

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

31 JULY 2018

COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT QUARTER 4 & END OF YEAR 2017/18

Report coordinated by: Phil Watts, Chief Finance Officer

Contributors: Children and Adults – Directorate Management Team

Summary

Medway's Council Plan 2017/18 sets out the Council's three priorities. This report summarises how we performed during quarter 4/End of Year (Q4) on the delivery of the two priorities relevant for this Committee: supporting Medway's people to realise their potential and maximising regeneration and economic growth.

Progress reports on the five programmes which support these priorities are also included.

1. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

1.1 The Council Plan 2016/21 was agreed at Full Council in February 2016. It set out the Council's three priorities and three ways of working. An annual refresh of the performance measures was agreed in February 2017.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 This report sets out the performance summary against the two Council priorities relevant for this Committee: supporting Medway's people to realise their potential and maximising regeneration and economic growth. It focuses on where we have achieved or exceeded our targets, and how we are tackling underperformance.




2.2 Performance in respect of Adult Social Care, which also falls under the priority "supporting Medway's people to realise their potential", is not included here as it will be the focus of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2.3 Detailed background information supporting this report can be found in Appendix 1: Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee Performance Measures: Detailed Report Quarter 4 / End of Year 2017/18

3. SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE

3.1 Council Plan measures of success – Summary

3.1.1 There are 17 measures of success which fall under the remit of this Committee, however for Q4 we are reporting on 14 as data is not expected until after this report is published for 3 measures.

- 64.3% (9 out of 14) were on target. 
- 35.7% (5 out of 14) were significantly below target 
- 69.2% (9 out of 13*) improved over long term (compared with the average of the previous 4 quarters) 

*where comparative data available

3.2 Performance highlights 2017/18: Supporting Medway’s people to realise their potential

- Permanent exclusions among Medway Looked After Children pupils have remained at zero for the sixth year running
- Total Absence and Persistent Absence for all schools is below national levels
- 93% of Local Authority maintained primary schools are rated good or better by Ofsted
- The Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) went live on 3 April
- Provisional data indicates the rates of admissions to residential and nursing care for both 18-64 and 65+ adults are below target
- 27.3% of Delayed Transfers of Care are attributable to Adult Social Care, compared to 36.8% nationally
- Emotional and Wellbeing School Conference – First event delivered
- The 2.5 year Health Check has improved by 20% over the last six months
- Health Visiting performance - Medway has had the biggest improvement in coverage since transition of any authority in the South East
- KS2 – 18% improvement since last year

3.3 Highlights 2017/18: Benchmarking

Performance Measure	Compares favourably with national performance?
Obesity 4-5years	✓
Average days to adoption	✓
Number of looked after children per 10k	✓
No. of child protection per 10k (South East)	✓
Achievement gap/ early years/ lowest 20%/ mean	✓
Progress 8 (school academic standard KS2-KS4)	✓
KS1 (reading, writing and maths)	✓
Children’s social worker posts permanent (National and South East)	✗
KS4 English and Maths (National & South East)	✗
Primary schools judged good/better	✗
Smoking at time of delivery	✗

4. PERFORMANCE: COUNCIL PRIORITIES AND WAYS OF WORKING

This section summarises the three ways of working which apply across all services, and the 13 programmes which support our priorities and outcomes. The priorities and outcomes that fall under the remit of this committee are shown below (non shaded). Sections 5 and 6 provide detailed progress reports on these programmes.

WAYS OF WORKING		
Giving value for money		
Finding the best digital innovation and using it to meet residents' needs		
Working in partnership where this benefits our residents		
PRIORITIES		
Medway: A Place to be proud of	Maximising regeneration and economic growth	Supporting Medway's people to realise their potential
<p>OUTCOME A clean and green environment</p> <p>1 Public realm and street scene</p> <p>2 Replacing Medway's street lights</p> <p>OUTCOME Medway on the map</p> <p>3 Medway: a great place to live, work, learn and visit</p>	<p>OUTCOME A strong diversified economy</p> <p>4 Business investment</p> <p>OUTCOME Residents with jobs and skills</p> <p>5 Jobs, skills and employability</p> <p>OUTCOME Preventing homelessness</p> <p>6 Preventing homelessness</p> <p>OUTCOME Delivering new homes to meet the needs of Medway's residents</p> <p>7 Delivering new homes to meet the needs of Medway's residents</p> <p>OUTCOME Getting around Medway</p> <p>8 Tackle congestion hotspots by transport and public realm improvements</p>	<p>OUTCOME Healthy and active communities</p> <p>9 Improving everyone's health and reducing inequalities</p> <p>OUTCOME Resilient families</p> <p>10 Together we can – Children's services</p> <p>11 The best start in life</p> <p>OUTCOME Older and disabled people living independently in their homes</p> <p>12 Improve support for vulnerable adults by working with partners and communities</p> <p>OUTCOME All children achieving their potential in schools</p> <p>13 Raising aspiration and ambition</p>
<p>*Shaded areas fall under the remit of other overview and scrutiny committees</p>		

5. PRIORITY: MAXIMISING REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

5.1 Measures of success: summary

Details of the 1 measure of success for this Council priority that falls under the remit of this Committee, are included in Appendix 1.

- 100% (1 out of 1) measure was on target;
- 0% (1 out of 1) measure has improved compared with last quarter; and
- 0% (1 out of 1) measure has improved compared with the average of the previous 4 quarters.

5.2 Service comments

5.3 Outcome: Residents with jobs and skills

5.4 Programme: Jobs, skills and employability

5.5 Project - Development of a 16-19 Strategy (including apprenticeships) – Children and Adults Directorate

5.6 The Cabinet approved the 16-19 Strategy for the period 2016-20 on 7 June 2016. The Strategy brings together a plan to increase participation in learning for 16 and 17 year olds, improve the transition for young people into the labour market and reduce the levels of those not in education, employment and training (NEET) and in 'not known' destinations aged 16-19 years. The 16-19 Strategy is now embedded into Council Policy. Resources have been allocated across a number of services to deliver key actions in 2017-18.

5.7 During 2017/18 the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group on Employment Opportunities for 18 -25 Year Olds has taken place and draws on the key messages and five long term goals in the 16-19 Strategy in the formulation of its findings and recommendations. These recommendations, which were agreed by the Cabinet on 6 February 2018, then led to the draft Skills and Employment Strategy that was reviewed by Medway Skills Board on 12 February 2018.

5.8 The suite of recommendations from the Task Group have been considered by the Medway Skills Board. The February 2018 Board meeting, chaired by the Portfolio Holder for Inward Investment, Strategic Regeneration and Partnerships, Councillor Rodney Chambers OBE, explored work to amalgamate the 20+ recommendations down to eight. The Task Group recommendations were also aligned to the emerging five skill priorities. This was done in order to 'test' the relationship between the two – i.e. strategic fit. This demonstrated that the majority of the Task Group recommendations fitted well with skill priorities and could therefore be accommodated in the Skills Plan for Medway. Those that did not align were agreed not to be the focus of the Board.*

6. PRIORITY: SUPPORTING MEDWAY'S PEOPLE TO REALISE THEIR POTENTIAL

6.1 Measures of success – summary

Details of the 16 measures of success for this Council priority, that fall under the remit of this Committee, are included in Appendix 1; however for 3 of these, data is not expected until after this report is published.

- 61.5% (8 out of 13) measures were on target;
- 38.5% (5 out of 13) measures have improved compared with last quarter;
- 66.6% (8 out of 12*) measures have improved compared with the average of the previous 4 quarters.

*where comparative data available

6.2 Service comments

6.3 We want to support all our residents, especially young people, to realise their potential through the provision of services and initiatives that will help Medway become a healthier and safer place to live.

6.4 Outcome : Healthy and active communities

6.5 Programme: Improving everyone's health and reducing inequalities

6.6 Supporting Healthy Weight

6.7 Public Health and wider partner activity is ongoing on the healthy weight agenda. Some highlights include:

- The prevention workstream of the Sustainability Transformation Partnership has identified obesity as a priority area. Plans are being developed to increase existing activity within Medway and Kent.
- Medway Council are planning a large Sugar Smart Medway campaign, raising public awareness of the problem with consuming large volumes of sugar and how to make small changes to reduce it.
- A 'Tri For You' family fun day took place in April, inviting children and their parents to Medway Park to participate in fun games and sports, cookery taster sessions and many more healthy activities.
- The 0-19 Child Health contract mobilisation is underway with the new contract having numerous healthy weight related Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to ensure the provider, Medway Community Healthcare (MCH), prioritises this agenda. For instance, MCH will be taking on and further developing the Breastfeeding Peer Support network, ensuring that parents and infants get a high quality peer support service. The contract also includes specific KPIs, to ensure referral rates to weight management services for children identified above a healthy weight remain high*

6.8 Outcome : Resilient families

6.9 Programme: Together we can - Children's Services

6.10 MASH

The Children's safeguarding Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) went live on 3 April, with colleagues from Health and the Police in place to support better, faster and more cooperative decision making. Over the coming weeks the MASH will grow to include a digital portal, data analysis and video conferencing. This will support improved outcomes for children by promoting improved and better informed decision making and shared accountability.

6.11 Peer review

6.12 In March this year the LGA undertook a peer review under the title of "Children's Safeguarding Practice Diagnostic." The overall purpose was to act as a "Critical friend and provide an external view about the quality of safeguarding practice "on the ground" and areas requiring improvement. The key messages included:

- The recently introduced Promoting Practice Programme is focused on the right things and having an impact.
- The POD structure provides a sound platform for effective management and practice.
- Staff are positive.
- Political leadership is active.
- There needs to be more challenge on behalf of Children and a louder "voice of the Child."
- Planning is event driven.
- Scrutiny and action are needed to address inconsistent performance.

6.13 The reviewers were very encouraging in their feedback regarding many aspects of practice, including:

- The experience and stability of the First Response team.
- Referral processes.
- Thresholds being appropriate and applied consistently.
- Cross agency information sharing.
- The use of the Mind of My Own (MOMO) app.
- The training regarding Looked After Children (LAC) that the Principle Social worker has started.
- Support social workers receive from their managers.
- Group supervision.
- Robust Audit process.

6.14 The following were identified as some of the areas for consideration and improvement:

- Timeliness of statutory visits and children being seen alone.
- Evidence of the impact of Early Help.
- Case drift post referral and the pace of plans.
- Consistency of the Independent Reviewing Officer's practice.
- Consistency of information provided by the police.

- Permanence planning for Looked After Children.
 - Management oversight in supervision.
 - Some audits were too generous.
- 6.15 The areas identified for consideration and improvement will be targeted and monitored via the Promoting Practice Group and the actions included into the Children's Service divisional and service plans.
- 6.16 The rate of social worker vacancies remains high, at 37%, as at January 2018. This is over double the national (17%) and South East (16.8%) levels. The new recruitment and retention strategy has been launched and received well by current staff. The service continues to work closely with the recruitment team. A subgroup of the Promoting Practice Group, chaired by The Head of Safeguarding, has been convened, focussing on recruitment.
- 6.17 The rate of LAC per 10,000 population remains below the target of 67, at 64.1. This represents 405 children. There has been a small drop on the quarter 3 rate of 64.8 (413 children) Medway is now much more in line with the 2016-17 national bench mark of 62 LAC per 10,000, having been an outlier in both 2014-15 and 2015-16.
- 6.18 Similarly the rate of Child Protection (CP) cases per 10,000 population has dropped, slightly, over the quarter and now stands at 53.8. It remains under the 65.3 target. Rates of CP are above both the national level (43.3) and the South east level (41.3) National rates of CP per 10k have remained largely stable over the last 3 years, Medway has seen a more volatile profile, with rates peaking in 2015-16 at 85.3.
- 6.19 At the end of quarter 4 there were 224 16 and 17 year olds recorded as NEET. This is 3.2% lower than the 3.9% for the same period last year. This represents a decrease of about 50 young people.
- 6.20 In the 2017/18 year 36 children have been adopted, which is an impressive 21% of those leaving care and continues our success on securing adoption for older children and sibling groups. Part of this success was supporting the adoption of one child by their foster carer after many years in care. Unfortunately, the successful outcome for this one child increased the 3 year average, for all 93 children adopted across the period, from 499 days to 542 days. Although this sudden increase in the average is a disappointing outcome of the excellent work by the adoption service, the performance does remain under the most recent country wide average of 558 days.
- 6.21 There are 5 LAC young people who are NEET and only 8 of the NEETs have Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans, a 25% reduction on the last quarter. 6 of the NEET 16 and 17 year old are known to the Youth Offending team (YOT), a 14% reduction on last quarter. There has also been a reduction in the number of NEET young people recorded in the troubled families programme, from 121 in quarter 3 to 81 in quarter 4. This represents a 33% reduction. Work is underway with education partners, including Mid Kent College, to maximise the effectiveness, consistency and use of data, so as to maximise support and opportunities for young people.

6.22 The rate of young people whose activity is unknown is high, at 19.8%. This will reduce now that the Youth Services team have appointed to the 'Tracker' positions. Medway Youth Services have been working closely with colleagues in Kent youth Services to develop mutually supportive working practices, reduce duplication and maximise efficiencies. These will lead to improved outcomes for young people

6.23 Outcomes for looked after children (LAC)

6.24 The Outcomes for Children Looked After Statistical First release was published on 28 March 2018. This shows the academic outcomes for children who are looked after by Medway in any school in the country. It does not include children who are in Medway schools but are looked after by another authority.

	LAC				All Pupils			
	Medway 2016	Medway 2017	National 2016	National 2017	Medway 2016	Medway 2017	National 2016	National 2017
Reading	47	37.5	41	45	62	68	66	72
Writing	53	58.3	46	47	74	76	74	77
Maths	37	45.8	41	46	65	71	70	75
RWM	32	29	25	32	49	58	54	62

6.25 In the headline Key stage 2 aggregated reading writing and maths measures the percentage of LAC achieving the expected standard which has dropped from 32% in 2015-16 to 29% in 2017-18. This is contrary to the national trend which has seen an upward movement, with results rising from 25% to 32%. Progress is measured by comparing achievement at the end of KS2 against the achievement at the end of KS2 for children at a similar level of attainment at the end of KS1.

6.26 The indicative disaggregated progress results would suggest that progress at KS2 has worsened in Medway for all three subject areas (reading, writing and maths). This reflects the national trend in reading, but the change is notably more acute in Medway. In writing and maths the national trend is indicating an improvement in progress.

	LAC				All Pupils			
	Medway 2016	Medway 2017	National 2016	National 2017	Medway 2016	Medway 2017	National 2016	National 2017
Reading Progress	-0.5 (-3.6 to 2.5)	-1.8	-0.5 (-0.7 to 0.2)	-0.7 (-0.9 to 0.4)	-0.9 (-1.1 to 0.7)	-0.8 (-1.0 to -0.6)	0	0
Writing Progress	0.3 (-2.7 to 3.3)	-0.19	-1.0 (-1.2 to 0.8)	-0.9 (-1.1 to 0.7)	0.2 (0 to 0.4)	-0.1 (-0.3 to 0.1)	0	0
Mathematics Progress	-2.0 (-4.6 to 0.5)	-2.28	-1.3 (-1.5 to 1.1)	-1.1 (-1.3 to 0.9)	-0.8 (-1.0 to 0.6)	-0.9 (-1.1 to -0.7)	0	0

*Parenthetical figures are confidence intervals. The lack of published local confidence intervals means comparisons are indicative only.

6.27 At key stage 4 the progress 8 measures for Medway LAC pupils would suggest a decline in performance which reflect, but is sharper than, the national decline. Progress 8 has fallen from -0.6 to -0.97. However, it remains above national which has moved from -1.14 to -1.18.

- 6.28 The cohort used for attainment data is small and as such results are volatile. The proportion of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), Free School Meals (FSM) and the type of school attended (i.e. Pupil Referral Unit/Grammar) will heavily impact the results.
- 6.29 Data on exclusions for Looked After Children is published up to the 2015-16 academic year. Although suppressed in the Statistical First Release (SFR), local information tells us that no looked after children received a permanent exclusion, which matches the previous two academic years.
- 6.30 In Medway the rate of children with at least one fixed period exclusion is 10.6%, lower than the national rate of 11.4%. The trend over the last 3 years published data is marginally upward for Medway reflecting the national rise. However, nationally the rate is rising faster. Rates of absence amongst Medway LAC are lower than nationally, (3.8% vs 4.35), as are rates of persistent absence (9.2% vs 10.0%).
- 6.31 The secondment of a new, full time, Virtual Head and the finalisation of the move of the Virtual School into the Provider Services Service has allowed for a refocusing of the LAC attainment strategy. this will include: a review of the quality and content of Personal Education Plans (PEP), with a move toward “SMART” targets aimed at the next level of learning; training for all key professionals involved in the child’s education is to be reviewed and will include attachment training for schools; use of the Fischer Family Trust system (FFT) a proven tracking and targeting system, to support the Virtual School across all year groups; a review of the Virtual School so as to meet the requirements of changes to legislation and the ongoing drive to ensure that looked after children attend school and are engaged with education remains.
- 6.32 **Programme: The best start in life**
- 6.33 **Healthy Child Programme**
- 6.34 Health Visiting performance continues to improve significantly since transition to the Local Authority and the service is engaging and supporting more families across Medway month-on-month as a result. This was demonstrated by Public Health England (PHE) that Medway has had the biggest improvement in coverage since transition of any authority in the South East. Four of the five mandated checks are in line with national averages and we continue to improve coverage and standards of service each year.
- 6.35 The 2.5 year check is still an outlier but has been a particular area for improvement in the past six months improving by over 20% but still remains approximately 8% short of the 80% target we are aiming for.
- 6.36 The School Nursing service delivered 91.9% coverage of the National Child Measurement programme in 2016/17 which is an improvement on the previous academic year. The service also had an increase of take up of health screens for year R which support early identification of health problems.
- 6.37 Public Health and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have co-funded a new health post to sit in the new Medway Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

(MASH). The post will be hosted by Medway Community Healthcare and be in place by quarter 2 2018/19.

- 6.38 Medway Community Healthcare (MCH) have been awarded the new integrated model of 0—19 Child Health Services (including Public Health and Clinical Commissioning Group services) and following a successful mobilisation period, the Council element of the new contract commenced on 1 April 2018. PHE commented on the model as being “exciting and innovating”. The aim is to deliver a more integrated offer for families in Medway and the new integrated service will be in place from June 2018.
- 6.39 The Child Health Team continues the strong engagement with schools with all 17 Secondary schools working with us on the Personal Social Health and Economic (PSHE) health agenda. Two thirds of the primary schools also signed up. A new task and finish group has been set up with partners to look at the emerging issue of self-harm. Brand new resources which have been produced in conjunction with the PSHE association to support schools with issues around gangs will be released in Spring 2018.
- 6.40 **Outcome: All children achieving their potential in schools**
- 6.41 **Programme: Raising aspiration and ambition**
- 6.42 During the last quarter the Annual Schools report has been finalised and has been considered by the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny committee. This report gives detailed summaries of the make up of our school population, the attainment, attendance and inclusivity of Medway pupils. It also contains more information on Medway priorities for improvement, these are:
- 6.43 Improve achievement at Key Stage Two in all subjects to close the gap with national. Medway schools achieved 58% against the national 62% in the combined reading, writing and maths. The gap continues to narrow.
- 6.44 Improve the performance of disadvantaged pupils to close the gap with national for all groups. There has been improvement and the gap is narrowing but focus must remain.
- 6.45 Improve the performance of pupils with a statement/Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Medway is below national average. Following the Ofsted Inspection SEND operational and Strategic boards have been created to oversee and implement this work.
- 6.46 Reduce the number of Permanent and Fixed Term Exclusions. 2015 / 16 data identified Medway as the 9th worst nationally across primary and secondary schools and the worst nationally for primary fixed term exclusions. Since then improvements have been evident.
- 6.47 Work with the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) to improve the performance of academies at all stages and reduce exclusions.
- 6.48 The performance of Medway’s primary academies remains below maintained schools. Exclusions are particularly high from academies. The Medway / Department for Education inclusion programme gets underway in April to support schools with improved inclusion provision.

6.49 Key Stage 4 Medway's Progress 8 value, whilst statistically inline with the national average, is above the national state funded value and remains stable in light of the overall South East decline. Work remains to be done in Attainment 8 and the proportion of children reaching the expected standard in English and Maths, where Medway pupils are behind the national attainment level.

6.50 Ofsted Inspections

Across all schools in all phases 84% have good or better Ofsted ratings. This is a slight improvement on last quarter. The table below illustrates how this is made up.

	Number Outstanding	Number Good	Number Requires Improvement	Number Inadequate	Number Total	% Good or better	% Good or better National
Primary	8	53	6	5	72	85	89.7
Secondary	4	10	3	0	17	82	80.3
Special	3	1	0	1	5	80	NA
Pupil Referral Unit	1	1	0	0	2	100	NA
ALL	16	65	9	6	96	84	88.2

6.51 Whilst the percentage of secondary schools judged good or better is above the national benchmark, the all schools and primary measures are below the national level.

6.52 In the primary phase 79% of Academies are judged good or better compared to 93% of Local Authority maintained schools. This increases in the proportion of LA maintained schools judged good or better is a result of Maundene School converting to an academy and as such coming out of the Local Authority cohort. The School Improvement Team continues to work with all partners, including the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC), to raise standards; by focusing on Senior Leadership Capacity, methods and support for inclusion and attainment at KS2.

6.53 Exclusions

6.54 In Quarter 4 there were 12 permanent exclusions upheld, three less than the 15 in Quarter 3. This is also 8 less than in the same quarter last year. So far, this academic year, 31 pupils have been permanently excluded. This is 11 less than the 42 in the same period last year.

6.55 In the 2016-17 financial year, 65 students were permanently excluded. For the 2017-18 financial year, this number is 51. However, it should be noted that there are 16 exclusions pending outcomes. As such, the maximum number of exclusions are 47 (academic year- 5 more than last year) and 67 (financial year- 2 more than last year).

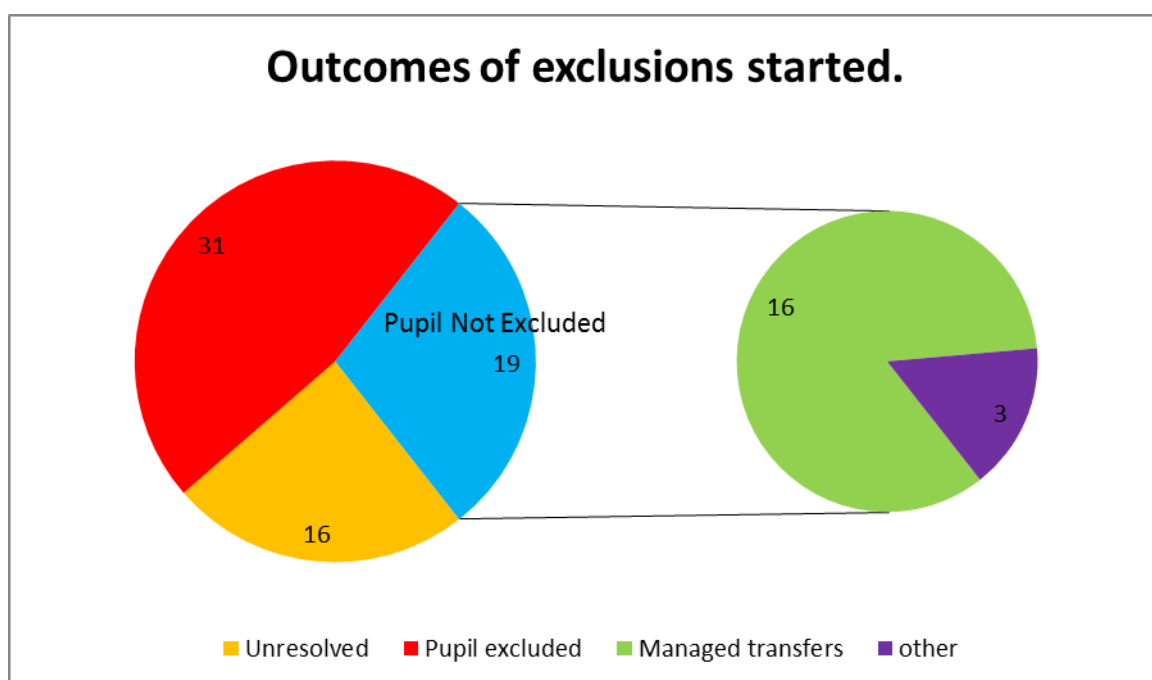
6.56 Since September the permanent exclusion process has been started 66 times. Allowing for the 16 cases awaiting an outcome, there have been 50 processes concluded. Of these, 31 (62%) resulted in the pupil being permanently

excluded and 19 (38%) saw the pupil not excluded with 12 (63% of these 19) resolved via a managed transfer.

6.57 It is important to note that financial costs are incurred in supporting excluded pupils as soon as the process is started, so a drop in upheld exclusions may not translate in to a reduction in financial expenditure. No children with an education, health or care plan (EHCP) or Special Educational Needs (SEN) Statement have been permanently excluded and 17 children receiving SEN support have been excluded.

Permanent Exclusions Q4 2017-18	Permanent Exclusions Q3 2017-18	Permanent Exclusions Q4 2016-17	Permanent Exclusions academic year to date	Permanent Exclusions academic year (to March) 2016-17	Permanent Exclusions financial year 2017-18	Permanent Exclusions financial year 2016-17
12*	15	20	31*	42	51*	65

*NB there are 16 cases awaiting outcomes.



6.58 The levels of fixed term exclusions (FTE) are rising and exceed last year. The data reported is provisional as schools need to inform us of the exclusion by the end of the term following the term the exclusion happened in. This means the data is always in arrears.

6.59 The table below indicates the numbers of pupils who received one or more fixed term exclusions. Primary schools have excluded 16% more than last year and secondary schools 14%. The number of exclusions in special schools is over 2.25 times last year's final figure. So far a total of 7720.5 days have been lost to FTE across all schools this is 141.5 fewer than last year (7862) indicating that more children are being given shorter exclusions. The average length of exclusion in 2016-17 was 4.4 days; this year (provisionally) it is 3.7 days. This be a factor of the reduction in permanent exclusions, where by schools use FTEs to manage behaviour.

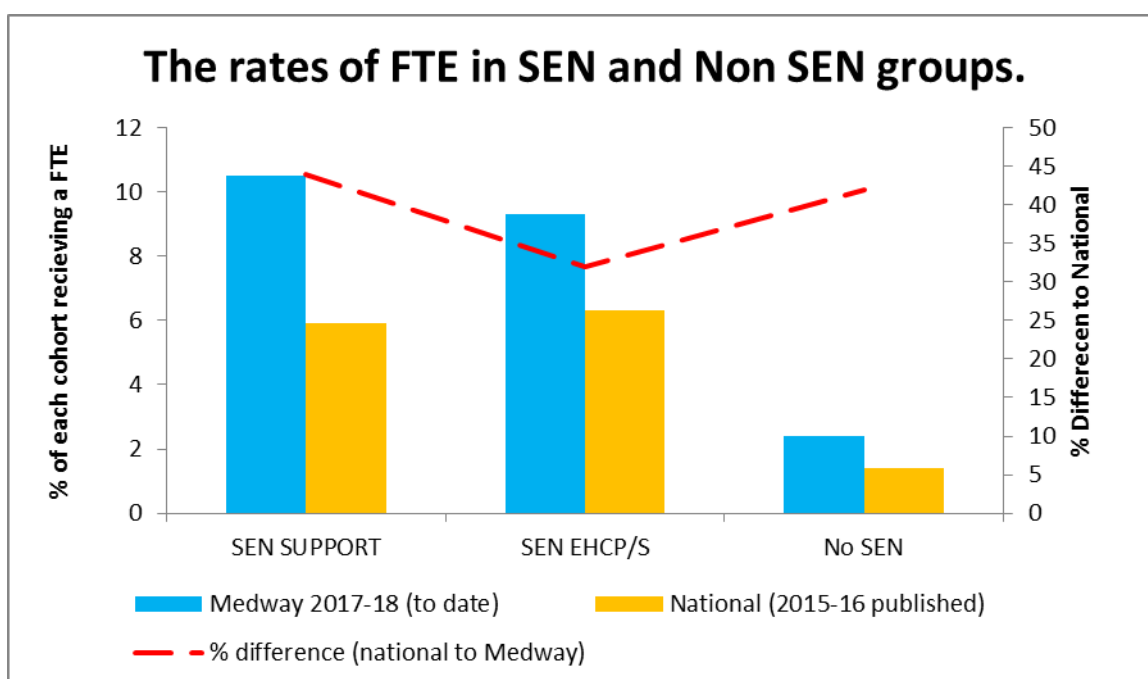
School type	Number of pupils receiving a FTE Financial year 2017-18	Number of pupils receiving a FTE Financial year 2016-17	Variance(numbers)	% Variance
Primary Maintained*	104	129	-25	-19%
Primary Academy*	353	265	88	33%
All Primary	457	394	63	16%
Secondary	1456	1281	175	14%
Special	55	24	31	129%
PRU	140	91	49	54%
Total All Schools	2108	1790	318	15%

*Disaggregated academy and LA maintained schools are not directly comparable due as the acadamisation of primary schools has altered the number of schools in each cohort.

6.60 For the current academic year (2018-19) 10.5% of pupils with SEN support and 9.3% of pupils with and EHCP/Statement have received at least 1 fixed term exclusion. Only 2.4% of non SEN pupils have received fixed term exclusion.

6.61 This means that a child with SEN is approximately 4.3 times more likely to receive a FTE than a pupil with no SEN. Nationally (as at the latest published figures, 2015-16) the proportion of SEN EHCP/Statemented pupils receiving an FTE is 6.3% this is 32% less than in Medway and the proportion of SEN support children with at least 1 FTE is 5.9%, this is 43.8% less than in Medway.

6.62 Nationally 1.4% of non SEN pupils receive a FTE, almost half the rate in Medway. As shown in the chart below. Nationally a pupil with any form of SEN is 4.3 times more likely to receive a FTE than a pupil without SEN. This is the same as the rate in Medway, however whilst the overall proportionality may be the same the percentages of the individual cohorts are larger in Medway.



6.63 **Absence**

- 6.64 Absence figures for the academic year 2016/17 have now been published. The rate of overall absence for All Schools has dropped from 4.8% in 2015-16 to 4.7% in 2016-17. This is compared to a national rise from 4.6% to 4.7% in the same period. This has led to Medway rising 33 places to 78th of 152 Local Authorities. Medway primary schools have recorded an overall absence of 4.2%, the same as 2015-16. This is 0.2 percentage points above the national level (4.0%).
- 6.65 Medway primary absence ranks at 100th out of all Local Authorities, up from 104th in 2015-16. Medway secondary schools have seen absence rates drop from 5.4% to 5.3% in 2016-17 against a national upward movement, where secondary absence has risen from 5.2% to 5.4%. As such Medway secondary absence now ranks 63rd, up from 98th, against all Local Authorities.
- 6.66 For the same year (2016/17) the level of persistent absence dropped to 11.4% from the 2015-16 level of 11.8%. This is compared to an increasing national level of Persistent absence. Nationally the rate rose from 10.5% in 2015-16 to 10.8% in 2016-17. This narrowing of the gap led to Medway rising 24 places to 100th out of all Local Authorities. It should be noted that the full year published return includes all schools unlike our in year (termly) return which is voluntary and sees approximately 80% of school participate.
- 6.67 Persistent Absence (PA) at the end of term 3 (current academic year), as measured in our voluntary collection, is at 7% for all schools, down from the Term 2 result of 7.9%. This is an improvement on last year where the term 3 figure (which was more volatile due to fewer schools participating) was 8.1%. This year primary persistent absence (term 3) is at 7.9% and secondary at 4.5%. These are both reductions on last year's T3 results where primary PA was at 8.1% and secondary PA at 7.0%. The current rate of Looked after children who are PA is 0.03%, down compared to last year's comparative result of 0.07%.
- 6.68 The Attendance Advisory Service to Schools and Academies (AASSA) are a fully trade service working closely and supporting with all but 7 of Medway's schools and Academies to monitor and improve attendance.
- 6.69 Where possible, pupils are identified where absence is a cause for concern and clinics are held at the schools inviting parents/carers to discuss those concerns and seek appropriate help and advice if appropriate. Attendance and persistent absence is closely monitored and home visits and correspondence sent or referrals made to other agencies for support.
- 6.70 Medway Council issue penalty notices on behalf of schools and academies if required to do so and where appropriate, action has been taken and 10 or more unauthorised absences have been recorded. Prosecution is also considered where unauthorised absence is a serious cause for concern but court action against parents/carers is used as a last resort.

7. **Risk management**

- 7.1 Implementation of a performance management framework allows the council to evidence how successful it is in achieving against its stated objectives, and

for residents it provides genuine accountability in how successfully the council is administering its resources.

- 7.2 Arrangements are in place to ensure that the risk of inaccurate data being reported to Members is minimised and assurance can be placed on the accuracy of data used to assess performance. By reporting to Members and ensuring all Members are able to access the Council's performance management system, the risk of poor performance not being identified or addressed is minimised.

8. Financial and legal implications

- 8.1 There are no finance or legal implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 The Committee is recommended to consider the quarter 4 and end of year 2017/18 performance of the measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities.

Lead officer contact

Susan Olney, Corporate strategy, performance and improvement officer
ext.1490 susan.olney@medway.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix 1: Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Performance Measures: Detailed Report Quarter 4 / End of Year 2017/18

Background Papers

Council Plan 2016/21 (2017/18 update)