

Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Thursday, 20th July, 2023
at 5.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

Conference Room 3 - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

Members

Councillor A Bunday(Chair)
Councillor J Baillie
Councillor Barnes-Andrews
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Lambert
Councillor Mintoff
Councillor Quadir

Appointed Members

Catherine Hobbs, Roman Catholic Church
Francis Otieno, Primary Parent Governor
Vacancy - Secondary Parent Governor
Rob Sanders, Church of England

Contacts

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Ed Grimshaw
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PUBLIC INFORMATION

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL

Role of this Scrutiny Panel: To undertake the scrutiny of Children and Families Services in the City, including the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), Early Help, Specialist & Core Service, looked after children, education and early years and youth offending services, unless they are forward plan items. In such circumstances members of the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel will be invited to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee meeting where they are discussed.

Terms Of Reference:-

Scrutiny of Children and Families Services in the City to include:

- Monitoring the implementation and challenging the progress of the Council's action plan to address the recommendations made by Ofsted following their inspection of Children's Services in Southampton and review of Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in July 2014.
- Regular scrutiny of the performance of multi-agency arrangements for the provision of early help and services to children and their families.
- Scrutiny of early years and education including the implementation of the Vision for Learning 2014 – 2024.
- Scrutiny of the development and implementation of the Youth Justice Strategy developed by the Youth Offending Board.
- Referring issues to the Chair of the LSCB and the Corporate Parenting Committee.

Public Representations

At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may address the meeting on any report included on the agenda in which they have a relevant interest. Any member of the public wishing to address the meeting should advise the Democratic Support Officer (DSO) whose contact details are on the front sheet of the agenda.

Access – access is available for the disabled. Please contact the Democratic Support Officer who will help to make any necessary arrangements.

MOBILE TELEPHONES:- Please switch your mobile telephones or other IT to silent whilst in the meeting.

Business to be Discussed

Only those items listed on the attached agenda may be considered at this meeting.

QUORUM The minimum number of appointed Members required to be in attendance to hold the meeting is 3.

Use of Social Media:- The Council supports the video or audio recording of meetings open to the public, for either live or subsequent broadcast. However, if, in the Chair's opinion, a person filming or recording a meeting or taking photographs is interrupting proceedings or causing a disturbance, under the Council's Standing Orders the person can be ordered to stop their activity, or to leave the meeting. By entering the meeting room you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those images and recordings for broadcasting and or/training purposes. The meeting may be recorded by the press or members of the public. Any person or organisation filming, recording or broadcasting any meeting of the Council is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them doing so. Details of the Council's Guidance on the recording of meetings is available on the Council's website.

Rules of Procedure

The meeting is governed by the Council Procedure Rules and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Smoking policy – the Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings.

Fire Procedure – in the event of a fire or other emergency a continuous alarm will sound, and you will be advised by Council officers what action to take

Southampton: Corporate Plan 2022-2030 sets out the four key goals:

- Strong Foundations for Life.- For people to access and maximise opportunities to truly thrive, Southampton will focus on ensuring residents of all ages and backgrounds have strong foundations for life.
- A proud and resilient city - Southampton’s greatest assets are our people. Enriched lives lead to thriving communities, which in turn create places where people want to live, work and study.
- A prosperous city - Southampton will focus on growing our local economy and bringing investment into our city.
- A successful, sustainable organisation - The successful delivery of the outcomes in this plan will be rooted in the culture of our organisation and becoming an effective and efficient council.

Dates of Meetings: Municipal Year

2023	2024
16 June	25 January
20 July	28 March
28 September	
23 November	

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are required to disclose, in accordance with the Members’ Code of Conduct, **both** the existence **and** nature of any “Disclosable Pecuniary Interest” or “Other Interest” they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this Agenda.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

A Member must regard himself or herself as having a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter that they or their spouse, partner, a person they are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were a civil partner in relation to:

- (i) Any employment, office, trade, profession, or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- (ii) Sponsorship:

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from Southampton City Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expense incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

(iii) Any contract which is made between you / your spouse etc (or a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest) and Southampton City Council under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and which has not been fully discharged.

(iv) Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of Southampton.

(v) Any license (held alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of Southampton for a month or longer.

(vi) Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) the landlord is Southampton City Council, and the tenant is a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interests.

(vii) Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of Southampton, and either:

- a) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or
- b) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest that exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Other Interests

A Member must regard himself or herself as having an 'Other Interest' in any membership of, or occupation of a position of general control or management in:

Any body to which they have been appointed or nominated by Southampton City Council

Any public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature

Any body directed to charitable purposes

Any body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy

Principles of Decision Making

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- respect for human rights;
- a presumption in favour of openness, accountability, and transparency;
- setting out what options have been considered;
- setting out reasons for the decision; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

In exercising discretion, the decision maker must:

- understand the law that regulates the decision making power and gives effect to it. The decision-maker must direct itself properly in law;
- take into account all relevant matters (those matters which the law requires the authority as a matter of legal obligation to take into account);
- leave out of account irrelevant considerations;
- act for a proper purpose, exercising its powers for the public good;
- not reach a decision which no authority acting reasonably could reach, (also known as the "rationality" or "taking leave of your senses" principle);
- comply with the rule that local government finance is to be conducted on an annual basis. Save to the extent authorised by Parliament, 'live now, pay later' and forward funding are unlawful; and
- act with procedural propriety in accordance with the rules of fairness.

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

To note any changes in membership of the Panel made in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3.

2 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

3 DECLARATIONS OF SCRUTINY INTEREST

Members are invited to declare any prior participation in any decision taken by a Committee, Sub-Committee, or Panel of the Council on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

4 DECLARATION OF PARTY POLITICAL WHIP

Members are invited to declare the application of any party political whip on any matter on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

5 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

6 CHILDREN AND LEARNING - PERFORMANCE

(Pages 1 - 22)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager recommending that the Panel consider and challenge the performance of Children's Services and Learning in Southampton.

7 MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

(Pages 23 - 26)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager recommending that the Panel considers the responses to recommendations from previous meetings and provides feedback.

8 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - EXEMPT PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM

To move that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the following Item

The report is considered to be exempt from general publication based on Category 7a of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules

9 OFSTED ILACS STANDARD INSPECTION OF SOUTHAMPTON'S CHILDREN'S AND LEARNING SERVICE
(Pages 27 - 42)

Report of the Head of Quality Assurance outlining the outcomes of the Ofsted standard inspection of Southampton's Children and Learning Service in June 2023 and the service response.

Wednesday, 12 July 2023

Director – Legal, Governance and HR

Agenda Item 6

DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL
SUBJECT:	CHILDREN AND LEARNING - PERFORMANCE
DATE OF DECISION:	20 JULY 2023
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
	E-mail	Mel.creighton@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None	
BRIEF SUMMARY	
Attached as Appendix 1 is a summary of performance for Children’s Services and Learning up to the end of June 2023. At the meeting the Cabinet Member and senior managers from Children’s Services and Learning will be providing the Panel with an overview of performance across the division.	
RECOMMENDATIONS:	
(i)	That the Panel consider and challenge the performance of Children’s Services and Learning in Southampton.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	To enable effective scrutiny of Children’s Services and Learning in Southampton.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	None.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	To enable the Panel to undertake their role effectively members will be provided with monthly performance information and an explanation of the measures.
4.	Performance information up to 30 June 2023 is attached as Appendix 1. An explanation of the significant variations in performance has been included.
5.	The Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, and representatives from the Children’s Services and Learning Senior Management Team, have been invited to attend the meeting to provide the performance overview.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue/Property/Other</u>	
6.	None directly as a result of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
8.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
9.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
10.	The 2022-2030 Corporate Plan includes, as one of its four goals, strong foundations for life where people are able to access and maximise opportunities to truly thrive, Southampton will focus on ensuring residents of all ages and backgrounds have strong foundations for life. By delivering consistently good outcomes for the city's children and young people, Southampton's Children's Services and Learning Department will contribute to achieving this objective.

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Summary of performance and commentary – July 2023
2.	Children and Learning Acronyms

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
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Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
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Data Protection Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
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Other Background Documents

Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None

Children and Learning Service Performance Report

July 2023

Contents

Contents



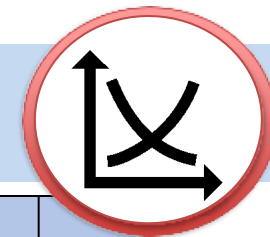
Section	Page
Context of demand	5
Trends of children across the service	6
Earlier & meaningful interventions	8
Visits to create change	9
Management oversight	10
Multi-agency working	11
Robust corporate parenting	12
Quality Assurance – service review of CSAFE	14

Page 5

The data referenced in this report is a 'snap shot' at the end of each month. For further information please contact Laura Trevett, Strategic Performance Lead, laura.trevett@southampton.gov.uk.

Context of Demand

Context of Demand



Page 7

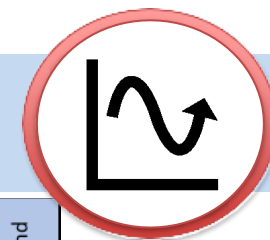
Indicator	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Trend
Number of contacts in the month	1867	1594	1959	1789	1488	1794	1428	1839	1598	2023	1544	1828	1910	↑
Number of referrals into Early Help	203	149	196	187	183	161	179	220	172	183	131	181	153	↓
Number of Early Help assessments started		130	126	111	118	100	102	112	89	110	73	74	82	↑
Number of referrals into statutory service in the month	322	318	286	314	276	396	298	343	330	433	282	301	285	↓
Number of strategy discussions held	215	224	183	198	164	288	191	200	196	217	184	185	200	↑
Number of Section 47 enquiries completed	129	168	134	158	114	193	139	103	158	169	138	126	106	↓
Rolling rate of Section 47 enquiries per 10,000 of children	356	357	368	371	360	368	364	351	353	356	359	353	350	↓
Number of C&F assessments completed	296	291	369	380	289	356	326	322	317	400	309	425	277	↓

Analysis: Contacts have remained within the higher range with a further increase in June. However, this resulted in a lower number of children being referred to Early Help and statutory Children Services. There were an increased number of assessments started in Early Help, which reflects the focus on increasing earlier activity for children and families.

Whilst we held more strategy discussions, our conversion to Section 47 enquiries reduced, which reflects the drive to robustly apply threshold decisions at these critical meetings. This has resulted in a further decrease in the rolling rate of S.47 enquiries.

The number of assessments completed within the service reduced significantly to rate more in line with the national and statistical neighbours. The service will still undertake a focused audit to better understand this area of practice.

Trends of children across the service



Indicator	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Number of children open to the service (Assessment, CIN, CP, CLA, CL)	2398	2444	2417	2362	2327	2404	2363	2401	2402	2425	2326	2304	2280	-	-	-				
Number of children open to Early Help		827	924	969	959	928	890	919	920	913	870	880	845							
Number of children with Child in Need Plan (not CWD)	683	690	618	621	621	642	648	584	538	535	639	524	493	-	-	-				
Number of children with Child in Need Plan (CWD)	261	268	270	263	256	252	249	244	243	222	209	203	217	-	-	-				
Number of children subject to CP Plan at end of month	426	389	389	355	315	301	302	288	301	315	347	355	351	-	-	-				
Rate of children subject to CP plans	86	79	79	72	64	61	61	58	61	64	70	72	71	60	●	↑				
Number of children in our care	554	554	551	548	552	543	543	553	545	539	505	517	518	-	-	-	497	640	10480	80850
Rate of children in our care per 10,000	112	112	112	111	112	113	110	112	111	109	102	105	105	100	●	→	96	100	53	67
Rate of children in our care excluding UASC	107	108	107	106	106	106	103	105	103	101	95	98	98	-	-	-				
Number of children in our care who are unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC)	24	21	24	27	31	36	35	37	37	40	38	36	37	-	-	-	20	23	820	4070
Number of Care Leavers	248	250	253	253	253	257	260	268	277	282	289	288	294	-	-	-				

Page 8

Analysis:

- The number of children open to the service has been gradually reducing as demand in statutory areas has reduced.
- Families are now receiving interventions alongside assessments, which then enables them being able to step down or close. As a result, a smaller proportion of children are being held on CIN (190 less than this time last year) and CP planning, and there are fewer children in our care. Our rate of children in care has remained static over the past two months, with a reducing trend since the start of the year.
- Our cohort of Care Leavers continues to increase, and this will be a long-term trend as a large cohort of looked after children age of the service.

Performance

Earlier & Meaningful Interventions

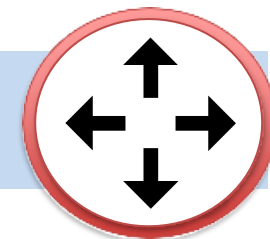


Indicator	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Percentage of re-referrals within 12 months	28%	26%	28%	30%	27%	26%	30%	27%	25%	28%	27%	25%	35%	23%	●	↓	27%	21%	26%	21%
Number of Early Help assessments completed	99	162	99	106	92	155	84	101	113	100	61	117	77	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of referrals leading to NFA	4%	1%	1%	4%	3%	5%	4%	6%	5%	8%	7%	5%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of C&F assessments completed within 45 working days	78%	72%	78%	61%	70%	70%	78%	86%	84%	78%	85%	75%	90%	90%	●	↑	86%	87%	89%	88%
Percentage of C&F assessments completed with outcome of NFA	65%	52%	56%	57%	51%	45%	56%	53%	48%	42%	64%	55%	44%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of S47 (not CP or CLA) ended with NFA	70%	88%	72%	65%	78%	75%	84%	78%	79%	63%	70%	76%	73%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of ICPCs held in 15 working days of strategy discussion	66%	37%	67%	97%	60%	63%	52%	83%	34%	70%	77%	92%	83%	95%	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of children subject to 2nd or more CP plan	27%	28%	28%	30%	31%	32%	32%	33%	32%	32%	33%	34%	33%	24%	●	↑	24%	24%	24%	23%

Analysis:

- The percentage of re-referrals into the service has increased to 35%, this is a year high and a review of the children in June being referred is underway.
- Performance regarding completing Single Assessments within timescales improved to a year high in June which is linked to the smaller number of assessments being completed. Less children were deemed as not requiring a service after the assessment had been completed.
- ICPC timeliness decreased slightly but is still better in performance than historically.
- Children subject to a 2nd or more CP plan remains at a third of all children on a CP plan, this is an area of Service Lead oversight and a gradual reduction as those children cease their CP plans is expected.

Performance - Visits to create change

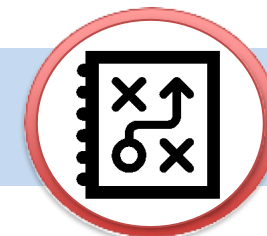


Indicator	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Percentage of children with an active Child in Need Plan (not CWD) visited within last 6 weeks	94%	93%	95%	94%	95%	97%	95%	98%	98%	97%	96%	98%	95%	95%	🟢	↓
Percentage of children with an active Child in Need Plan (CWD) visited within agreed timescales	85%	88%	84%	88%	89%	86%	85%	89%	92%	86%	85%	86%	94%	95%	🟡	↑
Percentage of children subject to Child Protection Plan visited within last 10 working days	87%	83%	82%	94%	87%	91%	94%	95%	93%	87%	90%	92%	90%	95%	🟡	↓
Percentage of children subject to Child Protection Plan visited within last 4 weeks	98%	96%	98%	98%	97%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	97%	98%	98%	95%	🟢	→
Percentage of CLA for whom a visit has taken place within agreed timescales	86%	85%	81%	84%	86%	89%	86%	81%	79%	86%	89%	92%	89%	95%	🔴	↓

Analysis:

- There is no regional or national benchmarking for our visiting KPI's.
- Child in Need visiting within the Safeguarding and Young Person Services remains strong in performance, comfortably above the target of 95%. The visiting for children with disabilities improved to close to the target as an all year high.
- Visits to children subject to CP planning has been tracking towards the target but dipped slightly in June. 98% of children are seen within the statutory timescale of 4 weekly.
- Ofsted noted excellent examples of direct work and impact of visits to children and families on Child In Need and Child protection plans. There is an ongoing push within the service to record evidence of this on a child's record consistently.

Performance – Management oversight for impact and progress



Indicator	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Percentage of children open for assessment who had supervision in timescales	93%	90%	88%	93%	94%	95%	96%	96%	93%	93%	93%	91%	87%	95%	🔴	↓
Percentage of children with a Child in Need Plan (not CWD) who had supervision within timescales	77%	75%	80%	78%	84%	90%	86%	93%	90%	89%	90%	96%	84%	95%	🔴	↓
Percentage of children with a Child in Need Plan (CWD) who had their supervision within timescales	100%	99%	99%	100%	99%	99%	99%	100%	99%	98%	96%	86%	68%	95%	🔴	↓
Percentage of CPP who had their supervision and was within timescales	91%	83%	89%	85%	88%	95%	94%	93%	96%	86%	91%	98%	85%	95%	🔴	↓
Percentage of CLA who had their supervision and was within the timescale	82%	83%	81%	78%	76%	73%	76%	86%	86%	78%	85%	94%	85%	95%	🔴	↓
Percentage of Care Leavers who had their supervision and was within the timescale	78%	70%	78%	39%	44%	51%	60%	45%	86%	81%	86%	92%	92%	95%	🟡	→

Analysis:

- Performance around supervision for children dipped in all areas by approximately 10% other than Care Leavers. This is linked to the high level of management activity linked to the Ofsted inspection that took place over 3 weeks in June.
- Management oversight will be a focus in all assurance clinics this month to ensure that this area of performance improves.

Performance – Multi-agency working



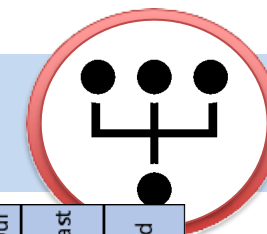
Indicator	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Percentage of children subject to child protection plans with recent core group held in time	82%	79%	73%	82%	84%	90%	77%	76%	76%	78%	77%	85%	71%	95%	🔴	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of initial health assessments within 20 working days of child becoming looked after	43%	22%	9%	23%	25%	74%	28%	26%	5%	31%	22%	60%	50%	90%	🔴	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of children in care for >12 months with health assessment in timescales	75%	75%	78%	80%	81%	85%	85%	87%	86%	80%	78%	81%	79%	90%	🔴	↓	83%	93%	89%	91%

Page 13

Analysis:

- Core group activity reduced in June 2023. With the inspection in June, which covers a three-week period, social workers may have struggled to record core groups that did take place. This will be another focus in the relevant assurance clinics over the next month.
- Initial health assessments for children becoming looked after dipped, we accommodated an unusually high number of children in June, 31 in total. The circumstances for the children that did not receive a health assessment in timescales will be addressed with health and fed back into Senior Management arrangements for oversight.
- The percentage of children in our care for more than a year with an up-to-date health assessment has been a generally declining trend this year, the Head of service for Pathways Through Care has established a monthly joint strategic health and social care meeting that has reviewed this performance over the last three months that has identified the delays relate to capacity within the health team. Due to the further decline in performance, this issue is being presented to Corporate Parenting Board in July 2023.

Performance – Robust Corporate Parenting



Indicator	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbourhood	South East	England
Percentage of children with an up to date Care Plan	85%	89%	89%	94%	93%	94%	91%	94%	97%	97%	97%	97%	95%	95%	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of young people with an up to date Pathway Plan (16+)	66%	70%	72%	81%	78%	77%	74%	75%	73%	71%	72%	76%	80%	95%	●	↑	-	-	-	-
Percentage of CLA children with an up to date review	98%	98%	99%	100%	99%	99%	98%	99%	98%	98%	97%	98%	97%	95%	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of CLA at end of month with 3+ placements during the year	16%	17%	19%	18%	18%	17%	16%	15%	15%	14%	15%	15%	14%	11%	●	↓	14%	10%	11%	9%
Percentage of CLA placed <20 miles from home	71%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	69%	69%	68%	67%	67%	76%	●	→	-	-	-	-
Percentage of CLA placed in Residential placements (HSA1,K2) as at the end of the month	12%	12%	12%	12%	12%	13%	13%	13%	13%	14%	14%	14%	14%	8%	●	→	-	-	-	-
Percentage of CLA placed in IFA placements as at the end of the month	23%	23%	23%	24%	24%	24%	25%	25%	26%	27%	29%	28%	29%	<36%	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of CLA in care for 12+ months, with same social worker for last 6 months	-	-	-	-	-	-	56%	54%	50%	49%	47%	59%	62%	75%	●	↑	-	-	-	-
Number of Children Looked After (CLA) placed for adoption at period end	43	43	38	38	34	35	29	29	23	23	13	16	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analysis:

- Care planning, and care plan reviews continue to meet and exceed targets respectively. Pathway planning timeliness has improved.
- Following the increase in permanent social workers within the Pathways Through Care teams, the proportion of children with the same social worker has continued to increase. There are still agency workers where active recruitment processes are underway that will impact on this figure in the coming months.
- Placement stability remains a key focus for children in long term placements, and proactive support and interventions are being discussed and delivered through the repurposed Building Resilience Service. There is also extensive work around reunifications of children that can return to their families, and young people stepping across from residential placements back into foster care that will show as an additional move but is in the child's best interest.
- Given the number of children accommodated in June, we were able to maintain the proportion of children placed with Southampton and did not increase the proportion of children in residential placements.

Quality Assurance

Quality Assurance - Audit insight into Child Sexual Abuse in the Family Environment



Child Sexual Abuse in the Family Environment (CSAFE)

Following a number of Serious Case Reviews that identified the need to improve our identification, assessment and intervention with families where children experienced child sexual abuse within the family environment (CSAFE), a new CSAFE framework was created and implemented in August 2020. This resulted in increased understanding of CSAFE across the service, improved assessments and interventions with perpetrators and non-offending parents, the creation and provision of specialist training internally and to the multi-agency partners, and an invitation to lead on the HIPS wide Child Sexual Abuse strategy that was launched in 2023. In April, we undertook a thematic audit of the CSAFE work being undertaken and it found –

- Evidence of impactful CSAFE work being completed by ICAS.
- Practitioners facilitate effective direct work with parents using a variety of tools/methods.
- Tangible outcomes are observed as a result including improved parental insight, overcoming of shame/guilt/denial to address the harm that had been suffered by children as well as improved capacity to mitigate future risk to them. It was notable in this area of work that many practitioners faced challenges with regards to engagement in the initial stages of work. However with resilience, empathy and persistence many of the initial obstacles were overcome to progress the work required.
- Appropriate risk assessments are commissioned where required to support good decision making. These are analytical, evidence based and supported well by good research with appropriate consideration for history.
- It was noted at times that family members were at different stages of the change process and in those circumstances more individualised plan of work would have been beneficial.
- Within case-holding teams, there has been some evidence of good multi-agency work including impactful mapping meetings and safety planning meetings.
- Also, in some instances involvement of extended family members has been observed in respect of planning and CSAFE intervention. In these teams however, whilst pockets of outstanding work was noted, generally more focus on direct work with children was required especially where children were not in receipt of support from specialist services.
- Many audits referenced practitioners having good relationships with families which would have created good foundation for meaningful direct work to be completed however the benefits of this was not fully realised.
- Ongoing focus on CSAFE within direct work training would be beneficial for case-holding practitioners especially as much of the direct work seen in this audit sample has been adult led.



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CHILDREN SERVICES & LEARNING

ACRONYMS

ACEs – Adverse Childhood Experiences

ADM – Agency Decision Maker

BIT – Brief Intervention Teams. When a child is referred into Children Services and needs a statutory service, they are initially allocated to the Brief Intervention Teams who undertake a Child & Family Assessment and provide targeted support and interventions with the aim of resolving any crisis and being able to step down to Children & Family First for any ongoing support.

C&FF – Children & Family First. This is our Early Help offer for families in the city.

C&F – Children and Family

CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

CAO – Child Arrangement Order

CCE – Child Criminal Exploitation

CDOP – Child Death Overview Panel

CiC – Children in Care (see also Looked After Children and Children Looked After)

CLA – Children Looked After (see also Children in Care and Children Looked After)

CL – Care Leaver. From the age of eighteen young people are no longer legally 'in care' or 'looked after' and therefore fostering arrangements and legislation relating to children placed with foster carers no longer applies. In circumstances where a young person remains with their former foster carer/s after their eighteenth birthday, the arrangement becomes a "Staying Put" arrangement. Once the child reaches the age of eighteen and legal adulthood, the local authority is no longer making a placement, but facilitating a "Staying Put" arrangement for the young person.

CME – Children Missing from Education

CP – Child Protection

CPP – Child Protection Plan

CRS – Childrens Resource Service. Front door of the service receiving all contacts from professionals and the public, includes the MASH team.

CSA – Child Sexual Abuse

CSAFE – Child Sexual Abuse within the Family Environment

CSE – Child Sexual Exploitation

CSL – Children Services & Learning

CSC – Childrens Social Care

DfE – Department for Education

EET – Education, Employment & Training

EHCP – Education Health & Care Plan. EHCP's replaced Statements for children and young people with additional needs under the Children and Families Act 2014.

EHE – Elective Home Education

EP – Education Psychologist

EWO – Education Welfare Officer

FGC – Family Group Conference

FTE – Full Time Equivalent

HSB – Harmful Sexual Behaviour

ICAS – Intervention and Complex Assessment Service. This is a specialist team that undertakes assessments of parents within the public law outline process (including legal proceedings), assessments of individuals considered a sexual risk to children, assessments of non-offending partners, interventions around domestic abuse for perpetrators and survivors, assessments of parenting with learning needs, and other bespoke assessments as required.

ICO – Interim Care Order

IDVA – Independent Domestic Violence Advocate

IEP – Individual Education Plan

IFA – Independent Fostering Agency

ILACS – Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services

IRO – Independent Reviewing Officer

JTAI – Joint Targeted Area Inspection

Jigsaw – this is not an acronym, but the name of our Children With Disabilities (often see as CWD) team. They support children in need, children with child protection plans, and children in our care when they have a disability.

KCSiE – Keeping Children Safe in Education

LA – Local Authority

LGO – Local Government Ombudsman

MASH – Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

MET – Missign, Exploited, Trafficked children

NEET – Not in Education, Employment of Training

OOH – Out of Hours

PEP – Personal Education Plan

PTC – Pathways Through Care. Should a judge decide that a child is not returning to the care of their parents, and they are not being placed for permanence in adoption, the child is allocated to a social worker

within the Pathways Through Care team that care plan and support children and young people for their duration of time in our care. This includes reassessing families and returning children when it is safe to do so. The Pathways Through Care team also support Care Leavers, young people that have previously been in our care, up to the age of 25.

QA – Quality Assurance

SALT – Speech & Language Therapy

SCPR – Safeguarding Children Practice Review

SCR – Serious Case Review

SEN – Special Educational Need

SEND - Special Educational Needs and Disability

SENDCo - Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator

SGO – Special Guardianship Order

SPOC – Single Point of Contact

SSCP – Southampton Safeguarding Children Partnership

SW – Social Worker

SWF (SWwF) – Social Work with Families (sometimes this can be abbreviated to SWWF). If the Brief Intervention Team has completed their assessment and the child requires an ongoing Child in Need or Child Protection Plan, the family are transferred to the Social Worker with Families team who undertake longer pieces of work at a statutory level (child in need or child protection) they will also enter legal proceedings for children and of those some children may come into our care (including children placed with extended family or friends – connected carers). SWF teams remain the allocated social work team until the proceedings are concluded.

T&F – Task and Finish Group

TAC – Team Around the Child

TAF – Team Around the Family

UPN – Unique Pupil Number

VS – Virtual School

YJS – Youth Justice Service

YP – Young People

YPS – Young People Service. A new service set up last year to work with the multi-agency partners regarding young people at risk outside of their home. This includes child sexual and criminal exploitation, criminal behaviour, missing, trafficking, and adolescents at risk of family breakdown.

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Agenda Item 7

DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL
SUBJECT:	MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS
DATE OF DECISION:	20 JULY 2023
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Resources	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
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Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None	
BRIEF SUMMARY	
This item enables the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel to monitor and track progress on recommendations made at previous meetings.	
RECOMMENDATIONS:	
	(i) That the Panel considers the responses to recommendations from previous meetings and provides feedback.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	To assist the Panel in assessing the impact and consequence of recommendations made at previous meetings.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	None.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	Appendix 1 of the report sets out the recommendations made at previous meetings of the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel. It also contains a summary of action taken in response to the recommendations.
4.	The progress status for each recommendation is indicated and if the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel confirms acceptance of the items marked as completed they will be removed from the list. In cases where action on the recommendation is outstanding or the Panel does not accept the matter has been adequately completed, it will be kept on the list and reported back to the next meeting. It will remain on the list until such time as the Panel accepts the recommendation as completed. Rejected recommendations will only be removed from the list after being reported to the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	

<u>Capital/Revenue/Property/Other</u>	
5.	None
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
6.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
7.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
8.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
9.	None

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations – 20 July 2023

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
Other Background Documents	
Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None

Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Scrutiny Monitoring – 20 July 2023

Date	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
06/07/23	Position Statement	1) That, to help develop understanding of the locality working model in Southampton, the presentation detailing the key elements of the Southampton approach is circulated to the Panel.	Presentation circulated to the Panel – 11/07/23	Completed
		2) That, reflecting the high prevalence of cases of neglect in Southampton, the feedback provided by schools on the use of the Neglect Toolkit and how it is supporting decision making is circulated to the Panel.	Feedback circulated to the Panel – 11/07/23	Completed

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