



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

21 October 2009

### **Report from the Director of Children & Families**

Wards Affected:  
ALL

## **Performance Management of Children & Young People Plan (2008/9)**

### **1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 This report shows the level of progress made by the Brent Children's Partnership Board in 2008/9 in delivering the strategic priorities identified in the 2006/9 Children and Young People's Plan.

### **2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members are requested to note progress in performance and consider areas for further improvement

### **3.0 Detail**

#### **Background**

- 3.1 This report is produced by the Children and Families Planning Information & Performance Service. A performance report is produced for every quarter and is reported to the Brent Children's Partnership.

This report provides the annual analysis for 2008/9 for the 35 indicators across the six strategic priorities of the 2006/9 Brent Children and Young People's Plan.

A new Children and Young Peoples Plan for 2009 -11 was published in May 2009.

**Performance Alert Symbols:**

 **GREEN** Performance is well above target - low risk

 **BLUE** Performance is on or within 10% of target - medium risk




 **RED** Performance is well below target - high risk

Priority	Description	Number of indicators	Risks
Priority 1	Creating the conditions in which children and young people thrive	3	100% Low risk
Priority 2	Early Years development	2	50% Low risk 50% High risk
Priority 3	Education achievement and school improvement	4	25% Low risk 50% Medium risk 25% High risk
Priority 4	Support for young people and teenagers	9	44% Low risk 33% Medium risk 22% High risk
Priority 5	Focus on excluded and vulnerable groups	10	40% Low risk 30% Medium risk 30% High risk
Priority 6	Safeguarding, health and well-being	8	38% Low risk 25% Medium risk 37% High risk

**3.2 Priority 1 - Creating the conditions in which children and young people thrive**

The targets for the three indicators in this priority were met. They were:-




- 1) Performance for the number of visits by young people for sport at council owned facilities for the year was exceptionally good. The annual target of 37,200 visits was exceeded by 43,236 visits. (Low Risk)
- 2) With regard to the number of parents attending Youth Offending Service parenting courses, performance was good with one parent more attending than the target number of 36 parents. (Low Risk)
- 3) There was a reduction of 18% in the number of families living in temporary accommodation which meant that the annual target of a 13% reduction was exceeded. Good performance. (Low Risk)

<b>Priority 1 3 Indicators</b>			
	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
	100%	0%	0%

### 3.3 Priority 2 - Early Years development

The two indicators in this priority shown below are dependant on information from the PCT in order to measure them.




- 1) More new mothers (77% in total) have started breastfeeding, This is 19% more than our target figure. (Low Risk)
- 2) On the other hand we did not perform quite so well in terms of new mothers smoking during pregnancy. We were working towards only 4% of new mothers smoking, but the final figure at the end of the year was 6.42%. (Medium Risk)

<b>Priority 2 2 Indicators</b>			
	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
	50%	50%	0%

### 3.4 Priority 3 - Education achievement and school improvement

There are 4 indicators in this priority:

- 1) For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009, 47 children were permanently excluded from Brent maintained schools. This is a reduction on last year when 63 children received permanent exclusions. (Low Risk)
- 2) The percentage of children who waited 6 weeks or more after registration for a primary school place has improved by 3% in comparison to last year. For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 the school admissions service received a total of 586 'in year' requests for primary school places of which 64 children waited more than 6 weeks for a school place (11%) (Medium Risk)
- 3) With regard to secondary schools, for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 the school admissions service received a total of 738 'in year' requests for secondary school places of which 207 children waited more than 6 weeks for a school place (28%). This is a 6% improvement from the previous year. (Medium Risk)
- 4) The annual target for the number of Special Educational Needs statements issued within 26 weeks including exceptions was not met. This was due in the most part to delays in receiving the required reports from other agencies, in particular NHS Brent, however in some instances this was also due to parents not responding to the proposed statement or to an extended consultation period being required. Overall then for the year, 68% of statements including exceptions were issued within 26 weeks whilst the target was 95%. (High Risk)




<b>Priority 3 4 Indicators</b>			
	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
	25%	50%	25%

#### Priority 4 - Support for young people and teenagers

This section mainly focuses on the work being carried out by the Connexions service with regard to the education, employment and training (EET) of young people aged between 16 – 18 years. Across the education, employment & training indicators performance has been fairly good throughout the year. It should be noted that November to January are the three key months of the year during which performance against the targets for young people aged 16 to 18 who are NEET (not in education, employment or training) or whose current activity is not known is measured.

- 1) A target was set of 7.1% of young people in Brent aged 16-18 being NEET. Our performance was actually better than this as we ensured that only 4.8% of young people were NEET. (Low Risk)
- 2) In addition only 4.9% of 16 – 18 year olds' situation was unknown whilst the target had been set at 5.4% of this group. (Low Risk)
- 3) Young offenders in EET performed well and the target of 90% was missed by only 2% (88%). (Medium Risk)
- 4) 41% of teenage Mothers were in EET when our target had been set for 53%. So we were 12% down on this. (High Risk)
- 5) Our target for having young people with learning difficulties in EET was missed by 5% with performance for the year finishing at 83% of the cohort in EET. (Medium Risk)
- 6) Our target for Black and Ethnic Minority young people in EET was exceeded by 1.2%. The target for the year was 88% and we achieved 89.2% of this cohort in EET. (Low Risk)
- 7) Although the target for having Care leavers in EET was missed by 3%, overall 70% of care leavers in the cohort were engaged in education, employment or training and this is a marked improvement on the previous year where only 52% were engaging in EET. 70% affords us the maximum performance rating by the Department for Children, Schools & Families (DCSF). (Medium Risk)
- 8) The number of young people in contact with the Youth Service has improved throughout the year. In total 6,715 young people were in contact with the service against a target of 5,800 and this represents 29% of Brent's 13-19 year old population which is better than our target of 25%. (Low Risk)
- 9) **Teenage conceptions.** This indicator is one of the Children & Families Department Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets and it is also a National Indicator - NI 112.

- ❖ A two year lag exists on performance information which is produced by the Office of National Statistics but colleagues in NHS Brent are working towards having more timely information
- ❖ In 2006 the figure for teenage conceptions in Brent was 40.1 for every 1,000 females under the age of 18. This was used as the baseline figure to measure improvement against. The target for 2008/09 was 28.3 conceptions per 1,000 under 18s and the target for 2009/10 is 23.9 per 1,000.
- ❖ As at December 2007 (latest available figures) Brent showed 43.1 teenage conceptions per 1,000 young women which showed a 3.1 increase from 2006. However we were performing marginally better than the London average for the same period which was 45.6 per 1,000. (High Risk)

<b>Priority 4 9 Indicators</b>			
	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
	44%	33%	22%

### 3.6 Priority 5 - Focus on excluded and vulnerable groups

There are 10 indicators in this priority.




- 1) Between April 08 – March 09 we performed well with regard to adoptions of children in the care of the Local Authority and exceeded our annual target by 3%. This meant that 14 children in total were adopted. (Low Risk)
- 2) There is also a national performance indicator in relation to the number of children **placed** for adoption within 12 months of the best interest decision of adoption being given and again our performance here was good.
  - ❖ For the year in total 14 children came out of Local Authority care as a result of the granting of adoption orders. 9 of these children were placed for adoption within 12 months of their best interest decision of adoption being made. (64.2% of the 14 children against a target of 54%). (Low Risk)
- 3) There has been very close monitoring of the number of times children in care change placements during the year and this has resulted in a reduction in the numbers of those children who change placements. Our performance of only 15.6% of children in care changing placement three or more times has earned us the highest DCSF rating in this category. (Low Risk)
- 4) 97% of reviews for children in care were carried out within the required timescale which is in line with our annual target.(Low Risk)

- 5) During the year, 68 out of 110 (62%) of children and young people in care who met the governments measuring criteria were in stable placements, however this meant that we did not meet our target of 78% (High Risk)
- ❖ As we become more successful in diverting young people from coming into care, those who then do, often tend to have the most complex needs. Recruiting foster carers, who have the capacity and level of skills required to care for young people with complex needs is now proving to be an additional challenge. Adolescents with no educational provision are also very difficult to sustain in their placements.

### Youth Offending

- 6) The numbers of young offenders living in Brent has risen steadily over the year and the year end target of there being 440 young offenders was exceeded by 48.(High Risk)
- ❖ Data indicates that youth crime offences across the country have been fairly erratic since January 2005. Despite this there has been a clear declining trend in youth crime in Brent which is currently achieving some of its lowest levels.
- 7) There were 259 first time entrants (FTE's) to the Youth Justice System throughout 2008/09 which exceeds the annual target by 20.(High Risk)
- ❖ It should be noted however that recent changes in the way information is shared between the Metropolitan Police and Youth Offending Services has led to an increase in recording of first time entrants, and the Youth Justice Board estimates that because of this, London is now approximately showing a 40% increase in figures for First Time Entrants. Figures from 2007/08 show that Brent ranks 15 out of the 32 London boroughs with regard to numbers of first time entrants into the Youth Offending system.
- 8) Throughout the year 58% of the young men who were supervised by the Youth Offending Service and subject to **remand** were either Black African or Black Caribbean. This is 2% less than the annual target of 60% so we are moving in the right direction. (Medium Risk)
- 9) Also throughout the year an average of 60% of young men who were supervised by the Youth Offending Team and subject to **custody** were Black African and Black Caribbean. Again this is an improvement on previous performance.(Medium Risk)
- 10)The annual target for the proportion of young offenders known to YOS who are either Black African or Black Caribbean was set at 48.70% however at the end of March 09 it was actually 55.2% therefore we have not succeeded in meeting this target. (Medium Risk)

- ❖ It is not wholly surprising that the majority of young men known to the Youth Offending Service and subject to remand or custody are from these ethnic groups as the largest proportion of offenders supervised by YOS are also Black African and Black Caribbean

<b>Priority 5 10 Indicators</b>			
	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
	40%	30%	30%

### 3.7 Priority 6- Safeguarding, health and well-being

There are 8 indicators in this priority

- 1) The numbers of repeat referrals to Social Care rose steadily between April 08 and March 09. At the end of 07/08 repeat referrals to Social Care stood at 19.3%. The 08/09 year end position rose to 26.50 % against a target of 18%. This figure is 2% higher than the national average last year.(High Risk)
- 2) Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009, 205 children became subject to a Child Protection Plan – formerly known as the Child Protection Register.
  - ❖ 18 of these children had also been subject to a Child Protection Plan in the past. This is 8.8 % of the total number of children who were made subject to a Child protection Plan. Our target for children becoming subject to a Child protection Plan for a second or subsequent time was 9% of the total number. The Department for Children Schools & Families indicates that good child protection practice would mean an optimum of 10% of children who were made subject to a Child Protection Plan throughout any given year had also been subject to a plan in the past, therefore our performance in this area was good.(Low Risk)
- 3) With regard to Reviews of Child Protection cases – throughout the year performance has been fairly good. At the end of March 2009 our overall year end performance was 99.3% against a target of 100%.(Medium Risk)
- 4) The proportion of referrals to Social Care of children in need that led to an initial assessment has improved in comparison to last year and the annual target of 50% has been met.(Low Risk)
  - ❖ Last year's performance for the year was 48%. This may indicate that more appropriate referrals are now being made to Social Care and there could be a better understanding of thresholds with regard to the CAF. It will be interesting to note if this trend continues over time.

- 5) The target of 100% for the numbers of young people known to the Youth Offending Service manifesting mental health difficulties who are referred to CAMHS was met. Throughout the year this amounted to 27 young people who were known to Youth Offending service and were referred to CAMHS.(Low Risk)




**Immunisations.** We are committed to ensuring that all children in Brent have the best start in life and that they receive appropriate vaccinations at the correct stages in their life.

- ❖ This is measured in terms of monitoring take up of immunisations in three age groups which are one, two and five years old.
- ❖ Annual targets in terms of immunisation take up were set at 75% of children for whom NHS Brent has responsibility in each of the above age groups. The percentage of children who actually had their vaccinations is detailed below.

6) 1 year - Actual 68.25% (Medium Risk)

7) 2 years - Actual 61.15% (High Risk)

8) 5 years - Actual 52.81% (High Risk)

<b>Priority 6 8 Indicators</b>			
	Low risk 38%	Medium risk 25%	High risk 37%



## 4.0

**Performance Alerts**

Indicators	Perf Alert Q4
The number visits by Young People for sport at council owned facilities	★
The number of Parents Attending YOS Parenting Course	★
The % Reduction in the number of families living in temporary accommodation	★
The % improvement on new mothers initiating breastfeeding	★
The number of pupils excluded from Brent maintained schools	★
The % Young people aged 16-18 who are NEET	★
The % 16-18 years situation unknown	★
The % BME Young People in EET	★
The number of Young People 13-19 year olds in contact with the Youth Service	★
Adoptions of children looked after	★
The % of Looked after children with 3+ placement changes in period	★
Timeliness of reviews of LAC	★
Re-registrations of children on Child Protection Register	★
Timeliness of placements of LAC adopted following Agency decision	★
The proportion of referrals of Children in Need leading to initial assessment	★
The % YP known to YOS manifesting mental health difficulties referred to CAMHS	★
Reviews of Child Protection Cases	●
The % of new mothers smoking during pregnancy	●
The % Young Offenders in EET	●
The % Young People with Learning Difficulties in EET	●
The % Care Leavers in EET	●
The proportion of young offenders that are Black African and Black Caribbean	●
The % of young men supervised by the YOT, subject to remand that are Black African or Caribbean	●
The % of young men supervised by the YOT subject to custody that are Black African or Caribbean	●
The % of Repeat Referrals to Social Care within 12 months of the previous referral	●
The % uptake of all childhood immunisations at 1 year	●
The % of primary school aged children who waited 6 weeks for a school place after registration.	▲
The % of Secondary school aged children who waited 6 weeks or more for a sch place after registration.	▲
The % of SEN Statements issued within 26 weeks including exceptions	▲
The % Teenage mothers in EET	▲
Looked After Children under 16 years old in the same placement for at least 2 years or more or placed for Adoption and were looked after for more than 2.5 years	▲
Number of resident young offenders	▲
Reduce first time entrants to the Youth Justice System	▲
The % uptake of all childhood immunisations at 2 year	▲
The % uptake of all childhood immunisations at 5 year	▲

## **Background Papers**

None

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