



Haverling

LONDON BOROUGH

Quarter 2 Performance Report 2020/21

Children and Learning O&S Sub-Committee

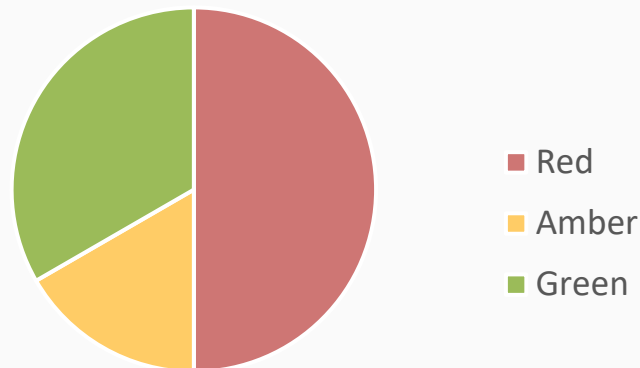
About the Children and Learning O&S Sub-Committee Performance Report

- Overview of the Council's performance against the indicators selected by the Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee
- The report identifies where the Council is performing well (**Green**), within target tolerance (**Amber**) and not so well (**Red**).
- Where the RAG rating is '**Red**', '**Corrective Action**' is included in the presentation. This highlights what action the Council will take to improve performance.

OVERVIEW OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES INDICATORS

- 6 Performance Indicators are now reported to the Children and Learning Overview & Scrutiny sub-committee
- Performance data is available for all 6 indicators this quarter
- All 6 indicators have been given a RAG status

Quarter 2 indicator summary



In summary, of the 6 indicators:

2 (33%) have a status of **Green**

1 (17%) has a status of **Amber**

3 (50%) have a status of **Red**

Quarter 2 Performance – Children’s Services

Indicator and Description	Value	Tolerance	2020/21 Annual Target	2020/21 Q2 Target	2020/21 Q2 Performance	Short Term DOT against Q1 2020/21		Long Term DOT against Q2 2019/20	
% of Contacts progressing to Early Help	Higher is better	+/-5%	30%	30%	28.15	↓	30.4%	↓	37%
% of LAC aged under 16 who have been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years and living in the same placement for at least 2 years*	Higher is better	+/-10%	70%	70%	56.6%	↓	57.9%	↓	73.2%
% of former relevant young people at age 18-21 who are in education, employment or training	Higher is better	+/-5%	75%	75%	71.8%	↑	66.1%	↑	48.7%
% LAC with an up to date pathway plan in place	Higher is better	+/-10%	70%	70%	72.7%	↑	60%	-	N/A

*Also includes children who are placed for adoption and whose adoptive placement together with their previous placement last for at least 2 years

Quarter 2 Performance – Children’s Services (contd.)

Indicator and Description	Value	Tolerance	2020/21 Annual Target	2020/21 Q2 Target	2020/21 Q2 Performance		Short Term DOT against Q1 2020/21	Long Term DOT against Q2 2019/20	
% of LAC cases with supervision in the last three months	Higher is better	+/-10%	95%	95%	96.1%	↑	92.7%	-	N/A
% of Education, Health and Care (EHC) assessments that are completed within 20 weeks	Higher is better	+/-10%	72%	72%	48%	↓	68%		N/A

Highlights

Percentage of LAC with an up to date pathway plan in place - Performance data relating to pathway plans for our looked after young people who are approaching adulthood is reviewed weekly in ISS. There has been additional focus on this throughout September to ensure that all children age 16 years and up have been transitioned from a care plan to a pathway plan on the system. In addition to the timeliness of plans, there remains a focus on ensuring that young people are engaged with the pathway planning process and that their voice is evident. The IRO service are also playing a pivotal role, via LAC reviews, in ensuring a pathway assessment has been completed by 15 years and 9 months, in line with statutory requirements. This, coupled with regular monitoring of performance, has contributed to improved performance in this area over the first half of this year.

Percentage of LAC cases with supervision in the last three months - Performance in relation to case supervision for looked after children cases is currently strong and above the year end target. A new systemic case supervision template has been embedded in Liquidlogic, enabling regular performance reporting in this area, which is closely monitored by the Head of Service and Group Managers and discussed at weekly performance meetings. Although the service's policy is that case supervision should take place every three months, we are trialling a 2 monthly cycle for LAC and child in need cases, and monthly for child protection cases. Group and peer supervision has also been introduced to provide a more collaborative approach to decision making, and challenge of practice on behalf of the child or young person.

Improvements required

Percentage of contacts progressing to Early Help - The volume of contacts received in the year to date is down compared with the previous year, partly due to the schools being initially closed and then open to a limited number of pupils for part of the year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Many Health services have also been closed or operating differently as a result of Covid, which has further impacted on contact and referral volumes. Due to the complexity of contacts that *have* been received, proportionately more have progressed to an assessment of some form (whether that is by Early Help or Children's Social Care), compared to the same point last year but our target is for a slightly greater proportion (30%) to progress to Early Help. The Early Help service has seen an increase in referrals to EH universal services directly from General Practitioners in relation to peri-natal mental health and also from the Speech and Language Team (SALT) for referrals into the Ready, Steady Talk programme to assist with early identified speech, language and communication delay. There have also been increased referrals in for baby massage, starting solids and the Butterflies group, which is believed to be a result of Health colleagues catching up with 1 and 2 year old checks.

Percentage of LAC 16 years and under who have been continuously looked after for 2.5 years and in the same placement for 2 years - As part of our longer term plans to improve placement stability, we have developed a systemic training offer for all carers with adolescents (including independent fostering agency carers) and an internal training and development programme for social workers and managers around effective placement planning. The systemic training, which involves a therapeutic parenting approach, commenced for in-house carers on 30th September 2020 and will conclude in December 2020. This forms a part of our longer term plans to improve stability and resilience by providing good and enduring quality for all our children in care, regardless of the complexity of their needs. The Assistant Director has convened a working group to focus on placement stability and an action plan is in place, with progress being made.

Percentage of EHC Assessments that are completed within 20 weeks – The short term direction of travel for this indicator is down but it should be noted that the end of Quarter 2 is 30th September, therefore performance will always be lower in this quarter as schools, who contribute to the process, are closed during the summer holidays.

Improvements required (contd.)

Former relevant young people at age 18-21 who are in education, employment or training - The slightly lower performance for the aged 18 to 21 cohort (compared to the 19-21 cohort which was reported to this sub-committee previously) reflects the current challenges around Covid-19 and the complexity of the young people coming into care in their late teens and already disengaged with EET. Staying Put arrangements continue to be promoted for post 18 year olds requiring additional support and access to EET.

COVID-19 has had an adverse effect on many of our young adults, especially those working in retail, hospitality, health and hair and beauty and those on zero hour contracts. It is anticipated as before that following this second lockdown, some care leavers will have to re-apply for their positions rather than automatically returning, and the team continues to work closely with these individuals.

Workshops focussing on CV writing and interview skills and with guest speakers from local colleges, universities, Job Centre and local companies are planned. Future projects include trips to universities and careers events and the Leaving Care team are planning Functional Skills training via the Virtual School at The Cocoon when it re-opens.

The Future Mentors Scheme will be another layer of support towards supporting Care leavers to engage in EET. This project will provide care leavers with a mentor from the community who will encourage the young person to engage with EET. For those young adults with significant and chronic mental health needs or substance misuse difficulties, ongoing work is taking place to stabilise and support with a view to some re-introduction of EET activities.

Any questions?

