

Report to: Children's Services Scrutiny Committee
Date: 9 March 2009
Title of report: Quarter Three (Q3) monitoring report against the 2008/09 Council Plan
By: Director of Policy & Communications
Purpose of report: To provide an update on performance against the Council Plan for Quarter Three of 2008/09

RECOMMENDATION

The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. note the achievements made by the Children's Services Department; and
 2. highlight those performance results which are of particular concern and ensure monitoring of these are timetabled into the Committee's work programme.
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1. Financial implications

1.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with this report.

2. Notable achievements for this quarter for Children's Services

2.1 The following achievements have been noted during this quarter:

- During Q3 the Play Development Service allocated 19 new referrals, making a total of 44 across the first three quarters. A total of 65 children with complex social, emotional, behavioural difficulties are currently receiving this service, exceeding the target of 50.
- 76% of primary schools are now providing access to the full core offer of extended services; this is a significant increase on the 49% schools in 2007/8. Additionally 100% of secondary schools continue to offer these services.
- 100% of child protection cases are taking place on time.
- During January to October 2008 there were 1824.5 days lost through fixed term exclusion from the secondary schools in the Hastings & St Leonards Excellence Cluster. This represents a 19.9% reduction on the corresponding period in 2007, when 2276.5 days were lost.

3. Performance against Key Service Targets in Children's Services

3.1 Of the 64 indicators due to be achieved this year:

- 42 (66%) indicator targets were scored green;
- 14 (22%) indicator targets scored amber¹; and
- 8 (13%) indicator targets were scored red.

¹ Six of the ambers are marked as 'amber*', as results for Key Stage 3 in 2008 remain unstable and incomplete nationally and the Local Authority is now unlikely to receive validated data. See comments in spreadsheet for further details.

3.2 The exception report at Appendix 1 contains detailed commentary relating the indicator targets that are scored red and amber.

3.3 The Committee may wish to highlight those performance results that are of particular concern and ensure monitoring of these are timetabled into the Committee's work programme.

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Local member: All

Background Documents: None

NIS	LAA1 Reward	LAA 2	Policy Steer	Performance Indicator	Target 2008/09	Q2 Outturn	Q2 RAG	Q2 Commentary	Q3 Outturn	Q3 RAG	Q3 Commentary
			5.3 Improve access to services, especially in rural areas.	c) Percentage of communities in East Sussex with access to a Children's Centre.	80%	~	G	No change from Q1, across the County - 69% of children have access to services. Most deprived SOA's - 98% of children within the 30% most deprived SOA's have access.	69%	A	No change from Q1. Across the County, 69% of children have access to services. 98% of children within the 30% most deprived SOA's have access. This is a milestone target to measure progress towards 100% access by 31 March 2010. Access only rises as new children's centres are opened and as this is done in waves, the percentage will remain static until the next wave is completed. It is not currently clear whether the current wave will be completed by 31 March 2009 (hence achievement of the milestone target is rated amber at this quarter) but the programme as a whole is still on target to achieve universal access by 31 March 2010.

112	Y	5.5 Reduce teenage conception rates across the County.	<p>a) Under 18 conception rate The change in the rate of under-18 conceptions per 1,000 girls aged 15-17 years resident in the area for the current calendar year, as compared with the 1998 baseline rate, shown as a percentage of the 1998 rate. (NI 112) (LAA2)</p>	2007: 35 conceptions per 1,000 girls aged 15-17 years (change in rate from 1998 baseline - 12%)	~	A	<p>Outturn not available until Q4.</p> <p>Training co-ordinator has now been appointed to start in November 08. Community Sexual Health nurses in post working with our most vulnerable children, including our looked after children and care leavers, providing information advice and support on sex and relationships.</p>	~	A	<p>Additional SHA (Strategic Health Authority) money is now being used to support youth outreach provision in rural towns in the west of the county. Q3 ONS (Office of National Statistics) provisional data is promising, showing a decrease against the national trend which is increasing.</p> <p>Final outturn will be reported at Q4.</p>
		5.6 Protect children and young people from harm.	<p>b) Percentage of schools that have a designated Child Protection teacher trained within the last two years.</p>	>97%	97%	A	<p>There are six schools with no trained designated teacher (3 new heads this term and 3 with out-of-date training) - of those six, four have now booked on training. There are however over 50 schools whose training will be out of date next quarter - 4 training courses are being run this term but it is possible that there will be an increase in the untrained next quarter.</p>	88%	A	<p>175 (88%) schools at the end of quarter 3 had designated child protection teachers (DCPTs) trained. Of the remaining 24 teachers, 11 have booked on to training in Feb 2009. A further 11 schools' DCPT training will be out of date in Q1 of 2009/10. Two further training courses are being planned between now and the end of the summer term (dates not yet set) - and this cohort of 24 untrained teachers will be targeted to attend. Expectation is that with two training courses on offer, the majority of the untrained cohort will be able to attend one or other of the courses</p>

53		Y	5.9 Develop integrated services for children under 5 and their families through a network of children's centres and increase take up and quality of early years education.	b) Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth. (NI 53) (LAA2)	Coverage 85.1% Prevalence 49.1%	Coverage 72.8% Prevalence 37.0%	A	<p>East Sussex Downs & Weald: + coverage: 73.6% + prevalence 41.7% Hastings & Rother: + coverage: 71.9% + prevalence 32.3% County ave. + coverage: 72.8% + prevalence 37.0%</p> <p>It is expected that the Q2 provisional figures will rise - as the Q1 figures did - when the final data is available at Q3. This is due to a backlog of forms and is particularly evident in the Hastings & Rother figures.</p>	Coverage 76.6% Prevalence 41.7%	A	<p>Updated Q2 figures now available: ESussex Downs & Weald: + coverage: 81.1% + prevalence 46.0% Hastings & Rother + coverage: 76.7% + prevalence 34.4% County ave. + coverage: 79.5% + prevalence 41.9%</p> <p>Provisional Q3 figures show: ESussex Downs & Weald: + coverage: 78.9% + prevalence 44.8% Hastings & Rother + coverage: 72.4% + prevalence 36% County ave. + coverage: 76.6% + prevalence 41.7%</p> <p>It is expected that the Q3 provisional figures will rise - as Q2 figures did - when the final data is available at Q4. There will always be a time lag between a baby reaching 6 weeks of age, the health visitor seeing the baby and filling in the form, the form being returned to Child Health and then the inputting of data onto the system.</p>
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92		Y	<p>5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.</p>	<p>a) Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest. (NI 92 – mandatory LAA2 indicator)</p>	<p>Academic year 2008/09 27.75%</p>	31.60%	A	<p>In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year.</p> <p>The results for July 08 (i.e. academic year 2007/08) indicate a gap of 31.6%, an improvement of 0.6% over the previous year. However, to achieve the target, the July 09 result will need to narrow the gap by a further 3.85%, hence the amber rating.</p>	~	A	<p>In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year.</p> <p>2008 results reported at Q2.</p>
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	(a) 3.1.1	5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	<p>biii) Foundation Stage Profile Attainment by children in the 30% most deprived SOAs in East Sussex (LAA REWARD)</p> <p>(iii) % of children scoring 8 points or above, PSE and CLL</p>	PSE 56.6% CLL 34.8%	PSE 40.3 CLL 26.9	<p>R</p> <p>Targets were not achieved for the July 2008 cohort although there have been some marked improvements against the 2004/05 baseline. ESCC carried out some ground breaking and innovative analysis of the 2007 results. CLL was clearly identified as the area children find most demanding. CLL was identified as the key to unlocking better overall performance for all children. Training through 2007/08 was given to further improve children's development in the assessment scale "linking sounds and letters" (a component of CLL).</p> <p>For the 2008 cohort, the Communicating Matters project worked with 72 reception class children in deprived areas who were deemed to have impoverished language and significant progress was made, particularly with children starting from the lowest point.</p> <p>LAA (2008/11) includes NI 72 (achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least six in each of the scales in PSE and CLL) and NI 92 (narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Foundation Stage Profile and the rest). Both indicators show a positive trend, are better than the national average and compare very favourably against statistical and geographical neighbours.</p>	See Q2	R	See Q2
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73	Y	5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	g) Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and maths at Key Stage 2. (NI 73 – mandatory LAA2 indicator)	Academic year 2008/09 78%	71% (academic year 2007/08)	A	<p>In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year.</p> <p>The combined 2008 result for L4+ in English and Mathematics nationally is 72%. In East Sussex in 2008, 70.5% (71%) of children achieved at this level, which represents a 3% improvement over 2 years. However, this is still some way below the 2008/09 target.</p>	~	A	<p>In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year.</p> <p>2008 results reported in Q2.</p>
74	Y	5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	j) Achievement at level 5 or above in both English and maths at Key Stage 3. (NI 74 – mandatory LAA2 indicator)	Academic year 2008/09 75%	~	G	<p>In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year. 2008 results for Key Stage 3 remain incomplete and inaccurate - hope to be able to report at Q3.</p>	~	A*	<p>Results for 2008 remain unstable and incomplete (nationally). The LA is now unlikely to receive validated Key Stage 3 data. Following the government's removal of the Key Stage 3 tests contract with the Educational Testing Service, Ed Ball's statement on 14th October 2008, announced the end of all national testing for 14 year olds.</p> <p>An expert group has been set up to make recommendations regarding the tracking of progress from Key Stage 2 to 4. Plans include the introduction of a 'scorecard' for schools.</p>

83	Y	5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	k) Achievement at level 5 or above in science at Key Stage 3. (NI 83 – mandatory LAA2 indicator)	Academic year 2008/09 79%	~	G	In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year. 2008 results for Key Stage 3 remain incomplete and inaccurate - hope to be able to report at Q3.	~	A*	<p>Results for 2008 remain unstable and incomplete (nationally). The LA is now unlikely to receive validated Key Stage 3 data. Following the government's removal of the Key Stage 3 tests contract with the Educational Testing Service, Ed Ball's statement on 14th October 2008, announced the end of all national testing for 14 year olds.</p> <p>An expert group has been set up to make recommendations regarding the tracking of progress from Key Stage 2 to 4. Plans include the introduction of a 'scorecard' for schools.</p>
95	Y	5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	l) Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3. (NI 95 – mandatory LAA2 indicator)	Academic year 2008/09 36%		G	In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year. 2008 results available in Q3		A*	<p>Results for 2008 remain unstable and incomplete (nationally). The LA is now unlikely to receive validated Key Stage 3 data. Following the government's removal of the Key Stage 3 tests contract with the Educational Testing Service, Ed Ball's statement on 14th October 2008, announced the end of all national testing for 14 year olds.</p> <p>An expert group has been set up to make recommendations regarding the tracking of progress from Key Stage 2 to 4. Plans include the introduction of a 'scorecard' for schools.</p>

96	Y	5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	m) Progression by 2 levels in maths between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3. (NI 96 – mandatory LAA2 indicator)	Academic year 2008/09 67%		G	In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year. 2008 results available in Q3		A*	Results for 2008 remain unstable and incomplete (nationally). The LA is now unlikely to receive validated Key Stage 3 data. Following the government's removal of the Key Stage 3 tests contract with the Educational Testing Service, Ed Ball's statement on 14th October 2008, announced the end of all national testing for 14 year olds. An expert group has been set up to make recommendations regarding the tracking of progress from Key Stage 2 to 4. Plans include the introduction of a 'scorecard' for schools.
75	Y	5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	n) Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths. (NI 75 – mandatory LAA2 indicator)	Academic year 2008/09 52.2%	46% (provisional)	A	In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year. Provisional 2008 results show the percentage of pupils gaining 5+ A*-C grades including English and Maths has risen to 46%, a rise of 3%, which is above the LA rate of progress for 2007 and is the highest ever percentage for this threshold. 18 schools improved on their 2007 percentage.	46%	A	The percentage of pupils gaining 5+ A*-C grades including English and Maths has risen to 46% (2008 results), a rise of 3%, which is above the LA rate of progress for 2007 and is the highest ever percentage for this threshold. 18 schools improved on their 2007 percentage. Despite good improvements for this measure, the rate of progress needs to improve by a further 6.2% in order to achieve the 2009 target.

97		5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	o) Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. (NI 97 – mandatory LAA2 indicator)	Academic year 2008/09 63%	~	G	In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year. 2008 results available in Q3 or Q4	~	A*	<p>Results for 2008 remain unstable and incomplete (nationally). The LA is now unlikely to receive validated Key Stage 3 data. Following the government's removal of the Key Stage 3 tests contract with the Educational Testing Service, Ed Ball's statement on 14th October 2008, announced the end of all national testing for 14 year olds.</p> <p>An expert group has been set up to make recommendations regarding the tracking of progress from Key Stage 2 to 4. Plans include the introduction of a 'scorecard' for schools.</p>
98		5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	p) Progression by 2 levels in maths between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. (NI 98 – mandatory LAA2 indicator)	Academic year 2008/09 36.1%	~	G	In accordance with national LAA guidance, the target relates to exams to be taken in the 08/09 academic year (ie July 2009). Final outturns will, therefore, not be available until Q2 next year. 2008 results available in Q3 or Q4	~	A*	<p>Results for 2008 remain unstable and incomplete (nationally). The LA is now unlikely to receive validated Key Stage 3 data. Following the government's removal of the Key Stage 3 tests contract with the Educational Testing Service, Ed Ball's statement on 14th October 2008, announced the end of all national testing for 14 year olds.</p> <p>An expert group has been set up to make recommendations regarding the tracking of progress from Key Stage 2 to 4. Plans include the introduction of a 'scorecard' for schools.</p>

		5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	<p>ti) Level 4</p> <p>a) English; and b) maths</p> <p>in Eastbourne</p>	<p>Academic year 2007/08</p> <p>a: 77% b: 79%</p>	~	~		<p>Provisional 2008 KS2 results:</p> <p>L4 English 72.1% L4 Maths 73.0%</p>	R	<p>Provisional 2008 KS2 results:</p> <p>a) KS2 L4 English 2008: 72.1% b) KS2 L4 Maths 2008: 73.0%</p> <p>A wide range of Primary National Strategy support is in place including support to improve the quality of teaching and learning. The Excellence Cluster actively supports through a range of projects.</p>
		5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	<p>tii) Level 4</p> <p>a) English; and b) maths</p> <p>in Hastings.</p>	<p>Academic year 2007/08</p> <p>a: 75% b: 78%</p>		~		<p>Provisional 2008 KS2 results:</p> <p>L4 English 75.6% L4 Maths 70.46%</p>	R	<p>Provisional 2008 KS2 results:</p> <p>a) KS2 L4 English 2008: 75.6% b) KS2 L4 Maths 2008: 70.45%</p> <p>A wide range of Primary National Strategy support is in place including support to improve the quality of teaching and learning. The Excellence Cluster actively supports through a range of projects.</p>

		5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	ui) 5+ GCSEs at A-C including English and maths in Eastbourne	Academic year 2007/08 46%	45%	R	The results for Eastbourne were 45% 5 A*-C inc Eng & maths overall. Only ETC remains below the 30% floor target whilst significant improvements took place at Ratton +6%, Causeway +9% and Bishop Bell +3%.	43%	R	The final results for Eastbourne were 43% 5 A*-C inc Eng & maths overall. Only ETC remains below the 30% floor target whilst significant improvements took place at Ratton +6%, Causeway +9% and Bishop Bell +3%.
		5.10 Continue to raise educational achievement and aspirations at all key stages for children of all abilities, and reduce the attainment gap for children and young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds.	uii) 5+ GCSEs at A-C including English and maths in Hastings.	Academic year 2007/08 34%	28%	R	Of the five secondary schools in Hastings, two schools significantly improved on this threshold indicator by the following figures: Filsham Valley - +9%, Helenswood +5%. William Parker, The Grove and Hillcrest all experienced significant declines of 9%, 12% and 5% respectively. Early indications are that this was due in all three schools to severe issues in staffing in mathematics. The overall Hastings 5 A*-C inc Eng & maths was 28%.	28%	R	The overall Hastings 5 A*-C inc Eng & maths was 28%. Of the five secondary schools in Hastings, two schools significantly improved on this threshold indicator by the following figures: Filsham Valley +9%, Helenswood +5%. William Parker, The Grove & Hillcrest all experienced significant declines of 9%, 12% & 5% respectively. Early indications are that this was due in all three schools to severe issues in staffing in mathematics. Three Hastings schools are now part of a federation, which has increased capacity in leadership, teaching and learning and behaviour management. All three are also part of the National Challenge, which funds additionally for achieving improved Key Stage 4 outcomes.

117	(b) 5.1.1	5.11 Increase the choices for vocational learning opportunities for children and young people aged 14-19 and reduce the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).	e) Percentage of 16-18 year olds that are NEET, by County, Borough and District. (LAA REWARD)	5.20%	6.8% (July adjusted %)	A	<p>July 08 NEET - 6.8% for East Sussex with the number of young people NEET reaching 755. The sub area data based on 14-19 Local Area Partnership Boards (LAPB): Eastbourne Downs 6.95%; Hastings 10.96%; Lewes Coastal 6.47%; Lewes Rural 6.06%; Rother 8.14% and Wealden 2.28%</p> <p>Although the number of young people NEET has risen slightly since the all time low in June, it is lower than for the same period last year (i.e. 869, 7.98%). A range of initiatives are planned to take place over the coming 6 months and over the next quarter it will be become evident whether the various initiatives to increase provision, remove barriers and develop skills and capabilities amongst young people NEET have impacted on the LAA NEET target of 5.2% by November.</p>	7.2%	R	<p>November 08 NEET adj. % was 7.2% for East Sussex with the number of young people NEET reaching 1,151. This compares with 7.9% and 1,145 for the same month as last year. The sub area data based on Local Area Partnership Boards (LAPBs) was as follows: Eastbourne Downs 6.54%, Hastings 10.38%, Rother 8.12%, Western Coastal 8.0%, Lewes Rural 6.0%, Wealden 4.30%. The NEET %s in Eastbourne Downs, Rother and Eastbourne are lower than for the same period last year but have grown slightly in the other LAPBs.</p> <p>It was expected that the county percentage would be lower following a sustained downward trend over the past 6 months in both numbers and percentages of those NEET. Also, as a result of the successful implementation of September Guarantee (a national initiative stating that 'all young people should be made an offer of learning by the end of September after they complete Year 11' - East Sussex outturn of 94%) and a number of other NEET prevention and reduction initiatives. However, the actual number of young people NEET has increased. Analysis has been carried out on the reasons for this.</p>
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117		Y	5.11 Increase the choices for vocational learning opportunities for children and young people aged 14-19 and reduce the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).	g) 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). (NI 117) (LAA2)	7.00%		G	July 08 the adjusted NEET was 6.8%.	7.2%	A	<p>November 08 adjusted NEET figure was 7.2%. Indications are that the figure will increase slightly in December; however, it is possible that the revised LAA target of 7% for an average of the three months November - January will still be met.</p> <p>It was expected that the county percentage would be lower following a sustained downward trend over the past 6 months in both numbers and percentages of those NEET. Also, as a result of the successful implementation of September Guarantee (a national initiative stating that 'all young people should be made an offer of learning by the end of September after they complete Year 11' - East Sussex outturn of 94%) and a number of other NEET prevention and reduction initiatives. However, the actual number of young people NEET has increased. Analysis has been carried out on the reasons for this.</p>
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