

CHILDREN'S SERVICES FINANCIAL DASHBOARD

OUTTURN - FINANCIAL YEAR 2015/16

Overall

The Directorate has faced major budget pressures of just under £8m on the transport and looked after children demand led budgets. Additional income from Health, Schools and other Partners has helped partly offset these pressures together with savings against the staffing budget and other running costs. The net result is a year end overspend of £4.38m.

Children Looked After Obsession

overall there has been a net decrease of approximately 35 children looked after since 1st April 2015 (1,235 from 1,270) , however, the service has ended the year with 57 external residential placements and 222 Independent Fostering Agency Placements with a resultant budget pressure on external placements of £4.8M. Towards the end of 2015/16 there has been an increase in demand for placements , partly arising from the Staying Put initiative which has increased the length of placements and also pressures on in-house fostering and semi-independent placements which have resulted in an overall pressure on CLA placements of circa £5.8M.

Staffing

Overall underspend on staffing budgets of £1.1m, primarily due to slippage against the Directorate's recruitment plans for services funded from the Innovations Fund £0.9m, Children's Homes £0.6m and Complex Needs £0.3m. The directorate ialso delivered a £0.6m underspend on agency staffing /overtime . These savings are partly offset by slippage on the budget action plans for Service transformation £1.0m and Youth Services £0.3m.

Premises and Supplies & Services

Overall no material budget variation.

Transport

the 2015/16 strategy included £0.83m of anticipated savings around demand management , however, a rise in the number of children & young people requiring education outside the city and in their complexity of need has resulted in a £2M overspend at outturn .

Partnerships/Trading

Overall no material budget variation.

Other Income

Projected favourable variation of £2.6m , including £1.6m of additional Health funding for Children's Centres (Family Services), £1m of additional funding from Schools Forum and £0.8m of additional High Needs DSG funding for SEND.The projections assume that the Directorate will carry forward £1.1m of unspent Innovations Funding into 2016/17 in order to maintain FGC capacity , fund commissioned services around domestic violence and DfE evaluation costs.

Budget Management - net variations against the approved budget

				PROJECTED VARIANCES											Total (under) / overspend
	Expenditure Budget	Income Budget	Latest Estimate	Staffing	Premises	Supplies & Services	Transport	Internal Charges	External Providers	Transfer Payments	Capital	Appropriation	Total Expenditure	Income	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Partnership, Development & Business Support	20,302	(3,132)	17,170	1,156	(6)	(317)	1,889	(418)	(16)	3	0	588	2,879	85	2,964
Learning, Skills & Universal Services	131,518	(116,427)	15,091	(791)	(85)	781	32	(107)	(345)	592	0	(1,116)	(1,039)	(33)	(1,072)
Safeguarding, Targeted & Specialist Services	125,445	(32,005)	93,440	(1,216)	(195)	(129)	299	(767)	4,967	347	0	1,799	5,105	(2,505)	2,600
Central Overheads	9,069	(12,851)	(3,782)	(274)	0	0	0	140	(134)	0	0	276	8	(118)	(110)
Total	286,334	(164,415)	121,919	(1,125)	(286)	335	2,220	(1,152)	4,472	942	0	1,547	6,953	(2,571)	4,382

Key Budget Action Plans and Budget Variations:

			Lead Officer	Additional Comments	Action Plan Value	Forecast Variation
A. Key Budget Action plans (BAP's)					£m	£m
1.	Children Looked After (CLA) Placements - reducing the need for children to be in care	Steve Walker	At 31/3/15 the active cohort of CLA stood at 1, 270, down 70 from the position at 31/3/14 (1,340) but 40 greater than assumed within the budget. At P12 the CLA cohort stands at 1,234 - main issue continues to be dependency on external residential placements (57) and Independent Fostering Agency placements (222)	7.00	5.80	
2	Service Transformation/Redesign	Steve Walker	£3.15m savings from service re-design & Early Leavers Initiative (£2.15m) and exploration of joint/co-funding from key partners (£1.00m) to support devolvement of preventative/targeted services to localities. Discussions on-going with partners re joint funding of multi-agency teams; ELI driving staffing savings through post deletions and service reconfiguration - slippage anticipated	3.15	0.50	
3	Reduction/reconfiguration of Youth Services (recommissioning of targeted Information & Advice contract and In-house Youth Services)	Andrea Richardson	£3.05m savings from re-commissioning of the Targeted Information & Advice Contract (£1.35m) and reducing in-house provided Youth Services (£1.70m). Commissioning target delivered - pressure of circa £0.6m anticipated (£0.45m staffing; £0.10m running costs & £0.05m activity centre income).	3.05	0.50	
4	Reconfiguration of Children's Centres (including Family Support & Parenting Team & Early Help Commissioned Services)	Andrea Richardson	Slippage in plans to re-configure Children's Centres and associated services circa £1.3m; joint funding of Children's Centre services agreed with the CCGs and Schools Forum	2.16	1.30	
5	Additional traded income within Children's Services	Paul Brennan	New "Leeds for Learning" web-site implemented enabling schools to enrol/subscribe for services on-line and services to track demand and inform marketing strategy - no slippage in achieving traded income target anticipated at this stage.	1.00	0.00	
6	Transport -savings through reducing demand (Independent Travel Training) and general efficiency savings	Sue Rumbold	Team continue to actively work on Independent Travel Training element of savings; rise in the number of children and young people requiring education outside the city and in their compexity of need	0.83	2.00	
7	Partner Heads/active schools/	Paul Brennan	Original plans put on hold pending the outcome of on-going consultation with schools forum (see 8 below)	0.25	0.25	
B. OTHER SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS						
8	"A life Ready for Learning" - agreement for co-funding from Schools	Paul Brennan	Joint funding proposal around devolvement of early intervention/targeted services to clusters (including Childrens Centres services and Youth Services) agreed by Schools Forum in June).	0.00	(1.00)	
9	Sustainability of Children's Centres - agreement for co-funding from Health	Paul Brennan	£1.60m of CCG funding secured to sustain the universal offer around Children's Centres and services provided by the Family Support and Parenting Team.	0.00	(1.60)	
10	Agency/other Staffing	Steve Walker	Directorate on track to deliver £1.1M of savings on a range of staffing budgets including a £0.6m saving on Children's Homes, £0.3m saving on Complex Needs and £0.6M saving on agency staffing/overtime	0.00	(1.15)	
11	Innovations Fund	Various	Further maximisation of Innovations Fund	0.00	(1.40)	
12	Other	Various	Other minor variations including additional incomefor the Vine (£0.24m) & recharge of MST service to Housing Revenue Account (£0.3M)	0.00	(0.82)	
				Children's Services Directorate -	4.38	