

Report of: Corporate Director of Children's Services

Meeting of: Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Ward(s): All

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## Subject: Children's Services Quarter 1 2023-24 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 is 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 Quarter 1 2023/24 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 review the performance data for Q1 2023/24 for measures relating to Children's Services.

### 3. Background

- 3.1. The performance measures covered by this report are largely based on the Corporate Performance Indicator set, which is refreshed annually. For 2023/24, the Corporate Indicators for the Children and Young People directorate have been selected from a wider set of measures within the service plans for 2023/24. The service plans are aligned with the Islington Together 2030 Plan, and this Performance Report is now structured using the missions within the 2030 Plan, along with the directorate's objectives from our service plans.
- 3.2. Some additional measures which are not Corporate Indicators are also reported to provide an overall context to the quality of provision in Islington, such as the

proportion of schools judged to be good or outstanding by Ofsted. Other additional measures remain included in these reports where it was felt they provide context to specific services, e.g. the number of Child Protection Plans for Safeguarding and Family Support.

- 3.3. Note that not every measure is available or updated every single quarter. Therefore, there will be some gaps in the numbering used in this report. Where applicable, performance is reported once comparator data becomes available, to give context to the performance.
- 3.4. We are now providing additional breakdowns by pupil characteristics for education outcomes, in alignment with the breakdowns used in the Education Plan.

## 4. Outstanding issues and queries from Q4 2022/23 Performance Report

- 4.1. The Q4 2022/23 Performance report was discussed at the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023. There were three provisional actions from the Q4 report: Officers were asked to provide the Committee with provisional, live data on suspensions. This has been included in the commentary under sections 6.5 and 6.6. Officers were asked to provide the Committee with information on secondary school Ofsted ratings which have been provided in the commentary under section 6.2. Officers were asked to provide the Committee with further analysis to give reassurance on how and when attendance penalties are being used, and who they are being used against. Officers confirmed attendance penalties are primarily issued for holidays in term time where parents arrange holidays knowing they will incur a fine. Occasionally fines may be issued for prolonged absence where all other strategies have failed and there is multi-agency agreement that this may have a positive impact for the child.

# MISSION: CHILD-FRIENDLY ISLINGTON

## 5. Resilient Children and Families

PI No.	Indicator	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Target	Q1 2023/24	On target?	Q1 last year	Better than Q1 last year?
1.1	Children's social care contacts in the past month	1,011 (March 2022)	1,303 (March 2023)	n/a	1,242 (June 2023)	n/a	999 (June 2022)	Higher
1.2	Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months	17.6%	17.2% (2022-23)	n/a	15.2% (Q1 2023/24)	n/a	17.7% (Q1 2022/23)	Yes
1.3	<b>Inequalities measure -</b> % of re-referrals to children's social care for Black-Caribbean children and young people	21.4%	22.1%	Less than 4.9 % pts above LBI average	11.9% (3.3 % pts below LBI average)	Yes	19.1% (1.4 % pts above LBI ave)	Yes
1.8	Number of children who are the subject of a Child Protection Plan	160	169	n/a	189 (Q1 2023/24)	n/a	160 (Q1 2022/23)	No
1.9	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> Percentage of children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	23.8%	24.0%	20%	40.7%	No	19.6%	No
1.10	<b>Corporate Indicator –</b> Number of Looked After Children (excluding Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children)	320	290	281	290 (end of June 2023)	No	326 (end of June 2022)	Yes
1.13	Placement stability - short term - Proportion of looked after children with 3 or more placements over the course of the year	10.9%	11.1%	11% at end of year	1.5% (Q1 2023/24)	n/a	0.8% (Q1 2022/23)	No
1.14	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	65.1%	63% (2022-23 FY)	70%	61.1% (Q1 2023/24)	No	68.2% (Q1 2022/23)	No

1.15	Number of children missing from care for 24+ hours	8 (March 2022)	9 (March 2023)	n/a	10 (June 2023)	n/a	8 (June 2022)	No
1.16	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> Increase in engagement rates at Adventure Playgrounds	59.3%	60.3%	+10% on 2019/20 figure 58.6%	52.0%	No	56.0%	Lower
1.17	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> Increase in total number of contacts at Adventure Playgrounds	3,452	3,559	~5,128 similar to pre-Covid levels (whole FY)	1,887	Yes	1,861	Stable
1.18	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> Increase in total number of participants at Adventure Playgrounds	2,048	2,146	~3,003 – similar to pre-Covid levels (whole FY)	981	Yes	1,042	No
1.19	<b>Corporate Indicator –</b> Increase in engagement rates at Youth Clubs and Centres	41.6%	49.6%	+10% on 2019/20 figure 43.6%	36.6%	No	47%	Lower
1.20	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> Increase in total number of contacts at Youth Clubs and Centres	5,282	5,097	~6,706 similar to pre-Covid levels (whole FY)	1,633	No	971	Yes
1.21	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> Increase in total number of participants at Youth Clubs and Centres	2,196	2,528	~2,927 similar to pre-Covid levels (whole FY)	598	No	454	Yes

### 1.1 - Children's social care contacts in the past month

- 5.1. There were 1,242 children's social care contacts in June 2023. This was higher than the 999 contacts received in June 2022. There has generally been an increase in the number of contacts in recent months, since the middle of 2022/23. Between October 2022 and June 2023 there have been an average of 1138 contact each month. In comparison, in the previous 12 months, the average number of contacts each month was only 967. The view of the Service is that this rise is a reflection of the impact of the pandemic and the economic hardship and resulting stress factors family experience, we remain of the view that contacts made are appropriate.

### 1.2 - Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months

- 5.2. 84 out of the 554 referrals in Q1 2023/24 were re-referrals within 12 months of the previous referral, which equates to 15.2% of referrals. This is lower than in the same

period in 2022/23 (17.7%). The service is of the view that the decrease is a result of scrutiny of re referrals and actions by managers to further ensure issues are addressed appropriately so they will not need to be referred again and stepping down to targeted services if some families need continued support.

### **1.3 - Inequalities measure - % of re-referrals to children's social care for Black-Caribbean children and young people**

- 5.3. Five of the 42 referrals that involved Black-Caribbean children and young people in Q1 2023/24 were re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral. This equates to 11.9%, which is 3.3 percentage points below the overall Islington average in Q1. Most of the time, re-referrals are higher for Black-Caribbean children and young people than the overall average, so this measure is currently on target.

### **1.8 - Number of children who are the subject of a Child Protection Plan**

- 5.4. 189 children were supported by a Child Protection Plan at the end of June 2023. This is higher than the same point in 2022/23, when there were 160 children supported by a Child Protection Plan. 2022/23 saw a particular drop in child protection plans, going as low as 146 at the end of Q2. This was unusually low for Islington. At the end of Q4 of that period, numbers had risen to 169 and have continued to rise to a level more in line with the last three years. This number appears broadly in line with the needs of children in Islington.

### **1.9 - Corporate Indicator - Percentage of children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time**

- 5.5. On average over the last few years, around four children a month become subject to a Child Protection Plan each month. This was the case in April and May this year, but in June there was a larger than normal number of plans where the child had previously been the subject of a plan. During Q1 as a whole, 22 of the 54 plans that started involved a child who became subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time. These 22 children came from just 10 families. Two of these sibling groups are large, one with four children and the other with five children which therefore raised the percentage. If these 2 families were removed, the percentage of repeat plans for the quarter would be 24%, more in line with previous quarters.

The measures introduced to reduce the number of repeat plans includes (1) the CP Coordinator and their Service Manager being alerted to any potential repeat plan to ensure sound decision making, and (2) prior to social work teams recommending for a CP plan to end, a consultation is sought to ensure any positive change for children's outcomes can be sustained to reduce the risk of a repeat plan.

### **1.10 - Corporate Indicator - Number of Children Looked After (excluding Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children)**

- 5.6. At the end of Q1, there were 326 CLA, 36 of whom were Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC), so 290 were non-UASC. There has been no change in the total since the start of the year. There continues to be focused work on reducing the number of children becoming Looked After by: Initiating pre proceedings PLO before court action is taken wherever safe to do so, through the Adolescent Support Intervention Project, the reunification project which supports children to return home to their parents when this is in their best interests and supporting increased use of Special

Guardianships arrangements to reduce the numbers of children in family and friends fostering arrangements

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

- 5.7. As at the end of June 2023, five of the 326 looked after children had three or more placements during the year, equating to 1.5%. It should be noted that this measure resets at the start of each financial year, so the percentage tends to be very low three months into the new year, with larger increases towards the end of the financial year. No comparison with the target can be made until the end of the year. As a comparison, at the end of Q1 in 2022/23, three of the 399 looked after children had three or more placements during the year to date.

We have completed an analysis of the reasons for short term instability last year which concluded short term placement stability continues to be at about 11% which means we met our 2022/23 target. This is against the context of a national placement sufficiency crisis that is worsening year on year. Importantly, there has been an increase in moves for positive reasons, which account for about 35% of all moves. The significant increase in the average length of Care Proceedings means that children and young people are often moving more regularly as part of the assessment processes within Care Proceedings, and this is being further explored.

As in recent years, the data reinforces the challenges of finding the right placement to meet the complex needs of our children that come into care at an older age (aged 14 upwards). The Children Looked After Service, Independent Futures, the fostering and permanency team and commissioning team continue to take a creative approach to identifying and supporting placements, increasingly creating bespoke packages of support for our children and young people, that can at times support them in more suitable placements.

Placement stability continues to be a focus for all parts of the Corporate Parenting Service as we recognise the importance of finding the right placement to support all aspects of our children and young people's needs. The embedding of the Motivational Practice model with a focus on the language and understanding of the trauma that our children and young people have experienced assists practitioners in supporting those caring for our children and young people and thereby supporting placement stability.

### **1.14 - 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**

- 5.8. At the end of June 2023, there were 95 children looked after for more than 2.5 years, 58 of whom had been in the same placement for at least 2 years or were placed for adoption. This makes a total of 61.1% of looked after children in long term stable placements. The long-term target is to increase long term placement stability to 70%. Normally performance fluctuates between 60% and 70%, so the current performance is in line with recent trends.

We have reviewed the reasons for long term placement stability last year. The majority of our children who have been in our care for more than two and a half years are in stable placements. Whilst last year we did not meet our target in terms of the number of children in placement for 2 years, further analysis to date highlights that the vast

majority of these children (25 out of 33) are now in long term placements. Whilst it has taken longer than we hoped to identify their long-term placements, the hard work and dedication of their Social Workers and Supervising Social Workers in finding the right placements for them is predicted to succeed.

Of those 8 children where we have not been able to achieve long term placement stability, one is in the process of being moved to their long-term placement with a family member. The remaining children have robust plans in place to try and identify a suitable long-term placement for them and to put in place multi agency support to ensure that their needs are being met. These plans are being progressed by the Social Work teams and monitored by their IROs.

This data set continues to highlight the successful work across Children's Services in identifying and supporting long term placements for our children, set against the context of a national placement sufficiency crisis. A range of factors contribute to this including the skills of Social Workers and Young People Advisers working with our children, comprehensive training and support for our foster carers the impact of our practice model and the ongoing development of Dyadic Developmental Practice (DDP) and the tenacity of our placement service. Our permanency service lead on effective permanence planning for our children. All our placements, practitioners and carers continue to be supported by our integrated Child & Mental Health Service (CAMHS). Lifesory work and sibling assessments continue to be embedded in the service and support effective long-term placement planning for our children. The fostering recruitment strategy is focused on identifying skilled carers who can care for our children in local placements, and we continue to develop the support we offer to our in house foster carers.

#### **1.15- Number of children missing from care for 24+ hours**

- 5.9. There were 10 different children missing from care for 24+ hours in June 2023. Although this is two higher than the same point in 2022 and one higher than in March 2023, it is in line with recent trends. The Exploitation and Missing team continue to prioritise quality assuring the services response to young people who are missing or away from placement without authorisation. This work includes professional training, daily reviewing of missing episodes, collating missing briefings for senior managers and chairing the strategy meetings when a young person is missing.

#### **1.16 - Corporate Indicator - Increase in engagement rates at Adventure Playgrounds**

- 5.10. This indicator measures the participant to contact rate of those age 5 to 25 who attended Adventure Playgrounds and those aged 5-12 who attended Rose Bowl. Contacts are defined as unique individuals who attended a single provider at least once during the reporting period. Participants are defined as unique individuals who attended a single provider 5 or more times during the reporting period.

The rate of engagement in Q1 2023/24 was 52%. This figure is slightly down from the same period last year when the rate was 56%.

The target is to have 10% increase in rates compared to pre-covid figures. 2019/20 full year engagement figure was 58.6% so Q1 figure is below the target.

It is difficult to determine why there has been a slight drop in the rate of engagement in Q1. This could be due to a wide range of reasons relating to children's lives and the out

of school activities and opportunities that they and their parents are able to choose from. Whilst the intention is always for children to access adventure play opportunities consistently, this engagement may not always take place at one playground, for example if a child lives near to one playground and goes to school near to another one, they may have attended a number of times at both but not become a participant at either.

Additionally, Cornwallis and MLK adventure playgrounds have been closed for another year, which if were open could have increased both contacts and participation numbers and positively affected engagement rates.

Commissioners will continue to work with the three providers of adventure play to ensure that their programmes maximise regular engagement from children. The rate of engagement always builds throughout the year, and it is anticipated that the rate will recover by the end of Q3.

### **1.17 - Corporate Indicator - Increase in total number of contacts at Adventure Playgrounds**

- 5.11. Quarter 1 figures show 1,887 contacts aged 5-25 at Adventure Playgrounds and aged 5-12 at Rose Bowl. Target is to have increased numbers in line with pre-covid levels. The full 2019/20, pre-covid year figure was 5,128 so this quarter's performance is a good start.  
This quarter's figure is in line with the same period last year.

### **1.18 - Corporate Indicator - Increase in total number of participants at Adventure Playgrounds**

- 5.12. Quarter 1 figures show 981 participants aged 5-25 at Adventure Playgrounds and aged 5-12 at Rose Bowl. Target is to have increased numbers in line with pre-covid levels. The full 2019/20, pre-covid year figure was 3,003 so this quarter's performance is a good start.  
This quarter's figure, however, is slightly lower than the same period last year with just above 5% decrease.

### **1.19 - Corporate Indicator - Increase in engagement rates at Youth Clubs and Centres**

- 5.13. This indicator measures the participant to contact rate of those age 5 to 25 who attended Youth Provision and those aged 13-25 who attended Rose Bowl. Contacts are defined as unique individuals who attended a single provider at least once during the reporting period. Participants are defined as unique individuals who attended a single provider 5 or more times during the reporting period.

The rate of engagement in Q1 2023/24 was 36.6%. Despite an increase in both the number of contacts and participation compared to same period last year, the engagement figure is down from the same period last year, when the rate was 47%.

The target is to have 10% increase in rates compared to pre-covid figures. 2019/20 full year engagement figure was 43.6% so Q1 figure is below the target.



It is difficult to ascertain accurately why the rate of engagement has fallen in Q1 compared to last year this may be connected to the very wide range of opportunities available to young people. It may be that some young people are attending a number of youth centres but haven't yet become a participant at any one Islington club by the end of the quarter.

Commissioners will continue to work with providers of youth services to ensure that they plan programmes appropriately to build participation, for example, providing regular and consistent sessions rather than one off events.

The rate of engagement builds throughout the year and it is anticipated that an improvement will be seen by the end of Q3.

### 1.20 - Corporate Indicator - Increase in total number of contacts at Youth Clubs and Centres

- 5.14. Quarter 1 figures show 1,633 contacts aged 5-25 at Youth providers and aged 13-25 at Rose Bowl. Target is to have increased numbers in line with pre-covid levels. The full 2019/20, pre-covid year figure was 6,706 so if there are similar number of contacts in the following quarters, this indicator will be slightly below target at the of the financial year.

This quarter's contacts figure was noticeably higher than the same period last year.

### 1.21 - Corporate Indicator - Increase in total number of participants at Youth Clubs and Centres

- 5.15. Quarter 1 figures show 598 participants aged 5-25 at Youth providers and aged 13-25 at Rose Bowl. Target is to have increased numbers in line with pre-covid levels. The full 2019/20, pre-covid year figure was 2,927 so if there are similar number of participants in the following quarters, this indicator will be below target at the of the financial year.

This quarter's participants figure was higher than the same period last year.

## 6. Lifelong learning, skills and enrichment

PI No.	Indicator	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Target	Q1 2023/24	On target?	Q1 last year	Better than Q1 last year?
2.1	Percentage of good and outstanding early years settings	95.6% (March 2022)	95.1% (March 2023)	>Inner London 95.3% (June 2023)	96.3% (June 2023)	Yes	95.0% (June 2022)	Yes
2.2	Percentage of good and outstanding Islington schools (all phases)	92.5%	97.1% (March 2023)	>Inner London 95.9% (June 2023)	97.1% June 2023)	Yes	92.6% (Q1 2022/23)	Yes
2.3	% of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development in the Early Years Foundation	64.7%	66.6% (provisional)	>Inner London	66.6% (p)	TBC	n/a – new framework	n/a – new

	Stage Profile							framework
2.4	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> Take up of 2-year-old FEEE places by low-income families, children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) and children who are looked after	70% (Spring term 2021/22 AY)	75% (Spring 2023)	>same period previous year	72% (Summer 2023)	In line	73% (Summer 22)	Stable
2.5	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> % rate of suspensions at Islington primary schools	1.81	TBC	<0.81 (Inner London figure)	1.81 (2021/22 final)	No	1.46	No
2.6	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> % rate of suspensions at Islington secondary schools	21.84	TBC	<9.56 (Inner London figure)	21.84 (2021/22 final)	No	14.95	No
2.7	<b>Inequalities measure -</b> % rate of suspensions for pupils with SEND at Islington primary schools	7.28	TBC	<3.47 (Inner London figure)	7.28 (2021/22 final)	No	5.43	No
2.8	<b>Inequalities measure -</b> % rate of suspensions for pupils with SEND at Islington secondary schools	45.49	TBC	<21.69 (Inner London figure)	45.49 (2021/22 final)	No	37.12	No
2.9	<b>Inequalities measure -</b> % rate of suspensions for Mixed - White & Black-Caribbean pupils at Islington primary schools	3.95	TBC	<2.21 (Inner London figure)	3.95	No	3.78	Stable
2.10	<b>Inequalities measure -</b> % rate of suspensions for Mixed - White & Black-Caribbean pupils at Islington secondary schools	65.35	TBC	<24.64 (Inner London figure)	65.35 (2021/22 final)	No	36.22	No
2.11	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> % rate of persistent absence from Islington primary schools	18.4% (21/22 AY)	TBC – Q4	in line or below Inner London	21.0% (Aut Spr 23 terms provisional)	TBC	16.6% (Aut-Spr terms 2021/22)	Higher

2.12	<b>Corporate Indicator</b> - % rate of persistent absence from Islington secondary schools	26.5% (21/22 AY)	TBC – Q4	in line or below Inner London	27.2% (Aut 22 - Spr 23 terms provisional)	TBC	24.8% (Aut-Spr terms 2021/22)	<b>Higher</b>
2.13	<b>Corporate Indicator</b> - % of pupils meeting the expected standard in the phonics screening check in year 1	76.6%	TBC – Q3	in line or above Inner London	78.9% (2022-23 provisional)	TBC	76.6%	Yes
2.14	<b>Corporate Indicator</b> - % of pupils meeting the expected standard in the phonics screening check by the end of year 2	47.4%	TBC – Q3	in line or above Inner London	55.8% (2022-23 provisional)	TBC	47.4%	<b>Yes</b>
2.15	<b>Corporate Indicator</b> - Key Stage 1 - Reading at expected standard	71.4%	TBC – Q3	in line or above Inner London	69.9% (2022-23 provisional)	TBC	71.4%	<b>No</b>
2.16	<b>Corporate Indicator</b> - Key Stage 2 - Expected standard in Reading, Writing & Maths	63.3%	TBC – Q3	in line or above Inner London	64.4% (provisional)	TBC	63.3%	<b>Yes</b>
2.20	Number of Electively Home Educated pupils	258 (March 22)	294 (March 23)	n/a	318 (June 2023)	n/a	264	<b>Higher</b>

## 2.1 - Percentage of good and outstanding early years settings

- 6.1. As at the end of June 2023, 157 of Islington's 163 registered early years settings that had been inspected by Ofsted had received a good or outstanding inspection outcome. This puts Islington above the target, based on Inner London's overall performance, which was 95.3% at the same point. Islington was level with the overall national average, whereas generally inspection outcomes for London boroughs have tended to be just below the national average in recent years. 100% of LBI managed centres with an Early Years registration have received a good or better outcome, with 5 out of the 9 judged to be outstanding.

Of the six settings that had not had a good or outstanding inspection outcome, as at the end of June, only one was judged to be inadequate. However, since Ofsted have published their statistics, the nursery that had previously received an inadequate outcome has had a re-inspection published (the inspection took place just before the end of June) and they had received a requires improvement outcome. Therefore, at this snapshot, there were no settings judged inadequate in Islington.

Three of the six settings judged as requiring improvement are childminders who have very old inspection judgements reported against them. Since these inspections, the childminders have no longer had any children on roll. 'No Child On Roll' inspections

only judge whether the childminder has met the requirements of registration or not, and don't get reported in Ofsted statistics. In effect, there are only three Islington early years settings that are looking after children that are judged below good.

## **2.2 - Percentage of good and outstanding Islington schools (all phases)**

6.2. The percentage of good and outstanding Islington schools (all phases) at the end of Q1 was 97.1% The breakdown of Islington schools' inspection outcomes by phase is:

- Nursery 100% (3/3 – 1 outstanding and 2 good)
- Primary 98% (44/45 – 9 outstanding, 35 good)
- Secondary 90% (9/10 – 4 outstanding and 5 good)
- Special 100% (6/6 – 4 outstanding and 2 good)
- PRU 100% (4/4 – 2 outstanding and 2 good)

The target for this measure is to be at or above the Inner London figure for good or outstanding inspection outcomes. The Inner London figure at the end of Q1 2022/23 was 95.9% (of inspected schools), so Islington was above this target.

18 schools are due an inspection from Ofsted in 2023/24. The local authority will be provided additional support to these schools through the Islington Professional Partner programme. Schools will be notified of their allocated professional partner in September 2023. Professional Partners will provide an external advice and support in preparation for Ofsted inspections and ensure that schools are focussed on improving outcomes for all pupils in line with the ambitions of the Islington Education Plan.

## **2.3 – % of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile**

6.3. Provisional figures show 66.6% of Islington pupils achieved a Good Level of Development in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile. Islington's figure is just below the provisional national average (67.3%) and below the London (69.1%) average.

The target is to be in line with or above the Inner London average, which will be released in Q3.

At this stage, we have no detailed comparators, and the new framework introduced means there are no trends, but we can give the following provisional figures for the breakdowns used in the Education Plan monitoring:

- FSM-eligible = 57.5%
- SEN Support = 33.2%
- Education, Health and Care Plans = 5.4%
- Black-Caribbean = 60.0%
- Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean = 65.8%

All figures are based on the proportion of each group achieving a Good Level of Development. All figures are provisional and should be seen as subject to change, however, the figures indicate that attainment gaps for contextual groups have narrowed. A more detailed set of comparisons will be made when comparator data is available in Q3.

**2.4 – Corporate Indicator - Take up of 2-year-old FEEE places by low-income families, children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) and children who are looked after**

6.4. The Summer 2022/23 term take up was 72%. This is based on 530 funded 2-year-olds taking up places, out of a potential 732 who were listed on the April 2023 list provided by the DWP. Although this is down on the 75% in Spring, we have seen seasonal variation in performance, so we compare to the same point in the previous year. In Summer 2022, 73% of eligible 2-year-olds were taking up places, so we are marginally below that level of performance.

Most of the breakdowns used for monitoring the Education Plan are not reportable for the 2-year-old take up. For example, we don't know the ethnicities of those not taking up places unless they have used another service, so we have incomplete information on the take-up of places by different ethnic groups. We have started to match the DWP lists to our Children's Social Care caseloads, however, and found that 7 of the 11 (64%) 2-year-olds on the June DWP list that were known to Children's Social Care were taking up funded places. We are now sharing the data on those not taking up places, so social workers working with the families can encourage them to take up the funded childcare offer. This is a model which has been in place for Family Support for some time and shown to be effective.

Reaching the remaining eligible population not taking up free early learning remains the priority of a multi-agency working group. A recent initiative has been to add a prompt about take-up to the case management recording systems for both Children's Social Care and Family Support caseloads.

**2.5 – Corporate Indicator - % rate of suspensions at Islington primary schools**

6.5. 2021/22 academic year published figure showed Islington primary schools to have 1.81% suspension rate. The target is to be below the inner London rate which was 0.81%, so the target for this year was not met. Islington was also above the national average (1.42%), although the gap was narrower than with inner London.

The following % rate of suspensions table shows how Islington's primary schools performed against the national average for the breakdowns used to monitor the Education Plan:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Islington 2021/22</b>	<b>England 2021/22</b>
FSM-eligible	3.15%	3.53%
SEND Support	6.83%	6.27%
Education, Health & Care Plans	9.09%	13.75%
Black-Caribbean	6.19%	3.08%
Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean	3.95%	3.17%

Provisional data for Islington primary schools from the 2023 spring term school census returns shows there were 79 suspensions in the Autumn term 2022/23. This is lower than in any of the preceding five years. On average, there are around 100 suspensions in the Autumn term for Islington primary schools each year.

As part of Islington's approach to 'Working together to improve school attendance', children's social care information is matched against locally held attendance and

exclusions data for all CLA pupils. For CIN and CP children, attendance and exclusions information are matched for children attending schools in borough who share attendance with the local authority. Locally held provisional data shows that 1% of primary school CLA pupils (including children attending out of borough schools) were suspended in 2022/23 and 5.1% of Islington CIN and CP children were suspended in 2022/23. Please note that this information refers to the percentage of children with one or more suspension rather than the suspension rate.

Local data for the subsequent academic year 2022/23 indicates that the suspension rate has reduced across the majority of primary schools (51% (23 schools) had no suspensions at all during the 2022/23 academic year), with two schools accounting for 40% of all primary suspensions. One of these schools is in a Project Group due to a range of concerns (leadership and financial), while the other is part of the London Mayor's Inclusive and Nurturing Schools Programme which focuses on reducing suspensions through whole school strategies addressing inclusion and healthy relationships.

Action in 2023/24 to further reduce primary suspensions will include targeted work with those schools with the highest levels of suspension, including work with families that we can identify at most risk based on most recent research.

## **2.6- % rate of suspensions at Islington secondary schools**

- 6.6. 2021/22 academic year published figure showed Islington secondary schools to have 21.84% suspension rate. The target is to be below the inner London rate which was 9.56% so the target for this year is not met.

The highest % of suspensions this year were from 3 academies. Without these Islington would have one of the lowest secondary school suspension rates in the country.

The following % rate of suspensions table shows how Islington's secondary schools performed against the national average for the breakdowns used to monitor the Education Plan:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Islington 2021/22</b>	<b>England 2021/22</b>
FSM-eligible	34.26%	34.20%
SEND Support	45.34%	36.19%
Education, Health & Care Plans	46.30%	38.03%
Black-Caribbean	44.0%	20.13%
Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean	65.35%	27.81%

Provisional data for Islington secondary schools from the 2023 spring term school census returns shows there were 727 suspensions in the Autumn term 2022/23, an increase on the 552 in Autumn 2021/22. However, across the year, the local data shows suspensions overall have significantly reduced.

Local data for the subsequent academic year 2022/23 indicates a significant reduction in the combined figure of the two schools with the highest number of suspensions, falling by 336 (66%) when comparing data from Autumn Term 2022 to Spring Term 2023. Islington's suspension rate remains a key focus of discussion and collaborative

problem-solving for the Islington Secondary School and College Leadership (ISSCL) group.

In addition, two other academy schools have joined the London Mayor's Inclusive and Nurturing Schools Programme as outlined above which aims to reduce suspensions and exclusions through whole school initiatives.

As part of Islington's approach to 'Working together to improve school attendance', children's social care information is matched against locally held attendance and exclusions data for all CLA pupils. For CIN and CP children, attendance and exclusions information are matched for children attending schools in borough who share attendance with the local authority. Locally held provisional data shows that 15% of secondary school CLA pupils (including children attending out of borough schools) were suspended in 2022/23 and 25% of Islington CIN and CP secondary children were suspended in 2022/23. Please note that this information refers to the percentage of children with one or more suspension rather than the suspension rate.

### **2.7 - Inequalities measure - % rate of suspensions for pupils with SEND at Islington primary schools**

- 6.7. 2021/22 academic year published figure for suspension rate of pupils with Education, Health and Care plans or receiving SEN Support in Islington primary schools was 7.28%. The target is to be below the inner London rate which was 3.47% so the target for this year is not met.

Provisional data for Islington primary schools from the 2023 spring term school census returns shows there were 55 suspensions involving pupils with SEND in the Autumn term 2022/23. This is lower than the previous year (74).

As reported above, action in 2023/24 to further reduce primary suspensions will include targeted work with those schools with the highest levels of suspension, including work with families that we can identify at most risk based on most recent research. This will include a focus on children with SEND.

### **2.8 - Inequalities measure - % rate of suspensions for pupils with SEND at Islington secondary schools**

- 6.8. 2021/22 academic year published figure for suspension rate of pupils with Education, Health and Care plans or receiving SEN Support in Islington secondary schools was 45.49. The target is to be below the inner London rate which was 21.69 so the target for this year is not met.

Provisional data for Islington secondary schools from the 2023 spring term school census returns shows there were 322 suspensions involving pupils with SEND in the Autumn term 2022/23. This is higher than the previous year (214).

As reported above, action in 2023/24 to further reduce secondary suspensions will include targeted work with those schools with the highest levels of suspension, including work with families that we can identify at most risk based on most recent research. This will include a focus on children with SEND.

### **2.9 - Inequalities measure - % rate of suspensions for Mixed - White & Black-Caribbean pupils at Islington primary schools**

- 6.9. 2021/22 academic year published figure showed pupils from Mixed White and Black ethnic group in Islington primary schools to have 3.95 suspension rate. The target is to be below the inner London rate which was 2.21 so the target for this year is not met.

Provisional data for Islington primary schools from the 2023 spring term school census returns shows there were 6 suspensions involving pupils from the Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean ethnic group in the Autumn term 2022/23. This is lower than the previous year (10).

As reported above, action in 2023/24 to further reduce primary suspensions will include targeted work with those schools with the highest levels of suspension, including work with families that we can identify at most risk based on most recent research. This will include a focus on children from over-represented groups, including Mixed - White & Black-Caribbean pupils.

### **2.10 - Inequalities measure - % rate of suspensions for Mixed - White & Black-Caribbean pupils at Islington secondary schools**

- 6.10. 2021/22 academic year published figure showed pupils from Mixed White and Black ethnic group in Islington secondary schools to have 65.35% suspension rate. The target is to be below the inner London rate which was 36.22% so the target for this year is not met.

Provisional data for Islington secondary schools from the 2023 spring term school census returns shows there were 83 suspensions involving pupils from the Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean ethnic group in the Autumn term 2022/23. This is higher than the previous year (74).

As reported above, action in 2023/24 to further reduce secondary suspensions will include targeted work with those schools with the highest levels of suspension, including work with families that we can identify at most risk based on most recent research. This will include a focus on children from over-represented groups, including Mixed - White & Black-Caribbean pupils.

### **2.11 - Corporate Indicator - % rate of persistent absence from Islington primary schools**

- 6.11. The provisional 2022/23 Autumn and Spring term figure shows 21.0% of primary school children having had been persistently absent. Islington ranked 87th in England in terms of highest persistent absence, down from its 24<sup>th</sup> place the previous year.

The target for this indicator is to be below the Inner London average, which will be available in October 2023.

Provisional severe absence rate for this period is 1%, an increase from 0.5% during the same period last year.

While the figures are still provisional, the following % persistence absence table shows how Islington's primary schools performed against the national average for the breakdowns used to monitor the Education Plan:



<b>Group</b>	<b>Islington Autumn/Spring 2022/23</b>	<b>England Autumn/Spring 2022/23</b>
FSM-eligible	28.9%	30.1%
SEND Support	28.4%	26%
Education, Health & Care Plans	34.4%	32.4%
Black-Caribbean	27.6%	TBC – Q3
Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean	31.3%	TBC – Q3

As part of Islington’s approach to ‘Working together to improve school attendance’, children’s social care information is matched against locally held attendance and exclusions data for all CLA pupils. For CIN and CP children, attendance and exclusions information are matched for children attending schools in borough who share attendance with the local authority. Locally held provisional data shows that 11.5% of primary school CLA pupils (including children attending out of borough schools) were persistently absent in 2022/23 and 43.9% of Islington CIN and CP primary children were persistently absent in 2022/23.

Provisional data for 2022/23 as a whole is available for the majority, but not all, of Islington primary schools. This shows that 21.0% of primary school pupils were persistently absent.

Figures for 2022/23 are not directly comparable with previous years, as this was the first full year where absence due to Covid was included in the absence statistics.

Overall, our approach to reducing persistent absence focuses on the following four priorities:

- All parents meet their responsibilities to ensure their child attends school regularly
- All schools have effective leadership and management of attendance in place
- All partners provide needs-based support to improve attendance at school
- The Local Authority continues to challenge and support schools to ensure measures taken to improve attendance are effective

‘Working Together to Improve Attendance’ (DfE Guidance) requires all local authorities to have in place a School Attendance Support Team that works with all schools in its area from September 2023. A key introduction will be Targeting Support Meetings -at least termly meetings with every school to identify, discuss, and agree joint targeted actions for pupils who are persistently or severely absent and those at risk of becoming so.

Plans for implementation are in place and these have been ratified and signed off by the DfE, with positive feedback on detail and readiness.

Support will be prioritised for schools where attendance is most impacted. All schools have been categorised according to levels of absence, and intervention will be proportionate to absence levels, with four primary schools identified as requiring intensive support because of high levels of persistent absence.

## **2.12 - Corporate Indicator - % rate of persistent absence from Islington secondary schools**

- 6.12. The provisional 2022/23 Autumn and Spring term figure shows 27.2% of secondary school children having had been persistently absent. Islington ranked 73rd in England in terms of highest persistent absence, down from 37th place the previous year.

The target for this indicator is to be below the Inner London average, which will be available in October 2023.

While the figures are still provisional, the following % persistence absence table shows how Islington's secondary schools performed against the national average for the breakdowns used to monitor the Education Plan:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Islington 2022/23</b>	<b>England 2022/23</b>
FSM-eligible	36%	42.2%
SEND Support	39.4%	37.4%
Education, Health & Care Plans	36.1%	37.8%
Black-Caribbean	36.6%	TBC – Q3
Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean	45.6%	TBC – Q3

As part of Islington's approach to 'Working together to improve school attendance', children's social care information is matched against locally held attendance and exclusions data for all CLA pupils. For CIN and CP children, attendance and exclusions information are matched for children attending schools in borough who share attendance with the local authority. Locally held provisional data shows that 35.0% of primary school CLA pupils (including children attending out of borough schools) were persistently absent in 2022/23 and 65.3% of Islington CIN and CP primary children were persistently absent in 2022/23.

Provisional severe absence rate for this period is 2.5%, an increase from 2.2% during the same period last year.

Provisional data for 2022/23 as a whole is available for the majority, but not all, of Islington secondary schools. This shows that 32.3% of pupils in these secondary schools were persistently absent.

See 7.2 above for information about our overall approach to addressing poor attendance and School Attendance Support Teams. All schools have been categorised according to levels of absence and intervention will be proportionate to absence levels, with four secondary schools identified as requiring intensive support because of high levels of persistent absence.

### **2.13 - Corporate Indicator - % of pupils meeting the expected standard in the phonics screening check in year 1**

- 6.13. Provisional figures from NCER show 78.9% of Islington pupils meeting the expected standard in the phonics screening check in year 1 below London figure of 80.8% and in line with the national figure of 78.9%.

The target is to be in line with or above Inner London figure which will be released in Q3.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Islington 2022/23</b>	<b>England 2022/23</b>
FSM-eligible	71.2%	66.6%

SEND Support	61.9%	48.5%
Education, Health & Care Plans	23.5%	19.8%
Black-Caribbean	72.2%	74.2%
Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean	67.1%	75.6%

Narrowing the gap for vulnerable groups is an ambitious priority of the Islington Education Plan. Two groups remain below national averages – Black Caribbean (2% gap to national) and Mixed White and Black Caribbean (8.5% gap to national). In 2019 outcomes for Mixed White and Black Caribbean pupils was 79.3% and Black Caribbean pupils it was 87.8%. The primary education team will be working with schools to highlight and develop pedagogical strategies to support schools address this challenge and aim to achieve outcomes close to 2019 for both groups. This will be developed and shared through local authority network meetings with English Subject leaders and Year 1 teachers.

**2.14 - Corporate Indicator - % of pupils meeting the expected standard in the phonics screening check by the end of year 2**

- 6.14. Provisional figures from NCER show 88.3% of Islington pupils meeting the expected standard in the phonics screening check in year 2, very marginally below the London figure of 88.8% and national figure of 88.6%.

The target is to be in line with or above Inner London figure which will be released in Q3.

Group	Islington 2022/23	England 2022/23
FSM-eligible	82.5%	80.7%
SEND Support	76.1%	66.4%
Education, Health & Care Plans	42.3%	30.0%
Black-Caribbean	85.3%	86.1%
Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean	81.5%	87.0%

Narrowing the gap for vulnerable groups is an ambitious priority of the Islington Education Plan. Two groups remain below national averages – Mixed White and Black Caribbean (5.5% gap to national) and Black Caribbean (0.8% gap to national). In 2019 outcomes for Mixed White and Black Caribbean pupils was 78.2% and Black Caribbean was 85.7%. This represents an improvement in outcomes for Mixed White and Black Caribbean pupils. The primary education team will be working with schools to highlight and develop pedagogical strategies to support schools address this challenge and aim to achieve outcomes close to 2019 this group. This will be developed and shared through local authority network meetings with English Subject leaders and Year 2 teachers.

**2.15 - Corporate Indicator - Key Stage 1 - Reading at expected standard**

- 6.15. Provisional figures from NCER show 69.9% pupils meeting the expected standard in Key Stage 1 Reading. This percentage is below the provisional London figure of 71.1% but above the national percentage of 68.3%.

2023 provisional figure is lower than 2022 percentage (71.4%).

The target is to be in line with or above Inner London figure which will be released in Q3.

Group	Islington 2022/23	England 2022/23
FSM-eligible	60.8%	53.8%
SEND Support	43.8%	32.0%
Education, Health & Care Plans	22.9%	12.5%
Black-Caribbean	63.8%	63.8%
Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean	53.8%	63.6%

The Islington Education Plan sets an ambitious target that by 2024 the percentage of pupils reading by age 7 will be 75%. All groups are above national outcomes in 2023, except for Mixed White and Black Caribbean pupils (9.8% gap to national). The gap between vulnerable groups and all pupils represents a significant challenge. In 2019 outcomes for Mixed White and Black Caribbean pupils was 72.6%. The primary education team will be working with schools to highlight and develop pedagogical strategies specific to reading to support schools address this challenge and aim to achieve outcomes close to 2019. This will be developed and shared through local authority network meetings with English Subject leaders and Year 2 teachers.

## 2.16 - Corporate Indicator - Key Stage 2 - Expected standard in Reading, Writing & Maths

- 6.16. Provisional July data from NCER shows 64.4% pupils meeting the expected standard in Key Stage 2 Reading, Writing and Maths. This percentage is below the provisional London figure of 65.3% but above the national percentage of 59.4%

2023 provisional figure is better than 2022 percentage (63.3%).

The target is to be in line with or above Inner London figure which will be released Q3.

Group	Islington 2022/23	England 2022/23
FSM-eligible	55.3%	43.4%
SEND Support	36.3%	23.6%
Education, Health & Care Plans	17.3%	8.4%
Black-Caribbean	47.4%	49.9%
Mixed-White & Black-Caribbean	48.8%	50.4%

The Islington Education Plan sets an ambitious target that by 2024 the percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths will be 72%. Two groups remain below national averages – Mixed White and Black Caribbean (1.6% gap to national) and Black Caribbean (2.5% gap to national). In 2019 outcomes for Mixed White and Black Caribbean pupils was 75.3% and for Black Caribbean pupils it was 70.8%. The primary education team will be working with schools to highlight and develop pedagogical strategies to support schools to address this challenge and aim to achieve outcomes close to 2019 for this group. This will be developed and shared through local authority network meetings with English/Maths Subject leaders and Year 6 teachers. The key strategy will focus on tracking pupils towards achieving a combined

outcome and provided the appropriate and timely intervention to support individual pupils to achieve the expected standard.

## 2.20 - Number of Electively Home Educated pupils

6.17. There were 318 electively home educated pupils for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

The number of electively home educated pupils at the end of Q1 was higher than the same time last year.

Although the DfE have not previously collected or published data on the numbers of children EHE, they did so for the first time this academic year.

The Association of Directors of Children’s Services (ADCS) has surveyed local authorities in England for the past six years with an 88% response rate. Their most recent survey (published in Nov 2021) suggested a 34% increase nationally since the 2019/20 academic year. Further, it is estimated that almost half (49.8%) of this cohort became EHE during the 2020/21 academic year, suggesting that the pandemic has had a significant impact on the number of children and young people that are currently electively home educated.

The Schools Bill which includes proposals for legislation to establish a register for children not in school, is currently on hold by Government.

Locally we have increased Elective Home Education Adviser time to reflect increased numbers. We have in place an agreed local protocol with our schools whereby any child home educating can return to the same school if within 20 school days if they decide (or the LA believe) that home education is not suitable.

Other actions include:

- Expanding on existing work with partner agencies such as CAMHS, CSCT, Bright Futures to offer a more targeted support to home educating families
- A dedicated School Nurse providing targeted support to families facing health related challenges.
- Expanding on the work with schools and partner agencies to ensure elective home education is not promoted to avoid exclusion, poor attendance or challenging behaviour
- Supporting schools to have potentially difficult conversations with parents where it appears elective home education is not in the best interest of the child.

We will continue support parents and children where there are no concerns about the home education provision, including careers information, detail of support services available, signposting to exam centres and other relevant support.

## 7. Progressing well to adulthood, independent and fulfilled lives.

PI No.	Indicator	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Target	Q1 2023/24	On target?	Q1 last year	Better than Q1 last year?
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3.1	<b>Corporate indicator - % of care leavers in Education, Employment or Training</b>	62%	<b>55.4% (prov.)</b>	70%	n/a - annual	n/a	n/a	n/a
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### 3.1 - Corporate Indicator - % of care leavers in Education, Employment or Training

7.1. Provisional data from the 2022/23 statutory returns shows that 55.4% of 19- to 21-year-old care experienced young people were in Education, Employment or Training. This is lower than the previous year, but higher than in any other year since 2016/17. This is below the target set for 2023/24 of 70%.

We are currently looking at the reasons why our EET figures are 55.4 which is a reduction from 63% in April 2023. The summer is always a difficult time to measure EET targets and we will have a better picture in the next quarter. Comparator data will be available in Q3.

## MISSION: A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME

### 8. Care, support and safeguarding

PI No.	Indicator	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Target	Q1 2023/24	On target?	Q1 last year	Better than Q1 last year?
4.1	Percentage of young people (aged 10-17) triaged that are diverted away from the criminal justice system	91%	96%	>85%	83%	Stable	92%	Lower
4.2	<b>Corporate Indicator - Number of first-time entrants into Youth Justice System</b>	45	37 (Q1-Q4)	<37	7	Yes	15	Yes
4.3	<b>Corporate Indicator - Percentage of repeat young offenders (under 18s)</b>	20%	22% (Q4 2022/23)	Reduction from same period last year	14.3%	Yes	18.2%	Yes

4.4	Number of custodial sentences for young offenders	4	5 (Q1-Q4)	<5	1	Yes	3	Yes
4.5	<b>Corporate Indicator -</b> Number of Domestic abuse offences	2,756	2,783 (Q1-Q4)	<b>Increase on 2022/23</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>Stable</b>	662	<b>Stable</b>

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

- 8.1. In quarter one, 83% of young people aged 10-17 triaged were diverted away from the criminal justice system. The target is to have more than 85% of young people (aged 10-17) triaged, diverted away from the criminal justice system at the end of the financial year.

While this percentage is currently slightly below target and the 2022/23 quarter one figure, this is due to an overall smaller triaged cohort. Like the same period last year, only 1 young person in the cohort could not be diverted away from the criminal justice system and this has made the % lower.

There have been no updates to the published YJB data since the Q4 2022/23 Children's Services Scrutiny report.

Despite the percentage of young people triaged that are diverted away from the criminal justice system being below target, in relative terms (due to the reduced number within the cohort) it is on a similar trajectory as per the previous year with one young person in the quarter re-offending, Targeted Youth Support and the partnership continue to focus on early intervention and diversion through effective Triage delivery. Such interventions are significant to ensure that relevant young people receive an appropriate, well-balanced and suitable tailored level of support. The aim is to prevent any further escalation in their needs, circumstances and behaviours. The service has had considerable success in recent times, achieving high success rates in the previous financial. 2022/23 Quarter 4 also had a 100% success and therefore, the 2022/23 figure is 96%. This is an improvement on the 2021/22 as a whole (91%).

#### **4.2 - Corporate Indicator - Number of first-time entrants into Youth Justice System**

- 8.2. There were 7 first time entrants into Youth Justice System in quarter 1. This figure is noticeably lower than the FTEs in the same period last year (15). The target for this measure is to improve on last year's performance, so this measure is on target.

There have been no updates to the published YJB data since the Q4 2022/23 Children's Services Scrutiny report.

The early intervention and prevention offer that exists in the borough, led by Young Islington, but also shared with key stakeholders has enabled us to make significant inroads in relation to our First Time Entrant (FTE) performance. The early identification of children and young people who are vulnerable and who are in need of interventions

has become stronger and more effective. This has included revision of the Early Intervention and Diversion remit. These systems and methods continue to evolve and reach the appropriate cohorts of young people. The 37 FTE's to Youth Justice System at the end of 2022/23 is an improvement on 2021/22 (45) and early indications from Q1 indicate a positive reduction.

#### **4.3- Corporate Indicator - Percentage of repeat young offenders (under 18s)**

- 8.3. Three of the 21 young people who offended in Q1 2022/23 went on to re-offend, so the local re-offending rate was 14.3%, lower than the Q1 2021/22 re-offending rate of 18.2%. The target is to improve on the same period previous year, so this measure is on target for this quarter.

There have been no updates to the published YJB data since the Q4 2022/23 Children's Services Scrutiny report.

The service (and the partnership) has a range of interventions available to young people who are assessed as presenting a medium to high risk of reoffending following assessment. This has helped to reduce the figures in relation to young people who pose a higher risk of further offending. A reoffending tracker is also used to identify the young people who are most at risk of this and this helps to put the relevant interventions in place for them.

The cohort of young people involved reoffending are low in number and this still represents a significant increase considering where the YJS was in relation to this measure in previous years. In addition, the cohort of children being worked with are presenting with more complexities due to the effects of the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis. These young people are being provided with more intensive support from the network due to their needs. The average of 4 quarters in 2022/23 shows re-offending figure at 15%, below previous year's 23%. The indicators for the current quarter is lower than the Q1 2021/22 re-offending rate of 18.2%. The target is to improve on the same period previous year and as such is positive.

#### **4.4 - Number of custodial sentences for young offenders**

- 8.4. There was one custodial sentence for Islington young people at the end of quarter 1 in 2023/24. This is lower than the same period last year-end total for 2021/22.

The target is to have a lower number of custodial sentences than in 2022/23 so this measure is currently on target.

There have been no updates to the published YJB data since the Q4 2022/23 Children's Services Scrutiny report.

Having a range of effective interventions to manage risk in the community and a strong working relationship and reputation with various courts has helped with the improvement of this measure. There are some offences, however, where only a custodial sentence is justified. There were five custodial sentences for Islington young people at the end of 2022/23. This is higher than the year-end total for 2021/22. Therefore, this measure did not reach the annual target. It should be noted that the long-term trend for this measure remains positive, especially considering where Islington had performed in the past in relation to this indicator and the rate or Q1. The



number of custodial sentences so far this year remains lower than the totals seen prior to the pandemic – 30 in 2017/18, 26 in 2018/19 and 7 in 2019/20.

#### **4.5 – Corporate Indicator – Number of Domestic abuse offences**

- 8.5. There were 636 domestic abuse crime offences reported to Islington police, slightly down compared to 662 in Q1 2022/2023. There were 56 domestic abuse sanction detections achieved by the police during this period a rate of 9% which is a slight improvement on last year's sanction and detection rate of 8%.

Local VAWG services received 510 referrals in quarter 1, with 313 survivors and families provided specialist support through an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate, and 71% feeling safer because of the support they receive.

##### Outputs:

- 313 survivors (510 referrals received) were supported by the VAWG advocacy services
- 81 professionals supported with advice around working with survivors
- 10 women supported following experiencing harmful and abusive practices including FGM and forced marriage
- 86% occupancy rate in Islington's refuges
- 129 play and therapeutic sessions were delivered to women and children living in refuges by the refuge family support teams

##### Outcomes (for survivors who exited the service following completion of the intervention):

- 71% felt safer
- 60% increased their confidence and self esteem
- 66% felt better able to recognise abusive behaviours
- 74% felt less isolated

## 9. Progressing well to adulthood, independent and fulfilled lives

PI No.	Indicator	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Target	Q1 2023/24	On target?	Q1 last year	Better than Q1 last year?
5.1	IYPDAS - Increase in referrals of young people requiring tier 3 services	New indicator	12	Increase on 2022/23	9	Yes	6	Yes
5.2	IYPDAS - Increase in the number of referrals for young people accessing a tier 2 service	New indicator	85	Increase on 2022/23	48	Yes	24	Yes

### 5.1 – Corporate Indicator - IYPDAS - Increase in referrals of young people requiring tier 3 services

- 9.1. This is a new indicator reporting on the referrals to Tier 3 (structured and specialised interventions with care plans). This is in relation to children and young people who need support with alcohol and/or substance misuse. Previous quarter 1 figure was 6 so the number of referrals in 2023/24 Q1 shows an increase compared to same period last year.

There has been a slight increase in Tier 3 referrals which could be due to IYPDAS being fully staffed in 2023/24 compared to 2022/23 when the service was integrated into the new YCSMAS offer via a reorganisation. IYPDAS also had one out of four staff in post in 2022/23. IYPDAS has promoted the service throughout Islington and delivered various SMU awareness and information workshops to young people, parents, schools and colleagues, which may also have helped to generate more referrals. There has also been an increase in polydrug use in young people and in the number of complex cases being referred.

Please note that Tier 3 cases can only be recorded as such if a young person agrees to a structured care plan and if they do not consent or are unable to engage for various reasons (e.g. chaotic home life, unable to attend on a regular basis, unable to engage with a structured care plan, etc), then they will be recorded as a Tier 2 intervention.

### 5.2 – IYPDAS - Increase in the number of referrals for young people accessing a tier 2 service

- 9.2. This is a new indicator reporting on the referrals to Tier 2 services, which is indicative of a higher level of need. Quarter 1 referrals for young people accessing tier 2 services has doubled compared to the same period last year. This could be due to the same reasons mentioned above.

## 10. Implications

### 10.1. Financial Implications

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

### 10.2. Legal Implications

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

### 10.3. Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030

10.3.1. There is no environmental impact arising from monitoring performance.

### 10.4. Equalities Impact Assessment

10.4.1. 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). 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.

10.4.2. An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required in relation to this report, because this report is looking at historical performance information and does not relate to a new policy, procedure, function, service activity or financial decision. Where a new policy, procedure, function, service activity or financial decision is mentioned in the commentary within this report, there should be a separate Equalities Impact Assessment for that specific development, rather than attached to the reporting on performance for any measures that this would affect.

## 11. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

11.1. This report has presented a detailed narrative describing the performance of Children's Services in Quarter 1 2023-24 and the outcomes achieved by Islington's children and young people. This reports how Children's Services have contributed to this performance, and any external factors that have affected these measures. Where performance is off target, a summary of the actions being undertaken to improve performance has been included.

**Appendices:**

- None

**Background papers:**

- None

**Final report clearance:**

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J.A.', with a long, sweeping underline.

**Corporate Director of Children's Services**

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

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