

**Decision Maker:** EDUCATION CHILDREN AND FAMILIES BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

**Title:** PERFORMANCE REPORTING – CHILDREN’S SERVICES

**Contact Officer:** Naheed Chaudhry, Assistant Director Strategy, Performance and Business Support  
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**Chief Officer:** Ade Adetosoye, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director Education, Health and Care

**Ward:** Borough-wide

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1. Reason for report

1.1 To provide the Sub-Committee with a proposed set of performance indicators in respect of children’s services to be reported on at meetings of the Sub-Committee commencing 2018/19

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2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Sub-Committee is requested:

- i) To agree the proposed performance measures for regular reporting commencing 2018/19; and,
- ii) To agree that the performance measures should be reviewed on an annual basis.

### Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Not Applicable
  2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People
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### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost
  2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
  3. Budget head/performance centre: N/A
  4. Total current budget for this head: N/A
  5. Source of funding: N/A
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### Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional):N/A
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
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### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable: No Executive decision.
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### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): N/A
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### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

### **3. COMMENTARY**

- 3.1 In January 2018, the Sub-Committee received a draft of a new performance management framework document in respect of children's services. This document described the roles and responsibilities of elected members and officers in managing the performance of the council's services for children and families. The specific responsibilities of the Education, Children and Families Select Committee and its Budget and Performance Sub-Committee were identified as *'receiving reports on performance, asking challenging questions about areas of underperformance, and making recommendations accordingly to the Executive'*.
- 3.2 The accompanying report recommended that the Budget and Performance Sub-Committee should, on behalf of the Select Committee, receive a regular update on a suite of performance measures in respect of children's services. This would be over and above more detailed reports on specific areas of practice – eg Corporate Parenting reports; annual School Standards reports – already received by the Sub-Committee. The suite would be selected from the much wider set of data collected and reported both internally and externally in respect of children's services and would act as a regular 'health check' on key areas of service delivery to enable scrutiny and enquiry from elected members.
- 3.3 The Sub-Committee agreed the recommendations and the proposed suite of indicators for regular reporting is now attached in **Appendix One**. A brief rationale for each measure has been provided but, taken together; they reflect areas of service on which the department has a particular improvement focus as a result, for example, of external inspection or recent legislative requirements.
- 3.4 It is recommended that the Sub-Committee agrees the measures in Appendix One.
- 3.5 It is proposed that the regular performance report will be presented with target, trend, and benchmarking information where available and commentary on an exceptions basis. To enable the Sub-Committee to see change in performance, indicators only measured annually have been excluded.
- 3.6 It is recommended that the suite, once agreed, is changed only on a periodic basis, subject to annual review.
- 3.7 The committee will note that not all indicators have set targets, officers have provided targets where appropriate and a range of acceptable performance elsewhere, these allow Members to be alerted to issues where they need further exploration only. It is proposed that the quarterly reports will be provided management commentary against those indicators that are performing below expectation.
- 3.8 It is worth noting that the committee will also be in receipt of the regular Contracts Register report and twice yearly Risk Register update, these will provide some reassurance under the broader performance management framework.

### **4. IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN**

- 4.1 Examination of performance by elected members holding scrutiny roles is part of a broader performance management framework which supports improvement of services delivered to children, including those vulnerable to poorer outcomes.

### **5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Following the disappointing Ofsted inspection of services to children in need of help and protection, looked after children and care leavers in 2016, the council committed to improving leadership and management of those services. The adoption of a new performance

management framework is part of the overall children’s services improvement plan developed following that inspection.

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Financial, Legal, Personnel and Procurement Implications.
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	N/A