



Improvement Plan 2020 - 21 Southampton Children and Learning Service



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Introduction

Southampton has high ambitions for its children and young people, with a focus on 'Children and Young People getting a good start in life' at the centre of it's strategic priorities. We want to deliver the very best outcomes for all of our children. To meet our goals, our Children and Learning Service continues to proactively engage with improvement activity on a regional and national level. Our Ofsted ILACS inspection in November 2019 highlighted a range of interventions that are benefitting children and families. But, Ofsted found that the service still 'requires improvement' to be good.

To ensure that we improve, there is strong commitment from politicians and the Council Leadership to a 'Child Friendly Southampton', our vision for a city where we prioritise the safety, welfare, and success of every child in everything that we do.

By working effectively with all our partners, we are confident that our Children and Learning service will play its crucial part in making Southampton a genuinely child-friendly city and a place where young people can grow up safely and achieve their aspirations. Southampton is pleased to welcome a new Executive Director of Children's Services, Robert Henderson in September 2020 and our strategy for Children and Learning is being reviewed, with corporate support, in Autumn 2020.



Context

This is the second iteration of our improvement plan, initially developed in January 2020 in response to the inspection. In summer 2020, the service engaged with Hampshire Children's Services, through the Partners in Practice initiative, to assess the efficacy of the plan in addressing the inspection recommendations. Adjustments were made based on this peer review. This plan also responds to a whistle blowing investigation report and the Freddie Serious Case Review which were both published in August 2020.

This 'plan for improvement' is high level, underpinned by and referring back to a series of service improvement and development plans owned by Heads of Service and Service Managers in the Children and Learning Service and across the Council, and cross cutting multi-agency plans overseen by senior leaders. These plans detail clear actions, owners and timescales against which progress is monitored by the Executive and the Director **Improvement** Board. Underneath these are more granular action and project plans.



Our Ambition for Children



Southampton children are key stakeholders in our ambition to make Southampton *Greener, Healthier and Fairer*. We want Southampton to be a city that is recognised for its proactive approach to preventing problems and intervening early, as well being a *'Child Friendly City'* where children and young people have great opportunities and an aspiration to achieve.



Our child friendly values are to:

Be Inclusive – by becoming a **participative city** in which children experience meaningful engagement in the design, delivery and place shaping of Southampton;

Listen – by implementing a participation framework for children within Southampton City Council's democratic processes within which consultation with children takes place;

Learn - by ensuring all strategy and policy is informed by the active engagement of children, with new strategic commitments expressed in child friendly terms to support children's inclusion and participation in civic policy creation.

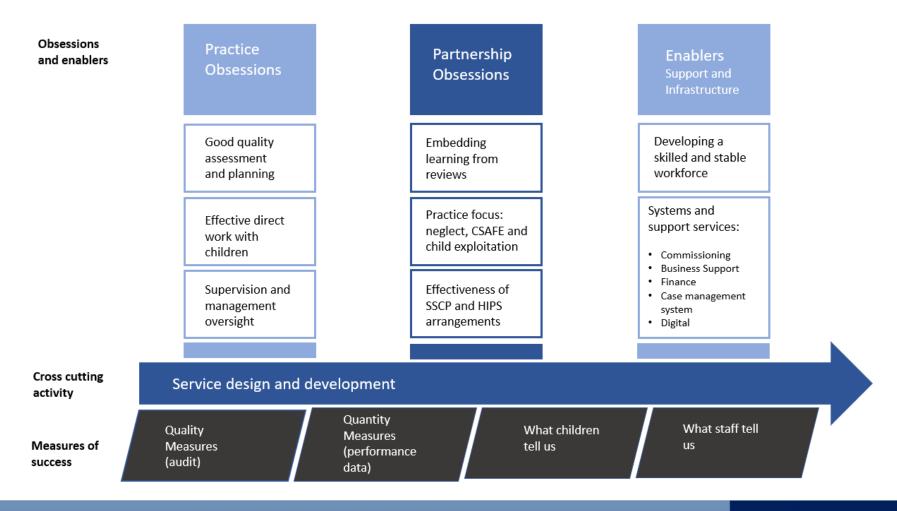
Moving forward at pace:

In Autumn 2020, led by the Executive Director for Children and Learning, we will translate our ambition into a cohesive Vision and Strategy for our staff and key stakeholders to get behind. We work hard with our partners to safeguard children and we have welcomed senior leaders on to our Improvement Board.

Central to our approach is our responsibilities as a Corporate Parent and our commitment that our looked after children will receive best support we can give them through a reinvigorated corporate parenting strategy.

Our obsessions

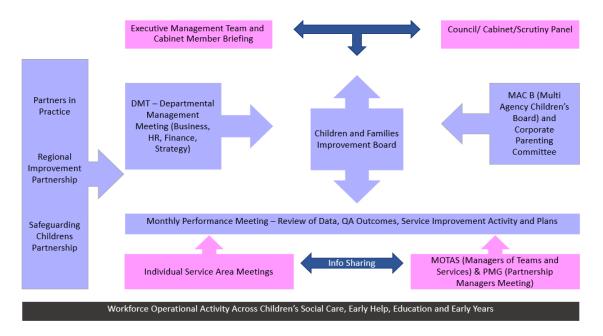
Underpinning our detailed plan are core obsessions and enablers. We believe that with a relentless focus, we will achieve the best outcomes for children in Southampton; laying the foundations for a service that provides consistently good practice.



Governance Structure

Our improvement plan is reviewed by a monthly Improvement Board, chaired by the Executive Director for Finance. The Board receives and considers performance data; progress (exception) reports and presentations from service managers. Membership has been extended to include key partners and will also include practitioners, with an interface with our practitioners reference group.

Further oversight is provided through the Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel.



- Children and Families Improvement Board:
- Executive Director Finance and Commercialisation (Chair)
- Executive Director Children and Learning
- Heads of Service (Education, Children's Social Care, Safeguarding, Integrated and Specialist Services)
- Finance Officers (Children's Social Care and Education)
- Practitioner representatives
- QA Unit Manager (Principal Social Worker)
- Safeguarding Children's Partnership Chair
- Cabinet Member for Children and Learning
- Police Superintendent
- Associate Director, Southampton Clinical Commissioning Group
- Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children, Adults and Looked After Children
- Primary and Secondary Head Teachers



Measure

Measure

Plans

% of children open with assessment /

allocations in <10 days from referral

Increase % of locality teams

Rate of Early Help Assessments

completed per 10,0000 - 17 yrs

Early Help

	Reduce Numbers and % Staff Turnover (rolling year)	5% social worker; 9% overall	4% social workers; 2% overall Local Indicator	5%	Workers will build long term uninterrupted relationships with children so that their plans are progressed.
Leadership and Stability	Reduce Sickness absence days per employee in rolling year	8 days	14.14 days Local Indicator	8 days in a rolling year per employee	Improved staff well being will support stability and better consistency of practice across the service.
	Reduce the % of agency workers	22%	8.8% (in established posts, cross-service) <i>Local Indicator</i>	5%	More staff will work for Southampton and be directly invested in our ambition and vision for children.
	Reduce and maintain caseload numbers per allocated social worker	18 (cross service)	18 overall Caseloads are above 25 children in PACT and 20 in LAC Local Indicator	20 allocated children per worker in PACT; 15 per worker in LAC	Social workers will have the time to complete good quality work with children and families.
	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcome
Quality Assurance	Percentage of scheduled audits completed	50%	72% Local Indicator	90%	The service will 'know itself well'; understanding the quality of work through its audit programme.

Actual (July 2020)

80%

84%

101.4

Local Indicator

Local Indicator

Regional 42.5

Actual (July 2020)

Target

Target

80%

90%

120

Outcomes

Outcomes

support.

the earliest opportunity

Children and Families benefit from an early help offer that is

Children will receive effective and timely support early help

Children will have their needs met through intervention at

8

rooted in a good understanding of their needs.

Baseline

Baseline

75%

N/A

81.1

	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
MASH /	Maintain the % of referrals dealt with my MASH within 1 working day or less	94%	98% Local Indicator	100%	The safety of children is supported by referrals being dealt with in a timely manner
EDT	% of contacts that become new referrals of Children in Need	35%	26% Regional 21%	21%	Children and families receive the help they need at the right time and from the best possible resource
	Rate of new referrals of Children in Need rate per 10,000 (0-17 year olds)	215.6	175.4 Regional 124.6	151.7	Children receive the right type and level of support.
	Increase the % of Strategy Discussions held within 1 WD of the Referral outcome being progress to CP Strategy Discussion	94.5%	94% Local indicator	100%	Safeguarding investigations in respect of children are undertaken promptly.
	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
Assessment	Monitor the levels of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started per 10,000 (0-17 year olds) across relevant service areas	34	24 SN 19/Reg 14 / Nat 14	19	Where there are concerns about a child's safety there is a robust assessment of risk
	Increase the % of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 45 days	69%	93% SN 76%/ Reg 81% / Nat 81%	76% SN	Assessments completed in a timely manner to ensure children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay
	Increase the % of children who's views were represented at their ICPC	?	63% Local Indicator	100%	Children who are able to provide their views are represented at their Conference
Children with Disabilities	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcome
	Visiting completed within designated timescales / frequencies	82%	82% Local Indicator	85%	Children receive high support to meet their needs, reduce risk of harm and avoid potential for family breakdown. Parents of children with SEND are supported to care for their children.



	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
Elective Home	All EHE cases within the priority cohort (CiN, CP, YOS) to be allocated to an EHE Home visitor	N/A	100% Local Indicator	100%	Local Authority awareness of and response to children not placed in school is robust.
Education	All new cases of EHE will have initial engagement within the first 4 school weeks	N/A	From Sept 2020 Local Indicator	100%	Increase our ability to recognise and resolve potential issues earlier
SEND	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcome
SEND	Education Health and Care Assessment – completed in 20 Week Statutory timescale.	50.3%	100% Local Indicator	90%	Children and YP benefit from support when they need it with a higher satisfaction in parent carers and schools/settings, less complaints and better relationships.
	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcome
Protection and Court	No of Children subject to CP Planning at Month end	464	426 SN 388/Reg 527/Nat 439	328	Child Protection Plans are in place for children where it has been assessed that multi-agency intervention is required to keep them safe.
	Rate of children subject to child protection planning (per 10,000 0 – 17 years)	91	82 SN 48/ Reg 44 / Nat 41	65	The number of children who require Child Protection Plans is at a level that is moving towards a comparable position with other local authorities like Southampton.
	% of children subject to a Child Protection Plan seen in the last 15 working days.	79%	75% Local Indicator	90%	The service is in regular contact with children subject to Child Protection planning to ensure that there is ongoing assessment of risk and opportunities to intervene effectively.

	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
Children's	Number of Edge of Care referrals	442	545 Local Indicator	623	The Edge of Care offer is used robustly for vulnerable families
Resource Service	Increase the % of cases showing significant improvement between start and latest 'goal-based scores'	87%	88% Local Indicator	>80% Families situations improve as a result Edge of Care response	Families situations improve as a result of an effective Edge of Care response
	Increase the % of Edge of Care children that have remained with their family	80%	78% Local Indicator	>75%	Children will receive effective support to prevent deterioration of home circumstances
	Number of open EoC cases	116	108 Local Indicator	>109	The EoC maintains a good level of engagement with families in need of support.

Vouth lustice	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
Youth Justice	Rate of custodial sentences imposed on young people aged 10-17 at time of sentence	0.51 (10 custodial sentences)	0.25 (5 custodial sentences) SN - 0.23	<0.3	Safe alternatives to custody are sought for children who commit serious offences.
	ETE% of young people who were in suitable ETE provision when their disposal ended	66.7% - <16 yrs 46.1% - >16 yrs	69% - <16 yrs 40% - >16 yrs Local Indicator	75% - < 16 yrs 75% - > 16 yrs	Young people who offend benefit from good education, training and employment outcomes

	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
MET	Increase the % of (viable) missing episodes where RHI was offered (excluding OHA)	96%	100% Local indicator	100%	The needs and safety of children who have been missing are responded to robustly.
	Increase the % of LAC missing episodes where RHI was offered	91%	100% Local indicator	100%	Looked after children who go missing receive effective support.
	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
Looked after	Total number of LAC at period end	516	512 SN 496, Nat 514, Reg 541	420	Where it is assessed that there is no other alternative the LA will take children into its care for their welfare and protection
Children	Rate of looked after children per 10,000 0 – 17 years)	100	101 SN 86, Nat 65, Reg 53	82.4	Where it is assessed that there is no other alternative the LA will take children into its care for their welfare and protection
	Increase and maintain % of Children with an authorised care plan	95%	95% Local Indicator	95%	Children have good quality care plans, to which they have contributed, and which meet their needs.
	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
Care leavers	Increase and maintain % of Care Leavers in contact and in suitable accommodation	81%	86% SN 81%, Nat 85%, Reg 84%	81%	Care Leavers are in accommodation that is safe and secure.
	Increase the % of Looked after Children aged 16+ or open Care Leavers with an authorised Pathway Plan	95%	96% Local indicator	95%	Care Leavers have a good quality Pathway Plans, to which they have contributed, and which meets their needs.
	Reduce the % of Looked after Children Placed in emergency beds / B&B	4% care leavers; 0% LAC	0% Local indicator	0%	Children and YP are placed in Suitable accommodation with discontinued use of Bed and Breakfast accommodation

	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
Fostering/ Placements	Number of 'in house' foster care	164	165 Local Indicator	200 by 2023	Secure placements, supported by confident and empathic carers.
	Percentage of children placed in IFAs	30%	29% Local Indicator	50%	Secure placements, in our own provision supported by confident and empathic carers.
	Increase the % of looked after children matched and with permanence plan recorded .	NA	42% Local Indicator	>80%	Children receive permanence in a timely manner with prevention of drift
	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcomes
Adoption	Number of adoptions	3 per month (12 month average)	2 per month	3 per month	Children who are being adopted will receive timely and effective support.
	Average Number of days between entering care and child moving to adoptive family	430 days	306 SN 463 Nat 486	<365 days	Timely adoption matching will meet the needs of the child/ren
Safeguarding Children	Measure	Baseline	Actual (July 2020)	Target	Outcome
Partnership	Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and Serious Case Reviews completed within timescales.	7 in progress	8 in progress 0 completed 0 in timescale Local Indicator	100% of reviews completed within timescales.	Where it is identified a Child Safeguarding Practice Review is required that this is completed within timescales required and learning disseminated within partner organisations including Children's Services

• In Spring 2020, the council commissioned an independent enquiry to respond to safeguarding concerns raised via a collective grievance by Children and Learning staff. In response to the findings, senior leaders and members have worked decisively with the service management team to formulate a robust action plan which will be led by the new Executive Director.



 Subsequently, we can show rigorous and ongoing scrutiny of outcomes for children and a robust corporate commitment to resourcing the service effectively.

• We can evidence a high level of engagement with partners, despite the impact of Covid 19; examples include our virtual MASH Strategic Group, Safeguarding Children's Partnership and Corporate Parenting Committee. The latter has been strengthened, in line with the Ofsted recommendations: a clear Corporate Parenting Strategy is being developed, supported by task and finish groups to ensure traction against critical practice areas. We have engaged with Cafcass to set up quarterly meetings; alongside continuing to engage with the family courts.

• We have moved to virtual learning platforms; commissioning the development of e-learning for our business critical courses and launching virtual practice weeks and bulletins focused on improving the quality of assessment, direct work and supervision.



- We have progressed our Practice Model development. Signs of Safety is being carefully explored with the provider. We have revised our restorative practice project plan in light of the findings of our interim evaluation report. We have developed detailed practice guidance and worked virtually with our Partner in Practice (Hampshire Children's Service) to consider staff engagement strategies. We have Practice Framework workshops set up for staff in Autumn 2020, alongside extensive restorative practice refresher training with a provider experienced in supporting children's social care services on their improvement journey.
- Alongside the practice model development, we have used Partner in Practice insights to strengthen our service improvement plan, review our quality assurance framework and begin work to engage with our management team about effective performance management.

- We have launched our virtual Learning and Improvement Panel for Children's Social Care which has run monthly through out 'lock down'. We have also worked with our data team to finalise our Early Help performance scorecard which will further improve oversight of the experiences of children and families and the quality of service offered.
- In response to Covid-19,we worked with our seconded Ofsted inspector to facilitate >30 virtual reflective group sessions for >300 staff before handing this work over to the Practice Development team from October 2020. We have also launched our Supervision Guidance and we are implementing virtual training for managers.
- We have increased staffing capacity in the Child Protection Conference and IRO Teams to ensure that ongoing focus
 on improved performance and quality. We have started management audits and peer audits in these services as
 part of refreshed service delivery plans.
- We have stabilised the management team in the MASH and assessment service, evidencing a consistent and timely response to children's risks and needs throughout the pandemic.



- We are contributing to a corporate initiative to better understand the experiences of the BAME communities; for safeguarding children this will be focused through the Safeguarding Children's Partnership.
- We have progressed the Year of the Child audit programme virtually and used the opportunity to engage with children in this cohort to learn about and respond to their experiences during lockdown. We have secured extra auditor support because of the additional work the pandemic has brought for our managers and we have undertaken regular audits of practice in key areas.

We maintained direct contact with our most vulnerable children through out the period of lock down restrictions
and resumed safe contact with children across the service, in collaboration with partners at the earliest

opportunity we could.

Protection and Court Service, where we know there is the most pressure. There is weekly scrutiny of caseloads and management reports and monthly reports to our Improvement Board to ensure senior corporate oversight. Virtual recruitment is being supported by our Human Resources team as a critical element of our Recruitment Retention Plan.



- We have maintained our permanence panel arrangements, operating virtually. The looked after children's service and IROs are progressing a 'Language that Cares' approach in case recording and records of reviews.
- Timely completion and authorisation of plans has remained consistently high for looked after children and care leavers. Health passport completion for care leavers has increased notably.
- Fostering and Adoption strategies and associated reports have been signed off as part of the refreshed Corporate Parenting schedule.
- The Safeguarding Children's Partnership has maintained its focus on core practice themes: Neglect, adolescent mental health and child sexual abuse in the family environment; including staff awareness surveys, virtual partnership self evaluation and local learning review and workshops.



What Southampton children say makes a good social worker.



Our Improvement Plan

AREA	PRIORITIES/ACTIONS	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: • Executive Director, Southampton Children and Learning Service • Head of Service, Children's Social Care Linked Service Delivery Plans: • Quality Assurance • Assessment • Protection and Court • Looked after Children • Recruitment and Retention • Quality Assurance	Outcome: Social Workers to build long term uninterrupted relationships with children so that their plans are progressed. Reduce the number of sickness absence days per employee in rolling year Evidence scrutiny of monthly absence management report by Service Director and Senior Mgt Team evidenced in minutes of DMT Progress actions in R & R Action Plan Progress R and R activity in Service Delivery Plans Stabilise the number and % Turnover of SWs within Assessment, PACT and LAC Stabilise the number and % Turnover of overall staff Reduce the % of agency workers Progress Service Redesign Planning Reduce the number of allocated SW/Teams children have experienced from first point of contact Understand the social worker caseloads using Data Teams monthly Front line Caseload summary data report Outcome: We will achieve management stability and capacity	July 21 Apr-20 May-20 Dec 2020 April-21 July -20 April-21 Jan-21 Apr-21 Apr-21 Jul-20	Reduce the number of absence days per employee Monthly Review Six-weekly review of R&R action Plan SDPS reviewed bi monthly Staffing stability in core social work teams Exit interviews to be offered to all leavers Overall and social worker stability % of agency staff Planning to be reviewed 6 weekly Tracking of social worker allocations per child Compliance with caseload aspiration in Caseload Policy	Human Resources Human Resources HR/ Hays / Communication Department / Finance QA Unit HR HR / Finance / Hays HR / Finance / Hays HR / Finance / SSCP Data team Data team
Core Ofsted recommendation: 'Social Workers to build long term uninterrupted relationships with children so that their plans are progressed'	 Stabilise the number and % turnover of Children's Services Service Managers Stabilise the number and % turnover of Children's Services, Senior Managers 	Oct-20 Oct-20	Service manager staffing stability Senior Leadership staffing stability	HR / Finance /EMT HR / Finance /EMT



AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
		57112		
Responsible Officers: • Executive Director, Southampton Children and Learning Service • Head of Service, Children's Social Care • Councillor	Outcome: The Council have a compelling and ambitious vision INVESTIGATION REPORT REC 1 Develop an ambitious vision for children and young people in Southampton which mobilises all council services and partner agencies to improve outcomes for all children in the City; Embed outcomes to improve services for children and young people into all SCC departmental business plans Outcome: Promote an inclusive culture, which connects senior management with practice and ensures that staff concerns are swiftly addressed INVESTIGATION REPORT REC 2	Dec -20 21/22 Business cycle	Staff engagement with vision development; evidence of staff connecting with vision, how it impacts upon their work with and for children and families Outcomes against priorities with progress reported	Multi agency partners Multi agency partners
	Co -design an effective communication strategy with managers, front line staff and partners which incorporates both internal and external communication	March- 21	Monitoring of Strategy; staff and partner engagement and feedback	Communications Team
	Monthly safeguarding assurance visit to one service by Executive Director for Children & Learning Services and the Lead Councillor to review performance and listen to the experiences of front-line staff	Sep -20	Monitoring of Meetings; feedback from staff	Corporate Services

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: • Executive Director, Southampton Children and Learning Service • Head of Service, Children's Social Care • Councillor • Principal Social Worker	Outcome: Promote an inclusive culture, which connects senior management with practice and ensures that staff concerns are swiftly addressed INVESTIGATION REPORT REC 2 • Quarterly safeguarding assurance meeting between the Chief Executive, the Leader, Lead Councillor and the Executive Director for Children & Learning Services to discuss successes, challenges, pressures and concerns • Establish a Staff reference Group to support the delivery of the improvement plan and provide a front-line "sense check" on its effectiveness • A representative of the Staff Reference Group to be included as a member of the Children's Services Improvement Board • Review the improvement plan and ensure that actions to achieve the cultural shift needed are included • Ensure that restorative practice is championed across the service; modelled by senior leaders and managers and supported by a clear development and implementation plan • Quarterly meeting to be established between the Chief Executive and the Principal Social Worker to ensure a direct connection with front line practitioners • Executive Management Board meeting every six months to review whole council approach to embedding outcomes for children & young people in the city • Relaunch regular staff conference to be co-designed and co-ordinated	Sep-20 Sep-20 Oct-20 Sep-20 Dec-20 Sep-20 Dec-20	Meetings are scheduled, with evidence of actions arising progressed. Implementation of Practitioners Improvement Board Carry out annual staff surveys benchmarked against previous years (SN) Practitioner in attendance at Improvement Board Evidence of review and monthly progress updates Progress against Working with Families Project Plan Staff undertaking Restorative Practice training Monitoring of Meetings Monitoring of meetings/minutes Conference planned and coordinated prior to December 2020	Corporate Services Principal Social Worker Practice Development Team Corporate Services Working with Families Project Group Principal Social Worker Corporate Services Communications Team
	 Review the service offer and approach provided by all council support functions to ensure that they are responsive and supportive, minimising the administrative burden on managers and officers 	Mar-2021	Review of service level agreement	SCC Support Services



AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: • Executive Director, Southampton	Outcome: Introduce a compelling workforce strategy that ensures Southampton is the destination of choice for experienced and capable social workers and managers. INVESTIGATION REPORT REC 4			
Children and Learning Service Head of Service,	 Develop a workforce strategy for Southampton's Children & Learning service that is ambitious in its offer to attract and retain good social workers 	Mar-21	Monitoring of Recruitment and Retention Plan	HR/ Hays / Communication Team / Finance
Children's Social Care Councillor	 Ensure that the recruitment and retention of social workers identified within the workforce strategy is built into the communication strategy for the service (relevant expertise secured) 	Mar-21	Communication Strategy	Communication Team
Head of Service HR	 Commit to reducing the caseloads for front-line workers, being explicit about caseload numbers for each service and when this is expected to be achieved by 	Mar-21	Caseload aspiration is 18 per social worker	HR/ Hays / Communication Team / Finance
	Review the ICT equipment currently available to all officers in the service and prioritise the service in the roll out of new technology	Mar-21	ICT Plan / SWOW Programme	ICT/Care Director Provider / CC, Project Team
	Ensure that front line officers are actively involved in the design of the new case management system	Mar-21	Improved integrity and accuracy of data / Practitioner rep on Implementation Board	CCM Project Team
	 Review service offer from business support to minimise administrative burdens from front line officers and managers ensuring that they have more time to support children, young people and families 	Dec-20	Reviewed and monitored SLA	SCC support services
	 Review accommodation requirements for all services to ensure that all officers have appropriate accommodation to meet the needs of their service and young people 	Dec-20	Progression of Smarter Ways of Working Programme (SWOW)	SWOW Team

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Executive Director, Southampton Children and Learning Service Head of Service, Children's Social Care Councillor Hampshire LA	Outcome: Ensure the council has a regular independent assessment of the effectiveness of its children's social care services INVESTIGATION REPORT REC 5 - Advance plans to expand the membership of the Children's Services Improvement Board to include key partners - Revise the improvement plan in line with feedback from the independent review of the plan and associated documents - Undertake broad engagement and communication activity with officers and partners on the content and key areas of the improvement plan - Commission a quarterly independent assessment of the quality of practice and associated report, which will be presented to the improvement board and cabinet members - Expand the independent expert support offer in partnership with Ofsted and DfE	Sep-20 Sep-20 Oct -20 Nov-20 Sep-20	Quorum of meeting to include Partner representatives / Review TOR of Board Revised Plan agreed with monthly updates and bi monthly commentary Engagement with officers forms part of the Communication Strategy Quarterly updates and review discussed with Services. QA Unit engaged with reviewer in embedding learning into service QA framework Service engagement in Partners in Practice	Multi agency partners Hampshire Partners in Practice Communications Team Independent Reviewer Hampshire Partners in Practice

Quality Assurance

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: • Head of Service, Integrated and Specialist Service	Outcome: Social workers feel confident in undertaking direct work with children and have regular reflective practice on their progress			
Quality Assurance Unit Manager	 Audits to show consistently good quality supervision Audits to show consistently good quality direct work 	Jan-21 Jan-21	% audits graded good or outstanding % audits graded good or outstanding	Operational Teams Operational Teams
Linked Service Delivery Plans: • Quality Assurance • QA activity is	Embed Reflective Practice Outcome: Children have Lasting and Trusting Relationships with their Independent Reviewing Officers	Mar-21	Participation in reflective activity (learning circles; reflexive supervision; reflective group sessions)	Operational Teams; ; Communications Team
reflected across the service delivery plans Core Ofsted	 Consistency of Independent Reviewing Officer function Improved timescales for responding to IRO Alerts/Complaints and CP problem resolution 	April -21 Mar-21	Evidence of case tracking by all IROs. IRO staffing stability Reduce number of IROs that children are allocated Complaints /Alerts to meet corporate/local standard timescales	HR; Hays, Data Team
recommendations: 'Management provide advice for social workers on how to undertake direct work	Outcome: Assessment and Plans are of a high quality to children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measured.		Reduce number of stage 1 complaints	
with children and regular reflective practice on their progress.'	 Service compliance against audit programme Promotion of Research in Practice Make sure that panel framework is maintained and impact is evident 	Oct-20 Jul-20 May-20	% of scheduled audits have been carried out % of staff registered are using RIP by usage breakdown Evidence of weekly and monthly panels	Managers if Teams and Services (MOTAS) Research in Practice Legal Services; Business Support
'Assessment and Plans are of a high quality to children get the right help quickly and that its impact is	Outcome: Improved integrity and accuracy of data; Compliance with regularity of Panel / meetings: Phase 2 Make sure that data integrity is flagged as a priority within Client Case Management	May 21	Reporting framework shows % accuracy of output after implementation of Care Director	CCM project team; data team
clearly measured.'	System implementation Fully implement model of practice	Oct-21	Evidence of practice model methodology used in all relevant cases and impact	Signs of Safety / Elia



Quality Assurance

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:.' Head of Service, Children's Social Care Head of Service HR	Outcome: Invest in managers and staff to deliver high quality services for children. INVESTIGATION REPORT REC 3 Review the learning and development offer for managers and front-line officers to ensure that it meets their development needs including leadership development	Dec-20	Offer reviewed and info cascaded to staff Uploaded to Policy Hub	Corporate Learning and Development Team; Human Resources; Communications Team.
	Ensure regular appraisals are undertaken and that development needs are identified and met	Mar-21	Appraisal completion data	Corporate Learning and Development Team; Human Resources.
	 Review current supervision arrangements to ensure that they are high quality, supportive, challenging and monitored 	Mar-21	Review of supervision guidance	Policy Team
	Ensure that managers and front-line staff have sufficient capacity to take part in high quality supervision and support	Mar-21	Supervision audits; training completion	Corporate Learning and Development Team
	Review practice standards to ensure they follow best practice in improving outcomes for children and young people and that they are understood by managers and front-line officers	Dec-20	Practice Standards Reviewed, cascaded to staff and uploaded to Policy Hub	Policy Team; Communications Teams
	 Progress the revision of the quality assurance framework and systems following the recent independent review 	Nov-20	Completed revision of QA Framework, cascaded to staff and uploaded to the Policy Hub	Policy Team; Hampshire Partners in Practice
	Review the performance management framework and reporting to ensure that it monitors compliance, volumes and timeliness and the effectiveness of outcomes;	Dec-21	Completed revision of PMF	Data Team; Human Resources.



Early Help

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: A Comprehensive Integrated Early Help Service			
 Head of Service, Integrated and Specialist Service Early Help Service Manager 	 Retain focus on number of EH / Common / Targeted Assessments Increase % of children open with assessment / plans Increase % of locality team allocations in <10 days from referral to Early Help Hub Improve Gradings in Year of the Child 2020 Longitudinal Thematic Audit 	Oct-20 Jul-20 May-20 Oct-20	Number of open assessments % open plans % children seen within 10 days of referral % audits graded good or outstanding	Solent NHS / Data Team Solent NHS / Data Team Solent NHS / Data Team QA Unit
Linked Service Delivery Plans:	Increase % of rapid response new referrals seen within 5 days	Jun-20	% of Families seen within 5 days of referral	MASH
Early Help and PreventionQuality Assurance	Audits to show consistently good quality direct work	May-20	to EH % audits graded good or outstanding	QA Unit
Core Ofsted Recommendation: Good quality assessments and plans to ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measured.	Analyse % of re-referrals into Early Help Analyse % cases stepped up	Oct-20 Oct-20	% re-referrals into EH in past 12 months % of cases stepped up to Children's Social Care	Data Team EH Rapid Response Team / EH Hub

MASH

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: Head of Service, Children's Social Care	Outcome: Decision making in the MASH adheres to local guidance and children do not experience unnecessary statutory assessments Monitor level of contacts received	Oct -20	Number of contacts received in preceding six months	Safeguarding Children Partnership
• MASH Service Manager	 Understand application of thresholds - P'ship Audits with multi agency networks 	Feb-21	Evidence, through audit, of appropriateness of referrals across referral sources	Safeguarding Children Partnership
Linked Service Delivery Plans: • MASH	 Ensure that referral thresholds are understood by partner agencies Develop monthly learning circles between Assessment and 	Feb-21 Mar-21	Review of Continuum of Need document by MASH and strategic partners Evidence of monthly learning circles recorded where	Safeguarding Children Partnership QA Unit
Early Help and Prevention	MASH colleagues to check on decision making Partner's MASH Navigator joint Training - Attendance at MASH	Mar-21	decision making was discussed % of new P'ship Navigators receive MASH Training	Safeguarding Children
AssessmentQuality Assurance	Induction training for new MASH Navigators (Partners) Ensure time from referral received / recorded to completion by MASH was 24 hours / 1 working day or less	Oct-20	% of referrals completed within 24 hours	Partnership Safeguarding Children Partnership
Core Ofsted Recommendation:	Coordinate 6 monthly health checks of referral and decision making with partners	May-20	Completion of six monthly health checks	QA Unit
	Outcome: All referrals to MASH are well informed and appropriate			Data Team; SESLIP
'Decision making in the MASH adheres to	 Monitor the level of contacts that become new referrals of Children In Need (CiN) 	Oct-20	% of conversion from contact to referral	regional improvement partnership
local guidance and children do not experience	 Monitor the rate of new referrals of Children in Need (CiN) per 10,000 (0-17 year olds) in past six months 	Oct-20	Rate per 10,000 0 – 17 year olds, Children in Need	Data Team; SESLIP regional improvement partnership
unnecessary statutory assessments.'	Analyse the gradings in weekly MASH Management Audits	Jun-20	% of cases graded good or outstanding	QA Unit
	Outcome: Concerns for children's safety OOH are dealt with swiftly and proportionately Analyse data and cases studies to show impact of EDT response	Dec-21	Monthly case exemplar showing good practice and identifying any barriers to effective service delivery. % of EDT contacts are progressed within 1 WD	QA Unit
	Outcome: Delivery of Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) is robust and has clear senior management oversight	Oct-20	Bi-monthly senior manager audit to provide assurance of	Head of Service -
	Convene management audits to understand impact of LADO,	Jan-21	robust decision making Bi-annual independent review of LADO function	Safeguarding, Integrated and
	Convene independent audit of LADO function			Specialist Services



Assessment

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: Prompt and Proportionate responses to children at risk			
Head of Service, Children's Social	Monitor the level of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started	Oct-20	Number and rate of sec.47 enquiries starting	Hampshire Constabulary; SESLIP
CareAssessment Service	 Monitor % of Strategy Discussions held within 1 Working Day of the Referral outcome being progress to CP Strategy Discussion (MASH) 	Dec-21	% of strategy discussions held within 1 WD	Safeguarding Children Partnership
Manager	Quarterly dip sampling of attendance at Strategy Discussions	Dec-21	% attendance of those involved with the case providing information	Safeguarding Children Partnership
Linked Service Delivery Plans:	Analyse Gradings in Thematic Audits	Dec-21	% of audits graded good or outstanding	QA Unit
AssessmentMASHProtection and	Outcome: Good quality assessments and plans to ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measured.			
Court • Children's Resource	Monitor timeliness of completion of Single Assessments (SA)	Apr-20 Dec-21	% of single assessments completed within 45 days	Data Team
Service • Quality Assurance	Monitor timeliness of case allocation after referral	500 22	% of cases allocated within 48 hours	Data team
Core Ofsted Recommendation:	Outcome: Children benefit from effective Child Protection Planning Audit of Conference outcomes, reports and minutes (including problem resolution) Monitor levels of appropriate children who engage with CP	Dec-21	% of Case Conferences audited where evidence Thresholds are being applied	Children's Social Care
Good quality assessments and plans to ensure that all	Champions Outcome: Children are protected through the consistent and appropriate use of Child Safety Agreements	Dec-21	% of children who benefit from referral to and engage with Child Protection Champions	Business Support ; Child Protection Champions
children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measured.	Analysis of Gradings in Thematic Audits	Dec-21	% audits graded good or outstanding	Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service
	 Level of staff engagement in Domestic Abuse Training Level of staff engagement in Risk Mgt Framework Training 	July -21 July-21	% of staff engaging in training % of staff engaging in training	Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service



Children with Disabilities

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Head of Service, Integrated and Specialist Service Children with Disabilities Service Manager Linked Service	Outcome: Good quality assessments and plans to ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measured. • Maintain the quality of assessments in the Jigsaw children with disabilities team and develop evidence bank of outstanding practice (Managers audits) Outcome: Better management advice for social workers on how to undertake direct work	Jan-21	% audits graded good or outstanding	QA Unit / Solent NHS
Delivery Plans Children with Disabilities SEND Partnership Plan Protection and Court Quality Assurance Core Ofsted Recommendation: Good quality assessments and plans to ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measured'	Maintain the quality of assessments in the Jigsaw children with disabilities team and develop evidence bank of outstanding practice (Team to suggest cases for audit on monthly basis)	Jan-21	% audits graded good or outstanding	QA Unit / Solent NHS

Elective Home Education

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: Head of Service, Education and Learning Service Elective Home education Service Manager Linked Service Delivery Plan: EHE Action Plan Protection and Court Quality Assurance	Outcome: Local Authority awareness of and response to children not placed in school Monthly reporting of children in priority groups (CP / CIN / YOS) who are EHE and have been allocated Monthly report visited Production of monthly report	Jul-20 Mar-21 Apr-20	% of cases allocated % of priority groups visited Monthly report to Service Lead to be produced	Schools; Children's Social Care; Youth Justice Schools; Children's Social Care; Youth Justice Schools; Children's Social Care; Youth Justice



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: • Head of Service, Education and Learning Service • Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Service Manager • Clinical Commissioning Group Linked Service Delivery Plans: • SEND Partnership Plan • Children with Disabilities • Quality Assurance	Planning and review of education provision (include resource units, special schools and post 16) Present proposals to Cabinet requesting permission to consult Formal Consultation Final decision on proposals Ensure systems for transition and preparation for adulthood are robust Evidence of awareness raising in respect of the transition pathway/best practice guidance Improved pathway for young people transitioning from CAMHS Improved effectiveness of Transitions Operational Group (TOG); ensuring this identifies the needs of young people in out of city placements currently in Yr 10 and planning for their future support Development and implementation of Transition Audit tool to measure effectiveness of implementation and impact of the pathway/best practice guidance.	Jul-21 Jul-21 Jul-21 Sep-20 Sep-20 Mar-21 Mar-21	Evidence of training , awareness raising and promotion of transitions pathway. Confirmation of service offer and pathway Parents will have options for young people with SEND beyond the age 0f 16 % of audits graded good or outstanding % of audits graded good or outstanding	SEND Partnership Board Jigsaw / Adults Services / CCG CAMHS Jigsaw / Adults Services / CCG Jigsaw / Adults Services / CCG

Children in Need of Help and Protection

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: Prompt Pre-proceedings			
Head of Service, Children's Social Care	 Maintain PLO tracking system with Senior Mgt oversight Monitor level of children have pre proceedings starting 	Oct-21 Apr-21	Evidence of each weekly legal planning meeting Monthly percentage	Business Support Legal services; business
Children in Need of Help and Protection Service	within 15 WDs of date of decision to enter pre- proceedings	Αμι-21	Monthly percentage	support
Manager Linked Service Delivery Plans:	 Monitor level of Pre proceeding assessments completed within 16 weeks from the pre-proceeding meeting 	Apr-21	Monthly review of percentage	Legal services; business support
• Assessment	Dip Sampling examples of pre-proceedings letters	Oct-21	% of letters audited that evidence use of plain language	QA Unit
 Protection and Court Looked after Children Missing Exploited 	Engage with judiciary and CAFCASS	Jul-20	Evidence of CLT approach to key stakeholders to brief on progress for court work.	CAFCASS; Family Court
Trafficked Children with Disabilities Children's Resource	Outcome: The quality of assessments and plans ensure that looked after children get the right help quickly and impact is clearly measured			
Service • Quality Assurance	Monitor number of children becoming Looked After children	Mar-21	Total number of Looked after Children, reviewed on a monthly basis	Edge of Care; QA Unit
Core Ofsted Recommendations	Convene thematic audits for quality of work for cases stepping down	May-21	% of audits graded good or outstanding	QA Unit
'The quality of assessments and plans ensure that looked after children get the right	Analyse gradings in Thematic Audits for Looked After Children	May-21	% of audits graded good or outstanding	QA Unit
help quickly and impact is clearly measured.'	Outcome: Effective interventions with families.			
'Management provide advice	Monitor level of staff engagement with Domestic Abuse; parental MH and / or parental substance misuse	Oct-20	% of staff attending training	Practice Development Team
on how to undertake direct work with children and regular reflective discussions on their progress.'	training . • Analyse Gradings in Thematic Audits – (DA / SM / MH)	Apr-21	% of audits graded good or outstanding	QA Unit



Children in Need of Help and Protection (continued)

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:				
	Outcome: Effective interventions with families.			
 Head of Service, Children's 				
Social Care	 Ensure practitioners receive briefings on 'Social Work Practice Management and Standards' 	Mar-21	% of staff attending briefings	PACT Service Manager /QA Unit
Children in Need of Help	 Ensure staff have signed to agree understanding of the 	Mar-21	% signing to acknowledge receipt of	PACT Service Manager / QA Unit
and Protection Service	standards		standards	
Manager	Undertake viability study for implementation of Signs			
arage.	of Safety	Oct-21	Evidence of Signs of Safety viability study	Elia / CCM Project Team
Linked Service Delivery Plans:	Analyse gradings in Thematic Audit focussed on the	000 21	Evidence of Signs of Surety Viability Study	Elia / CCIVI Project Team
Elinea service Belivery Flatisi	Impact of Restorative Practice approaches upon	Oct-21	% of audits graded good or outstanding	0.4 11-25
Quality Assurance	casework.	OCC-21	70 Of addits graded good of odtstanding	QA Unit
Assessment	Provide evidence of engagement with Teams re Level 2	Oct-21	Case studies / exemplars of practice from	
Protection and Court	Training with Restorative Practice examples identified	OCC-21	training	Workforce Development Team
Looked after Children	Training with Restorative Practice examples identified		training	
Missing, Exploited	Monitor level of children who have a permanence	Jan-21	% of children who have a permanence plan	
S	·	JdII-ZI		Data Team / IRO Team
Trafficked • Children with Disabilities	placement plan by their 2nd review		by second review	
	Outroms Management and idea of idea on house and anti-			
Children's Resource	Outcome: Management provide advice on how to undertake			
Service	direct work with children and regular reflective discussions on			
Quality Assurance	their progress			
	Marchaethalas de Cabildon a bioda CD Diagnos is	1 24	0/ of shillers as himship CDD assess this 45	
	Monitor the level of children subject to CP Plan seen in	Jan-21	% of children subject to CPP seen within 15	Data Team
Core Ofsted	the last 15 WD		WD	
Recommendations				
	 Monitor the level of children subject to CPP seen alone 	Jan-21	% seen alone in the last 4 weeks	Data Team
'The quality of assessments				
and plans ensure that looked	Outcome: Children subject to CP Planning have Outcome			
after children get the right	focussed plans			
help quickly and impact is				
clearly measured.'	 Monitor the number of children subject to child 	Oct-20	Total number of children subject to CPP,	QA Unit / Data Team
	protection planning		reviewed on a monthly basis	
'Management provide advice				
on how to undertake direct	 Monitor core group performance - % convened in 	Oct-21	% of children subject to planning who have	Safeguarding Children Partnership / Data
work with children and regular	timescale		Core Groups held within timescale	team
reflective discussions on their				
progress.'	 Analyse outcomes of CPP management audits 	Jul-20	% of audits where decision making was	QA Unit
			assessed to be defensible	~



Missing, Exploited, Trafficked

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE TARGET	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: Prompt response to missing children			
 Head of Service, Integrated and Specialist Service Children's Resource Service Manager 	 Monitor the level of Return Home interviews that are held within 72 hours. Analyse the level of children who go missing being offered a RHI. 	Oct-21	% of RHI that are completed within 72 hours. % of children (viable) who go missing offered a RHI. % of (viable) missing episodes where RHI was offered	Hampshire Constabulary Hampshire Constabulary
Missing, Exploited, Trafficked (MET) Team Manager Linked Service Delivery Plans:	Evidence ways of partnership working that keeps children safe Outcome: Vulnerable children are closely monitored	Jan-21	Monthly MET Ops Panel to be convened	MET operational group
Missing, Exploited, TraffickedProtection and Court	Evidencing that MET actions (tracker) are completed prior to closing referral	Jul-20	Evidence of maintenance of MET tracker	MET operational group
Core Ofsted Recommendation	Outcome: Looked after Children accommodated outside of			
'The quality of assessments and plans to ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measured.'	Monitor number and % of missing LAC offered RHI.	Jan-21	% of looked after children offered a return home interview. Where a RHI does not take place the reason will be recorded and the strategy to engage with the looked after children explored.	National Youth Advocacy Service
	Outcome: The quality of assessments and plans to ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measured			
	Analyse quality of risk assessments in Thematic Audits	April-21	% of audits graded good or outstanding	Children's Social Care / QA Unit



Children's Resource Service

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: Effective support to prevent deterioration of home circumstances			
Head of Service, Integrated and Specialist Service	Monitor number of Edge of Care referrals	Dec-20	Cumulative monthly total	Solent NHS Trust; CCG; Children's Social Care; Quality Assurance Unit
Children's Resource Service Manager	 Monitor level of cases showing significant improvement between start and latest 'goal-based scores' 	Dec-20	% of cases showing improvement from monthly data set	Solent NHS Trust; CCG; Children's Social Care; Quality Assurance Unit
Linked Service Delivery	Monitor number of open EoC cases	Dec-20	Monthly total	Solent NHS Trust; CCG; Children's Social Care; Quality Assurance Unit
• Assessment	 Monitor level of Edge of Care children that have remained with their family - Monthly data set 	Dec-20	% of cases from monthly data set	Solent NHS Trust; CCG; Children's Social Care; Quality Assurance Unit
 Protection and Court Quality Assurance	Outcome: Evidence of impact of specialist assessments and interventions with families			
Core Ofsted Recommendation	Analyse Specialist Assessment Team, Behavioural Resource Service and Family Drug and Alcohol Court case exemplars.	Mar-21	Service to provide case studies each	Solent NHS Trust; CCG; Children's Social Care; Quality Assurance Unit
'The Quality of assessments and plans to ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measures'.	Outcome: The Quality of assessments and plans to ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that its impact is clearly measures.		quarter	Care, Quality Assurance Unit
Cleurly meusures .	 Ensure that assessments and plans are of a good quality - Analysis of gradings in thematic audits 	Oct-20	% of cases graded good or outstanding	Quality Assurance Unit



Youth Justice

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: YOS will be appropriate resourced			
Head of Service,Integrated and Specialist Service	Recruit suitably qualified workers .	Mar-20	Statutory partner contributions will be confirmed for the current year and appropriate staff recruited	Youth Justice Management Board
Youth Offending Service Manager	Outcome: Educational attainment of young people known to YOS will improve			
Linked Service Delivery Plans: • Youth Justice Improvement Plan	Improve ETE outcomes for children who offend.	Sep-20	% of children known to YOS who are engaged in education, employment or training (EET)	ETE Strategic Leads at YJMB; Violent Reduction Co-ordinator; Targeted and Restorative Service Lead
	Outcome: YOS premises are safe		training (LLT)	Restorative Service Lead
Quality Assurance	 Youth Justice Management Board will receive report covering health and safety at Church View. Capital resource to be identified to achieve safe operation of building and/or identify alternative location 	Jan-21	Completion of report and confirmation of action plan to respond to findings.	Building Services
	The partnership will agree the Youth Justice Strategic Plan and ensure appropriate representation on the Board.	Jan-21	Evidence of Board Members to provide agreed level of senior representation at YJMB and Board members providing direction and leadership to the YOS; ensuring compliance with statute and good governance arrangements.	Youth Justice Management Board
	Outcome: BAME over-representation will be understood and addressed			
	Understand and respond to level of BAME offending in relation to population	Jan-21	% of BAME in Southampton and comparison with SN and highly performing services	Violence Reduction Unit
	Outcome: Plans for young people will be effective			
	Improve quality of plans	Oct-20	Evidence of service compliance with National Standards	QA Unit
	Outcome: Out of Court assessments will be effective Improve quality of FTE assessments	Jan-21	Evidence of service compliance with National Standards FTE rate per 100,000 10 – 17 years	Hampshire Constabulary/ Early Help Services



Looked after Children

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: Children achieve permanence in a timely manner			
 Head of Service, Children's Social Care Looked After Children Service Manager 	 Monitor number of Looked After children Monitor level of LAC children with a recorded permanence plan Monitor level of LAC (numbers)who have been matched and had permanence plan (LT Fostering) ratified at permanence panel Outcome: The quality of assessments and plans ensure that all children	Mar-21 Apr-21 Apr-21	Total number of Looked after Children, reviewed on a monthly basis % of children with permanence plan recorded on case management system % of looked after children matched and with permanence pan	EoC; Data Team Business Support, IRO team Business Support; IRO team
 Service Manager, Protection and Court Linked Service Delivery Plans: Looked after Children Care Leavers Protection and Court Quality Assurance Core Ofsted Recommendations 	et the right help quickly and that it's impact is clearly measured Monitor level of LAC with an authorised care plan Ensure effective and Child centred CIC review process - Analysis of IRO Alerts Monitor level of LAC Reviews scheduled in the month held within timescale Check quality of work for children ceasing to become looked after Ensure SMART and detailed individual Planning for each child / and siblings - Outcome: Children and YP are placed in Suitable with discontinued use of Bed and Breakfast accommodation	Oct-20 Nov-20 Oct-20 Nov-20 Apr-21	% of LAC with authorised care plan Compliance with local escalation policy % of reviews held within timescale % of audits graded good or outstanding % of audits graded good or outstanding	IRO Team; Business Support Operational Teams Data Team, IRO team LAC and PACT Service Managers / QA Unit QA unit
'The quality of assessments and plans ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that it's impact is clearly	 Ensure that placement sufficiency strategy is reviewed and approved - Monitor level of Looked After Children placed >20 miles from LA 	May-20 Jan-21	Approval of sufficiency strategy. Number / percentage of children in own provision % of children placed > 20 miles from Southampton	Integrated Commissioning Unit; Fostering Service; Communications Team; HR; Finance Placements Team
measured.' 'Children and YP are placed in suitable accommodation with discontinued use of Bed and Breakfast accommodation'.	Cease placement of Looked after Children Placed in emergency beds / B&B	Jul-20	Number of children placed in Bed and Breakfast on a monthly basis	Corporate Parenting Committee Integrated Commissioning Unit; Housing
'Better Management Advice for social workers on how to undertake effective			38	

Looked after Children (continued)

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: Head of Service, Children's Social Care Looked After	Outcome: Children and YP are Involved and Participate in in decisions that affect them Increase the level of children aware of why they are in care Appoint Life story lead and measure impact of their engagement with children	Oct-20 Apr-21	% of children aware of why they are in care Recruitment into post. Agree process for Life story work completion	Bright Spots HR
Children Service Manager • Service Manager, Protection and Court Linked Service Delivery	 Monitor the number of social workers attending Finding the Right Words training Provide evidence that the service listens and responds to the views of Children and YP through our work with them . Promote attendance of LAC and Careleavers at Children in Care Council and Corporate Parenting Board / Forums Monitor number of Children Using Mind of My Own 	Oct-20 Oct-20 April-21 Jan-21	% social workers in PACT and LAC attending training % of audits graded good or outstanding Ensure attendance is recorded, monitored and promoted. Numbers of children using Mind of My Own on a monthly basis	Practice Development Team Operational Teams / QA Unit Operational Teams / Corporate Parenting Committee QA Unit; Participation Officer
 Plans: Looked after Children Care Leavers Protection and Court Quality Assurance 	Outcome: Effective Partnership and collaborative working to meet the mental health needs of Children and YP • Embed a mental/emotional health worker within the Looked After Children and Care Leaver's Service • Ensure Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire Completion by key Stakeholders	Mar-21 Mar-21	Worker identified and embedded SDQ completion referenced in assessments and plans.	Behavioural Resource Service Data Team; LAC Health Leads
Core Ofsted Recommendations 'The quality of assessments and plans ensure that all children get the right help quickly and that it's impact is clearly	Monitor level of LAC's Health Assessments completed to include Dental health, vaccinations Outcome; Better Management Advice for social workers on how to undertake effective work with children Figure regular reflective discussion on children's progress -	Apr-21	% of health assessments completed	LAC Health Leads
measured.' 'Children and YP are placed in suitable accommodation with discontinued use of Bed and Breakfast accommodation'. 'Better Management Advice for social	 Ensure regular reflective discussion on children's progress - Analysis of quality of Supervision Outcome: Senior Leaders are appraised of looked after children's' educational progress: Report to Improvement Board by Virtual Head 	Jan-21 Nov-20	% of audits referenced good or outstanding Attainment and attendance measures for looked after children's progress.	QA Unit Virtual School
workers on how to undertake effective work with children.'			39	

Care Leavers

Care Leavers						
AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	KEY PARTNERS		
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: Children and YP are placed in Suitable accommodation with discontinued use of Bed and Breakfast accommodation					
Head of Service, Children's Social Care	 Monitor level of Care Leavers in contact and in suitable accommodation Cease placement of Looked after Children Placed in 	Oct-20	% of care leavers in suitable accommodation	Integrated Commissioning Unit; Housing		
Care Leavers Service Manager	emergency beds / B&B	Jul-20	Number of children placed in Bed and Breakfast on a monthly basis	Integrated Commissioning Unit; Housing		
Linked Service Delivery Plans:	Outcome: Care Leavers will benefit from Comprehensive and Effective risk management and pathway planning					
Looked after ChildrenQuality Assurance	Monitor level of Looked after Children aged 16+ or open Care Leavers with an authorised Pathway Plan	Jul-20	% of care leavers with an authorised Pathway Plan.	Business Support		
Core Ofsted Recommendation	Analyse gradings in Thematic Audits	Jan-21	% audits graded good or outstanding	QA Unit		
'Children and YP are placed in Suitable with discontinued use of Bed and Breakfast accommodation'	Outcome: Better Education Training and Employment outcomes					
	 Monitor level of Care leavers not in contact or NEET (either not in contact, or in contact and NEET) 	Oct-20	% care leavers not in contact or NEET	Education Service; Careers Service		
	 Monitor number of hits on LAC/Care Leavers website Outcome: Better Health outcomes 	April-21	Apprenticeships advertised on website and hit rate	Education Service; Careers Service		
	Report on the number of care leavers with health passports	Jul-20	% of care leavers with health passports at their 18 th birthday	LAC Health Leads.		

Fostering

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGE T DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	KEY PARTNERS			
Responsible Officers: Head of Service, Children's Social Care Fostering and Adoption Service Manager Linked Service Delivery Plans: Fostering	Outcome: Children benefit from enhanced recruitment, provision and retention of Foster Carers Monitor the level of placement stability meetings held. Monitor the number of placement breakdowns / disruptions / ceased. Provide evidence of social workers attending Fostering Panel Undertake Foster Carer Training Evaluation. Review of training programme quarterly	Apr-21 Jan-21 Jul-20	Number of placement stability meetings on a monthly basis. Number of social workers attending on a monthly basis. Number of carers attending training on a quarterly basis Evidence of: foster carer training evaluation completed; Reviewed and updated training programme	Data Team Children's Social Care Foster Carer Network; Learning and Development			
 Adoption Looked after Children Care Leavers Quality Assurance 	 Confirm number of foster carers who have attended Restorative Practice training Provide evidence of recruitment campaign having an impact on number of in-house carers 	Mar-21 Jul-20	% of foster carers attending Number of in-house foster carers; % in our own foster care	Foster Carer Network; Learning and Development; QA Unit Corporate Parenting Committee Integrated Commissioning Unit; Fostering Service; Communications Team; HR; Finance			
	 Completion of Fostering Standards Audit Outcome: Appropriate Private Fostering Arrangements are in place Creation and ratification of Private Fostering Policy. Provide partnership numbers for attending Safeguarding / Private Fostering Training Provide evidence of effective recognition and progression of Safeguarding concerns Outcome: Enough Sufficient Placements to meet diverse needs of children 	Oct-20 Oct-20 Oct-20 Apr-21	Annual audit report to provide assurance on compliance Policy document agreed and 'go live' Evidence of training attendance at in house and partnership events. % of cases graded good or outstanding	QA Unit Safeguarding Partnership Safeguarding Partnership QA Unit			
	Review foster carer recruitment strategy Provide Tier 4 fostering resource for older adolescents and report on number of placements offered	Jul-20 Feb-21	Strategy reviewed and 'go live' Number of placements active	Corporate Parenting Committee Finance; HR; Recruitment			

Adoption

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: Adoption Arrangements managed by 'Adopt South'			
Head of Service, Children's Social Care	 Monitor level of adoptions Monitor time between entering care and placement for adoption 	Mar-21 Mar-21	Number of adoptions reported on monthly basis. Number of days between entering	Adopt South; Family Court Adopt South; Family Court
Fostering and Adoption Service Manager	Monitor time between entering care and placement for adoption	IVIGI-ZI	care and adoption	Adopt South, Family Court
Linked Service Delivery Plans:	Undertake Effective high quality Assessments	Oct-21	Service to provide case examples on a monthly basis. % of audits graded good or outstanding	Adopt South; QA Unit
• Fostering	Outcome: Professional support is provided to adopters and adoptive families			
• Adoption	 Monitor level of adopters receiving Outline of support offer Collate monthly case studies from service and RAA. 	Apr-20 Oct-20	Numbers and % of adopters engaged	Adopt South
Looked after Children			Service to provide case examples on a monthly basis. % of audits graded good or outstanding	Adopt South; QA Unit
Care Leavers	Outcome: Help children to understand their birth families history, care experience and journey to adoption		8	
Quality Assurance	Monitor number of outstanding life story books	Apr-20	Number of outstanding life story books on a monthly basis	Adoption Service Manager

Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE TARGET	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers:	Outcome: Workforce Awareness of key practice themes and effective practice response.			
Head of Service, Integrated and Specialist Service	Analyse Practitioner survey feedback regarding Neglect Toolkit;	Nov- 20	% of practitioners indicating)that they are aware of toolkit.	Safeguarding Children Partnership
QA Unit Manager Safeguarding	Monitor number of practitioners attending Neglect Training Monitor the number of practitioners from Agencies attending Our	Jan-21	Numbers attending training on a quarterly basis	Practice Development Team
Children's Partnership Team Manager	 Monitor the number of practitioners from Agencies attending Our Practice our Learning and LSCP training. 	Oct-20	Six monthly training report showing courses attended; practitioner feedback; examples of impact on	Safeguarding Children Partnership; Practice Development Team
Linked Service Delivery Plans:			practice; number of agencies / practitioners attending	
Quality Assurance	Ensure regular focus on service response to case reviews	Sep-20	Quarterly submission of report to Learning and Improvement Panel and	Meeting support
SSCP Business Plan			key stakeholders (Cabinet Member)	
	Provide assurance against core practice themes (neglect; CSAFE)	Dec-20	% of audits graded good or outstanding	Children's Social Care
	Outcome: The Children and Learning Service can evidence traction against actions arising from serious case and child safeguarding practice review recommendations.			
	 Quarterly report to Children's Improvement Board by Quality Assurance Unit Manager and Safeguarding Partnership Team Manager. 	Nov-20	Quarterly report shows progress against recommendations and highlights barriers for the Board's attention, so as to support resolution. Progress will be tracked through Board minutes.	Safeguarding Children Partnership

Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership (continued)

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE TARGET	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: • Head of Service, Integrated and Specialist Service • QA Unit Manager • Safeguarding Children's Partnership Team Manager Linked Service Delivery Plans: • Quality Assurance • SSCP Business Plan	 Outcome: Children and Learning Service to improve outcomes for children experiencing sexual abuse in the family environment, by responding to the recommendations of the Freddie SCR: SCP to request information about the consistency of Chairs for Child Protection Conferences over the last 12 months and, where there has been inconsistency i.e. more than one Chair, seek assurance that the Plans for children subject to Child Protection Plans are fit for purpose and have pace. the SCP to seek assurance about the quality, effectiveness and compliance with Core Groups when children are subject Child Protection Plans and an update on actions taken to remedy the points raised in the March 2018 audit conducted by Children's Services. The SCP to seek an update about progress on actions arising from the April 2018 audit conducted by Children's Services which looked at cases of intra- familial child sexual abuse, and to examine blocks and barriers to effective multi agency work around the issue of child sexual abuse 	Dec-20 Dec-20 Oct-20	Report to the Serious Incident and Learning (SILG) subgroup of the Safeguarding Children Partnership. Report to the Serious Incident and Learning (SILG) subgroup of the Safeguarding Children Partnership Update by Child Protection Advisor and QA Unit Manager.	Safeguarding Children Partnership / Child Protection Advisor. Safeguarding Children Partnership / Child Protection Advisor. Child Protection Advisor.
	 For Southampton Children's Services to assure the Safeguarding Partnership that there is a robust system for seeking legal advice, sharing information, recording legal planning meetings and tracking outputs - all in a timely manner. This should include a process for monitoring any gatekeeping which may act as a barrier to gaining a legal perspective on a case where there may be threshold disagreements 	Dec-20	Safeguarding update to Safeguarding Children Partnership by Head of Service (CSC) and Senior Solicitor.	Head of Service (CSC)/ Senior Solicitor
	 To increase the knowledge and confidence of front line practitioners, in particular social workers, school nurses and police in assessing and working with cases where child sexual abuse and exploitation may feature 	Dec-20	Embedding of CSAFE training programme; evidenced by training completion figures and staff surveys.	Safeguarding Children Partnership / Learning and Development / Communications Team.
	For the SCP to seek assurance from Southampton Children's Services about the quality of management supervision and employee welfare, plus management scrutiny and oversight in Children's Services for cases where child sexual abuse and exploitation are features	Dec-20	Supervision guidance launched; supervision training completion; % of cases graded good or outstanding	Leaning Development Team / Practice Development Team.



Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership (continued)

AREA	PRIORITIES	TARGET DATE	PERFORMANCE TARGET	KEY PARTNERS
Responsible Officers: Head of Service, Integrated and Specialist Service QA Unit Manager Safeguarding	Outcome: Children and Learning Service to improve outcomes for children experiencing sexual abuse in the family environment, by responding to the recommendations of the Freddie SCR: • For the SCP to seek assurance from Southampton Children's Services that the decision making process and practice around viability assessments is robust and that decisions and assessments are completed in a timely manner	Mar-21	Thematic audit; % of cases graded good or outstanding	Practice Development Team; Fostering Service
Children's Partnership Team Manager Linked Service Delivery	Robust assessment of children and their families who present with sexualised behaviour, make disclosures, or where IFCSA is suspected	Oct-20	Expert consultancy support for social workers undertaking assessments.	Child Protection Advisor / CSAFE Consultant / Lucy Faithful Foundation / Centre for Expertise (Child Sexual Abuse)
Quality Assurance SSCP Business Plan	 Quality Assurance framework to regularly audit and analyse assessment, supervision, decision making and recording for children at risk of sexual abuse Specialist assessments should be analysed within management oversight 	Dec-20	% audits graded good and outstanding; evidence of learning informing development of new case management system.	Practice Development Team / Client Case Management (CCM) Project Team
	and inform assessments	Mar-21	Thematic audit; % audits graded good and outstanding.	Practice Development Team
	External escalation processes should be clear and followed	Nov-20	Inclusion of links to HIPS escalation process in all CPC and core group minutes.	Business Support / Team Standards Co-ordinators
	All children being presented at an ICPC should have an allocated social worker within the PACT service prior to initial conference	Nov-20	Allocation / participation of social workers in conferences to be highlighted in weekly CP Advisor reports	Child Protection Advisor
	Family members to be considered within contingency plans	Mar-21	Thematic audit; % of cases graded good or outstanding	Head of Service (CSC) / Practice Development Team
	The decision for the use or not of child sexual abuse medicals should be reflected in the decision making within the strategy discussion	Dec-20	Thematic case audit with Designated Doctor; ; % of cases graded good or outstanding	MASH, Assessment and EDT Service Manager, Designated Doctor - Safeguarding
	Confirm access to therapeutic resources for children who have experienced sexual abuse	Jan-21	Local offer outlined in CSAFE strategic framework	HoS / Children's Resource Service / Child protection Advisor

Improvement Plan 2020 - 21
Southampton Children and Learning Service
September 2020

For further details contact:

Robert Henderson-Executive Director, Southampton Children & Learning Service 02380 834 899 or robert.henderson@southampton.gov.uk

