

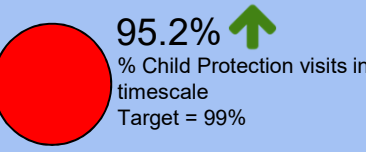
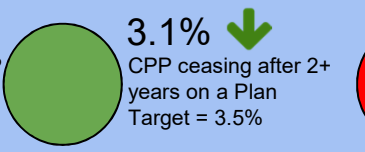
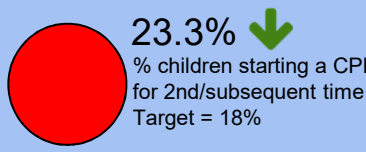
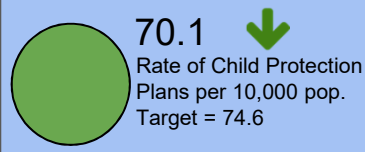
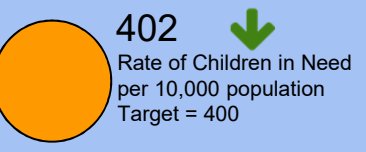
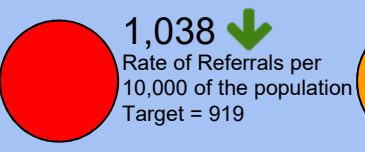
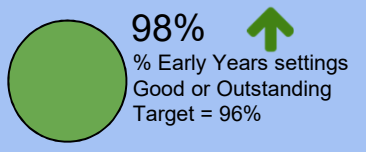
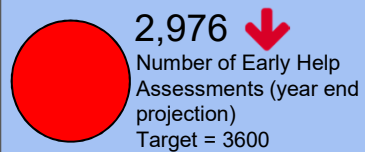
Children's Services Proxy Targets Children's and Young People's Scrutiny Committee

5th February 2019

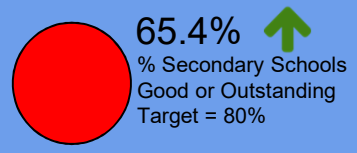
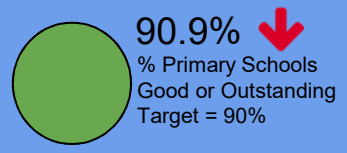
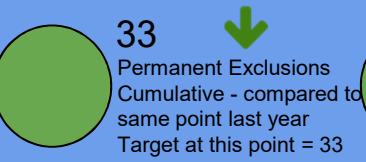
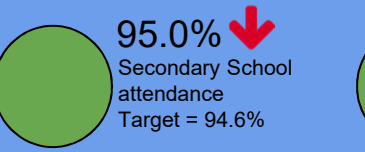
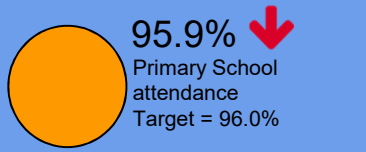
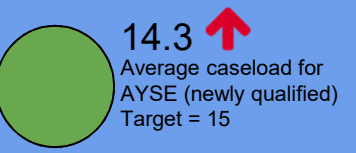
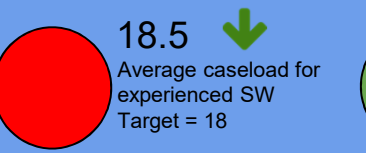
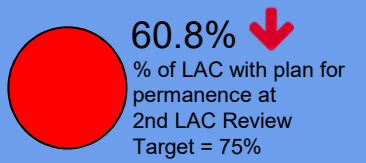
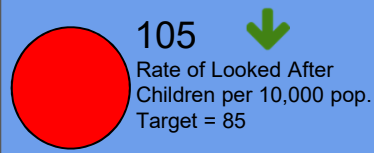
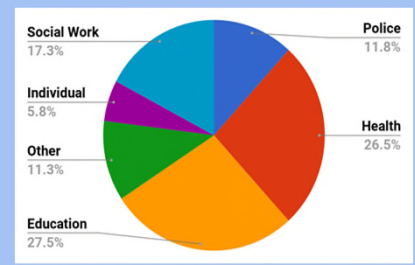


Introduction

- Service improvement in children's services is driven by a sophisticated approach to performance assurance delivered via our Performance Management Framework (PMF) which measures our performance across the journey of the child. Our performance is contrasted with other data sets which include core cities , statistical neighbours, north west neighbours and England.
- After two years of data collection, targets in children's services PMF have been reviewed and are broadly set relative to the performance of good authorities.
- This approach is underpinned by:
 - The Quality Assurance and Voice of Children and Young People Improvement Framework
 - Strategic Planning Forums
 - Partnership forums focussing on the delivery of the overarching 'Our Manchester, Our Children' strategy and other key strategies
 - Management performance/assurance activity
 - National data collection/reporting
 - Political oversight and scrutiny
 - Our relationship with regional and national partners and regulatory bodies such as Ofsted.



EH Referrals by agency



Key Arrow colour denotes improving or deteriorating performance compared to previous period. Circle colour denotes whether performance is better than target quoted, amber is within 2% of target.

Discussion Points

- Registrations for Early Help Assessments (EHAs) are lower than target, but show a growth of 237 referrals (circa 8.5%) when this activity is compared with July's data. Whilst generally speaking the pattern of distribution of partners making referrals is broadly similar there was almost a 50% increase in individuals making self referrals to the service .
- Referral rates to children's social care has shown a consistent pattern of reduction month on month since July 2018.
- Our rates of children in need are close to target; the decrease is reflective of a revised means in which we are serving those children assessed as in need. Each of the three areas now have Children in Need panels and drawn on a panel approach to resourcing family needs .
- The rate of children subject to child protection plans per 10k has decreased from 81 in 17/18 to 75.7 in quarter 1 and to 73 in quarter 2 of 18/19. This is figure is better than our target of 74.6 although higher than our statistical neighbours.
- Our quality assurance activity confirm that the threshold for child protection planning is being consistently and appropriately applied. The % of children starting a period of child protection planning for the second or subsequent time has reduced by c5%.

Discussion Points

- The Safeguarding and Improvement Unit have been focussing on some time on avoiding drift in child protection planning this is driving the downward trajectory of the % of children who have been subject to Child protection planning for 2 years or more; this is better than target
- Compliance in relation to child protection visits in time scale showed a marginal decreased against July 2018 scorecard from 95.4% to 95.2%
- The % of children with a plan of 'permanency' is below our target but shows a significant 20% improvement since July 2018.
- The numbers of children missing from home (although no target has been identified) has reduced since July 2018.
- Reflective of decreased referrals and children in need social worker caseloads have reduced and are below target for those in their Assisted and Supported (first) Year in employment and experienced social workers they are presently marginally above target.

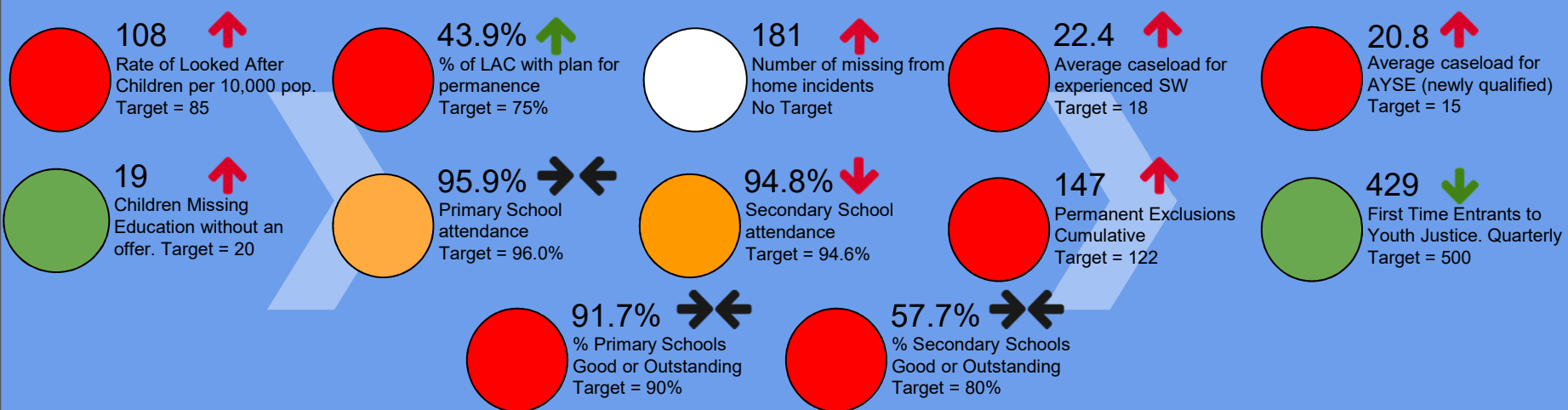
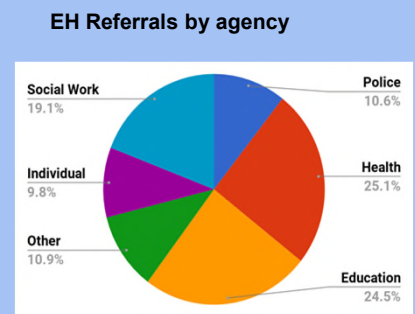
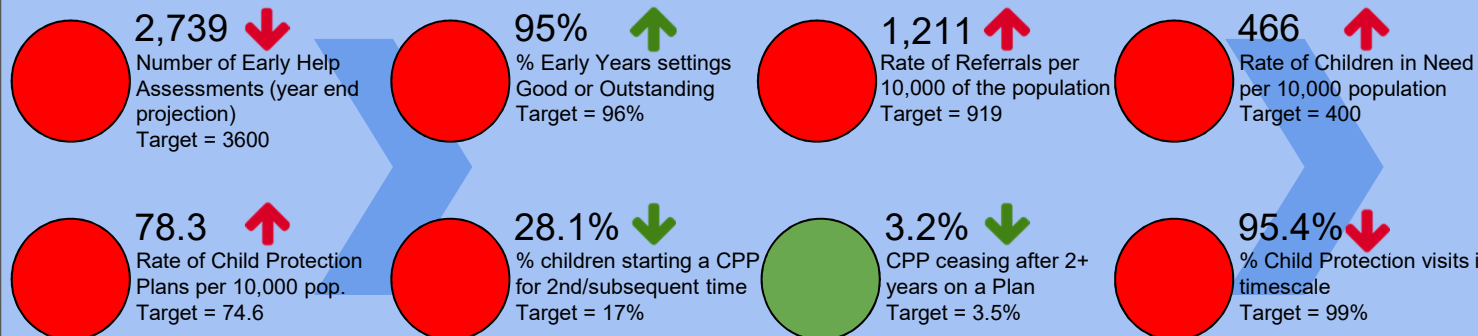
Discussion Point

- The Youth Justice performance reflects a reduced number of young people as first time entrants (50 13%) reflective of the services improvements in providing diversionary opportunities for young people
- Education Services continues to engage partners in the formulation of an Inclusion Strategy which is due for publication
- The percentage of secondary schools assessed as good or outstanding has improved by 8% compared to the July scorecard
- School attendance continues to be a strength of the city with the improvements being sustained over time.

Impact

- Considering July and November 2018 Proxy indicators scorecard improvements across every indicator, with the exception of one has been achieved.
- Collectively the proxy indicators suggest a more cohesive system; working more effectively to support children and their families.
- The nature of the changes in referral rates, children in need and EHAs are suggestive of a more proportionate use of resources to support children and families.
- Both of the above combined are positive indicators of our capacity to provide a safe, efficient and effective service.
- A reduction in both repeat referrals and children subject to Child protection planning for 2 years plus is evidence of improving child protection work.
- Improvements in performance targets are tangible and the challenge is to embed consistently good practice. Our auditing indicate whilst improvements are evident there remains more to be for this to be consistently 'good'.
- Progress across the school system continues.

APPENDIX: Children's Services Performance Scorecard July 2018



Key Arrow colour denotes improving or deteriorating performance compared to previous period. Circle colour denotes whether performance is better than target quoted, amber is within 2% of target.