

CHILDREN AND LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL	Agenda Item No. 7
3 DECEMBER 2008	Public Report

Report of the Director of Children’s Services

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CHILDREN’S TRUST – OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To appraise Scrutiny Panel of the review process for Performance Management and reporting within Children’s Services
- 1.2 To appraise Scrutiny Panel of the critical issues identified by this process.

2. LINKS TO CORPORATE PLAN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

- 2.1 The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) states that two of the essential features of a Children’s Trust are an outcome-led vision, with a focus on improved outcomes, and inter-agency governance, setting a clear framework for strategic planning, resource allocation, and accountabilities.
- 2.2 These two features in particular are underpinned by the robust performance management framework which is set out in this document.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The development of an integrated Performance Management Framework is a key activity to support the role of the Children’s Trust in monitoring and delivering against key National Indicators of performance across the five Every Child Matters outcomes for children and aspects of organisational working.
 - Be Healthy
 - Stay Safe
 - Enjoy and Achieve
 - Make a Positive Contribution
 - Achieve Economic Wellbeing
 - Service Management
- 3.2 The framework is developing as a layered approach which meets several needs, including the day to day business requirements of Children’s Services, the department’s corporate reporting responsibilities and Children’s Trust Partnership (and Greater Peterborough Partnership) requirements.
- 3.3 Performance is determined by a range of national indicators which are monitored by both the city council’s Children’s Services department and Children’s Trust Partnership Board using a Performance Dashboard (“the Dashboard”).
- 3.4 Outputs from a monthly data collection process are used to populate the Dashboard across all indicators, including, where appropriate, the use of proxy indicators in circumstances where data is not available.

- 3.5 The performance of each indicator is reported in terms of the latest monthly out-turn alongside details of any baseline or target formally set for that indicator. Each indicator is also assigned a “RAG rating” (Red / Amber / Green) reflecting the performance of that indicator against target.
- 3.6 The Dashboard provides a mechanism to inform and shape a regular performance management review and provides
- a single repository of performance information which is accessible at all times
 - a tool to assist in the early identification of risks and issues
 - a vehicle to assist in providing challenge and to aid decision making
 - a framework to drive forward continuous improvement
- 3.7 Outputs from the monthly data collection process are also used to inform the Greater Peterborough Partnership’s (GPP) Performance Hub. This is a multi-agency group that has been established since April 2008 to review performance information. It is additionally charged with :
- carrying out risk analyses and informing the GPP Executive as appropriate
 - mitigating risk by local action or referral to the GPP Solutions Centre for wider peer review

4. CURRENT PERFORMANCE AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 It is intended that the Dashboard be presented to the Panel at it’s meeting on 3 December 2008 with opportunity for the Panel to discuss and question specific areas of focus and performance.
- 4.2 In advance of this date, the Panel are advised of a number of critical issues identified through the regular performance management review.
- 4.3 Critical issues are those key themes and indicators deemed to be crucial for the achievement of a 3 star rating (or equivalent) for Children’s Services.
- 4.4 Those issues currently deemed to be critical are presented below :

Issue	Owner
Children with Disabilities	Maureen Phillips
Social Care / Safeguarding	Maureen Phillips
Teenage Conceptions	Maureen Phillips
Diversity	Elaine Fulton
Workforce Development	Elaine Fulton
Joint Commissioning	Elaine Fulton
Obesity	Elaine Fulton
Standards, especially KS1 and KS3	Mel Collins
CAMHS / Emotional Health	Elaine Fulton
Value for Money	Jon Lewis
Leadership	John Richards
Health Visiting Service	Brenda Town
Integration / Locality Working	Maureen Phillips
Participation of Children in Care	Maureen Phillips
Children’s Trust Arrangements	Elaine Fulton
Business Intelligence (i.e. Performance Management)	Elaine Fulton
Participation rates of vulnerable young people (EET)	Maureen Phillips
Achievement of Level 2 and 3 qualifications at age 19	Mel Collins
Facilities for young people	Maureen Phillips

5. IMPLICATIONS

None.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Support materials for the review of Performance Management and reporting within Children's Services are principally aimed at an audience of key stakeholders within organisations charged with service delivery and monitoring.
- 6.2 The Panel can be assured, however, that the outputs from this process have a significant role in shaping services for children and young people and in supporting the measurement of the impact of those services on children and young people, parents and carers, practitioners and partners.

7. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- 7.1 This report is presented for information and comment to the Panel.
- 7.2 The Panel may wish to discuss specific aspects of performance and potential linkages to the review of Peterborough's Children and Young People Plan (CYPP).

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 A formal Performance Management review is undertaken by the Children's Services Department Management Team (DMT) on a monthly basis. It is anticipated that a quarterly presentation is made to the panel, commenting on explicitly on critical issues identified by this process.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 9.1 Peterborough's Children and Young People Plan 2008-2011

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 None.

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