

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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COMMITTEE	<b>Education and Children's Services</b>
DATE	<b>25<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b>
TITLE OF REPORT	<b>Education and Children's Services Directorate Performance Improvement Report</b>
REPORT NUMBER	<b>ECS/18/004</b>
DIRECTOR	<b>Bernadette Oxley/ Helen Shanks (Acting)</b>
REPORT AUTHOR	<b>Reyna Stewart</b>

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of the report is to provide Elected Members with a summary of the Education and Children's Services (E&CS) Directorate performance improvement measures and outcome data from 1<sup>st</sup> July up to and including 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

### **2. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Committee is asked to note the content of the report

### **3. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES**

- 3.1 The Committee, at the meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017, instructed that further detail relating to the metric covering the percentage of Looked After Children with an allocated social worker, be provided in this report.
- 3.2 As a result, the Directorate has materially reviewed collation and presentation of this information, along with that relating to the similar measure for children supported by the Children's Social Work Service. The context of this review is reflected in Appendix A.
- 3.3 The detail contained within Appendix B relates to a core selection of Improvement Indicators, reflecting outcomes aligned with the Education and Children's Services Directorate Improvement Plan 2017-18, and Directorate performance measures linked to Shaping Aberdeen themes.
- 3.4 Appendix C provides drill-down narrative and comparative table relating to the above indicators and measures (where identified in Appendix B).

### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report

## **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

## **6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK**

- 6.1 Consistency and transparency of performance reporting to Elected Members and in the public domain forms part of the Directorate's approach to risk mitigation through enhancing scrutiny and accountability against the delivery of services to the community.

- 6.2 The report identifies areas of performance improvement which are aligned to the delivery of Directorate priorities. This delivery is subject to the assessment and management of risk identified below:

### 6.3 Risk Mitigation Assessment

### 6.4 Financial Resources

- 6.4.1 Proper reporting of performance information provides assurance to elected Members, and the public, that the Directorate is managing its resources efficiently in order to deliver its commitments and service improvements as effectively as possible.

Risk Level: Low

### 6.5 Employees

- 6.5.1 The report contains information relating to the Directorate commitment to improving the staff experience.

Risk Level: Low

### 6.6 Customers / Citizens / Stakeholders

- 6.6.1 The report contains information to support the Directorate's commitment to improving customer experience, as well as delivering outcome improvements in accordance with its strategic priorities. The report also provides the Directorate's other stakeholders, including partners and Government agencies, with evidence on the rate of progress in these areas.

Risk Level: Low

### 6.7 Environment

- 6.7.1 Risk Level: No risks have been identified against this theme

### 6.8 Reputation

- 6.8.1 The Council's reputation could be at risk of damage if timely, relevant on the management of resources and the delivery of service improvement is not adequately reported. This report mitigates that risk.

Risk Level: Low

## 6.9 Legal

### 6.9.1 (i) Public Performance Reporting

Public performance reporting is a statutory duty placed on local authorities.

This report therefore serves to mitigate the risk that this duty is not met.

Risk Level: Low

### 6.9.2 (ii) Duty of Due Regard

- 6.9.3 As of August 1st 2017, all Education Authorities must consider and evidence how strategic decisions will help to reduce the poverty related attainment gap.

- 6.9.4 This legal duty is demonstrated through consultation and the analysis of available evidence. In effect, the duty requires that education authorities continually consider whether they can do more to help those pupils impacted by socio-economic disadvantage to achieve equality of outcome and to give due weight to the outcome of those considerations when delivering school education.

- 6.9.5 Through the provision, analysis and reporting of comparative detail of the current outcomes and experiences of children and young people across all SIMD deciles, this Report supports the arrangements for monitoring the standards and quality of school education in given areas.

- 6.9.6 This information also assists the Directorate in the identification of improvement activity designed to raise standards and address known challenges across an education authority area, such as those priorities set out in the National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan.

Risk Level: Low

## 7. **IMPACT SECTION**

- 7.1 The outcomes and measures contained within this Report are materially aligned, through the ECS Directorate Improvement Plan, with the strategic improvement themes from the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-2026, and Aberdeen City Council Strategic Business Plan, 2017-18 Refresh.

- 7.1.1 Performance measures relating to the Directorate's delivery of Service are linked directly to the respective 'Shaping Aberdeen' impacts.

- Improving Customer Experience
- Improving Staff Experience
- Improving our Use of Resources

## 7.2 **Economy**

7.2.1 The Directorate takes cognisance of the positive impact that effective delivery of its services can impart to the Council and the Community in terms of transforming its provision and facilitating greater access to the benefits of economic stability and employment for those the Directorate supports.

## 7.3 **People**

7.3.1 The Directorate is committed to improving the key life outcomes of all people in Aberdeen, with a specific focus on our children and young people, taking cognisance of the importance of promoting equality and diversity as a foundation for improvement.

Within the report, this is recognised in terms of the Directorate's focus on

- increased access to, and quality within, childcare and education settings, providing our children with the best start in life.
- enhancing the employment outcomes for our young people.
- providing enhanced and sustained support of children, young people and families from communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, through improved educational outcomes and experiences
- offering encouragement, support and protection for our most vulnerable children and young people

The report is designed for information purposes only and no Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment has been prepared.

## 7.4 **Place**

7.4.1 The report identifies outcomes which contribute to an enhanced sense of Place by improving personal resilience, protecting individuals and the community from harm, and enabling citizens to both understand and contribute to their communities.

7.4.2 Alongside the direct 'intervention and education' role that the Directorate delivers, the Report content evidences that the Directorate is improving the experience of the City's residents and visitors through enhanced recreational and cultural provision.

## 7.5 **Technology**

- 7.5.1 The Directorate, through its Improvement Plan, recognises that technology is central to innovative, integrated and transformed public services.
- 7.5.2 In this context, the Directorate has a direct role to play in the application of technology and also in terms of developing the future skills infrastructure necessary to engage with, and support use of, technology both in the workplace, and as a means of increasing public access to services.

## **8. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-2026

Education and Children's Services Directorate Improvement Plan 2017-18

Education and Children's Services Directorate Health and Safety Improvement Plan 2017-18

## **9. APPENDICES**

Appendix A: Directorate Performance Improvement Report Addendum

Appendix B: Directorate Performance Improvement Report Scorecard, Quarter 2, 2017

Appendix C: Directorate Performance Improvement Report Trendcharts, Quarter 2, 2017

## **10. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS**

Co-ordinated by

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