

REPORT TO: Children & Young People Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 4 January 2010

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Children & Young People

SUBJECT: Quarter 2 2009-10 Performance Update

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To provide a performance update for the Quarter 2 period, July 1st 2009 to September 2009. This is a follow on report from the Performance Dashboard that was tabled at the meeting on 2nd November 2009. A revised version of the Performance Dashboard is attached as Appendix 1.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board scrutinise progress against the priorities set out in the Children and Young People Plan through the Q2 Children's Trust Report Card.

3.0 SUMMARY

3.1 Priority 1: Children and young people are physically, emotionally and sexually healthy

A number of indicators are awaiting data from the PCT. This has been delayed for a number of reasons, including problems with disaggregating the data into Halton footprint only rather than PCT footprint of Halton and St Helens. This data will be fed into the report as soon as data is supplied.

Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks has seen an improvement on the previous quarter of 17% although short of the target of 21%. There have been a number of developments which have positively impacted on this indicator including, additional support for breastfeeding mothers through maternity support workers, development of breastfeeding support groups in children's centres and continued working towards baby friendly status throughout Halton. The baby welcome awards are also being rolled out through the borough to enable mothers to feed whilst out and about.

Children accessing counselling services and schools implementing the SEAL programme is making good progress and expected to meet the end of year targets set, to impact on improving emotional health and well-being.

The take up of Care to Learn by eligible teenage parents has exceeded the target set for the year, with a significant increase on the previous quarter.

This is due to improving the services offered by the Teenage Pregnancy team through the Connexions service and regularly adapting operational strategies to suit the identified needs of the cohort.

3.2 Priority 2: Every young person is successful when they leave school

The percentage of young people who are not in education, employment or training has been a major area of focus for the Children's Trust and has shown a significant improvement during Quarter 2. Although not meeting the very challenging target, There has been a reduction in the % of NEET from quarter 1 where 13.8% was reported to 10.56%, although this is short of an extremely challenging target.

This reduction has been achieved due to a number of different factors including the effective partnership working and targeted approaches aimed at tackling NEET. There is an effective NEET Strategy and Annual Action Plan in place lead and implemented by a strategic NEET group that has all the relevant partners involved. The NEET Strategy and Action Plan are structured to address the prevention, intervention and sustainability aspects of NEET and a range of partners are involved in the delivery of this work. There has been an improvement in the provision on offer within the borough in terms of quality and quantity for example there are more work based learning providers offering training places and Riverside college is now offering more flexible starts by offering courses with January starts.

There are a number of educational attainment indicators contributing to measuring this priority. Provisional data has been released and performance across all stages has been generally positive. All attainment indicator targets are set at the highest level and are, as a result, challenging and ambitious. Although some of the indicators included in this priority area have not met these targets, the following indicators have shown progress on the previous year; Achievement of at least 78 points at Early Years Foundation Stage Profile, percentage of schools attained below 30% achieving 5 or more GCSE's at grades A*-C including English and Maths.

The number of young people achieving accredited outcomes has improved, and is now expected to meet the end of year target, which was uncertain at the end of quarter 1.

3.3 Priority 3: Children and young people do well wherever they live and whatever their needs

First time entrants to the youth justice system have fallen from the previous year. When measured at the end of quarter 2, the progress is of more than 20%, which exceeds the target of 5% reduction. This is due to several factors including, Police restorative justice programmes, YCAP projects such as Operation Stay Safe and the Youth Inclusion and Support Panel.

Diversions and preventative projects such as positive activities for young people and the vRoomz bus are also impacting on this indicator.

The percentage of eligible 3 and 4 year olds taking up the Early Years Entitlement has also increased and exceeded the target set. The support and encouragement by the Early Years team to maximise parents take up and targeted work with groups considered most at risk of not taking up their entitlement is used to emphasise the benefits and ensure all parents access the entitlement

Attainment and attendance for Children in Care have failed to meet the targets set. The small cohort included in these indicators affects the performance significantly, especially in relation to attainment. The indicator measuring the proportion of Children in Care who had been absent for 25 or more days is collected nationally. Performance has improved from 14.4% in academic year 2007-08 to 7.9% for academic year 2008-09. This is due to targeted support for children and young people in care who are absent from school from their first day of absence. The Education Support Service/Virtual School for Children in Care monitors the attendance of all children in care on a daily basis and provides appropriate fast track support.

The achievement gap between the highest score and lowest score at Early Years Foundation Stage Profile has increased for 2009. Due to improvements in the delivery of the EYFSP there have been increases in the number achieving higher scores. This has impacted negatively on this indicator, with the highest moving further away from the lowest.

3.4 Priority 4: Children and young people will feel safe at home, in school and in their communities

As with the general population indicator around employment, education and training, performance for care leavers has improved with 66.7% being reported at the end of Quarter 2. Considerable progress has been made in respect of care leavers entering apprenticeship opportunities in the past quarter.

Some national indicators around timescales of assessments are not meeting the targets set. A significant increase in the number of referrals during the summer has impacted on finalising assessments in ICS. For initial assessments all cases continue to be allocated and children seen within 7 working days to ensure that children are not at risk. Both these indicators are subject to close monitoring to ensure that quality of work is not impacted by increases in workload.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 No financial implications identified

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 No other implications have been identified.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Children's Trust Performance Report Card has been developed to enable tracking of progress against the priorities set out in the Children and Young People's Plan. This is a key component to drive improvements in outcomes for Children and Young People in Halton.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

The Children's Trust Performance Report Card includes a number of measures to track progress of children and young people against this priority and will reflect joint work with the Employment, Learning and Skills partnership.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The Children's Trust Performance Report Card includes a number of measures to track progress of children and young people against this priority and will reflect joint work with the Healthy Halton partnership.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The Children's Trust Performance Report Card includes a number of measures to track progress of children and young people against this priority and will reflect joint work with the Safer Halton partnership.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Not applicable.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 A risk analysis has been completed against each of the priority areas.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 The priorities identified in the Children and Young People plan are targeted at reducing inequalities and ensuring the best outcomes for all children and young people in Halton with a particular focus on vulnerable groups.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 None

PRIORITY 1: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ARE PHYSICALLY, EMOTIONALLY AND SEXUALLY HEALTHY								
Outcome 1: Improve Physical Health			Outcome 2: Improved Emotional Health and Wellbeing			Outcome 3: Improve Sexual Health		
Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target	Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target	Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target
NI053: Prevalence of Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks	17.14%↑	21%	NI050: Emotional health of children (TellUs)	70.2%→ (2008/09 data)	71.5%	NI112: Under 18 conception rate	+49.1% (2007 data)	-41%
NI056: Obesity in Year 6	21.4% ↑ (2008/09 data)	21.3%	NI069: Percentage of children who have experienced bullying (TellUs)	41.5%→ (2008/09 data)	40%	NI113: Prevalence of Chlamydia	Awaiting data	Target to be agreed
Infant Mortality rate (3 year rolling average)	6.6 ↓	5.3	Percentage of children young people consuming alcohol (TellUs)	11%→ (2008/09 data)	10%			
Key Process Measures			Key Process Measures			Key Process Measures		
Percentage of 5 yr olds with up to date immunisations ¹	83.57%↓	95%	Percentage of schools implementing SEAL programme	96% → Primary 100% ↑ Secondary	96%	Number of condom outlets for young people (covered by contract) ²	51 ↑	51
Percentage of babies with low birth weight <2.5kg	9.4% (Q4 08/09)	TBA	Number of children and young people accessing counselling services	464	1000	Chlamydia screening rate	Awaiting data	5.5%
Number of children receiving support from healthy weight programme	Awaiting data	TBA	Percentage of schools rated good or better in Personal development and well-being	82% ↓	91%	Proportion of schools with a range of teen health drop in facilities	Awaiting data	100%
Percentage of mothers smoking at delivery	27.9% ↑	15% by 2010				% of teenage parents accessing eligible learning who take up Care to Learn ³	94% ↑	75%

¹ Uptake differs between different programmes of immunisation. This is the average across all immunisation programmes.

² C Card distributors and individual condom machines covered by contracts.

³ Amended indicator from previous draft of the report card to more appropriately detail performance

PRIORITY 2: EVERY YOUNG PERSON IS SUCCESSFUL WHEN THEY LEAVE SCHOOL

Outcome 4: Improve educational outcomes of all children			Outcome 5: Improve 14-19 Engagement, Attainment and EET			Outcome 6: Improve the engagement of children and young people		
Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target	Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target	Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target
NI072: Achievement of at least 78 points at Early Years Foundation Stage	46.9% ↑	48.0%	NI117: 16-18 years NEET	10.56% ↓	8.8%	NI110: Young people participating in positive activities (TellUs)	67.8% → (2008/09 data)	70%
NI073: Percentage achieving Level 4+ in English and Maths at Key Stage 2	73.7% ↓	77.0%	NI080: Achievement of a level 3 qualification by 19	33.5% ↓ (2007/08 data)	40.5%	Percentage of young people volunteering (TellUs)	54% ↑ (2008/09 data)	57%
NI075: Percentage achieving 5 or more GCSE's A*-C including English and Maths	44.3% ↓	49.0%	NI091: Participation of 17 year olds in Education or Training	73.0% → (2007/08 data)	75%			
Key Process Measures			Key Process Measures			Key Process Measures		
Percentage of schools in OFSTED categories at the end of the quarter	2.9% →	1.43%	Percentage of 17 year olds participating in education and work based learning (based on where they live)	70% (2007 data)	73%	Number of young people achieving accredited outcomes	391 ↑	526
Percentage of schools inspected, categorised by OFSTED as Good or Outstanding	68% ↓	80%	NI081: Gap in attainment at Level 3 at age 19	19.0% → (2007/08 data)	18%	Number of Young people participating and having a voice within the Youth Service and wider	1579 ↑	1754
Percentage of schools attaining below 55% Level 4+ in English and Maths at Key Stage 2	11.5% ↑	7.5%	Percentage increase in the number of young people starting an apprenticeship	Awaiting data	20%	Number of Children and Young People voting in the Youth Parliament elections	4864 ↑ (2008/09 data)	5000
Percentage of schools attained below 30% GCSE 5+ GCSE A*-C including English and Maths	8.3% ↓	0%						

PRIORITY 3: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE DO WELL WHEREVER THEY LIVE AND WHATEVER THEIR NEEDS

Outcome 7: Reduce inequalities for vulnerable groups			Outcome 8: Reduce Geographical Inequalities			Outcome 9: Reduce factors leading to inequalities		
Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target	Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target	Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target
NI106: Young People from Low Income Backgrounds progressing to HE	21% ↑ (2007/08 data)	20%	GCSE % 5+ A*-C including English and Maths achievement gaps in lowest 10% LSOA	37.4% → (2007/08 data)	40%	NI111: First time entrants to the Youth Justice System	95 ↓	239
Gap in attainment of Free School Meals achieving Level 2 by 19	47.9% ↑ (2007/08 data)	46%	Percentage of young people who think their area is a good place to live (TellUs)	68% → (2008/09 data)	70%	NI115: Substance misuse by young people (TellUs)	12.6% → (2008/09 data)	9.8%
NI101: Percentage of Children in Care achieving 5+ A*-C GCSE including English and Maths	7.7% ↓	20%	NI092: Achievement gap in the Early Years Foundation Stage	31.4% ↑	30.7%	NI116: Children living in poverty	Not available – new indicator	Not available – new indicator
Key Process Measures			Key Process Measures			Key Process Measures		
Percentage from vulnerable groups in EET (a – SEN, b – Teenage mothers, c – Care Leavers, d – YOT)	a) 60% b) 21.94% c) 58.82% d) 42.31%	Targets to be agreed	Percentage of schools within the Neighbourhood Management Areas rated as good or better	67%	70%	Numbers of young people referred to YISP for Diversionary activity	Awaiting data	Baseline year – no target
Educational attendance rate of Children in Care	87.0% ↓	90%	Number of children accessing Children's Centres	2369 ↑	1650	Percentage of young people with substance misuse needs receiving treatment in 15 working days of referral	81%	100%
Percentage of person centred plans for children with complex needs	92%	Baseline year – no target	Percentage of Early Years Provider rated as good or better	60.8% →	65%	Percentage of eligible 3 & 4 year olds taking up Early Years Entitlement	99% ↑	95%

PRIORITY 4: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FEEL SAFE AT HOME, IN SCHOOL AND IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

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Outcome 10: Case Management in Specialist Services			Outcome 11: Improve parenting support for children in need of safeguarding			Outcome 12: Improve outcomes for Children in Need of safeguarding		
Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target	Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target	Key Performance Measures	Actual	Target
NI063: Stability of placements of Children in Care – Length of placement	72% →	77.0%	Number of CAF's initiated by adult substance misuse services	New indicator. Measured from Q3 onwards.		Percentage of those with a Child Protection Plan that take up their Early Years entitlement	50% ↓	75%
NI059: Percentage of Initial Assessments completed within timescales	76% ↓	90%	Percentage of Children in need who have been open cases for 6+ months who had neglect as primary factor of referral	21.8% ↓	20%	NI148: Percentage of care leavers in Education, Employment or Training	66.7% ↑	71%
NI060: Percentage of Core Assessments completed within timescales	81% ↓	92%	Percentage of social care referrals that were subject to CAF in previous 12 months	8.4% ↑	15%	Percentage of Children subject to Child Protection review conference where their health needs were being fully or partially met	New indicator. Measured from Q3 onwards.	
Key Process Measures			Key Process Measures			Key Process Measures		
Percentage change in the average length of placement from the 2007-08 baseline	-0.13% ↓	Target to be agreed	Staff attending Domestic Abuse/Substance misuse/Mental Health training courses (rolling 12 months)	103 ↓	160	Attendance at school rate for Children subject to a Child Protection Plan	Awaiting data	96%
Percentage change in the number of Initial Assessments completed from 2007-08 baseline (rolling year)	-3.5% ↓	Target to be agreed	Number of notifications of private fostering arrangements received	2 ↑	6	Percentage of young people previously subject to a children protection plan currently NEET	10.1%	Baseline year – no target
Number of children with CP Plans	82 ↑	71-80	Percentage of parents participating in Child Protection conferences	100%	100%	Attendance at school rate for Children in Need	Awaiting data	96%
Percentage change in the number of referrals from 2007-08 baseline (rolling year)	-2.8% ↓	Target to be agreed	NI 070: CYP admitted to hospital as a result of deliberate or accidental injury	Awaiting data	155			