



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

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Report of the Director of Children's Services
To: Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th December 2009

Subject: Developing local arrangements for children's services performance management reporting

Electoral Wards Affected:
Armley
Bramley and Stanningley

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function



Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In



Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report



Executive Summary

To enable Area Committees to receive appropriate performance management information which takes account of recent changes to the OFSTED and Comprehensive Area Assessment. Recommendations are about the type of report that should be made available.

1.0 Purpose of This Report

This report provides an outline of the proposed children's services performance management arrangements for Area Committees. It seeks member involvement in ensuring local performance information is relevant to local priorities and enables the area committee to carry out its performance monitoring role to support the achievement of local and city-wide priorities, as outlined in the area function information and council's constitution.

2.0 Background

In December 2008 children's services outlined the revised locality children's trust arrangements and instigated the local children's champion role. These developments have progressed with the Children's Champions joining the local children's services leadership teams from November 2009. The governance arrangements for locality children's services leadership teams (partnerships) have also been revised to support elected member involvement and formalise the links to Area Committees.

The Area Function information and the Council constitution outline the Area Committee's role in developing and reviewing the Children and Young People's Plan priorities. It also sets out their performance monitoring role to support the achievement of local and citywide priorities. The Area Committee Children's Champions have an influencing role in supporting progress against the Every Child Matters outcomes and improving the integration of children's services. However, other specific roles such as the Corporate Parent, or where elected members are involved in children's centres, act as school governors or as members of ALMO boards also provide opportunity for local elected members to influence partner involvement and challenge current progress around local children's services priorities. Better management information is required to enable local elected members to challenge performance and support improvement and this report seeks to address this.

3.0 Area committee involvement in supporting children's services improvement

The new Ofsted inspection framework looks for evidence around a range of issues where elected members have a key role. The local authority must be able to demonstrate evidence of visible leadership to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. One of the ways this is demonstrated locally is through the local elected member Children's Champion and how they work with the Area Committee to support the improvement of children's services. Examples of this might include local elected members:

- using performance information to instigate local discussions with services providers about how particular problems are tackled;
- using their role on Community Safety partnerships to drive better working between the police and broader children's services;
- targeted work through the corporate parent role with looked after children to better understand their needs and how service should be delivered locally

From 2010 Area Committee's will receive performance information which will outline the current performance of all local children's services settings, including school, childcare provision and children's homes. The performance management information will also include key performance measures for the Children and Young People's Plan priorities such as the number of young people not in education, training and employment, GCSE results and attendance rates. This will ensure local elected member are able to influence how local priorities are addressed and play a challenge and support role around improving performance. The Children's Champion will be able to bring the views of the wider Area Committee to the local children's services leadership team in order to work through local solutions.

Local elected member also have a leadership role to play through their involvement in extended services clusters. This is an opportunity to shape local service delivery around the needs of children, young people and families, ensuring they are well connected to the local community.

Appendix 1 outlines the proposed framework for performance reporting. It is important to note that at this stage this is a framework document and many indicators at this time are not

broken down locally, however, it is our intention to do further work around this area. The locality performance framework outlines:

- the performance of all settings, services and institutions locally, as defined by the Children's Services CAA performance profile. It shows the percentage of these settings that are judged to be good or better;
- performance measures identified for each of the Children and Young People's Plan priorities including comparison to the city-wide average

It is proposed that the local performance framework is used to support Area Committee's involvement in monitoring the performance of children's services locally and to stimulate themed discussions with partners around areas of underperformance or significant improvement. Much of the performance information is annual and there are key times of the year when the information will be refreshed. It is proposed that the cycle for performance reporting is December and July each year. In January all of the revised Education data will be available including GCSE results and in July the end of financial year figures for all other indicators will be available.

For this Area Committee cycle it is proposed that subject to approval of the framework the first full performance report come in February, allowing service to develop the local data set.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy and Governance

There are no implications for Council policy and governance. The report support the agreed functions of the Area Committee as outlined in the Area Functions and the Council's Constitution.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

There are no legal implications and the resource implications are a requirement for central performance management arrangements to develop local reporting arrangements, within existing resources.

6.0 Conclusions

In recent months significant work has taken place to drive improvement in children's services. This work has intensified since the introduction of the new Ofsted framework and the findings from the unannounced inspection. The emphasis is on improving the quality and consistency of frontline safeguarding provision, improving integrated working and the quality of our children's services setting such as children's centres, children's homes and schools. The new framework has significantly raised the bar for the quality of service provided, with a much stronger emphasis on safeguarding.

The Ofsted framework also asks local authorities to show how elected members champion the needs of children and young people and proactively respond to their needs. It is important that local democratic arrangements demonstrate how they engage with children, young people and families. A major step toward improving the involvement of Area

Committees is through the role of the Children's Champion and the introduction of the new local performance management framework.

The performance management framework will support Area Committees to have a better understanding about the levels of need in an area and service performance to meet these needs.

7.0 Recommendations

Elected Members are asked to agree:

- the proposed format for local children's service performance reporting
- a full performance report be received in the February 2010
- future reporting to be in January and July each year.

Background Papers:

None.

Appendix 1

Settings and Institutions Performance.

The new OFSTED scoring is based on a judgement about good or better (i.e. not satisfactory)

- 80% judged good or better - Dark green
- 65-79% judged good or better -Light green
- 50-64% judged good or better – Amber
- Under 50% judged good or better – Red

City position at August 2009:

Setting / Service / Institution	Number Inspected	Judgements/ Good or Above	Inadequate	%Banding
Childminders	859	475	12	50 - Amber
Childcare on non domestic	330	189	4	54 - Amber
Nurseries				
Primary Schools	219	143	3	65 – Light Green
Secondary Schools	39	16	3	41 - Red
6 th Form Schools	36	14	3	39 - Red
Special Schools	6	4	1	67 – Light Green
PRU (Pupil Referral Units)	4	4	0	100 – Dark Green
6 th Form Colleges	1	1	0	100 – Dark Green
Children homes	16	12	1	75 – Light Green

Setting / Service / Institution report for the Inner West Area Committee at December 2009

Setting / Service / Institution	Number Inspected	Judgements/ Good or Above	Inadequate	%Banding
Childminders				
Childcare on non domestic				
Nurseries				
Primary Schools				
Secondary Schools				
6 th Form Schools				
Special Schools				
PRU (Pupil Referral Units)				
6 th Form Colleges				
Children homes				

Performance Measures (to be completed)

Priority	Measure	Leeds Baseline	Comparative similar Areas data	National	Area	Target for 2009/10	Target for 2010/11
Improving early learning and primary outcomes in deprived areas	NI 92* - The gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and their peers (also in the basket of poverty indicators)	39.7% (07/08 ac yr)	34%	35.6% (07/08 ac yr)		30% (08/09 ac yr)	31.35% (09/10 ac yr)
	NI 76 - Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 55% of pupils achieve level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2	28 Schools 07/08	Not appropriate for comparison	Not appropriate for comparison		11 (08/09)	15 (09/10)
Improving attendance and reducing Persistent Absence from school	NI 87*(DCSF) - Secondary school 'Persistent Absence' rate (>20% absence)	7.9% (07/08 ac yr)	5.7% (07/08 ac yr)	5.6% (07/08 ac yr)		7.7% (08/09 ac yr)	6.3% (09/10 ac yr)
Reducing teenage conception	NI 112 - Under 18 conception rate (in the six wards with highest rates)	50.4 (1998) 48.1 (2007)	49 (2007)	41.7 (2007)		42.7	TBD
Raising the proportion of young people in education or work	NI 117*(LAA) - The proportion of young people aged 16-18 Not in Education, Employment or Training (also in the basket of poverty indicators)	10%	**	**		7.8%	6.8%
Reducing the need for children to be in care	LSP-HWb(i)* (PA) - Number of Looked After Children per 10,000 population of young people	83.8	***	***		67.5	59.3
Reducing Child Poverty	NI 116 - Proportion of children in poverty ¹						
Improving Outcomes for Looked After Children	NI 101* (DCSF) - Looked after children achieving 5 A* - C GCSEs or equivalent) at KS 4 (including maths and English)	4.0% (07/08 ac yr provisional)	**	**		17% (08/09 ac yr)	TBD
Places to go, things to do	NI 110* (PA) Young people's participation in positive activities	65.9%	67.3% (national median) (08/09)	69.5% (national median) (08/09)		70% by 2011	70% by 2011
14-19 Education	NI 179* (LAA) -Achievement of a level 2 qualification by the age of 19	65% (06/07 ac yr)	**	**		71.8%	75.2%
	NI 80* (PA) - Achievement of Level 3 qualifications by the age of 19	41% (06/07 ac yr)	**	**		47% (08/09 ac year)	49% (09/10 ac yr)
Safeguarding	NI 66 Number of referrals (to be added)						
	Number of Core assessments completed in 35 days						