY 2014/15)	68% (AY 2014/15)	60%	2015/16 academic outturns to be published in School Standards report in Feb 2017.		
6	Percentage of Free School Meals cohort achieving 'A Good Level of Development' at Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (4 to 5 year olds)	55% (AY 2014/15)	44% (AY 2013/14)	51% (AY 2014/15)	59% (AY 2014/15)	Not a target measure	Annual measure		
7	Percentage of MMR1 coverage: 1 dose of MMR by age 2 years	DNA	84%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	Annual measure		
8	Percentage of MMR2 coverage: 2 doses of MMR by age 5 years	80%	76%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	87.6% (2018)	Annual measure		
9	Percentage of excess weight in children age 4-5 years (overweight and obesity)	21.8% (AY 2014/15)	20.9% (AY 2013/14)	19.10%	22.60%	Not a target measure	Annual measure		
10	Percentage of excess weight in children aged 10-11 years (overweight and obesity)	35.7% (AY 2014/15)	36.4% (AY 2013/14)	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	35.7% (2018)	Annual measure		

No.	Priority area 2: Safeguarding children and young people	Benchmarking and trend					2016/17 Target	2016/17 Quarter 1	2016/17 Quarter 2	2016/17 Quarter 3
		Merton 2015/16	Merton 2014/15	England 2014/15	London 2014/15					
11	Number of MASH initial contacts received	5308	4613	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	1383	2628	3918	
12	Percentage of Single Assessments authorised within statutory requirements of 45 days	93%	90%	81%	80%	85%	92%	92%	93%	
13	Percentage of quorate attendance at Child Protection Conferences	DNR	91%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	95%	89% (80/10)	85% (79/17)	79% (59/31)	
14	Child protection plan rate per 10,000	30.0	39	43	41	Not a target measure	31.2	32.9	33.1	
15	Number of Children subject of a Child Protection Plan (as at 31 March)	138	177	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	144	152	153	
16	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescale (cases open three months or more)	99%	91%	94%	96%	Not a target measure	100%	95%	94%	
17	Percentage of Children subject of a Child Protection Plan who had a four weekly visit on time	71%	71%	64%	67%	Not a target measure	89%	83%	77%	
18	Percentage of Children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan for second or subsequent time	24%	16%	17%	14%	16%	7%	11%	16%	

No.	Priority area 3: Looked after Children and care leavers	Benchmarking and trend				2016/17 Target	2016/17 Quarter 1	2016/17 Quarter 2	2016/17 Quarter 3
		Merton 2015/16	Merton 2014/15	England 2014/15	London 2014/15				
19	Care application average duration (national target 26 weeks)	30	39	30	30	35	18	28	DNA
20	Number of Looked After Children	163	157	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	167	151	162
21	Percentage of Looked After Children in external foster care agencies	37%	41%	38% (2013/14)	No benchmarking available	42%	38%	45%	43%
22	Number of 'in-house' foster carers recruited YTD	13	10	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	15	4	6	11
23	Percentage of Looked After Children cases reviewed within timescales YTD	97%	95%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	99%	97%	93%
24	Percentage of Looked After Children annual Health Assessments completed within timescale	DNR	94%	90%	90%	Not a target measure	Annual measure		
25	Percentage of Initial Personal Education Plans completed within timescales	84% (AY 2014-15)	93%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	Annual measure		
26	Percentage of LAC achieving 5 GCSEs A* - C including English and math	8% (2014-15)	21%	12% (2013/14)	15% (2013/14)	Not a target measure	2015/16 academic outturns to be published in School Standards report in Feb 2017.		
27	Numbers of children who become Looked After due to a remand YTD	8	6	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	1	2	4
28	Percentage of Care Leavers in education, employment or training (EET) (18 year olds and above) Y	63%	44%	48%	53%	Above national	60%	66%	66%
29	Percentage of Care Leavers living in suitable accommodation	86%	76%	81%	83%	Above national	91%	92%	94%
30	Number of Looked After Children adopted or receiving a Special Guardianship Order YTD	16	16	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	13	4	8	9
31	Placement stability performance (3 moves or more) YTD	12%	14%	11%	No benchmarking available	12%	1%	9%	10%
32	Placement stability length (2 years or more) YTD	68%	46%	67%	No benchmarking available	66%	80%	75%	73%

No.	Priority area 4: Closing the gap in educational outcomes and opportunity	Benchmarking and trend				2016/17 Target	2016/17 Quarter 1	2016/17 Quarter 2	2016/17 Quarter 3
		Merton 2015/16	Merton 2014/15	England 2014/15	London 2014/15				
33	Percentage of all Children's Centres graded good or outstanding by Ofsted inspections	100%	100%	69%	76%	100%	100%	100%	
34	Percentage of all Schools graded good or outstanding by Ofsted inspections	89%	85%	84% (31 August 2015)	88% (31 August 2015)	89%	92%	91%	
35	Percentage of all Pupils in Schools graded good or outstanding by Ofsted	90%	84%	81% (31 August 2015)	88% (31 August 2015)	Not a target measure	93%	92%	
36	Percentage of Children achieving Level 4 or above in reading, writing and maths at Key Stage 2	82% (AY 2014-15)	80% (AY 2013/14)	80% (AY 2014/15)	84% (AY 2014/15)	82%	2015/16 academic outturns to be published in School Standards report in Feb 2017.		
37	Percentage of Young People achieving 5 or more GCSE grades A* to C including English & maths	60% (AY 2014-15)	64.2% (AY 2013/14)	53% Prov (AY 2014/15)	59% Prov (AY 2014/15)	64%			
38	Percentage of Young People aged 16-18 Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)	3.6%	4.3%	4.7%	No benchmarking available	5%	3.8%	4.1%	DNA
38a	% of CYP (16 - 17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) (new national replaces KPI 47)	n/a	n/a	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	n/a	DNR	DNR	1.4%
39	Percentage of Young People aged 16 - 18 who's NEET status is "Not Known"	3.6%	12.4%	9.2%	12.7%	Not a target measure	3.4%	2.3%	
39a	% of CYP (16 - 17 year olds) not in education, employment or training status 'not known' (new national replaces KPI 48)	n/a	n/a	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	n/a	DNR	DNR	5.6%
40	Percentage of surplus places at Reception year	6.20%	1.10%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	5%	Annual measure		
41	Percentage of surplus places at Secondary school Year 7 (Inc. Academies)	5.50%	11.32%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	5%	Annual measure		

No.	Priority area 5: Engage and enable young people to achieve better outcomes	Benchmarking and trend				2016/17 Target	2016/17 Quarter 1	2016/17 Quarter 2	2016/17 Quarter 3
		Merton 2015/16	Merton 2014/15	England 2014/15	London 2014/15				
42	Number of young people engaging in positive youth service participation		3,234	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	1,800	Annual measure		
43	Number of first time entrance into Youth Justice System aged 10 to 17 (cumulative)	61	60	22393 (2013/2014)	No benchmarking available	70	12	34	49
44	Rate of proven re-offending by young people in the youth justice system	0.88	1.05	1.04 (2013)	1.10 (2013)	Not a target measure	1.54	0.83	0.71
45	Percentage of young people requiring a First CAMHS assessment seen within 8 weeks of referral		72%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	Annual measure		
46	Teenage Pregnancy conception rate per 1000 (under 18 years) (Average data 18 months in arrears)	19.7 per 1000 in 2014	22.2 per 1000 in 2013	30.7 per 1000 (2011)	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	Annual measure		
No.	Priority area 6: Children with special educational needs and disabilities	Benchmarking and trend				2016/17 Target	2016/17 Quarter 1	2016/17 Quarter 2	2016/17 Quarter 3
		Merton 2015/16	Merton 2014/15	England 2014/15	London 2014/15				
47	Number of Children or Young People with a Statement or Education, Health, Care Plan by Merton	1078 (Jan 2016)	1045 (Jan 2015)	240185 (Jan 2015)	41105 (Jan 2015)	Not a target measure	1219	1263	1185
48	Transfer of Statements to EHC Plans in 20 weeks (YTD)	18% (Jan 2016)	n/a	18% (Jan 2016)	14% (Jan 2016)	Not a target measure	59%	52%	46%
49	New Education Health and Care Plans issued within 20 weeks (YTD)	58% (Jan 2016)	100% (Jan 2015)	55% (Jan 2016)	64% (Jan 2016)	85%	27%	23%	20%
50	Percentage of SEN statemented pupils educated in borough maintained schools	90%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	Not a target measure	89%	95%	91%
Others									
51	Percentage of statutory returns to government on time	100%	100%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	100%	100%	100%	100%
52	Percentage of commissioned services quarterly monitoring completed on time	100%	100%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	100%	100%	100%	100%
53	Percentage of major capital projects green/amber to time	86%	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	90%	100%	100%	100%
54	Percentage of spend on approved capital programme	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	No benchmarking available	80%	97%	100%	100%