



## CHILDREN AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE, 6 JULY 2017

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	Quarter 4 2016/17 performance information
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<b>Policy context:</b>	The report sets out Quarter 4 performance relevant to the Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee
<b>Financial summary:</b>	There are no immediate financial implications, although adverse performance against some Corporate Performance Indicators may have financial implications for the Council. Whilst it is expected that targets will be delivered within existing resources, officers regularly review the level and prioritisation of resources required to achieve the targets agreed by the Cabinet at the start of the year.

### The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives:

Communities making Havering	[X]
Places making Havering	[]
Opportunities making Havering	[X]
Connections making Havering	[X]

## SUMMARY

This report supplements the presentation attached as **Appendix 1**, which sets out the Council's performance against the Corporate Performance Indicators within the remit of the Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee for Quarter 4 of 2016/17 (January 2017- March 2017).

## RECOMMENDATION

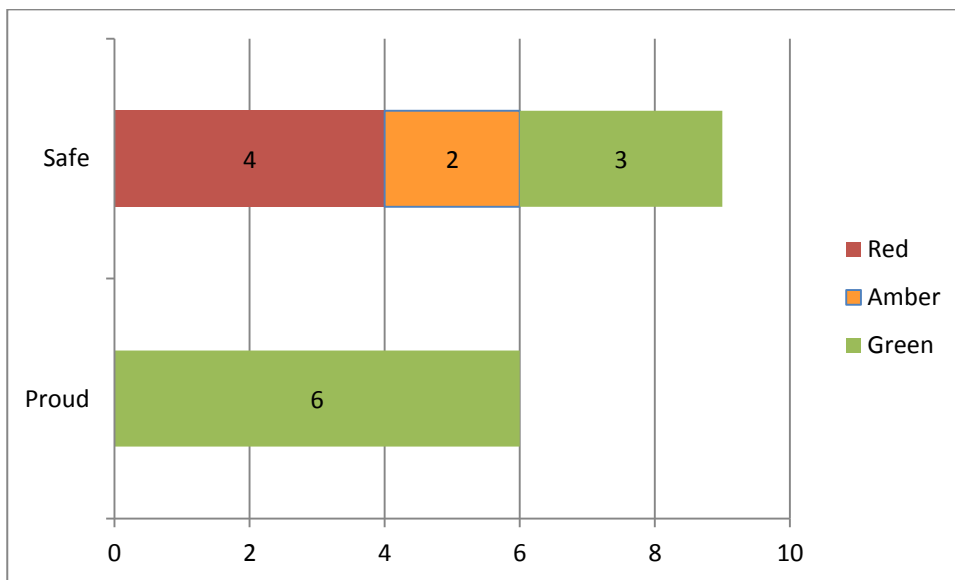
That the Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee notes the contents of the report and presentation and makes any recommendations as appropriate.

## REPORT DETAIL

1. The report and attached presentation provide an overview of the Council's performance against the corporate performance indicators relevant to the Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee. The presentation highlights areas of strong performance and potential areas for improvement.
2. The report and presentation identify where the Council is performing well (**Green**) and not so well (**Amber** and **Red**). The RAG ratings for the 2016/17 reports are as follows:
  - **Red** = more than the '**target tolerance**' off the target and where performance is *not improving*
  - **Amber** = more than the '**target tolerance**' off the target and where performance has *improved or been maintained*.
  - **Green** = on or within the '**target tolerance**' of the target
3. Where performance is more than the '**target tolerance**' off the target and the RAG rating is '**Red**', 'Improvements required' are included in the presentation. This highlights what action the Council will take to address poor performance.
4. Also included in the presentation are Direction of Travel (DoT) columns, which compare:
  - Short-term performance – with the previous quarter (Quarter 3 2016/17)
  - Long-term performance – with the same time the previous year (Quarter 4 2015/16)

5. A green arrow (↑) means performance is better and a red arrow (↓) means performance is worse. An amber arrow (→) means that performance has remained the same.
6. In total, 15 Corporate Performance Indicators have been included in the Quarter 4 2016/17 report and presentation. An outturn is not available for the corporate performance indicator “percentage of children and families reporting that Early Help services made an improvement to assessed needs” as the methodology for measuring the progress made by children and families known to Children’s Services is changing. The current survey methodology is being replaced by the Outcomes Star, which is in the process of being rolled out across the service to track the client’s progress before, during and after an intervention.
7. Of the 15 indicators for which data is available:
  - 9 (60%) have a RAG status of Green.
  - 6 (40%) have a RAG status of Red or Amber.

#### Quarter 4 RAG Summary



This is consistent with the position at the end of Quarter 3.

8. Please note that, at the time of writing, some of the figures relating to Children’s Services remained subject to verification as part of the statutory returns process. However, it is not anticipated that there will be much, if any, change to the outturns set out in the attached presentation.
9. The current levels of performance need to be interpreted in the context of increasing demand on services across the Council. Also included in the presentation are Demand Pressure graphs that illustrate the growing

demands on Council services and the context that the performance levels set out in this report have been achieved within.

### **Reporting performance for 2017/18**

10. On 10 May Cabinet approved the new Corporate Plan for 2017/18 which included a list of new Corporate Performance Indicators. As many of these new Corporate PIs do not neatly fall into the remit of one of the Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committees it has been agreed that, from Quarter 2 of 2017/18, performance against the Corporate Performance Indicators will only be reported to the Cabinet on a quarterly basis, with the reports being made available simultaneously to all Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board and Sub-Committees. The Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committees will still be able to request reports on performance against particular indicators as required and will still be able to commission more detailed analysis / investigation of areas within their remits that they may consider warrant further consideration.
11. In addition, the Overview and Scrutiny Sub-committees have been requested by the Overview and Scrutiny Board to suggest no more than three indicators that they would like reported on a quarterly basis relevant to the remit of their committee. These will be reported to the respective Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Overview and Scrutiny Board quarterly thereafter.
12. As reported previously to the Committee, and in keeping with the Council's renewed focus on transparency, it was also agreed at Cabinet on 12 April to remove target tolerances from performance reporting from Quarter 2 2017/18 onwards. Performance against each of the agreed performance indicators will therefore be reported simply as either on target (or better) or outside of target.
13. Members are asked to note that the new arrangements will be in place from Quarter 2 2017/18 onwards to account for the fact that the new Corporate Plan was not approved by Cabinet until May, and the Council's Service Plans for 2017/18 also do not go live until Quarter 2. The existing performance indicator set will continue to be reported for Quarter 1 2017/18.

## IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

### **Financial implications and risks:**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report which is for information only.

Adverse performance against some Corporate Performance Indicators may have financial implications for the Council, particularly where targets are explicitly linked with particular funding streams and / or levies from other bodies. Whilst it is expected that targets will be delivered within existing resources, officers regularly review the level and prioritisation of resources required to achieve the targets agreed by the Cabinet at the start of the year.

Robust ongoing monitoring is undertaken as part of the established financial and service management processes. Should it not be possible to deliver targets within approved budgets this will be raised through the appropriate channels as required.

### **Legal implications and risks:**

Whilst reporting on performance is not a statutory requirement, it is considered best practice to regularly review the Council's progress against the Corporate Plan.

### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

There are no HR implications or risks, involving the Council or its workforce that can be identified from the recommendations made in this report.

### **Equalities implications and risks:**

Performance against the following Corporate Performance Indicators currently RAG rated as "Red" or "Amber" could potentially have equality and social inclusion implications for a number of different social groups if improvements are not secured:

- Percentage of care proceedings concluded in under 26 weeks
- Percentage of looked after children (LAC) placements lasting at least two years
- Percentage of children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adopting family
- Number of new in-house foster carers
- Total number of in-house foster carers

- Percentage of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time within two years

The presentation attached at **Appendix 1** provides further detail on the steps that will be taken to improve performance and mitigate any potential inequalities.

The ethnicity of children and young people known to Children's Services is tracked and reported monthly to the service in order to facilitate consideration of possible equality implications and the exploration of potential interventions.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix 1: Quarter 4 Children and Learning Performance Presentation 2016/17