

Summary Sheet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Improving Lives Select Committee – Date: 17th July 2018

Report Title

Children & Young People's Services (CYPS) 2017/2018 Year End Performance

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan? No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Mel Meggs, Children and Young People's Services

Report Author(s)

Deborah Johnson (Performance Assurance Manager – Social Care)

Anne Hawke (Performance Assurance Manager – Early Help)

Lynsey Sylvester (Performance and Data Officer – Education and Skills)

Ward(s) Affected All

Summary

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of performance under key themes for Children's and Young Peoples Service at the end of the 2017/18 reporting year. It should be read in conjunction with the accompanying performance data reports (Appendix A) which provides trend data, graphical analysis and benchmarking data against national and statistical neighbour averages.

Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to receive the report and accompanying dataset (Appendix A) and consider issues arising.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix A – Performance Data Reports for Early Help and Safeguarding Children & Families (March 2018)

Background Papers

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel: No

Council Approval Required: No

Exempt from the Press and Public: No

Children & Young People's Services (2017/2018 Year End Performance

1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That members receive the report and accompanying dataset and consider issues arising.

2 Background

- 2.1 This report evidences the council's commitment to improvement by providing performance information to enable the scrutiny of service achievement levels and the associated impact on the outcomes for children and young people. . It should be read in conjunction with the appended performance data reports which provide trend data, graphical analysis and benchmarking data against national and statistical neighbour averages.
- 2.2 It provides a summary of performance under key themes across Children & Young Peoples Services (CYPS) at the end of the 2017/18 reporting year and also represents the monthly report for March 2018. Due to the comprehensive nature of this report summaries of 'good and improved performance' (Section 3.1) and 'areas for improvement' (Section 3.2) are provided for members at the beginning of the report before a more detailed report for each service area, (Early Help - Section 3.3, Children's Social Care – Section 3.4 and Education and Skills Section 3.5).
- 2.3 Performance has been considered against local targets, including associated 'RAG' (red, amber, green rating) tolerances. These are reviewed annually and are set in consideration of available national and statistical neighbour benchmarking data, recent performance levels and, importantly, Rotherham's improvement journey and service knowledge. It ensures continued retention of the right focus on the effectiveness of services and achieving good outcomes for children and young people in relation to local priority areas for improvement.
- 2.4 In addition to this annual report members are advised that strong operational performance management arrangements are in place across the service with a programme of team level performance meetings well embedded across social care, early help and education inclusion services. These hold team managers to account with a comprehensive escalation process in place when concerns for individual children are identified. On a monthly basis governance is provided by the CYPS Performance Board attended by the Lead Member, Commissioner and Directorate Leadership Team. Additional scrutiny is provided through the Corporate Parenting Panel and Rotherham Local Safeguarding Board. These performance management arrangements within CYPS were highlighted within the recent Ofsted report which stated; "Senior managers and leaders know the service they provide well. The culture is now one of openness and transparency and genuine dedication to improving the lives of children and young people."

2.5 The CYPS Quality Assurance Framework also ensures that the service does not over rely on compliance data to evidence the experience and outcomes for children, young people and families. The team manager led audit programme is well embedded across services and during the year Practice Learning Days (PLD) have been introduced. These PLDs take place on a monthly basis across Early Help and Social Care. The days provide a valuable opportunity for Senior Managers to visit teams and services, meet and talk to staff and observe and shadow practice and feedback so far has been very good. A review of these took place during January with subsequent changes made to the process to ensure that the days continue to improve and provide value to the service. Learning days are followed up (no earlier than three months) with a visit by the DCS and Lead Member which provides assurance that any learning has been embedded and any agreed actions completed.

3 Key Issues

3.1 Summary: Good and improved performance in the last 12 months

3.1.1 Early Help

- Satisfaction rates for Early Help are consistently high. 100% of Families completing exit surveys in March rated the Early Help intervention they received as 'Good or Excellent', with the service achieving a total annual performance of 96% overall.
- As significant elements of the Early Help Service are not mandatory families have a choice in whether they wish to accept support and engage with Early Help process. Annual performance shows that Rotherham's local total engagement rate is high at 92.2%. With 59.7% of families contacted and engaged within three working days, (the remainder engaged over longer timescales).
- During the year partners completed 15.9% of the total Early Help Assessments (EHA) which represents a significant improvement on last year when only 6.5% of EHA's were completed by Partners. In terms of numbers this is an increase from a total of 75 partner EHAs in 2016/17 to 225 in 2017/18.
- The Troubled Families' target of engaging with 633 families during 2017/2018 has been exceeded with the total number of families identified by the end of March reaching 1073 which as a percentage is 169% of the original target.
- Children centre registration and engagement within Rotherham's most deprived areas are good and above target. During the year 96% of children living in the 30% most deprived super output areas (SOA) were registered with a Children's Centre and 68% of these children were actively engaged (targets of 95% and 66% respectively).
- The year-to-date attendance rate for the current academic year is good and in-line with the latest national averages. Primary is currently 95.7% compared to 96% nationally and secondary is 94.5% compared to 94.6% nationally.
- The latest Youth Justice Board (YJB) statistics show that Rotherham has made a positive decrease of 49.6% in the number of First Time Entrants from the same period last year. Similarly YJB report that Re-offending rates have decreased by 6.6% and now stands at 29.2%.

3.1.2 Children's Social Care

- In total 15,684 contacts have been received over the year compared to 16,609 in 2016/17, which equates to a 5.6% decrease. However in the same period the proportion progressing to referral has increased by 2% from 26.6% to 28.6% with more recent months seeing a higher progression rate of circa 30%. Similarly progression from referrals to assessment has increased over the year and now consistently achieves 99% each month (99.7% in March). As a whole, this reflects the improved quality in the operational process of our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) with the majority of screening activity taking place at earlier and ensuring progression to social care referral only when appropriate.
- Over the last 12 months the re-referral rate has made incremental improvements each month reaching 23.1% at the end of 2017/18 resulting in a 4.4% positive decrease on the 2016/17 outturn. This evidences and supports audit findings that casework practice is significantly improving as a result of the implementation of the new operating model. The month on month trend also suggests that the improvement is being sustained. However to be confident that this is fully embedded we would need to see the rate fall below the national average (21.9%) for a sustained period and then move to a top quartile position (16%).
- Provisional performance for 2017/18 in relation to assessment timeliness stands at 78% which is a 7.3% decline on the previous year, however it is worth noting that the volume of assessments completed has increased by 32% in the same period (6781 compared to 5148).
- Less than 1% of children ceasing a Child Protection Plan were subject to that plan for two years or more, this places Rotherham in top quartile performance. At the end of the reporting year there was only one child being supported through a Child Protection Plan (CPP) for more than 2 years and only 10 who have been on a plan for more than 18 months, the vast majority of children have been on CPP for less than 12 months. In recent months the proportion of children subject to repeat plans (within 2 years) has also seen incremental improvements to 8.7% but remains relatively high and a key measure within the council plan.
- The Looked After Children's Virtual School have ensured that 97% of eligible Looked After Children (LAC) have a Personal Education Plan (PEP) with 95% having a PEP less than one term old. This equates to 15 children without a PEP and a further nine PEPs more than one term old. Although this is high performance the reasons behind each of case are known with the main issues related to re-scheduling due to adverse weather, short term care periods and entry to care late in the term. Meetings were scheduled to ensure each of these gaps are addressed as soon as possible.
- Rotherham's Care Leavers service was graded Outstanding by Ofsted in the 2017 re-inspection of services. The service has seen an on-going increase in the number of Care leavers to 257 at the end of March 2018 compared to 223 in March 2017, but performance remains high and above national averages. 97% of our young people have a pathway plan, 96.9% are in suitable accommodation (3.1% are serving custodial sentences and in respect Education, Employment or Training rates this improved after a decline in recent months, to 63.6% (highest level for 12 months and top quartile).

- Despite the significant increase in LAC numbers, the proportion of children living in a family based placement remains relatively stable at 82.4% of the total cohort (81.1% at the end of March 2017).
- Rotherham is top quartile performer for timeliness of adoptions and the adopter training package was recognised by Ofsted as an area of excellence. Over the whole year the average time between the child entering care and being placed with the adoptive family (national measure A1) performance was 325 days a slight increase on the year-to-date figure of 311 days reported in February. This remains excellent performance when compared to the Statistical neighbour average of 511 days and the national average of 558 days and places Rotherham in the top quartile. Over the longer 3 year period 2015-17 Rotherham has actually achieved an average performance of 404 days as opposed to a national average of 520 days which places Rotherham at the 11th best performing local authority in England over this period. Time between the Placement Order being made and the match with adoptive parents (national measure A2) is back to 125 days compared to the Statistical Neighbour average of 214 days and the national average of 226 days and once again Rotherham is in the top quartile.

3.1.3 Education and Skills

- At the end of the 2016/17 academic year performance in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) for a 'Good Level of Development' (GLD) continued to rise and be above the national average. This is an established trend and ranks Rotherham joint first in the statistical neighbour group and joint second in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- In the 2017 Key Stage 1 assessments 64.0% of pupils met the expected standard combined reading, writing and mathematics (R,W&M) compared to 59.8% in 2016. This improvement of 4.2% places Rotherham above the national average and ranks the authority fourth in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- In terms of the separate greater depth standard for R,W&M combined at Key Stage 1, Rotherham has improved by 3.3% to 12.2%; this is 1.3% above the national average and places the authority third in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- With regards to Key Stage 2, 61% of pupils met the expected standard in R,W&M combined in 2017, compared to 53.9% in 2016. Rotherham has improved by 7.1% and is in line with the national average and places the authority second in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- For the separate higher standard measure for R,W&M combined at Key Stage 2, Rotherham improved by 2.7% to 7.1% which is 1.5% below the national average and places the authority seventh in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- At Key Stage 4, in 2017, the Rotherham Progress 8 score is +0.06, this is 0.09 above the national average (state-funded) score of -0.03. The Progress 8 score is only calculated at a national level for state-funded schools. The Progress 8 measure is ranked second compared against our statistical neighbours and ranked fifth in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

3.2 Summary: Areas for further improvement

3.2.1 Early Help

- The annual out-turn for the number of Early Help Contacts that were triaged within five working days is 85.3% which is below the target of 100%, but consistent with last year's outturn of 85.3%.
- The total number of Payment by Results (PbR) claims submitted for the Families for Change programme, (known nationally as Troubled Families), during this financial year was 212 taking the total for the programme to date to 292. Whilst this highlights a significant improvement, the rate of claims remains behind at this stage of the programme in comparison to other authorities. Intensive work is underway which will help identify potential claims and an action plan has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to provide further assurance.
- The annual out-turn for Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) figure has now been validated at 3.3% against the local target of 3.1%. However, performance against the Not Known target was slightly better than target at 2.5%. This gives us a combined outturn of 5.8% which is better than statistical neighbours and national and in line with our regional neighbours.

3.2.2 Social Care

- Demand across the social care service is high with the most significant increases seen in the numbers of Children subject to Child Protection (656 compared to 370 at the end of 2016/17) and Looked After Children (624 compared to 488 at the end of 2016/17). This equates to increases of 77% and 29% respectively. This appears to be as a result of a combination of factors, an improvement in social work assessments identifying and responding to risk, the complex abuse enquiry and the upward trend nationally.
- Timeliness of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) in the month of March was 70.5% which is very low when compared to levels achieved in earlier months and below statistical neighbours and national average. The provisional outturn position is 83.9% which is 7.1% lower than last year.
- Compliance against the local CPP visit standard sees a disappointing year end position of 89.1%, given the consistent achievement levels earlier in the year of 93%+ however this is less than 1% below last year's outturn position when there were 241 less children on a CPP. Performance clinics continue to monitor this alongside other compliance measures and team managers are able to articulate the reasons, attempts to visit made and the plans which are in place to ensure that children are safe.
- Performance in the timeliness of CPP Review Conferences, for the year as a whole was 94.6% which is a decline when compared to last year's 98.6% but still places Rotherham above the national average of 92.2%.
- Compliance for plans in date has been consistently lower than targets in the latter months of the reporting year ending with an outturn position 82.7% for eligible Children in Need (CIN), 86.7% for children on subject to CPP, and 89.7% for LAC however this needs to be considered alongside the current high service demand across the service.

- In the last three months there has been an increase in the number of LAC who are experiencing multiple placement moves. The provisional outturn position of 13.1% (81 out of 618 children) is an increase on the 2016/17 figure of 11.9%. The local increase in LAC is part of a national trend and as a result the placement market is increasingly saturated making appropriate matching decisions an increasing challenge.
- Data recorded on the child's social care record shows that LAC Health and Dental assessment performance is low, however figures reported by the LAC Health Team are higher than those recorded in local systems, suggesting there is still some time lag in inputting data onto Liquid Logic by social workers. Over the year 55.3% of the 226 the completed Initial Health Assessments (IHAs) were within timescale, it is acknowledged that this is low but it is a significant improvement on levels achieved in recent years (18.2% in 2016/17, 8.4% in 2015/16). Both Health and Dental LAC reviews have seen a decline to 76.8% and 64.1% respectively. In respect of the Health Review Assessments the figure reported by the LAC Health Team colleagues is 86%.

3.2.3 Education and Skills

- Improvement is needed to ensure more Key Stage 4 pupils achieve in English and mathematics and the English Baccalaureate at grade 5+ and grade 4+ to meet or exceed the national average. The percentage of pupils who achieved English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) at grade 5 or above is 14.8%; 4.9% below the national average (all schools) and 6.6% below the national average (state-funded schools). The percentage of pupils who achieved Ebacc at grade 4 or above is 17.0%; 4.9% below the national average (all schools) and 6.9% below the national average (state-funded schools).
- The proportion of children and young people attending a "good or better" school, (as rated by Ofsted), showed a decline over the year by 2% to 84.0% at the end of December 2017. This compares to the national average of 87.0%.

3.3 Early Help & Family Engagement

- 3.3.1 **Early Help Initial Contacts.** The annual out-turn for the number of Early Help Contacts that were triaged within five working days was 85.3% which although below the target of 100%, does maintain performance against last year which was also 85.3%.
- 3.3.2 Annual performance shows that 59.7% (604/1011) of families were contacted and engaged within the three working day timescale with a further 32.5% (329/1011) being engaged with outside of timescales bringing the total annual out-turn to a high 92.2% (933/1011). This shows really positive performance and evidences that workers are engaging early with families once allocations are made to localities.
- 3.3.3 **Early Help Assessments.** Of the 68 Early Help Assessments (EHA's) in scope for completion in March 2018, 45.6% (31/68) were completed within the target timeframe. This was in comparison with January 2018 when 31.6% (24/76) of assessments were completed within timescales. A further 8.8% (6/68) of the EHA's required in March 2018 were completed outside of the 45 day time frame which results in a 54.4% (37/68) rate of completion overall which is an overall. This is positive and is evidence of the effectiveness of the Early Help Performance meetings and the local Insight Performance Portal and Dashboard. Overall, during the year, 47.2% (518/1097) of EHA's were completed in timescales, with a further 29.8% (327/1097) being completed outside of timescales. This shows the annual completion rate for assessments at a pleasing 77% (845/1097).
- 3.3.4 Progress and support for partners to complete Early Help Assessments is ongoing and by the end of March 2018 15.9% (225/1415) of EHA's in 2017/2018 had been completed by partners which is a significant improvement on last year when only 6.5% of EHA's were completed by partners. The number of EHA Recommendations submitted to partners from the Triage Team also continues to rise which in turn will have an impact (decreasing) on the high volume reaching the Early Help Locality Teams and will allow more time to focus on intervention with families and an increased focus on performance.
- 3.3.5 The Multi-Agency Practice Development Group continues to meet on a regular basis and is proving very successful. Partners are also supported by the five integrated working leads which are now based across Early Help localities. Partner engagement with the EHA is now being effectively tracked to highlight progress being made across agencies.
- 3.3.6 During 2017/2018, Primary and Secondary schools completed 67.5% (152/225) of Partner EHA's with the remaining Partners (including Health) completing the remaining 32.5% 73/225). Work will continue with health colleagues and other organisations during 2018/2018 to focus on increasing the numbers completed in these areas.
- 3.3.7 **Children's Centres.** Although overall Children's Centres fell slightly short of their registration rates during 2017/18 at 91% against the 95% target. However, performance in the 30% most deprived Super Output Area (SOA) neighbourhoods was better with 96% of children registered against the 95% target overall. Particularly pleasing performance was found in the

South and North localities of the borough achieving 101% and 97% respectively. (baseline data cleansing to be completed)

3.3.8 Engagement rates saw a similar trend with the 30% most deprived SOA's achieving overall performance of 68% against a 66% target. Overall performance across the borough was 58% against the 66% target, however this was an increase when compared with 2016/2017 when performance reached 52%.

3.3.9 **Step Down from Social Care.** During May 2017 the step down process changed and is now managed in localities rather than by a central panel approach. Team Managers from Childrens Social Care and Early Help Locality Managers now agree a planned step down through dialogue that enhances integrated working and shared operational practice. Step Down in localities supports better integrated working across front line staff and managers and also enables 'Step Up' dialogue to take place. During the year 489 families with 873 children were stepped down to an Early Help Locality team.

3.3.10 **Families for Change.** The number of families identified as meeting the Troubled Families' criteria increased during March 2018 (117 when compared with 70 in February) in the Families for Change programme. The target of engaging with 633 families during 2017/2018 has been exceeded with the total number of families identified by the end of March 2018 reaching 1073 which as a percentage is 169% of the original target.

3.3.11 Work continues to progress in this area with all families where there is a recommendation for an Early Help Assessment now being included in the cohort and outcomes achieved will be eligible for a Payment by Results claim. Families for Change is discussed regularly at the Early Help Performance Meetings and team managers are currently looking at closed cases to identify potential claims.

3.3.12 A further Payment by Results (PbR) claim was submitted at the end of March. This brings the total claim to 212 in this financial year, and 292 in total. Of the payments claimed in this financial year, 101 were based on an adult in the family entering employment and sustaining this for 3-6 months (depending on the benefit claimed) and 111 claims were based on 'significant and sustained progress' based on a range of issues identified through the Early Help Assessment.

3.3.13 Whilst there has been a significant improvement, the rate of claims at this stage of the programme is in comparison behind other authorities. Rotherham has recently received a letter from the Troubled Families Unit expressing concern over the low number of claims submitted to date. The lead officer for Families for Change has submitted a response to the letter along with a Maturity Matrix Self-Assessment and an Action Plan which explains how performance will be improved.

3.3.14 Included in the action plan are various initiatives all of which should improve the efficiency and effectiveness of identifying potential claims, including;

- Update the Troubled Families Outcome Plan and align it with the new Financial Framework recently published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).
- Develop a data warehouse to bring together key data sources
- Continue to analyse retrospective checks on closed cases to check for potential claims
- Continue to develop new reports and analysis to help identify potential claims

3.3.15 Persistent Absence. The Primary School LA average for Persistent Absence (PA) (which only includes schools who have shared data) is 11.8%, which is an increase of 1.5% compared to the same period in 2016/17. Currently 23 Primary Schools (24.2%) have lower levels of persistent absence than the national average.

3.3.16 The Secondary school LA average for Persistent Absence (PA) (which only includes schools who have shared data) is 14.9%, which is an increase of 0.1% compared to the same period in 2016/17. Currently 7 secondary schools (43.8%) have lower levels of persistent absence than the national average. Early Help Team Managers are currently liaising with schools across the borough to ensure that appropriate support is being offered to those pupils who need it to improve their attendance. This may be through family support work and/or group work in schools.

3.3.17 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). The annual out-turn for Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) figure has now been validated at 3.3% against the local target of 3.1%. In respect of young people whose status is “Not Known” annual performance was 2.5% against a 2.6% target. The council plan has been reviewed for 2018/19 and the NEET measure will be replaced with a combined NEET/NK measure with a target of 5.8%. Individual performance will be monitored monthly with the annual target being on the combined totals.

3.3.18 Youth Offending. Based on the latest released Youth Justice Board (YJB) data, which covers period October 2016 to September 2017, Rotherham’s first time entrants into the youth justice system decreased to 304 which is 10.7% lower than the same period last year. The actual decrease in numbers for Rotherham relates to 51 young people. This continues the downward trend from the previous quarter and is now lower than National and Regional trends. The decrease is attributable to work undertaken with South Yorkshire Police for the YOT to assess and intervene with young people prior to charge. Should this trend continue it is likely to have a perverse impact on reoffending rates in relation to a smaller cohort with a greater propensity to offend.

3.3.19 Customer Feedback. In Early Help and Family Engagement during Quarter 4, 48 voluntary exit surveys were completed; bringing the total at year end to 201 exit surveys returned citing the top reason for requiring support as parenting support for behaviour. Over the year, through these surveys 96% of families rated the Early Help intervention they received as ‘Good or Excellent’.

Consistent Case Studies are now embedded across Children's Centres enabling further qualitative feedback to be captured for group based delivery and 1:1 support. A performance framework has been developed which captures KPI's and evidences how the Early help offer contributes to the Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF) with Impact Calls completed bi-monthly looking initially at the impact of Breast pump hire.

3.4 Children's Social Care

- 3.4.1 Contact and Referral.** The volume of contacts in March 2018 was slightly higher than the previous month but is at an expected level (1249 compared to 1167). In total 15,684 contacts have been received over the year compared to 16,609 in 2016/17, which equates to a 5.6% decrease. However in the same period the proportion progressing to referral has increased by 2% from 26.6% to 28.6%. It is worth noting that in the last 6 months this progression rate has been higher at circa 30%. Similarly progression from referrals to assessment has increased over the year and now consistently achieves 99% each month (99.7% in March). This reflects the accuracy in the operational process with the majority of screening activity taking place at contact stage.
- 3.4.2** Performance relating to decisions within 24 hours continues to see improvement month on month to 83.3% in March however, due to lower performance earlier in the year, the 2017/18 outturn position is 79.5% a decline on the 86% achieved in the previous year. This decline can at least in part be linked to the increased contact level screening activity earlier within the process as described above. Quality assurance activity continues to be a well embedded feature of the service, with the Service Manager sampling work completed outside of the 24 hour timescale, this allows for an understanding of the reasons why and ensures that the safety of children was prioritised, in addition further sampling is undertaken where the decisions is not to progress to referral.
- 3.4.3** The re-referral rate for the last 12 months has made incremental improvements each month reaching 23.1% at the end of 2017/18. Individually these small declines of a fraction of a percent may seem inconsequential however in total there has been 4.4% improvement since this time last year. 'In-month' data reflects the same pattern with 19.5% re-referral rate within March (below national average) compared to highs of 30+%. This evidences and supports audit outcomes that casework practice is significantly improving as a result of the implementation of the new operating model. This also suggests that the improvement is being sustained however to be confident that this is fully embedded we would need to see the 12 month rate fall below the national average (21.9%) for a sustained period and then move to a top quartile position (16%).
- 3.4.4 Child Assessments.** January, February and March have seen high numbers of assessments completed with 583 assessments completed in March. This reflects the work done across services to reduce the accumulated volume from the latter months of 2017. Although assessment timeliness continues to be lower than expected (71%) there has now been a significant reduction in the number of open out of date assessments across the service. At the time of writing (10th April 2018) there are 68

open out of date assessments in the service, only 13 of which are within the Duty and Assessment Teams. The performance in relation to first assessments following referral is higher than the service wide performance, at 76.8%. Provisional performance for 2017/18 in relation to assessment timeliness stands at 78% which is a 7.3% decline on the previous year, however it is worth noting that the volume of assessments completed has increased by 32% in the same period (6781 compared to 5148).

3.4.5 Assessment outcomes continue to be reasonably consistent. 64.5% of assessments completed both in March and across the year resulted in further early help or social care involvement, therefore the majority of families receive help or support as a result of an assessment of need. This is an increase on the 2016/17 outturn of 59.2%.

3.4.6 **Child Plans.** If a child has an out of date plan it may mean that their risks and needs are not being addressed effectively. Compliance at the end of March is consistent with levels seen in the previous two months (82.7% CIN, 86.7% CPP, 89.7% LAC) however this is low when reviewed against the start of 2017/18 but needs to be considered alongside the lower service demand at this time. This will remain subject to management scrutiny at performance meetings.

3.4.7 The plans for the two children reported previously as being supported through a child protection plan for more than 2 years have now ceased (siblings both now CIN). The negative impact of the two plans ceasing means that the total number of children ceasing after having a long term CP plans is up to 5 which equates to 1%, however we remain within the national top quartile limit of 2.5%. This data suggests that the services ability to reach a timely resolution for children at risk continues to be good.

3.4.8 The data relating to children subject to child protection plans suggests that the services ability to reach a timely resolution for children at risk continues to be good. This is likely to relate in large part to increasing numbers of children in care and subject of a legal proceeding. There is increased evidence of better use of family group conferencing and edge of care support in addition to the pre-proceedings Public Law Outline (PLO) process which means that whilst more legal proceedings are being issued, more are being well prepared for, with front-loading of assessments whilst children are still subject to CP plans. This is likely to be a consequence of more timely escalations for children who are experiencing significant harm through parental neglect. However, there is only one child being supported through a plan for more than 2 years and only 10 who have been on a plan for more than 18 months, the vast majority of children have been on CPP for less than 12 months. Meaning a sustained period in the top quartile of performance in relation to CP for 2 years or more. In recent months the proportion of children subject to repeat plans (within 2 years) has seen incremental improvements to 8.7% but remains relatively high.

3.4.9 **Child Visits.** Compliance against the CPP visit two week standard has declined on last month from 95.1% in February to 89.1% in March. Although this is disappointing year end position given the achievement levels earlier in the year this is less than 1% below last year's outturn

position when there were 241 less children on a CPP. However performance clinics continue to monitor the situation and team managers are able to articulate the reasons and measures taken to visit the children who do not have a recent visit and what plans are in place to ensure that children are safe.

3.4.10 In relation to children in care, performance in LAC visits within the national minimum standards has decreased slightly to 94.7% from last year's outturn of 94.9%. Performance has been impacted by the increase in numbers of LAC and the increased travelling distances required due to placement market saturation. This remains an on-going focus of attention in performance clinics.

3.4.11 **Section 47 investigations.** Trend data in relation to Section 47 investigations, demonstrate continued high volume. A comparison of year-on-year outturn data shows a 54.4% increase in the total volume of new S47s from 1457 to 2235. Investigation outcomes show 63.9% (1429 children) over the year were proven to be at risk of continuing harm and therefore progressing to be safeguarded through the child protection process. Only 7.3% (164 children) were not in line with the "significant harm" threshold. This low level indicates continued improvement; with 2015/16 having 11.2% and 2016/17 10.9%. This activity continues to be subject to continued management scrutiny.

3.4.12 **Children in Need.** There is no good or bad performance in relation to the number of Children in Need (CIN), although it is important to monitor against statistical neighbour and national averages as numbers considerably higher or lower than average can be an indicator of other performance issues. The service managers in the Locality social work teams continue to lead regular reviews in conjunction with early help colleagues on Child in Need work to minimise drift and ensure only those children that require this type of intervention are open to the service.

3.4.13 At the end of March 2018 there were 1686 CIN, when combined with those subject to child protection plans (CPP) this equates to a rate of 413.8 per 10k population; positioning us above both the statistical neighbour average (372.7), and the national average (337.7).

3.4.14 **Children subject to Child Protection Plans.** Demand across the whole service is high with further increases for children subject to Child Protection (656 compared to 630 in February). If compared to the 2016/17 outturn figures of 370 CPP this equates to an increase of 77%. This appears to be as a result of a combination of factors, an improvement in social work assessments identifying and responding to risk, the complex abuse enquiry and the upward trend nationally.

3.4.15 The volume of Initial Child Protection Conferences completed in March was 62 which is broadly in line with the previous last two months and a decrease on the high numbers held at the end of 2016/17. Timeliness of these conferences is at 70.5% which is very low when compared to levels achieved in earlier months and below statistical neighbours and national

average. The provisional outturn position is 83.9% which is 7.1% lower than last year.

3.4.16 The trend for the number of children with a Child Protection Plan (CPP) continues to remain upwards and our rate per 10K population is now 115.9 which is significantly higher than statistical neighbour (56.6) and the national average (43.3). Managers are reviewing cases closely and having regular discussions regarding being clear about the difference between 'help' and 'harm', this has contributed to the increased number of child protection plans being made. A recent CPP summit of senior managers scrutinised the trend data and explored potential causal factors for the significant rise in CPP this resulted in a number of evaluation workstreams being created. The learning from these workstreams will create the service wide action plan to address the on-going monthly net increase. It is worth noting that in November 2017 Ofsted agreed that children in Rotherham who were on CP plans at the time, needed to be on plans.

3.4.17 **Looked After Children (LAC).** Demand across the whole service is high with further increases for Looked After Children (624 compared to 609 in January). If compared to the 2016/17 outturn figures of 488 LAC this equates to an increase of 29%. This appears to be as a result of a similar combination of factors as seen in the CPP rise, (improved identification and response to risk, the complex abuse enquiry and the upward trend nationally). The rate per 10,000 of the population now stands at 110.3 as compared to the statistical neighbour average of 81.3 and the national average of 62 (as reported at March 2017).

3.4.18 A 'Right Children, Right Care' transformation action plan is now being implemented focusing on both reducing the number of admissions through edge of care preventative approaches and 'safely' increasing the number of children ceasing care. The scoping process has been completed for the Right Child Right Care programme and there are 170 children for whom discharge is assessed to be a viable option. Work on progressing these plans will now commence, although significant impact is not anticipated until late 2018.

3.4.19 Positively the rate of discharge reached its highest level for 6 months at the end of the year with 20 children ceasing care in March 2018 indicating the Right Child Right Care programme is beginning to have some impact.

3.4.20 **LAC Statutory Reviews.** Due to a combination of Independent Reviewing Officer sickness levels, high demand and social workers not completing their pre-review reports within timescales there was a dip in the timeliness of LAC statutory reviews at the beginning of 2018. However, it is reassuring to note that, in March performance improved to above target at 95.5% and helped improve the full year's performance to 90.4%.

3.4.21 **LAC – Placements.** The proportion of long term LAC who have lived in the same placement for over two years continues to have achieved incremental month-on-month improvements towards the end of the year towards an outturn of 61.3% (92 out of 150 children) this followed an in year low in November of 59.2%. Progress on this measure has been

impacted by the increasing number of long term LAC and our desire to bring children closer to home and into family placements, (positive placement moves). Due to the timeframes within the definition this is an area of performance which cannot be improved quickly. A forward projection analysis of the current cohort predicts that this measure potentially could reach 66-67% within the next reporting year.

- 3.4.22 In the last three months of 2017/18 there was an increase in the number of children experiencing multiple placement moves. The provisional outturn position of 13.1% (81 out of 618 children) is an increase on the 2016/17 figure of 11.9%. The local increase in LAC is part of a national trend and as a result the placement market is increasingly saturated making appropriate matching decisions an increasing challenge. The Intensive Intervention Programme being implemented by the Rotherham Therapeutic Team is clearly having some positive impact on the number of placement disruptions for the most vulnerable and challenging of our young people who are known to be at risk of placement breakdowns. However, it is also likely that the impact of the Right Child Right Care project will mean more placements will be converted to Special Guardianship Orders/Child Arrangement Orders, which will be a positive outcome for the child but may have a significant negative impact on the stable placement performance over 2018/19.
- 3.4.23 Despite the further increase in LAC numbers, the proportion of children in a family based placement remains relatively stable at 82.4% of the total cohort. Given the increasing numbers of LAC performance regarding the proportion of LAC in commissioned placements has declined to 50.5% (315 of 624 LAC). This decline is not significant and reflects the same level as October when there were only 267 LAC in the cohort. This indicates that the in-house Fostering and Placements team have become far more efficient in placing children within in-house placements.
- 3.4.24 **Foster Carer Recruitment.** At the end of the financial year there had been 17 new foster families approved providing 27 placements, exceeding the target set of 25 new placements over the course of the year. A more stretching target has been set for 2018/19 to create 35 new in house placements.
- 3.4.25 A number of initiatives being implemented to support in-house fostering recruitment including Mockingbird, Muslim Foster Carer recruitment and Challenge 63. In addition the Duty System has been overhauled and all initial enquirers are 'kept warm' via regular contact with the enquirer and newsletters even if they decide that now is not the right time for them to foster. The dedicated marketing officer is also having a marked impact with regular stories appearing in the local press meaning that a Google search of Fostering in Rotherham now brings RMBC as the 5th entry and the first reference that is not a paid for advertisement – a significant improvement as compared to the very low social media presence the Fostering Team had last year.
- 3.4.26 As a result of the revised referral process the conversion rate from initial enquiry has as over the past 6 months improved from 11% to 16%. Over the course of 2018/19 the team are already forecasting approval of 14 foster families providing 16 new placements over the first half of the year.

The service is now well-positioned to improve on last year's performance and achieve its target of 35 new foster placements.

3.4.27 LAC – Health and Dental. The performance figures reported by the LAC Health Team are higher than those recorded in local systems, suggesting there is still some time lag in inputting data onto Liquid Logic by social workers. The number of Initial Health Assessments (IHA) complete each month remains relatively consistent however timeliness performance according to internal recording is below 40% at 36.4% (4 out of 11 completed IHAs) this is particularly low when compared to achievements earlier in the year of between 75-90%. Over the year 55.3% of the 226 IHAs completed were within timescale, it is acknowledged that this is low but it is a significant improvement on levels achieved in the last three years (18.2% in 2016/17). The reported figure by Health colleagues for March is 56% with a further five "did not attend" and one last minute cancellation which needed to be followed up. Both Health and Dental LAC reviews have seen a decline to 76.8% and 64.1% respectively. In respect of the Health Review Assessments the figure reported by the LAC Health Team colleagues is 86%.

3.4.28 It is expected that internal Health related data will change once the data is rerun and validated in future performance reports. Work is being progressed with the Liquid Logic team to enable the LAC Health Team to directly input the Health Needs Assessment onto the case file which should resolve this time lag issue.

3.4.29 LAC – Education. 97% of eligible LAC have a Personal Education Plan (15 LAC with no PEP) and 95% have a PEP less than one term old (24 with an older or no PEP). Although this performance is high and an improvement on the Autumn term it is slightly lower than usual due to a combination of the adverse weather which meant that several PEPs had to be rescheduled, and the fact that it was a very short school term. Also, the figure includes LAC who either did not come into care until late in the term, or who we were notified had come into care, and where there wasn't time to arrange a PEP meeting.

3.4.30 The quality of PEP and education planning is beginning to have an impact on educational planning with Key Stage 2 outcomes improving in 2017 as compared to 2016 and to a degree significantly above national and regional comparators. In respect of Key Stage 4 outcomes for 2017:-

- 3 young people achieving 9 A*-C including English & Maths.
- 1 achieved 8 A*-C including English but missed maths by 1 grade
- A further 2 achieved 5+ A*-C including English but missed maths by a grade.
- Another young person achieved 5 A*-C but missed maths and English by 1 grade.
- 3 young people achieved 4 A*-C: 1 including English and 1 including Maths.
- 10/30 had an EHCP, EHCP pending or a statement of SEN.
- 10 young people were not in mainstream schools. Of the 20 children in mainstream education:

- 3/20 (15%) achieved 9 A*-C including English & Maths
- 6/20 (30%) achieved 5+ A*-C
- 9/20 (45%) achieved 4+ A*-C

3.4.31 Attendance for the whole LAC cohort currently stands at 94% but there are 26 young people who are currently receiving less than their 25 hours statutory entitlement. Some of these young people do not have the emotional resilience to manage any more than their current access but the multi-agency group, including Early Help, continues to meet on a monthly basis to support more of these young people towards their full entitlement.

3.4.32 **Care Leavers.** Despite an on-going increase in the number of Care leavers to 257 at the end of March 2018 compared to 223 in March 2017, the proportion with a pathway plan remains at an outstanding level (97%). The timeliness of these plans also continues to improve with 83% of young people with an up to date plan compared to 69% earlier in the year. The service continues to focus on improving the quality of the plans so that they are meaningful for young people and the introduction of a new plan template is significantly supporting this.

3.4.33 The numbers of care leavers in suitable accommodation has declined, however, to 96.9% which is solely due to 2 more young people receiving custodial sentences. Current performance still places Rotherham in the top quartile and in fact RMBC is 10th out of all the local authorities in England in respect of this performance measure.

3.4.34 Performance in respect of care leavers who are in Education, Employment or Training has improved after a recent decline in recent months, at 63.6% this measure currently stands at its highest level for 12 months. The Leaving Care Team are working closely with other Directorates to firm up the pre-apprenticeship offer (work experience and work placements) in order to achieve increased sustainability as only one young person from 2017 is still attending his apprenticeship placement. However, performance remains strong and once again places Rotherham back in the top quartile.

3.4.35 There are currently 13 Care Leavers in Higher Education and one undertaking a PhD. A further care leaver completed their Masters degree in 2017 in Engineering.

3.4.36 **Adoptions.** Due to their age, health needs or being part of a sibling group 55% of the children in Rotherham's adoption pathway process are classed by national guidelines as being 'hard to place' and therefore harder to find adoptive families. Rotherham's policy is to persevere in seeking adoptive placements for these and all children for as long as it is reasonable to do so. Whilst this can impact on performance figures, this practice does give the necessary reassurance that the adoption service is 'doing the right thing' by its children by doing everything it can to secure permanent family placements for its children. As a result one adoption completed this year 1,624 days after the child became looked after this demonstrates the determination and perseverance of the adoption team. That being said

Rotherham's Adoption Team performance places the authority within the top quartile nationally with further specific recognition by Ofsted for their adopter training programme.

- 3.4.37 There were five adoptions in March, which is the highest single month of the reporting year, this takes the year's total to 27. Whilst this is a drop from last year there are currently 43 children on the adoption pathway with 21 of them already having an identified match and placed or about to be placed with their adoptive parents. As a result the adoption team are already well-placed to improve on this performance next year. This reduced outturn is almost solely due to adoption case law which now gives birth parents greater rights of appeal until the Adoption Order hearing. Whilst no appeals have been successful, thus far, this has prolonged the adoption process for some children.
- 3.4.38 Over the whole year the average time between the child entering care and being placed with the adoptive family (A1) performance was 325 days a slight increase on the year-to-date figure of 311 days reported in February. This remains excellent performance when compared to the statistical neighbour average of 511 days and the national average of 558 days and places Rotherham in the top quartile. Over the longer 3 year period 2015-17 Rotherham has actually achieved an average performance of 404 days as opposed to a national average of 520 days which places Rotherham at the 11th best performing local authority in England over this period.
- 3.4.39 Time between the Placement Order being made and the match with adoptive parents (A2) is back to 125 days compared to the Statistical Neighbour average of 214 days and the national average of 226 days and once again Rotherham is in the top quartile and at an England ranking of 42nd over the 3 year period.
- 3.4.40 In respect of adopter recruitment there are currently 12 adoptive parents undergoing the assessment process, 6 at stage 1 and 6 at stage 2. Given that only 13 adopters were approved throughout 2016/17 the team is once again well placed to improve on recent performance.
- 3.4.41 **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).** The improvement work in relation to services to identify and address child sexual exploitation in the borough has been extensive and rapid during the time since the Jay report and subsequent inspection of Children's Services (2014). Improvements in relation to practice and process in this field have been remarkable, confirmed by OFSTED in the 2017 inspection and confidence can be had across the Rotherham partnership in relation to the scale and nature of the improvement achieved. In this context, Rotherham's work in this regard is now able to move from a context which involves the kind of rapid, initial responses to service improvement which have been commonplace, to one of more business as usual approaches.
- 3.4.42 The overall number of new referrals which related primarily to CSE has seen a decline from 2016/17 (231) to 2017/18 (169). Quality assurance activity continues to be carried out in relation to CSE work in the Borough (Evolve) and indicates that social workers are conducting good quality work which is often successful in making significant positive differences for young people. However, the service is not complacent, this will continue to be an area for focus for embedding the learning and wider

understanding in relation to the features of CSE and ways to successfully intervene and disrupt activity.

3.4.43 Social Worker Caseloads. The average caseload for Duty teams continues to reduce from highs of 22.5 in December and is now well within limits at 17.9.

3.4.44 There has been a slight decrease in the overall number of agency staff across social care services from 73 to 71, similarly in terms of frontline teams, who either manage or work direct with children, there has been a further reduction from 29 to 27. From April more meaningful measures will be introduced to this report to demonstrate this figure as a proportion of the workforce.

3.4.45 Quality, Learning and Development. As part of the CYPS Quality Assurance Framework Team Managers across the service are, on a monthly basis, allocated a number of cases from other teams to audit and grade based on the Ofsted rating scheme. To ensure consistency of judgement senior managers also undertake sample moderation of the audits. Over the year a total of 892 Team Manager audits were completed. Outcomes over the year have seen an improving trajectory. In the first six months of 2017/18, April to September, 5% of cases audited were rated good or better compared to 21% for the last 6 months October to March.

3.4.46 Qualitative information for these audits is analysed to identify themes of both good practice and areas for improvement. These in turn feed into the staff learning and development programme and have helped inform agendas for both training and full service days.

3.4.47 Recent audits showed the following areas of good practice: engagement of child during visit and assessments, regular reviews, clear assessment of risk, clear management oversight and use of signs of safety. Recent areas of for improvement: genogram not always up-to-date or detailed enough, assessments incomplete, robustness of reviews, actions without clear timescales, wider exploration of family/friends network.

3.5 Education and Skills

3.5.1 Early Years. The number of two-year-olds taking up an early education place in Rotherham continues to remain high, with 81.3% of Rotherham's eligible two-year-olds taking up a place in spring 2018 which remains above our target of 80%.

3.5.2 95% of all Rotherham's Ofsted-registered Early Years and Childcare providers are judged to be good or outstanding, which is above the national average

3.5.3 School Inspection. The latest end of term position regarding the proportion of children and young people attending a "good or better" school, (as rated by Ofsted), showed a decline over the year by 2% to 84.0% at the end of December 2017. This compares to the national average of 87.0%.

- 3.5.4 To achieve improvement against this measure is complicated due to factors beyond the control of the authority. The DfE academy conversion programme has a significant impact on the improvement of the aggregated Ofsted school profile for Rotherham. The first inspection for all new schools, including academies, will usually take place within three years of opening. If a convertor academy school opens they retain their latest Ofsted judgement and this is reported against the school, aggregated local authority and national averages until their first school inspection (usually during the third year of the school opening). Some schools can retain a 'requiring improvement judgement' for up to six years depending on their academy conversion within the OFSTED cycle.
- 3.5.5 There are a number of multi-academy trusts within Rotherham who work in partnership with the Rotherham School Improvement Service (RoSIS) while some have made the decision to work with schools within their own trust and don't engage with the local authority. RoSIS continues to encourage all schools to work with the service and engage in best practice and is committed to retaining positive links and communication with all of Rotherham's educational providers whatever their status.
- 3.5.6 **Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP).** From 2013 to 2016 Rotherham has achieved above the national average for a 'good level of development' (GLD), with an upward trajectory each year. Performance for this measure improved from 70.4% in 2016 to 72.1% in 2017. The 2017 outcome places Rotherham 1.4% above the national average of 70.7% and ranks the authority as joint first within the statistical neighbours comparator group and joint second against in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- 3.5.7 **Phonics Screening Checks.** The percentage of pupils passing the phonics screening check in Year 1 had increased annually up to 2016 but remained static in 2017 at 79%. National averages also remained static in 2017 at 81%. Therefore gap the national average remains at 2% in 2017. Rotherham's Year 1 outcomes are ranked joint 5th compared to our statistical neighbours and joint 7th compared to other LAs in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- 3.5.8 At Year 2 91% of pupils met the expected standard of phonics screening checks in 2017; this compares to the national average of 92%. The gap to the national average is 1% below.
- 3.5.9 **Key Stage 1 Assessments (KS1).** There were significant changes in KS1 teacher assessments in 2016. The previous levels have been replaced by a range of performance categories for each subject, namely reading, writing, maths and science. These are described as "interim" performance categories whilst the government decides the future of assessment for this Key Stage. Assessments are reported as working at the expected standard (EXS+), working at greater depth (GDS), and working lower than the expected standard.
- 3.5.10 The 2017 Key Stage 1 outcomes show:-

- 64.0% of pupils met the expected standard (EXS+) in reading, writing and mathematics (R,W&M) combined in 2017, compared to 59.8% in 2016. Rotherham has improved by 4.2% and is just above the national average.
- 73.3% of pupils met the expected standard in reading, compared to 70.9% last year (increased by 2.4%).
- 68.6% of pupils met the expected standard in writing, compared to 64.9% last year (increased by 3.7%).
- 74.7% of pupils met the expected standard in mathematics, compared to 71.3% last year (increased by 3.4%).
- Rotherham is above or in line with the national average at the expected standard in writing, mathematics and R,W&M combined and below the national average at the expected standard in reading.

3.5.11 In the greater depth standard for R,W&M combined at KS1, Rotherham has improved by 3.3% to 12.2%; this is 1.3% above the national average. 25.5% of pupils met the greater depth standard in reading, compared to 21.7% last year (increased by 3.8%). 16.9% of pupils met the greater depth standard in writing, compared to 12.3% last year (increased by 4.6%). 22.5% of pupils met the greater depth standard in mathematics, compared to 17.2% last year (increased by 5.3%).

3.5.12 Rotherham is above the national average at the greater depth (GDS) standard in all subjects in 2017 and the KS1 R,W&M combined indicator is ranked 4th at the EXS+ and 3rd at GDS against other LAs in the Yorkshire and Humber region

3.5.13 **Key Stage 2 (KS2).** In 2016, teacher assessments and tests were revised to reflect the new and more challenging curriculum. New accountability measures were introduced for the statutory assessments at the end of KS2.

3.5.14 Key stage 2 outcomes show:-

- 61% of pupils met the EXS+ in R,W&M combined in 2017, compared to 53.9% in 2016. Rotherham has improved by 7.1% and is in line with the national average.
- 69% of pupils met the expected standard in reading, compared to 63.5% last year (increased by 5.5%).
- 75.9% of pupils met the expected standard in mathematics, compared to 72% last year (increased by 3.9%).
- 75.7% of pupils met the expected standard in grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS) compared to 70.9% last year (increased by 4.8%).
- 77.3% of pupils met the expected standard in writing TA, compared to 77.7% last year (decreased by -0.4%).
- In the higher standard (HS) 7.1% of pupils met the higher standard in the R,W&M combined measure, compared to 4.4% last year (increased by 2.7%).

- 19.2% of pupils met the higher standard in reading, compared to 15.1% last year (increased by 4.1%).
- 19.6% of pupils met the higher standard in mathematics, compared to 14.7% last year (increased by 4.9%).
- 27.0% of pupils met the higher standard in GPS, compared to 20.1% last year (increased by 6.9%).
- 17.8% of pupils met the greater depth standard in writing TA, compared to 13.8% last year (increased by 4.0%).

3.5.15 In 2017, the KS2 R,W&M combined indicator is ranked joint 2nd at the EXS+ and 7th at the HS compared against other LAs in the Yorkshire and Humber region (15 LAs). The KS2 R,W&M combined indicator is ranked 3rd at the EXS+ and joint 5th at the GDS / HS compared against our statistical neighbours (11 LAs).

3.5.16 There are three Rotherham primary schools below the KS2 floor standard. One school is a sponsored academy and two schools are convertor academies. All other schools are above the floor standard. To be above above the floor standard the school must meet:

- 65% of pupils meet the EXS+ in R,W&M (ie achieve that standard in all three subjects) or
- The school achieves sufficient progress scores in all of reading, writing and mathematics.
- The sufficient progress threshold for 2017 was reading -5.0, writing -7.0 and mathematics -5.0.

3.5.17 **KS1 to KS2 Progress Measures.** The average progress score for Rotherham LA in reading is -0.1, in writing is +1.0 (sig+) and in maths is +0.7 (sig+). The progress measures in writing and mathematics are identified as significantly above the national average.

3.5.18 The KS1 prior attainment average points score (APS) for Year 6 pupils was below the national average for both boys and girls in 2017 with boys being the wider gap to their national counterpart.

	Rotherham APS	National APS
All Pupils	15.3	15.8
Girls	15.9	16.2
Boys	14.8	15.5

3.5.19 Girls progress in writing was +1.7 (sig+) and boys progress in mathematics was +1.5 (sig+) in Rotherham in 2017.

3.5.20 **Key Stage 4.** 'Progress 8' aims to capture the progress a pupil makes from the end of primary school to the end of secondary school. In 2017, the Progress 8 score is +0.06; this is 0.09 above the national average (state-funded) score of -0.03. The Progress 8 score is only calculated at a national level for state-funded schools.

- 3.5.21 In 2017, the Progress 8 measure is ranked 2nd compared against our statistical neighbours and ranked 5th compared against other LAs in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- 3.5.22 The average Attainment 8 score has decreased by 3.8 points to 45.0 in 2017. National averages have decreased by 3.7 points to 46.4 (state-funded i.e. LA maintained schools, academies and free schools) and 3.9 points to 44.6 (all schools including the independent sector). The LA average is 0.4 points above the national average (all schools) and 1.4 points below the national average (state-funded schools).
- 3.5.23 The percentage of pupils achieving grade 5 or above in English and Maths is 37.1%; 2.5% below the national average (all schools) and 5.8% below the national average (state-funded schools). The percentage of pupils achieving grade 4 or above in English and maths is 59.0%; 0.1% below the national average (all schools) and 5.2% below the national average (state-funded schools).
- 3.5.24 The percentage of pupils who achieved English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) at grade 5 or above is 14.8%; 4.9% below the national average (all schools) and 6.6% below the national average (state-funded schools). The percentage of pupils who achieved Ebacc at grade 4 or above is 17.0%; 4.9% below the national average (all schools) and 6.9% below the national average (state-funded schools).
- 3.5.25 In 2017, a school will be below the floor standard if its Progress 8 score is below -0.5, unless the confidence interval suggests that the school's underlying performance may not be below average. Nationally, 365 schools were below the DfE floor standard in 2017 - There are no Rotherham schools below the floor standard.
- 3.5.26 **Exclusions.** The Council continues to set challenging but realistic targets to address the rising number of exclusions, both fixed-term and permanent. These rising figures are following a national trend and being addressed through a recent Department for Education 'Call For Evidence' that will contribute to a review of school exclusions, to be reported on by the end of 2018.
- 3.5.27 This last academic year (2016/17) initially had 57 permanent exclusions but 19 (3 Primary and 16 Secondary) were overturned or rescinded, with the actual recorded number 38 (8 Primary, 30 Secondary). This represented a slight fall overall but, more significantly; it shows a halt in the trajectory of previously rising exclusions.
- 3.5.28 From September 2017 to the end of April 2018 the current number of permanent exclusions in secondary schools is 26 (plus 19 withdrawn); with 3 primary permanent exclusions (plus 3 withdrawn). This indicates a promising decline (with nine weeks remaining before final numbers). It is becoming evident that the culture, leadership and ethos of schools/multi-academy trusts contribute to their approach to exclusion. Measures are being taken across the partnership model advocated by the local authority, including training and development of the local authority Pupil Referral Units' offer for children and young people with social, emotional and mental health needs.

3.5.29 **Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP).** Education Health and Care Plans are given to children who have been assessed as having high level Special Educational Needs (SEN) they were introduced in 2014 replacing the old SEN Statements. All Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) completions and conversions from SEN Statements are measured nationally. The monitoring of these two targets takes place fortnightly through an 'Inclusion Performance Clinic' with the involvement of the Performance and Quality team, which both challenges and supports the development of greater accuracy and scrutiny of data.

3.5.30 All local authorities were required to convert any old SEN Statements to EHCPs by April 2018. Therefore the percentage of completed new EHCP's within 20 weeks has fluctuated over this year due to the necessary prioritising of these conversions and seasonal fluctuations in demand (ie school holiday periods). Cumulative performance over the year for new EHCPs was 56.5%. New incremental quarterly targets have been set and are being monitored for 2018/19 with the aim of returning the service to performance levels of 90% in following reporting year (2019/20).

3.5.31 With regard to the 'conversions', there were a total of 998 Statements of SEN to convert to EHCP. 98% of all conversions were completed by the target date (April 2018) the remaining 2% (24 cases) were delayed due to the complexity of the individual cases. At the time of writing this report (25th May) this number had reduced to four daily progress tracking for each of the remaining children. This is a significant achievement for the team and demonstrates accelerated progress in the last eight months. At the end of July 2017 there were almost 500 plans remaining for conversion.

4 Options considered and recommended proposal

4.1 The full service performance reports attached at Appendix A represents a summary of performance across a range of key national and local indicators with detailed commentary provided by the service. Elected members are therefore recommended to consider and review this information.

5 Consultation

5.1 Not applicable

6 Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

6.1 Not applicable

7 Financial and Procurement Implications

7.1 There are no direct financial implications to this report. The relevant Service Director and Budget Holder will identify any implications arising from associated improvement actions and Members and Commissioners will be consulted where appropriate.

8 Legal Implications

8.1 There are no direct legal implications to this report.

9 Human Resources Implications

9.1 There are no direct human resource implications to this report. The relevant Service Director and Managers will identify any implications arising from associated improvement actions and Members and Commissioners will be consulted where appropriate.

10 Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

10.1 The performance report relates to safeguarding services for children and young people.

11 Equalities and Human Rights Implications

11.1 There are no direct implications within this report.

12 Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

12.1 Partners and other directorates are engaged in improving the performance and quality of services to children, young people and their families via the Rotherham Local Children's Safeguarding Board (RLSCB), the CYPS Improvement Board, the CYPS Performance Board, the Corporate Parenting Panel and the Early Help Review Board. All the Boards receive performance reports on a regular basis.

13 Risks and Mitigation

13.1 Inability and lack of engagement in performance management arrangements by managers and staff could lead to poor and deteriorating services for children and young people. Strong management oversight by Directorship Leadership Team and the ongoing performance meetings mitigate this risk by holding managers and workers to account for any dips in performance both at a team and at an individual child level.

14 Accountable Officer(s)

Ailsa Barr, Interim Assistant Director Children's Social Care
ailsa.barr@rotherham.gov.uk

David McWilliams, Assistant Director, Interim Deputy Director CYPS and Early Help
david.mcwilliams@rotherham.gov.uk

Chris Hilliard, Assistant Director, Education & Skills
chris.hilliard@rotherham.gov.uk

Mark Chambers, Interim Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Quality (CYPS)
mark.chambers@rotherham.gov.uk

Approvals Obtained from:-

	Named Officer	Date
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services	Michael Wildman	31/05/18
Assistant Director of Legal Services	Neil Concannon	26/06/18
Head of Procurement (<i>if appropriate</i>)	N/A	
Head of Human Resources (<i>if appropriate</i>)	Amy Leech	05/06/18
CYPS Directorate Leadership Team	n/a	05/07/18

Report Author:

Deborah Johnson (Performance Assurance Manager – CYPS Social Care)

Anne Hawke (Performance Assurance Manager – Early Help)

Lynsey Sylvester (Performance and Data Officer – Education and Skills)

This report is published on the Council's website or can be found at:-

<http://modern.gov.rotherham.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?Categories>