

Committee:	Dated:
Safeguarding Sub-Committee	11/10/2021
Subject: Children and Families Service Performance – Month 3 2021/22 (June 2021)	Public Appendix 1 & 2: non-Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2 and 3
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Information
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Summary

This report updates Members on service performance across the Children and Families Service. It demonstrates where performance meets our statutory obligations and targets and identifies where action was taken for improvement in specific areas.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Children and Families Service at the City of London Corporation provides a range of services including Early Help, child protection, and supporting care leavers.
2. The service collects and monitors a range of performance information to ensure that statutory duties are being met, and that services are delivering the best possible outcomes for children, young people and families.

3. Appendix 1 presents the performance dashboard from 1 April to 30 June 2021 month 3 (June) 2021/22. It provides an overall summary of performance in each of the service areas and then more detailed information in each area.
4. Appendix 2 provides a glossary of some of the terms used in the performance dashboard.

Current Position

5. Overall, performance across the service is good, meeting a range of statutory requirements and local targets, and comparing well with regional or national benchmarks.
6. It should be noted that, due to small numbers in children's services cohorts in the City of London Corporation, there can sometimes be significant variance in out-turns. These are noted where this is an issue.

Headlines

7. Levels of demand have increased in Quarter 1 (Q1) 2021/22 compared to 2020/21. In Q1, there were 116 contacts compared to 76 in Q4 2020/21, and 257 in total for the whole of 2020/21. Whereas the numbers of Children in Need in the City of London has decreased from 19 at the end of Q1 compared to 21 at the end of 2020/21.
8. Following the ending of COVID-19 stay-at-home restrictions in March 2021, there was a small increase in visits to Children in Need from 19 in Q4 2020/21 to 25 in Q1 2021/22.
9. There were eight Child Protection visits in Q1 2021/22 compared to 11 for Q4 2020/21, based on three children on Child Protection Plans at the end of each period.
10. The number of children looked after by the City of London decreased by one from 20 at the end of 2020/21 to 19 at Q1 2021/22. Of these young people, 16 (84%) were unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.
11. The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) recorded six contacts in Q1 2021/22 (5% of the 116 contacts received at the front door), which compared to 7% of contacts in total for the whole of 2020/21. There were no Early Help Referrals in Q1 2021/22, which compared to 12 in 2020/21.
12. At the end of Q1 2021/22, 100% of the nine assessments authorised in the period were completed within 45 days. This compares to 37 of 41 assessments (90%) authorised in the whole of 2020/21.
13. There were 44 care leavers at the end of Q1 2021/22 compared to 42 at the end of 2020/21.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

14. Financial implications – N/A
15. Resource implications – N/A
16. Legal implications – N/A
17. Risk implications – N/A
18. Equalities implications – N/A
19. Climate implications – N/A
20. Security implications – N/A

Conclusion

21. This report provides a summary of performance data from the Children and Families Service from 1 April to 30 June 2021, comparing it to the previous quarter or year's performance and other benchmarks where appropriate.
22. It demonstrates strong performance across the service, with some specific areas where some action was taken for improvement. These areas are all now back on a positive trajectory.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Children and Families Service Performance Dashboard June YTD 2021/22 (non-Public)
- Appendix 2 – Glossary for Performance Dashboard (non-Public)

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