

Blackpool Council

30 January 2018

To: Councillors Collett, Critchley, O'Hara, Owen, Rowson, D Scott, Mrs Scott, Stansfield and L Taylor.

The above members are requested to attend the:

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 8 February 2018 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room A, Town Hall, Blackpool

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

(1) the type of interest concerned either a

- (a) personal interest
- (b) prejudicial interest
- (c) disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI)

and

(2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 07 DECEMBER 2017 (Pages 1 - 6)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 07 December 2017 as a true and correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING

To consider any applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS (Pages 7 - 12)

To consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the remit of the Resilient Communities and Children's Scrutiny Committee.

5 FORWARD PLAN (Pages 13 - 18)

To consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, February 2018 – June 2018, relating to the portfolio of the Cabinet Secretary.

6 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN (Pages 19 - 28)

The Committee to consider the Workplan, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review.

7 CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE REPORT (Pages 29 - 40)

To inform the Committee of the work undertaken by Children's Services on a day to day basis and to update on the progress and implementation of developments within the areas.

8 CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (Pages 41 - 46)

To inform Members of the ongoing work relating to Child Sexual Abuse.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date and time of the next meeting of the Committee as Thursday, 12 April 2018, commencing at 6pm.

Venue information:

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager, Tel: 01253 477213, e-mail sharon.davis@blackpool.gov.uk

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at www.blackpool.gov.uk.

MINUTES OF RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2017

Present:

Councillor Rowson (in the Chair)

Councillors

Collett
Critchley

O'Hara
D Scott

Mrs Scott
Stansfield

L Taylor

In Attendance:

Mr John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services

Mrs Diane Booth, Director of Children's Services

Mr John Hawkin, Head of Leisure and Catering Services

Mr Scott Butterfield, Transformation Manager, Corporate Delivery Unit

Mrs Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary for Resilient Communities

Councillor Kath Benson, Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning

Councillor Maria Kirkland, Cabinet Member for Third Sector Engagement and Leisure Services

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 19 OCTOBER 2017

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the last meeting of the Resilient Communities and Children's Scrutiny Committee held on 19 October 2017 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Committee noted that there were no applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

4 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the item contained within the Forward Plan, December 2017 – April 2018, that related to the portfolio of the Cabinet Secretary. Members queried if the 'Development Proposals for Improvements at Carleton Cemetery' included an increase to the capacity of the crematorium. In response, Councillor Cain advised that the main purpose of the proposed decision to be taken related to a proposed extension to the burial ground at this stage and that the required notice had been given to the tenant.

**MINUTES OF RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MEETING - THURSDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2017**

5 CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE REPORT

The Chairman invited Mrs Diane Booth, Director of Children's Services to highlight key information contained within the report.

Mrs Booth drew the Committee's attention to the School Improvement Actions and the Appendix setting out the School Families, Priority Leads and Governance arrangements. She reported that the School Improvement Board had made little progress in the previous 12 months, however, the need for a school led system had been agreed and schools had formed themselves into seven families. All funding for school improvement would be filtered through the school families, which had not necessarily been based on geographical area. She added that schools were sharing good practice and experience and that the families were challenging and supporting each other in development.

It was noted that schools could move family; however, it was important to maintain stability where possible.

The Committee discussed School Improvement priorities in detail and queried how they had been developed. Mrs Booth advised that the priorities had been developed from a number of sources such as inclusion data citing that the Educational Diversity offer in Blackpool was the largest in Europe, attainment (in particular Key Stage 4 English and Maths results) and horizon scanning for general improvement.

In response to a question, Mrs Booth advised that the School Improvement Board had developed a short term tactical response and a long term strategical response. There would be limited short term impact on attainment in 2018 and the long term response sought improvement in two to three years.

The Committee considered the Children's Services new audit framework and had ascertained from the report that there had been issues with the setting of SMART targets. Members queried the changes required to ensure future target setting was appropriate and achievable. Mrs Booth advised that one concern was misunderstanding the difference between 'need' and 'risk'. It was a key aspect of Social Workers to mitigate risk and risk sensible practice informed SMART planning. Previously, 'need' had also been targeted resulting in an overlap with universal service provision.

Following further consideration of the report, Members queried why the work to reduce the number of Looked After Children by identifying children and young people able to leave care was behind schedule. In response, Mrs Booth highlighted the high workload of Social Workers and advised that agency staff would be utilised in the short term to undertake administrative tasks in order to release capacity in permanent social workers to safely discharge children.

The Committee noted that historical data suggested that the number of Looked After Children increased around Christmas and was informed by Mrs Booth that an increase due to the time of year should not be usual. She added that children must not be taken into care simply because there were not enough Social Workers available over the Christmas period to manage risk or support struggling parents. In order to ensure there was no seasonal increase, preventative measures had already been put in place to

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support the community such as food parcels and a rota of when Senior Managers would be on duty over Christmas. Mrs Booth noted that she could not guarantee that there would be no increase as a child would be taken into care if there was a need.

Members discussed the National Anti-Bullying Week and considered whether a town wide bullying strategy was achievable. Concern was expressed by Members that bullying was of high priority and that was not always reflected in the attitude of some school headteachers. Mrs Booth agreed with the Committee regarding the importance of addressing bullying and highlighted the ongoing work she had been undertaking in order to achieve a suitable response to bullying. She commented that it had taken time to build relationships with schools and that she would develop a strategic plan regarding bullying to roll out across the town.

The Committee further discussed internet bullying and were advised that some schools had blocked access to social media in the school. However, that did not tackle any bullying that may occur on the internet outside of school. It was considered that any anti-bullying strategy would need to include parents.

Members challenged Mrs Booth to provide assurance regarding how she would ensure bullying was recognised by all headteachers. In response, she advised that it was her intention to be very firm with headteachers, to make sure they understood their responsibility in dealing with bullying, to use any warning letters available to her if necessary and to ultimately contact the Regional Schools Commissioner and Ofsted if a headteacher of an academy was still not responding appropriately to bullying as ultimately it was a safeguarding concern.

6 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT 2017/2018

The Committee considered a report which detailed performance against priorities in the Council Plan 2015 – 2020, and focussed on the performance of the priorities relating to Safeguarding Children. Mr Scott Butterfield, Priority Lead, Strategic Evidence and Evaluation Team introduced the report and highlighted that work was ongoing to improve data collection and the way in which information was presented to Members.

Members considered the Key Performance Indicator Summary in detail and asked a number of questions relating to the lack of targets and the comparison of performance data between 2017/2018 and previous years. In response, Mrs Booth advised that 12 week targets had since been developed and would be provided to Members at the next meeting of the Committee. She added that it was difficult to compare current data with that of previous years without also considering current circumstance. As an example, she highlighted that over recent years absence from schools had increased.

Members went on to consider the two performance indicators that had deteriorated, when compared nationally. The two indicators were noted as the Number of Children Subject to a Child Protection Plan and the Number of Current Children in Need. In response to questioning, Mrs Booth advised that it was difficult to determine why performance against the two indicators had deteriorated and that there was a need to ensure the whole system was stable.

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In response to questioning regarding 'statistical neighbours' Mrs Booth advised that comparisons were undertaken both against other authorities within the region, and against authorities selected on the basis of the most similar authorities determined by a number of common characteristics. However, she commented that no other authority was truly similar to Blackpool and that rather than comparing generally, she compared Blackpool with different authorities on individual issues. An example of that approach was comparing the Council with Grimsby in relation to Looked After Children numbers and Halton when considering inclusion issues relating to white boys in schools.

Following a discussion on the number of current children in need per 10,000 population, Members were advised that the way in which data for the indicator was measured had changed. As a result, the Committee requested that a clear explanation be provided on what was being reported and how that differed to the information previously presented. Mrs Booth agreed to present the current performance scorecard to the next meeting of the Committee.

The Committee agreed:

To receive the new targets agreed for the Key Performance Indicators and the current performance scorecard at the next meeting of the Committee.

7 LEISURE SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT

Mr John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services presented an overview of the performance of Leisure Services with an emphasis on the robust performance management system, improved facilities and increasing patronage. He highlighted that a key concern for the Service was balancing commercial marketing and profitability with inclusion and access for all.

The Committee considered the net cost to the Council of £699,000 to provide Leisure Services and questioned whether it could be reduced and if the costs were sustainable moving forward. In response, Mr Blackledge advised that when considering the net cost it was important to also consider that more than one million attendances were made to activities and facilities provided across Blackpool and the health benefits of the visits. He added that despite the large budget cuts made over the previous years, the value of Leisure provision had ensured the continuation of services. Furthermore, the Council was continuing to increase income in order to reduce costs.

Members queried whether, due to the positive impact upon health from participating in sport and leisure activities, a contribution to costs was sought from the NHS. Mr Blackledge advised that no direct contribution was made, however, the NHS often referred patients to specific leisure programmes, which people continued once the referral period had been completed. Mr John Hawkin, Head of Leisure and Catering Services added that due to a change in the way VAT was calculated, the Council was expecting costs to reduce by approximately £250,000 next year and to receive a rebate of previous tax paid up to a total of £500,000.

The quality of amateur sports teams in Blackpool was noted and Members queried whether the Council demonstrated the quality of teams when applying for funding from Sports England and other funding organisations. Mr Blackledge advised that the town had

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been very successful in obtaining external funding for facilities and teams and cited the £4.395 million Lottery Funding for the development of Palatine Leisure Centre as one example. Mr Hawkin added that a number of small grant applications had recently been made including a bid to the Lancashire Football Association for a new 3G pitch at Stanley Park.

The Committee noted the 9% decline in patronage in 2017 of the Health and Fitness services and raised concerns that new commercial gyms had enhanced facilities. In reply, Mr Blackledge informed Members that work was ongoing with Big Wave Media who specialised in supporting local authority leisure providers in commercial aspects of the business. He advised that the skills of managers were being increased and the decline in patronage had resulted in reduced retention rather than a reduction in new patrons.

Discussions were also held by the Committee on the Active Blackpool programme, Learn to Swim, the Feel Good Factory and Outdoor Activities. It was noted that the swim programme continued to grow and that additional outdoor activities were being considered such as sailing in Stanley Park. In response to a question, Mr Blackledge advised that the beach was a resource and an opportunity, however, events needed to be scheduled around the tide which limited the ability to hold regular sessions.

Members considered the challenge to the service of the aging condition of the buildings and facilities on offer, in particular, facilities such as changing rooms and toilets which must be of a high standard in order to compete with commercial providers. Mr Blackledge advised that it was hoped some of the £500,000 VAT rebate could be used to invest in facilities. The Council was also in discussion with Sport England regarding work required and investment planning.

The Committee discussed the extensive investment in facilities at Stanley Park and recorded a vote of thanks to Parks staff for the recent commendation it had received. Concern was expressed that other parks did not receive investment to the same extent, however, the Committee noted the excellent job undertaken by the Friends of Parks Associations in Blackpool. It was also noted that Stanley Park was a fantastic facility widely used by the community.

The Committee agreed to receive a report in six months focussing on income generation (including funding applications), maintenance of equipment and facilities and patronage.

8 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

The Committee considered its Workplan for the remainder of the current Municipal Year and discussed the 'Implementation of Recommendations' in detail.

The Committee agreed to note the Workplan and to update the 'Implementation of Recommendations' as follows:

- To mark the recommendation to receive actions developed from Serious Case Reviews as complete following receipt of the Blackpool Children's Safeguarding Board Annual Report at the last meeting of the Committee.

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- To delete the action to receive a report on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) following the Ofsted inspection. It was noted that the Council had predicted an Ofsted inspection on CSE, which had never happened.
- To amend the action to request a precis of school Ofsted reports be sent to Members outside of Committee meetings.
- To note that updates would be provided on the Opportunity Area Plan and Mrs Booth's meeting with newly qualified teachers at the next meeting of the Committee.
- To amend the action to receive information on MASH performance by adding in that updates would be requested for every other meeting.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed to note the date of the next meeting as Thursday 8 February 2018, commencing at 6.00pm.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 19.56)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:

Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

Tel: 01253 477213

E-mail: sharon.davis@blackpool.gov.uk

Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting	8 February 2018

EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the remit of the Resilient Communities and Children's Scrutiny Committee.

2.0 Recommendation:

- 2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Cabinet Secretary or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to the decisions taken.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure that the opportunity is given for all Executive and Cabinet Member decisions to be scrutinised and held to account.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience'.

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 Attached at the appendix to this report is a summary of the decisions taken, which have been circulated to Members previously.

- 5.2 This report is presented to ensure Members are provided with a timely update on the decisions taken by the Executive and Cabinet Members. It provides a process where the Committee can raise questions and a response be provided.
- 5.3 Members are encouraged to seek updates on decisions and will have the opportunity to raise any issues.

6.0 Witnesses/representatives

- 6.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the decisions taken in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities).

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 4(a): Summary of Executive and Cabinet Member decisions taken.

7.0 Legal considerations:

- 7.1 None.

8.0 Human Resources considerations:

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Equalities considerations:

- 9.1 None.

10.0 Financial considerations:

- 10.1 None.

11.0 Risk management considerations:

- 11.1 None.

12.0 Ethical considerations:

- 12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

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APPENDIX 4(a)

DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CORPORATE PARENT PANEL The Cabinet Secretary agreed the recommendation to approve the revised terms of reference and membership of the Corporate Parent Panel	To consider the proposed revisions to the terms of reference and membership of the Council's Corporate Parent Panel.	PH2/2018	15 January 2018	Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)

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Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	8 February 2018

FORWARD PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, February 2018 – June 2018, relating to the portfolio of the Cabinet Secretary.

2.0 Recommendations:

- 2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to items contained within the Forward Plan within the portfolio of the Cabinet Secretary.
- 2.2 Members will have the opportunity to consider whether any of the items should be subjected to pre-decision scrutiny. In so doing, account should be taken of any requests or observations made by the relevant Cabinet Member.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations:

- 3.1 To enable the opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny of the Forward Plan items.
- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A
- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:
- None.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience'.

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 The Forward Plan is prepared by the Leader of the Council to cover a period of four months and has effect from the first working day of any month. It is updated on a monthly basis and subsequent plans cover a period beginning with the first working day of the second month covered in the preceding plan.
- 5.2 The Forward Plan contains matters which the Leader has reason to believe will be subject of a key decision to be taken either by the Executive, a Committee of the Executive, individual Cabinet Members, or Officers.
- 5.3 Attached at Appendix 5(a) is a list of items contained in the current Forward Plan. Further details appertaining to each item contained in the Forward Plan has previously been forwarded to all members separately.

6.0 Witnesses/representatives

- 6.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the Forward Plan items in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 5(a) – Summary of items contained within Forward Plan.

7.0 Legal considerations:

- 7.1 None.

8.0 Human Resources considerations:

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Equalities considerations:

- 9.1 None.

10.0 Financial considerations:

- 10.1 None.

11.0 Risk management considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Ethical considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

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EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS

(FEBRUARY 2018 TO JUNE 2018)

*** Denotes New Item**

Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
February 2018	Development Proposals for improvements at Carleton Cemetery	32/2017	Executive	Cllr Cain

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for decision Ref 32/2017	Development Proposals for improvements at Carleton Cemetery
Decision making individual or body	Executive
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	February 2018
Who is to be consulted and how	The evaluation includes the results of surveys of local residents
How representations are to be made and by what date	Not Applicable
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Executive Report
Name and address of responsible officer	Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Partnerships e-mail: mark.towers@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 477007

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Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	8 February 2018

SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 The Committee to consider the Workplan, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review.

2.0 Recommendations:

- 2.1 To approve the Committee Workplan, taking into account any suggestions for amendment or addition.
- 2.2 To monitor the implementation of the Committee's recommendations/actions.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations:

- 3.1 To ensure the Workplan is up to date and is an accurate representation of the Committee's work.
- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A
- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:
- None.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.'

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Scrutiny Workplan

- 5.1.1 The Scrutiny Committee Workplan is attached at Appendix 6(a). The Workplan is a flexible document that sets out the work that the Committee will undertake over the course of the year.
- 5.1.2 Committee Members are invited, either now or in the future, to suggest topics that might be suitable for scrutiny in order that they be added to the Workplan.

5.2 Scrutiny Review Checklist

- 5.2.1 The Scrutiny Review Checklist is attached at Appendix 6(b). The checklist forms part of the mandatory scrutiny procedure for establishing review panels and must therefore be completed and submitted for consideration by the Committee, prior to a topic being approved for scrutiny.

5.3 Implementation of Recommendations/Actions

- 5.3.1 The table attached to Appendix 6(c) has been developed to assist the Committee to effectively ensure that the recommendations made by the Committee are acted upon. The table will be regularly updated and submitted to each Committee meeting.
- 5.3.2 Members are requested to consider the updates provided in the table and ask questions as appropriate.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 6(a): Resilient Communities and Children's Scrutiny Committee Workplan

Appendix 6(b): Scrutiny Review Checklist

Appendix 6(c): Implementation of Recommendations/Actions

6.0 Legal considerations:

- 6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

- 7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2017/2018	
7 December 2017	Children's Overview Report - Priority Two – Key Priority report: Safeguarding Leisure Services Overview report
8 February 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's Services' Report – including Demand Management Plan progress 2. Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse – to include inter-familial abuse
12 April 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's Services' Report 2. Looked After Children 3. Priority Two – Key Priority report: Community 4. Community Engagement, Volunteer Strategy and Fairness Commission
7 June 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Council Plan Performance report on relevant Priority Two projects, complete with 'Blackpool Outcomes' – for summer 2018 2. Leisure Services Report 3. Children's Services' Report
September 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's Services Report 2. Parks, Ecological Areas, Grounds Maintenance and Friends Groups

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SCRUTINY SELECTION CHECKLIST

Title of proposed Scrutiny:

The list is intended to assist the relevant scrutiny committee in deciding whether or not to approve a topic that has been suggested for scrutiny.

Whilst no minimum or maximum number of 'yes' answers are formally required, the relevant scrutiny committee is recommended to place higher priority on topics related to the performance and priorities of the Council.

Please expand on how the proposal will meet each criteria you have answered 'yes' to.

	Yes/No
The review will add value to the Council and/or its partners overall performance:	
The review is in relation to one or more of the Council's priorities:	
The Council or its partners are not performing well in this area:	
It is an area where a number of complaints (or bad press) have been received:	
The issue is strategic and significant:	
There is evidence of public interest in the topic:	
The issue has potential impact for one or more sections of the community:	
Service or policy changes are planned and scrutiny could have a positive input:	
Adequate resources (both members and officers) are available to carry out the scrutiny:	

Please give any further details on the proposed review:

Completed by:

Date:

MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

DATE OF REC	RECOMMENDATION	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	UPDATE	RAG RATING
04.02.16	To receive any action plans developed from the Serious Case Reviews and the details of lessons learnt for detailed consideration.	Tbc	Director of Children's Services	Committee agreed complete at December 2018 Committee meeting as previously received Annual Report of Safeguarding Board.	Green
17.03.16	The Committee agreed to receive a CSE update report once the Ofsted inspection had been undertaken.	Following inspection	Philippa Holmes	Committee agreed complete at December 2018 Committee meeting as Ofsted Inspection had not taken place.	Green
29.06.17	To request that a precis of school Ofsted reports be sent to Members outside of Committee meetings.	Ongoing	Director of Children's Services	Recommendation amended following Committee meeting December 2018. First document received.	Green
07.09.17	To request that an update on the Opportunity Area Plan be provided at a future meeting.	January 2018	Director of Children's Services	Information due within Children's Services Report.	Amber
07.09.17	To request that the Committee be kept informed as to the outcome of Mrs Booth's meeting with the newly qualified school teachers.	January 2018	Director of Children's Services	Information due within Children's Services Report.	Amber
07.09.17	To request that MASH performance and the work being done to improve matters be reported to every other Committee meeting.	Ongoing	Director of Children's Services	To be included regularly in the Children's Services Overview Report. Recommendation amended following Committee meeting December 2018.	Amber
07.12.17	To receive the new targets agreed for the Key Performance Indicators and the current performance scorecard at the next meeting of the Committee.	January 2018	Director of Children's Services	Information due within Children's Services Report.	Amber

DATE OF REC	RECOMMENDATION	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	UPDATE	RAG RATING
07.12.17	The Committee agreed to receive a report from Leisure Services in six months focussing on income generation (including funding applications), maintenance of equipment and facilities and patronage.	June 2018	Director of Leisure Services	Not yet due.	Not yet due

Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Diane Booth, Director of Children's Services
Date of Meeting	8 February 2018

CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Scrutiny Committee of the work undertaken by Children's Services on a day to day basis and to update on the progress and implementation of developments within the areas.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1
- To note the contents of the report and to ensure that current work continues to meet statutory obligations and that work to prepare for external inspections continues.
 - To continue to meet statutory monitoring, challenge and support obligations.
 - To work with schools to support improvement and preparation for external scrutiny and support the work of the Blackpool School Improvement Board in order to improve the progress and attainment of Blackpool Children especially at KS3 and KS4.
 - To identify any further information and actions required.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 For Members of the Scrutiny Committee to be fully informed as to the day to day work of the Children's Services Directorate and have assurance that Blackpool is continuing to meet its statutory obligations for future inspection requirements. The LA remains and retains a statutory responsibility to monitor all schools in order to support improvement and raise the attainment and progress for all children in the Local Authority Area.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is: 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience'.

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Opportunity area

Since the Delivery plan was published in October 2017, delivery has commenced:

Priority 1 - Improving attainment in secondary schools. Following the 2017 English GCSE results, the Opportunity Area Board wanted to intervene rapidly in English to secure an improvement in this academic year. In response an English steering group together with an English review team has been established. The English review team was requested to identify two categories of support: rapid interventions which could have an impact on current Y10s and even Y11s, and longer term interventions (which could include KS3, transition and possibly even earlier). Work on the rapid intervention support is underway and schools participating have received an individual report highlighting strengths and areas for improvement. Proposals for developing a longer-term English strategy, including a consideration for a Blackpool-wide literacy programme will be identified in due course.

Priority 2 – Inclusion. Workshops have been held with both primary and secondary school leaders to develop ideas to form the basis of an inclusion strategy, the first draft of which will be available in the near future. The strategy will then inform potential activity to be funded by Opportunity Areas to improve inclusion, especially in secondary schools.

Priority 3 – preparing young people for work. Each secondary school, special schools and Post 16 college have now been allocated an Enterprise Adviser, a volunteer business representative to support the school make more effective use of businesses in schools. The project is based on research by the Gatsby Foundation showing that if a young person has four or more meaningful encounters with businesses whilst at school they are statistically less likely to be unemployed on leaving school.

5.2 Duke of Edinburgh Awards

The Duke of Edinburgh awards ceremony was held on the 11 January 2018. In this last calendar year 170 young people have been involved in Duke of Edinburgh activity.

Forty successfully achieved bronze awards, twenty silver and ten gold (seven of the gold achievers gained bronze, silver and gold status). These results are a testament to their developing resilience.

5.3 School Improvement

Ofsted Inspectors continue to be positive about progress in Blackpool schools. In recent months, Layton Primary School acquired 'outstanding' status and Our Lady of the Assumption Primary, Moor Park Primary and St Teresa's Catholic Primary Schools all maintained a 'good' rating.

In addition to our schools' Ofsted inspection achievements, I am particularly pleased with a developing level of expertise that supports town wide improvement. The recent Ofsted report relating to the Fylde Coast Teaching Alliance, which provides on the job training for university graduates looking to become secondary teachers, received an outstanding status for overall effectiveness. The 'Leaders and managers have a strong vision and shared a moral obligation to train the highest quality teachers for Blackpool', this is very encouraging and exactly what we need for the town and its young people. Our newly qualified teachers report increasing levels of support and guidance and a commitment to the Blackpool improvement journey

St John Vianney RC Primary school has been awarded model school status for the read/ write programme and are now able to work with local schools to spread the expertise they have acquired. This is an example of excellent teaching and learning practice for phonics and early literacy, which can be shared town-wide via our School Improvement Board.

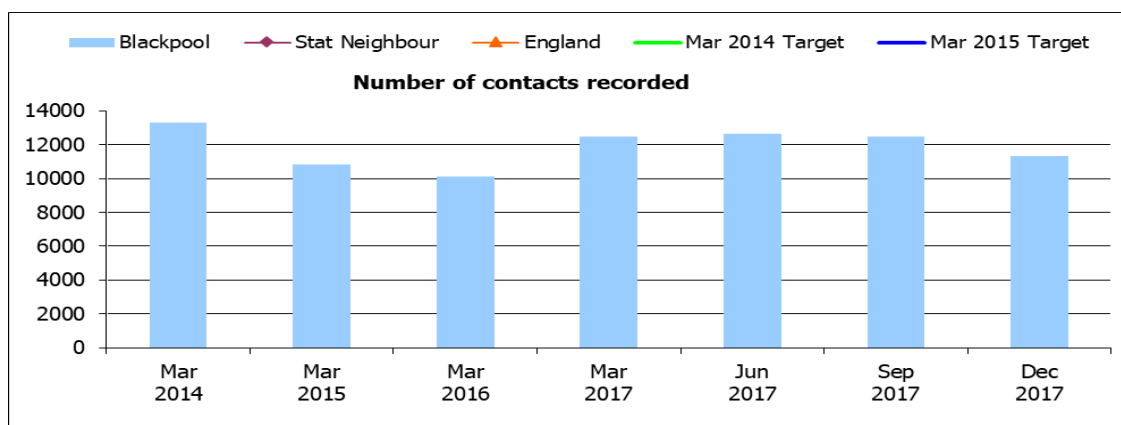
5.4 Demand management

The journey of the child work will be complete by mid-March with many of the changes we have identified already being progressed as they are identified.

The following outlines performance against key indicators which the Improvement Board are monitoring. This gives an indication of progress against targets and this in conjunction with audit findings gives us a holistic picture of quantitative and qualitative outcomes.

5.4.1 Contacts

Data	Mar 2014	Mar 2015	Mar 2016	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Jul 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2017	Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018
Num (monthly)	-	-	-	-	995	1160	1043	1115	1013	999	779	594	447			
Num (12 mnth)	13276	10830	10111	12495	12711	12616	12616	12569	12627	12499	12162	11808	11348			



Commentary

The target set by the improvement Board was to reduce the number of Contacts to the Service to 850 a month from over 1,000 per month. This target was exceeded quite considerably. The reduction in contacts is due to the triage taking place at the front door and cases being signposted to the Early Help Hub (EHH). Following the triage meetings the following breakdown of notifications were sent to the Early Help Hub and their destinations:

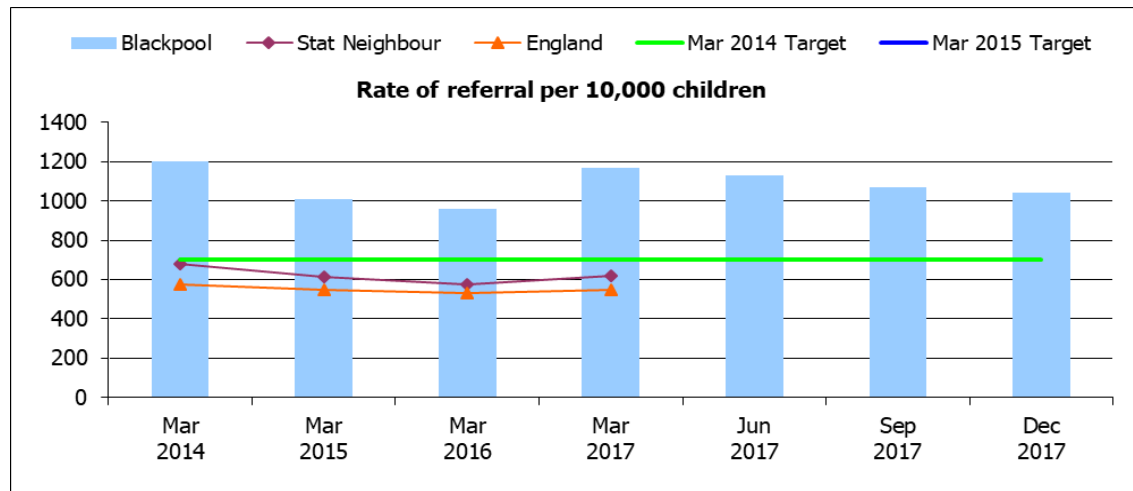
- 198 (328 children) notifications/request for service to EHH in December 2017.
- All 198 received a reflective conversation with partners
- 269 Early Help Assessments commenced by the EHH; 59 children were already in receipt of support

The role of the Early Help Hub (EHH) is being supported by the establishment of an Early Help Support Network and the use of Champions.

As a result of better triage this is signposting families to services more swiftly. In addition the percentage of Contacts leading to a referral has improved with this being 45% in December.

Changes have recently taken place with Standard Protection of Vulnerable Persons (PVPs – referrals from police) now being triaged via the EHH. The longer term vision is for the Police to triage their standard PVPs to determine the need for further intervention/triage. The multi agency safeguarding hub (MASH) is now focusing on risk management for those cases that require further multi agency discussions prior to determining whether a statutory assessment is required.

5.4.2 Referrals

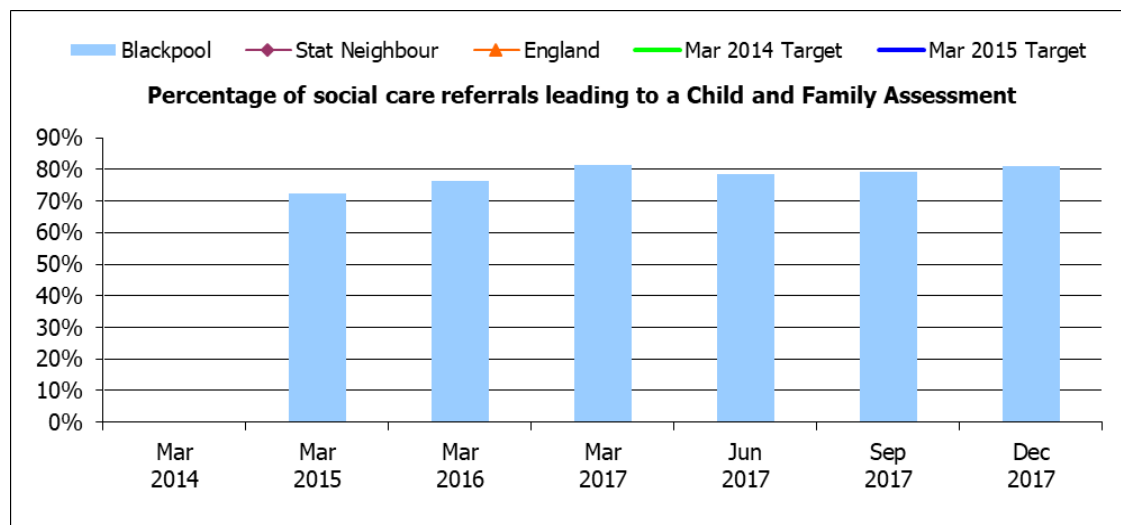


Commentary

The number of referrals per 10,000 has again reduced, but remains high against England and statutory neighbours; the number did however meet the target set by the Improvement Board.

The percentage of referrals leading to an assessment is continuing to increase showing 81% year to date (YTD) but month on month shows a greater increase; the December figure is 87.2%. The higher the conversion rate the more appropriate the referrals are in meeting the threshold for a statutory assessment.

5.4.3 Assessment



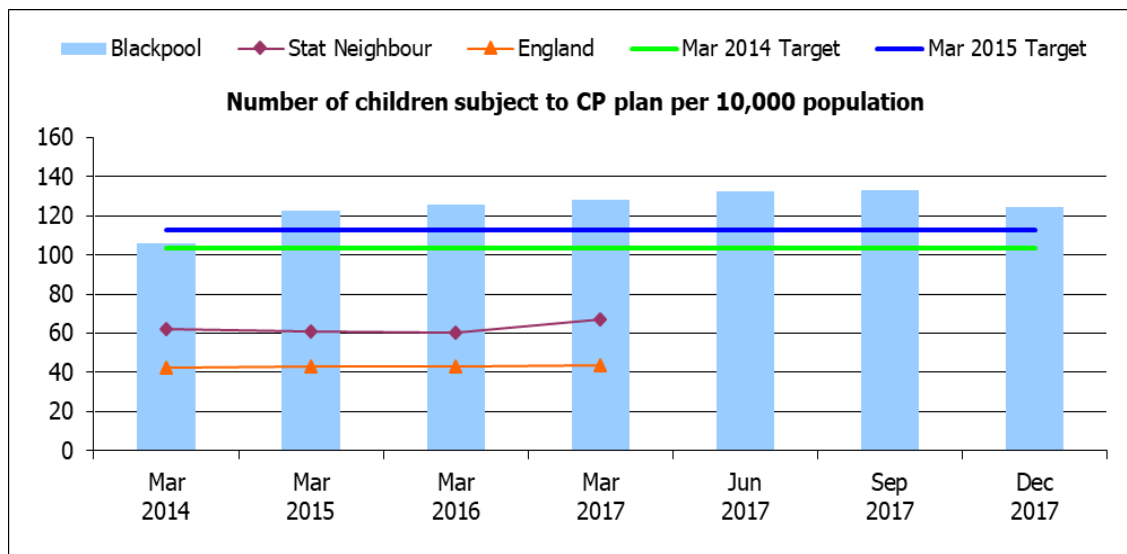
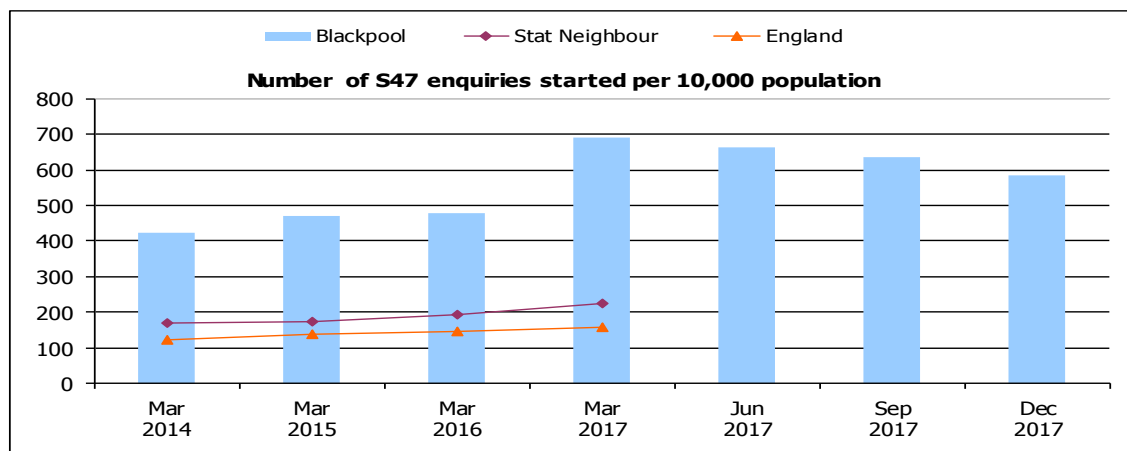
Commentary

As outlined above the percentage of referrals leading to assessments is showing as 81% in December YTD; 87.2% for December. This is higher than the target of 60% set by the Improvement Board.

The number of Child and Family Assessments (CAFAs) completed per 10k was the second lowest in year with December at 205.

Performance data showing assessments completed within 15 working days as 29% which is close to the 30% target. These are YTD figures. Figures over the last three months shows - Oct 17 – 38.1%; Nov 17 – 31.6%; Dec 17 – 27.8%. Assessments completed within 45 working days (YTD) is showing as 77%. Figures over the last three months show - Oct 17 – 81.0%; Nov 17 – 89.9%; Dec 17 – 85.9%).

5.4.4 Child Protection

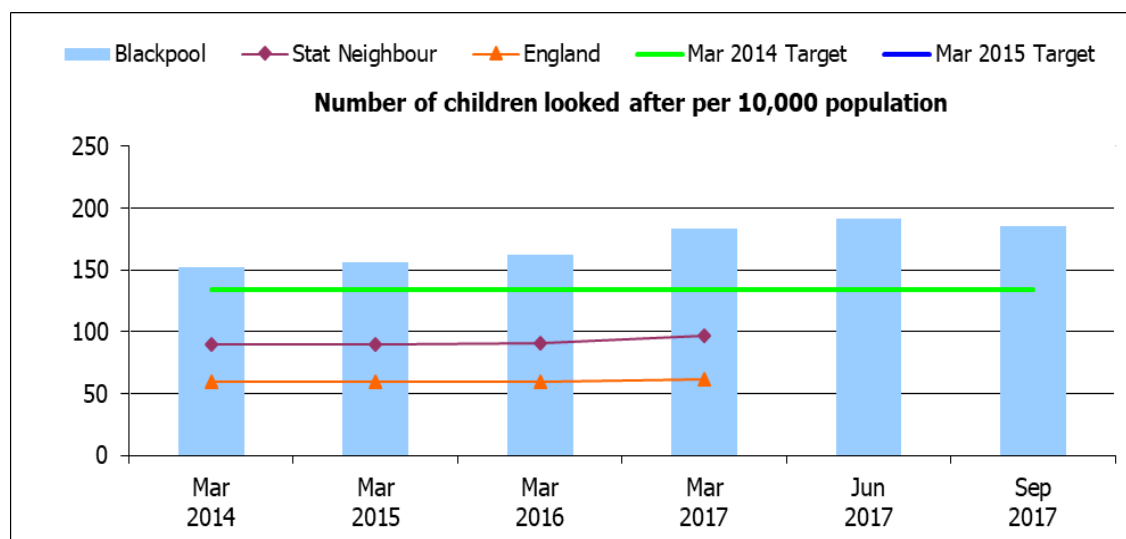


Commentary

The number of Section 47 Child Protection Enquiries per 10,000 remains higher than England, but is reducing and continuing a downward trend. In April the figure was 1969, in December it is 1670 (299 less). If the downward trend continue it will mean 447 less Section 47s in 2017/2018 a reduction of 42%.

The numbers on CP Plans have also reduced from 385 in May to 356 in December (lowest this year), just outside the target of 350. A number of these will be stepped down and a number progressing into proceedings.

5.4.5 Numbers and Rate of Looked After Children

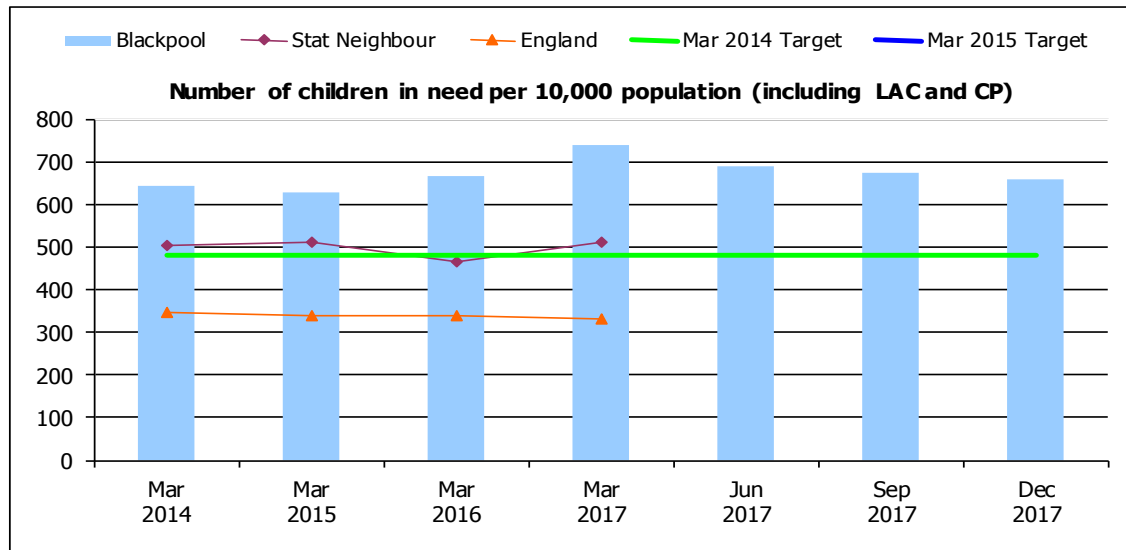


Commentary

The number of Looked After Children (LAC) has risen slightly to 537 in December and has missed the target of 516. The number of children coming into care has stabilised, but the number exiting care has not been maintained.

An ongoing plan is in place to review the numbers of Looked After Children that could leave care. There are presently 28 children/young people who we feel could cease being in care by the end of March. These are being monitored regarding their discharge from care plans. In addition a further 20 young people become 18 so will no longer be looked after. A further cohort of care plans for approximately 60 young people are being reviewed to determine discharge or step down as appropriate. This is the most challenging area of work and requires significant experience in risk management and development of a wrap-around service offer.

5.4.6 Number/ rate of current children in need per 10,000 population (including LAC & CP)



Commentary

The number of allocated Children in Need (CiN) (including LAC and CP) continues to reduce from 2069 in April to 1881 in December. Excluding LAC and CP the figures are 1189 in April – 1053 in December. The latter is an increase on the previous month, but is to be expected when CP plans are reducing and stepping down to Child in Need Plans.

The monthly score card attached at Appendix 7(a) supports performance management. A monthly practice improvement meeting has been established to monitor compliance performance and quality.

5.5 Anti-Bullying

Following on from the very successful conference, free upskilling training for all anti bullying ambassadors in Blackpool schools has been obtained. Trainers from the Princess Diana Award charity from London delivered the training at Highfield Leadership Academy on Wednesday 17 January 2018 with over 100 young people and staff in attendance.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

6.0 List of Appendices:

Appendix 7(a) – Performance Data Dashboard December 2017

7.0 Legal considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Human Resources considerations:

8.1 None

9.0 Equalities considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Financial considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Risk management considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Ethical considerations:

12.1 None

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 None

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None

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Indicator	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Jul 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2017	Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Target (Dec 17)	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Target (Mar 18)
Number of contacts (Monthly)	1099	995	1160	1043	1115	1013	999	779	594	447	850				
Percentage of contacts that progress to referral (YTD)	26.8%	25.6%	22.6%	22.3%	22.5%	22.3%	22.6%	23.3%	24.6%	25.7%	30.0%				
Rate of referrals per 10,000 (Rolling Year)	1166.8	1157.5	1140.7	1127.8	1115.2	1105.4	1068.3	1066.2	1050.2	1042.5	1070.0				
Percentage of referrals with a previous referral in the last 12 months (YTD)	23.9%	23.9%	23.9%	24.1%	23.5%	23.6%	23.2%	23.9%	23.7%	24.2%	20.0%				
Percentage of referrals that led to an assessment (YTD)	81.4%	77.4%	78.6%	78.4%	77.5%	77.3%	79.2%	80.0%	80.6%	81.2%	60.0%				
Percentage of child and family assessments completed within 45 days (YTD)	74.2%	75.1%	74.3%	73.2%	74.8%	75.2%	74.2%	75.1%	76.8%	77.6%	90.0%				
Percentage of child and family assessments completed within 15 days (YTD)	20.0%	17.4%	19.0%	21.7%	24.8%	26.1%	27.8%	29.3%	29.5%	29.4%	30.0%				
Rate of section 47s per 10,000 (Rolling Year)	689.6	688.3	682.7	664.6	648.5	650.2	634.9	611.8	589.1	583.8	576.8				
Number of children subject to a Child in Need Plan (Snapshot)	1241	1191	1155	1079	1092	1056	1042	1015	1038	1053	984				
Rate per 10,000 of children subject to a Child in Need Plan (Snapshot)	432.6	416.4	403.8	377.2	381.8	369.2	364.3	354.8	362.9	368.1	344.0				
Number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan (Snapshot)	368	372	387	378	383	390	380	362	369	356	350				
Rate per 10,000 of children subject to a Child Protection Plan (Snapshot)	128.3	130.0	135.3	132.1	133.9	136.3	132.8	126.6	129.0	124.5	122.4				
Number of CP Plans started (Monthly)	28	45	60	47	43	30	44	30	34	22	30				
Number of CP Plans ceased (Monthly)	45	41	45	56	38	23	54	48	27	35	40				
Average duration of current CP Plans (Snapshot)	224	218	211	217	216	224	222	234	247	259	240				
Percentage of CP Plans ceased open for 3 months or less (YTD)	35.1%	12.2%	20.9%	27.5%	30.0%	29.1%	25.7%	24.6%	26.5%	25.9%	20.0%				
Percentage of CP Plans ceased open for 3-6 months (YTD)	16.4%	17.1%	11.6%	12.7%	10.6%	10.3%	12.1%	13.4%	13.6%	12.8%	12.0%				
Percentage of CP Plans ceased open for 15 months or more (YTD)	5.6%	14.6%	12.8%	10.6%	12.8%	14.3%	12.8%	11.8%	11.4%	10.6%	12.0%				
Percentage of children who become subject to a CP Plan for a second or subsequent time (YTD)	19.8%	0.0%	20.0%	28.9%	25.6%	24.0%	21.6%	20.1%	21.6%	22.0%	20.0%				
Number of LAC (Snapshot)	525	543	546	548	539	531	531	530	535	537	516				
Rate of LAC per 10,000 (Snapshot)	183.0	189.8	190.9	191.6	188.4	185.6	185.6	185.3	187.0	187.7	180.4				
Number of children that started to be LAC (Monthly)	15	33	29	14	15	15	15	17	16	14	15				
Number of children that started to be LAC per 10,000 (Rolling Year)	93.1	95.1	94.4	91.9	90.9	87.7	81.8	75.9	76.6	76.9	62.9				
Number of children that ceased to be LAC (Monthly)	8	15	26	12	24	23	15	18	11	12	20				
Number of children that ceased to be LAC per 10,000 (Rolling Year)	75.0	73.8	76.9	72.7	76.6	75.9	75.2	72.0	67	68	83.9				
Percentage of children who ceased to be LAC who were adopted (YTD)	19.1%	26.7%	17.1%	20.8%	18.2%	16.0%	15.7%	18.0%	18.1%	18.6%	15.6%				
Percentage of children who ceased to be LAC who were subject to a Special Guardianship Order (YTD)	19.1%	20.0%	12.2%	13.2%	13.0%	15.0%	19.1%	18.0%	18.8%	18.6%	15.0%				
Percentage of children under 16 and looked after for at least 2.5 years, in the same placement for 2 years or placed for adoption (Snapshot)	71.5%	70.6%	69.7%	66.3%	67.2%	66.1%	65.9%	64.9%	62.7%	62.3%	65.0%				
Percentage of looked after children with 3 or more placements in 12 months (Snapshot)	13.7%	14.9%	17.2%	17.0%	17.6%	17.9%	18.6%	18.1%	16.4%	17.3%	17.0%				
Percentage of looked after children with 2 or more placements in 12 months (Snapshot)	41.3%	40.5%	41.4%	42.7%	41.7%	43.7%	44.1%	42.5%	42.8%	41.9%	42.0%				
Number of Adoptions (Monthly)	1	4	3	4	3	2	2	6	2	3	3				
Number of Adoptions (YTD)	41	4	7	11	14	16	18	24	26	29	28				
Percentage of 17-21 care leavers in touch with the Local Authority (YTD)	95.2%	100.0%	100.0%	96.0%	97.0%	93.3%	94.3%	93.7%	93.8%	93.8%	100.0%				
Percentage of 17-21 care leavers in Education, Employment or Training (YTD)	54.0%	25.0%	45.5%	44.0%	48.5%	44.4%	41.5%	42.9%	43.8%	44.6%	60.0%				
Percentage of 17-21 care leavers in suitable accommodation (YTD)	88.8%	100.0%	90.9%	92.0%	87.9%	86.7%	84.9%	87.3%	87.5%	87.7%	95.0%				
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, for children who have been adopted (days) (3 Year Rolling Figure)	559	556	547	556	550	546	543	529	525	502	426				
Average time between a local authority receiving court authority to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family (3 Year Rolling Figure)	246	257	262	263	262	259	260	252	251	232	121				
Children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (3 Year Rolling Figure - Percentage)	45.8%	46.9%	48.8%	48.6%	51.7%	52.3%	53.2%	53.6%	55.5%	58.9%	54.0%				
Children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (3 Year Rolling Figure - Number)	81	82	84	85	91	91	92	90	91	99	90				

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Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Diane Booth, Director of Children's Services
Date of Meeting	8 February 2018

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE

1.1 To inform Members of the ongoing work relating to Child Sexual Abuse.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the information within the report, asking any questions and identifying any topics for further consideration.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 For Members of the Scrutiny Committee to be fully informed as to the ongoing work relating to the child sexual abuse agenda.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is: 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience'.

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Blackpool has a long established multi-agency operational response to child sexual exploitation (CSE), led by the Awaken Team which was established well over ten years ago. Governance is provided by Blackpool Safeguarding Children Board, with oversight of the operational response delegated to the CSE Sub-Group.

Wider co-ordination is provided by the pan-Lancashire CSE Strategic Group, which ensures that Blackpool's response is consistent with that of Lancashire colleagues. The terms of reference of the Sub-Group are due to be revised in forthcoming months to incorporate other forms of child exploitation for example, trafficking and modern day slavery.

While there are a number of types of CSE known nationally, in Blackpool, the predominant model is of a white male offending alone after a process of grooming a single victim, who is also most likely to be white. The most likely offence location is the offender's place of residence, although some public areas are also reported to be hotspots for CSE and are monitored accordingly. There remains no evidence of gang or taxi related offending.

The majority of victims are girls, although Blackpool has a significantly higher number of boys recorded as victims or considered to be at risk of CSE than is the case nationally or regionally. This is viewed as positive evidence that practitioners have the confidence to identify and report boys who are CSE victims. The predominant age of victims is between 13 and 15, although there is a trend for increasingly younger children being identified as at risk of CSE. Perpetrators tend to be less than five years older than their victim is, although some are much older. During 2016-2017, 431 Police referrals with a CSE element were made to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, although this may include cases of historic abuse. There will typically be around 60 children open to Awaken team social workers at any one point.

The local response to CSE is delivered in accordance with a pan-Lancashire Strategy (2015-2018) which contains the following strategic priorities:

1. Prevention: Public confidence and awareness
2. Protect: Protecting, supporting, safeguarding victims and managing risk
3. Pursue: identifying and bringing offenders to justice
4. Partnerships: co-location and co-working
5. Intelligence and performance monitoring
6. Leadership
7. Learning and Development

This framework is reflected in the Blackpool Action Plan (2016-2018), progress against which is summarised below.

- 5.1.1 Prevention:** awareness raising amongst the general public is centred on the annual CSE awareness week in November in which Lancashire Constabulary's successful "the more you know, the more you see" branding continues to be used. A concerted attempt has been made to raise the awareness of CSE amongst children and the BSCB now makes age appropriate material available to schools for children from year five upwards, together with material for parents.

The NSPCC “Pantysaurus” campaign has been promoted for use with younger children (and is relevant to intra-familial child sexual abuse). More recently, performances of the awareness raising plays, Chelsea’s Choice and Crashing, have been provided to three secondary schools through Elected Member’s ward funding.

BSCB has also sought to raise awareness of CSE amongst those parts of the economy that are likely to be able to identify children at risk of CSE. Training has consequently been provided to all existing taxi drivers and is now a standard part of the licencing process. Open awareness raising events have been provided for hotels and guesthouses, through the Pubwatch scheme and to specific businesses for example, Coral Island, the Sandcastle, Merlin Entertainments and Blackpool Transport. The Council has previously struggled to engage with McDonald’s, but has training scheduled for all their outlets in early 2018. However, the ongoing difficulty engaging with the Pleasure beach has recently been escalated to Cllr Cain (as the Elected Member representative on BSCB) who has since met with the Pleasure Beach with Neil Jack, Chief Executive and it is hopeful this will now progress. BSCB will continue to provide awareness raising to specific businesses and community groups, based on intelligence as to where children are likely to be exploited.

5.1.2 Protect: children who are victims or at risk of CSE will receive a response from the multi-agency Awaken team that is constituted of health, police, education and social care staff. Children are assigned a key worker, who will be the person that is most likely to be able to effectively work with them. BSCB monitors the work of the Awaken team, ensuring that practical problems are resolved and has sought reassurance that appropriate therapeutic provision is available to all victims. Work is now underway to enable us to better understand the experiences of children who are open to Awaken. More widely, CSE is included within the recently published Keeping Children Safe in Blackpool thresholds document and professionals making a referral in this respect are expected to complete a standard screening tool that is available on the BSCB website.

5.1.3 Pursue: work to tackle offenders is also co-ordinated through the Awaken team. Monthly Multi Agency CSE (MACSE) meetings review children at a high risk of being exploited, high-risk offenders and locations at which children are known to be targeted. This provides a means of sharing information with all agencies involved with an individual child or offender. Approximately 50% of children discussed at MACSE meetings are looked after children. (A similar approach is used in Missing From Home Panel meetings, which provides a means of identifying children who are potential at risk of CSE).

The efficacy of the Awaken team will be tested as part of a wider peer review scheduled for February 2018, while the NWG Network will review the MACSE meetings.

It is recognised that it may not always be possible to secure convictions against perpetrators of CSE and the Community Safety Partnership uses a number of disruption techniques, after liaison with the Police and Children's Services. This includes the use of Community Protection Warnings (CPW) and Notices (CPN) that are issued to adults who give a cause for concern and require them to stop specified activities that contribute to a CSE risk. Of the 105 CPW issued in 2015-2016, only nine were breached, resulting in the issue of a CPN, none of which were breached.

Suspected offenders may also be issued with Section 2 Abduction Warning Notice to prevent a child being taken to other premises, while measures have also been taken to disrupt venues where children are believed to be at risk of CSE. The Awaken team has active links to the Blackpool Council Licensing Enforcement team to share intelligence in respect of licensed premises where there are concerns in respect of CSE, thereby enabling licenses to be enforced and additional conditions implemented where appropriate.

- 5.1.4 Partnership:** multi-agency working is most evident in the work of the Awaken team, but is supported by the wider partnership through attendance at the CSE Sub-Group and MACSE meetings. Bespoke responses can be provided to support to particular agencies, for example to one school in order to help them respond more effectively to sexting.
- 5.1.5 Intelligence and Performance monitoring:** BSCB has developed a multi-agency CSE dataset to monitor CSE referrals, Awaken caseloads, Missing From Home Incidents, awareness raising and disruption activity. This is in a relatively early stage of development and more work will follow to understand what the data tells means. CSE forms part of the routine programme of BSCB multi-agency audits and while one has not been completed since late 2016 a further audit is due in 2018. It is understood that a series of Joint Targeted Area Inspections in respect of the multi-agency response to CSE are planned for early 2018. This will judge the local response to the Time to Listen thematic report from 2016. The CSE Sub-Group will benchmark Blackpool's current position against this report and seek to address any areas for improvement.
- 5.1.6 Learning and Development:** a significant number of practitioners attended CSE awareness raising or more in depth training during the 2014-2016 period. Demand has subsequently tapered, which would suggest that the majority of professionals who need the training have now attended. The Council is aware that the majority of partner agencies make some form of CSE training mandatory for relevant staff and monitor compliance rates through the section 11 audit programme. A total of 86% of Children's Services staff within Blackpool Council have completed either face-to-face or e-learning on CSE. BSCB ensures that CSE training delivered by partner agencies includes a consistent message and continues to offer a full day CSE, trafficking and missing from home training course that was attended by 89 practitioners in 2017.

Additionally, approximately 300 practitioners attended a Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking conference in March 2017.

- 5.1.7 Child Sexual Abuse;** It is acknowledged that the recent priority attached to CSE has resulted in less attention being paid to intra-familial child sexual abuse (CSA) at a strategic board level. The number of child protection plans in this respect is relatively small, with fewer than 20 being in place in October 2017. BSCB has recently sought to better understand the multi-agency response to CSA through a Quality Assurance workshop, which sought the experiences of professionals of all grades who work with children who are victims or at risk of CSA and through an audit of child protection plans in this respect.

A Quality Assurance workshop was held to discuss the response to CSA from the point of identification, through to referral into services and the subsequent response to both the victim and perpetrator. Strengths were identified in terms of the response to disclosures and information sharing between agencies at this point. The primary areas of weakness were considered to be the ability of all agencies to identify CSA, especially in terms of universal and third sector employees, who would rarely encounter the issue and the provision of therapeutic support to child victims, with the commissioned provider being based in Preston.

The recent CSA audit was of five children who were subject to child protection plans in respect of sexual abuse. The audit identified that child protection processes (e.g. function and attendance of conferences and core groups worked well), although there was some room for improvement in terms of the development of effective plans, which the launch of the risk sensible model should address. The multi-agency response to CSA was largely judged effective, with good evidence of links with HM Prison and Probation Service, providing a joined up response to perpetrators and victims. It was evident throughout the audits that practitioners do not always feel confident in identifying and working with CSA, which may well reflect the relative rarity of cases in this respect. Training has been recently provided to Children's Services staff and will start to be offered on a multi-agency basis through the BSCB training programme in early 2018.

- 6.0** Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

- 7.0 List of Appendices:**

None

- 8.0 Legal considerations:**

8.1 None

9.0 Human Resources considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Equalities considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Financial considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Risk management considerations:

12.1 None

13.0 Ethical considerations:

13.1 None

14.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

14.1 None

15.0 Background papers:

15.1 None