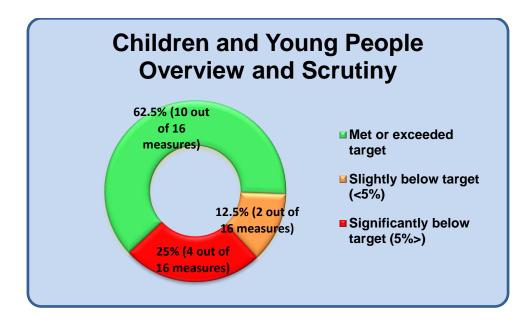
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MEETING Performance: Quarter 1 2018/19

Key

significantly below target (>5%)	slightly below target (<5%)	met or exceeded ta	rget
improved	worsened	static	
data only, no target	N/A – data not available	Short trend – since last quarter	Long trend – average over last 4 quarters

Council Plan measures: summary performance

There are 18 measures of success which fall under the remit of this Committee, however for Q1 we are reporting on 16 as data is not expected until after this report is published for 2 measures (PH14 and PH15).



Improved performance

- 76% (11 out of 14*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
- 69% (9 out of 13*) improved short term (since last quarter)

*where data available

Highlights

- Joint Targeted Area Inspection (Domestic Abuse) completed
- 394 looked after children is the lowest total since September 2017
- All 5 special schools are graded 'Good' or better

Council Priority: Supporting Medway's people to realise their potential

Measures in target (green)

Code	Status	Name	Long trend	Short trend
NI 101 (E&M)		The percentage of looked after children who achieve the required standard in GCSE English and maths		
A1		The average number of days (over the last 36 months) between a child entering care and moving in with adoptive family	•	
CSC 0004		Number of LAC per 10,000 children		
CSC 0006		Number of CP per 10,000 children	•	•
CASE IEYFS Gap	②	Percentage achievement gap at Early Years Foundation Stage Profile between the lowest attaining 20 % of children and the mean		
PH16	O	Smoking at time of delivery		
CA13	②	The percentage of children permanently excluded from school (upheld only)		
CASEI SPEC Ofsted	②	The percentage of special schools in Medway judged to be good or better		
SEKS4 P8		Average Progress 8 Score	n/a	n/a

Measures slightly below target (amber)

Code	status	Name	Long trend	Short trend
SE KS2	<u></u>	The percentage of children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2	î	î
SEKS4 A8		Average attainment 8 score	n/a	n/a

Measures significantly below target (red)

Code	Status	name	Long trend	Short trend
N23		The percentage of children social care substantive posts not filled by permanent social workers		•
CASEI KS4 Ofsted		The percentage of secondary sector schools in Medway judged to be good or better	•	•
EDU 3(b)		The percentage of children who were persistently absent from school	1	•
SE2 OEPr		The percentage of primary sector schools in Medway judged to be good or better		static

Data not available

PH14	N/A	Excess weight in 4-5 year olds	N/A	N/A
PH15	N/A	Excess weight in 10-11 year olds	N/A	N/A

Benchmarking

	Council Plan Measure – Compares favourably with national performance?	Yes ✓ No Same =
NI 101(E&M)	The percentage of looked after children who achieve the required standard in GCSE English and maths	✓
CSC 0006	Number of CP per 10,000 children	✓
SE KS2	The percentage of children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2	✓
A1	The average number of days (over the last 36 months) between a child entering care and moving in with adoptive family	*
N23	The percentage of children social care substantive posts not filled by permanent social workers	*
PH14	Excess weight in 4-5 year olds	=
CSC 0004	Number of LAC per 10,000 children	=

Council Plan Outcome: Healthy and active communities

Programme: Improving everyone's health and reducing inequalities

Council Plan measures: performance

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(Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19					
				Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend	
F	PH14	Excess weight in 4-5 year olds		Not measured for Quarters	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Comments

Annual measure: Childhood overweight and obesity data is collated through the National Child Measurement Programme. The data for 2017/18 will be published towards the end of 2018.

Benchmarking

2016/17 figures for Year R (reception year) show Medway is closely mirroring the plateau of national obesity figures for 4-5 year olds.

Actions

Medway provides a wide range of family and childhood weight management services including the recently launched Tri For You programme. This support package includes a choice of 12 week support for the whole family, cookery skills, activity opportunities and home pack/self support for families to choose from.

In addition, the Council offers a wide range of indoor and outdoor leisure and green space opportunities, and work between Public Health, planning and other RCET services is underway to create a healthier environment that allows children to be more active and eat healthier food.

Councillor Brake chairs the Supporting Health Weight Network, which is a collection of 28 partner organisations from the public, private, voluntary and academic sector partners, that are working together to take a multi-agency approach to reducing obesity level across the population.

Code	Short Name	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19				
		Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
PH15	Excess weight in 10-11 year olds	Not measured for Quarters	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Comments

Annual measure: Prevalence data for the 2017/18 school year is due to be published in towards the end of 2018 by NHS Digital (date to be confirmed).

Actions

In addition to PH 14 commentary, the Supporting Healthy Weight Network has formed a smaller more strategic group to create some priority actions for the Network to progress. These will be championed through the Health and Wellbeing Board and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh.

Council Plan Outcome: Resilient families

Programme: Together We Can - Children's Services

Council Plan measures: performance

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19				
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
NI 101(E&M)	% looked after children who achieve the required standard in GCSE English and maths	•	Not measured for Quarters	28.6% 2015/16	25.0% 2015/16	2015/16	2015/16	2015/16

Comments

Latest data available 2015/16. The statistical first release for 2016/17 was published on 28 March 2018. The information for this measure was redacted by the DfE due to the small numbers involved. As we know that the eligible cohort is 24 we also know that between 5 and zero entrants achieved a pass or a strong pass, this means our maximum potential result was 20.8%.

Average progress 8 information has been published and Medway LAC pupils.

At key stage 4 the progress 8 measures for Medway LAC pupils would suggest a decline in performance (against last year) which reflects, but is sharper than, the national decline.

Benchmarking

Progress 8 has fallen from -0.6 to -0.97.

However, it remains above national which has moved from -1.14 to -1.18.

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19				
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
A1	The average number of days (over the last 36 months) between a child entering care and moving in with adoptive family		542	540	605		•	•

Comments

This measure, which is a 3 year average, has made a small positive movement after the impact of a private fostering adoption which raised the average at the end of 2017-18.

Benchmarking

Medway is still below the national average of 558 days and the latest statistical neighbour average of 562 days.

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19				
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
CSC 0004	Number of LAC per 10,000 children		64.1	61.9	67.0		•	•

The steady downward trend in the rate and number of looked after children continues.

Benchmarking

Currently there are 394 looked after children, the lowest since September 2017. This rate per 10,000, 61.9 is in line with the latest (2016-17) national rate of 62% and lower than the statistical neighbour rate of 73 per 10,000 population.

Current numbers are very similar to this point last year when there were 390 LAC, which equated to 61.2 per 10,000.

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19					
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend	
CSC 0006	Number of CP per 10,000 children		53.8	55.4	65.3	Ø	•	•	

Comments

There has been a small rise in the number of children on a child protection (CP) plan, to 55.4 per 10,000. This represents 353 children. However, over the course of the quarter, the rate peaked in May, at 56.4 before dropping in June.

There are now 32 more children on a CP plan than in June last year. This represents a 10% rise and indicates a slow but steady upward movement over the course of the last 10 months.

Benchmarking

Medway is in line with the latest (2016-17) statistical neighbour rate, of 56 per 10,000 but ahead of the current (2016-17) national rate of 43.

Actions

In the last Performance and Quality Assurance (PQA) meeting the Quality Assurance service were actioned to investigate CP cases over 24mths and to report on CP cases 9+ months at the next PQA.

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19 8					
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend	
	% children social care substantive posts not filled by permanent social workers		38%	38% Q4 2017/18	28%	Q4 2017/18	Q4 2017/18	Q4 2017/18	

Current information is to April 2018. Vacancy rates continue to be high and show a slight rise from the end of Q4.

Over the course of the last 12 months there has been little change with the rate fluctuating between 42% and 36%.

The rates of vacancies and staff turnover have impacted the levels of caseloads in the teams.

On 19 July there were 9 uncovered vacancies in the Children's safeguarding team.

This equates to over 2 social work Pods and at current, average caseloads 195 cases. This means almost 3 extra cases per worker, an extra burden of almost 14%.

Benchmarking

The current rate of 39% is higher (worse) than the national rate of 17% and that of our statistical neighbour which is 23%.

Actions

Significant work has been undertaken to address the recruitment issue. This includes the appointment of a full time dedicated resource to support and assist the service with advertising, selecting and recruiting good quality social workers.

This will include a fundamental review of the approach to social worker recruitment. The Service continues to work with Ocelot to secure quality locum social workers.

Joint Targeted Area Inspection

Medway Children's Services have just been subject to a JTAI on how children and young people who have experienced Domestic Abuse (DA) are helped and protected across Medway.

Following two weeks of intense preparation, the third week saw inspectors from the following inspectorates; The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted), Care Quality Commission (CQC), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) join Medway and partner agencies for a week of intensive inspection.

The 19 inspectors, were here to assess how the Local Authority, the Police, Health, Probation/Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and Youth Offending Services are

working together to identify, support and protect our most vulnerable children and young people.

JTAIs include an evaluation of the multi-agency 'front door' for child safeguarding - when children at risk of harm first become known to local services. Over the week of inspection, colleagues were able to showcase their passion and dedication for the roles and work they do, in representing the Authority in what we achieve for our children, young people and families.

We welcome the findings of the inspection and will use this opportunity to build on all our good work and strengths and address some of the areas we know we need development.

We will use this opportunity to move forward and make an even greater difference to the families, children and young people of Medway.

We would like to thank all colleagues involved either directly or indirectly for all their hard work in preparing for, organising and supporting this inspection.

Programme: The best start in life

Council Plan measures: performance

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Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018	Q1 2018/19				
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend	
CASEI EYFS Gap	% achievement gap at Early Years Foundation Stage Profile between the lowest attaining 20 % of children and the mean		Not measured for Quarters	28.2%	29.5%		•	•	

Comments

Annual measure. This information is expected in mid December 2018

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018	/19			
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
PH16	Smoking at time of delivery		15.86%	15.86% Q4 2017/18		Q4	1 Q4 2017/18	Q4 2017/18

Comments

Medway Smoking at time of delivery (SATOD) prevalence started the year at 19% and has reduced during every quarter in 2017/18.

Q4 was reported as 15.9%.

The average annual prevalence for 2017/18 is 17.4%.

Actions

The volume of service user referrals from the acute trust is beginning to increase and, in order to improve service uptake, Public Health is offering pregnant smokers the option of

holistic pregnancy related information/support as an integral part of encouraging and supporting behaviour change.

Healthy Child Programme

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.

The 6-8 week check which focusses on maternal mental health has reached a new high for Medway of 93% coverage (800 face to face contacts delivered in 3 months).

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.

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.

Medway Community Healthcare 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 new contract commenced on the 1 April 2018. PHE commented on the model as being "exciting and innovating" and the aim is to deliver a more integrated offer for families in Medway.

The full new integrated service offer will be in place from September 2018.

The Child Health Team continues the strong engagement with schools, with 87% of our schools (primary and secondary) working with us on the Personal Social Health and Economic (PSHE) health agenda and 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 produced in conjunction with the PSHE association to support schools with issues around gangs were nationally released in June and have been downloaded over 400 times already.

Medway was part of the keynote speech at the recent national PSHE conference for our work in this area.

Council Plan Outcome: All children achieving their potential in schools

Programme: Raising aspiration and ambition

Council Plan measures: performance

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19				
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
CA13	The percentage of children permanently excluded from school (upheld only)		0.03%	0.01%	0.02%	>	•	

Comments

In total this academic year 45 pupils have been excluded across both primary and secondary schools, 2 permanent exclusions upheld in the last quarter .No Looked after Children have received an upheld permanent exclusion.

Between 1 and 4 pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan or SEN statement have had an upheld permanent exclusion in this academic so far. There have, so far this academic year, been 15 managed transfers.

Benchmarking

In the same quarter last year there were 16 upheld permanent exclusions.

So far, this academic year the exclusion process has been started 84 times. 12 are awaiting an outcome. 45 have resulted in the pupil being excluded (63% of the 72 completed processed), 27 (37% of the 72 completed processes) have been retracted, withdrawn or not up held. In 2016/17 academic year Medway had 63 permanent exclusions, giving a rate of 0.14 against a national rate of 0.1.

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018	/19			
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
CASEI KS4 Ofsted	The percentage of secondary sector schools in Medway judged to be good or better	•	82%	77.8%	88.2%		•	←

Comments, Benchmarking and Actions

All 18 secondary schools now have an active inspection, 4 schools remain outstanding and 10 are graded good.

The school improvement team continues detailed work to raise standards in the single maintained secondary school, which is 2 percentage points above the national outturn of 79.5%, and works closely with the regional Schools Commissioner to improve education standards in academies.

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018	/19			
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
CASEI SPEC Ofsted	The percentage of special schools in Medway judged to be good or better	•	80%	100%	80%	②	•	

Following the positive inspection of Inspire Free School, all of the special schools are now graded good or better. 3 are outstanding and 2 good. This is a very positive outcome.

Code	Short Name	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018	/19			
		Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
EDU 3(b)	% children who were persistently absent from school	7%	7% Q4 2017/18	5.5% Q4 2017/18	Q4 2017/18	Q4 2017/18	Q4 2017/18

Comments

Q4 2017/18 data is latest data available.

The in year quarterly reporting is a voluntary collection. Term 5 reporting saw only 52 out of 103 (50.5%) schools submit data (51% of primary schools and 44% of secondary schools). Normally we would expect to see a response rate of c. 80%.

As the low response makes the validity of the data extremely fragile and comparisons potentially misleading, it is not being reported in Q1 2018/19.

Actions

Published data will be available in March 19. Dependant on the data, we will look for actions then if necessary.

Code	Short Name	Succes s is	Q4 2017/ 18	Q1 2018/19				
			Value	Value	Target	Status	9	Short Trend
SE KS2	% children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2	•	Not measu red for Quarte rs		61%	2018/ 19	2018/19	2018/ 19

Provisional results were issued on 10 July.

60% of Medway pupils achieved the required standard in the aggregated reading, writing and maths measure. This is a 2 percentage point (pp) improvement on last year. Proportionally this 2pp translates to 3.4% year on year growth.

Benchmarking

Nationally the percentage of pupils achieving the required standard rose from 62% to 64%. This is also a 2 percentage points rise. However, the national growth rate is 3.2% which is marginally slower than Medway's growth.

Actions

The improvements in reading and writing within the maintained schools, has been helped by a multi layered targeted intervention two years ago by the Council's School Improvement Team, when the current cohort were in Year 5.

The success of these strategies has now positioned maths as the key subject priority for improvement.

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19				
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
OEPr	The percentage of primary sector schools in Medway judged to be good or better	•	85%	85%	90%		•	static

Comments

Currently 8 schools are outstanding, 53 good, 7 require improvement and 4 are inadequate. There have been no changes to the group of schools graded good or above. One new grading of Requires Improvement, Napier, has been added and one inadequate school, Featherby Juniors, has been removed due to the acadamisation process.

Benchmarking

The proportion of primary schools judged good or better has remained static at 85%. This is against a national outturn of 89% and a target of 90%. Currently 79% of academies are graded good or better compared 93% of LA maintained primary schools.

Actions

The School Improvement Service remains committed and engaged with our Primary schools to raise standards through a detailed programme of support and challenge to all levels of leadership with in our schools.

The ongoing process of acadamisation has a potential subsequent impact on the currency of inspections. This may, in turn, make hitting the 90% target challenging, as newly acadamised schools may not be inspected during this reporting period.

Code	Short Name	Success is	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19				
			Value	Value	Target	Status	5	Short Trend
SE KS4 A8	Average attainment 8 score	+	Not measured for quarters	45.5% 2016/17 academic year	46.1%	2016/17 academic year	N/A 2016/17 academic year	N/A 2016/17 academic year

Comments

This data relates to exams sat in the 2016/17 academic year. Provisional data for 2017/18 will be published later in the year. It is usually available in Q3.

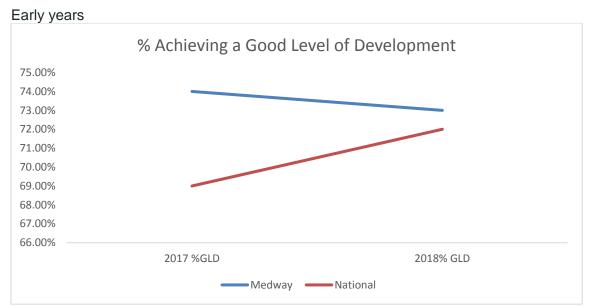
Code	Short Name		Q4 2017/1 8	Q1 2018/	19			
			Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
SE KS4 P8	Average Progress 8 Score	•	ed for	0.03 2016/17 academ ic year		2016/17 academ ic year	N/A 2016/ 17 acade mic year	N/A 2016/1 7 academ ic year

Comments

This data relates to exams sat in the 2016/17 academic year. Provisional data for 2017/18 will be published later in the year. It is usually available in Q3.

Attainment

Primary and Early Years provisional attainment data is now available. This is still subject to change.



*%GLD: percentage achieving a good level of development. YOY movemenmt is calculated as a propotional percentage change of last years attainment.

The percentage of pupils achieving a good level of development (GLD) has deteriorated - 1.4% (1pp), compared to 74% in 2017-18. It is now 73%.

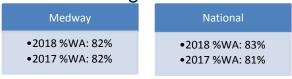
KS1

Benchmarking

For the last two years, Medway's KS1 has performed, and continues to perform above national performance, but, the national rate of improvement is quickening and the lead that Medway has over national is closing.

Year 1 Phonics





^{*%}WA: percentage working at or above the expected level

For the last two years, Medway has performed above national performance in phonics. This year, the national performance has improved and just over taken Medway's steady phonic performance.

Fixed term exclusions (FTE)

Benchmarking

The latest national data (2015-16) shows that the national rate of SEN to non-SEN FTE was 4.3. This means that a child in Medway with SEN is 20% more likely to receive at least 1 FTE than the national rate.

National comparative data is published in arrears. On 19/7/18 the finalised data for the 2016-17 academic year was published:

Permanent Exclusion Rate (All)

	Academic Year 2015-16	Academic Year 2015-16 Rank	Academic Year 2016-17	Academic Year 2016-17 Rank
Medway	0.18	136th	0.14	109th
National (State funded Schools)	0.08		0.10	
South East	0.06		0.06	

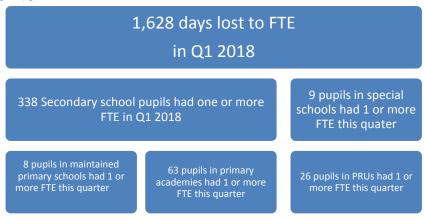
Medway has shown a 22% improvement against national's 25% decline. Medway's gap to national is narrowing and is now 40% where as last year it was 125%. As such Medway has risen 27 places in the local authority ranking table.

Fixed Period Exclusion Rate

	Academic Year 2015-16	Academic Year 2015-16 Rank	Academic Year 2016-17	Academic Year 2016-17 Rank
Medway	7.40	144th	6.58	131st
National (State funded Schools)	4.29		4.76	
South East	4.07		4.41	

Medway has shown an 11% improvement against national's 11% decline. Medway's gap to national is narrowing and is now 38% where last year it was 72%. As such, Medway has risen 13 places in the Local Authority ranking table. Previously a particular area of weakness for exclusions within Medway was Primary school exclusions.

Comments



As schools have until the end of the term following the exclusion to inform us of a fixed term exclusion, it is probable that numbers will rise. As such, the numbers cited above are highly provisional. Compared to Q1 2017-18 there have been 16% less FTEs this year, however due to the provisional nature of the current data this comparison is indicative.

For the full academic year, 818 SEN support pupils have received a FTE. This is 13% of the SEN Support cohort. This figure has risen by 2.5 percentage points since Q4.

In the same time frame the proportion of pupils with an EHCP/Statement has risen 5 percentage points on Q4 to 14.4%.

Student group	September 2017- 18 academic year	October to December 2017-18 academic year (Q3 financial year)	January to March 2017-18 academic year (Q4 financial year)	April to June 2017-18 academic year (Q1 2018-19 financial year) * provisional data
Cumulative Proportion of SEN Support cohort with 1 or more FTE	1.6%	5.8%	10.1%	13%
Cumulative Proportion of EHCP/Statement cohort with 1 or more FTE	2.1%	8%	11.6%	14.4%
Cumulative Proportion any SEN cohort with 1 or more FTE	1.7%	6.2%	11.1%	16.2%
Cumulative Proportion of no SEN cohort with 1 or more FTE	0.3%	1.3%	2.3%	3.1%
How many times is a child with an EHCP/Statement likely to get a FTE than a non-SEN child	6.2	4.7	4.7	5.2

As we would expect, the cumulative percentage of each cohort that receiving an FTE grows thorough out the year. However, the comparison ratio of the likelihood of a child with any form of SEN receiving a FTE compared to a non-SEN child has also increased in the last quarter.

Actions

Unlike Permanent Exclusions, the Inclusion Team do not have an active role in managing FTE with the school. Often they are informed of the exclusion a considerable time after the event. This limits the actions available to the Council at an operational level and places the focus at a strategic and cultural level.

We have undertaken an external review of exclusions and we have created a working group with Head teachers, Alternative Provision Heads and the Local Authority to understand and agree principles we will work to next year and in the future.

Council Priority: Maximising regeneration and economic growth

Measures in target (green)

Code	Status	Name	Long trend	Short trend
NI 117(16- 17)	②	The percentage of 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training	1	1

Benchmarking

	Council Plan Measure – Compares favourably with national performance?	Yes No Same	* =
NI 117(16- 17)	The percentage of 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training		=

Council Plan Outcome: Resident with jobs and skills

Programme: Jobs, skill and employability

Council Plan measures: performance

Code	Short Name	Q4 2017/18	Q1 2018/19				
		Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
117/16	% 16-17 year olds -not in education/ employment / training	3.20%	2.90%	6.00%		•	•

Comments and Benchmarking

Whilst the rate of young people not in employment education or training is low, at 2.9% (May) it is important to note that the proportion of 16 and 17 year olds whose activity is not known is high, at 19.7% Nationally the rate of NEETS is also 2.9% but the rate of unknowns is considerably lower than Medway's at 2.9% also. Presently 205 Young people are recorded as NEET and 1380 as having an unknown destination.

Actions

The Youth Service team continue to work closely with geographical neighbours to "track" young people and now have two full time "trackers" in place that will support the identification of young people's destinations.

These issues have been exacerbated by Schools and Academies becoming unwilling to share information regarding young people's destinations. Considerable work to resolve

these issues has been undertaken and the Service is confident the problem will now begin to reduce.

Better recording has helped rates of NEET/Not Known within the Troubled Families cohort rise by 20% since March, with an extra 73 young people adding to the cohort. Rates of NEET/Not Known have remained static in the cohort of young people on a Child Protection plan.

In line with the strategic priority of targeting our resources at supporting our most vulnerable young people good progress has been made in the cohort of young people known to Youth Offending Team who are NEET/Not Known. This has reduced by 30% since March 2018, (actual numbers have not been supplied to preserve anonymity). Similarly, the numbers of young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) who are NEET/Not Known have dropped from 31 (March) to 21 (May).

Project - A Skills Plan for Medway will be completed in 2018.

Comments

This plan will incorporate the objectives of the 16 - 18 Youth Strategy, alongside interests such as apprenticeships, degree apprenticeship and internships to support lifelong learning.

Actions

The Medway Skills Board was established in 2017 to prioritise skills development in target sectors and to ensure that all residents benefit from growth. The Skills Board (Members and Officers' Boards) is responding to national, regional and local policy in its work to establish Medway's five skills priorities. Working with the SELEP's Skills Advisory Group and the Kent and Medway Skills Commission, the Board is ensuring that Medway's skills priorities are embedded in wider policy development. The four skills priorities focus effort on 1) Matching Business Demand and Skills Supply, 2) Developing Medway's Talent Pool, 3) Eliminating Barriers to Employment and 4) Transforming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) to EETs.

A high level draft of the Skills and Employability Plan has been shared with the Portfolio Holder Inward Investment and Strategic Regeneration, Council Officers and MidKent College. The draft will be presented to an audience of key local businesses at a lunch on 12 July.