

Ref	Department Lead	Measure	Polarity	Stat Neigh Av	National Av	Target	Yr. end 16-17	Qu 1 17-18	Qu 2 17-18	Q3 17-18	Q4 17-18	RAG	Quarterly dir of travel	Comments	C&YP Plan Priority	Corporate Priority
General																
G1	Jacqui Hall	Number of cared for children				380-430	422	438	466	470			↑	The overall population of cared for children has increased, however at a significantly slower pace than that observed in quarter 2. The increase was due to a high number of unaccompanied asylum seekers supported (9 in quarter 3). In context we only accommodated 11 in the whole of 2016/17. The service are focused on ensuring that children that require safeguarding via care have that option, but also that support is available for those children who require intense support to remain at home, or with family members. Cheshire East are not unique in the region in experiencing increased demand, however the operational strategy to managing this is evidenced in the plateauing out of overall numbers. At third quarter review the children's social care service was predicting an overspend of £3.4m and this formed part of the report to February 2018 Cabinet. The key driver for this pressure is the rise in the number and costs of children in care which have increased at a greater rate than the budget. In December 2017 the number in care stood at 470 compared to 420 in December 2016 and 394 in December 2015. That is a 20% increase over two years. The increase in numbers has been recognised in the budget process with +£2.1m being included in 2017/18 and +£3m in 2018/19 to provide additional funding. The positive news is that the number of children in care reached 466 in August 2017 and has stayed at broadly that level since then. Despite the increase in cared for children, we continue to be towards the lower end of our statistical neighbour group and nationally for rate of cared for children (per 10,000), in particular lower than Cheshire West and Chester and Warrington Councils. A number of initiatives are being taken forward to reduce the pressures such as commissioning residential children's homes, expanding Project Crewe, establishing Project Macclesfield, joining a regional adoption agency, and starting work on a shared fostering service.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
G2	Debra Sloan / Pete Thorley	Rate per 10,000 cared for children		56	60	50.7-57.3	56	58	61.8	62.3			↑	As above	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
G3	Anji Reynolds	Number of care leavers					199	202	198	196			→	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.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
Involve Me																
P1.1	Sue Preston	Number of eligible children and young people accessing advocacy services	High is Good				127	27	98	66				Of the 66 advocacy cases open this quarter, 31 were issued based cases (22 in care, 4 care leavers, 3 disability, 2 child protection) and 35 were open to children on a child protection plan. The issues were 14 placement issues, 8 representation at meetings, 2 child protection, 2 complaints, 2 contact to see own child, 1 contact, 1 transition, 1 financial and 1 educational issue. The number of children and young people accessing advocacy service has gone down due to the fact we no longer operate an automatic referral for children on child protection plans as this work will now be carried out by the Social Worker or other professionals. The Children's Rights Team will be raising awareness of the service and delivering workshops to staff on Children's' Rights and the new way of working for children on child protection plans in the next quarter.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P1.2	Debra Sloan / Pete Thorley	% cared for children reviews in timescales	High is Good				98%	95%	96%	99%			↑	This is a considerable improvement given the increase in number of individuals in care and therefore reviews required. There will always be occasions where due to unforeseen circumstances a review cannot be held when planned. Ongoing scrutiny ensures that where this occurs there is evidence that the reason are understood and the young person is receiving the right support.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 6
P1.3	Pete Thorley	% of children and young people chairing their own reviews	High is Good				2.75%							<i>Data not available at quarter 3. A report is being developed to address this for quarter 4.</i>	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 7
Provide Me With a Good Safe Home																
P2.1	Jacqui Hall	Number of cared for children in internal foster care (including friends and family placements)	High is Good			215	209	210	207	199			→	The number of available Cheshire East fostering households does not meet the current demand for placements. The Cheshire East fostering collaboration with 3 neighbouring authorities goes live in April 2018, with a targeted recruitment strategy aimed at increasing in-house provision. The reasons for a reduction in in-house placements is complex and there are often a range of reasons why a household can either not accommodate the number of individuals it is registered for or that the needs of individuals are not compatible with the placements available.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5

P2.2	Jacqui Hall	Number of cared for children in external foster care	Low is Good			85	95	102	118	114			↓	The Cheshire East fostering collaboration with 3 neighbouring authorities goes live in April 2018 with a targeted recruitment strategy and shared agreement regarding use of internal vacancies across the collaboration. The aim of the collaboration is to significantly increase the recruitment and retention of in house foster carers so more of our children live with our foster carers and costs are reduced. Whilst the number of children placed in external placements is higher than we would like, 39% of the placements are long fostering arrangements so children have achieved permanence and a good outcome.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.3	Debra Sloan / Pete Thorley	% cared for children placed over 20 miles from home address (Cheshire East and out of borough)	Low is Good				22%	24%	24%	23%			↓	Whilst this figure represents 23% of the individuals in care (excluding UASC), 11 of these children are placed with family/friends, 4 in adoption placements and an additional 23 are in long term foster placements. In addition a further 25 are in specialist school/ home provision and there is ongoing work with commissioning to increase the level of locally available specialist provision and residential homes.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.4	Jacqui Hall	% of children and young people in residential care	Low is Good			10%	9%	11%	9%	9%			→	Whilst this is a low percentage there has been an increase in our cared for population residing in residential care and an increase of younger children living in residential care. This reflects the reduction in foster carer capacity locally and the increase in complexity of need. We are addressing this through our fostering collaboration.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.5	Jacqui Hall	Number of Cheshire East foster carers	High is Good			165	150	152	159	163			↑	Work continues to increase the number of Cheshire East Foster Carers and it is hoped that numbers will continue to increase once the collaborative arrangements are in place post April 2018.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.6	Debra Sloan / Pete Thorley	Long term placement stability - % cared for children in care for 2.5 years who have been in the same placement for 2 years (under 16 years old)	High is Good		68%	75%	69%	This data will be presented annually. See comments for quarterly updates						Of the 161 children currently under 16 who have been in care for over 2.5 years at the end of September 2017, there were 105 who had been in the same placements for 2 years. This gives an indicative figure of 65%. However this should be taken with an element of caution as it will not reflect the final outcome.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.7	Debra Sloan / Pete Thorley	Number of cared for children that went missing 5 times or more (quarterly figure is 5 or more times in any month in that quarter)	Low is Good			5	5	13	7	9			↑	The year end position is the number of cared for children that went missing more than 5 times in the reporting year 2016-17. The quarterly figures has been amended to reflect the number of individuals that went missing 5 or more times in the quarter. This includes CE children who are placed in CE and those placed in other local authorities. This is 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
P2.8	Viki Kehoe / Dave Leadbetter	% of children and young people placed with providers with good/outstanding Ofsted judgements	High is Good				90%	91%	90%	87%			→	There has been a slight reduction in the percentage of children and young people placed with providers with good/outstanding Ofsted judgements this quarter. There has been a percentage decrease since the previous quarter due to the increase in our Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA's) - two of our providers who require improvement have 17 foster care placements. An agency is inspected by Ofsted as to how it operates as a whole. When making a placement, whilst we consider the Ofsted judgement, we make placement decisions based on the individual carers, their history and experience to best meet the needs of the children and young people involved, along with references from other Social Workers who have current / previous placements.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.9	Jacqui Hall	% of children ceased to be looked after due to granting of special guardianship order (SGO) - year to date figure	High is Good			12%	17%	20%	17%	23%			↓	A cumulative figure of 28 out of 124 children in 2017-18 have ceased to be cared for due to granting of SGO.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.10	Jacqui Hall	% of children ceased to be looked after due to adoption - year to date figure	High is Good			20%	18%	18%	16%	10.0%			↓	A cumulative figure of 13 out of 124 children in 2017-18 have ceased to be cared for due to granting of adoption order.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.11	Jacqui Hall	Number of children adopted in period (YTD)	High is Good			30 annually	26	8	13	13			↑	As at the end of quarter 3, a total of 13 children has been adopted. An additional 39 individuals have a decision of adoption, with 11 awaiting placements orders and a further 13 with families.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.12	Jacqui Hall	% children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with adoptive family (This has changed to 14 months from 16 months)	High is Good			58%	84%	74%	69%	67%			↓	Please note that this indicator has reduced to being monitored at 14 months rather than 16 months in previous scorecards. Despite a small reduction in the performance by the end of quarter 3, it still remains ahead of the target. The target is based on the England average that was provided by DfE on the adoption scorecards.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.13	Jacqui Hall	Average number of days between entering care and moving in with adoptive family (A1 national indicator)	Low is Good			426	541	383	391	391			→	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 391 in the latest quarter.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.14	Jacqui Hall	Average number of days between placement order and match with adoptive family (A2 national indicator)	Low is Good			121	66	62	88	88			→	We continue to out-perform the England average of 226 days and the national target of 121 days.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.15	Jacqui Hall	Average number of days between entering care and moving in with adoptive family/ foster carer who becomes adoptive family	Low is Good			426	284	373	391	377			↓	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 391 in the latest quarter.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5

Keep Me Healthy																	
P3.1	Jacqui Hall	% of initial health assessments requested within 48 hours of coming into care	High is Good			70%	64%	78%	41%	84%				↑	This is an exceptional improvement with 37 of the 44 individuals who entered care in quarter 3 having their initial health assessment requested within 48 hours. This demonstrates the success of the new process and will ensure that individuals are having their needs identified at an early stage. There is further work to do with aspirations of ensuring that all children entering care are supported to have their health care needs met in a timely way.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 5
P3.2	Debra Sloan / Pete Thorley	% of initial health assessments completed by paediatricians within 20 working days	High is Good			100%	58%	41%	32%	61%				↑	There has been a considerable improvement in quarter 3 with 27 of the 44 health assessments requested being completed within 20 days. Whilst this may not yet be on target, it demonstrates the success of the new process and a willingness for partnership working to support our most vulnerable individuals. A review of the process by senior officers in health and social care has enabled blockages in the system to be unblocked.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 5
P3.3	Kerry Birtles	Number of pregnant care leavers (eligible, relevant and former relevant) 16+	Low is Good				7	8	7	6				↓	This is a reduction from last quarter and remains below the national average. This measure will be changed to pregnant care leavers below 21 years from quarter 4.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 5
P3.4	Steve Nevitt	% of young people with a SDQ score of 20 or above	Low is Good				23%	This data will be presented in the Annual Health Report.							The emotional well-being of our cared for children is assessed via the completion of the SDQ. The data highlights the need for a greater response from children social care and health. This topic forms part of the health and social care interface meeting and is being proactively picked up by our looked after children's nurse. In quarter 3 there were 60 cared for children who had SDQ scored. 16 of these scored 20+, which is 26%.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 5
Help Me Achieve																	
P4.1	Nicola Axford	% of cared for children accessing 2-4 yr old provision (quarterly)	High is Good			90%	95%	89%	85%	84%				↓	23 out of 27 children attend early years settings. The 4 who do not are placed with adopters and so are settling in before starting a new setting.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
P4.2	Nicola Axford	Percentage of completed PEPs (Termly)	High is Good			90%	83%	93% (July fig)		92%				↓	There were 5 children with no PEP in quarter 3 as they were new in care and the school had closed for Christmas. These were completed following the school holidays. 20 PEP's were not returned in the quarter. The adviser followed these up and all but 2 now have PEP's completed and returned. Discussions have taken place with schools re these children and support has been allocated, where needed.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
P4.3	Nicola Axford	% attendance at primary school of children in care (quarterly figure is all cared for children at month end rather than those in care for 12mths which are published figs)	High is Good	95.50%	96.10%	95%	96%	96%	97%	97%				→	Quarter 3 has been a positive start to the new school year in terms of attendance at primary schools.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
P4.4	Nicola Axford	% attendance at secondary school of children in care (quarterly figure is all cared for children at month end rather than those in care for 12mths which are published figs)	High is Good			95%	92%	92%	94%	93%				↓	There has been a slight drop from September, mainly due to short term absence for sickness. Pupils with unexplained or longer periods of absence have been followed up with carers and social workers	5 Best Skills & Quals	
P4.5	Nicola Axford	% primary school age persistent absence of children in care (quarterly figure is all cared for at month end rather than those in care for 12mths which are published figs)	Low is Good			10%	12%	9%	8%	6%				↓	7 out of 116 cared for primary children had attendance below 90% over the quarter 3 period. 1 was new into care in December, 5 showed improvement over the term and had 90%+ attendance in December with 4 having 100% in December. The lowest attendance was of a severely ill child.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
P4.6	Nicola Axford	% secondary school age persistent absence of children in care (quarterly figure is all cared for at month end rather than those in care for 12mths which are published figs)	Low is Good			10%	17%	21%	11%	13%				↑	19 out of 145 secondary pupils had attendance below 90% by the end of Dec 2017. Two are teenage mums, 5 school refusers (the Virtual School is working with Education Welfare service, school and Social Workers to put in plans to address attendance for this group), 1 is new into care with a history of none attendance, 1 moved area and is awaiting a new school place, 3 had low attendance due to exclusions, 2 had a delayed start while confirming school place but are now attending regularly and making progress and 2 were absent due to illness. 4 of the 19 had 90%+ attendance in December. Children waiting places were provided with tuition and work done with SEN to secure suitable places as soon as possible - these have now started new schools and so attendance will improve.	5 Best Skills & Quals	
P4.7	Nicola Axford	Number of Permanent Exclusions 1/2 termly - Primary	Low is Good				0	0	0	0				→	Work has been done with schools to provide training and support to avoid permanent exclusions. The Attachment Awareness Project in Cheshire East has proved useful in this.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3

P4.8	Nicola Axford	Number of Permanent Exclusions 1/2 termly - Secondary	Low is Good				0	0	0	0			➡	Work has been done with schools to provide training and support to avoid permanent exclusions. The Attachment Awareness Project in Cheshire East is being offered to secondary schools to develop better understanding and intense support offered by Virtual school is helping to avoid permanent exclusions.	5 Best Skills & Quals	
P4.9	Nicola Axford	% of cared for children in good or outstanding schools	High is Good			85%	82%	83%	77%	81%			⬆	Schools which have converted no longer have reports available and so legacy reports have been used showing 81% of children in good or better schools. Newly named or formed academies are listed as unknown; as there is no Ofsted rating linked to their name. There are 16 children in schools with no listing. Children attend school less than good if they were previously on roll, are making progress and it is considered a move would de-stabilise, if it is the only option within a geographical area or if there are other personal or social factors which suggest it is the most appropriate school as agreed by child, Virtual School, Social Worker and carer/parent.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
P4.12	Nicola Axford	% 16-18 year olds in Care that are NEET (monthly)	Low is Good			20%	Amended measure from Q2		6%	6%			➡	3 Young People are NEET but cohort has reduced from 58 to 54. Intense support has been offered to these 3.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3
P4.13	Nicola Axford	% 16-18 year old Care leavers that are NEET	Low is Good			40%	Amended measure from Q2		23%	9%			⬇	This cohort is based on school years and includes young people who are in Year 12/13 so who have their 17th or 18th birthday within the school year. Reduction is due to in house provision - Cygnet and tutor led engagement programme.		
P4.14	Sam Ankers	% 19 - 21 year Care leavers NEET	Low is Good			45%	Amended measure from Q2		33%	24%			⬇	Corporate Parenting Committee and the care leavers service are in the process of strengthening the offer to care leavers to for education, employment and training (EET). Personal Assistants require the council to offer multiple opportunities for care leavers so that every opportunity is provided to secure these options. The Care Leavers Team continue to have a designated role in promoting EET, which has been part of the success in the improving picture.	5 Best Skills & Quals	
Support me to move into adult life																
P5.1	Sam Ankers	% of care leavers accessing Higher Education (University)	High is Good				10%	10%	12%	16%			⬆	The number of care leavers accessing higher education is showing an improving picture.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 1
P5.2	Sam Ankers	Number of Cheshire East care leavers in apprenticeships (18+)	High is Good				9	4	6	6				This is no change from the last quarter. Work is underway to increase the number of care leavers accessing apprenticeships.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 1
P5.3	Debra Sloan / Pete Thorley	The number of young people with a CSE plan - All Individuals					10	6	7	7				NB this is all individuals - not just those in care (that would be a suppressed figure)	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P5.4	Lisa Blanchard	Number of individual offences committed by cared for children	Low is Good					18	7	1			⬇	This figure shows the total number of offences from those listed in measure P5.6 below.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 1
P5.5	Pete Thorley	% of care leavers in suitable accommodation	High is Good			96%	94%	96%	98%	98%			➡	There are 5 individuals considered to be in unsuitable accommodation. 3 are in custody, 1 we are unable to contact and whereabouts are unknown and one has no fixed abode. The service continues to make every effort to keep in contact with and work with this group of vulnerable young people.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P5.6	Lisa Blanchard	Number of cared for children offending	Low is Good					4	4	1			⬇	This figure relates to all young people starting on Youth Justice Service or Divert Intervention during the quarter where they are flagged as a child in care on Childview.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 1