

Report of: Interim Corporate Director of Children's Services

Meeting of:	Date:	Ward(s):
Children's Services Scrutiny Committee	28 th March 2022	All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
-----------------------	--	------------

SUBJECT: Children's Services Quarter 3 2021/22 Performance Report**1. Synopsis**

- 1.1 The council has in place a suite of corporate performance indicators to help monitor progress in delivering the outcomes set out in the council's Corporate Plan. Progress on key performance measures are reported through the council's Scrutiny Committees on a quarterly basis to ensure accountability to residents and to enable challenge where necessary.
- 1.2 This report sets out Q3 2021/22 progress against targets for those performance indicators that fall within the Children and Young People outcome area, for which the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee has responsibility.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note performance against targets in Q3 2021/22 for measures relating to Children and Young People.

3. Background

- 3.1 A suite of corporate performance indicators had been agreed for 2018-22, which help track progress in delivering the seven priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan - *Building a Fairer Islington*. Targets are set on an annual basis and performance is monitored internally, through Departmental Management Teams, Corporate Management Board and Joint Board, and externally through the Scrutiny Committees.

- 3.2 The Children's Services Scrutiny Committee is responsible for monitoring and challenging performance for the following key outcome area: Children and Young People. The Committee also reviews performance related to children and young people under the Safety outcome area, e.g. key measures for the Youth Offending Service.
- 3.3 The Corporate Indicator set were reviewed at the end of 2020/21 and a revised set of measures have been put in place for 2021/22. The changes took into account measures that were not reportable under some of the lockdown restrictions in 2020/21, but that will be reportable for at least part of 2021/22 (e.g. school attendance), as well as performance during the previous year. The set of measures used for quarterly Children's Services Scrutiny performance reporting has been updated to reflect these changes. Full details of all the changes were provided in the Q1 2021/22 Performance Report.
- 3.4 This report is currently structured using the outcome areas from the Council's Corporate Plan - *Building a Fairer Islington*. The 2021 Strategic Plan has now been published. However, for Q3 performance reporting, we have been asked to continue to use the objectives from the previous plan. Corporate Management Board will make a decision on the structure used for corporate performance reporting, and by extension the reporting format for performance reports to scrutiny committees, in due course.

4. Outstanding issues and queries from Q2 2021/22 Performance Reports

- 4.1 The Committee discussed the Q2 2021/22 performance reports at its meeting on 6th December 2021. There was one outstanding query on the number of young people who were subject to an out of court disposal and were also offered triage. There have been no instances of this happening in 2021/22 so far.

5. Quarter 3 performance update – Outcome: Creating a safe and cohesive borough for all

5.1 Key performance indicators relating to 'Creating a safe and cohesive borough for all'

PI No.	Indicator	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Target	Q3 2021/22	On target ?	Q3 last year	Better than Q3 last year?
1.1	Percentage of young people (aged 10-17) triaged that are diverted away from the criminal justice system	80%	89%	n/a	90%	N/A	91%	In line
1.2	Corporate Indicator: Number of first time entrants into Youth Justice System	61	38	<60 (<45 for Q3)	32	Yes	28	No
1.3	Corporate Indicator: Percentage of repeat young offenders (under 18s)	37%	27%	<37%	26%	Yes	31%	Yes
1.4	Number of custodial sentences for young offenders	7	2	<10	6	Yes	2	No
1.5	Number of Domestic abuse offences	2,501	2,537	>2,664	2,067	Yes	1,993	Yes

1.1 - Percentage of young people (aged 10-17) triaged that are diverted away from the criminal justice system

5.2 The diversion rate for Q3 2021/22 was 90%, compared to 85% in Q2, which relates to 28 out of 31 young people triaged not going on to receive a substantive outcome. All 11 young people triaged in Q3 2021/22 were diverted from the criminal justice system. This performance relates to a small cohort of young people, there is no significant difference between performance this quarter and the previous couple of years and numbers remain relatively low.

Targeted Youth Support (TYS) has continued to improve outcomes and divert more young people from the criminal justice system. This has resulted in important improvements in the cumulative measure for all recent quarters. The service has achieved this by continuing to complete high quality assessments with these young people. This ensures that interventions can be put in place that address a variety of needs that increase the young person's wellbeing and promotes desistance. Throughout the pandemic, the service continued to prioritise face to face contact with young people which was much more supportive and beneficial to them.

1.2 - Corporate Indicator: Number of first-time entrants into Youth Justice System

5.3 There have only been 32 First Time Entrants (FTEs) into the Youth Justice System by the end of Quarter 3 2021/22, compared to the target of 45 by this point in the year. Although this was higher than at the same point in 2020/21, offending levels dropped significantly around the coronavirus restrictions, and so are not directly comparable to the same period in 2021/22. Therefore, the targets for 2021/22 have been set in line with the targets for 2019/20.

Making sustained reductions to the number of first-time entrants remains a significant priority for the YOS and the partnership. Much of this can be attributed to the prioritisation of targeted early intervention and prevention for young people who are in need of this. Early intervention and identification of young people at risk of offending continues to be a key priority and our partnership response to the needs of those at risk of offending has helped immensely. Our commissioned services have been central to this also and we have strengthened our triage interventions to make them better tailored to the multi-faceted (and often complex) needs of young people.

1.3 - Corporate Indicator: Percentage of repeat young offenders (under 18s) and

5.4 Only seven of the 27 young offenders from 12 months ago had reoffended by the end of Q3 2021/22, so performance for this period was 26%. This is much better than the target of 37%, which is based on performance during the 12 months of the 2019/20 financial year. As with the First Time Entrants measure, as the coronavirus social restrictions have had an impact on the levels of offending in 2020/21, targets for the youth offending measures for 2021/22 have been based on 2019/20 targets.

This measure is based on the re-offending over the previous 12 months for the cohort of offenders from the quarter immediately prior to this 12-month period (i.e. those who offended between 15 and 12 months ago), so is looking at a different cohort each quarter.

Across the cohort of 27 young offenders, there were 26 re-offences, making an average of 0.96 re-offences per offender. This is a lower than last year, when there was an average 1.30 re-offences per offender.

The performance measures in relation to re-offending continue to move in a positive direction and trajectory with the rate now below the re-offending rates of comparable YOTs. This is a significant achievement given where the YOS's performance was four years ago. There is no room for complacency however, as the rates could change due to the impact of the pandemic. There has been an increase in the number of offences following periods of lockdown and an increase in adverse needs following the impact of the pandemic on vulnerable children. The service has ensured that young people who are at risk of re-offending are identified (through our live 'tracker' and intelligence systems such as those held by the Police) so that they can be supported and deterred from reoffending. The YOS has also strengthened its interventions by further mobilising the multi-agency nature of the YOS. This is helped by processes such as the Youth Offending Service (YOS) Multi Agency Risk Panel, Clinical Specialist Panel and the Islington Group Offending Partnership Panel. We continue to work closely with police colleagues to ensure that enforcement is proportionate to each case whilst providing targeted interventions.

1.4 - Corporate Indicator: Number of custodial sentences for young offenders

- 5.5 There have been six custodial sentences of Islington young people in the first three quarters of 2021/22, with two sentences in each quarter. The target for the year was to have fewer than ten custodial sentences (in line with the target for 2019/20), so this measure is on target. The number for Q1-3 2021/22 is higher than the same period in 2020/21, when there was a particularly low number of custodial sentences, likely related to the impact of coronavirus.

The number of young people receiving custodial sentences has fallen and this is reflected in a year-on-year decline from 2018 to date. This has in part been achieved by improving the relationship between the YOS and the local court to the point that the court has increased confidence in the proposals the YOS makes and in the YOS's ability to effectively supervise (high risk) young people in the community. The significant progress that has been made is very positive and encouraging, but we are aware that, post lockdown, more young people have been involved in offending behaviours. This is likely to lead to an increase in the imposition of custodial cases in the near future, particularly as some of these offences have been serious in nature and gravity.

1.5 - Number of domestic abuse offences

- 5.6 There have been 2,067 domestic abuse offences recorded in the first three quarters of 2021/22. This is above the target for Q3 (1,998 – three quarters of the year-end target of 2,664). This is also above the number of domestic abuse offences reported during the same period in 2020/21. Domestic abuse has historically been under-reported, so the target for this measure is an increase in offences being reported to the police.

Islington's Violence against Women and Girls Strategy 2021-2026 was launched in November 2021 setting out the council's aim to eliminate all forms of violence, support survivors and to rehabilitate and make perpetrators accountable for their actions. Through the strategy we are working to ensure that survivors are believed when they report domestic abuse, and that their disclosure will trigger immediate actions to support their safety and the safety of their family. It is positive therefore to see the increase in domestic abuse offences reported to the police, and we are continuing to monitor the impact of the pandemic on domestic abuse. Similarly, in quarter 3 we saw a significant increase in referrals to specialist VAWG services and increases in the number of domestic abuse cases seen by colleagues in children and adult safeguarding services and housing etc. The Domestic Abuse Daily Safeguarding Meeting (DSM) continued to be extremely busy with 1,218 referrals heard through the DSM/pre-DSM in January – December 2021, tripling the number of survivors and families that were heard at the MARAC meetings during the same period in 2020. It is important that we have had the capacity to support the increased number of survivors and families during this time and so we are delighted that North London Public Health has allocated funding to establish the new North London Sexual Health Independent Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocate service in Archway for Camden, Barnet, Haringey and Islington, comprising of 4 IDSVAs and a manager.

6. Quarter 3 performance update – Outcome: Delivering an inclusive economy, supporting people into work and financial independence and helping them with the cost of living

6.1 Key performance indicators relating to 'Delivering an inclusive economy, supporting people into work and financial independence and helping them with the cost of living'

PI No.	Indicator	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Target	Q3 2021/22	On target ?	Q3 last year	Better than Q3 last year?
2.1	Percentage of 16 & 17 year olds (year 11 and 12 leavers) with an offer of a suitable place, by the end of September, to continue in education or training the following year	96.6%	97.1%	>96.8%	97.3%	Yes	97.1%	Yes
2.4	100 hours of the world of work - Number of schools engaged with the programme	25	22	>40	19	No	21	No
2.5	Number of page views for 100 hours of the world of work	New indicator in 2020/21	4,504	>2,000	1,970	Yes	2,760	No

2.1 - Percentage of 16 & 17 year olds (year 11 and 12 leavers) with an offer of a suitable place, by the end of September, to continue in education or training the following year

6.2 **Target met.** 97.3% of young people in Islington schools aged 15 in 2020-21 and residents aged 16 had an offer of education or training by the end of September 2021. This is above the target of 96.8% for this period. This compares favourably with the London average of 96.6% and national average of 95.5% and reflects the targeted work of the Progress Team to ensure our most vulnerable young people receive and take up a September offer.

2.4 - 100 hours of the world of work - Number of schools engaged with the programme

- 6.2 **Target not met.** 19 schools engaged with 100 hours of World of Work programme in Q1-3, below the profiled target of 30 for this period.

All secondary schools apart from The Bridge have engaged with the 100 hrs programme to date this year. Many schools had to manage with stretched resources during the height of the Omicron wave and for The Bridge this meant rescheduling activities which had been planned to take place during this period. There was a similar picture across a further 3 schools where levels of staff absence were high but, in all cases, activities have been rescheduled for Q4 or Q1. The focus for Q4 is building engagement across primary settings with a series of events planned for National Careers Week (7-12 March 2022).

2.5 - Number of page views for 100 hours of the world of work

- 6.3 **Target met.** There have been 1,970 page views for the 100 hours of the world of work web pages in Q1-3. This is above the profiled target of 1,500, and is only just below the year-end target of 2,000 views.

We are ahead of the year to date profiled target, despite seeing the numbers of unique visitors to our web sites level off to between 200-250 per month. Home learning is not taking place in most schools and feedback from careers teams is that young people are struggling to engage meaningfully with online content this term, with many schools indicating a preference for face-to-face careers activities only. However, we will continue to update and promote our online content for those who use these resources.

7 Quarter 3 performance update – Outcome: Making Islington the best place for all young people to grow up – where children and families can thrive and reach their potential

7.1 Key performance indicators relating to 'Making Islington the best place for all young people to grow up – where children and families can thrive and reach their potential'

PI No.	Indicator	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Target	Q3 2021/22	On target?	Q3 last year	Better than Q3 last year?
3.2	Corporate Indicator - Number of children being supported through our Bright Islington family support offer – rate of assessments per 10,000	1,035	985	n/a	889	n/a	899	In line
3.3	Percentage of 2 year old places taken up by low income families, children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) or who are looked after	63%	70%	> Inner London average (TBC)	70% (Autumn term 2021/22 Academic Year)	Expected to be once data confirmed	70%	In line
3.8	Number of Electively Home Educated pupils	182	247	<253	237	Yes	265	Yes
3.18	Children's social care contacts in the past month	976 (March 2019)	971 (March 2020)	n/a	975 (Dec 2021)	n/a	921 (Dec 2020)	Higher
3.18a	Equalities Sub-measure - % of Children's Social Care contacts for YP from the Black-Caribbean ethnic group compared to overall population	+3.5%	+2.8%	< +2.8%	+3.0%	In line	+2.7%	In line
3.18b	Equalities Sub-measure - % of Children's Social Care contacts for YP from any Black ethnic group compared to overall population	+6.9%	+7.2%	< +7.2%	+6.7%	Yes	+7.6%	Yes
3.18c	Equalities Sub-measure - % of Children's Social Care contacts for YP from a Mixed ethnic group compared to overall population	+6.0%	+8.7%	< +8.7%	+4.2%	Yes	+8.1%	Yes

3.19	Corporate Indicator - Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months	17.5%	17.5%	< 16.5%	18.9%	No	19.6%	Yes
3.19a	Corporate Sub-measure - Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months - Black-Caribbean ethnic group	18.2%	22.1%	< 22.1%	19.5%	Yes	27.7%	Yes
3.19b	Corporate Sub-measure - Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months – White-British ethnic group	18.8%	19.8%	< 19.8%	23.8%	No	22.1%	Yes
3.20	Number of children who are the subject of a Child Protection Plan	199	194	200 or fewer	143	Yes	203	Yes
3.21	Percentage of children who become the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	18.3%	10.5%	<16.5%	25.4%	No	9.9%	No
3.22	Percentage of children's social care assessments completed within time	91.0%	87.0%	>89.0%	81.7%	No	88.5%	No
3.23	Placement stability - short term - Proportion of looked after children with 3 or more placements over the course of the year	9.8%	15.0%	<11.0%	8.0%	N/A	9.4%	Yes
3.24	Placement stability - long term - Percentage of children who have been looked after for more than 2.5 years who have been looked after in the same placement for at least 2 years or placed for adoption	73.1%	69.1%	>70%	64.4%	No	64.9%	In line
3.25	Number of Looked After Children	366	342	<357	377	No	351	Higher
3.26	Rate of Looked After Children	86	79	N/A	79 (2020/21)	N/A	86	Lower

3.27	Number of children missing from care for 24+ hours	15 (Mar 20)	13 (Mar 21)	n/a	9 (Dec 2021)	n/a	14 (Dec 2020)	Yes
3.28a	Percentage of primary school pupils eligible for Free School Meals	30.3% (Jan 20)	37.9% (Jan 21)	n/a	39.9% (Autumn 21)	n/a	35.8% (Autumn 20)	Higher
3.28b	Percentage of secondary school pupils eligible for Free School Meals	34.3% (Jan 20)	37.5% (Jan 21)	n/a	40.0% (Autumn 21)	n/a	36.1% (Autumn 20)	Higher
3.29	Number of schools engaged in the 11 by 11 Cultural Enrichment Programme	65	66	>60	63	Yes	66	In line (within 5%)
3.30	Number of unique page views - Creative & Music pages	New indicator in 2020/21	20,192	>10,000	12,307	Yes	16,321	No

3.2 - Corporate Indicator - Number of children being supported through our Bright Islington family support offer – rate of assessments per 10,000

7.2 This Corporate Indicator has been added to show the number of children and young people accessing early help services. The rate of assessments per 10,000 under 18s has been used as the measure to allow us to make comparisons with other areas. This information is collected quarterly as part of the London Innovation and Improvement Alliance quarterly collections, so comparator data is available with a time lag of one quarter.

No targets are set for this measure, as an increase could be a positive move, if more families are willing to work with our services, or a negative move, if this is reflecting an increase in levels of need below social care thresholds.

The latest local data shows that the rate of early help assessments per 10,000 under 17s was 889 in Q3 2021/22, which is in line the rate for Q3 in 2020/21. This is slightly below the rate at the end of last year, but there appears to be a dip in Q3 each year, presumably due to things like the Christmas holidays.

The latest comparator data is for Q2 2021/22. In Q2, the Islington rate of early help assessments was the highest in London by a considerable margin, and above the London average of 224 per 10,000. Note that some of the differences between local authority rates may reflect differences in the ways early help services are set up in different areas, and some changes in figures may reflect changes in reporting. Nevertheless, this comparison suggests that Islington has a strong early help offer, reaching a considerable proportion of the community.

Demand remains high and services are finding innovative ways to assess and address needs including using a robust triage system in the community to help ensure that families who most need it get an assessment and plan and those who don't are helped in other ways.

Across all areas of the outcome star families in both Bright Start and Bright Futures are making progress except for 'providing home and money' for Bright Futures' families, where scores have decreased for the first time during their intervention period. Close attention will be paid to if the trend continues and needs further investigation but this may reflect the impact of the pandemic on employment opportunities, ending of furlough and loss of jobs.

The re-referral rate demonstrates that 88% of families are getting the help they need to resolve their problems and that this improvement is sustained.

3.3 - Percentage of 2 year old places taken up by low income families, children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) or who are looked after

7.3 As performance on this measure can be affected by changes in restrictions around coronavirus, the target for this measure has been set to be at or above the Inner London average, rather than set a specific figure.

In Autumn 2021/22 academic year, 588 2 year olds were taking up funded places, out of 837 eligible children on the previous term's DWP list, meaning 70% of eligible children took up a funded place. The number taking up places increased slightly on the previous term, whilst the actual number who were eligible had marginally fallen. Note that this figure is only counting those who take up their full entitlement. In fact, a total of 611 2 year olds took up some funded early education, but 23 of these did not use their full allocation. So overall a total of 73% used at least part of their funded early education place.

No comparator figures for the Autumn term are currently available. Given the trajectory of the Inner London figures in the past year, and the fact that Islington was 7 percentage points above the Inner London average for the summer term, it is very likely Islington will remain above the target by the time the Autumn term figures for Inner London are made available.

Evidence shows that access to good quality funded early education from age 2 has a significant impact on school readiness and educational outcomes throughout children's schooling and whilst we cannot provide figures, the partial data received on children's outcomes at age 5 last summer and feedback from other London local authorities, suggests that the social restrictions associated with the pandemic have had an impact on children's development, with fewer children achieving the levels we would otherwise expect, especially the most disadvantaged children. So despite returning to pre-pandemic levels for 2 year old take up, we continue to prioritise take-up of free early education entitlements as part of our strategic approach to addressing educational and social inequalities in early childhood and beyond.

As a targeted offer, continuing to increase the 2 year old offer will mean more of the most vulnerable families are reached (children whose families are on benefits or low wages or those eligible under non-economic criteria such as children on child protection plans, children looked after, children with SEND or where families have no recourse to public funds). An increase in take up will

help to drive take up of the 3 and 4 year old entitlement, maximising the opportunity provided by early education for many more young children.

The strategic approach is built on evidence about what works best and includes three key strands:

Communication and outreach to ensure messages reach those parents/carers who are least likely to take up a place, including those with English as an additional language (EAL).

Maximising use of 2YO eligibility data to engage with the most vulnerable families including through establishing new data sharing agreements which facilitate a co-ordinated approach from professionals across education, social care and health services to maximise contacts with eligible families.

Data gathering and analysis to find out who is not taking up the funded early education offers and why to devise locally based approaches and work closely with particular communities.

A detailed action plan is in place which will be monitored and reviewed to ensure progress and impact.

3.8 - Number of Electively Home Educated pupils

7.4 During the pandemic, there has been an increase in the number of pupils being Electively Home Educated. Although the DfE do not regularly publish data on the numbers of children being Electively Home Educated, we have reports of significant increases being reported in other local authorities via professional networks. This is now being monitored more closely, with an initial target set relating to the level seen during April 2021.

The number of electively home educated pupils at the end of Q3 2021/22 has remained around the same level as it was at the end of Q2. This is below the level seen at the same point during the previous year, and below the level seen at the end of last year.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child, if he or she is of compulsory school age, is properly educated, the Education Act 1996 explicitly states that this does not have to be at school, and so parents have a right to educate their child at home. The act also states that "If your child has never been enrolled at a school, you are under no legal obligation to inform the local authority that he or she is being home educated, or gain consent for this".

The numbers being reported to the local authority are for those children and young people who the local authority is aware of. At the point of notification from parents a safeguarding and education assessment is undertaken by the LA. The process is outlined below:

- Initial contact within 5 days via home visit where the family is agreeable (Access and Engagement Officer)
- Parallel checks with Children's Social Care, previous school, SEND team, health etc.
- Risk assessment completed on both safeguarding and education to determine next steps (e.g. Escalation procedures if there is any cause of concern, frequency of visits/contact)

The local authority does have a responsibility/duty to proactively monitor the suitability of arrangements and ensure at least an annual follow-up with families. A dedicated officer is responsible for arranging annual visits to meet with the parents and the child(ren) being home educated. This visit is not statutory. Due to the impact of the pandemic these visits were scheduled to either a virtual meeting or by telephone. Following the visit, a report is written. This is approved by the Head of School Improvement and shared with the parents.

The local authority continues to work with schools to ensure that any parents/carers considering Elective Home Education are fully aware of the responsibilities they will be taking on and the implications for securing a school place in the future should they wish to.

In the 2021/22 academic year we are seeing fewer requests than the previous year, but children aren't returning to school in the numbers we anticipated they might have done. We will continue to monitor these trends and hopefully will see a clearer downward trend later in 2022.

3.18 – Children's social care contacts in the past month

7.5 A new Corporate Indicator looking at the number of children's social care contacts was introduced in 2020/21 as a result of the pandemic. In the initial weeks of lockdown, there was a considerable drop off in contacts. However, by the end of the year, the overall number of contacts in the year was in line with the number in 2019/20. Therefore, this measure is no longer a Corporate Indicator, but it continues to be monitored, after an increase in March 2021 as restrictions started to ease.

December was the first month since July when the number of contacts was higher than in the same month of the previous year. There were 6% more contacts in December 2021 than there were in December 2020. Looking across the last couple of years, it appears that the figures have been affected by the social restrictions in place at different times. After the initial drop in contacts during the first national lockdown, the number of contacts gradually recovered to more 'normal' levels. There was then a drop around the lockdown in the first couple of months in 2021, followed by a large increase in March, when schools reopened to all pupils. After the end of most social restrictions in July, the numbers of contacts each month have been fairly similar to the figures seen in the corresponding month of 2020.

No target set - safeguarding numbers are not suitable for targets.

The view of the Service is that contacts made are appropriate and indicate increasing need due to the pandemic. There is a London wide review of Merlins (contacts by the police) to review the appropriateness as these make up 40% of all contacts. The results from this audit will be known in the next month and an action plan made that may result in a reclassification of the Merlin and less contacts being made by the police.

Equalities sub-measures to the contacts measure were added in 2020/21, focussing on those ethnic groups who make up a significantly higher proportion of children's social care contacts than would be expected, based on our best estimates of the proportion of under-18s in Islington from these ethnic groups.

3.18a – Equalities Sub-measure - % of Children's Social Care contacts for YP from the Black-Caribbean ethnic group compared to overall population

7.6 An estimated 4.4% of the Islington under-18 population in 2021 are Black-Caribbean. Excluding those cases where ethnicity hasn't been recorded, 7.4% of contacts made by the end of Q3 2021/22 involved young people from the Black-Caribbean ethnic group, an over-representation of 3.0%. This is a slightly higher over-representation than by the end of Q3 2020/21 or 2020/21 as a whole, although it is less of an over-representation than during 2019/20.

The target for this measure is based on a reduction in the over-representation of Black-Caribbean young people from 2020/21 levels.

3.18b – Equalities Sub-measure - % of Children's Social Care contacts for YP from any Black ethnic group compared to overall population

7.7 An estimated 22.6% of the Islington under-18 population in 2021 are from a Black ethnic group. Excluding those cases where ethnicity hasn't been recorded, 29.3% of contacts made by the end of Q3 2021/22 involved young people from a Black ethnic group, an over-representation of 6.7%. This is a lower over-representation than by the end of Q3 last year, and less of an over-representation than during 2020/21 as a whole.

The target for this measure is based on a reduction in the over-representation of Black young people from 2020/21 levels.

3.18c – Equalities Sub-measure - % of Children's Social Care contacts for YP from a Mixed ethnic group compared to overall population

7.8 An estimated 17.6% of the Islington under-18 population in 2021 are from a Mixed ethnic group. Excluding those cases where ethnicity hasn't been recorded, 21.8% of contacts made by the end of Q3 2021/22 involved young people from a Mixed ethnic group, an over-representation of 4.2%. This is a much lower over-representation than by the end of Q3 last year, and a much lower over-representation than during 2020/21 as a whole.

The target for this measure is based on a reduction in the over-representation of young people from a Mixed ethnic group from 2020/21 levels.

CSCT accept contacts from professionals and service users. Currently work is taking place regarding greater awareness of cultural context of need and unconscious bias within organisations. This may in the longer-term result in a reduction in the over representation of service users from these ethnic groups being referred and greater culturally appropriate interventions in place early on to negate onward referral. The Islington Safeguarding Children partnership have recently set addressing inequality and disproportionality as one of its priorities.

3.19 – Corporate Indicator - Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months

7.9 This indicator relates to children who have had a social care assessment and intervention which has resulted in their case being closed and who have then been referred again within 12 months of the case closure. Families not being re-referred to social care would indicate sustained change and that their problems do not require statutory intervention. Our previous auditing of these cases suggests that the majority of these children relate to children living with domestic abuse where either the level of risk had apparently diminished or where the family no longer wanted social work intervention and the needs were not so great as to warrant statutory child protection processes being instigated. Audits of the cases when they are referred is indicative of new incidents of domestic abuse or an escalation of the original concerns.

Historically, our re-referral rate had been fairly constant at about 20%, which has been similar to the national average. However, the proportion of re-referrals within 12 months has reduced in recent years and was 17.5% in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years. We have long-term targets set as part of the Children and Families Outcomes Framework for this measure, which we have met in the last two years. The target for 2021/22 is more challenging at 16.5%.

330 out of 1,747 referrals in the first three quarters of 2021/22 were re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral. This equates to 18.9%, which is above the target. However, it is lower than the Q1 & Q2 figures, and it is also lower than we were at the same point in 2020/21. Q3 performance on its own was below target at 15%. In 2020/21 there was a drop in re-referrals in Q4, so if this happens again this year we will be a lot closer to the target.

Recently one of the CIN teams that had a higher number of re-referrals has audited the cases – there were no concerns about cases being closed prematurely. Re-referrals in a number of cases featured Domestic Violence & Abuse and contextual safeguarding as reason for referral.

3.19a – Corporate Sub-Measure - Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months – Black-Caribbean ethnic group

and

3.19b – Corporate Sub-Measure - Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months – White-British ethnic group

7.10 As part of work looking at disproportionality around children's social care, it was found that re-referral rates for children and young people from the Black-Caribbean and White-British ethnic groups have been significantly above the Islington average over the last few years. Therefore, equalities sub-measures have been added to this Corporate Indicator to monitor this more frequently.

It should be noted that the percentages involved can relate to very low numbers of children and young people in the early part of the year, so performance can be volatile in the first part of the year. We are now seeing the figures stabilising as they involve larger numbers of children and young people, and the percentages are getting lower as we progress through the year.

26 out of 133 referrals involving Black-Caribbean young people were re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral. Currently, the re-referral rate for this ethnic group is on target and much lower than it was at the same point during 2020/21.

83 out of 390 referrals involving White-British young people were re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral. Whilst this is above the target, the rate is lower than it was at the end of 2020/21.

Please see commentary for paragraphs 7.6 - 7.9

3.20 - Number of children who are the subject of a Child Protection Plan

7.11 Long term targets have been set as part of the Children and Families Outcomes Framework, agreed with the MHCLG, for the number of children who are the subject of a Child Protection Plan to remain below selected levels each year. In 2021/22, the aim is for the number of plans at any one time to remain below 200. At the end of Q3 2021/22, this target was being met by some margin, as there were 143 children who were the subject of a Child Protection Plan at the end of December 2021. This was particularly low figure.

Despite an increase in contacts to the service since the start of 2021, the number of children who are the subject of child protection plans reduced and has stabilised. This shows that while there has been a build-up of demand during the pandemic, service response has prevented such need leading to significant harm to children.

3.21 - Percentage of children who become the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time

7.12 31 of the 122 children who became subject of Child Protection Plans in the first three quarters of 2021/22 did so for the second or subsequent time. Although this is high compared to the performance in 2020/21, when Islington had one of the lowest percentages in the country, the proportions are dropping from the very high levels seen in the first two quarters of the year.

A smaller number of children on child protection plans may result in a higher concentration of families with chronic needs. Nevertheless, the following actions remain in place:

- Alerts raised of potential repeat plans before a conference is booked
- Child protection consultation to divert children who may not require a plan or if they do, ensure parallel plans, such a court proceedings are in place to ensure that the risk of drift is reduced
- Ensuring child protection plans end only once positive change for the child has been sustained.

3.22 - Percentage of children's social care assessments completed within time

7.13 By the end of Q3 2021/22, 81.7% of assessments completed in the year had been completed on time (1412 out of 1728). This is lower than the target of 89%. Assessment timeliness has historically been very strong in Islington, with the latest comparators for 2019/20 showing Islington being above the London and England rates for that year. However, the proportion completed on time dropped during 2020/21. Performance was strong in the first couple of months of this financial year, but dropped in June, and has been around the same level in the last two quarters.

The DfE comparator data uses a slightly different measure on assessments, which includes review assessments. Islington tends to complete these reviews quickly, and so our performance reported for 2020/21 was 94.8%, better than the figure reported for our local measure. This puts Islington above the London and England comparators and in the top quartile, nationally.

The service believes that the pandemic has had some impact on performance on this indicator, in that sometimes it is difficult to meet with families due to isolation / staff illness. We have reviewed individual practice and are aware that some late assessments relate to certain staff. As a result, these staff are being made aware of the need to improve and supported with this under performance management processes.

3.23 - Placement stability - short term - Proportion of looked after children with 3 or more placements over the course of the year

7.14 30 of the 377 looked after children have experienced three or more placements in the year, at the end of Q3 2021/22. This is below performance at the same point in 2020/21. This measure is cumulative and the figures reset at the start of each financial year. Whilst it appears we are on course to meet the year-end target, the percentage with three or more placements tends to increase more quickly later in the year, as more time has elapsed in which individual children may have multiple moves. This increase towards the end of the year can be seen when we see our Q3 performance of 8.0% is more than double the proportion at the end of Q2 (3.4%). The DfE have now published comparator data for 2020/21, which shows that Islington was in the bottom quartile on this measure (i.e. our proportion with three or more moves was relatively high). This was expected, given how 2020/21 performance compared to previous years.

We have analysed the reasons for placement moves last year. Some placement moves were expected and planned for, for example, children moving to long term placements, moving to live with their siblings or returning to live with their parents, and 27% of the moves this year were for these reasons. However, the main reason for placement moves of all of our children and young people was that their carers (either foster care or residential care) were unable to manage their emotional or behavioural needs.

The challenge is that when placements end in these circumstances, it often results in children having to be moved in an emergency, which allows for less planning than is ideal, particularly given the lack of preparation that can be undertaken with children when they move in a crisis. For most children once the right provision is found, they are able to settle and engage more with the placement even if they continue to struggle with other aspects of their life including education and employment. As a Local Authority we continue to offer creative support packages to children and their carers to support placement stability.

The moves took place from and to a wide range of placements, but moves were most common in relation to foster placements (35%) and residential placements (24%).

Most of the children (85%) who experienced short term placement instability are aged 12-17, and most came into our care in the last 3 years. This group includes children in specialist residential placements and children who are highly vulnerable through risks posed to them.

Of the 51 children and young people who have experienced placement instability, 15 (29%) are now in stable placements. The remaining 36 children are in a range of placements, they are all likely to experience further moves in the next year, and so we can anticipate that some of them are likely to continue to experience further short-term placement instability.

Across the CLA Service there continues to be a focus on trying to improve placement stability for all children, making sure that we identify the right placements for our children as early as possible and that when carers start to struggle we offer early robust, multi-agency packages of support to the carer and the child. Alongside this we continue to try to recruit more local foster carers and in particular those that can care for older children with complex needs.

There is a monthly Placement Stability Panel in place chaired by Senior Managers, as only they can agree a move for a child unless in an emergency.

3.24 - Placement stability - long term - Percentage of children who have been looked after for more than 2.5 years who have been looked after in the same placement for at least 2 years or placed for adoption

- 7.15 The proportion of looked after children in long term stable placements was 64.4% at the end of Q3 2021/22. This is slightly lower than performance at the end of Q2 and also below performance at the end of 2020/21 the 70% target. The cohort of looked after children this measure relates to is relatively small and has also reduced in size gradually over the last six months. Therefore, performance can be quite volatile – with five more looked after children in long term stable placements, we would be on target for this measure.

We have analysed the reasons why only 69% of the children aged 0-16 in our long term care were in stable placements at the end of last year. Of the 29 children being considered as not having been in a stable placement for 2 years, 23 children (79%) are now in stable placements. 9 children (31% of the children in the N163 cohort) experienced a move to be reunified with or remain with their siblings in a more suitable placement, and all of these placements are considered stable and are long term placements for them.

The average age that the children in this cohort entered our care was aged 6 and the average current age is 11.

The average number of placements that the 29 children in our care who have not experienced long term placement stability is 3. The maximum number of placement moves that any of our children experienced since entering care is 9. Currently, 6 of our children continue to be in unstable placements where there is a real risk that they will move again, all for very different reasons.

Comprehensive, multi-agency packages of support are being offered to the carers and children, and long term care plans for the children are being carefully monitored.

The majority of our children who have been in our care for more than two and a half years are in stable placements. A number of placement moves took place to support siblings to be reunited or to remain together and this is positive, given the research evidence about the benefits of siblings being placed together when they are in care. Where we have not yet been able to identify the right placement for our children, they are carefully reviewed by our Head of Service.

3.25 - Number of Looked After Children

7.16 There have been considerable increases in the numbers of children becoming looked after in November and December, and the total number looked after at the end of 2021 was 377. Just over half of those who became looked after in these two months were unaccompanied asylum seeking children, but there was still a considerable number of non-UASC who became looked after.

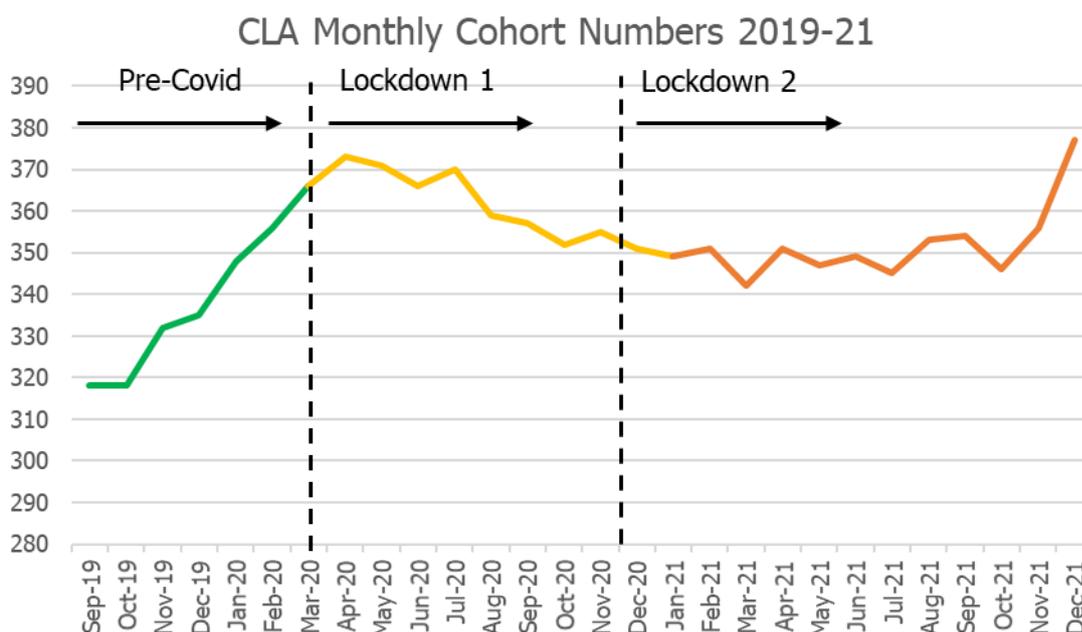
We have long term targets for a gradual reduction in the number of Looked After Children over time, as part of the Children and Families Outcomes Framework. The target set for the end of 2021/22 was to have 357 or fewer children looked after, so this target is currently not being met.

3.26 - Rate of Looked After Children

7.17 The DfE publish rates of looked after children per 10,000 residents aged under 18 annually, towards the end of each calendar year. Although we don't have a target on this measure, we report it within the Q3 report to show how many looked after children Islington has relative to other local authorities. As expected, with the numbers of looked after children falling from 366 at the end of 2019/20 to 342 at the end of 2020/21, the Islington rate fell in the latest update.

Islington has tended to have a relatively high rate compared to many other local authorities, but more than a third of local authorities in the country had a higher rate of looked after children than Islington, as at the end of 2020/21.

The numbers of children in care are rising in London and nationally. Nationally, the number of Looked After Children in the UK has risen by 15% from 2015 to 80,050 as at 31 March 2020. The numbers of Children Looked After have also fluctuated as a result of the Covid pandemic. The graph below shows the impact of pre-Covid and the Covid pandemic on Looked After numbers in Islington.



Pre-Covid increases to the overall cohort were due in large part to spikes in children looked after occurring in November 2019, January 2020 and March 2020. While November's increase can be attributed to an uptake in UASC cases (10), for the most part, these increases were down to higher than average cases coming into care alongside cases leaving care being significantly down in tandem. (6 for each month compared to 14-15 usually seen).

Post lockdown 1, the size of the CLA cohort was projected to decrease, albeit slowly.

In parallel to this, a sizable increase in UASC numbers for the tail end of 2020 was predicted and observed. However, this increase did not cover the significantly higher than average increase in non-UASC children leaving care, especially between May and October 2020. Hence the slow depreciation in the overall cohort number.

Post lockdown 2, the CLA cohort remained stable, with non-UASC children leaving care returning to 'normal' levels. However, numbers have now increased and have been influenced by the number of older children coming into care and of a rise in UASC from 33 in November 2021 to 70 as a result of the opening of two asylum hotels in Islington. These numbers are likely to initially increase as the national transfer scheme is not yet operational.

3.27 - Number of children missing from care for 24+ hours

- 7.18 In total, thirteen children were missing from care (making up 17 episodes) for more than 24 hours during December 2021, a relatively low number for a month compared to the general trend. Generally, there are usually around a dozen different children missing from care for 24+ hours each month – in December 2020 there were 14 and in March 2021 there were 13. However, there were a number of repeat incidents involving the same children during the month, particularly around the Christmas holidays.

No target has been set for this measure as it is not a Corporate Indicator, but it is reported to the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee as it remains an area of focus for Safeguarding and Family Support, to ensure there is no sustained increase in numbers.

Children that are identified as missing from care and at risk of exploitation continue to be overseen by the Specialist Social Workers in the Exploitation and Missing Team who chair the initial strategy meetings for children missing from care. This allows for risks to be independently monitored, greater oversight of contextual risks and profile and ensures a specialist lens through which interventions are delivered.

The Exploitation and Missing Team continue to provide training across the council and through the Islington Safeguarding Children Board which explores the link between children that go missing and risk of exploitation. In 2021 the training has been developed in conjunction with the police to reflect the changes to the police's reporting system for 13 – 17-year-olds in semi-independent or residential placements in London who are missing. There is continuous scrutiny at senior management oversight of children who do go missing with briefings provided every Friday to senior leaders.

3.28a – Percentage of primary school pupils eligible for Free School Meals

3.28b – Percentage of secondary school pupils eligible for Free School Meals

- 7.19 Applications for Free School Meals (FSM) were being reported in 2020/21 as there has been a substantial increase in the number of applications since the Covid-19 lockdown. However, now the collection of the School Census has resumed, we are focussing in on eligibility levels, as not all applications necessarily result in someone being found to be eligible.

No target has been set for these measures as they are not something our Pupil Services can directly affect, but generally we would want the figures to be low as they reflect the economic status of local families.

The proportion of Islington primary school pupils who were eligible for Free School Meals in Autumn 2021 was 39.9%. For secondary school pupils, it was very similar at 40.0%. The proportion of pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals has increased considerably since the start of the pandemic and increased further between the Summer (May) and Autumn (October) School Census. Comparator figures are only published based on the January Census, but we know that Islington had the second highest proportion of eligible primary school pupils in the country at that point.

It is worth noting that eligibility rates may look artificially high up to March 2022, due to transitional protections related to the rollout of Universal Credit. Pupils eligible on or after 1 April 2018 retain their free school meals eligibility even if their circumstances change.

The reason it is important to monitor the raise in FSM eligibility is because it is an indicator associated with poorer educational outcomes. Understanding where the rises in eligibility is more pronounced enables services to target support to those areas. This is illustrated for example in the proposed support to childcare settings to mitigate against the risk of falling demand for parents for childcare. The School Improvement Service, through the developing new approach with schools, will target support to schools with elevated levels of FSM eligibility and pair them with schools with similar levels achieving better outcomes so that good practice is shared across the school system.

3.29 - Number of schools engaged in the 11 by 11 Cultural Enrichment Programme

7.20 **Target is met.** 63 unique schools engaged in Q3, ahead of the target set of 45 schools for this period:

In the last quarter, 11 by 11 held the first termly menu since Covid which has significantly increased school engagement. (This was an extended menu for Autumn 2 and Spring term). Furthermore, with the start of the Culture bank CPD in this quarter – this has also increased levels of engagement.

41 schools have been engaged with the 11 by 11 activity menu (32 primary schools, 5 secondary schools, 3 SEN schools and 1 EYFS setting), with 4260 primary pupil experiences and 330 secondary pupil experiences offered.

Engagement of special schools has been particularly good this quarter with 9 engaging with the cultural enrichment team in total and Richard Cloudesley, Samuel Rhodes and The Bridge Satellite all directly engaged with the activity menu.

Cultural Lead Teachers and Culture Bank CPD

3 Culture Bank CPD workshops have been delivered since September 2021. These workshops have been specifically developed to address the Challenging Inequalities agenda. We continue to commission Cubitt Artists to deliver this work, and the 2021-22 programme features 6 workshops.

The three sessions listed below took place since September 2021 and welcomed **33 participants** across both workshops.

- Exploring Refugee Experiences through Illustration, with House of Illustration, October 2021

- Thinking Differently: Race & Identity in the Classroom, with Ali Eisa, November 2021
- The New Normative: Writing Diverse Relationships, with Keith Jarrett, February 2022

Feedback was positive, with participants noting that the space for conversation was valuable, and that they enjoyed the chance to have a workshop in person once again.

Upcoming CPD workshop: 17th March - Islington Museum, Islington's Stories': Looking at the Stories of Islington's Diverse Communities

Children in Need

Secondary activity for CiN was delivered in Q3 by National Youth Theatre. The workshops were targeted at 11–14-year-olds in-need/in-need of protection and explored the theme of 'creating theatre' aiming to build young people's confidence, teamwork and participation'. Students said they found the sessions inspiring and inclusive and that they learnt 'that drama groups can be relaxed and fun' and 'how to talk better with other people.'

Targeted work with CYP in challenging circumstances

Joint working across the Enrichment Programmes continues to focus on engaging children and young people in more challenging circumstances through tailored activities. The cultural enrichment team aim to deliver activity for PRU and alternative provision and support education priority areas around persistent absenteeism and exclusions. We will work with the school improvement team to develop pre/post school enrichment activity, targeting schools with high levels of persistent absenteeism.

SEND

Projects for SEND as part of the 11 by 11 Festival 2021

- New River Primary PRU and Angel Shed Theatre
- The Bridge Trust Primary and Tall Stories Theatre

SEND focused CPD

Upcoming workshop:

- [Making Beautiful Art Together](#) with Aysen Aktu and Richard Phoneix
This upcoming session is planned for May 2022 and will be co-led by artists Richard Phoenix and Aysen Aktu, a young artist with special educational needs working with Heart and Soul

National Youth Theatre

- **Digital Heroes of the Imagination project** – Developing work with Richard Cloudesley School after successful programme with Samuel Rhodes School

Youth Voice

The Youth Voice strand of 11 by 11 is now fully embedded within CET's targeted work strategic plans. The Young Minds podcasts are three podcasts for each of the three enrichment programmers (11 by 11, World of Work and Music Education Islington) which were recorded with young people at Lift in Summer 2021. The podcasts are due to be published via Islington life in Q4, alongside delivery of CPD for teachers based on youth voice and using podcasting as a technique to encourage pupil voice.

Other updates

11 by 11 Summer Festival 2022

Last year's festival offered over 8,000 cultural enrichment experiences to Islington's young people. This year the 11 by 11 team will be following on from this success by extending the festival to 2 weeks from 4 to 15 July which will include Islington Schools Transition Day on 7th July. Cultural partners have been invited to take part in a summer activities menu or co-design more in-depth projects in partnership with schools. The finalised menu offer will go out to Schools after the Easter Holidays.

Enrichment WiSS

The Enrichment WiSS is a self-assessment framework to guide schools towards best practice in enrichment provision and help us to identify how best to support schools. The enrichment WiSS is been piloted with a group of primary and secondary schools prior to being rolled out to all schools in the summer term. Secondary school Pilots have been completed and we are arranging some pilot meetings with primary schools before Easter.

Enrichment 3rd Birthday event: Transforming Young Lives

On 9th March we will be celebrating the 3rd birthday of Islington's Enrichment Programmes - 11 by 11, 100 Hours World of Work and Music Education Islington (MEI). The event, at King's Place, will bring together school leaders, cultural organisations, employers and key stakeholders to celebrate the third anniversary of the launch of these ambitious programmes for Islington's children and young people and look forward to the future. The event will include presentations, performances and a guest speech from Lemn Sissay.

3.30 - Number of unique page views - Creative & Music pages

7.21 Target is **met** – 18,609 unique page views compared to target of 7,500.

This indicator is significantly ahead of target. The number is reflective of the high level of engagement from schools with 11 by 11's Activity Menu, and MEI's online engagement via their Winter Sing event, and general website interaction.

Total YTD unique page views: 18,609

8. Quarter 3 performance update – Outcome: Continuing to be a well-run council, making a difference despite reduced resources

8.1 Key performance indicators relating to 'Continuing to be a well-run council, making a difference despite reduced resources'

PI No.	Indicator	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Target	Q3 2021/22	On target?	Q3 last year	Better than Q3 last year?
6.1	Percentage of good and outstanding early years settings	96.3% (19/20 AY)	95.7% (20/21 AY)	>94.8% (Target based on Inner London average for 20/21 AY)	95.7% (20/21 AY)	Yes	96.3%	No
6.2	Percentage of good and outstanding Islington schools (all phases)	91.2%	91.2%	>94.4% (based on Inner London average)	92.5%	No	91.2%	Yes

6.1 - Percentage of good and outstanding early years settings

8.2 From the start of the pandemic to July 2021, the only early years inspections that occurred were 'No Children On Roll' inspections, which only result in a Met or Not Met outcome, rather than a full inspection outcome. Ofsted have now published an update to their early years inspection statistics, based on the outcomes of registered settings at the end of the 2020/21 academic year. As at the end of 2020/21, 95.7% of Islington's 163 early years registered settings that had been inspected were judged to be good or better. There had only been four full inspections of Islington settings in July and August, with three judged as good and one as inadequate. Therefore, the proportion of all settings judged good or better fell marginally. In line with other education-related measures, we should aim for Islington to be at or better than the Inner London average. Islington are currently meeting this standard, as the Inner London average for the end of the 2020/21 academic year was 94.8%. There are currently 10 settings overdue an inspection since registration or re-registration.

The childminder judged inadequate in August has now been re-inspected with an outcome of requires improvement. The private nursery provider inspected in November 2021 was judged as inadequate with actions relating to safeguarding as well as the quality of education. As a result and in line with statutory guidance, we have withdrawn free early education entitlement funding from the setting and are working closely in partnership to support them to improve. A new manager has been appointed to embed and sustain progress.

Although our sufficiency remains strong and most EY providers were able to maintain a consistent offer to parents throughout the pandemic, many have had ongoing challenges with staffing, both recruitment and absence and have also suffered a serious financial impact due to loss of income. The EYFS reforms have been a focus for the sector since September 2021.

6.2 - Percentage of good and outstanding Islington schools (all phases)

8.3 There has only been one school inspected since the Q3 Performance Report – New North Academy, who were inspected in October 2021. Their overall effectiveness judgement remained as 'Good', so there was no change in the overall proportion of Islington schools judged good or better. The averages for our comparators improved marginally over the same period, but Islington remains in the top quartile, nationally.

There is a 'stretch' target on this measure, to be at or better than the Inner London average. As there has been no change in the Islington figures, we remain slightly below this target.

3 schools are requiring improvement and awaiting inspection. 2 of these schools have received positive monitoring visits from Ofsted. 3 schools were converted to academy status and 1 school has recently opened, as a result 4 schools are awaiting an inspection. Requiring Improvement and schools converted or newly open are all subject to a Section 5 inspection from Ofsted. This is grade change inspection.

Phase	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Converted to academy and waiting inspection
Primary	9 (20%)	35 (76%)	1 (2%)	1 (2%)
Secondary	4 (40%)	2 (20%)	2 (20%)	2 (20%)
Special (including New River College)	5 (57%)	3 (34%)	0 (0%)	1 (11%)

8. Implications

Financial implications:

8.1 The cost of providing resources to monitor performance is met within each service's core budget.

Legal Implications:

8.2 There are no legal duties upon local authorities to set targets or monitor performance. However, these enable us to strive for continuous improvement.

Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030:

8.3 There is no environmental impact arising from monitoring performance.

Resident Impact Assessment:

8.4 The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010).

8.5 The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

9. Conclusion

9.1 The Council's Corporate Plan sets out a clear set of priorities, underpinned by a set of firm commitments and actions that we will take over the next four years to work towards our vision of a Fairer Islington. The corporate performance indicators are one of a number of tools that enable us to ensure that we are making progress in delivering key priorities whilst maintaining good quality services.

Signed by:

Interim Corporate Director of Children's Services Date: 17 March 2020

Report Author: Various – co-ordinated by Adam White, Business Intelligence Project Manager
Tel: x2657
Email: adam.white@islington.gov.uk