

**Report of Director of Children's Services**

**Report to Outer East area committee**

**Date: 10 September 2013**

**Subject: Children's Services area committee update report**

Are specific electoral wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of ward(s):	Crossgates and Whinmoor, Garforth and Swillington, Kippax and Methley, Temple Newsam	
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:		

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report summarises performance at area committee level, with a broader acknowledgement of city level performance.
2. The rising child population in Leeds is a key challenge with regards places at schools. This is already a known issue in primary schools, and is becoming increasingly evident in secondary schools.
3. Thirteen per cent fewer children and young people from the Outer East area committee area are looked after in June 2013 than in June 2012. Fifteen per cent fewer referrals were received from the Outer East area committee area in the first three months of 2012/13 than the first three months of 2011/12. Attendance, while remaining better than historic levels, has declined in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12. This is due to the exceptional low levels of sickness seen both in Leeds and nationally in 2011/12. Eighty-two per cent of primary schools and sixth per cent of secondary schools are now rated as good or better by Ofsted.

**Recommendations**

4. Area committees are requested to note the content of this report.
5. Area committees are asked for feedback on the report.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 Children's Services directorate provides six-monthly area committee reports, in March and September. These reports inform members about local outcomes for children and young people, and support the involvement of area committees in improving these outcomes by providing an update on the work of the directorate and of the Leeds Children's Trust, including local children's cluster arrangements. The progress made against local and national agendas is also highlighted.
- 1.2 The report summarises performance at area committee level, with a broader acknowledgement of city level performance. Key issues for Children's Services are highlighted, including Ofsted inspection, basic need, and child friendly city.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 Children's Services' aspiration is for Leeds to be a child friendly city, with high aspirations and strong outcomes for children, young people, and families. This will be achieved by delivering the Children and Young People's Plan, focusing on the three obsessions; involving all communities and sectors in developing a child friendly city; and embedding the principles of restorative practice and Outcomes Based Accountability.

## **3 Main issues/key developments within Children's Services**

### **Ofsted inspection**

- 3.1 In terms of child protection, safeguarding, and children looked after services, the directorate received positive feedback from Ofsted earlier this year. Firstly in the thematic inspection of the Independent Reviewing Officer Service, and secondly during the pilot of elements of the Ofsted inspection of services for looked after children and care leavers. Ofsted have not inspected safeguarding arrangements in Leeds since 2011, indicating that Leeds is regarded much more positively than in the past, and is gaining a national reputation for innovation and improvement.
- 3.2 Ofsted are introducing a new framework, *the inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers* in November 2013. This significantly raises standards and expectations of local authorities, in conjunction with the earlier change in Ofsted judgements from 'adequate' to 'requires improvement'. Despite this raising challenge and the changing inspection focus, work in Children's Services over the last 18 months has made a significant impact. Preparations are underway to ensure that the directorate is able to demonstrate to Ofsted the progress that has been made, and the continuing journey to excellence.
- 3.3 Targeted local authority inspections of support for school improvement have also been introduced by Ofsted. Preparation work is underway within the directorate, although the amount of schools rated good or better by Ofsted (83 per cent of primary schools, up seven percentage points from December; 58 per cent of secondary schools) suggests that Leeds may not be amongst the first tranche of services inspected.

## **Basic need**

- 3.4 The rising child population in Leeds is a key challenge in ensuring there are sufficient places at schools. This is already a known issue in primary schools, and is becoming increasingly evident in secondary schools. Since the basic needs programme began in 2009, 1,020 additional reception places have been approved. A further 98 have recently been the subject of statutory notice and are awaiting a final decision; 45 more places were consulted upon during the summer term.
- 3.5 For the next three school years (2014 to 2016), 50 additional forms of entry are required to manage the increase in pupil numbers, with 22 of these additional forms of entry required for 2014. Of the 22 forms of entry, approximately one third is permanent provision, and two thirds are bulge cohorts to manage a short-term, one off increase in pupil numbers.
- 3.6 For secondary places, the pressure from the current known birth rate has already been seen in the south for September 2013 admissions to Year Seven; by 2017 there will be no spare places across the city. To meet the emerging need, as many as seven new secondary schools may be required to accommodate this pressure, and discussions with existing schools and academies about their potential to expand will take place.
- 3.7 Leeds has been awarded a £13.8m share of £820m made available by the DfE for new school places, as part of the targeted basic need programme. The places must be delivered by September 2015.

## **Cluster governance**

- 3.8 The recent review of area working identified the need to more clearly understand the relative roles and responsibilities of area committees and other partnership bodies, including clusters used in Children's Services. The member relationship between area committees and clusters is central to this.
- 3.9 Member management committee recommended in March to strengthen local working arrangements with elected member representatives to Children's Services clusters to be appointed by area committees. This establishes a formal link between area committees and clusters, and enables and supports the building of closer working arrangements to better support the needs of children and families across the city.

## **Child Friendly City**

- 3.10 146 ambassadors, including the Olympian Nicola Adams, and Leeds Rhinos player Danny McGuire, are helping to promote Child Friendly Leeds. 131 organisations have made pledges of support (BT, Marks and Spencer, and First Direct being amongst the headline organisations), all striving to make Leeds the best city (in which to grow up) in the UK.
- 3.11 The CBBC in Leeds event, in late July, attracted over 38,000 people. Child Friendly Leeds activities were hosted in major council venues in the city centre. There will be a 'takeover day' in November, and January 2014 will see the inaugural Child Friendly Leeds awards.

## 4 Performance update

4.1 Appendix one (page ten) provides data and commentary on current performance for the area committee, which is summarised below. Data from the same period 12 months ago is used where possible for direction of travel/progress analysis. Figures may be rounded up/down in the following commentary.

4.2 Further, more detailed information is available via the following websites:

- The cluster profile (<https://www.leedsinitiative.org/ClusterDataProfile.aspx>).
- The West Yorkshire observatory (<http://www.westyorkshireobservatory.org/>).
- The Department for Education's 'in your area' website (<http://www.education.gov.uk/cgi-bin/inyourarea/areasearch.pl?search=Leeds>).

### Outer East area committee commentary

**Children and young people are safe from harm** - obsession: number of children in care

4.3 There are 12 fewer children and young people (79 vs 91; a 13 per cent reduction) from the Outer East area committee area that are looked after in June 2013 than in June 2012. This reduction is bigger than the citywide reduction.

4.4 There are five fewer children and young people (81 vs 86; a 6 per cent reduction) from the Outer East area committee area that are subject to a child protection plan in June 2013 than in June 2012. This reduction is bigger than the citywide reduction.

4.5 Between April and June 2013, two more CAFs were carried out than in the same period 12 months ago. This equates to a seven per cent rise (30 to 32).

4.6 16 per cent fewer requests for service (640 vs 765), and 15 per cent fewer referrals (217 vs 256) were received from the Outer East area committee area in the first three months of 2012/13 than the first three months of 2011/12. These reductions are significantly higher than the citywide reductions of four (requests for service), and three per cent (referrals). The conversion rate (percentage of requests for service that become a referral) has reduced from 33.9 per cent in April to June 2012 to 33.5 per cent in April to June 2013. These trends are consistent with the improvements made to our front door practice on how child protection inquiries are best handled.

**Children and young people do well at all levels of learning and have the skills for life** - obsession: young people in education employment or training  
- obsession: attendance

4.7 The percentage of 'not known' young people in the Outer East area committee area has reduced by three percentage points, from six per cent in June 2012 to three per cent in June 2013. The percentage of young people identified as NEET has risen from 4.5 per cent in June 2012 to five per cent in June 2013.

4.8 There is a correlation between a reduction in not known rates, and a rise in NEET levels; the status of more young people is known after sweeps and telephone

calls. Targeted support offers mean that the NEET cohort is better informed and supported in trying to find/access education, employment, or training.

- 4.9 Paragraph 4.22 outlines that 2012/13 was the second best year for attendance levels in the city but slightly down on 2011/12 largely due to autumn term sickness. In the Outer East primary school attendance declined by just 0.3 of a percentage point to 95.5 per cent in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12. This is slightly less than the citywide reduction of half a percentage point in the same period, and attendance levels overall are above city levels at both the primary and secondary phases. Secondary attendance levels also reduced slightly, by 0.4 of a percentage point, to 94.4 per cent across the same period.
- 4.10 There was a rise in the number of primary school pupils persistently absent, from 169 in 2011/12 to 220 in 2012/13 (an increase of 51; a 30 per cent rise). Fourteen per cent (44) more secondary school pupils were persistently absent in 2012/13 (355) compared to 2011/12 (311).

### **Children and young people choose healthy lifestyles, and voice and influence**

- 4.11 The number of children and young people committing an offence reduced from 73 in 2011-12 to 51 in 2012-13, a 30 per cent drop. This is in line with the citywide reduction of 30 per cent.

### **Local Ofsted inspections**

- 4.12 Half as many primary schools in the Outer East area committee area are now rated as requires improvement by Ofsted (four compared to eight). Eighty-two per cent are now rated as good or better, compared to 71 per cent in December. Three primary schools are now rated as good, although one - Great Preston C of E Primary School - is rated as inadequate. Ofsted's serious weaknesses monitoring visit to this school noted that the school's leaders are working hard to tackle the identified areas for improvement and pupils are regaining lost ground in their learning. There is no change in the ratings of the secondary schools in the area, with John Smeaton Community College still rated as inadequate, and Garforth Academy still rated as outstanding. The most recent monitoring report by Ofsted of John Smeaton concludes that the quality of teaching, behaviour and achievement are all improving and school is making reasonable progress towards the removal of special measures.
- 4.13 The single children's home in the Outer East area committee area has been inspected since the last update report, and has seen its rating rise from adequate to good.

### **City commentary**

- 4.14 The following paragraphs summarise partnership progress against the CYPP indicators, including the three obsessions. Appendix two (page 14) contains CYPP obsession indicator graphs and charts by area committee.

### **Children and young people are safe from harm**

- 4.15 Children looked after numbers (1,358) are at their lowest point since November 2009, with June's figure five per cent lower than the same point 12 months ago. More children and young people entered care between April 2013 and June 2013 than the same period 12 months ago, but the numbers leaving continue to rise.
- 4.16 The number of children and young people subject to a child protection plan is virtually unchanged from a year ago at 897 (894 in June 2012). It is, however, six per cent lower than the December 2012 figure of 956.
- 4.17 Four per cent (311) fewer requests for service (contact received by the Duty and Advice Team), and three per cent (89) fewer referrals (those requests for service that were deemed to require Children's Social Work Service involvement), were received between April and June 2013 compared to the same period a year ago.
- 4.18 Twenty-seven per cent more CAFs (65) were initiated in the first three months of 2012/13 compared to the same period a year ago; this is equivalent to 22 additional CAFs per month.
- 4.19 There are five per cent more Council-employed foster carers (an increase of 28, to 578) in June 2013 than in December 2012. This should rise further in the coming months, as fourteen independent fostering agency foster carers may become Council-employed. The number of family placement foster carers is four higher in June 2013 (108) than December 2012 (104).

**Children and young people do well at all levels of learning and have the skills for life**

- 4.20 Across Leeds primary schools, attendance declined by half a percentage point to 95.3 per cent between half-terms one to four in 2011/12 and half-terms one to four in 2012/13. There were 207 more primary age pupils being persistently absent in the first two terms of 2012/13 compared to same period in 2011/12.
- 4.21 Attendance at Leeds secondary schools was 93.8% in the first two terms of 2011/12, and this has fallen only very slightly to 93.7% in the first two terms of 2012/13. Sixteen fewer secondary school age pupils were persistently absent in the first two terms of 2012/13.
- 4.22 Although attendance at both phases has declined slightly, the most recent figures are the second best attendance rates ever recorded in Leeds. Much of the difference in attendance rates is accounted for by higher levels of absence due to sickness in the autumn term of 2012/13, compared to the autumn term of the previous year. Rates of absence due to sickness levels were at an exceptionally low level across the country in the autumn term of 2011/12, and attendance in Leeds mirrored this trend. Absence levels in autumn term 2012 remain lower than in autumn term 2010 and previous years.
- 4.23 NEET and 'not known' levels have significantly reduced across the city; NEET sweeps and the use of Welfare Call have contributed to this. Young people identified as NEET are offered targeted support to help them with pathways to EET. The graphs in appendix two show the changes in the last 12 months for each area committee, especially the reduction in the not known cohort.

- 4.24 Complementing the core devolved youth contract support programme in Leeds, local clusters and/or partnerships of clusters are being funded to deliver local innovation projects (eg providing provision of targeted mental health, counselling, and bespoke motivational programmes). The aim is to contribute to the reduction of 16 to 17 year-old NEETs in localities by increasing young people's experience and qualifications, so they have the opportunity to continue in education and successfully find work.

### **Children and young people choose healthy lifestyles**

- 4.25 Survey work and analysis on free school meal data are still underway. An update will be provided to area committees in a later report.

### **Children and young people are active citizens who feel they have a voice and influence**

- 4.26 The number of young people committing an offence between April 2012 and March 2013 was almost a third lower than the same period in 2011/12, reflecting the national trend.

### **Ofsted inspections**

- 4.27 Eighty-three per cent of primary schools (180) are rated as good or better in July 2013, seven percentage points higher (15 more schools) than in July 2012. Four fewer primary schools are rated as outstanding across the same period, and three more primary schools are rated as inadequate.
- 4.28 The percentage of secondary schools rated as good or better has reduced by three percentage points to 58 per cent in July 2013, from 61 per cent in December 2012 (one less school). One more secondary school is rated as inadequate.
- 4.29 There have been no inspections of children's centres in Leeds since the last update report. A new inspection framework begins in September; an update to area committees will be provided later.
- 4.30 73 per cent (eight) of the eleven directly managed local authority children's homes in Leeds are currently rated good or outstanding, a significant improvement from 36 per cent (four) that were good or outstanding at 31 December 2012. The other three children's homes are currently rated adequate/satisfactory.

## **5 Corporate considerations**

### **5.1 Consultation and engagement**

- 5.1.1 This report is for area committee meetings, which involve a wide range of partners and stakeholders. Consultation and engagement is integral to the work of Children's Services and the Children's Trust, evidenced in child friendly city work.

### **5.2 Equality and diversity/cohesion and integration**

- 5.2.1 Equality issues are implicit in the information provided. The differences shown illustrate that there are different levels of need and of outcomes across the city. Additional equality analysis of the information provided is undertaken, and the

detailed information already provided to clusters is powerful intelligence that can be used to help focus priorities and narrow the gap.

### **5.3 Council policies and city priorities**

5.3.1 A significant proportion of the information included in this report relates to the city priorities for children and young people and the outcomes contained in the CYPP.

### **5.4 Resources and value for money**

5.4.1 There are no resource implications in this report.

### **5.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in**

5.5.1 This report is not eligible for call in, due to being a Council function.

### **5.6 Risk management**

5.6.1 There are no risk management implications in this report. The priorities reflected in this report are monitored through Leeds City Council performance and, where appropriate, risk management processes.

## **6 Conclusions**

6.1 Not applicable, as this report is information based.

## **7 Recommendations**

7.1 The Outer East area committee is requested to note the content of this report.

7.2 The Outer East area committee is asked for feedback on the report.

## **8 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

8.1 There are no background documents to accompany this report.

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.



## Appendix one: performance data for Outer East area committee

Autumn 2013 Children's Services performance update

Measure	Leeds	Outer E	Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest		
1. Number of children and young people 0-19	173,462	18,501	January 2013	24,510	17,289	11,609		
2. Percentage of children and young people	n/a	10.7%	January 2013	14.1%	10.0%	6.7%		
3. Number of primary schools	218	28	Current	28	22	15		
4. Number of secondary schools	36	5	Current	6	4	2		
4a. Number of through schools	2	0	Current	2	0	0		
5. Number of children's centres	58	6	Current	11	6	3		
<p>Commentary                      The Outer East area committee has 10.7 per cent of the city's 0-19 population, (18,501 children and young people). There are 28 primary schools, five secondary schools, and six children's centres located within the area committee boundary.</p>								
Keeping children safe from harm	Leeds	Outer E			Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest
		Current reporting period	Previous reporting period	Direction of travel				
6. Number of children looked after	1,358	79	91		30 June 2013	389	131	22
7. Number of children entering care	106	...	...		Apr-Jun 2013	32	14	5
8. Number of children subject to a child protection plan	897	81	86		30 June 2013	217	88	15
9. Number of CAFs initiated	308	32	30	↔	Apr-Jun 2013	55	30.2	17
10. Number of requests for service	8,695	640	765		Apr-Jun 2013	1,701	794	347
11. Number of requests for service leading to a referral	2,964	217	256		Apr-Jun 2013	635	282	83
12. Number of LCC-employed foster carers	578	57	55	↔	30 June 2013	83	50	23
12a. Number of family placement foster carers	108	16	16		30 June 2013	16	11	6

**Commentary**

There are 12 fewer children and young people (79 vs 91; a 13 per cent reduction) from the Outer East area committee area that are looked after in June 2013 than in June 2012. This reduction is bigger than the citywide reduction.

There are five fewer children and young people (81 vs 86; a 6 per cent reduction) from the Outer East area committee area that are subject to a child protection plan in June 2013 than in June 2012. This reduction is bigger than the citywide reduction. Between April and June 2013, two more CAFs were carried out than the same period 12 months ago. This equates to a seven per cent rise (30 to 32).

16 per cent fewer requests for service (640 vs 765), and 15 per cent fewer referrals (217 vs 256) were received from the Outer East area committee area in the first three months of 2012/13 than the first three months of 2011/12. These reductions are significantly higher than the citywide reductions of four (requests for service), and three per cent (referrals).

Do well in learning and have the skills for life	Leeds	Outer E			Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest
		Current reporting period	Previous reporting period	Direction of travel				
13. Primary school attendance levels	95.3%	95.5%	95.8%		2012-13 HT 1-4	96.2%	95.3%	93.9%
14. Secondary school attendance levels	93.7%	94.4%	94.8%		2012-13 HT 1-4	94.6%	93.3%	91.1%
15. Number of pupils persistently absent at primary	1,839	220	169	æ	2012-13 HT 1-4	417	184	83
16. Number of pupils persistently absent at secondary	3,067	355	311	æ	2012-13 HT 1-4	474	307	162
17. Number of NEET <sup>i</sup>	1,501	152	132	æ	30 June 2013	330	149	47
17a. Percentage of NEET <sup>i</sup>	6.7%	5.1%	4.4%	æ	30 June 2013	10.5%	6.2%	2.6%
18. Number of 'not knows'	1,283	97	184		30 June 2013	408	116	41
18a. Percentage of 'not knows'	5.5%	3.3%	6.1%		30 June 2013	14.5%	4.7%	2.2%

**Commentary**

Outer East area committee area attendance levels in primary schools reduced by almost half a percentage point to 95.5 per cent in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12. This is slightly less than the citywide reduction. The same reduction was seen in secondary school attendance levels in the area, with the 2012/13 figure of 94.4 per cent being the third highest level of all area committees. Primary school persistent absence rose by 30 per cent in the Outer East area committee area, this is higher than the citywide rise of almost 13 per cent. 220 children were persistently absent in 2012/13, up by 51 from 169 in 2011/12. 14 per cent more children were persistently absent from secondary schools in the area, up by 44 to 355. This was one of five area committee areas that saw a rise in persistent absence at secondary schools, counter to the modest citywide reduction of 0.5 per cent.

The percentage of 'not known' young people in the Outer East area committee area has reduced by three percentage points, from six per cent in June 2012 to three per cent in June 2013. The percentage of young people identified as NEET has risen from 4.5 per cent in June 2012 to five per cent in June 2013.

Voice and influence	Leeds	Outer E			Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest
		Current reporting period	Previous reporting period	Direction of travel				
19. 10-17 year olds committing an offence	672	51	73		Apr 12 - Mar 13	167	67	18
Ofsted inspections	Leeds	Outer E			Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest
		Current reporting period	Previous reporting period	Direction of travel				
20. Percentage of primary schools good or better	83%	82%	71%	æ	31 July 2013	93%	82%	68%
21. Percentage of secondary schools good or better	58%	60%	60%		31 July 2013	75%	56%	25%
22. Percentage of children's centres good or better	81%	100%	100%		31 July 2013	100%	88%	60%
23. Percentage of children's homes good or better	73%	100%	0%	æ	31 July 2013	100%	58%	0%
Ofsted judgement - Outer East	Current period: 31 July 2013				Previous period: 31 Dec 2012			
	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate
24. Primary schools	3	20	4	1	3	17	8	0
25. Secondary schools	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1
26. SILCs (citywide)								
27. Pupil referral units (citywide)								
28. Children's centres	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
29. Children's homes	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
<p>Commentary</p> <p>Half as many primary schools in the Outer East area committee area are now rated as requires improvement by Ofsted (four compared to eight). Three are now rated as good, although one - Great Preston C of E Primary School - is rated as inadequate. Eighty-two per cent are now rated as good or better, compared to 71 per cent in December. There is no change in the ratings of the secondary schools in the area, with John Smeaton Community College still rated as inadequate, and Garforth Academy still rated as outstanding.</p> <p>The single children's home in the Outer East area committee area has been inspected since the last update report, and has seen its rating rise from adequate to good.</p>								

Secondary schools	Current period		Previous period		Direction of travel	
	Ofsted	Attendance	Ofsted	Attendance	Ofsted	Attendance
Brigshaw High School	2	94.6%	2	94.7%		
Corpus Christi Catholic College	3	92.5%	2	93.4%		
Garforth Academy	1	96.3%	1	96.0%		↻
John Smeaton Community College	4	92.9%	4	94.0%		
Temple Moor High School	2	94.5%	3	94.7%	↻	

**Key:** AY - academic year FY - financial year HT - half term ... data below five (suppressed for confidentiality)

**Ofsted grades:** 1 = Outstanding, 2 = Good, 3 = Satisfactory/Requires Improvement, 4 = Inadequate

<sup>1</sup> The citywide figure reports 'adjusted NEET' (see data definitions), the area committee figures do not take account of 'adjusted NEET'

## Appendix two: CYPP obsessions - graphs and charts



