

Committee:	Dated:
Safeguarding Sub-Committee	07/02/2022
Subject: Children and Families Service Performance – Month 6 2021/22 (September 2021)	Public Non-public: Appendices 1 & 2
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 September 2021 – month 6 (September) 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 increased in Quarter 2 (Q2) 2021/22. In Q2, there were 139 contacts compared to 117 in Q1; 256 in total for Q2 2021/22 year to date (YTD), compared to 257 in total for the whole of year 2020/21.
8. Whereas, the number of Children in Need in the City of London decreased from 19 at the end of Q1 to 15 at the end of Q2 2021/22.
9. There was little difference in the number of visits to Children in Need: from 28 in Q2 2021/22 to 27 in Q1.
10. There were 44 Looked-after Children visits in Q2 2021/22 compared to 49 in Q1.
11. The number of Looked-after Children in the City of London decreased by three: from 19 at the end of Q1 to 16 at the end of Q2 2021/22. Of these young people, 16 (84%) at Q2 were unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.
12. The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) recorded eight contacts in Q2 2021/22 (6% of the 139 contacts received at the front door), which compared to six from 117 (5% of contacts) at Q1.
13. There were 12 Early Help referrals in Q2 2021/22, compared to zero in Q1. Many of the referrals reflected the support provided to families as part of the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme.
14. At the end of Q2 2021/22 YTD, 100% of the 16 assessments authorised in the period were completed within 45 days.
15. There were 47 Care Leavers at the end of Q2 2021/22 compared to 44 at the end of Q1.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

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

Conclusion

23. This report provides a summary of performance data from the Children and Families Service from 1 April to 30 September 2021, comparing it to the previous quarter or year's performance, and other benchmarks where appropriate.
24. 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 September YTD 2021/22 (Non-public)
- Appendix 2 – Glossary for Performance Dashboard (Non-public)

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