

Council Priority: PEOPLE

Supporting Medway's people to realise their potential

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MEETING

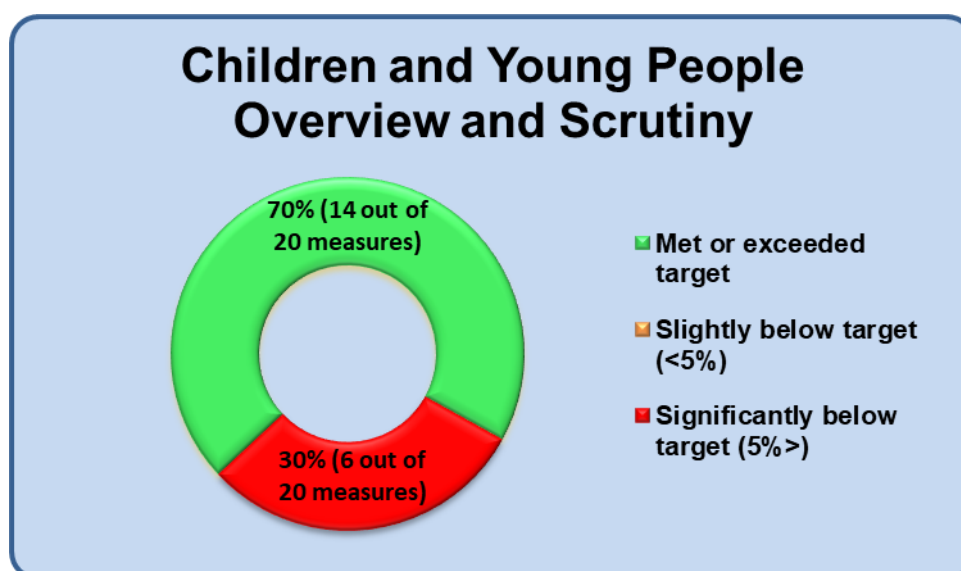
Performance: Quarter 1 2021/22

Key

Red	significantly below target (>5%)	Amber	slightly below target (<5%)	Green	met or exceeded target
IMP	Improved	DET	Worsened	STATIC	Static
Data	No target	NA	Not available	Not available	Not available
Short Trend	Since last qtr	Long Trend	Avg over last 4 qtrs	Avg over last 4 qtrs	Avg over last 4 qtrs

Council Plan measures: summary performance

There are 27 Council Plan measures for this priority that fall under the remit of this committee. We are reporting on 20 as data for 7 measures is not available this quarter.



Improved performance

- 37% (7 out of 19*) improved over the short term (since last quarter)
- 65% (13 out of 20*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)

* where data available

Measures in target (green)

Code	Status	Measure	Short Trend	Long Trend
PH17	Green	Breastfeeding initiation	IMP	IMP
CSC0004	Green	Number of LAC per 10,000 children	DET	IMP
CSC0006	Green	Number of CP per 10,000 children	IMP	IMP
ILAC1	Green	Average Caseloads in Assessment teams	DET	DET
ILAC2	Green	Average Caseloads in Post Assessment teams	DET	IMP
ILAC5	Green	% of children with long-term fostering as a plan, where the child, carer and service have agreed for the placement to last until the child is ready to leave care.	IMP	IMP
ILAC6	Green	Rate of open CIN cases per 10,000	DET	IMP
N23	Green	The percentage of children social work substantive posts not filled by permanent social workers	IMP	IMP
PH16	Green	Smoking at time of delivery (SATOD) (Q4 2020/21)	IMP	IMP
CA13	Green	The percentage of children permanently excluded from school (upheld only)	STATIC	DET
CASEIKS4 Ofsted	Green	Partnership measure: Percentage of Secondary Schools judged good or better	STATIC	STATIC
CASEISPEC Ofsted	Green	The percentage of special schools in Medway judged to be good or better	STATIC	STATIC
OfstedPrim Mnt	Green	The percentage of Maintained primary schools in Medway judged to be good or better	STATIC	IMP
SE2 OEPr	Green	Partnership measure: Percentage of all Primary Schools judged good or better	STATIC	IMP

Measures significantly below target (red)

Code	Status	Measure	Short Trend	Long Trend
A1	Red	The average number of days (over the last 36 months) between a child entering care and moving in with adoptive family	IMP	IMP

Code	Status	Measure	Short Trend	Long Trend
ILAC3	Red	Completed initial child and family assessments which started as S47, where the child was visited within 1 working day.	DET	DET
ILAC4	Red	Completed initial child and family assessments which started as S17, where the child was visited within 5 working days.	DET	IMP
ILAC7	Red	The percentage of CSC Audits graded good or outstanding	IMP	IMP
EDU3(b)	Red	The percentage of children who were persistently absent from school	NA	DET
NI 117(16-17)	Red	The percentage of 16–17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	STATIC	DET

Measures not available this quarter

Code	Status	Measure	Short Trend	Long Trend
PH14	NA	Excess weight in 4–5-year-olds (2020/21 annual)	NA	NA
PH15	NA	Excess weight in 10–11-year-olds (2020/21 annual)	NA	NA
PH8	NA	Percentage of children and young people achieving a lifestyle improvement as a result of completing a young people weight management service	NA	NA
CASEIEYFS Gap	NA	Percentage achievement gap at Early Years Foundation Stage Profile between the lowest attaining 20 % of children and the mean	NA	NA
SE KS2	NA	The percentage of children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2 (2020/21 annual)	NA	NA
SE KS2Mnt	NA	The percentage of children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2 in Maintained Schools Only (2020/21 annual)	NA	NA
SEKS4A8	NA	Average attainment 8 score (2020/21 annual)	NA	NA

Strategic Risks

The quarter 1 21/22 strategic risk register is attached at Appendix 2. The register shows all strategic risks together with mitigation in place to minimise impact and likelihood. The risks pertaining solely to this committee are shown below (full details in Appendix 2).

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 2)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L – Likelihood I – Impact
SRO9B	4	Keeping vulnerable adolescents safe	Director of People - Children and Adults Services	BII	L – high I – major
SR26	10	Non-delivery of Children's Services Improvement	Director of People - Children and Adults Services	CII	L – significant I – major
SR39	13	Financial Pressures on SEN Budgets	Director of People – C&A	BII	L – high I – major

The following risks pertain to all priorities:

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 2)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L – Likelihood I – Impact
SRO3B	15	Finances	Chief Finance Officer	AI	L – very high I – catastrophic
SR46	20	Medway's Economic Recovery from Covid19	Assistant Director Regeneration (Recovery Lead Officer for Medway Council)	BII	L – high I – major

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 2)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L – Likelihood I – Impact
SR32	26	Data and information	Chief Legal Finance Officer	CII	L – significant I – major
SR36	31	Alternative service delivery models	Chief Legal Officer, Chief Finance Officer	BIII	L – high I – moderate
SR37	36	Cyber Security	Chief Finance Officer	CI	L – significant I – catastrophic
SR02	43	Business continuity and emergency planning	Director of Place, Chief Finance Officer, Deputy Chief Executive	DII	L – low I – major
SR49	47	Income Reduction due to Covid19	Chief Finance Officer	BII	L – high I – major

Council Plan Outcome: Healthy and active communities

Programme: Improving everyone's health and reducing inequalities

Council Plan Measures

PH14 Excess weight in 4-5 year olds

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
2020/21	23%	NA	NA	Minimise	NA	NA
2019/20	22.4%	25.5%	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

PH15 Excess weight in 10-11 year olds

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
2020/21	35.2%	NA	NA	Minimise	NA	NA
2019/20	34%	36.9%	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

Comments

Please note, performance has been directly impacted by national regulations that required us not to undertake any work in these areas. The status for this indicator has been temporarily removed due to the impact of Covid19.

Rates of children classified as "overweight" and "obese" are monitored through the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP), which is delivered through schools. Children's weight and height are measured in Reception class (ages 4-5) and again in Year 6 (ages 10-11). For children in Reception year, the rates of those with excess weight is 25.5% in Medway for 2019/20 (increasing from 24% from the previous year), which is above the England average of 23%.

Obesity is a complex problem with multiple causes and significant implications for health and beyond. To tackle the increasing issue of obesity in children and adults, national and local action is needed now. With no one single solution available, tackling such an ingrained problem requires a long-term, system-wide approach that makes obesity everybody's business. Medway Council's Public Health team have developed a whole system approach to tackling obesity, based on Public Health England's recently published whole system obesity guidance. Medway Council provide a wide range of services to prevent and treat childhood obesity including:

- A comprehensive range of family and adult support services for tier 2 and tier 3 weight management, offering free support services for people at varying levels of excess weight.
- Healthy eating and cookery programmes for families and children.
- Regular promotion of national and local campaigns such as Sugar Smart, Change4Life and Beside You breastfeeding campaign.
- A planning guidance note that restricts hot food takeaways within a 400m radius of schools.
- Providing a wide range of training to professionals and volunteers on subjects like healthy eating and obesity.
- Commissioning a 0-19 provider to include healthy weight as a priority in health visiting and school nursing contracts.
- Coordination of an annual healthy weight summit that encourages as many public, private, voluntary, and academic sector partners to promote this agenda and take their own actions forwards.
- A Better Medway workplace programme that supports workplaces to create healthy workforces.
- Free swimming for under 16s.
- Multiple sport and physical activity opportunities within schools and in community settings.

Wider system action is integral if we are to realise the national aspiration of halving childhood obesity by 2030. The Medway Healthy Weight Network and its sub-groups are one vehicle where this action can be taken forward. The network has stated the following priorities for 2021/22:

- Increasing the volume of peer supporters to improve breastfeeding rates.
- Enhanced activity for the infant feeding communication campaigns.
- Achieving a higher level of Baby Friendly Accreditation in acute and community settings.
- Extending the existing cooking programme to include some courses that exclusively concentrate on the budget side.
- Enhancing our physical activity provider network.
- Increasing the reach of our infant feeding marketing campaigns.
- Developing a whole school food programme.
- Developing and marketing culturally sensitive eat well guidance.
- Improving the whole school food approach.
- Enhancing the newly established Physical Activity Alliance and the partnership working between the group.
- Understanding and addressing the barriers of why specific groups have the lowest physical activity levels.

PH17 Breastfeeding initiation

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	70%	70.3%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP
Q4 2020/21	70%	68.67%	Amber	Maximise	DET	DET

Comments

Breastfeeding initiation is recorded by midwives shortly after the infant is born indicating if the baby receives breast or bottle milk. A key priority for the infant feeding strategy group is to increase breastfeeding rates year-on-year.

PH8 Percentage of children and young people achieving a lifestyle improvement as a result of completing a young people weight management service

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	75%	NA	NA	Maximise	NA	NA
Q4 2020/21	75%	NA	NA	Maximise	NA	NA

Comments

Please note, performance has been directly impacted by national regulations that required us not to undertake any work in these areas. The status for this indicator has been temporarily removed due to the impact of Covid19.

The Covid19 lockdown continues to have a serious effect on referrals into Children's Services. The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) largely generates referrals into our programmes. The NCMP has restarted this year, and telephone calls to parents will be undertaken by the School Nursing teams over the summer.

Plans for our programmes are already in place to recommence face-to-face from September. Work within engaged schools has continued and been successful, and relationships with other schools have been developed as the Public Health team undertook the Year 6 measurements on behalf of the school Nursing teams.

Supporting Healthy Weight

The adult overweight and obesity statistics were published in May showing Medway's rate has risen to 71.2% for all adults, placing Medway with the highest percentage of overweight adults in the South East. The data collection for the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) was completed in June, with results likely to be verified and published in October by Public Health England. Medway has been allocated funding from central government to increase provision for weight management services, which will be used to commission a new virtual weight management service, increase the capacity in our Man Vs Fat programme and enhance our offer of our tier 2 weight management programme (Healthy Way). NHS England have also launched some new virtual support services for overweight adults who also have diabetes or hypertension. Referrals for these services will only be via primary care staff, but these additional services are likely to increase the capacity in our existing weight management services.

Council Plan Outcome: Resilient families

Programme: Together We Can - Children's Services

Council Plan Measures

A1 **The average number of days (over the last 36 months) between a child entering care and moving in with adoptive family**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	450	503	Red	Minimise	IMP	IMP
Q4 2020/21	450	527	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

Comments

The 3-year average has decreased to 503 days, an improvement on the Q4 outturn. This has resulted in both short-and long-term trends changing to show positive movement.

Benchmarking

The latest national benchmark is 486 days and the statistical neighbour outturn is 440. Medway is closer in line with the South East benchmark of 529.

Actions

Medway has now joined with Kent and Bexley into a Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) so the service will work through the RAA to identify adoptive families in a timely way.

12 Medway children have been matched since January 2021 at an Adoption Partnership panel. Panels are held weekly which ensures that children are matched without delay where suitable adopters can be found within the resources of the Adoption Partnership.

CSC0004 Number of LAC per 10,000 children						
Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	70.0	68.9	Green	Minimise	DET	IMP
Q4 2020/21	70.0	68.7	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

Comments

Currently there are 440 children in care, which is a rate of 68.9 per 10,000. This is a small rise on the Q4 outturn, however the number of children in care are lower than June last year, by 3%.

Benchmarking

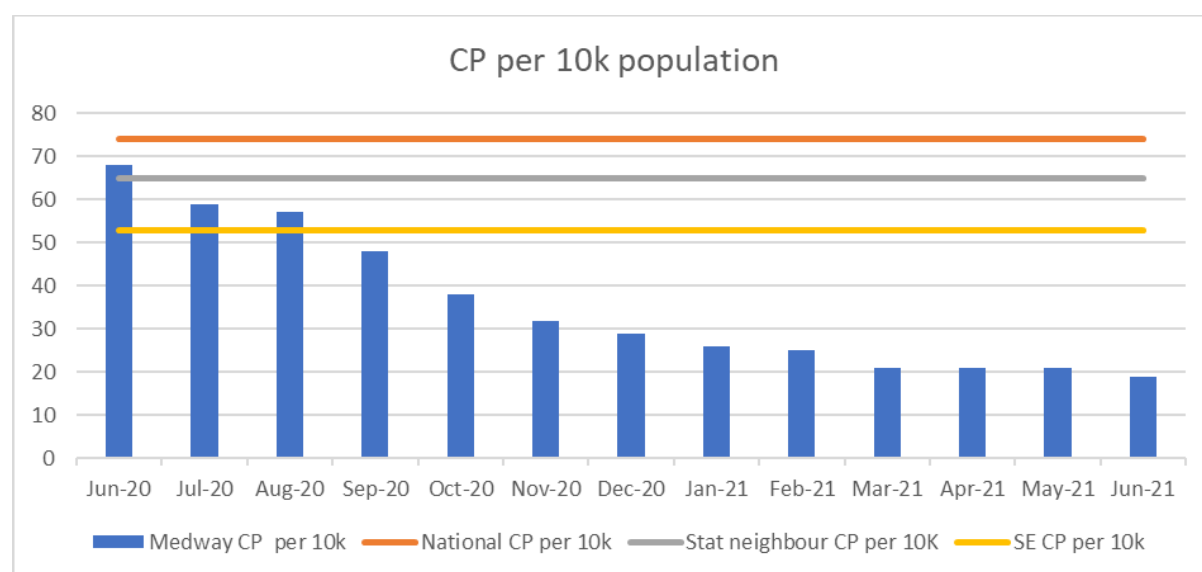
Nationally there are 65 Looked After Children (LAC) per 10,000 population, Medway has a lower rate, 68.9, than our statistical neighbours, at 74 per 10,000. However, the rate in the South East is lower than in Medway, at 53 per 10,000 population. We are updating our LAC (Children in our Care) Strategy and our Sufficiency Strategy to include how we will work towards rehabilitation of children and young people safely, where appropriate, to their families. We will also focus on undertaking effective work with those children and young people on the 'edge of care', to seek to reduce our Children In Care (CIC) population over the next year.

CSC0006 Number of CP per 10,000 children

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	65.3	19.0	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP
Q4 2020/21	65.3	20.8	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

Comments

Currently there are 119 children on a Child Protection (CP) plan. This equates to a rate of 19 per 10,000, a reduction from the rate at the end of Q4.


Benchmarking

Medway is below the latest National and Statistical neighbour rate, of 43 per 10,000 and South East rate of 41 per 10,000.

Actions

The focus in the Improvement Plan on improving quality of practice, introducing additional scrutiny of child in need plans and working proactively with adolescents, has led to this reduction, and brought Medway below national and statistical neighbours.

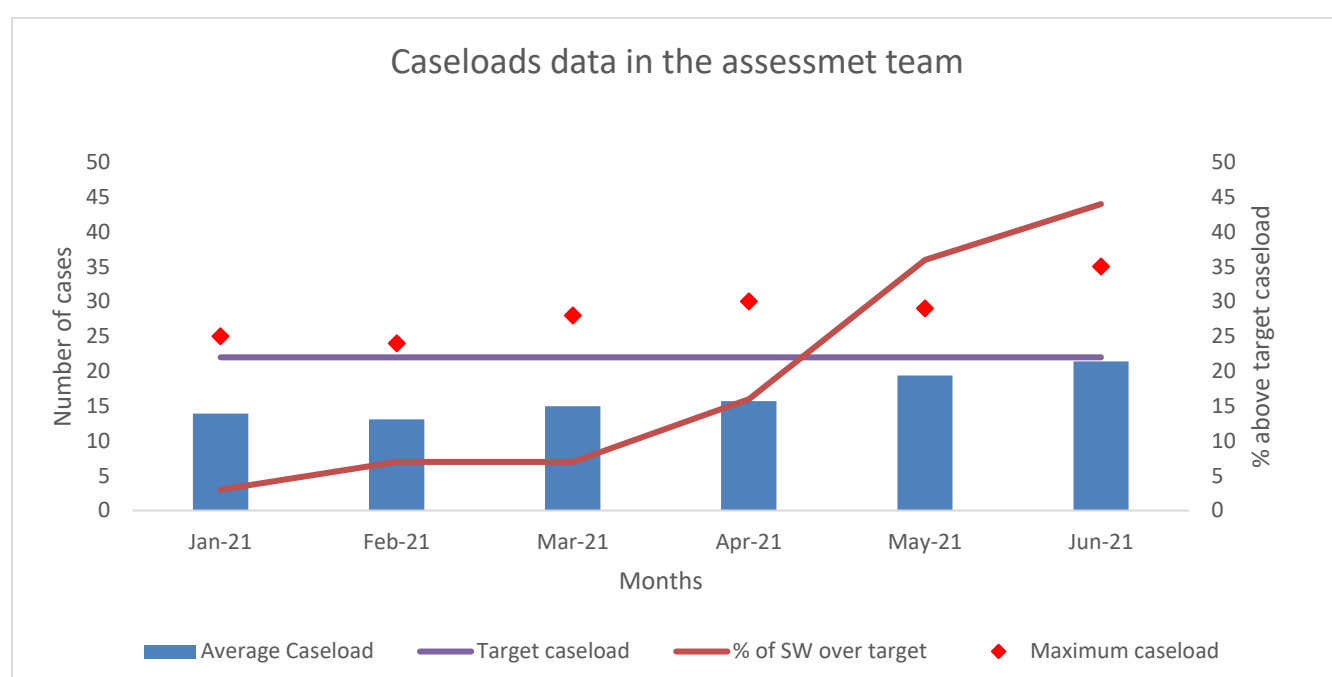
Decision making has been tested by our Partner in Practice, Essex, and decisions to end plans were found to be appropriate. The service is continuing to monitor progress against this and reports monthly to the Improvement Board.

ILAC1 Average Caseloads in Assessment teams

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	22	21.4	Green	Minimise	DET	DET
Q4 2020/21	22	15	Green	Minimise	DET	DET

Comments

The snapshot shows that the average caseload in the Assessment teams is 21.4, a rise from 15 at the end of Q4. Currently 44% of social workers are over the target caseload of 22, with the highest caseload at 35.



Actions

Caseloads in Assessment have increased significantly due to the increased volume of referrals and recruitment difficulties. To mitigate some of the challenges within the Child and Family team, assessments were allocated to practitioners in Children Social Workers' teams. Despite this some social workers have reached very high caseloads and in those cases team managers have increased the supervision and support that was offered to them.

Recruitment activity has been more successful in the latter part of June 2021 and, as of 31 July 2021, all posts within the Assessment team were covered with either a locum or permanent worker.

Caseloads in the Children Social Work teams have remained low which has allowed practitioners to support the Assessment teams.

ILAC2 Average Caseloads in Post Assessment teams

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	18	13.4	Green	Minimise	DET	IMP
Q4 2020/21	18	10.3	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

Comments

The snapshot shows post assessment social work teams (Areas CS Teams 1-8) have an average caseload of 13.4. This is an increase on the Q4 outturn. This PI remains below target. The highest caseload is 21 and 5% of social workers, in these teams, have caseloads over the target.

ILAC3 Completed initial child and family assessments which started as S47, where the child was visited within 1 working day.

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	90%	72%	Red	Maximise	DET	DET
Q4 2020/21	90%	100%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

Comments

The end of quarter snapshot shows that under three quarters of S47 assessments were visited in 1 day. This is a drop when compared to the previous quarter and below target.

Actions

The exceptions to completing S47 visits in timescales refer to a small number of families and the visits were late by 1 or 2 days. The delays were due to difficulties locating families, workload challenges and staffing difficulties.

We continue to review this indicator regularly at Performance Clinics. Where a delay is identified, each case is scrutinised.

ILAC4 Completed initial child and family assessments which started as S17, where the child was visited within 5 working days.

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	85%	77%	Red	Maximise	DET	IMP
Q4 2020/21	85%	78%	Red	Maximise	IMP	IMP

Comments

The end of quarter snapshot shows just over three quarters of S17 assessments were visited in 5 working days. This is a drop when compared to the previous quarter and below target.

Actions

The exceptions for S17 visits are due to several factors: high vacancy rates in some teams, and difficulties locating some families or engaging them in the assessment process. We continue to review this indicator regularly at Performance Clinics. Managers will maintain overview and scrutiny of all delays and impact on children.

ILAC5 % of children with long-term fostering as a plan, where the child, carer and service have agreed for the placement to last until the child is ready to leave care.

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	60%	62%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP
Q4 2020/21	60%	60%	Green	Maximise	IMP	DET

Please note, the target for this performance measure has since been increased to 70% to enable ongoing improvement.

Comments

There has been a small rise in the proportion of children for whom permanency has been agreed but is now below the stretched target of 70%. Achieving permanency for children is a key issue in the improvement plan and mechanisms have been put in place to review permanency plans and to strengthen the work of the fostering panel to continue to improve the performance of this indicator.

Actions

To fully implement the Permanency Policy and convene regular permanency panels. To implement the Fostering Strategy to increase supply, choice, and support for carers. To work with Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO) to ensure all children and young people have a permanence plan, including looking to those children and young people who can safely return home, with effective support in place. Group Managers for Adoption/Fostering and Children In Care (CIC) are jointly responsible for the tracking of permanency.

ILAC6 Rate of open CIN cases per 10,000

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	382	301	Green	Minimise	DET	IMP
Q4 2020/21	382	277	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

Comments

The rate of Children In Need (CIN) has risen over the quarter, with 156 more children counted as CIN than at the end of March. There are, however, 219 fewer children counted as CIN than in June 2020. Medway remains below all of our comparator groups. The number of CIN will be affected by the closure of Child Protection (CP) plans, if those children then cease to receive a service.

A child in need is defined, under the Children Act 1989, “as a child who is unlikely to reach or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development, or their health or development will be significantly impaired, without the provision of services, or the child is disabled.” This includes all Looked After Children (LAC) and all children on a CP plan as well as other children supported by social services who are not looked after on a CP plan.

Benchmarking

Nationally there are 324 CIN cases per 10,000 population. This is slightly higher for our statistical neighbour group (331) and it is 304 in the South East.

Actions

Ensuring children can access the right service at the right time is part of the vision for the service and reviewing the threshold for statutory service provision is an action in the Improvement Plan. This has been done in consultation with partners.

The Service launched the revised Threshold Document with partners and support through workshops.

The service has established a Child in Need Reviewing Officer to monitor the quality of practice for children subject to Child in Need plans and support correct application of threshold. As part of the role the Child in Need Reviewing Officer has established a multi-agency panel for Child in Need cases so that risks are robustly addressed, and the children and families receive services early enough before risks escalate as well as offering consultations for operational staff. We have doubled the capacity of this Officer.

ILAC7 The percentage of CSC Audits graded good or outstanding

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	80%	7%	Red	Maximise	IMP	IMP
Q4 2020/21	80%	0%	Red	Maximise	NA	NA

Comments

The service is committed to completing 10 audits per month selected from across all service areas.

Q1 data covers audits for April to June which resulted in 48.3% graded 'Requires Improvement', 44.8% 'Inadequate' and 6.9% 'Good'.

N23 The percentage of children social care substantive posts not filled by permanent social workers

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	25%	15%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP
Q4 2020/21	25%	20%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

Comments

Vacancy rates are at an all-time low, at 15%. The ongoing positive trend has been maintained over the last 18 months.

Benchmarking

Medway has a lower vacancy rate than our statistical neighbours (17%) and the National rate (16%).

Programme: The best start in life

Council Plan Measures

CASEIEYFS Gap Percentage achievement gap at Early Years Foundation Stage Profile between the lowest attaining 20 % of children and the mean

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
2019/20 Academic year	30.0%	NA	NA	Minimise	NA	NA
2018/19 Academic year	30.0%	28.7%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

Comments

Due to the pandemic there is no data for this measure for the academic year 19/20.

PH16 Smoking at time of delivery (SATOD)

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q4 2020/21	17.5%	11.6%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP
Q3 2020/21	17.5%	12.42%	Green	Minimise	IMP	IMP

Comments

As with previous submissions, data reported represents Smoking At Time of Delivery (SATOD) prevalence for the whole of Kent & Medway in line with the new Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) footprint. Work continues in identifying a process to collect quarterly data for the Medway footprint only. For comparison purposes, it should be noted that Pentana data submitted for Q1 2020/21 reflects overall Medway Foundation Trust (MFT) data (Medway and Swale footprints), and not data for the whole of Kent & Medway.

Medway Stop Smoking Service has maintained effective service delivery throughout the Covid19 pandemic by adapting to remote smoking cessation consultations and maintaining provision of stop smoking medication. We have continued to work effectively with midwifery colleagues, resulting in a total of 534 referrals being received this financial year - a 5% increase on the 2019/20 year. Critically, in 2020/21 we have supported 80 women to successfully quit smoking, the largest number of quits we have seen in this workstream in Medway.

Healthy Child Programme

The service is now back to operating face-to-face as standard. Virtual appointments can be accommodated if requested. Coverage for all five mandated checks is over 90%. The height, weight and hearing screening checks for Reception year children were completed before the end of the school year. Due to the pandemic reducing the timeframe for these screens, the Public Health team worked alongside Medway Community Healthcare (MCH) to ensure that the Year 6 National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) was also completed. MCH now have an emotional wellbeing support service embedded within the school nursing service. Work is underway to ensure this offer compliments the Mental Health School Support Teams (MHSST) that were funded through NHS England, and are due to start operating in January. MCH will provide support to schools which do not have MHSST in place. A digital inclusion project providing access to tablets and data for health visiting, midwifery and Early Help is now in place and is already supporting families.

The Child Health team have been providing resource packs and lesson plans to schools. They are now producing monthly return to school packs for both staff and students. The packs cover topics from bereavement to domestic abuse. The team have been shortlisted for national awards, Children and Young People (CYP) Now for Adolescent Self-Harm project and Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) for Digital.

The Public Health team have been working with the Communications team and Digital team and an external media agency to work with the council on innovative messaging and channels. This will be aimed at young people around Covid19. The campaign has been very successful with nearly half a million views of the images and videos on social media, and over a million impressions (advertisements appearing on a user's screen).

Council Plan Outcome: All children achieving their potential in schools

Programme: Raising aspiration and ambition

Council Plan measures

CA13 The percentage of children permanently excluded from school (upheld only)

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	0.02%	0.01%	Green	Minimise	STATIC	DET
Q4 2020/21	0.02%	0.01%	Green	Minimise	DET	DET

Comments

Please note, the annual target of 0.06% is apportioned across each quarter.

This quarter there have been 4 upheld permanent exclusions. 17 processes were started, 10 have been retracted or are to be retracted and 3 still await an outcome.

The 4 upheld exclusions equate to 0.01%. All permanent exclusions were from secondary schools.

Benchmarking

Nationally the rate of permanent exclusions is 0.09% (2018/19).

Actions

During lockdown the Inclusion team continued to offer support via 'The School Support Group' which is held virtually. Once all pupils returned to school, the team members re-engaged with pupils in their home school setting.

Team members also contacted families during lockdown to try and keep links with pupils on their caseload. Virtual meetings were offered to schools and advice and guidance given via telephone and email to support pupils whose behaviour could lead to an exclusion.

Since schools returned in March team members have met face-to-face with young people where the majority of guidance and support provided to schools has been done virtually.

The School Support Group (SSG) continues to run virtually and has been used by both primary and secondary schools. There have been regular telephone consultation/discussions with schools regarding issues that may lead to an exclusion.

CASEIKS4 Ofsted Partnership measure: Percentage of all Secondary Schools judged good or better

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	85%	94.4%	Green	Maximise	STATIC	STATIC
Q4 2020/21	85%	94.4%	Green	Maximise	STATIC	STATIC

Comments

Of the 18 Secondary schools in Medway, 4 are classed as outstanding, 13 are good and 1 is inadequate. This means that 17 of 18 are good or better. The inadequate judgment applies to the Waterfront University Technical College (UTC) from its time as Medway UTC.

Benchmarking

Nationally this figure is 76% and the South East currently has 86.6% of schools graded good or better.

Actions

There have been no new inspections this quarter.

CASEISPEC Ofsted The percentage of special schools in Medway judged to be good or better

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	90%	100%	Green	Maximise	STATIC	STATIC
Q4 2020/21	90%	100%	Green	Maximise	STATIC	STATIC

Comments

There have been no new inspections this quarter.

EDU3(b) The percentage of children who were persistently absent from school

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	11.4%	19.6%	Red	Minimise	NA	DET
Q4 2020/21	11.4%	NA	NA	Minimise	NA	NA

Comments

This data is for terms 1 and 2 of the 20-21 academic year. The primary rate is 18.4% and the secondary rate is 19.8%.

The statistical release for the 19-20 academic year was cancelled due to Covid19.

Benchmarking

Nationally, persistent absence rates are 13%, with primary at 12% and secondary at 14%.

Actions

All schools whose persistent absence is above the national percentage will be contacted and offered support and guidance from the local authority (LA) in addressing their persistent absence (PA). This is not dependant on their purchasing our attendance advisory service.

OfstedPrimMnt The percentage of Maintained primary schools in Medway judged to be good or better

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	93%	96%	Green	Maximise	STATIC	IMP
Q4 2020/21	93%	96%	Green	Maximise	STATIC	IMP

Comments

24 out of 25 local authority (LA) maintained primary schools are rated good or better; 4 are graded outstanding and 1 requires improvement.

There have been no changes to Ofsted ratings this quarter.

SE KS2 The percentage of children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2

Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
2019/20 Academic Year	65.0%	NA	NA	Maximise	NA	NA
2018/19 Academic Year	64.0%	64.0%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

Comments

Due to Covid19 there will be no Key Stage 2 (KS2) data for the 19-20 and 20-21 academic year.

SE KS2Mnt	The percentage of children who achieve the required standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at KS2 in Maintained Schools Only
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Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
2019/20 Academic Year	65%	NA	NA	Maximise	NA	NA

Comments

Due to Covid19 there will be no data for the 19-20 and 20-21 academic year.

SE2 OEPr	Partnership measure: Percentage of all Primary Schools judged good or better
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Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	87.5%	89.5%	Green	Maximise	STATIC	IMP
Q4 2020/21	87.5%	89.5%	Green	Maximise	STATIC	IMP

Comments

There has been one academy inspection this quarter.

Currently 68 schools are good or better from a cohort of 76; eight are outstanding and 60 are good.

There are 51 academies. Of these 86.3% are good or better (four are outstanding and 40 are good), four require improvement and three are inadequate.

Benchmarking

Nationally, this figure is 87.9% and for the South East currently it is 90.9%.

SEKS4A8	Average attainment 8 score
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Annual	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
2019/20 Academic Year	46.6	NA	NA	Maximise	NA	NA
2018/19 Academic Year	46.6	46.6	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

Comments

Due to Covid19 there will be no data for the 19-20 and 20-21 academic year.

Council Priority: GROWTH

Maximising regeneration and economic growth

Council Plan Outcome: Residents with jobs and skills

Programme: Jobs, Skill and Employability

Council Plan Measures

NI 117(16-17) **The percentage of 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)**

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Short Trend	Long Trend
Q1 2021/22	2.60%	3.40%	Red	Minimise	STATIC	DET
Q4 2020/21	2.60%	3.40%	Red	Minimise	DET	DET

Comments

Data is for May 2021. The rate of Not In Education, Employment or Training (NEET) 16-and 17-year-olds is 3.4%. This represents 220 young people.

Due to the cyclical nature of this measure comparisons are made to the position 12 months ago rather than from quarter-to-quarter.

In May 2020, 3.3% of 16-and 17-year-olds, 210 individuals, were NEET. Year-on-year there has been a 5% deterioration in the proportion of young people who are NEET. There are currently 10 more 16-and 17-year-olds who are NEET than a year ago.

The rate of NEET must be looked at in conjunction with the number of 16-and 17-year-olds whose activity is not known. Currently this is 2.1% which represents 135 individuals. In May 2020 there were 512 children whose activity was unknown; this equated to 8.2%. As such, compared to last year, this statistic has improved by 74%.

The reduction in the number of Not Knowns will have been one reason for the increase in the number of NEETs. However, to contextualise the data, the combined NEET/Not Known percentage is now 5.5%, compared to 11.5% a year ago.

This improvement means that Medway is now in the fourth quintile of Local Authority (LA) performance, compared to being in the fifth (lowest) quintile in May 2020.

Benchmarking

Nationally the rate of NEET is at 3.0% for May and has remained static compared to last year. It is 2.7% in the South East, having also stayed static compared to the same point last year.

The National rate of Not Knowns is 2.0% and the rate in the South East is 2.8%. Both of these have improved compared to last year when these figures were 2.5% and 3.1%, respectively.

Nationally the combined NEET/Not Known percentage is 5% and in the South East it is 5.5%. As such, Medway is worse than the National, and is the same as the South East's rate. Kent's combined rate is 6.5%. The positive rate of change in Medway is better than the National or South East rate of change.

	Medway May 21	Medway annual rate of change	National May 21	National annual rate of change	SE May 21	SE annual rate of change
%NEET	3.4%	-3%	3.0%	-	2.7%	+4%
% Not Known	2.1%	+74%	2.0%	+25%	2.8%	+10%
Combined	5.5%	+52%	5.0%	+9%	5.5%	+7%

Actions

While there remains a lot of work to do in supporting young people who are NEET, the Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) team have made significant improvements in reducing the number of young people whose destination is unknown. They are working with the BI (Business Intelligence) and Systems teams to continue these improvements into next year's data. The Be Yourself Project, which is funded by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is enabling us to provide additional support for young people around employability, education and accessing training. The current programming comes to an end in October and we are currently working on developing an extension of the project to continue for a further year.