

# Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

## Agenda

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday, 26th November, 2018</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>1.30 pm</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Committee Suite 1,2 &amp; 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ</b>

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The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and in the report.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cheshire East Council decision making and Overview and Scrutiny meetings are audio recorded and the recordings will be uploaded to the Council's website

### **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Minutes of Previous meeting** (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2019

3. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

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For requests for further information

**Contact** Katie Small

**Tel:** 01270 686465

**E-Mail:** [katie.small@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:katie.small@cheshireeast.gov.uk) with any apologies

4. **Whipping Declarations**

To provide an opportunity for Members to declare the existence of a party whip in relation to any item on the agenda

5. **Public Speaking/Open Session**

A total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to make a statement(s) on any matter that falls within the remit of the Committee.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes, but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned, where there are a number of speakers.

Note: In order for officers to undertake any background research, it would be helpful if members of the public contacted the Scrutiny officer listed at the foot of the agenda, at least one working day before the meeting to provide brief details of the matter to be covered.

6. **Ofsted Focused Visit to Children's Social Care**

To receive a presentation on the outcome of Ofsted's Focused Visit to Children's Social Care. Ofsted letter to follow when published on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018.

7. **Local Authority Designated Officer Annual Report 2017-18** (Pages 7 - 18)

To give consideration to the Annual Report for 2017-18.

8. **LSCB Annual Report 2017-18** (Pages 19 - 66)

To give consideration to the annual report for 2017-18 and business priorities for 2016-18

9. **Children and Families Performance Scorecard – Quarter 1, 2018-19** (Pages 67 - 78)

To give consideration to the scorecard for quarter 1.

10. **Forward Plan** (Pages 79 - 86)

To give consideration to the areas of the forward plan which fall within the remit of the Committee.

11. **Work Programme** (Pages 87 - 96)

To give consideration to the work programme



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**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL****Minutes of a meeting of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

held on Monday, 24th September, 2018 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,  
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

**PRESENT**

Councillor Rhoda Bailey (Chairman)  
Councillor A Moran (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors M Beanland, M Deakin, L Durham, D Flude, O Hunter, L Jeuda,  
G Merry, M Warren and M J Weatherill

**In attendance**

J Saunders – Portfolio Holder for Children and Families  
K Birtles – Head of Service, Cared for Children  
K Rose – Head of Service, Children's Safeguarding  
J Sims – Head of Service, Children in Need and Children Protection  
M Tobin – Service Manager – Adoption Counts  
J Tausif – NHS South Cheshire CCG & NHS Vale Royal CCG  
S Westwood – Regional Adoption Manager

**13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor M Grant

**14 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2018.

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

**16 WHIPPING DECLARATIONS**

There were no whipping declarations

**17 PUBLIC SPEAKING/OPEN SESSION**

There were no members of the public present wishing to speak

**18 UPDATE ON CAMHS**

Further to the meeting held on 26 March 2018, consideration was given to a presentation by Dr M Howard, CAMHS and R Lupton – team lead for Emotionally Healthy Schools. The presentation detailed; referrals to A&E, success of the out of hours service and waiting times for 16/17 year olds with eating disorders waiting to be hospitalised.

R Lupton outlined the on going work of the Emotionally Healthy Schools project including the offer to schools, which equipped teachers with the knowledge and understanding to deal with mental health and support children in the best way.

In regard to referrals to A&E, it was suggested that schools were improving in terms of detecting mental health issues, however, training was still required on how to deal with cases.

In regard to the out of hours service, it was noted that currently the process only related to Leighton Hospital and not Macclesfield, however, Dr Howard was also looking to extend the service to Macclesfield. Work still needed to be done on the collection and cleansing of data.

The Committee agreed that a report should be brought back to a future meeting providing an update on referrals to A&E and data analysis in relation to the out of hours service.

**RESOLVED**

That report on A&E referrals and the out of hours service be received by the committee in due course.

**19 CORPORATE PARENTING ANNUAL REPORT 2017 - 2018**

Councillor G Merry, Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Committee introduced the annual report. The purpose of the Committee was to ensure that the Council effectively discharged its role and as corporate parent to all children in care and care leavers from 0-25 years of age and to hold partners to account for the discharge of their responsibilities. It was noted that were currently 493 children in care which was an increase of 55 since March 2017.

**RESOLVED**

That the report be received.

**20 FORWARD PLAN**

Consideration to the areas of the forward plan which fell within the remit of the Committee.

**RESOLVED**

That the forward plan be received.

**21 WORK PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to the work programme. It was agreed that a Task and Finish Group to look at the SEND local offer for 16-25 year olds be established and that members of the Health Adult Social Care and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee be invited to sit on that group.

RESOLVED

That a task and finish group on the local offer for 16-25 year olds be established and that members of the Health Adult Social Care and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee be invited to sit on that group.

### **22 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item pursuant to Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

### **23 SERIOUS CASE REVIEW UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a presentation on the serious case reviews and action plan, which informed the committee of what lessons had been learnt by the authority and how things should be improved in the future.

RESOLVED

That the LSCB action plan be considered by the committee in due course.

### **24 IMPACT OF THE REGIONAL ADOPTION AGENCY**

Consideration was given to a report on the impact of the regional adoption agency which informed the Committee that Cheshire East Council had statutory duties to secure children's permanence via adoption. In June 2015 the Department for Education issued a policy paper 'Regionalising Adoption' inviting Local Authorities to join up to deliver services with the aim of placing more children for adoption and achieving permanence for children who may wait longer to find an adoptive family. In July 2017 Cheshire East Council joined with Manchester, Trafford, Salford and Stockport councils as the Regional Adoption Agency 'Adoption Counts'. The report outlined the journey for Cheshire East in the first year.

RESOLVED

That a further report on the impact of the Regional Adoption Agency be received in September 2019.

### **25 CHESHIRE EAST ADOPTION PANEL CHAIR REPORT**

Consideration was given to the Adoption Panel Chairs report which provided quality assurance feedback as to whether there was a thorough, rigorous, consistent and fair approach across the service in the assessment of whether a child should be placed for adoption, the suitability of prospective adopters and the proposed placements.

RESOLVED

That the report be received.

### **26 CHESHIRE EAST ANNUAL ADOPTION SERVICE REPORT 2017/18**

The Committee gave consideration to the Annual Adoption Service Report 2017/18, which was considered alongside the Cheshire East Adoption Panel Chair Report.

RESOLVED

That the report be received.

The meeting commenced at 1.30 pm and concluded at 4.08 pm

Councillor Rhoda Bailey (Chairman)





ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2017-2018

# Local Authority Designated Officer

## **Introduction**

### **The role of the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)**

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 (WTSC 2018) requires local authorities to have a designated officer or a team of officers to be involved in the management and oversight of allegations against people who work with children. The officer or team of officers should be sufficiently qualified and experienced to fulfil this role effectively. It also requires newly appointed officers to be qualified Social Workers.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/419595/Working\\_Together\\_to\\_Safeguard\\_Children.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/419595/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children.pdf)

The LADO oversees individual cases, provides advice and guidance to employers, voluntary organisations and liaises with the Police and other agencies as required. The LADO has a responsibility to monitor the progress of individual cases to ensure they are dealt with quickly, fairly and consistently, as well as identifying significant patterns and trends across the workforce.

In Cheshire East there are currently two part time LADOs and one dedicated Business Support Officer; they sit within the Children's Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Unit.

### **Context**

WTSC 2015 provides the threshold criteria for the management of allegations regarding individuals who work with children and young people. The guidance not only applies to allegations where it is considered that a child has suffered or is likely to suffer harm but also allegations, which suggest that a person has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed, a child.
- Possibly committed an offence against, or related to, a child; or
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates that they may pose a risk of harm to children.

These procedures should be applied where there are allegations or concerns that an individual may pose a risk of harm and they are employed on a paid or voluntary basis including casual, agency, commissioned and self-employed workers. The procedures capture concerns, allegations or offences emanating from outside of work, as well as within a person's paid or unpaid role working with children.

WTSC clarifies that the guidance applies in its entirety to all schools, including independent schools, academies and free schools, who all have duties in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils, consistent with Keeping Children Safe in Education.

## **Executive Summary**

### Service Delivery, Reflection and Improvement

Cheshire East Council is introducing the Signs of Safety model across Children's Services. This is a strengths based model which identifies: What is going well so we can build on existing strengths; what areas we are worried about or require more focus; what we need to change and how we will achieve it. The LADO service will begin implementing the model in 2018/19 and the summary report below uses the Signs of Safety headings.

#### **What's going well?**

- Implementation of a simplified, more transparent data recording and collection system continues to enable effective working arrangements between two or more people covering the LADO duties and supports greater management oversight.
- The improved recording of consultations, where the threshold for further action has not been met, is ensuring information regarding individuals who potentially pose a risk of harm is being collated for future reference. This provides greater safeguards for children in Cheshire East.
- The LADO continues to ensure allegations are managed consistently and in a timely manner.
- A LADO One Minute Guide and Cheshire East LADO practice standards are available on request and from the LSCB and Safeguarding Children and Families Assurance Unit websites. This ensures organisations providing a service to children have a quick guide as to when to make a referral to LADO and what to expect when they do.
- The LADO has contributed to a review of education transport arrangements for children in Cheshire East.
- The LADO delivers Managing Allegations training twice a year, with the support of the LSCB Training Manager. The training content is reviewed and updated following each session: Feedback remains positive with delegates citing trainer knowledge and experience as key aspects of their learning experience. Delegates also commented on the benefit of being trained by practitioners: being able to put a face to the name: meeting the LADO gave them greater confidence in approaching the LADO for advice.
- The LADO Business Support Officer has delivered training to several members of the Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Business Support Team to ensure high standards are maintained in her absence.
- The LADO continues to attend quarterly North West Regional LADO meetings and participates in joint development initiatives via a shared regional work plan. Current work plan activity includes a review of the current data set and development of joint protocols in relation to self employed / unregulated adults working with children.
- The LADO has been in contact with local services that have links to voluntary organisations and is compiling a list of voluntary organisations that provide services to children in Cheshire East.

## What are we worried about?

- Referrals from and relating to those in the voluntary and faith sectors remain low. Given that these sectors are likely to provide support to some of our most vulnerable children and families it is imperative that managers in these sectors employ good safeguarding procedures which reference the LSCB's managing allegations procedures and the LADO's role within this.
- Adults who work/volunteer with children, their employers and children and their families need better access to information about the LADO service, in a format they understand.
- The LADO rarely receives feedback from children and adults working/volunteering with children about their experiences within the managing allegations procedures.
- The quality of investigations and investigation reports varies greatly and organisations would benefit from an agreed exemplar.
- Police Investigations, particularly those involving indecent images of children are consistently taking longer than 4 weeks, with interrogation of computer hardware/software and mobile phones currently taking an estimated 9 -12 months. This obviously has a negative impact on the welfare of children and adults directly involved, however the negative impacts can reach far wider:

e.g. A head of department in a secondary school is arrested in relation to child protection concerns and is suspended pending the outcome of police investigations. Financial restrictions prevent the head teacher employing a permanent replacement, resulting in temporary cover of the suspended teacher's lessons/additional duties (possibly 12 months or longer) and a 'knock on' negative impact on pupils GCSE grades and education outcomes.

- The LADO and Safeguarding Child Protection Manager have met with the Detective Inspector for Cheshire Police Public Protection Directorate to raise these concerns. This appears to have had a positive impact on the management of less complex police investigations which are being completed more quickly.
- Criminal investigations which progress to court proceedings are subject to further delay and in some cases this delay is significant.

## What Needs to Happen?

### **Create stronger links between the LADO and voluntary organisations in Cheshire East:**

- Reassurance that voluntary organisations are aware of their statutory responsibilities in relation to managing allegations and the LADOs role: The LADO will make contact with voluntary organisations in Cheshire East providing information, advice and support about the LADO role and managing allegations.
- Reassurance that sports clubs are aware of their statutory responsibilities in relation to managing allegations and the LADO role: The LADO will make contact with the NSPCC's Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) County Lead, with the aim of working together to provide information, advice and support to sports clubs about the LADO role and managing allegations.

## **Ensure information about the LADO and the managing allegations process is accessible to all:**

- The LADO will produce leaflets that provide information in an understandable format for employers, adults who work/volunteer with children and children and their parents.
- The LADO will work with employers/organisations to ensure that when an allegation is referred to the LADO, the leaflets are provided to the involved adult, child and their parents/carers.

## **Maintain positive relationships with partner agencies:**

- Continue to adhere to the LADO Practice Standards and ensure allegations are managed consistently, fairly and in a timely way.
- Develop an exemplar for employee investigations.
- Develop a process for consulting with employers, organisations, involved adults, children and parents about their experiences within the managing allegations process.

## **Ensure the LADO's involvement has a positive impact on children's lives:**

- Continue to keep children's wellbeing, views, wishes and feelings central to procedures about managing allegations.
- Promote good children's safeguarding procedures and support organisations to implement them where they are not already in place.
- Develop a process to invite children to provide feedback about their experiences within the managing allegations procedures.

## **Recommendations for the Board**

- Low numbers of referrals from the voluntary and faith sectors is a recurring theme. The LADO would therefore welcome reassurance from the board that these sectors are being provided with adequate support to recognise and fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities especially in relation to managing allegations.
- The LADO is concerned that the significant delay in resolving allegations that progress to the court arena is having a substantial negative impact on the emotional well being of those involved. The LADO recommends that the LSCB uses its influence to challenge the judiciary about this.

## **LADO Performance Data: 2017/2018**

### **Referrals**

During 2017/18 there were 231 referrals to the Cheshire East LADO.

The LADO's response to referrals are categorised into 3 areas:

- **Consultation:** Referrals where the LADO threshold is not met (as per WTSC 2015 guidance).
- **No Further Action after Initial Consideration:** Referrals where some preliminary investigation is required by the referrer or employer to determine whether further action is required under LADO procedures.
- **LADO Threshold is met:** An investigation with LADO oversight is required and a LADO strategy meeting is needed.

Of the 231 Referrals: 66 (28%) were categorised as Consultations; 101 (44%) as No Further Action after Initial Consideration; and 64 (28%) met the threshold for a LADO strategy meeting.

**Table 1 Referral Comparisons 2013 - 2018**

	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Referrals met LADO threshold	63 (19%)	46 (19%)	72 (22%)	57 (24%)	64(28%)
Not met LADO threshold (Consultations & NFA)	262 (81%)	193 (81%)	250 (78%)	176 (76%)	167(72%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>231</b>

- The number of referrals to LADO is largely consistent with last year.
- 28% of referrals met threshold for a strategy meeting, which is a slight increase, but largely consistent with previous years. The LADO role involves providing advice to employers and it is therefore expected that the threshold for a strategy meeting will not be met following every consultation/referral.
- It is encouraging that only 66 (28%) of the total referrals were categorised as consultations: Last year there were 91 (40%) consultations and the reduction this year suggests that agencies and professionals have a better understanding of the LADO role and when to make a referral.
- Referrals not meeting the threshold for a strategy meeting came from all organisations: there are no discernible themes in relation to particular sectors or organisations.
- The details of referrals that don't meet threshold are recorded for future reference. This ensures repeated referrals regarding an employee's/volunteer's concerning behaviour can be considered as potentially more serious and an indicator that they pose a risk of harm to children. This also helps to identify if a specific agency needs more support in understanding thresholds and the role of the LADO.

#### **Referrals by Referring Agency (the agency making the referral)**

The data in table 2 relates to the 64 referrals that met the threshold for a LADO Strategy Meeting.

**Table 2: Comparison Referrals by Referring Agency April 2013 – March 2018**

	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Early Years	4	4	5	4	2
Education	17	20	14	17	23
Fostering	13	1	12	5	11
Health	1	0	2	0	0
Sports Club	1	1	2	0	1
Ofsted	2	3	2	3	1
Police	5	6	4	8	5
Residential	11	3	8	5	7
Social Care	7	5	17	12	5
Transport	1	1	3	1	2
Vol Organisations	1	2	3	1	5
*Other				1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>64</b>

\*Other: Child Protection IRO; MARAC

- Most referrals were from professionals working in the Education Sector (36%) which is a consistent trend and linked to the majority of referrals relating to education staff.
- There were a total number of 70 contacts from education professionals of which 23 (33%) met the threshold for a LADO strategy meeting and 26 (39%) required some preliminary investigations by the employer. The amount of referrals categorised as consultations (LADO threshold clearly not met) have reduced from 50% to 28% which suggests that education professionals have an improved understanding of the LADO's role.
- There has been an increase in referrals from foster care agencies which made up 17% of the referrals meeting threshold this year as opposed to 9% last year. 73% of these referrals came from Cheshire East Fostering Service which is a 53% increase from last year.
- 80% of the total contacts made by Cheshire East Fostering met the threshold for a strategy meeting with the remaining 20% requiring some preliminary investigations by the fostering team manager. This indicates an improved understanding by Cheshire East Fostering of the LADO's role.
- Further analysis of referrals about foster carers have not revealed any obvious reasons for the increase in referrals; however in 4 of the 10 cases about foster carers (see table 3 below), foster carers cited a lack of support from their fostering agency and the placing local authority as a contributory factor in the allegation. The agency and local authority agreed with this in 2 of these cases.
- It was identified that in 3 of the 10 referrals relating to foster carers, children had not been well matched to their foster carers. In a further 2, the arrangements for other foster children joining the family had a negative impact on the family dynamics. This was identified as a contributing factor to the allegation and in 3 cases, the disruption of the child's foster placement.

- The referrals from social care which met threshold dropped by 13% in comparison to the previous year, however the number of total contacts from social care has only dropped by 7%. 19% of the total contacts made by social care met the threshold; this has reduced from 31% last year.
- Referrals from Cheshire Police have reduced from last year, however they are consistent with previous years. Although the police might not be the source of referrals, the LADO consulted with them on 93% of the cases where threshold was met for LADO involvement.
- Referrals from and about those working in the voluntary and faith sectors remains low and although there has been an increase in the number of referrals from voluntary organisations these were all from the Scouts Association. LADO's throughout the country have reported similarly low levels from these sectors.
- The LADO has met with the LSCB Voluntary sector representative and made contact with the Youth Fed. (who provide training to the voluntary sector across Cheshire East) and Cheshire East CVS to promote the LADO role. As a result, CVS will ensure their safeguarding training and forthcoming conferences include advice about the LADO role and managing allegations. The LADO is hoping to attend and promote the LADO role at 2 conferences with the Youth Fed in the coming year.
- The LADO is assembling a list of voluntary organisations providing services to children in Cheshire East with the aim of providing an information pack about managing allegations and the LADO role.
- There have been 20 referrals in relation to Children with Disabilities, of which 7 (35%) met the threshold for a LADO strategy meeting. All 7 allegations were thoroughly investigated and the child's specific needs were considered throughout the process.
- The LADO is confident, from her conversations with head teachers in specialist schools in Cheshire East, that they are aware of the LADO role and managing allegations procedures. Furthermore two newly appointed head teachers are attending the forthcoming managing allegations training. Referrals to the LADO from this sector have been appropriate.



**Referrals by Employing Agency (the agency where the adult is employed)**

The data in table 3 relates to the 64 referrals, which met the threshold for a LADO Strategy Meeting.

**Table 3: Comparison Referrals by Employing Agency April 2013 – March 2018**

	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Early Years	5	4	9	9	5
Fostering LA	10	1	13	2	7
Fostering Non LA	5	0	6	4	3
Social Care	2	1	6	2	1
Sports Club	1	1	0	0	2
Health	2	0	3	0	1
Residential	11	3	7	5	10
Education	19	23	18	27	21
Self Employed	4	5	3	1	2
Transport	2	2	5	3	3
*Other	0	1	0	1	3
Vol Organisation	2	5	2	3	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>64</b>

\*Other: Private Care Agency; Youth Services; Police

- Most referrals relate to adults who work in schools or colleges (32%): broken down into type: primary school 28.5%; secondary school 28.5%; specialist school 38%; independent school 5%.
- Given the number of children who attend school and the significant amount of time they spend in school, it is expected that there will always be more referrals to LADO from this sector.
- 57% of referrals about adults who work in schools or colleges related to allegations of physical harm to pupils. 10% related to sexual harm of pupils and 33% related to adults posing a risk of harm to pupils. All allegations relating to risk of harm were about employees' alleged behaviour in their personal life.
- The amount of referrals about employees in residential settings has doubled since last year, however it should be noted that from the 10 referrals: 4 were about employees in the same setting and related to the same incident.
- The amount of referrals about staff in early years settings has reduced by 50%. The LADO has sought assurance that this is not due to a lack of knowledge about the LADO role. Cheshire East's Early Years Service and the Safeguarding Children in Education Team (SCiES) have confirmed that the LADO role and managing allegations is included in their children's safeguarding training to early years settings.

**Categories of Harm****Table 4: Comparison Categories of Harm April 2013 – March 2018**

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Emotional	4	0	2	2	5
Risk of Harm	25	11	15	14	18
Physical	27	22	40	33	31
Sexual	7	13	4	8	10
Neglect			1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>64</b>

- Referrals relating to physical harm continue to account for the majority of referrals: 48%, however this is lower than the previous two years when approximately 55% of referrals related to physical harm.
- Referrals relating to risk of harm has increased from 20% to 28% of referrals. Almost all referrals in this category, 16 out of 18 (89%), related to the adult's alleged behaviour towards children in their personal life.
- Referrals relating to sexual harm have remained static, however those relating to emotional harm have increased from 4% to 8%.
- No referrals were due to neglect. This is to be expected, as neglect, when caused by an adult working or volunteering with children, is most likely to occur in foster care and residential homes. In such settings the care and outcomes of children is closely monitored, therefore preventing neglect (defined by the LSCB as the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs).

**Outcomes**

The following data and analysis relates to the referrals that were concluded during the reporting period April 2017 – March 2018.

**Table 5: Outcomes of closed referrals**

	2016/17	2017/18
Substantiated	17	18
Unsubstantiated	17	15
Unfounded	12	18
Malicious	0	0
<b>Total Cases Closed</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>51</b>

- The amount of substantiated allegations have increased this year from 30% - 35% and unfounded allegations from 26% to 35%.
- Unsubstantiated allegations have fallen again this year from 37% - 30%. This can be viewed positively as allegations concluded as substantiated or unfounded provides greater clarity for both the involved children and staff members.

- The increase in unfounded allegations has been reviewed by the LADO. It was concluded that each case was managed appropriately and conclusions were fair to the children and adults involved.

**Table 6: Employer Action Following Investigation**

Cessation of Use	2
Dismissal	7
No Further Action	6
Resignation	3
Supervision/Risk Assessment/Training Needs	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>

- The majority of investigations (65%) identified a need for further training/supervision and/or the need for a risk assessment to ensure that the employee's conduct remains appropriate and children are safeguarded from harm. 89% of these cases related to unsubstantiated or unfounded allegations. For the remaining 11%, the LADO, employer and other involved agencies believed any residual risks posed by the employee/volunteer were sufficiently low and manageable for them to remain working with children.
- In four of the five cases where the employee/volunteer resigned, or their work with children ceased, a referral was made to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). In the remaining case the employee was a temporary worker whose contract ended and neither they, nor the employer wanted to renew it. It was agreed that the threshold was not met for referral to the DBS and further training and supervision would have been provided had they remained in their role.
- Five of the seven employees/volunteers who were dismissed were referred to the DBS. The remaining two were dismissed for conduct issues not related to children's safeguarding.
- Four of the six allegations where no further action was taken related to unfounded allegations. These cases related to employees in residential settings where the young people making the allegations withdrew the allegations and there was enough information to conclude that the information was unfounded. The fifth allegation related to non recent unsubstantiated allegations where the employee no longer has direct contact with children. No further action was taken in the remaining allegation as the subject of the allegation died.

**Table 7: Time from Referral to Completion April 2017-March 2018**

Time taken	Total
Less than 1 month	4
1-3 months	33
3-6 months	9
6-12 months	2
12 months +	3
<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>51</b>

- The LADO has continued to ensure that allegations are managed in a timely way: 73% of referrals were concluded within 3 months and 90% within 6 months.
- The two cases taking between 6 and 12 months to conclude required a police investigation where multiple witnesses needed to be interviewed.
- The three cases which took longer than 12 months involved non recent allegations which were subject to police investigations and in one case a significantly delayed court hearing.
- As reported in last years report; the delay around court hearings appears to be linked to judiciary capacity and beyond the involved agencies control. Such delay is reported to have had a substantial negative impact on the emotional well being of both the alleged victims and the alleged perpetrators and their respective families.
- The LADO completes a 4 weekly review on all open cases to ensure there is no unnecessary delay and drift and involved agencies are updated with any new information.

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: LADO Business Plan 2018/19

[LADO Business Plan 2018 - 19.pdf](#)

Appendix 2: One Minute Guide



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# **LSCB Annual Report 2017-18 & Business Plan Priorities 2016-18**



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## Foreword from the Independent Chair

I am pleased to present the 2017-18 Annual Report on behalf of all the agencies represented on the Cheshire East Safeguarding Children Board (CESCB). The reports shows that in Cheshire East we have continued to build on the strong partnership foundation to meet the many challenges facing agencies in ensuring that we are not only keeping children and young people safe but also improving the outcomes for our most vulnerable children.

We hope that you will find that the report helps you to better understand how organisations and people work together and the contribution the Safeguarding Board has made to this. It sets out how these arrangements can continue to improve on the basis of the Safeguarding Board and partners being able to objectively and critically learn from what works well and act to improve what may not work as well as was intended.

In January 2018 we had our annual development/planning day where we reviewed the progress against the 2017-19 Business Plan; considered the effectiveness of the board and developed our vision and values to underpin the new Future Arrangements. In order to improve our effectiveness we have redesigned the way that reports are received at the board; introduced themed sessions – so that we can consider what is working well, what we need to improve and the actions that we are going to take as a partnership. The themed sessions have been scheduled in 2018-19 and include Early Help, Health Assessments for Cared for Children, Neglect and the Integrated 'Front Door'. We also reflect on our effectiveness at the end of each meeting.

As Independent Chair I am committed to ensuring our children, young people and their families have a voice and are heard. Capturing and responding to 'Voice of the Child' is a strength in Cheshire East working alongside the excellent work that is done by

the Safeguarding Children in Education Team. You can read more about the work that we have done on page 15 of this report.



We start each board meeting with partners giving a 10 minute spotlight as to how they engage with Children and Young People and the impact that is having.

Our vision for the Children in Cheshire East is:

'It is the right of every child and young person in Cheshire East to enjoy a healthy and happy childhood, grow up feeling safe from abuse or neglect and thrive in an environment that enables them to fulfil their potential'

You can read more about our strategic commitment and the values

that will underpin all that we do on page 5.

The continuing challenge will be maintaining the progress of the last few years, through a time of policy change and new national priorities that include changes to Safeguarding Boards; without losing sight of what matters – the safeguarding of children in Cheshire East.

This report covers 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 and highlights the activity, progress and challenges faced by CESCIB with a particular focus on the journey of the child; the refresh of both the Neglect and Early Help Strategies; Fact 22 (Project Crewe) and the impact this initiative has had on engagement with families, improvements in relation to number of families being supported through early help and the reduction in size of caseloads for social workers in one of the more challenging localities in Cheshire East. We have set out the achievements made in 2017 -18 and the areas where we need to continue to make improvements.

As you read through the pages of this report you will gain an insight into the work of the Board, how we audit, review, learn and invest in partnerships with the ultimate aim of improving the lives of our children. There is no doubt that there is much to celebrate in our work, but much more that we can do. We are committed to continuous improvement and strive to improve the lives of children who are neglected or in need of early help, those who live with the toxic trio of parental domestic abuse, substance misuse or poor mental health and those who are at risk of child sexual exploitation. We are determined to tackle these issues from every possible angle, to improve practice, to better engage with children and communities and to build stronger partnerships.

To conclude, I would like to thank members of the Board, across the partnership of our voluntary, community and statutory services and all the frontline practitioners and managers for their commitment, hard work and effort in keeping children and young people safe in

Cheshire East. We will continue to seek out what we can do better, to support the community we serve and ensure that children and young people are safer as a result.

If you have any questions about the report or the information contained in it, please contact me at [LSCBEast@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:LSCBEast@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

Gill Frame, Independent Chair, Cheshire East Safeguarding Children Board



# Cheshire East Local Safeguarding Children Board

## Background

[Working Together, 2015](#) (WT15), the statutory guidance for Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LCSBs) requires each area to produce and publish an Annual Report on the effectiveness of the arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in their local area. In June 2018 [Working Together 2018](#) was published, this sets the same annual report expectation. This report sets out what we have done over the past year and also what we plan to do next year to make Cheshire East a safer place for children and young people.

This report is aimed at everyone involved in safeguarding children, including members of the local community as well as professionals and volunteers who work with children, young people and families.

A copy of this Annual Report will be sent to senior leaders and stakeholders in our area, including the Chief Executive of the Council, the Leader of the Council and the Executive Director of Children's Services. The report will also be sent to the Health and Well-being Board, Children and Young People's Trust Board, Community Safety Partnership, Corporate Parenting Board and the Council's Children and Families Scrutiny and Overview Committee. Individual agencies will also be encouraged to present this report through their internal Boards and scrutiny arrangements.

## The Board

[Cheshire East Safeguarding Children Board](#) (CESCB) consists of senior representatives from agencies working with children and

young people from the local authority, schools, health, the police and others. The Board members work together to keep children and young people safe from harm.

CESCB is responsible for scrutinising the work of its partners to ensure that services provided to children and young people actually make a difference.

In order to provide effective scrutiny, CESCB is independent from other local structures and has an independent chair that holds all agencies to account. The main role of the CESCB are set out in its constitution and are to co-ordinate and ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each agency on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Cheshire East.

## Our Collective Vision for the Children and Young People of Cheshire East

It is the right of every child and young person in Cheshire East to enjoy a healthy and happy childhood, grow up feeling safe from abuse or neglect and thrive in an environment that enables them to fulfil their potential.

### We aim to do this through our collective commitment to:

- **Strategic Leadership across the partnership** – to make the safety of children and young people a priority
- **Challenge** – through focused inquiries or investigations into particular practice or issues on the basis of evidence, practitioner experience and the views of children and young people, in order for us to improve together

- **Learning** – to achieve the highest standards of development and to ensure all practitioners have the skills and knowledge to be effective

This will include listening to the voice of children and young people and using what we hear to inform best practice.

**The shared values that are at the heart of all we do and that we actively demonstrated through our behaviours and promote throughout our respective organisations:**

**We will:**

- ❖ Actively involve children and young people and their families, as what they say will shape the way that we work;
- ❖ Listen to front line practitioners and their managers and take their views into account;
- ❖ Act in an open and transparent way and foster a culture of challenge, scrutiny and support across the partnership;
- ❖ Ensure that our staff have the skills, support and supervision to keep children and young people safe;
- ❖ Share information and intelligence that will enable us to keep our children and young people safe;
- ❖ Celebrate strengths and positive achievement. We are committed to continuously improve;
- ❖ Embed the principles of 'signs of safety' across our partnership;
- ❖ Work with other strategic partnerships in Cheshire East to ensure that our plans are aligned in order to maximise the opportunities for children and young people.

## Governance

**CESCB has three tiers of activity (see Appendix 1):**

**Main Board** – this is made up of representatives of the partner agencies as set out in WT15. Board members must be sufficiently senior to ensure they are able to speak confidently and have the authority to sign up to agreements on behalf of their agency.

**Executive** – comprising representatives from key statutory agencies and has strategic oversight of all Board activity. The Executive takes the lead on developing and driving the implementation of the CESCB's Business Plan. It is also responsible for holding to account the work of the sub-groups and their chairs.

**Sub-groups and Task and Finish Groups (Cheshire East)** – these groups work on the board's priority areas on a targeted and thematic basis. They report to the Executive and are ultimately accountable to the Main Board.

Operating at March 2018 were:

**Sub-groups**

- Quality and Outcomes
- Audit and Case Review
- Learning and Improvement
- Safeguarding Children Operational Group
- Policy & Procedures

**Task and Finish Groups**

- Neglect
- Child Exploitation
- Early Help

**Sub groups (Pan-Cheshire)** – CECSB works closely with the other Cheshire LSCBs on certain areas to maximise the opportunity for streamlined processes across our boundaries. The following Pan-Cheshire sub-groups are currently in operation:

- Child Death Overview Panel
- Policies and Procedures
- Youth Custody
- Child Exploitation
- Harmful Practices

## Key Roles

**Independent Chair** – The Independent Chair for Cheshire East is Gill Frame.

The Independent Chair is accountable to the Chief Executive of the local authority. During 2017/18 the Acting Chief Executive of Cheshire East was **Kath O'Dwyer**. It is her role to appoint or remove the LSCB chair. The Chief Executive meets regularly with the Independent Chair through the Safeguarding Review Meeting to maintain an overview of the effectiveness of the board, to hear any safeguarding concerns and to challenge the performance of the Board.

The Director of People's Services was **Mark Palethorpe**, who holds the role of Director of Children's Services and is a member of the main Board. He had responsibility to ensure that the CESC B functions effectively and liaised closely with the Independent Chair and also attends the Safeguarding Review Meetings.

**Lead Member** – the Lead member for Children's Services has responsibility for making sure that the local authority fulfils its legal duties to safeguard children and young people. **Cllr George Hayes** represented the Council up to the November 2017

board meeting when **Councillor Jos Saunders** took over. The Board would like to thank **Cllr George Hayes** for his contribution to the work of the Board. The Lead Member contributes to the CESC B as a 'participating observer', i.e. they take part in the discussion, but are not part of the decision making process.

**Lay Member – Lukhvinder Kaur.**

**Children and Young People's Challenge Champions** – a strength of the Board is its commitment to ensure that the voice of children and young people is a key focus of the Board. **Voice for Children** are care leavers and Members of the Board. They work with young people in Cheshire East to represent their voices on the Board. **Liam Hill** continues to carry out this role on behalf of the Board. Partner agencies are also asked to share with the Board their approaches to children and young people's participation in their service developments.

**Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB)** – CESC B links with the Health and Wellbeing Board and is held to account for key safeguarding issues for children in Cheshire East. This annual report and business plan will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

**Cheshire East Safeguarding Adults Board (CESAB)** - The CESAB carries out the safeguarding functions in relation to adults 18 years and over. A number of members of the CECSB also sit on CESAB.

**Safer Cheshire East Partnership (SCEP)** – SCEP is responsible for the commissioning of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR's), which are undertaken on its behalf by the CESAB. It receives reports on domestic abuse and sexual violence. SCEP is the lead partnership for

'Prevent' (the approach to tackling extremism and radicalisation) in Cheshire East and works with the other partnership boards to ensure that the Prevent strategy is being implemented across all agencies and in the community.

## Partnership Key Lead Areas

Key partnerships agreed the following leads for shared priority areas:

Shared priority area	Strategic governance lead
Domestic Abuse	Cheshire East Domestic and sexual abuse partnership board (CEDSAP)
Prevent	Safe Cheshire East Partnership (SCEP)
Reducing Offending	SCEP & Youth Justice Board
Anti-social Behaviour	SCEP
Organised crime	SCEP
Hate Crime	SCEP
Child Sexual exploitation (CSE)	CESCB
Trafficking and Modern Slavery	Local Safeguarding Adults Board (CESAB)
Hate crime	CESAB
Substance misuse	Health & Wellbeing Board (HWBB)
Mental Health	HWBB
Improving outcomes for children and young people	Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT)

**Member Agency Management Boards** – CESCB members are senior officers within their own agencies providing a direct link between the CESCB and their own single agency management boards to ensure that high quality multi-agency practice is embedded.

**The Participation Network** is a multi-agency group that brings together engagement and participation workers across the partnership to share and develop good practice and to join up services in engaging with children and young people. The CESCB is represented on this Network.

## Board Membership and Attendance

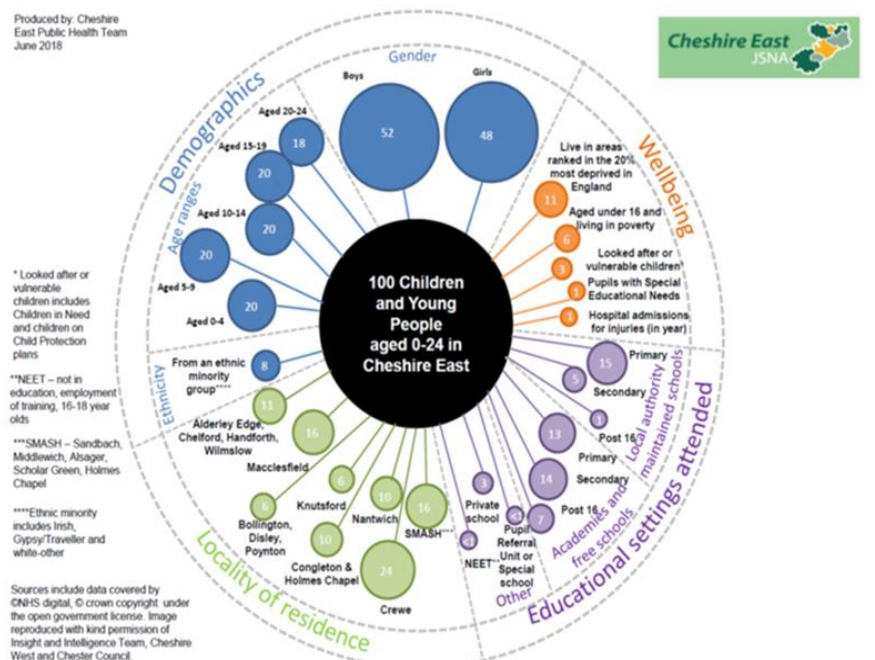
The Board is well attended by key partners. A summary of Board membership and attendance for 2017-18 is in Appendix 2.

## Financial Arrangements 2017-18

The finances of the Board for 2017-18, including member contributions are at Appendices 3 and 4.

# Children and Young People in Cheshire East

Produced by Cheshire East Public Health Team  
June 2018



## Our Child Population

Cheshire East is a generally affluent area and, for the vast majority of children and young people, it is a good place to grow up. However, there are pockets of deprivation in Cheshire East where we know that children and young people do not enjoy the same outcomes, and the gap in attainment between more vulnerable groups and their peers, although reducing, remains too great.

There are approximately 75400 children and young people under the age of 18 in Cheshire East, 51% are male and 49% are female. Children and young people make up approximately 20% of the total

population.

8.8% of primary pupils are entitled to free school meals (an indicator of deprivation), compared to 14.2% nationally and 8.4% of secondary pupils compared to 13.3% nationally.

Overall 92% of individuals are of British ethnicity. The biggest minority groups in Cheshire East are 'white other' (2.5%), Asian/Asian British (2%), and mixed/ multiple ethnicities (2.6%).

The vast majority of pupils' ethnic backgrounds are reported to be White British (87% of primary pupils and 89% of secondary pupils), albeit the ration has reduced slightly from last year

There are just under 100 different first languages recorded for primary and secondary pupils, although only 6.9% of primary pupils and 4.7% of secondary pupils have a first language other than English, compared to national figures of 21.2% and 16.6%, respectively, so although increased from last year it is at a lesser rate than the increase nationally.

The number on a child protection plan has increased from 275 on 31st March 2017 to 286 on the 31st March 2018

At any one time during 2017-18 there were between 7-11 disabled children on a child protection plan.

As at 31st March 2017, 477 children and young people were cared for by Cheshire East which is an 11% increase from last year; 21.7% of these live outside Cheshire East and more than 20 miles from home.

## The Child's Journey in Cheshire East

### Cheshire East Consultation Service

ChECS is the 'front door' to access services, support and advice for children, young people and their families; from early help and support through to safeguarding and child protection. All referrers are required to have a telephone discussion with a qualified social worker and are advised on the level of need for the child and family and the appropriate next steps. Co-location of the police, the multi-agency missing from home service, the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) service, and domestic abuse hub within the front door arrangements at ChECS 'front door' team has been achieved through close collaboration, and is improving multi-agency responses.

	Consultation activity	No. converted to referral
2013-14	6788	2444 (36%)
2014-15	7493	2783 (37%)
2015-16	9843	3687 (37%)
2016/17	10,432	3438 (33%)
2017/18	9536	2976 (31%)

*Number of consultations over the past four years that resulted in a referral to children's social care*

There has been a 9% reduction in consultation activity since last year which is at similar levels to those seen in 2015-16. Conversion to referral has reduced by 2% to 31%

There has been an average of 795 consultations and 250 referrals a month over the past year.

## Early Help

Prevention and Early Help Service.

Recent years has seen an increasing demand for family support services, often with the issues that families are facing becoming increasingly complex. The Early Help Brokerage Service is a service with a dedicated team whose aim is the swift allocation of early help cases. This will provide timely referrals to early help, and identification of the best service to meet the needs of the child or young person and their family.

During 2017-18 ChECS received 9536 contacts of which 2985 were passed to Early Help Brokerage Service. Overall this was 31% of ChECS contacts, and has remained fairly static since the start of EHB

CESCB will continue to scrutinise the effectiveness of the front door and responses to early help in 2017-18.

The Local Authority aims to ensure that family support services are offered across a Continuum of Need with the right level of support meeting the right level of need.

The Local Authority remains committed to our Safeguarding Improvement Plan and an effective range of services are in place across the continuum to meet need. This includes:

- High quality advice and information through the Family Information Service support to our partners to engage with and deliver Signs of Wellbeing early help services, and supported access to more targeted services through CHECs and the Early Help brokerage.
- The Early Start service will deliver services in the Early Years Foundation Stage, and support families to achieve social mobility and early childhood health and ensuring localised intervention strategies between Children Centers and Maintained, Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) childcare settings.

- EYFS will be embedded throughout the early year's services.
- Children Centers embed the Parent Journey consistently across all centers as the service universal offer.
- Family Support is offered across the continuum of need, and resources are aligned to need across level 2 Targeted and Level 3 Complex caseloads.
- Family Support services lead the council provision for parenting interventions.
- Supporting young people who are Not in Education, Training or Employment (NEET) to access provision post 16.

## Children in Need and Child Protection

Local authority	Completed in 45 days		
	2014 -15	2015-16	2016-17
England	81%	83%	83%
North West	82%	83%	81%
Cheshire East	72%	89%	88%
Cheshire West & Chester	84%	82%	87%
Warrington	88%	81%	74%
East Riding of Yorkshire	78%	75%	74%
North Yorkshire	91%	95%	92%
Solihull	57%	83%	81%
Warwickshire	85%	84%	74%
Central Bedfordshire	97%	95%	93%
Hampshire	79%	88%	90%
West Berkshire	71%	86%	97%
North Somerset	56%	57%	62%

*Percentage of assessments completed within 45 days nationally, regionally and for our statistical neighbours. 2017-18 data will not be released until October 2018.*

## Assessment timescales

3098 social care assessments were completed in 2017-18, 86% of these were completed within 45 day, and 1116 of these were ended following assessment with the individual not being in need of social care support.

## Children in Need

A child in need (CIN) is defined as; a child who is unlikely to reach or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development, or whose health or development is likely to be significantly impaired without provision of services from the local authority, or he/she has a disability. As at 31st March 2018 there were 2182 open episodes as per the CIN census guidance. This compares with 2183 at the end of March 2016. This equates to a rate of 289.4 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population compared to 263.2 in 2017. Last year our statistical neighbour average was 292.5 so we sit in the mid-range of the group and we were substantially lower than the national and northwest figures of 330.4 and 372.3 respectively.

## Child Protection

When the local authority receives a referral and information has been gathered during an assessment (which may have been very brief), in the course of which a concern arises that a child maybe suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm, the local authority is required by Section 47 (S47) of the Children Act 1989 to make enquiries.

- The number of S47's initiated within the year was 786, a small increase of 2.5% from the previous year (767) but



- substantially less than the 2014/15 figure of 914.
- The number of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) undertaken in the year was 397, an increase of 13.4% from last year (350) and similar to the 2014/15 figure of 426. The percentage of S47's going onto ICPC has increased to 51% from 46% in the previous 2 years.
  - The number of Child Protection Plans (CPP) started during the year was 362 which is an increase of 11% from the previous year (327), but still slightly less than 2014/15 figure of 394.
  - The number of children becoming subject to a CPP for a second or subsequent time has increased from 17.4% in the previous year to 17.7%.
  - ICPCs taking place within 15 days has increased again to 84.3% from 80.4% in 2017/18.

Key Indicators	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18
CPPs lasting 2 years or more	2.1%	5.7%	0%	0%	0.5%	1.1%
CPP for a 2 <sup>nd</sup> or subsequent time	15.1%	15.9%	13.9%	22.9%	17.4%	17.7%
CP cases reviewed within required timescales	97.9%	91.3%	89.1%	99.5%	99.0%	94.7%
ICPC within 15 days	85.4%	87.9%	41.7%	69.7%	80.4%	84.3%

*Child protection numbers 2012-18*



## Cared for Children

Cared for children are those that are looked after by the local authority either voluntarily or through a statutory order. As at 31 March 2018, 477 children and young people were being cared for by the local authority, an increase of 11.7% from the previous year. This is higher than the Northwest average and in line with the latest available national average. For the second year regionally we are reporting a rise in cared for children so it is likely that an increase will also be reflected nationally once data is released.

- 21.7% live outside the local authority area and over 20 miles from home;
- 36 live in residential children's homes;
- 9 live in residential specialist school as at March 2018;
- 343 children and young people in foster placements; of these 141 (41.1%) live out of the local authority area;
- We also supported a number of individuals who presented as unaccompanied asylum seeker children (UASC) with support and advice including accommodation, where appropriate.

The figures show a high number of young people live out of the area; in reality many of these live nearby but across Cheshire East's border. Extensive work is underway to ensure there are enough local foster carers in Cheshire East to ensure where possible local placements are made. 23 Children placed with a relative/friend were placed outside CE (28.8% of those placed with family/friends).

In the last 12 months a total of 146 children have ceased to be cared for by the Local Authority. Of these, 15 children have been adopted; 38 children became subject of special guardianship orders; 36 individuals have left care due to turning 18.

Cheshire East's proportion of cared for children is lower than the England average, North West average and our statistical neighbour average, and although we have increased slightly to 57, our performance is still at the lower end of our comparator group.

## Care Leavers

As at 31 March 2018 there were 207 care leavers in Cheshire East. This has increased slightly over the last 12 months and is marginally higher than the 199 in March 2017.

## Families Achieving Change Together

Families Achieving Change Together (FACT22 previously known as Project Crewe) has had a positive impact during 2017-18 with a reduction in referrals to children's social care of 8%. Repeat referrals have reduced from 25% to 22% and they are now in line with the national average. The overall impact has been that the average open caseload in Crewe CIN/CP has reduced from over 1000 to around 600 during the period that FACT22 has been in place. It is one of only 9 of the 50+ Round 1 Innovation Programme projects invited to take part in a longitudinal study. This follow up evaluation will track the outcomes for the families involved in the original Randomised Control Trial in order to assess sustained impact and will be a great opportunity for Catch22 and Cheshire East to showcase how their continued partnership has impacted positively on the areas children and families. Catch 22 and Cheshire East have also contributed to research conducted by Research in Practice, a national training and development resource that supports evidence informed practice with children and families. This research looks at best practice in effective Commissioner-Provider relationships when commissioning

innovative services.

## Emotionally Healthy Schools Programme

Phase 2 of the Emotionally Healthy Schools (EHS) programme is now well under development with 5 components:

1. Access to specialist mental health advice (single point of access) and a brokerage model to support professionals working with Children and Young people (CYPMH Link Programme), which is now delivered by CWP;
2. Access to tools and support to schools to implement the tools (Tools for Schools) which is now delivered by Visyon;
3. Educational specialist Leadership Programme, led by Middlewich High School;
4. Systems and processes to identify and support vulnerable children and young people to thrive;
5. Development of 'Getting Advice' including on-line platform.

This programme of work is now a key element of the Cheshire East Clinical Commissioning Group Local Transformation Plan for Young People's Mental Health, which is governed via the Children and Young People's Strategy Group which reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The project was highly commended in the National Local Government Chronicle awards in March 2018.

## Review of Priorities for 2017-18

The following three partnership objectives underpin the key plans for children and young people; the children and young people's plan, the children and young people's improvement plan and the

CECSB business plan:

- **Frontline Practice is consistently good, effective and outcome focused**
- **Listening to and acting on the voice of children and young people**
- **The partnership effectively protects and ensures good outcomes for all children and young people in Cheshire East**

**CECSB agreed the following priorities to deliver these objectives in 2015-17 and has committed to continuing with these through 2017/19:**

**We will improve frontline multi-agency practice through:**

- Improving Board engagement direct with frontline staff
- Continuing to drive developments around key safeguarding areas including children at risk of Contextual Safeguarding.
- Embedding strengthening families
- Implementing our neglect strategy
- Implementing changes around the integrated front door
- Improving safeguarding arrangements for disabled children
- Improving identification and response around children and young people with mental health issues, including self-harming

**We will continue to improve the participation of young people in CECSB business through:**

- Ensuring that the voice of children and young people is central to CECSB business
- Engaging children and young people in co-producing information and support relevant to them

- Ensuring that the CECSB celebrates children's rights and participation and the contribution of children and young people to safeguarding
- Ensuring the voice of children and young people is central to the CECSB's training programme

#### **We will strengthen the partnerships through:**

- Engaging the community through links with voluntary and faith sector
- Improving the board's role and traction in relation to developing early help

## **Improvements against the Priorities**

### **Improving CESC's engagement with frontline staff**

#### **CECSB e-bulletins**

CECSB has continued to publish its e-bulletin, Newsflash and Frontline Bulletin. These have covered a variety of topics including

- |                                        |                                            |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| • Child Death Overview Panel           | • Threshold of Need Guidance               |
| • Youth Justice Service Award          | • Neglect case studies in Early Help cases |
| • Single Agency Reports to Conference  | • Local Government Chronicle Awards        |
| • PAN Cheshire Safeguarding Procedures | • November Children's Rights Month         |
| • Female Genital Mutilation            | • DfE child Protection Campaign            |
| • Learning and Development             | • Safer Internet Day                       |
| • Signs of Safety                      |                                            |

Feedback from Board members has been that this method of communication is effective in supporting them in promoting CECSB and in disseminating safeguarding information within their services.

## **Listening to and acting on the voice of children and young people**

### **• Spotlight – The Voice of the Child**

Board meetings now start with a partner agency sharing an example of their practice in developing participation by children and young people in their safeguarding work.

### **• November Children's Rights Month (NCRM)**

November Children's Rights Month is an annual celebration of children's rights across the borough. CESC members took part in a range of activities including the 'takeover takeaway' developed by young people for adults to experience life for them. Within Cheshire East we worked with Cheshire East Youth Council to make it a celebration of the positive participation of Children and Young People for services within Cheshire East.

Key events include –

- Reverse takeover month is where professionals choose a challenge set by young people. The aim of the challenge is to become a young person for that chosen activity, professionals choose from a menu card and then complete an evaluation form at the end of the challenge. You can read about the challenges further in this report.

- “Hands up for children’s rights day” was the 16 November where all staff were asked to put their hands up. This year was slightly different as we asked that all staff who put their hands up also made a pledge of how they are going to make a commitment within their work to improve diversity and equality. This was a huge success and completed pledges are attached and will be sent back to teams to review as part of their development during 2018.
- National Take Over Day is where young people have the opportunity to become a professional for the day and run a specific area of business. This year four young people took over being managers and directors for the day, all young people and managers have reported back on the day later in this report.

#### • **Act Now Conference 2017**

This event featured input from a number of schools on a range of issues



- |                                                       |                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| ➤ ‘TWISTA’ - Eaton Bank                               | ➤ ‘Missing’ – Sandbach Boys School                             |
| ➤ ‘The Pride Youth network; a year on’ - Poynton High | ➤ ‘Child Sexual Exploitation- the radio show’ - St Thomas More |
| ➤ ‘Child to Parent Violence’ – Adelaide               | ➤ Big Sisters’ – Sandbach School                               |
| ➤ Bullying’ - Brine Leas                              | ➤ ‘Sticky Situations Solved!’ - Middlewich High                |

Individual Board members agreed to link with the schools and conduct a follow up visits supported by SCIES to thank them for their involvement with the Act Now conference and to be a ‘champion’ for the work they are doing going forward.



The Act Now Event generated calls for action that were presented to the Board by Liam Hill that have been integrated into the Board’s business plan.

- Improve communication and promotion of local services regarding CSE to all young people to raise awareness and understanding of CSE i.e. Deliver interactive sessions and provide information through assemblies and lessons in school, Enable young people to hear directly from people who have survived CSE
- Continue to raise awareness of both radicalisation and extremism and what action young people should take if they have concerns someone is vulnerable to this.

All members were also asked to consider their own services websites in relation to LGBT.

**The partnership effectively protects and ensures good outcomes for all children and young people in Cheshire East.**

- **Continuing to drive developments around Child Sexual**

## Exploitation

From March 2017 until July 2018 the CSE Operational Group operated as in previous. From August it altered to be managed through the multi-agency MFH/CSE team. The new model is 2 shorter groups held, one North and one South to ensure that appropriate professionals for the geographic area are present. Four meetings were held in the previous format then 7 meetings in both South and North.

There were 26 referrals for young people at risk of CSE that were considered in 2017-2018. Of these, 22 (88%) were flagged as being at risk of CSE and for continued monitoring by the group, which is a 73% increase on 16/17. This suggests that the monitoring and scrutiny of CSE Tools provided by the Integrated MFH and CSE Team is ensuring that appropriate cases are being identified.

The referrals were from a range of agencies, schools (50%), Cheshire East Council (CEFS, Youth Prevention and Children's Social Care) (31%), Youth Justice (4%), CAMHS (4%), School Nursing (4%), A&E (4%) and Catch22 (4%). Of the school referrals, half initially had concerns identified via the police however the schools were the best placed professionals to complete a robust CSE Screening Tool to ensure an appropriate referral to the CSE Operational Group due to there being no other professionals involved. There was no identifiable common pattern and they were identified through reports to police from parents directly. There was overall improvements in quality in the screening tools that led to referrals, with some good evidence of multi-agency collaboration in completion.

Girls were 92% of those identified as at risk. This is an ongoing trend from previous years reporting. It is known through national statistics and regional North West statistics (via TITAN) that there continues to be a low number of males identified and flagged due to CSE concerns.

Young people identified were aged between 13-18 years, the majority of flagged cases (87.5%) were 13-15 and the remainder (12.5%) being 16+. Based on previous reporting periods, the youngest children have been 12; this change indicates that children aged below 13 are being escalated for Children's Social Care Intervention and not being managed at CAF Level due to the nature of concerns.

Work in these key areas is regularly reported into the CECSB to ensure focus.

- **Continuing to drive developments around children missing from home**



Most children who go missing in Cheshire East go missing once and go missing from their home. Some children go missing many times and this includes children who have moved between care and home/semi-independent living and those who are cared for.

There has been a positive and substantial reduction in the number of individuals going missing in quarter 4 of 2017/18. A total of 339 individuals were reported as missing from home in Cheshire East in 2017/18. A small element of these will also be reported in the missing from care figures as the presenting issues may have resulted in the individual being taken into care. This is a positive picture however as it is a reduction of 11% on the previous year.

- **Trafficking**

A number of victims and perpetrators of modern slavery have already been identified across our boroughs, reinforcing the sad reality that modern slavery exists here, today, just as it does in others parts of the UK.

Modern slavery involves the abuse and coercion of vulnerable people. As such, it constitutes a safeguarding issue and, learning from our work around CSE, Forced Marriage, FGM and radicalisation, agencies across Cheshire are well placed to tackle it effectively. However, it presents a great number of overlapping issues and crimes which require a strong, coherent partnership response. It is essential that all of us across the public sector recognise that protecting people from slavery and exploitation is

everybody's business, and part of our day job as professionals who work continuously to safeguard and support those at risk. The Pan-Cheshire vision will be delivered through four priorities:

1. Embed the Modern Slavery Act into mainstream activity
2. Improve awareness, understanding and identification
3. Develop a positive protection and support system for victims
4. Hold perpetrators to account and promote appropriate prosecutions

- **Continuing to drive developments around children in a home with domestic abuse**

Cheshire East Domestic and Sexual Abuse Partnership (CEDSAP) undertook the following directly addressing Children and Young People's work.

1. High Risk Cases

There has been a 17% reduction in high risk/MARAC cases over the last three years and a parallel rise in early help seeking through the Domestic Abuse Hub sited alongside ChECS. 576 children have been heard at MARAC which is a decrease from the 663 last year and 782 in 2015-16.

"They gave me support. Which in my case is what I needed. My daughter needed support too. But they advised me where to go. They were in constant contact which is excellent"

## 2. Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs)

Specialist Services (IDVA, Barnardo's and Cheshire Without Abuse) continue to be present at all initial conferences where domestic abuse is a factor, regardless of whether the case is open to services in order to broker support and advise on appropriate interventions. Domestic abuse was identified as a factor in 36% of 273 notifications sent. In addition to these a further 9% referrals were open to domestic services but had come to conference for other reasons, making a total of 45% ICPCs where domestic abuse is a factor.

"Just wanted to raise a positive piece of work undertaken by (IDVA) in an ICPC I have chaired today.

Her professional views assisted to focus professionals on the immediate risk factors for the children and mum in this family. DV is a historic and current factor and mum WILL not engage. (IDVA) was clear about her recommendation and category to ICPC, which was discussed between professionals in an appropriate and balanced way. She was able to express her professional opinion and back it with reasons. She demonstrated professional confidence. Having an IDVA present was beneficial to the development of the outline CP plan and focusing on the impact of the DV on the children."

## 3. Joint Working with Child in Need/Child Protection Teams

Specialist services staff now sit alongside these teams three days a week facilitating information exchange and shared planning as well as undertaking joint visits where appropriate. This has improved working relationships significantly resulting in better input and outcomes for families.

## 4. Training

Specialist Services deliver a wide range of training supporting workforce development to safeguard children and families:

- 4 x Level 1, Level 2 Domestic Abuse
- 6 x Parenting Challenges (Toxic Trio)
- 4 x Sexual Violence awareness
- 3 x Adult Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse
- Hospital based delivery through Hospital IDVAs
- Responding to those who harm

"Much better informed about how services are organised in the authority and how to navigate them"

## 5. Priorities for 2018-19

These include:

- Recommissioning outreach, accommodation and specialist children's services and ensuring that these work in an increasingly integrated way with partners and whole families
- Embedding Signs of Safety tools and approach across the specialist sector
- Introducing eMARAC to fast track information and action to protect families at the highest risk

## • Continuing to drive developments around Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The Local Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards across Cheshire agreed and implemented Pan-Cheshire practice guidance for FGM. This covers female children under the age of 18 and adult females including those who come under the Care Act 2014 definition of an Adult at risk.

To prevent FGM in the future, agencies need to work closer with practicing communities and foster stronger links so together we are able to break the taboo and silence surrounding the harmful practice of FGM.

- **Continuing to drive developments around Radicalisation and extremism**

The Prevent strategic work is now led by the pan-Cheshire Protecting Vulnerable People group, to ensure all agencies are kept up to date with latest developments. The OSCT have now decided to extend the original Dovetail pilot as part of a gradual rollout across the North West, rather than implementing it across the country at this stage. A Dovetail Governance Board (DGB) in the NW is in place, providing an opportunity for oversight and input from a range of stakeholders. The aim is to build the resilience of the regional hub model, and ensure that there are appropriate formal mechanisms to report and resolve challenges. Liverpool represents Cheshire and Merseyside on the DGB as host site for the C&M Hub. Cheshire East are part of a C&M Hub Working Group which are now working together to develop the new working arrangements.

Partner agencies been asked to ensure they follow the Prevent training strategy by ensuring their staff and volunteers receive appropriate training. The CECSB website has a Prevent page where information on resources and training is available.

A Channel Panel has continued to meet throughout the year to safeguard individuals at risk from being radicalised or being groomed into becoming involved in acts of violent extremism. The multi-agency Channel Panel manages risks on a 'case by case' basis through meetings. The panel is chaired by a senior manager

from the Safer Communities Partnership. The overall number of cases considered has reduced due to nationally mandated changes from summer 2017. All of the 12 cases referred to Panel in 2017/18 were males, 11 of which were under 25, and 8 of these referrals were from schools. There were no cases which included mental health concerns. 6 of the referrals were regarding extreme right wing concerns. Only 1 last year was regarding ICT use (link to change in criteria).

Each situation is assessed on its own merits and the work done will vary depending on the needs of the individual young person. The interventions completed have included: attendance on conflict/anger management courses, being assigned a mentor at school, participation in sessions with an intervention provider to address skewed thinking or entrenched distorted ideological views, being taken to a local religious centre and being mentored by religious leader, CAMMS, support from drugs and alcohol services, support applying for jobs/benefits/housing and support tracing birth parents.

- **Child Protection Case Strategy meetings**

There is an active task and finish group working on improving the quality of strategy discussions and ensuring that these are multi- agency meetings. This includes exploring the use of technology and improving systems to alert partners to a forthcoming strategy discussion.

The majority of strategy meetings now taking place are of a good quality with appropriate decision making and application of thresholds. They are well planned with multi-agency representation. There are improved systems in place to ensure



partner agencies are invited to Strategy Meetings and receive a timely copy of the minutes. The main priorities moving forward are to improve attendance of health representation at urgent strategy meetings that take place on the same day that a concern is raised and to align strategy meetings with the Signs of Safety Model.

The desired impact of this work is that strategy discussions will in the majority of cases be planned, multi-agency meetings. Although this work is not yet complete the activity from the group has already increased focus on multi-agency participation in strategy meetings across the partnership.

- **Implementing our neglect strategy**



Since the neglect strategy was launched in 2017 over 600 staff across the multi-agency partnership have been trained in the use of the Graded Care Profile 2. This is a testament to the strategic commitment of the partner agencies and a very good indication of the priority that neglect is afforded by frontline staff. In 2017/18 the:

- percentage of children subject of a child protection for neglect for more than 12 months has reduced from 22% in 2016-17 to 7%, thus indicating more effective interventions are being delivered more quickly

- percentage of children made subject of a child protection plan for a 2nd or subsequent time for neglect reduced from 67% in 2016-17 to 39%
- use of the graded care profile, a tool used to assess the level of neglect, increased from less than 10% in 2016-17 to over 60%, and in the month of March 2018 all child protection case conferences considering plans for neglect were supported by a completed grade care profile
- number of children subject of a child protection plan for neglect reached a peak in quarter 2 at 175, which is evidence of better identification of neglect and a number of these children went on to be subject of court proceedings and being protected from further harm

The use of the Neglect Screening and Graded Care Profile tools needs to continue to improve and that assessment and planning is more effective in tackling neglect in a timely and effective way, so we achieve lasting change. There remains a need to strengthen the impact of early help assessment and planning so we achieve the strategic priority of preventing neglect through early help.

Recent auditing of the effectiveness of child in need and child protection planning has again identified areas for improvement and is a business plan priority. Partner agencies need to provide greater support and challenge to CiN meetings and core groups. Partner agencies either take the minutes or chair the meeting.

The recently revised JSNA for child maltreatment highlighted that we are under identifying maltreatment in young people aged 12-17. Each priority lead of the Children's Trust is linked with Members of the Young Parliament and as priority lead for feel and be safe we are working together to raise the profile and impact of

neglect amongst young people.

In 2019 a review and refresh of the 'Neglect Strategy' will be undertaken to ensure the learning and impact of the current strategy informs the next. The recently published Ofsted/CQC/HMIP JTAI Report, Growing up Neglected: a multi-agency response to older children will be used to inform the revised strategy.

The neglect strategy and campaign has been short listed for several national awards and we have received requests from a number of local authorities asking if they can use our strategy and scorecard as a template.

#### • **Developing our Early Help Strategy**

Having a strong early help offer is extremely important in ensuring we provide families with the support they need as soon as they need it, and we prevent problems from escalating. Serious problems can cause serious harm to children and young people in the long term, are detrimental to everyone in the family, and are more difficult to address.

A range of agencies are involved in identifying where families need additional support, and in providing early help. This strategy will support us to have a consistent and coordinated approach across the partnership, so all families can expect the same support and good quality service no matter what their needs are and where they live.



This strategy evaluates the needs of children, young people and families in Cheshire East, ensuring that our resources are targeted where they are most needed and will have the most impact.

The Strategy and action plan was endorsed by the Board for implementation in 2017-18.

#### • **Learning and Development**

The Learning and Development sub-group have:

- Had full engagement of relevant partners in the groups work
- Established a working party to identify the a range of methods to disseminate multi-agency learning from the two SCRs
- Developed a one page guide to screening tools and will be available on the LSCB website
- Implemented GCP 2 training, which has been supported by the sub group which is reflected in the number of practitioners who have attended training and its increased use
- Identified updates to include MAPPA and Neglect Topics for the e-learning platform
- Acknowledged that the increase in the training demand on staff complete in addition to own agency mandatory training may affect their ability to attend safeguarding training.

There is a need for ongoing support from all agencies to the learning and development department to complete post course evaluations to evidence impact of training on practice and outcomes for children.

#### **Strengthening Partnerships**

**We will strengthen relationships with other key partnerships to improve the reporting, accountability and sharing of good practice**

Key updates from Children's services have been scheduled on the forward plan for the Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure they have strategic oversight and scrutiny of the quality of children's services and the key issues for children and young people in Cheshire East.

The Partnership Chairs Group has continued to meet during the year. It has been exploring cross cutting issues within Business Plans and identifying shared risks.

### **Performance, Scrutiny and Challenge**

CESCB has a comprehensive quality assurance framework, which can be found on our website. In 2017-18 this has provided CESCB with a range of quantitative and qualitative information in relation to the effectiveness of safeguarding in Cheshire East. CESCB has strategic oversight and scrutiny of the quality of children's services and the key issues for children and young people in Cheshire East.

The Partnership Chairs Group has continued to meet during the year. It has been exploring cross cutting issues within Business Plans and identifying shared risks.

#### **Performance**

A quarterly picture, showing a clear trajectory of progress. Allowing us to set targets and evaluate our performance against our statistical neighbours

#### **Qualitative Information**

Detailed information on what is working well and areas for improvement for specific services, including what the causes of issues are.

#### **Feedback from Children and Young People, Parents and Carers**

What children, young people and their families want and is important to them, what their experience is of our services.

#### **Feedback from Staff**

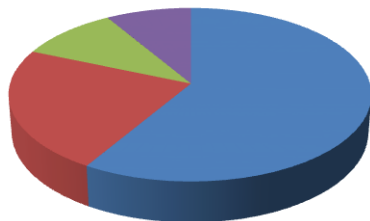
What staff know would help them to work with families, what is working well, and what could work better.

### **Performance Monitoring**

The CESCB scorecard has covers a range of measures from all partners and has been aligned with the areas of focus for the CESCB. It provides a robust oversight of safeguarding practice across the partnership.

The CESCB Quality and Outcomes Sub Group is effectively scrutinising and challenging partnership performance and is driving improvements to partnership working.

A range of quality assurance activity supports performance monitoring. Arrangements for this are robust and support and supplement partnership performance monitoring. This includes the CECSB multi-agency audit programme.



and effective multi-agency debate and agreement on findings. Scrutinised and monitored the progress of agreed actions from audits and reflective reviews

The Audit and Case Review subgroup has:

- overseen Serious Case and Reflective reviews
- undertaken analysis of the findings over the year across all audits and reviews (3 audits, 2 reflective reviews, 4 single agency audits and 1 case review ), and highlighted recurring themes to enable the Board to focus on the areas of practice it wishes to improve
- further developed the audit methodology which is much more comprehensive and inclusive with better practice based findings

Areas of challenge in 2017-18 include:

- Taking forward the learning from the Serious Case Reviews
- engagement with parents and children more about their experience as part of the audit function
- Improving the quality of multiagency decision making at CiN/CP meetings
- Merge the Audit and Case Review group with the Quality and Outcomes with a clear QA framework established to meet the new requirements under WT 2018

### Multi- Agency Audits

These audits consider five different cases covering a range of ages and levels of need each time. The agencies audit their own involvement using a common tool. They all make judgements on the quality of partnership working. Agencies then came together to analysis the audits and make recommendations for improvements. The agree improvements are then tracked to completion by the Audit and Case Review Sub-Group.

## Neglect

There was historical information indicating that some of these children have had identified neglect for a long time.

Strengths found	Areas of improvement within the wider system:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children and young people are protected and were found to experience positive outcomes</li> <li>In 67% of cases audited neglect was identified at an early stage with most identified at birth</li> <li>Child protection plans were found to be SMART.</li> <li>The new style of case conference was very rigorous and chairs were professional and gave plenty of opportunity for challenge, health visitor contribution was also excellent</li> <li>Identification of risk and response was swift and appropriate</li> </ul> <p>Good practice evidenced throughout case records across all the agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In CiN and CAF Meeting minutes, clarity is required regarding the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who records the minutes</li> <li>Who distributes the minutes</li> <li>And who receives the minutes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Communication between agencies in the organising of CiN meetings sometimes lacked consistency. Attendance at meetings would be improved if communication was improved.</li> <li>Child Services and Adults Services requirement for a joined up approach, both children and adult services may be offering the correct support there was still a need for better links and coordination between them.</li> <li>Referrals were made to the Learning Disability team for parent's cognitive assessments to take place. There needs a better understanding of the criteria for when this specialist assessment is required and then a clear pathway for this type of assessment to be done covering the referral process, service thresholds and which agency is commissioned to undertake the assessments.</li> <li>Clarity for schools and DSL's on how to escalate concerns for children who are CiN or CP with agencies when there is a disagreement with action plans.</li> </ul>
Areas for improvement specific to Neglect:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality of home conditions. There were inconsistencies in defining if home conditions were of an acceptable standard. The multi-agency meetings should provide a forum within which these judgements and the evidence informing them can be moderated.</li> <li>The Graded Care Profile tool was applied two of the five cases audited; there was consensus that when it was used it was a helpful tool.</li> <li>Police involvement was documented and it was agreed that the correct actions were taken however neglect was not identified on their system even though detailed recording indicated neglect.</li> </ul>	

## Child Protection Conferences

What's going well?	What do we need to do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were some good multi-agency assessments identified with risks and strengths well explored</li> <li>• ICPCs, RCPCs and Core Groups were well attended by the involved agencies</li> <li>• Agencies communicated well between meetings</li> <li>• When there was progress in a case this was clearly evidenced in Core Groups, Conferences and Assessments</li> <li>• Where professionals formed good relationships with parents, progress was consistent and sustained</li> <li>• Where there was consistency of agency representatives, plans showed good and timely progress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screening Tools (GCP and CSE) need to be used more effectively and consistently and evidence impact at an earlier stage.</li> <li>• The Core Group needs to ensure that there is a better focus on the child's lived experience and views. Better use of SOS Tools would support this work</li> <li>• The impact of ethnicity, race and culture needs to be considered in assessments</li> <li>• There should be a better use of the Core Group agenda – including a discussion on the need for the use of the contingency in each Core Group</li> <li>• CP IROs need to ensure that there is active consideration of category at each Review Conference</li> <li>• The impact of parental alcohol use needs to be better considered. Alcohol Audit to be used to measure this</li> <li>• Adult specific services need to consider impact on the child and should think <i>family</i>. Asking an adult if they have contact with a child should be a routine question</li> <li>• There needs to be better engagement of the absent parent and more active consideration of their role in increasing/reducing risk</li> <li>• Agencies to better engage vulnerable young women before they become parents</li> <li>• All agencies to be equally accountable within the Child Protection Plan</li> <li>• Agencies need to feel more confident in offering challenge to partners and professionals where there is limited progress in a case</li> </ul>
What are we worried about?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The impact of ethnicity was not always recognised and understood</li> <li>• There was not consistent focus on all children within a family</li> <li>• Parents ability to deflect/avoid professional input was not always clearly recognised and challenged</li> <li>• Professional sympathy could lead to overly positive prognosis without corroborating evidence</li> <li>• Whilst there are some good examples of the child's views and lived experience this was not consistent and did not always inform the Plan</li> <li>• The choice of Child Protection Category can lead to an incorrect focus of work effort and missing crucial evidence of impact on child</li> <li>• Absent parents and lack of engagement from non-resident fathers is rarely challenged or their impact understood</li> <li>• Neglect is rarely considered to be a crime and parents are not investigated for this as a crime</li> <li>• Adult Services do not consistently recognise the impact on children in the family</li> <li>• There is insufficient consideration of contingency planning</li> <li>• Agencies are not consistent in their challenge during the child protection process</li> <li>• Of the 5 cases audited, 2 were considered to be Good, 3 Required Improvement</li> </ul>	

## Child Sexual Abuse

What's going well?	What are we worried about?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of multi-agency working – attendance at ICPC, information sharing</li> <li>• All cases seem to have evidence of appropriate challenge when in the Child Protection arena</li> <li>• Practitioners at core groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategy meetings not involving all relevant partners and minutes not being routinely shared</li> <li>• Length of time to source work with parents</li> <li>• Lack of focus of religion and culture from front door</li> <li>• Health records repeated difficulties in making contact with social workers, cancelled core groups. This needs a basic exchange of contact details at the outset</li> <li>• Updates are required on the progress of criminal investigations to core groups to inform case progress</li> <li>• There needs to be a greater awareness by partners of the work carried out with sex offenders to enable a greater awareness of the progress of the case</li> <li>• No support for the non-abusive parent</li> <li>• The full implementation of the Signs of Safety into supervision of practitioners.</li> <li>• Community safety and families when ongoing investigation, information changes and evolves so requirements will change</li> </ul>
What do we need to do?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategy meetings developments to be fully implemented.</li> <li>• Ensure that risk assessments are being routinely used</li> <li>• Consider the application of the working/ written agreements including monitoring how they are used in practice</li> <li>• Core groups should set as an action a request for police information when there is an ongoing criminal enquiry</li> <li>• Pre-birth assessment policy – review the policy, what stage to refer, interventions</li> <li>• Consider what information partners require to inform them of the implications of work with sexual offenders to the safeguarding of children</li> </ul>	

### Serious Case Reviews (SCR):

This year we have had 2 Serious Case Reviews underway. These reviews were not been completed within this year due to an ongoing investigations.

### Reflective Reviews:

This year the CECSB accepted the recommendations of 2 Reflective Reviews reported to it. These recommended that:

- CECSB seek assurance that the development to improve multi-

agency contributions to strategy meetings is having a positive impact.

- CECSB ensure there is Health provision at CHECS that can access health records and provide that information to the strategy meeting process.
- All handovers of a CAF needs to ensure all information is shared and the child's transition to school is pre-planned; this should include CAF being attended by the school prior to transfer and clear plan in place to include the school nurse.
- The Neglect screening tool should be completed by practitioners, with the support of their managers wherever there is a concern about potential neglect.



- CEFS Supervision of staff working with children and young people should be more robust in the monitoring of case work.
- Ensure that professionals understand that CAF home visits do not always have to be conducted by the lead professional. The plan should identify and name which professional is best placed to fulfil these tasks and set out the purposes and frequency of home visits.
- Ensure that there is a process for The Education, Health and Care Plan to be informed by the history that will be recorded within CAFs
- School recording systems for contacts with Parents and Agencies to provide an overview to the DSL.

Actions plans to address these have been implemented and progress is being overseen by the Audit and Case Review sub-group

### **Single Agency Audits**

#### **Child Protection Independent Reviewing Officers Audit of Child Protection reports**

Auditors identified that 27% of reports were inadequate and not of sufficient quality to support effective planning and decision making for the child. Only 30% of reports were of good or outstanding quality with the remainder requiring improvement. In response to this IRO Safeguarding Chairs will look at each report provided to review conferences, the quality of the reports will be scored, themes and trends will be looked at as part of the process. Feedback will be provided to each agency about their report together with what constitutes as a good report to provide guidance on what Good looks like. As from April 2018 poor quality reports will lead to a practice alert being raised.

### **East Cheshire Trust Audit Activity**

There were number of findings from this:

- Wards are compliant
- A&E staff should be routinely using the risk assessment
- Improved understanding required of the needs cared for children
- Clear understanding of escalation in the health context
- Maternity audit evidenced
- Lots of multi-agency communication between midwifery and other services
- Good understanding of thresholds with all women were screened appropriately for mental health, FGM screened and Domestic Abuse
- That Domestic abuse was screen at initial meeting but no evidence of that being checked again later in pregnancy

### **Section 11 Audits**

Section 11 (4) of the Children Act 2004 requires each person or body to which the duties apply to ensure they have arrangements in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The Board partners have been completing their S11 audits and the findings will be reported to the board in 2018/19.

### **Section 175/157 Audits**

Schools are in the process of completing an annual S175/157 audit, this covers all the key areas of S11; findings from this audit are reported during the autumn to the CECSB. Considerable work is being undertaken in partnership with the Local Authority



Education Department, Schools, School Representatives and the Councils IT support to improve the reporting system.

### **Challenge Log**

The CECSB has made a number of challenges to single agencies during 2015-2016. These are collated in a challenge log that track and monitor the responses ensuring that issues are addressed.

These included raising concerns with care providers on the quality of their responses to risk taking behaviors. Action plans to improvement practice were agreed with these providers and signed off when all the actions were completed.

### **Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)**

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) oversees investigations into allegations against staff and volunteers who work with children and young people. Cheshire East's LADO sits within the Council's Safeguarding Unit. The Board oversees the work of the LADO through scrutiny of its annual report and activity reports to the Quality and Outcomes sub group.

During 2017/18 there were 231 referrals to the Cheshire East LADO, which is a reduction of 2 from 2016/17.

- Of these: 231 Referrals: 66 (28%) were categorised as Consultations; 101 (44%) as No Further Action after Initial Consideration; and 64 (28%) met the threshold for a LADO strategy meeting.

- Most referrals were from professionals working in the Education Sector (36%) which is a consistent trend and linked to the majority of referrals relating to education staff
- There were a total number of 70 contacts from education professionals of which 23 (33%) met the threshold for a LADO strategy meeting and 26 (39%) required some preliminary investigations by the employer. The amount of referrals categorised as consultations (LADO threshold clearly not met) have reduced from 50% to 28% which suggests that education professionals have an improved understanding of the LADO's role.
- There has been an increase in referrals from foster care agencies which made up 17% of the referrals meeting threshold this year as opposed to 9% last year. 73% of these referrals came from Cheshire East Fostering Service which is a 53% increase from last year.
- The referrals from social care which met threshold dropped by 13% in comparison to the previous year, however the number of total contacts from social care has only dropped by 7%. 19% of the total contacts made by social care met the threshold; this has reduced from 31% last year.
- Referrals from Cheshire Police have reduced from last year; however they are consistent with previous years. Although the police might not be the source of referrals, the LADO consulted with them on 93% of the cases where threshold was met for LADO involvement.
- Referrals from and about those working in the voluntary and faith sectors remains low and although there has been an increase in the number of referrals from voluntary organisations these were all from the Scouts Association. LADO's throughout the country have reported similarly low levels from these sectors.

The LADO has continued to ensure that allegations are managed in a timely way: 73% of referrals were concluded within 3 months and 90% within 6 months. There have been several cases which have incurred significant delay (more than 12 months) once they reach the court arena. The delay appears to be a result of judiciary capacity and beyond the involved agencies control.

## **Child Death Overview Panel**

The death of any child is a tragedy. It is vital that all child deaths are carefully reviewed. The death of any child under the age of 18 is reviewed by a Child Death Overview Panel on behalf of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. The pan-Cheshire Child Death Overview Panel is made up of a group of professionals who met on four occasions between April 2017 and March 2018. The total number of child deaths notified across the Pan Cheshire footprint was 53. The total number of child deaths reviewed by the panel during this period was 58 of which 27 were from Cheshire East.

The Panel has a role to identify any trends or themes and to make recommendations to the CECSB on learning from the reviews and how to prevent and reduce child deaths. The panel has an independent chair who provides regular updates to the CECSB and produces an annual report that summarises the key themes arising from child deaths, progress against actions and priorities for the coming year.

“as an adult social worker the training has added to my knowledge and contributed to how I undertake my practice with adults and their children.”

“The training has taught me to look for the unthinkable and to ask myself "what if I am right?" rather than "what if I am wrong?"”

## CECSB Training and Development

[CECSB Learning and Development](#) continues to develop, deliver and evaluate a robust needs led multi-agency training package.

Working Well	Next Steps
<p>GCP2 training to more than 550 participants across the workforce. Completed tools are being frequently seen in case conferences and planning meetings at all levels of the continuum.</p> <p>E-Learning - range of courses are being promoted including: Introduction to Safeguarding, C.S.E, F.G.M and Extremism awareness.</p> <p>training bulletin and 7 minute briefings have supported learning opportunities on current issues</p> <p>New course developed initially for managers including Harmful Sexualised Behaviour.</p> <p>Improvements in evaluation and impact on practice data have maximised administrative time.</p> <p>Partners have offered venues free of charge.</p> <p>E-Learning modules are now available through the LSCB website.</p> <p>Continued promotion of the single agency training policy, reducing the requirement for LSCB face to face basic awareness training.</p>	<p>Work with the LSAB to support a partnership approach to learning and improvement across the sectors.</p> <p>Development of learning and improvement opportunities for managers: mental capacity and DOLs and Risk Management.</p> <p>Further development of Pan-Cheshire learning opportunities and standardisation of courses</p> <p>Review of multi-agency domestic abuse training to maximise participation.</p> <p>Work with schools safeguarding forum to obtain the views of a range of children and young people across the area.</p> <p>Single agency training standards to be further developed for C.S.E and Neglect.</p> <p>Implement 2 day Signs of Safety training to partners.</p> <p>Review of impact on practice data collection methods.</p>
Worries	
<p>Signs of Safety, training delivery to partners are programmed for 2018 onwards.</p> <p>Courses have been cancelled for the first time this year due to low numbers.</p> <p>The LSAB and LSCB are not joined up for learning and development opportunities.</p> <p>More courses need to be considered for managers across the partnership.</p> <p>The voice of the child within the training environment could be stronger.</p> <p>Single agency training needs to be further developed in light of new safeguarding processes from June 2019.</p>	

Returns for course evaluation show that:

- More than 92% of participants report an increase in knowledge, confidence and skills by the end of the course, with the same numbers stating they would recommend the course. This is a 5% improvement on last year.
- More than 92% participants value the courses and engage with change when delivering services to children.
- 93% of respondents self report that the training has positively changed or influenced practice.
- 71% of respondents identify discussion with managers following attendance on LSCB courses.
- 87% have said they have shared information with colleagues, both of these figures show an increase of 25% and more in comparison to previous years.

## 2017-18 Annual Reports

### Summary of reports

Each partner agency is expected to meet their safeguarding responsibilities as described in the member compact and under Section 11. All agencies are expected to ensure their staff and volunteers undertake appropriate single and multi-agency training.

Partner agencies are expected to provide an annual update for scrutiny to the board, setting out any key achievements in the previous year.

### Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service

Cafcass is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Ministry of Justice. It represents children in family court cases, ensuring that children's voices are heard and decisions are taken in their best interests.

The demand on the family justice system and on Cafcass services remained very high throughout the year, with rises in local caseloads varying across the country. Overall Cafcass has seen a rise in private law applications (involving arrangements for children following parental separation) and a small decrease in public law applications (involving the local authority), Cafcass is actively contributing to the Care Crisis Review, a sector-wide initiative that aims to stem the increase in care cases and promote safe and beneficial outcomes for children. We are also undertaking innovative projects that seek to improve practice promote good outcomes for children and make

better use of limited resources. An example is the three assessment pathways that we have been developing – domestic abuse; high-conflict; and parental alienation.

Cafcass' strategic priorities in 2017/18 were to:

Continue to improve our performance and the quality of our work; contribute to family justice reform and innovation; use our influence to promote knowledge and best practice; bring the uniqueness of each child (including diversity considerations) to the court's attention; be efficient and effective in light of high demand and financial constraints.

In February and March 2018 Ofsted undertook its second national inspection of Cafcass, the overall judgement was outstanding. They found practice was effective and authoritative, helping courts to make child-centered and safe decisions, adding value and leading to better outcomes for children. The overall judgement was influenced by many factors including: the exceptional corporate and operational leadership; sensitive and knowledgeable direct work undertaken with children in relation to a wide range of diversity issues; the culture of continuous learning and improvement; and a strong aspiration to 'get it right' for vulnerable children. The inspection identified some areas for Cafcass to improve relating mostly to the quality of recording and to explaining to court consistently when issues of diversity are not relevant to the application. They will be working on these in the year ahead and will continue to try to improve our services, and to contribute to family justice reform.

Impact of Partners safeguarding activity against the Board's Key Business Plan Objectives	
1. Strategic Partnership Objective Improving frontline practice	
Partner	Outcome to be achieved - Competent practitioners and consistent practice. Children and Families provided with the right level of support and intervention.
Cheshire Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focussed on improving front line practice with officers have undergone safeguarding training to understand that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and not to expect others to safeguard children.</li> <li>• Domestic and child abuse is a priority. There is front line supervisory scrutiny regarding the quality of investigations and action taken. There is further senior leadership scrutiny during level 1 and 2 meetings held during every day where safeguarding is the main focus.</li> <li>• The Public Protection Directorate (PPD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Operates Pan-Cheshire providing a consistent organisational approach in the response to child protection.</li> <li>○ Locally there is a consistent team with excellent working relationships with partner agencies.</li> <li>○ All officers that work within the Directorate are detective accredited or are working towards that.</li> <li>○ Has oversight of Child Exploitation and Missing From Home issues with dedicated officers</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Officers consider early stage intervention to divert children away from crime.</li> <li>• Local policing teams have school liaison officers that work with children within mainstream school and home schooled.</li> </ul>
Wirral 0-19 Cheshire East	<p>Priority given to training all frontline practitioners in eCaf and GCP2 with the target that all practitioners are trained in by September 18.</p> <p>Continued participation in Single and Multi-agency Audits. Learning incorporated into single and multi-agency training.</p> <p>All frontline practitioners attending Signs of Safety multi-agency training</p>
Eastern and South Cheshire CCGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked with their providers to develop dashboards which reflect safeguarding standards.</li> <li>• Focussed on GP practice in safeguarding and on the quality of health assessments for Cared for Children.</li> <li>• In partnership with public health jointly commissioned a specialist nurse to work within Cheshire East Contact and Referral Service. This contributes to the timeliness of information sharing where there is a may be at risk of harm or in need of early help services.</li> <li>• Extended CSE nurse role to include working with children at risk of criminal exploitation</li> <li>• Improved information sharing processes between GPs, health professionals and our multi-agency partners, evidenced by a significant increase in the number of GPs reports provided for child protection case conferences.</li> <li>• Contributed to multi-agency work between health and the LA to establish timely and good quality health assessments for Cared for Children. There has been a significant improvement and the work will continue.</li> </ul>
East Cheshire NHS Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintained 80% training compliance target for all levels. There were national difficulties with the level 2 E learning package and an interim local solution was developed and implemented.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A "Think Family" approach is being promoted throughout the Trust and triggers for referral to children's safeguarding team have been developed and cascaded to staff working within adult focused areas.</li> <li>• Formal quarterly supervision is provided to Midwives, Specialist Nurses and the Sexual Health Teams.</li> <li>• The Named Safeguarding Doctor/Nurse provides regular peer review to medical staff. The Named Doctor, Nurse and Midwife receive quarterly supervision from the Designated Doctor/Nurse.</li> </ul>
Reaseheath	Ofsted care standards inspection during the year confirmed by grading outstanding that Reaseheath has competent and consistent practice and their young and vulnerable are provided with excellent support.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCiES, CEASH, eCAPH and the DSLs liaise and communicate with their teams to ensure frontline practitioners are informed and supported.</li> <li>• Safeguarding is a standing item on CEASH and eCAPH agendas. Newsletters etc. are circulated to Headteachers and DSLs by SCiES, CEASH and eCAPH</li> </ul>
Children's Social Care (CSC)	<p>CESCB endorsed and began implementing a single operating model across the levels of need, Signs of Safety; this will underpin good practice with families and consistency in children and family experience. There has been good strategic engagement across the partner agencies. Alongside this there has been a focus on audit shifting to reflect the quality of practice at the frontline. There is evidence that this is having a positive impact but CSC recognise there is still further work to do.</p> <p>CSC has also focussed on ensuring children achieve positive outcomes in a timescale that meets their needs to be safeguarded and achieve permanency. There is clear evidence of fewer children on a child protection plan over 15 months and a reduction in repeat child protection plans.</p>
National Probation Service (NPS)	<p>Completed two audits, one of frontline practice with officers responsible for the supervision of custodial and community sentences. A safeguarding children workshop was developed to cover improvements related to NPS Policy requirements, as well as strengthening understanding of CESCB procedures.</p> <p>NPS identified practitioner level safeguarding champions within each local team to promote and drive improvements.</p>
<b>2. Strategic Partnership Objective - Listening to children and young people</b>	
Partners	<b>Outcome to be achieved - Children's views are strongly represented.</b>
Cheshire Police	<p>The 'voice of the child' is understood by officer. Not just what the child says but what the child is experiencing.</p> <p>There are officers in dedicated roles regarding Child Sexual Exploitation, School Liaison and MFH co-ordinators. Officer's focused on representing the views of the child and ensure that colleagues are effectively safeguarding children.</p> <p>There are procedures for officers to speak to children to record that. Officers will utilise visually recorded evidence in line achieving best evidence. The child's views are taken into consideration when making decision on how we proceed.</p> <p>If cases progress to court then the police will support the child/children through the process.</p>
Wirral	School Nurse Health assessments completed with vulnerable children and Young people now include wishes and feelings.

0-19 Cheshire East	Involvement in multi-agency and single participation events and processes.
Eastern and South Cheshire CCGs	CCGs have strengthened its approach to listening to children and representing their views on services and redesign of services. They have approached children participation groups and worked with other agencies to establish a network of young people who can provide a voice.
East Cheshire NHS Trust	<p>Paediatric services have listened to the child's wishes and feelings about their situation now as well as plans and hopes for the future; Providing them with honest and accurate information about the current situation and future possible actions and interventions; involved the child in key decision-making processes; Providing appropriate information about their right to protection and assistance; invited them to make recommendations about the services and assistance they need and/or are available to them; Ensuring they have access to independent advice and support (for example, through advocates) to be able to express their views and influence decision-making and considering with them, issues arising in relation to identity, diversity, culture, faith, sexual orientation language, disability, low confidence and trust.</p> <p>Specific examples of work include 'The Feedback/Wishes Tree' on display in the Paediatric ward. Children are encouraged to 'plant the seed' - their ideas on how we can to improve their experiences in hospital. Staff then update the tree with how they have implemented the children's idea's.</p> <p>Specific feedback from the survey of 8-16 year olds included: Trust's values not being displayed in a child friendly way, wanting changes/improvements to the food available, updated décor and curtains on the ward and more variety of what activities are available for them during their stay – these were then actioned by staff.</p>
Reaseheath	The reaccréditation of the Matrix Standard confirms the college's learner voice is very well represented.
Education	The voice of the child is at the forefront of practice in education; including students in interview panels, ensuring children are able to express their views at case conferences, students completing surveys on a range of issues that may affect them (mental health, emotional well-being, stress et al; both positive and areas for improvement views sought) and participating in group work at cross phase conferences on particular issues (bullying, homophobia, racism, gender equality et al).
Children's Social Care	CSC have a strong focus on ensuring that children's lived experience is evident, and there are examples of excellent child focused work, particularly for children in CP Plans and C4C. However CSC recognise they want greater consistency and strong evidence that the information has always informed the plan for the child and been revisited as change occurs. There are also good examples of how children have led work (e.g. chairing their statutory reviews) and how they have informed strategic development (e.g. the Local Offer for Cared for Children and Care leavers, and the animation about CP Conferences). CSC have also invested in the provision of direct work tools for frontline staff. There is evidence that these are being used to improve the quality of direct work.



National Probation Service	<p>Voice of the child is a standing item on the MAPPA Agenda; chairs are required to consider the voice of the child in individual case decision making.</p> <p>NPS offender assessments capture details of children at risk; NPS are also required to identify children at the point of sentence. They are completing work to raise the profile of recording children's information and the impact of their parent receiving a custodial sentence.</p> <p>NPS have rolled out a nationally developed neglect toolkit and will support practitioners operating in an adult facing environment to recognise the features of neglect.</p> <p>There is a home visiting protocol and guidance about how to record any direct contact with Children.</p>
<b>3. Strategic Partnership Objective Strengthening partnerships</b>	
<b>Partners</b>	<b>Outcome to be achieved - Strong safeguarding culture across the system, effective scrutiny, and challenge and evidence of improved outcomes</b>
Cheshire Police	<p>Processes are in place to scrutinise officer's actions. Their actions are updated on police systems. Incidents are reviewed by the Force control room and local supervision.</p> <p>The Police have improved the recording of crime in line with the Nation Crime Recording Standards. Crimes/investigations are then reviewed by supervision prior to closure. There is clear direction endorsed on investigations which are reviewed at specific periodical times to ensure there is progress and that safeguarding is being addressed to improve outcomes.</p>
Wirral 0-19 Cheshire East	<p>Named Nurse is the chair of the CESCIB Learning and Improvement subgroup and worked on the development of multi-agency blended learning alongside the CESCIB Learning and Development Manager.</p> <p>Health lead for developing strategy meeting pathway</p> <p>Nurse Specialist in the Integrated Front door is establishing partnership working and attending meetings with colleagues to build relationships between agencies and this service.</p>
Eastern and South Cheshire CCGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have contributed to partnership working through the Health and Well-Being Board, the CESCIB Board and its sub groups.</li> <li>• worked with LA commissioners to develop joint safeguarding standards and quality assurance processes for providers; strengthened links to the Corporate Parenting Board and worked jointly with the LA to improve the timeliness and quality of initial health assessments for Cared for Children.</li> <li>• worked with the Police and LA to develop new local safeguarding arrangements in Cheshire East and the LA to develop new CDOP arrangements across the Pan Cheshire footprint.</li> </ul>
East Cheshire	Trust has worked closely with the two CSC teams to improve the early help offer to parents. The Named Midwife for Safeguarding is the nominated Common Assessment Framework (CAF) Champion for the Trust and has worked with partner agencies to update the

NHS Trust	<p>CAF training and to deliver it to multi-agency teams. CAF is included in safeguarding level 3 training. Named Midwife also represents the Trust at the Early Help subgroup. To support the launch of the CESC Neglect strategy neglect training has been delivered at level 3 by the Safeguarding team to staff about the recognition and management of neglect. This training has included SMART planning and the use of the Neglect Tool and the Graded Care assessment tool. The use of these tools has been actively promoted to health practitioners through supervision. The use of Tools to support referrals made to CSC will be monitored quarterly via the Safeguarding Children Dashboard.</p> <p>The CSE Nurse Specialist represents the Trust at the Children Missing from Home and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) sub group operational meetings for the management of Child Sexual Exploitation. Level 3 training this year has included the learning from the Brookes CSE SCR 2015 and Trafficking and the Modern Slavery Act 2015.</p> <p>Trust hosted the CSE Nurse Specialist role for East Cheshire, this post is now in the process of being TUPED to the Wirral Community Trust. The Specialist Nurse is co-located and works as part of the multi-agency integrated team to deliver the CSE strategy across East Cheshire. The Nurse Specialist has been supervised and managed by the Safeguarding team. Training has been delivered by the Nurse Specialist to key groups of staff and links and information sharing pathways have been developed with health partners to enable early identification of young people at risk. A health pathway and health assessment has been developed which will be used by all health partners to assess the health needs of those young people who have been identified as at risk of CSE.</p> <p>The Safeguarding team continues to work with partner agencies at both strategic and operational levels to improve outcomes for children and adults subject to domestic violence and abuse. In November 2015 an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) was seconded from the Domestic Abuse Family Safety Unit for 18 months to work within the hospital to support patients and staff who experience domestic abuse. This role has made a significant difference to patients and staff through the provision of immediate support and advice. The number of referrals has significantly increased as a result of improved staff awareness through training. The funding for this post is reviewed annually and was secured for 2018-2019.</p> <p>The Named Nurse, Doctor and Midwife have attended the Safeguarding Children Operational Managers subgroup to improve front line practice.</p> <p>The Named Midwife is the Trust Lead for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). The Trust is compliant with the mandatory reporting requirements for FGM and to date has had 9 cases of historic FGM. All safeguarding procedures have been followed in relation to these cases. The Trust has a FGM policy and. FGM training has been delivered throughout the Trust this year.</p> <p>The Midwife for Vulnerable families continues to positively evaluated by multi-agency partners and the Midwife has been informed that she has been nominated for a good practice alert by the LSCB. This post has improved multi-agency working and information</p>
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	<p>sharing. It has improved access and continuity of care for women who traditionally are hard to engage and therefore improving outcomes for the babies.</p> <p>The Trust has worked with the National Child Protection – Information Sharing (CP-IS) project which will allow the identification of children who are Looked After or who are subject to a Child Protection Plan when they present to our Emergency Department of maternity services. CP-IS has been successfully implemented within the AE department, the Minor Injuries Unit, the Paediatric Observation Unit and the Maternity department.</p>
Reaseheath	Ofsted outstanding grading identified strong governance and management with a culture of continuous improvement.
Education	Schools illustrate good safeguarding practice; ensuring students know who they need to talk to if they have concerns; assemblies and tutor time spent on a full range of issues (often led by the students themselves and/ or significant partners, for example, police, health); information around the school; emphasis within the curriculum (all subjects and PHSCEE); all members of staff understanding that they have safeguarding responsibilities and knowing to whom they need to report concerns (DSL and/ or Headteacher); regular training and updates (with SCiES, on-line training et al).
Children's Social Care	<p>There have been many examples over the year for how CSC has work collaboratively to strengthen the partnerships. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was identified that the contribution from the Police in CP conferences was not effective in determining risk and informing planning – so a bespoke training session was held – the contribution has now improved and the exercise is now being repeated with health professionals.</li> <li>• There has been joint work between the IFD and police focussing on improving the quality and decision making in respect of Police referrals to the front door. Evidence of impact has been a reduction in referrals that do not meet threshold and an increase in the quality of information shared.</li> <li>• Worked collaboratively with GP lead to improve the submission of reports to conference – this has included collating and providing data, providing training, auditing reports. The submission has improved significantly and this has been sustained.</li> <li>• Established regular forums with partners, including the Designated Doctor and DSLs to identify specific barriers that may be impacting on working effectively together. The impact has been an increasing shared understanding at the frontline and strategically of specific roles and responsibilities. For example: child protection medicals and complex safeguarding.</li> <li>• The Safeguarding Unit have conducted a number of thematic audits that have had partnership lessons. These have been reported to the partnership and have informed Board priorities and work streams, for example, strategy discussions, neglect, effectiveness of core groups, the quality of single agency reports to conference.</li> <li>• Domestic Abuse is the most frequent characteristic for children on a child protection plan; CSC recognised that the partnership lacked rigour in developing effective plans for children based on the understanding of the adult abuse. CSC have supported better planning by ensuring that a specialist DA worker attends all ICPC where DA is identified as a risk factor. This has resulted in better planning and access to specialist support for the family.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Safeguarding and Quality assurance Unit recognised the need to collate the challenge to agencies within the CP system, so CSC have developed a partner alert system to front line workers and leads, which identifies both excellent practice and where improvements can be made. This compliments informal discussions and is used to focus on thematic priorities e.g. the quality of reports to conference to give structured feedback to partners.</li> <li>Worked with the key agencies to ensure strategy discussion/meetings are multi-agency.</li> </ul>
National Probation Service	<p>NPS have identified practitioner level safeguarding champions within each Cheshire team to promote and drive improvements.</p> <p>Conducted two audits for scrutiny purposes.</p> <p>HMIP has introduced an annual inspection regime – the standards incorporate safeguarding children considerations.</p> <p>NPS participated in the Neglect JTAI in Cheshire West and are progressing actions in response to its findings.</p>

## Key Priorities for 2018-19

The three overarching objectives remain for 2018-19:

- **Frontline practice is consistently good, effective and outcome focused**
- **Listening to and acting on the voice of children and young people**
- **The partnership effectively protects and ensures good outcomes for all children and young people in Cheshire East**

At a Board workshop members worked together to agree the following key priorities and actions that will sit under the objectives:

- Implementation of the [Signs of Safety](#) approach to practice
- Improving the effectiveness of multi-agency child protection/child in need planning
  - Improve the quality of the Child in Need meetings
- Oversee the deliver and engagement with the
  - Early Help strategy
  - Neglect Strategy
- Strengthen our response to Complex Safeguarding and Safeguarding vulnerable groups
  - Develop local implementation plans for vulnerable groups and on-line safety based on the Pan-Cheshire strategies.
  - Ensure that Young Carers are identified early and services become more 'joined up'.

- Collaborate with LSAB, to improve the way that agencies work together to respond to the whole family.
- Provide assurance to the Board that agencies respond and link LGBTQ young people into support services as appropriate.
- Effectiveness of partnership response to child sexual abuse to ensure good outcomes.
- Dedicated consistent approach to new emerging Contextual Safeguarding issues i.e. Trafficking. Child Sexual Exploitation, On-line safety

## **Budget for 2018-19**

An outline budget for CESC's work in 2018-19 is set out at Appendix 4.

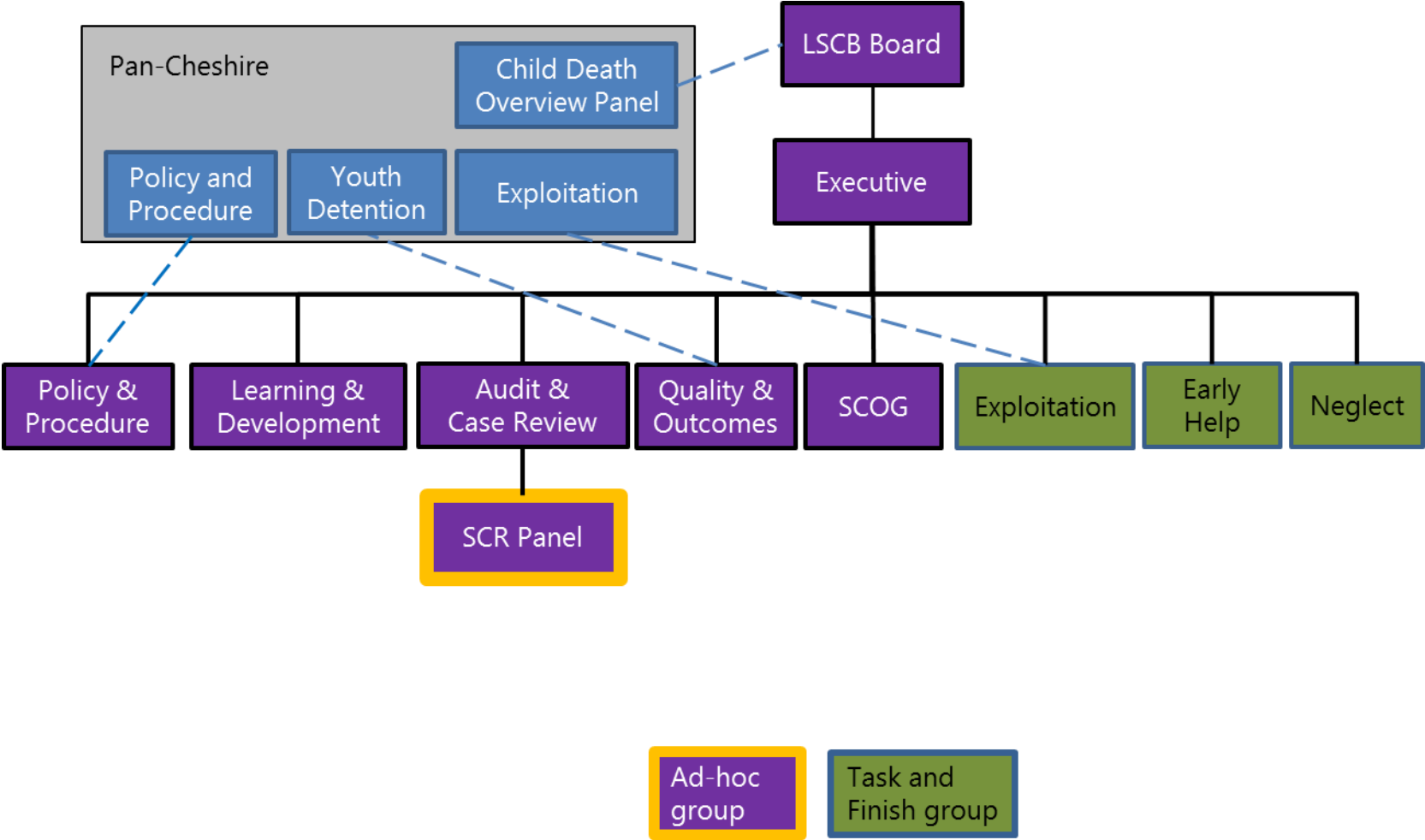
## Risks and Issues

It is essential to identify, analyse and priorities risks to ensure that these are managed effectively and do not impact adversely on the Board's plans. The Board maintains a risk register which is reviewed and updated bi-monthly with action updates at the Executive Group. During the year the following risks were on the LSCB Risk register.

Registered	Risk	Actions	Status year end
Dec 14	Partnership ownership of the improvement plan.	All actions complete	Closed Feb 18
Apr 17	Capacity within the Business Unit to manage SCR/Reflective reviews in line with national guidance.	Weekly Case tracker updated and available to CE Safeguarding Manager and LSCB Chair. Quarterly report to LSCB Board. Nine partner agencies have nominated chairs for Reflective Reviews.	Closed Oct 17
May 17	Changes in membership of the Board through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>restructures within partner organisations impact on the continuity of the business and pace of change needed to improve,</li> <li>uncertainty in relation to the future model of safeguarding partnership arrangements (Wood Review);</li> <li>emerging Pan Cheshire Structures that could impact on partner's capacity.</li> <li>will impact upon the Boards ability to fulfil its functions</li> </ul>	Continue to strengthen the Pan Cheshire approach. Agreement in principle from Cheshire Senior Leadership group to look at opportunities for alignment of LSCB's.	Open
May 17	No Designated Nurse for looked after children.	Looked After Children's Nurse appointed July 2017.	Closed Oct 17
Nov 17	Embedding Signs of Safety (SOS).	SOS is monitored and making progress.	Closed Feb 18
Feb 18	The need to improve the Effectiveness of Multi-agency Child Protection Plans/Children	The effective use of a suite of evidence based practice tools for assessments, direct work and planning to be agreed.	Open

	in Need has been identified in LSCB audits.	Signs of Safety model implementation.	
Feb 18	The rise in the Cared for population and its impact on partnership resources.	Specific legal support for discharge of care orders for children placed at home of in the care of family and friends with plan to discharge Care Order in favour of Special Guardianship Order. Children Social Care introduced a Resource Accommodation Panel to discuss all requests for children to become cared for. Work across the region in respect of children placed on care orders at home – including working collaboratively with CAFCASS and Courts.	Feb 18

Appendix 1: Cheshire East Safeguarding Board Structure





## Appendix 2: Board Membership and Attendance

	25.05.17	19.07.17	27.09.17	22.11.17	17.01.18	14.03.18
Independent Chair						
Voice for Children						
The Children's Society						
South Cheshire CCG						
South and Eastern Cheshire CCG Designated Nurse						
CWP NHS Foundation Trust						
East Cheshire NHS Trust						
Mid Cheshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust						
Wirral Community NHS Trust						
NHS England						
Public Health						
Executive Director of People						
Lead Member for Children's Services						
Head of Children's Safeguarding						
Director of Children's Social Care						
Head of Service - Children in Need and Child Protection						
Principle Manager for Early Help						
Safeguarding Adults Strategic Manager						
Cheshire Police						
Youth Justice						
Cheshire Fire Service						
Primary School Heads Representative						
Secondary Schools Head Representative						
Representative for Colleges and Further Education						
Independent Schools Representative						
HMP Styal Head of Residence and Services						
Probation – CRC						
Probation – NPS						
Lay Member						
Voluntary Sector Representative						
Voluntary Sector Representative						
Housing						
Cheshire CAF/CASS						
Designated Doctor						
Director of Children's Prevention and Support						
Senior Lawyer						

## Appendix 2: Financial Arrangements – 2017-18

The tables below sets out the CECSB's outline budget and outturn expenditure for 2017-18, along with the financial contributions from partners.

Area of Expenditure	2017-18 (£)
<b>Direct Employee Exps</b>	196,185
Safeguarding Project Manager (0.70 fte)	
Performance Officer (0.50 fte)	
Training Manager (0.81 fte)	
Training Officer (0.91 fte)	
CECSB Admin (2 fte)	
<b>Indirect Employee Exps</b>	0
Employee training	
Conferences and seminars	
<b>Transport</b>	
Mileage and car parking	2,000
<b>Premises</b>	6,000
Hire of rooms for training, CECSB meetings	
<b>Supplies and Services</b>	48,000
Independent Chair	
Agency staffing to cover Safeguarding Project Manager post prior to appointment	
Training costs - printing, tutor and course costs	
CDOP Pan-Cheshire Chair (CE contribution)	
Peer challenge costs	
Auditor costs	
LADO funding (0.5 fte)	
Phone and mobile phone charges	
Lay member expenses	
Refreshments for meetings	
Competition prizes	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	252,185
Carry forward reserves from 2016-17	73,507
Income in 2017-18	206,878
<b>Total available spend 2017-18</b>	280,385
Expenditure 2017-18	252,185
<b>Reserve carry forward to 2017-18</b>	<b>28,200</b>

### Appendix 3: Partner Contributions.

	CESCB Partners	2017-18 contributions (proposed)
Health	Eastern Cheshire NHS	£5,000
	Mid Cheshire Hospitals	£6,772
	South Cheshire CCG	£18,778
	Eastern Cheshire CCG	£18,778
	Cheshire and Wirral Partnership	£4,093
	Wirral Community NHS Trust	£5,500
Criminal Justice	Probation Service (NRC)	£1,700
	Probation Service (NPS)	£992
	Police	£25,000
	HMP STYAL	£2,000
	CAFCASS	£550
L A	Local Authority	£44,300
Education	Schools	£68,915
	Independent Schools	
	Cheshire FE Consortium	£4,500
Total		£206,878

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*Working for a brighter future together*

## **Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Report**

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**Date of Meeting:** 26 November 2018

**Report Title:** Children and Families Performance Scorecard – Qtr 1, 2018-19

**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr Jos Saunders, Portfolio Holder for Children and Families

**Senior Officer:** Mark Palethorpe, Acting Executive Director of People

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### **1. Report Summary**

1.1. This report and the attached performance scorecard provide an overview of performance across the Children and Families Service for quarter 1 of 2018-19.

### **2. Recommendation/s**

2.1. Scrutiny is recommended to:

- a. Note the contents of the report and scorecard; and
- b. Scrutinise areas where expected levels of performance are not being met.

### **3. Reasons for Recommendation/s**

3.1. One of the key areas of focus for the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to highlight areas of poor performance and to scrutinise the effectiveness of plans in place to improve services. Overview and Scrutiny has an important role to play in the performance management systems of the local authority. The Children and Families performance scorecard provides essential data, along with qualitative information, to measure the effectiveness of services within children's services. This report and scorecard will be provided to Scrutiny on a quarterly basis to enable the Committee to maintain an overview of performance across the Service.

### **4. Other Options Considered**

4.1. Scrutiny may want to consider the performance of the Service more or less frequently.

## 5. Background

- 5.1. This quarterly report provides the Committee with an overview of performance across Children's Services. This report and scorecard relates to quarter 1 of 2018-19 (1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018).
- 5.2. The scorecard presented to Committee during 2017-18 has been revised for quarter 1. This includes a number of changes and new measures and ensures that Members are considering key performance measures across all services. There are 30 more measures for 2018-19, compared to the previous year.
- 5.3. The performance scorecard details the following:
- Measure – details of each performance measure
  - Polarity – whether it is good to have the measure high or low
  - Statistical neighbour average – gives a comparator against local authorities with similar characteristics to Cheshire East. Cheshire East's statistical neighbours in rank order are:
    - Cheshire West and Chester
    - Warwickshire
    - Central Bedfordshire
    - Warrington
    - Hampshire
    - North Yorkshire
    - East Riding of Yorkshire
    - Solihull
    - North Somerset
    - West Berkshire
  - National average – gives a national comparator figure
  - Target – this is either a national target, eg, adoption timeliness, or a local one set by the service to provide a 'good/outstanding' service
  - Year end 2017-18 – enables Members to compare existing performance to that in the previous year
  - Quarterly performance – enables Members to compare performance from quarter to quarter
  - RAG – this is a rating of red, amber, green based on current performance against the expected level of performance
  - Direction of travel – this provides the direction of travel this quarter and whether this is positively or negatively in an upward/downward trajectory or static
  - Comments – this provides a general commentary on the information presented
  - C&YP Plan Priority – links the measure to the relevant priority within the Children and Young People's Plan
  - Corporate Priority – links the measure to the relevant priority within the Council's Corporate Plan

## 6. Performance Overview

- 6.1. The performance scorecard at Appendix 1 includes 103 separate measures covering all areas of the service. Some of these measures are non-performance related, eg those that relate to population cohorts. In total, 79 of these measures relate to performance and have been RAG rated. A breakdown summary is set out follows (it is not possible to compare to the previous quarter due to the change in measures:

Performance Measures	Red	Amber	Green	n/a	Total
This quarter	9	38	32	24	103

## 7. Red RAG rated performance

- 7.1. There continues to be some areas of performance that are RAG rated as red. Activity is underway in all these areas to address under-performance.
- 7.2. There are number of red RAG rated areas in relation to cared for children. The number and rate of cared for children continue to increase, putting increased pressure on services. Whilst an increase in cared for children is being seen across the north west, the rate of increase in Cheshire East is higher than elsewhere albeit we still remain substantially lower than the latest available Q4 north west average. A number of initiatives are under way to reduce this, including a focus on permanency planning, which was recognised in the recent Ofsted Focused Visit. We also continue to focus on long term placement stability to ensure
- 7.3. The percentage of initial health assessments completed by paediatricians within 20 days. There was a considerable dip in performance in Q1 compared to Q4 of 2017-18, which primarily relates to performance in June where a total of 24 were completed - 12 in timescale and 12 out of timescale with the additional individual leaving care before their health assessment was completed.
- 7.4. There were only 2 out of 34 children who ceased to be cared for as they achieved permanence via adoption in quarter 1. There are, however, a further 44 cared for children where the plan is for adoption. Cheshire East arrangements within the new Regional Adoption Agency are developing with a performance framework which robustly scrutinises drift and delay for children who are placed within their prospective adoptive family.

- 7.5. The percentage of initial child protection conference (ICPC) within 15 days of a Section 47 enquiry (S47) had a dip in performance in quarter 1. However, it is isolated to the month of May. Most of the late notifications were delayed by less than a week and interim safety plans ensured that there was no risk for children. Weekly reports are being provided for the operational social work teams to ensure notifications are received in a timely fashion and where delays are likely that a suitable safety plan is in place for children.
- 7.6. Significant work has taken place around ensuring that children missing from education are returned more swiftly back into education using an early help approach. New Multi Agency meetings have been established to review all cases, ensure the service is aware of all cases and that these are allocated to key workers. Additional capacity in the form of family support workers have been brought in and a new team manager with an Early Help background starts in the New Year.
- 7.7. The number of children and young people educated at home is coming under increased scrutiny nationally. Cheshire East has high numbers of children who are electively home educated (EHE). New processes and strategies are in place for identifying EHE children, monitoring their education and supporting their families. Greater rigour is being applied to ensure these children are receiving an appropriate education and additional capacity in the form of family support workers has been brought in.
- 7.8. The timeliness of completing Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) continues to be a significant issue, which is compounded by the ongoing difficulties in recruiting Educational Psychologists. Improving timeliness and quality of plans is a priority in Cheshire East's written statement of action following the inspection of services in March 2018. Progress against this plan is monitored by the Department for Education (DfE) and NHS England on a quarterly basis.

## **8. Performance Direction of Travel**

- 8.1. Whilst it is important to look at the current performance around particular measures, it is equally important to look at the direction of travel and to RAG rate this in relation to performance, ie, whether this is improving (green), staying broadly the same (amber) or getting worse (red). A summary of the direction of travel of performance across the service is detailed overleaf:



Direction of Travel	Red	Amber	Green	n/a	Total
This quarter	10	43	37	13	103

## 9. Implications of the Recommendations

### 9.1. Legal Implications

9.1.1. There are a no direct legal implications.

### 9.2. Finance Implications

9.2.1. Although there are no direct financial implications related to this report, performance measures may be used as an indicator of where more or less funding is needed at a service level.

### 9.3. Equality Implications

9.3.1. Members may want to use the performance scorecard to ensure that services are targeted at more vulnerable children and young people.

### 9.4. Human Resources Implications

9.4.1. None.

### 9.5. Risk Management Implications

9.5.1. There are risks associated with some performance measures, eg increases in demand and timeliness of services.

### 9.6. Rural Communities Implications

9.6.1. There are no direct implications for rural communities.

### 9.7. Implications for Children & Young People

9.7.1. This performance scorecard sets out a range of measures that impact on services for children and young people and their families.

### 9.8. Public Health Implications

9.8.1. There are no direct implications for public health.

## 10. Ward Members Affected

10.1. The performance measures relate to all ward areas.

## **11.Consultation & Engagement**

11.1. Not applicable.

## **12.Access to Information**

12.1. The scorecard is attached is attached at Appendix 1.

## **13.Contact Information**

13.1. Any questions relating to this report should be directed to the following officer:

Name: Gill Betton

Job Title: Head of Children's Developments & Partnerships

Email: [gill.betton@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:gill.betton@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

Children's Services Scorecard - Quarter 1, 2018-19

PI Ref	Measure	Lead for comments	Polarity	Stat Neigh Av	National Av	Target	Yr. end 17-18	Qu 4 17-18	Qu 1 18-19	Qu 2 18-19	Qu 3 18-19	Qu 4 18-19	Yr. end 18-19	RAG	Quarterly dir of travel	Comments	C&YP Plan Priority	Corporate Priority
Safeguarding																		
1.1	Number of contacts	Naomi Banks					9,536	2458	2374						↓	Unlike previous years, we have not seen an increase in contacts in Q1 which traditionally has been evident and normally due to a seasonal spike prior to summer holidays. The contacts in Q1 are down 15% on last years Q4 activity of 2809. Should contacts remain at a similar level throughout the year, then the predicted year end position will be in line with last year's activity. The reduction in contacts could be evident of better partnership understanding of levels of need and other early intervention services available to support families.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.2	Number of referrals	Naomi Banks					2976	729	725						→	Whilst a drop of 24% compared to the same period last year, the ratio of contacts to referrals remains consistent at approximately 1 in 3. As Signs of Safety becomes more embedded, it is possible that we will see a rise in the percentage of contacts to referrals as a common understanding around risks and safety planning result in reduced contacts, but a proportionately higher level of risk being referred.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.3	% contacts to referrals	Naomi Banks					31%	30%	31%						→	There is no regional or national comparator data available for this indicator due to the differing approaches to 'front door/ MASH' arrangements. The conversion rate continues to be consistent and evidences that thresholds are being appropriately applied in line with the revised threshold of need document. This continues to be quality assured through regular interface meetings between early help and social work teams as well as regular auditing.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.4	Number of repeat referrals	Naomi Banks					655	147	166						↑	Albeit it a fairly small number (19), there has been an increase in the number of individuals being re-referred in Q1. All re-referrals are monitored regularly within performance sessions and audit and as part of reflective learning to understand what had triggered re-referral and interventions to date. This learning is then used to help inform practice with other similar cases to hopefully reduce rates in the longer term. It is envisaged that as Signs of Safety becomes more embedded in the authority that the number of families where sustained progress is achieved will increase.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.5	% repeat referrals	Naomi Banks	Low is good	22.1%	21.9%	<20%	22%	20%	23%						↑	The rate of re-referrals for quarter 1 has increased compared to the year end and Q4 position albeit it is a relatively small number (19 individuals). It is, however, less than the same period last year at 24% and could be evident of the seasonal spike where agencies are more cautious (especially schools) due to the impending school holidays.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.6	% of assessments completed within 45 days	Jacquie Sims	High is good	85%	83%	85%	86%	82%	82%						→	The 45 day completion rate has plateaued at 82% for a number of months, however it is important to note that the percentage within 50 days for Q1 was substantially higher at 88% suggesting that assessments are, in the main, being completed in good time and not resulting in delays for children and young people in terms of plans being in place to support.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.7	Number of children that went missing 5 times or more from home (quarterly figure is 5 or more times in any quarter)	Jacquie Sims	Low is good				21	supressed	Supressed							A total of 81 individuals were reported missing from home in Q1 but for the vast majority of these cases were 1 off events with no concerns. In the summer months especially with the good weather the vast majority of incidents relate to late arrival home. Any individuals with regular/ repeat episodes are scrutinised closely with a range of partner agencies to ensure risks are identified and appropriate support plans are in place.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.8	Number of children in need (CIN)	Jacquie Sims					2182	2182	2057						↓	For 2018-19 this figure has been amended to reflect the CIN figures reported as per the CIN census definition which collates information on all children meeting the criteria of a CIN as defined by the Childrens Act of 1989. This will therefore include child protection, cared for and Care leaver numbers that are also referred to separately below. This has been revised in line with what is reported as part of Annex A to Ofsted in the event of an inspection and also to allow national/ regional comparison. It reflects the overall level of social care needs in the local authority.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.9	Rate of children in need (CIN) per 10,000	Jacquie Sims		292.5	330.4		289.4	289.4	272.8						↓	For 2018-19 this figure has been amended to reflect the CIN figures reported as per the CIN census definition which collates information on all children meeting the criteria of a CIN as defined by the Childrens Act of 1989. This will therefore include child protection, cared for and care leaver numbers that are also referred to separately below. This has been revised in line with what is reported as part of Annex A to Ofsted in the event of an inspection and also to allow national/ regional comparison. It reflects the overall level of social care needs. We are lower than the latest available national average and statistical neighbour average which is to be expected given our demographic profile and remain significantly lower than the most recent Northwest average (Q4) of 372 per 10,000. Nearest neighbours Cheshire West and Chester CWAC) and Warrington are 321 and 277 respectively.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.10	% initial child protection conference (ICPC) within 15 days of Section 47 enquiry (S47)	Kate Rose	High is good	83%	77%	90%	84%	80%	74%						↓	Q1 has seen a dip in performance, however, it is isolated to the month of May. Most of the late notifications were delayed by less than a week and interim safety plans ensured that there was no risk for children. In Q1 there were a total of 56 initial conferences (about 111 children and young people), compared to only 35 conferences on 73 children in Q4 (an increase of 60%). 84% of children had their conference within 20 days of the s47. We are providing weekly reports for the operational social work teams and working with them to ensure notifications are received in a timely fashion and where delays are likely that a suitable safety plan is in place for children. We would expect to see an improvement in performance.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.11	Number of children subject to child protection (CP) plan [includes child sex exploitation (CSE) Plans ]	Kate Rose				260-300	286	286	269						↓	Q1 has seen a reduction to more expected levels given our demographic profile and substantially lower than latest NW picture at Q4 of 54 per 10,000. We remain slightly higher than latest available figure of 32 per 10,000 from CWAC, but below Warrington at 38 per 10,000. We continue to convert a high ratio of S47 to ICPC and audit suggests that the appropriate cases are being escalated. We would consider the current number of children on a plan appropriate. The implementation of Signs of Safety implementation may impact on this figure as it becomes embedded.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.12	Rate of children subject to child protection (CP) plan per 10,000	Kate Rose		38.8	43.3	35-40	37.9	37.9	35.7						↓	Q1 has seen a reduction to more expected levels given our demographic profile and substantially lower than latest NW picture at Q4 of 54 per 10,000. We remain slightly higher than latest available figure of 32 per 10,000 from CWAC, but below Warrington at 38 per 10,000. We continue to convert a high ratio of S47 to ICPC and audit suggests that the appropriate cases are being escalated. We would consider the current number of children on a plan appropriate. The implementation of Signs of Safety implementation may impact on this figure as it becomes embedded.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.13	% children becoming subject to a child protection (CP) plan for 2 <sup>nd</sup> / subsequent time	Kate Rose	Low is good	21.4%	18.7%	<15%	17.7%	17.7%	17% (rolling year)/ 24% just Q1						↑	In Q1 there was a substantial increase in the number of children commencing a plan for a second time (24 out of 100 commencing on a plan). The number commencing a plan overall however was substantially higher than the previous quarter with a 61% increase. Of the 24 children, half had been on a previous plan within the last 2 years. We might expect some children to experience repeat plans as family circumstances and risks are not static. however we would want to keep this number low. for this reason, repeat plans are closely scrutinised for themes and regular audits are undertaken to identify learning points to improve planning and successful intervention for the future. we would expect over the year for this figure to reduce.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.14	% of child protection (CP) plans over 2yrs	Kate Rose	Low is good	supressed	3.4%	0%	1.1%	0%	0%						→	In Q1 there were no plans ended which had been open for 2 years or more. At performance sessions time on plan is closely scrutinised with discussion around actions within plans and evidence of sustained change and progress.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.15	Number of children on a child sexual exploitation (CSE) plan	Kate Rose					5	5	Supressed						↓	The number of young people on a formal CSE plan has reduced and this remains an areas of focus for senior managers as it is an area that requires vigilance. The figure also does not reflect those children and young people where there are risks of CSE as result of adolescent neglect - these children are on child protection plans under the category of neglect and the risks of CSE managed within that plan. A recent audit has provided evidence that will facilitate the service to focus it's awareness and responsibilities. A new screening tool has been launched across agencies and this is supported by awareness raising by the safeguarding Board.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
1.16	% child protection (CP) children reviewed in timescales (year to date fig)	Kate Rose	High is good	92.8%	92.2%	100%	94.7%	98%	98%						↑	The Q1 figure shows continued performance at a very high level. Of the 190 individuals subject to a review in Q1, 187 of these were complete in timescales. For the 3 that weren't, there were appropriate reasons for the delay which were in the best interests of the individuals to ensure the most effective outcome. It is important also to note that the published figure for this when reported may be less as it only reflects cases that are open at 31/3/18 for 3 months or more. The figure for this is 94.7%. Given the increase in demand, this represents excellent performance and most importantly a good service to children and young people.	1 Having A Voice	Outcome 5

PI Ref	Measure	Lead for comments	Polarity	Stat Neigh Av	National Av	Target	Yr. end 17-18	Qu 4 17-18	Qu 1 18-19	Qu 2 18-19	Qu 3 18-19	Qu 4 18-19	Yr. end 18-19	RAG	Quarterly dir of travel	Comments	C&YP Plan Priority	Corporate Priority
1.17	Average Case load CIN/CP	Jacquie Sims	Low is good			<20	24	24	23						→	At the end of Q1, the average caseload in CIN/CP Crewe was 23 and in CIN/CP Macc it was 23. There have been some recent pressures due to realignment of team boundaries and change to the FACT22 service.	2 Having A Voice	Outcome 5
Cared for Children																		
2.1	Number of cared for children	Kerry Birtles				400-450	477	477	495						↑	56 individuals entered care in Q1 of 2018/19 which is a similar profile to the levels seen in Q1 last year of 60 individuals. Whilst an increase in cared for children is being seen across the north west, the rate of increase in Cheshire East is higher than elsewhere albeit we still remain substantially lower than the latest available Q4 NW average of 86 per 10,000. Nearest neighbour CWAC reported 74 per 10,000 in Q4 and Warrington reported 90 per 10,000. A focus on permanency planning at all levels of social care involvement together with a number of initiatives are being taken forward to reduce the pressures such as commissioning residential children's homes, expanding Project Crewe, joining a regional adoption agency, and a shared marketing and recruitment hub to optimise the opportunity to recruit sufficient foster carers. The number of children subject to S20 arrangements continues to decline as most children entering care do meet the court application threshold.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
2.2	Rate per 10,000 cared for children	Kerry Birtles		58	62	53.1 - 59.7	62.7	62.7	63.8						↑	See above.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
2.3	% cared for children with 3 or more placements in year	Kerry Birtles	Low is good	data not yet released	10%	<12%	10.7%		This data will be presented annually. See comments for quarterly updates						↑	31 of the current number of individuals in care have had 3 or more placements in the last 12 months giving an indicative percentage of 6.2%.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
2.4	% cared for children in long term stability placement	Kerry Birtles	High is good	data not yet released	68%	75%	65.4%		This data will be presented annually. See comments for quarterly updates						↓	There are currently 83 individuals that have been in care for 2.5 years who have not been in the same placement for 2 years. However, when you look at those who have been in placement less than 18 months this reduces substantially to 53. 14 of these are placed with parents or relatives.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
2.5	% of cared for children with a plan for permanence endorsed at 2nd review	Kerry Birtles	High is good						72%							16% had a plan presented which was not endorsed. The remaining cases are subject to ongoing court proceedings.		
2.6	% cared for children reviews in timescales	Kate Rose	High is good			95%	91.0%	96%	97%						↑	Despite the increase in number of children and young people in care the percentage of reviews being completed in timescales continues to be extremely high. Timely and effective planning will ensure that the right strategies are in place to support individuals. In addition there is a continued focus on ensuring the voice of the child is evident in the planning and review process and every effort is made to support individuals in attending their reviews.	1 Having A Voice	Outcome 5
2.7	% of cared for children in internal foster care (including friends and family placements)	Kerry Birtles	High is good			>50%	44%	44%	43%						↓	Whilst the overall percentage has reduced, there is a small increase in the number of individuals from 210 to 213 which is a positive impact in that more individuals are being supported with friends and family/ Cheshire East Carers. Crucially, as internal foster carers will be within CE, this will most likely result in less disruption for individuals in terms of continuity of schools and access to friends/ family network where possible. This will also impact positively on budgets as the cost of an internal placement is substantially less than external foster care. Excluding respite beds we are currently at 85% occupancy levels. Over the 28 vacant beds only 2 are currently available.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
2.8	% of cared for children in external foster care	Kerry Birtles	Low is good			<20%	24%	24%	23%						↓	Although the number has reduced slightly, we would still like to see a further reduction in the use of independent foster agencies where possible. Of the 112 placements, 45 are currently long term matched. The number of IFA placements has reduced from 114 to 112. The Cheshire East fostering collaboration with 3 neighbouring authorities went live in April 2018 with a targeted recruitment strategy and shared agreement regarding use of internal vacancies across the collaboration.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
2.9	% of children and young people in residential care	Kerry Birtles				<5%	8%	8%	7%						↓	There has been a continued small reduction in the number of individuals placed in residential homes (35), reducing now by 12% since the peak in July 2017. This includes 2 in Cheshire East homes and 33 in independent homes (29 of these are placed out of borough). Part of the sufficiency strategy is to develop in borough provision together with specialist foster care placements to reduce the numbers further.		
2.10	% of cared for children placed over 20 miles from home address (Cheshire East and out of borough)	Kerry Birtles	Low is good			<20%	24%	24%	24%						→	Whilst this figure relates to 119 of the individuals in care (excluding unaccompanied asylum seeking children), 10 of these children are placed with family/friends, 11 in adoption placements and an additional 20 are in long term foster placements. In addition, a further 4 are in baby and mother provision. There is ongoing work with commissioning to increase the level of locally available specialist provision and residential homes.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
2.11	Number of cared for children that went missing 5 times or more (quarterly figure is 5 or more times in quarter)	Kerry Birtles	Low is good				27	supressed	9						↑	Q1 has seen an increase in the number of children going missing from placement more than 5 times. An increase in episodes is often seen amongst the older age groups in Q1 especially when accompanied by extremely good weather and school terms ending so a rise in numbers is not always an immediate cause for concern. Individuals however are monitored closely on a monthly basis and scrutinised for emerging patterns together with ensuring plans are revised to reflect needs and the reasons for missing episodes fully understood and addressed.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
2.12	% of initial health assessments requested within 48 hours of coming into care	Kerry Birtles	High is good			70%	68%	86%	72%						↓	41 out of a total of 57 requests were completed within timescales in Q1. The dip in performance however relates primarily to those entering care in June as April and May had performance of 88% and 91% respectively.	4 Being Healthy	Outcome 5
2.13	% of initial health assessments completed by paediatricians within 20 days	Kerry Birtles	High is good			100%	57% (63%)	78%	65%						↓	37 of the 58 requests were completed in timescales, with a remaining 20 completed out of timescales and one individual leaving care prior to completion. There is a considerable dip in performance in Q1 compared to Q4 which primarily relates to performance in June where a total of 24 were completed - 12 in timescale and 12 out of timescale with the additional individual leaving care before their health assessment was completed. Further analysis has revealed the need to strengthen the notification to Social Workers of appointment dates and to encourage family and friends and parents to attend the appointment.	4 Being Healthy	Outcome 5
Care Leavers																		
3.1	Number of care leavers	Kerry Birtles					207	207	214						↑	This represents all eligible, relevant and former relevant care leavers who are supported with access to a Personal Advisor (PA) to offer help and guidance as they move to independence together with financial support as appropriate to individual needs.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
3.2	% NOT In education, employment or training (NEET)	Kerry Birtles	Low is good			38%	37%	37%	52%						→	There are currently 39 individuals in the 19th birthday cohort of whom 21 who are EET, 35 in the 20th birthday cohort of whom 14 are EET and 41 in the 21st birthday cohort of whom 20 are EET. In addition there are a further 17 individuals across the 3 cohorts involved in re-engagement activities or a traineeship scheme. A further 5 are engaged in positive activity. We currently have 7 individuals across the 3 cohorts in custody.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
3.3	% in suitable accommodation	Kerry Birtles	High is good			96%	98%	98%	93%						→	The drop is primarily due to the fact that we have 6 individuals who are currently in custody impacting upon this figure as it is classed as unsuitable accommodation due to the risks associated with the environment.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
Adoption																		

PI Ref	Measure	Lead for comments	Polarity	Stat Neigh Av	National Av	Target	Yr. end 17-18	Qu 4 17-18	Qu 1 18-19	Qu 2 18-19	Qu 3 18-19	Qu 4 18-19	Yr. end 18-19	RAG	Quarterly dir of travel	Comments	C&YP Plan Priority	Corporate Priority
4.1	% of children ceased to be looked after due to adoption - year to date fig	Kerry Birtles	High is good			20%	10%	10%	6%						↓	In Q1r 2 out of 34 children ceased to be cared for as they achieved permanence via adoption. There are however a further 44 cared for children where the plan is for adoption. This includes 16 already placed with prospective adoptive carers and 8 awaiting Placement Orders. Cheshire East arrangements within the new Regional Adoption Agency are developing with a performance framework which robustly scrutinises drift and delay for children who are placed within their prospective adoptive family.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
4.2	% of children ceased to be looked after due to granting of special guardianship order (SGO) - year to date fig	Kerry Birtles	High is good			12%	26%	26%	15%						↓	In Q1 5 out of 34 children ceased to be cared for due to granting of SGO. A designated Special Guardianship Support Team offers support to these children up until the child reaches 18 if required. There are also financial implications for the Local Authority in the increase in Special Guardianship Orders. Whilst the percentage rate is low it is important to note that 38% of the care leavers in quarter 1 left care because they reached 18.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
4.3	Number of children adopted (ytd)	Kerry Birtles	High is good			30	15	15	2						↓	As at the end of June there were 44 individuals with a plan for adoption, 16 of which are placed with the adoptive family and a further 8 awaiting placement order. We are therefore anticipating that by year end we will have a considerably higher number of individuals leaving care due to adoption than that seen in 2017-18	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
4.4	% children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with adoptive family	Kerry Birtles	High is good			59%	71%	71%	78%						↑	Please note that this indicator has reduced to being monitored at 14 month rather than 16 months in previous scorecards. Cheshire East remains well ahead of the national target. The target is based on the England average that was provided by DfE on the adoption scorecards.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
4.5	Average number of days between entering care and moving in with adoptive family (A1 national indicator)	Kerry Birtles	Low is good		558	426	380	380	293						↓	Cheshire East performance has improved steadily year on year since this became monitored through the Adoption data set, from an initial position of over 700 days down to 293 in the latest quarter.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
4.6	Average number of days between placement order and match with adoptive family (A2 national indicator)	Kerry Birtles	Low is good		226	121	81	81	108						↑	Whilst the average numbers of days have increased, we continue to out-perform the England average of 226 days and the national target of 121 days.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
4.7	Average number of days between entering care and moving in with adoptive family/ foster carer who becomes adoptive family	Kerry Birtles	Low is good			426	368	368	293						↓	Cheshire East performance has improved steadily year on year since this became monitored through the Adoption data set, from an initial position of over 700 days down to 293 in the latest quarter.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
Education and 14-19 Skills																		
Virtual School - NB attendance will be reported by academic year NOT financial year. Year end fig 2017-18 will be last academic year																		
5.1	% of Primary pupils with less than 90% attendance (ytd)	Laura Rogerson	Low is good					5%	6%						↑	This is an increase from 5 to 7 children. 2 are new into care, 1 with a long term illness. All cases have active Education Welfare Officer involvement working closely with the applicable social workers. From September fortnight meetings with advisors and the Virtual School head to track all students below 90% attendance will ensure swift intervention and actions are in place for all cared for children. A tracking document will be in place to record and monitor actions.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
5.2	% of Secondary pupils with less than 90% attendance (ytd)	Laura Rogerson	Low is good					11%	16%						↑	From September meetings will be taking place very 2 weeks with advisors and the Virtual School head to track all students below 90% attendance to ensure swift intervention. A new attendance tracker will be in place to allow monitoring of students attendance regularly. The Virtual School Head and Advisors will meet to track and monitor attendance and ensure clear actions are in place to support reducing persistent absence figures and improving overall attendance.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
5.3	% attendance for Primary pupils (ytd)	Laura Rogerson				96%		96%	97%						↑	Remains above target and positive overall. From September the Virtual school team meet every fortnight to go through attendance of all children to allow for timely intervention of any child falling below 90% attendance, the aim is to improve attendance overall. The Virtual School team to work with the Social Worker to provide attendance guidance and support for carers.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
5.4	% attendance for Secondary pupils (ytd)	Laura Rogerson				96%		94%	92%						↓	Attendance for all cared for children is monitored through Welfare call and reported to the Virtual School. Attendance has fallen during this period due to Year 11 (Study leave and exam period). Tracking document will be put in place from September by new VS head, fortnight meetings to review and set actions will ensure that overall PA figures are reduced and % attendance is increased.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
5.5	Number of fixed term exclusions 1/2 termly - primary	Laura Rogerson						0	1						↑	Remains low and on target. The Virtual School receive regular updates of any child who is excluded to ensure that advisors or the Virtual School Head can make contact to support and ensure repeat exclusions are reduced.		
5.6	Number of fixed term exclusions 1/2 termly - secondary	Laura Rogerson						6	9						↑	Remains low and on target. The Virtual School receive regular updates of any child who is excluded to ensure that advisors or the Virtual School Head can make contact to support and ensure repeat exclusions are reduced.		
5.7	Number of permanent exclusions 1/2 termly - primary	Laura Rogerson						0	0						→	Remains at 0.		
5.8	Number of permanent exclusions 1/2 termly - secondary	Laura Rogerson						0	0						→	Remains at 0.		
5.9	Percentage of completed PEPs (Termly)	Laura Rogerson	High is good					94%	80%						↓	PEPs are completed on a termly basis and there is a robust system in place to ensure deadlines are met. As at the end of June, 80% have had PEPs completed and loaded onto the case record system The remaining PEPs are arranged for all children before the end of term (July 18) and are on track to meet deadlines.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
5.10	% PEPs deemed good or outstanding	Laura Rogerson						64%	75%						↑	A rigorous quality assurance process is in place within the Virtual School team. We have increased the number of PEPs that have been through the QA process throughout this academic year. The number of good and outstanding PEPs has increased. Training will be provided in all settings during the next academic year to ensure that feedback is given to support continued improvement in the quality of student PEPs and targets.		
5.11	% children making expected progress	Laura Rogerson														This data is in the process of being finalised and won't be available until after Q2.		
5.12	% children in good or outstanding settings	Laura Rogerson							79%							Where individuals are either placed in a school that is judged to require improvement or their nearest school is judged as such, a risk assessment is undertaken and where appropriate visits by advisor take place prior to admissions. Pupil progress is then monitored throughout each PEP on a termly basis to ensure that the school continues to meet the needs of the children.		
5.13	Number of 16-18 year olds in Care that are NEET	Laura Rogerson						7%	6%						↓	Young people are being support through Cygnet programme to find employment and training. The Designated Post 16 advisor and Tutor are in place within the Virtual school team. Post 16 advisor meets with Cared for Children and Care Leavers Team on a regular basis to run NEET panel meetings to ensure timely interventions for all care leavers.		

PI Ref	Measure	Lead for comments	Polarity	Stat Neigh Av	National Av	Target	Yr. end 17-18	Qu 4 17-18	Qu 1 18-19	Qu 2 18-19	Qu 3 18-19	Qu 4 18-19	Yr. end 18-19	RAG	Quarterly dir of travel	Comments	C&YP Plan Priority	Corporate Priority
Schools - NB data reported on a 1/2 termly basis - commentary will indicate which 1/2 term latest figures relate to. Year end 17-18 will be last academic year end																		
6.1	Number of Academies	Mark Bayley	N/A				76	76	76						→	The pace of academisation across Cheshire East has reduced in this period and through the year. Overall, the position is that 49% of all of our schools are academies. The reduction in conversions is primarily based upon the requirement for schools now to join existing academy trusts, which adds additional pressures on schools to seek the right trust to meet their needs.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.2	Number of maintained schools	Mark Bayley	N/A				79	79	79						→	See above.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.3	% good or outstanding primary schools	Mark Bayley	High is good		87%		90%	90%	90%						→	Leighton Academy is the only school to have had a full inspection report published since the last update. This is the first inspection as an academy and they are judged to be requiring improvement. The last inspection as a maintained school rated it as outstanding. Two schools have short inspection reports published (Brierley & St Vincent's primaries) - both continue to be good.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.4	% good or outstanding secondary schools	Mark Bayley	High is good				76%	76%	76%						→	No change from last quarter.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.5	% good or outstanding special school	Ian Donegani	High is good				100%	100%	80%						↓	St Johns Wood Academy Trust was inspected in March 2018. The report was published in May 2018 with an inadequate rating. Local authority support is in place.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.6	% offered first - third Choice Primary ( fig reported March annually )	Claire Williamson		97.5	96.3		98.5%	98.5%								Reported on in March annually.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.7	% offered first - third Choice Secondary ( fig reported Feb annually )	Claire Williamson		95	97.6		98.5%	98.5%								Reported on in March annually.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.8	Number of fixed term exclusions 1/2 termly - primary	Claire Williamson	Low is good	61	49650			28	32						↑	The Fair Access Team continues to support schools with advice to reduce exclusions. This includes suggesting sources of support and advice for schools. It also includes liaison with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Team to identify any support that could be offered where a child has special educational needs and is at risk of exclusion. This also allows applications for Education and Health Care Plans to be progressed.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.9	Number of fixed term exclusions 1/2 termly - secondary	Claire Williamson	Low is good	297	239240			358	452						↑	Schools continue to access advice from the Fair Access Team. Increased capacity for alternative provision is available to schools due to match funding provided by the authority. Schools are encouraged to work in partnership within their local clusters to arrange managed moves between schools to avoid permanent exclusions.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.10	Number of Fixed Term Exclusions 1/2 termly - SEN Primary	Claire Williamson						6	6						→	Work continues with schools to avoid where possible fixed term exclusions.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.11	Number of Fixed Term Exclusions 1/2 termly - SEN Secondary	Claire Williamson						14	9						↓	Work continues with schools to avoid where possible fixed term exclusions. This has resulted in a reduction in the number of secondary schools issuing fixed term exclusions.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.12	Number of Fixed Term Exclusions 1/2 termly - SEN Special	Claire Williamson						13	7						↓	Work continues with schools to avoid where possible fixed term exclusions. This has resulted in a reduction in the number of SEN schools issuing fixed term exclusions.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.13	Number of permanent exclusions 1/2 termly - primary	Claire Williamson	Low is good	1	920			1	0						↓	Work continues with schools to avoid where possible permanent exclusions. This has resulted in no permanent exclusions.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.14	Number of permanent exclusions 1/2 termly - secondary	Claire Williamson	Low is good	5	4790			6	4						↓	All 4 permanent exclusions were for persistent disruptive behaviour and 3 were from the same school. Steps are being taken to work with the school to see how they can reduce permanent exclusions. Where this is an issue, this is fed into the regular meetings to discuss Vulnerable Schools so that action can be taken. Half termly meetings are now taking place with the Pupil Referral Unit to review permanently excluded pupils and 4 pupils are planned to move to mainstream from September.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.15	Number of Permanent Exclusions 1/2 termly - SEN Primary	Claire Williamson						0	1						↑	A key objective is to support schools to reduce permanent exclusions through increasing alternative provision, supporting Fair Access Panels through match funding and providing advice and support through the Welfare Attendance and Behaviour workshops and training.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.16	Number of Permanent Exclusions 1/2 termly - SEN Secondary	Claire Williamson						0	0						→	No change from last quarter.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.17	Number of Permanent Exclusions 1/2 termly - SEN Special	Claire Williamson						0	0						→	No change from last quarter.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.18	Number of children missing from education - Active cases 12 weeks or less (latest fig at quarter end)	Claire Williamson	Low is good				9	27	7						↓	This figure generally varies throughout the year and includes all newly referred cases. All cases that come in follow a clear process of checks to identify risks before being passed onto the children missing education (CME) lead. Better links have also been built with other services, such as Early Years and Admissions, which will result in a reduced number of cases being recorded as CME, and us working collaboratively to locate children and ensure they receive a suitable education.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.19	Number of children missing from education - Active cases 12 weeks or more (latest fig at quarter end)	Claire Williamson	Low is good				70	58	63						↑	We are currently undertaking significant work to refresh our arrangements for ensuring children missing from education are returned more swiftly back into education using an early help approach with signs of safety embedded in practice. New Multi Agency meetings have been established to review all cases, ensure the service is aware of all cases and that these are allocated to key workers. Additional capacity in the form of family support workers have been brought in and a new team manager with a Early Help background starts in the New Year.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.20	% of pupils with less than 90% attendance Primary school year to date	Claire Williamson	Low is good	7.6	8.9		8%	9%	8%						→	Persistent absence remains the same for primaries, however, it is still higher than the national average.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.21	% of pupils with less than 90% attendance Secondary School year to date	Claire Williamson	Low is good	13.5	14.3		17%	14%	15%						→	Persistent absence remains the same for secondary school pupils, however, is still below national average. There have been a number of incidents in Cheshire East that have had a knock on effect in attendance at certain secondary schools.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.22	Percentage of Special School pupils with less than 90% attendance Year to Date	Claire Williamson		24.4	27.6		33%	33%	34%						↑	Attendance at specialist provision has historically been an issue with persistent absence well above national average. The Team have offered free EWO support to some specialist provisions and are looking into offering discounted service to vulnerable schools. A large scale review of the work carried out in one specialist provision should make an impact onto this figure.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.23	Percentage of SEN pupils with less than 90% attendance Year to Date	Claire Williamson					27%	26%	26%						→	This figures remains at a steady level. A service review will highlight how the team can further support SEN pupils within Cheshire East.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.24	Percentage Attendance for Primary Pupils Year to date	Claire Williamson		96.1	95.9		96%	96%	96%						→	Overall attendance is above that of the national average.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3



PI Ref	Measure	Lead for comments	Polarity	Stat Neigh Av	National Av	Target	Yr. end 17-18	Qu 4 17-18	Qu 1 18-19	Qu 2 18-19	Qu 3 18-19	Qu 4 18-19	Yr. end 18-19	RAG	Quarterly dir of travel	Comments	C&YP Plan Priority	Corporate Priority
6.25	Percentage Attendance for Secondary Pupils Year to date	Claire Williamson		94.7	94.6		94%	94%	94%						→	Overall attendance is above that of the national average	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.26	Percentage Attendance for Special School Pupils Year to date	Claire Williamson		91.7	90.7		86%	86%	86%						→	Attendance at specialist provision has historically been an issue with persistent absence well above national average. One specific specialist provision with overall attendance of around 55% is being reviewed so this figure should improve.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.27	Percentage Attendance for SEN pupils Year to date	Claire Williamson					90%	90%	90%						→	This figure remains consistently the same.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.28	Number of fixed penalty notices Issued	Claire Williamson						249	127						↓	The number of penalty notices issued has reduced in the this quarter due to staffing issues or information not being received from schools. We would look to this this number increase in the next quarter. In all cases EWOs check whether the fixed penalty notice (FPN) is appropriate before they are issued. Review is being carried out to look at FPN requests by schools to see trends is which schools are requesting penalty notices. We are also reviewing our legal processes and looking to move to the Single Justice Procedure.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.29	Current number of pupils being educated at home (year fig is position at yr end i.e July)	Claire Williamson	Low is good				335	348	318						↓	There has been a decrease in the number of pupils being educated at home (EHE). Our EHE Consultant is working hard to make parents more aware of their responsibilities and processes around EHE. New processes and strategies are in place for identifying EHE children, monitoring their education and supporting the families. Greater rigour is being applied to ensure these children are receiving an appropriate education and additional capacity in the form of family support workers has been brought in.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.30	Number of visits to EHE individuals	Claire Williamson	High is good					44	51						↑	Each pupil is contacted a minimum of annually but with a plan to increase this. The EHE lead has been set a target of visits per month. On top of home visits a number of new processes have been added into EHE with new ways to monitor children and engage with families. In addition questionnaires have been sent to all EHE families and EHE events are planned over the summer holidays to increase contact with families.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.31	Current number of CME	Claire Williamson														This data is currently being transferred to a new system and the new data suite will be reported from Q2 onwards.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
6.32	New CME referrals received	Claire Williamson					90	27	24							Generally this figure fluctuates throughout the year and tends to rise at the beginning of terms and dip towards the end.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
Medical Needs Team																		
7.1	Number of Cases open to Medical Needs Team	Claire Williamson					48	60	46						↓	Current cases have seen a dip due to year 11 students leaving and new referrals requiring time to set up.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
7.2	Number of new cases received to Medical Needs team	Claire Williamson						19	15						↓	The number of referrals to the service has remained high but we have seen an increase in the number of the key stage 3 pupils who are being referred.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
Cheshire East Life Long Learning																		
8.1	Total number of individuals accessing Cheshire East Life Long Learning (CELL)	Christopher Rowland				2583	2430	969	1241							Recruitment and results continue to be very good across the Skills and Lifelong Learning portfolio. We aim to move people to employability from whatever starting point they have. Repeat learners, more than one enrolment per learner (average courses per learner is 1.85), indicate progression within our provision. Overall achievements continue to be very good with retention 99% and achievement 98% both well above national standards.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
8.2	Number of new courses started per term	Christopher Rowland				96	92	60	40							Courses are split over the year - 52 for non-accredited learning and 44 for accredited learning. Courses vary in length; one term, two term or yearly. 96% achievement in running the courses indicates a sound recruitment strategy employed by Skills and Lifelong Learning portfolio of sub-contractors.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
8.3	Number of new individuals enrolling on CELL provision	Christopher Rowland				1389	1317	509	650							The consistently high number of new learners across the Skills and Lifelong Learning portfolio indicates the breadth of our offer. Skills and Lifelong Learning seeks to refresh its offer regularly to meet the challenges facing those furthest from employment.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
Prevention and Support																		
Prevention and Early Intervention																		
9.1	Number of cases through Early Help Brokerage	Jonathan Potter					2985	759	831						↑	There has been a further increase in the number of cases passed to the Early Help Brokerage, together with an increase from 31% - 35% of contacts to the front door being passed for early help support.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
9.2	Number of Early Help Assessments open	Jonathan Potter					658	658	677						↑	There has been a small increase in the number of Early Help Assessments open at the end of Q1 and possibly reflects better information and knowledge of partner led plans following the roll out of access to the electronic system. This more effective partnership working will ultimately result in more individuals being supported effectively at an early stage.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
9.3	% of all open Early help Assessments led by Cheshire East Prevention service staff	Jonathan Potter					46%	46%	32%						↓	Partner agency Early Help Assessment leads are currently being trained to enable them to load the assessments directly into Liquid Logic. This work has been ongoing with Health since February 2018 and Schools since April 2018. It is expected that this will improve data quality and the consistency of recording in the Early Help Assessment process.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
9.4	% 0-2 yrs engaged at children centres (most vulnerable i.e CIN/CP/LAC that have attended 3 or more times in the last 12 months)	Jonathan Potter	High is good				35%	35%	37%						↑	Work is underway to increase the awareness of staff working with vulnerable children to encourage them to engage with the children's centre.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
9.5	% eligible children taking up 2 year old offer (termly figure only)	Jonathan Potter	High is good		72%		78%	78%	77%						→	There continues to be a consistently high take up of the 2 year old offer in Cheshire East.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
9.6	% children taking up 3 and 4 year old offer (termly figure only)	Jonathan Potter	High is good			97%-99%	97%-99%	97%-99%	97%-99%						→	There continues to be a consistently high take up of the 3 and 4 year old offer in Cheshire East.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
9.7	Number of families turned around (family focus) - claims made at agreed points in the year	Jonathan Potter	High is good				180	69	153						↑	The running total of claims made at the end Q1 , indicating successful outcomes for families, is 483 (up from a total of 330 at the end of Mar 2018).	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 6

PI Ref	Measure	Lead for comments	Polarity	Stat Neigh Av	National Av	Target	Yr. end 17-18	Qu 4 17-18	Qu 1 18-19	Qu 2 18-19	Qu 3 18-19	Qu 4 18-19	Yr. end 18-19	RAG	Quarterly dir of travel	Comments	C&YP Plan Priority	Corporate Priority
Youth Support																		
10.1	Number of young people accessing the youth support service	Jonathan Potter						1535	1337						↓	Whilst a reduced figure, this reflects the focus on more targeted pieces of work.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 2
10.2	Number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) individuals [yr. 12-13]	Jonathan Potter	Low is good				155	155	157						→	Of this cohort, 120 are available to the labour market with 113 actively seeking employment and training, a further 5 with start dates agreed and 1 working not for reward. Of the residual 37 not available this is due to either illness (17 individuals), pregnancy or parenting (17) and 3 individuals with young carer responsibilities	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 2
10.3	% of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) individuals [yr. 12-13]	Jonathan Potter	Low is good				2.1%	2.1%	2.1%						→	We continue to have an exceptionally high percentage rate in terms of supporting all young people into EET.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 2
Special Educational Need (SEN)																		
11.1	Number of new education, health and care needs assessments requests in quarter	Ian Donegani					358	110	142						↑	There has been a 29% increase compared to Q4 in terms of new requests being received. This will have a further impact on the ability to complete assessments in a timely fashion. There is significant work underway with developments to the electronic system to improve the flow of third party information to ensure sufficient information is received with requests to make timely and informed decisions.	6 Additional Needs Additional Chances	Outcome 3
11.2	% of new education, health and care plans (EHCP) completed with 20 weeks	Ian Donegani	High is good	43.4	55.5		34.0%	6%	23%						↑	Timeliness of completion continues to be a significant issue which is compounded by the ongoing difficulties in recruiting Educational Psychologists. Improving timeliness and quality of plans is a priority of the SEND action plan and there are a range of actions within this underway to improve this indicator	6 Additional Needs Additional Chances	Outcome 3
11.3	Total number with an education, health and care plan (EHCP) [accumulative]	Ian Donegani					1907	1907	1965						↑	The total number of children with EHCP continues to increase.	6 Additional Needs Additional Chances	Outcome 3





## **FORWARD PLAN FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**

This Plan sets out the key decisions which the Executive expects to take over the period indicated above. The Plan is rolled forward every month. A key decision is defined in the Council's Constitution as:

“an executive decision which is likely –

- (a) to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising one or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the local authority.

*For the purpose of the above, savings or expenditure are “significant” if they are equal to or greater than £1M.”*

Reports relevant to key decisions, and any listed background documents, may be viewed at any of the Council's Offices/Information Centres 5 days before the decision is to be made. Copies of, or extracts from, these documents may be obtained on the payment of a reasonable fee from the following address:

Democratic Services Team  
Cheshire East Council  
c/o Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1HZ  
Telephone: 01270 686472

However, it is not possible to make available for viewing or to supply copies of reports or documents the publication of which is restricted due to confidentiality of the information contained.

A record of each key decision is published within 6 days of it having been made. This is open for public inspection on the Council's Website, at Council Information Centres and at Council Offices.

This Forward Plan also provides notice that the Cabinet, or a Portfolio Holder, may decide to take a decision in private, that is, with the public and press excluded from the meeting. In accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, 28 clear days' notice must be given of any decision to be taken in private by the Cabinet or a Portfolio Holder, with provision for the public to make representations as to why the decision should be taken in public. In such cases, Members of the Council and the public may make representations in writing to the Democratic Services Team Manager using the contact details below. A further notice of intention to hold the meeting in private must then be published 5 clear days before the

meeting, setting out any representations received about why the meeting should be held in public, together with a response from the Leader and the Cabinet.

The list of decisions in this Forward Plan indicates whether a decision is to be taken in private, with the reason category for the decision being taken in private being drawn from the list overleaf:

1. Information relating to an individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including to authority holding that information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under the authority
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal and professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If you would like to make representations about any decision to be conducted in private at a meeting, please email:

Paul Mountford, Executive Democratic Services Officer  
[paul.mountford@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:paul.mountford@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

Such representations must be received at least 10 clear working days before the date of the Cabinet or Portfolio Holder meeting concerned.

Where it has not been possible to meet the 28 clear day rule for publication of notice of a key decision or intention to meet in private, the relevant notices will be published as soon as possible in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

The law and the Council's Constitution provide for urgent key decisions to be made. Any decision made in this way will be published in the same way.

Forward Plan

Key Decision and Private Non-Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 18/19-10 Everybody Sport and Recreation Performance Report 2017/18 and Leisure Operating Agreement - Proposed Extension	Cabinet will be asked to note the Leisure Trust Annual Report for 2017/18 and to approve the extension of the current Leisure Operating Agreement with Everybody Sport and Recreation for a further five years to allow the Trust to continue to improve the delivery of the Council's leisure services and outcomes in terms of health and wellbeing for local residents.	Cabinet	6 Nov 2018		Mark Wheelton	N/A
CE 18/19-17 Approval to Commission Universal Information and Advice Service	This is a contract for providing impartial information and advice services. The current contract expires on 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019. Authority will be sought to commission a new service with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019.	Cabinet	6 Nov 2018		Liz Rimmer	N/A

<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Decisions to be Taken</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Expected Date of Decision</b>	<b>Proposed Consultation</b>	<b>How to make representation to the decision made</b>	<b>Private/ Confidential and paragraph number</b>
CE 18/19-22 Extra Care Housing: Care Provision	To authorise the officers to take all necessary actions to implement the proposal to re-commission care provision in five Extra Care Housing schemes, review the viability of commissioning care in other such schemes, and consult on Care Banding and Care Charges within the Extra Care Housing schemes.	Cabinet	6 Nov 2018		Nichola Glover-Edge	N/A
CE 18/19-24 Acquisition of Land in Congleton for Future Employment Use	To seek authority to enter into conditional contracts and/or option agreements for the purchase of land in Congleton for future employment use.	Cabinet	6 Nov 2018		Kathryn Carr	Fully exempt - para 3

<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Decisions to be Taken</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Expected Date of Decision</b>	<b>Proposed Consultation</b>	<b>How to make representation to the decision made</b>	<b>Private/ Confidential and paragraph number</b>
CE 17/18-62 Route and Rota Optimisation	To approve the commencement of consultation on proposed changes to collection days and times for household waste collection and to delegate authority to the Executive Director Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment, to develop and implement the route and rota optimisation proposals through Ansa Environmental Services Ltd.	Leader of the Council	Not before 8th Nov 2018		Ralph Kemp	N/A
CE 18/19-1 Havannah Primary School - Change in Age Range	To approve a proposed change in age range from 4-11 to 3-11 for implementation in October 2018, having given due consideration to the response to the statutory proposal notice.	Cabinet	4 Dec 2018		Jacky Forster	N/A
CE 18/19-20 My Life, My Choice: A Strategy for People with Learning Disabilities	To consider and approve the draft Learning Disabilities Strategy and authorise the officers to take all necessary actions to implement the strategy.	Cabinet	4 Dec 2018			N/A

<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Decisions to be Taken</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Expected Date of Decision</b>	<b>Proposed Consultation</b>	<b>How to make representation to the decision made</b>	<b>Private/ Confidential and paragraph number</b>
CE 18/19-27 Advocacy and Independent Visitor Service - Adults, Children and Young People	To seek approval for the recommissioning of an integrated all age advocacy and Independent Visitor service.	Cabinet	4 Dec 2018		Nichola Glover-Edge	N/A
CE 18/19-29 Macclesfield Leisure Centre Redevelopment - Approval to Enter into a Contract	To approve the letting of a contract for the redevelopment of Macclesfield Leisure Centre.	Cabinet	4 Dec 2018		Mark Wheelton	N/A
CE 18/19-30 Macclesfield Town Centre Regeneration - Castle Street Public Realm Enhancement Scheme	To approve the awarding of a contract for public realm enhancement works on Castle Street, Macclesfield.	Cabinet	4 Dec 2018		Jo Wise	N/A
CE 18/19-25 Supplementary Planning Document - The Garden Village at Handforth - Final Approval	To seek approval to publish a Supplementary Planning Document for the Garden Village at Handforth.	Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Regeneration	21 Dec 2018		Adrian Fisher, Head of Planning and Policy	N/A

<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Decisions to be Taken</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Expected Date of Decision</b>	<b>Proposed Consultation</b>	<b>How to make representation to the decision made</b>	<b>Private/ Confidential and paragraph number</b>
CE 18/19-26 Statement of Community Involvement - Final Approval	To seek approval to publish a revised Statement of Community Involvement which will set out how the Council will involve and engage with the public and partners in pursuit of its planning functions. The Statement covers both planning applications and planning policy. The preparation of the Statement is a legal requirement.	Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Regeneration	21 Dec 2018		Adrian Fisher, Head of Planning and Policy	N/A
CE 18/19-15 Mental Health Strategy	To seek approval from Cabinet for the adoption of the Cheshire East Mental Health Strategy.	Cabinet	15 Jan 2019		Lucy Cooper	N/A
CE 18/19-28 Cheshire East Integration Strategy	To authorise officers to take all necessary actions to implement the Cheshire East Integration Strategy. The purpose of the Strategy will be to adopt a localised approach to improving integration and cohesion among communities through the targeted delivery of projects.	Cabinet	15 Jan 2019			N/A

<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Decisions to be Taken</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Expected Date of Decision</b>	<b>Proposed Consultation</b>	<b>How to make representation to the decision made</b>	<b>Private/ Confidential and paragraph number</b>
CE 18/19-31 Macclesfield Town Centre Strategic Regeneration Framework	To approve a strategic regeneration framework for Macclesfield Town Centre for public consultation.	Cabinet	5 Feb 2019		Jo Wise	N/A
CE 17/18-51 Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019-2022	To approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2019-2022, incorporating the Council's priorities, budget, policy proposals and capital programme.	Council	21 Feb 2019		Alex Thompson	N/A
CE 18/19-11 Adoption of Community Infrastructure Levy	To seek agreement to adopt the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule following public examination on 12/13 September 2018.	Council	21 Feb 2019		Adrian Fisher, Head of Planning and Policy	



## **Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

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**Date of Meeting:** 26 November 2018

**Report Title:** Work Programme

**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr Jos Saunders

**Senior Officer:** Acting Director of Legal Services

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### **1. Report Summary**

- 1.1. To review items in the Work Programme listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by Committee Members.

### **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1. That the work programme be reviewed.
- 2.2. To approve the membership of the SEND Local Offer for 16-25 Task and Finish Group

### **3. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 It is good practice to review the work programme and update accordingly

### **4. Other Options Considered**

- 4.1. There are no further options to consider.

### **5. Background**

- 5.1 The schedule attached has been updated following the last meeting of the committee.
- 5.2 The Committee has previously agreed to establish a Task and Finish Group to investigate the SEND Local offer for 16-25 year old. Members are now requested to appoint Councillors R Bailey, D Flude, M Grant, G Hayes, G Merry and J Rhodes onto that group.
- 5.3 Members are asked to review the schedule attached to this report, and if appropriate, add new items or delete items that no longer require any scrutiny activity. When selecting potential topics, Members should have regard to the Council's new three year plan and also to the general criteria listed below, which

should be applied to all potential items when considering whether any Scrutiny activity is appropriate.

5.4 The following questions should be asked in respect of each potential work programme item:

- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority;
- Is the issue of key interest to the public;
- Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation;
- Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends;
- Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports?
- Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service;

5.5 If during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the topic should be rejected:

- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere
- The matter is subjudice
- Scrutiny cannot add value or is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within the specified timescale

## **6. Implications**

### **6.1. Legal Implications**

6.1.1. There are no legal implications at this stage.

### **6.2. Finance Implications**

6.2.1. There are no financial implications at this stage

### **6.3. Equality Implications**

6.3.1. There are no equalities implications at this stage.

### **6.4. Human Resources Implications**

6.4.1. There are no human resources implications at this stage.

### **6.5. Risk Management Implications**

6.5.1. There are no risk management implications at this stage.

**6.6. Rural Communities Implications**

6.6.1. There are no implications for rural communities.

**6.7. Implications for Children & Young People**

6.7.1. There are no implications for children and young people at this stage.

**6.8. Public Health Implications**

6.8.1. There are no direct implications for public health.

**7. Ward Members Affected**

7.1. All.

**8. Access to Information**

8.1. The background papers can be inspected by contacting the report author

**9. Contact Information**

9.1. Any questions relating to this report should be directed to the following officer:

Name: Katie Small

Job Title: Scrutiny Officer

Email: [Katie.small@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Katie.small@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

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## Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee – October 2018

Date: 26 November 2018 Time:1.30pm Venue: Committee suite, Westfields	Date: 10 December 2018  Time:9.30am Venue: Committee suite, Westfields	Date: 28 January 2019 Time:1.30pm Venue: Committee suite, Westfields	Date: 23 March 2019 Time:1.30pm Venue: Committee suite, Westfields
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### Essential items

Item	Description/purpose of report/comments	Outcome	Lead Officer/ organisation/ Portfolio Holder	Suggested by	Role	Key Dates/ Deadlines
LSCB Annual Report	To review the annual report for 2017/18	A responsible effective and efficient organisation. People live well and for longer	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Committee Annual report	Committee Report  Performance Monitoring	26 November 2018
LADO annual report	To review the annual report for 2017/18	A responsible effective and efficient organisation. People live well and for longer	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Committee Annual report	Committee Report  Performance Monitoring	26 November 2018
Performance Monitoring – C&F	Quarterly performance reports	A responsible effective and	Executive Director	Ofsted	Quarterly performance report	26 November

## Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee – October 2018

Scorecard		efficient organisation	People Children and Families Portfolio Holder			2018
Ofsted Focused Visit	ILACS Focused Visit of children's social care services.	People live well and for longer	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Executive Director People	Committee Report	26 November 2018
Deep Dive Report: Integrated Front Door - Cheshire East Consultation Service (ChECS)	To receive a report and presentation on the deep dive of Integrated Front Door - Cheshire East Consultation Service (ChECS)	People live well and for longer		Committee report	Committee Report Post Decision Scrutiny	10 December 2018
Budget	To scrutinise the areas of the budget which fall within the remit of the Committee	A responsible effective and efficient organisation	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Committee	Committee report  Pre decision scrutiny	10 December 2018
Response to the SEND Task and Finish Group Report and update on the action plan (OFSTED Inspection)	To receive the cabinet response to the send task and finish group report and an update on the action plan following the recent OFSTED inspection	People have the life skills and education they need in order to thrive	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder	Committee report  Post decision scrutiny	28 January 2019

## Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee – October 2018

Redesign of early help and prevention services.	To receive an update on the service redesign	People have the life skills and education they need in order to thrive	Director of Children's Prevention and Support. Children and Families Portfolio Holder	The Committee	Progress report  Post decision scrutiny	28 January 2019
Performance Monitoring – C&F Scorecard	Quarterly performance reports	A responsible effective and efficient organisation	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Ofsted	Quarterly performance report  Performance Monitoring	28 January 2019
Sustainable Modes of Transport Strategy	To receive a presentation	People live well and for longer	Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Director	Oral update  Post decision scrutiny	28 January 2019
Update on residential provision	To receive a report in relation to residential homes	People live well and for longer	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Committee	Committee Report  Post decision scrutiny	28 January 2019
Annual Education Report and future proofing of maintained schools	To review the annual report for 2016/17- to include an update on SSIF and receive an update on future proofing of rural schools.	People have the life skills and education they need in order to thrive	Executive Director People , Children and Families	Annual report	Committee Report  Performance monitoring	23 March 2019

## Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee – October 2018

			Portfolio Holder			
Performance Monitoring – C&F Scorecard	Quarterly performance reports	A responsible effective and efficient organisation	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Ofsted	Quarterly performance report  Performance monitoring	23 March 2019
Emotional Health and Wellbeing - CAMHS	To scrutinise tier 3 and 4 of the service and monitor the success of the out of hours service.	People live well and for longer	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder Dr Matthew Howard	The Committee	On going review Further information required  Performance Monitoring	23 March 2019
Corporate Parenting Annual Report	To review the annual report for 2017/18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Outcomes</li> <li>Review Revised Strategy</li> </ul>	A responsible effective and efficient organisation. People live well and for longer	Executive Director People Children and Families Portfolio Holder	Committee Annual Report	Committee Report  Performance Monitoring	September 2019
Annual Adoption Report	To give consideration to the annual adoption report	A responsible effective and efficient organisation. People live well and for	Executive Director People	Director	Committee Report  Performance Monitoring	September 2019



## Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee – October 2018

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### **Task and Finish Groups**

Task and Finish Group be established to investigate the local offer for 16-25 year olds

Membership

Councillors R Bailey, D Flude, M Grant, G Hayes, G Merry and J Rhodes

### **Briefing Notes**

- Supported childcare for 2/3 year olds
- Multi Academy Trusts MATS - Update, including role of Cheshire East Council and how work together with partners and academisation of schools
- Regulating children's residential homes

### **Possible Future/ desirable items**

- Domestic Abuse Commission– update on impact of new provision
- FACT 22 Update – May 2019
- Children not accessing full time education – spot light review
- Changes to NHS – impact on children's services
- Locality working – new ways of working – partners to be invited
- Overview of Lifelong learning

Future meeting to be held at UTC, Crewe (to include a tour)

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