



Meeting: Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee
 Time: 10.00 am
 Date: 14 January 2019
 Venue: Committee Room 1 - County Hall, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ

Pauline Batstone (Chairman)	Katharine Garcia	Derek Beer
Kevin Brookes	Toni Coombs	Lesley Dedman
Beryl Ezzard	Bill Pipe	Kate Wheller

Notes:

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- **Public Participation**

Guidance on public participation at County Council meetings is available on request or at <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/374629>.

Public Speaking

Members of the public can ask questions and make statements at the meeting. The closing date for us to receive questions is 10.00am on 9 January 2019, and statements by midday the day before the meeting.

Mike Harries
Chief Executive

Contact: Fiona King, Senior Democratic Services Officer
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Date of Publication:
Friday, 4 January 2019

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Code of Conduct

Councillors are required to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 regarding disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Check if there is an item of business on this agenda in which the member or other relevant person has a disclosable pecuniary interest.
- Check that the interest has been notified to the Monitoring Officer (in writing) and entered in the Register (if not this must be done on the form available from the clerk within 28 days).
- Disclose the interest at the meeting (in accordance with the County Council's

Code of Conduct) and in the absence of a dispensation to speak and/or vote, withdraw from any consideration of the item.

The Register of Interests is available on Dorsetforyou.com and the list of disclosable pecuniary interests is set out on the reverse of the form.

3. Minutes

3 - 8

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2018.

4. Public Participation

To receive any questions or statements by members of the public.

5. Update from the Police and Crime Commissioner

To receive an oral update from the Police and Crime Commissioner following the collapse of the merger with Devon and Cornwall.

A link to the Dorset Police and Crime Plan has also been added to provide some context for members to understand the priorities established by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset:-

<https://dorsetpccpolice.s3.amazonaws.com/Documents/Information%20Hub%20Our%20priorities%20and%20progress/Police%20and%20Crime%20Plan/PCP%20Refresh%202018%20v3%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

6. Safeguarding Vulnerable Children

9 - 12

To receive an update report from the Director for Children's Services following a report in the Daily Echo on 20 November 2018:-

<https://www.bournemouthecho.co.uk/news/17228043.the-government-report-says-dorset-council-is-not-safeguarding-the-most-vulnerable-children/>

7. Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report: December 2018

13 - 36

To consider a report from the Director for Children's Services.

8. Work Programme

37 - 40

To consider the Work Programme for the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

9. Questions from County Councillors

To answer any questions received in writing by the Chief Executive by not later than 10.00am on 9 January 2019.



Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset,
DT1 1XJ on Thursday, 11 October 2018

Present:

Katharine Garcia (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), Kevin Brookes, Lesley Dedman, Beryl Ezzard and Kate Wheller

Members Attending

Steve Butler, Cabinet Member for Safeguarding.

Officer Attending: Nick Jarman (Corporate Director for Children's Services), David Alderson (Senior Adviser, Learning and Inclusion), Sarah Baker (Group Finance Manager), David Bonner (Intelligence, Insight and Performance Manager), Jonathan Carter (Head of Specialist Services), Melissa Craven (Communications Lead - Children's Services), Mark Taylor (Group Manager - Governance and Assurance) and Fiona King (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

(Note: These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on: **Monday, 14 January 2019**)

Apologies for Absence

40 Apologies for absence were received from Pauline Batstone (Chairman), Derek Beer, Toni Coombs and Bill Pipe.

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman took the Chair.

Cllr Garcia paid tribute to Cllr Steven Lugg, who had been a member of this committee, but had sadly passed away in July of this year.

Cllr Lugg was elected as one of the County Councillors for the Ferndown Electoral Division on 1 September 2016. During his time on the council he served on:

- Children's and Adult Services Appeals Committee (Vice-Chairman)
- Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Staffing Committee
- Regulatory Committee
- Dorset Waste Partnership Scrutiny Group

Cllr Garcia shared with members how Steven had made great progress in promoting children in care, fostering and corporate parenting, an area of our work that he had a keen personal interest in.

Code of Conduct

41 There were no declarations by members of disclosable pecuniary interests under the Code of Conduct.

Minutes

42 The minutes from the meeting held on 5 July 2018 were agreed and signed.

Matter Arising

Minute 30 – Personal Independence Payments – the Group Manager for Governance and Assurance confirmed that a letter had been sent to the Secretary of State, and copied to all members, at the end of August and they were awaiting a response.

Public Participation43 Public Speaking

There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1).

There were no public statements received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2).

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Children's Services Care & Protection Service Improvement Plan

- 44 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Children's Services which explained that the Service Improvement Plan was the primary mechanism to coordinate and monitor a concerted effort to improve the performance of Children's Social Care in Dorset County Council.

The Director advised that in 2017 Ofsted introduced a new inspection framework for Children's Services and there was a need to ensure that County Council services were of a sufficient standard to meet the criteria of the new inspection framework. It was important to note that services were not run just to satisfy an inspection but for the benefit of the children and young people and their families in Dorset. However, there was still a need to reference and evidence the services to ensure that they met the inspection criteria.

The Director then highlighted the Partners in Progress (PiP) programme which had commenced with a visit from Essex County Council. Areas where they could help were identified and a PiP conference for the workforce had been arranged for 2 November 2018.

Resolved

That members endorsed the approach being taken.

School Exclusions Update

- 45 The Committee considered a report from the Advisor from the Schools and Learning Service which updated members on the increase in permanent exclusions from mainstream schools in the last academic year. The report also highlighted what the Dorset Exclusions Officer, Alternative Provision Adviser and Children Missing Education Prioritisation Group were doing in order to challenge permanent exclusions, organise managed moves, admit permanently excluded pupils into new school placements and safeguard vulnerable permanently excluded pupils through multi-agency working.

It was highlighted that there were 14 successful managed moves in 2017-18 which enabled the young people to have a fresh start in a new school and avoid a permanent exclusion.

The Director highlighted the Children Missing Education Group and made reference to a small group of young people, with very difficult and challenging behaviours, who were out of school and were also not attending learning centres. It was really important that the County Council knew where they were and that they were safe and

also in receipt of some provision i.e. home schooling. At present there were 21 children in this group, the youngest being 8 years old. It was important to ensure that the council provided/commissioned support to these children at an early stage.

One member expressed concern about the exclusion of primary age children and asked whether the Council would have been alerted that they were possibly from a troubled family and therefore flagged up as needing additional support. The Director made reference to a presentation he had made at a Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee earlier in the year on early intervention and prevention and that this programme was now in its second year of operation where such families were engaged with at an early stage. The rate of exclusions compared to other authorities was not high but officers were working actively to prevent children being excluded from school. He added that there was also a lot of work ongoing with schools to prevent exclusions.

Following a question from a member about the reasons for exclusions for children in Years 1, 2 and 3, Senior Adviser, Learning and Inclusion advised that these were principally for one off serious assaults against adults. These were sometime exceptional circumstances and sometimes with no trigger. The most important aspect of this was to ensure that there was support in place for a particular child and that exclusions were as a last result. Training for teacher colleagues was highlighted as a means to try and reduce exclusions and improve school attendance.

In response to a question about whether there was an upward trend for exclusions, the Director confirmed that there was but there was a whole range of reasons for an exclusion. There was a range of leadership and management within schools to ensure exclusions were managed appropriately. He made reference to a letter he had received from Ofsted which named schools they had concerns with regarding exclusions and had asked the Local Authority to work with them to ensure exclusions were being managed effectively.

Following a concern about drugs in relation to exclusions, the Director advised that this behaviour was not just accepted, some schools had a higher tolerance level around drugs but from the perspective of the Local Authority they needed to know who the children were and where they were.

In response to a question about whether, as there had been a reduction in youth services, schools could make a request for some extra support e.g. drug counselling. The Director advised that incidents of drug use were not increasing and that there was no evidence to suggest that the reduction in youth services was the cause of any changes in drug patterns. Family Partnership Zones were highlighted as a help in this regard.

One member queried if it was as a result of reduced funding that more exclusions took place. The Director felt this did have a bearing on this, although not exclusively related to funding, but about behaviours schools were experiencing.

Noted

Working Together on Safeguarding 2018

46 The Committee considered a report from the Senior Manager, Safeguarding and Standards which provided statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in England.

The DfE guidance set out what organisations and agencies who had functions relating to children, must and should do to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children

and young people under the age of 18 in England.

Local Safeguarding Children Boards would be replaced by safeguarding partners which would comprise Local Authorities, Chief Officers of Police and Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Members were pleased to hear provision was being planned Pan Dorset which was very encouraging.

In response to a question from a member about the inclusion of GPs within the 3 safeguarding partners, the Director advised that this would be the responsibility of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) which was heavily GP driven so they were very much involved and there was a need to ensure that it was high enough on their agendas. He added that the working relationship with GPs was now considerably better than it was. Under the new arrangements there would be housing functions which had a very large role to play in respect of safeguarding.

Following a discussion about the sharing of information, the Director advised that the harmonisation of information would not be part of this system but was part of the way multi-agency hubs worked. It was more about a sharing of knowledge, and part of the new Board's remit would be to ensure that information was shared.

The Director felt that a smaller group of safeguarding partners would be more effective than the rather large Safeguarding Board meetings as the appropriate decision-makers would be in attendance. He confirmed that the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee would receive reports on the progress of this new way of working.

The Cabinet Member for Safeguarding made reference to a recent review that had taken place into how the Local Authority, the Police and Fire Service worked together. Plans were in place to see how this could be improved and a report from this would be issued shortly. He also highlighted the importance of better member engagement in the new Council going forwards.

Noted

Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report - September 2018

47 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Children's Services which included the most up to date available data on the population indicators within the 'Safe' outcome along with information on performance measures and risk management.

The Intelligence, Performance and Insight Manager highlighted the areas for focus to members as highlighted in Appendix 1 of the Director's report.

Following a question from a member about whether the prospect of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) has had a detrimental effect on the recruitment of Social Workers, the Director advised this was not the case and that since February there had been 26 successful appointments.

Following a discussion about social worker staff across the authorities following LGR, the Director confirmed that no decision had yet been made in respect of numbers but that the number of cases transferring to Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch would be very small. He explained how social worker caseloads were currently shared between the East and West of the County and that the transfer was anticipated to be in place by February 2019 to avoid disruption.

Following a concern from a member about the road maintenance scores highlighted in the Director's report, and the apparent inability to maintain the highway infrastructure, the Intelligence, Insight and Performance Manager advised that work was still ongoing as a result of the severe weather experienced earlier in the year, but noted that Dorset was performing better than some other areas. He added that extra funding had been agreed for roads which would alleviate this risk.

Noted

Work Programme

48 The Committee considered its Work Programme

The Governance and Assurance Manager explained that the Overview and Scrutiny Committees were in the process of bringing their work to a conclusion and that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board had advised the Shadow Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the work that had been carried out.

Members felt it would be helpful to have an update on highway maintenance in the next Outcomes Focussed Monitoring report.

Resolved

That an update on highways maintenance be included in the Outcomes Focussed Monitoring Report for January 2019.

Questions from County Councillors

49 No questions were asked by members under Standing Order 20(2).

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 11.05 am

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Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	Monday 14 January 2019
Officer	Mary Taylor, Senior Manager, Safeguarding and Standards.
Subject of Report	Safeguarding vulnerable children
Executive Summary	For information.
Impact Assessment:	Equalities Impact Assessment: N/A
	Use of Evidence: N/A
	Budget: N/A
	Risk Assessment: Not required

Safeguarding vulnerable children.

	Outcomes: N/A
	Other Implications: None
Recommendation	The report is for information following articles in the Dorset Echo regarding Children's Services response to vulnerable children. No further action is required.
Reason for Recommendation	See above
Appendices	None
Background Papers	None
Officer Contact	Name: Mary Taylor Tel: 01305 228384 Email: Mary.Taylor@dorsetcc.gov.uk

1. Introduction.

1.1 This report was requested following an article published in the Dorset Echo on 20.11.18.

1.2 The article was entitled "The government report says Dorset council is not safeguarding the most vulnerable children" and it quoted from the report following the Joint Targeted Area Inspection of the multi-agency response to child sexual exploitation, children associated with gangs and at risk of exploitation and children missing from home, care or education in Dorset.

1.3 The article also commented on the exploitation conference which was held on 14.11.18 by the 2 Local Safeguarding Children's Boards and included the Police and Crime Commissioner's problem-solving forum on County lines.

1.4 The purpose of the conference was to consider the picture of prevalence of child exploitation across Dorset and also to confirm a proposed new model for effectively tackling child exploitation through strategic, tactical and operational lines.

2. Progress update.

2.1 As a response to the JTAI a written statement of proposed action was submitted on 9th October 2019 and was accepted without amendment. The action plan is comprehensive and includes a multi-agency mechanism to ensure that intelligence, knowledge and themes are known by all the agencies and acted upon in a timely and effective way.

Safeguarding vulnerable children.

- 2.2 The new mechanism has a clear structure of a strategic group, where the membership are organisational senior leaders who will have the authority to assign resources and maintain strategic oversight of this area of work. A tactical group sits below this and will track high risk cases to ensure that risks are being managed and perpetrators are being disrupted. This group will also receive and disseminate intelligence and current information about threats and risks. Meetings of this new group are set to begin in January 2019.
 - 2.3 All staff within CSC have had updated training in respect of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Criminal Exploitation training is currently being secured. Multi-agency training is also available through the DCSB.
 - 2.4 A Criminal Exploitation screening tool and an assessment tool have been developed across the statutory agencies and these are out for final consultation prior to being launched in the New Year. Within Children's Social Care, we have used the screening tool to screen all children who are open to the service and are aged 10 years or older. This will provide a useful benchmark in terms of the scale of the problem for our young people.
 - 2.5 We have established a Children Missing Education group which identifies those children who are permanently excluded from school as we know that they are particularly vulnerable to being exploited. The purpose of this meeting is to ensure that excluded children are re-introduced to a new school as soon as possible and that there is an appropriate plan in place to support them in remaining within an educational setting following their reintegration.
 - 2.6 Additional training and mentoring has been provided to Managers to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities in ensuring that children and families receive a good service and that cases are not closed prematurely. Where there is non-engagement from young people and/or their families, any closure has to be signed off by the Operational manager as an additional quality assurance process.
 - 2.7 There is ongoing work, both within DCC and with partners through the Safeguarding children boards to ensure that we have measures in place to identify and protect young people from exploitation and to be ahead of the curve as the risks continue to emerge and change.
3. Neglect.
- 3.1 There have been recent articles in the local press about the prevalence of neglect in Dorset. Over the last 2 years there have been awareness raising campaigns for the general public and professionals regarding how to identify and respond to neglect. The purpose of launching these campaigns was to ensure that we are aware of children who are being neglected and can respond. An increase in numbers of cases, was anticipated and indeed, the desired outcome.
 - 3.2 There is specific training for staff regarding neglect and we have an assessment tool to support staff in being able to quantify the extent of neglect and to re-assess to ensure that progress is being made.
 - 3.3 There is a neglect sub-group of the 2 Local Safeguarding Children Boards which is in the process of refreshing the neglect strategy and beginning a new round of awareness raising.

Safeguarding vulnerable children.

3.4 Other forms of child abuse, such as physical abuse and domestic abuse, are often seen against a background of neglect. It is also true to say that neglected children are more likely to suffer other forms of abuse and exploitation. Long term neglect has a cumulative impact on children which often remains with them into adulthood, and therefore we are committed to tackling neglect at the earliest stage.

Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	14 January 2019
Officer	<p><u>Local Members</u> All Members <u>Lead Director</u> Nick Jarman, Director of Children’s Services</p>
Subject of Report	Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report: December 2018
Executive Summary	<p>The 2017-19 Corporate Plan sets out the four outcomes towards which the County Council is committed to working, alongside our partners and communities: to help people in Dorset be Safe, Healthy and Independent, with a Prosperous economy. The People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee has oversight of the Healthy and Independent corporate outcomes.</p> <p>The Corporate Plan includes objective and measurable population indicators by which progress towards outcomes can be better understood, evaluated and influenced. No single agency is accountable for these indicators - accountability is shared between partner organisations and communities themselves. This is the third monitoring report for 2018-19. As well as the most up to date available data on the population indicators within the “Safe” outcomes, the report includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance measures by which the County Council can measure the contribution and impact of its own services and activities on the outcomes; • Risk management information, identifying the current level of risks on the corporate risk register that relate to our outcomes and the population indicators associated with them. <p>The Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee is encouraged to consider the information in this report, scrutinise the evidence and commentaries provided, and decide if it is</p>

	<p>comfortable with the trends. If appropriate, members may wish to consider and identify a more in-depth review of specific areas, to inform their scrutiny activity.</p>
Impact Assessment:	<p>Equalities Impact Assessment: There are no specific equalities implications in this report. However, the prioritisation of resources to challenge inequalities in outcomes for Dorset’s people is fundamental to the Corporate Plan.</p>
	<p>Use of Evidence: The outcome indicator data in this report is drawn from a few local and national sources, including the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) and the Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF). There is a lead officer for each outcome whose responsibility it is to ensure that data is accurate and timely and supported by relevant commentary.</p>
	<p>Budget: The information contained in this report is intended to facilitate evidence driven scrutiny of the interventions that have the greatest impact on outcomes for communities, as well as activity that has less impact. This can help with the identification of cost efficiencies that are based on the least impact on the wellbeing of customers and communities.</p>
	<p>Risk: Having considered the risks associated with this report using the County Council’s approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as:</p> <p>Current: Medium Residual: Low</p> <p>However, where “high” risks from the County Council’s risk register link to elements of service activity covered by this report, they are clearly identified.</p>
	<p>Outcomes: The Overview and Scrutiny Committees each have a primary focus on one or more of the outcomes in the County Council's Outcomes Framework: Safe, Healthy, Independent and Prosperous. The Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee has oversight of the Safe corporate outcomes, and this outcome are therefore the primary focus of this report.</p>
	<p>Other Implications: None</p>
Recommendation	<p>That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considers the evidence of Dorset’s position regarding the outcome indicators in Appendix 1; and: • Identifies any issues requiring more detailed consideration through focused scrutiny activity.

Reason for Recommendation	The 2017-19 Corporate Plan provides an overarching strategic framework for monitoring progress towards good outcomes for Dorset. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees provide corporate governance and performance monitoring arrangements so that progress against the corporate plan can be monitored effectively.
Appendices	1. Outcomes Monitoring Report December 2018 – Safe
Background Papers	Dorset County Council Corporate Plan 2017-19, Cabinet, 28 June 2017 https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/corporate-plan-outcomes-framework
Officer Contact	Dr David Bonner (Strategic Insight, Intelligence and Performance Manager, Insight, Intelligence and Performance) Email David.Bonner@dorsetcc.gov.uk Tel 01305 225503 Anne Gray (Insight, Intelligence and Performance) Email a.e.gray@dorsetcc.gov.uk Tel 01305 224575

1. Corporate Plan 2017-19: Dorset County Council’s Outcomes and Performance Framework

- 1.1 The corporate plan includes a set of **population indicators**, selected to measure progress towards the four outcomes. No single agency is accountable for these indicators - accountability is shared between partner organisations and communities themselves. For each indicator, it is for councillors, officers and partners to challenge the evidence and commentaries provided, and decide if they are comfortable that the direction of travel is acceptable, and if not, identify and agree what action needs to be taken.
- 1.2 Each indicator has one or more associated **service performance measures**, which measure the County Council’s own specific contribution to, and impact upon, corporate outcomes. For example, one of the outcome indicators for the “Safe” outcome is “The number of people who are killed or seriously injured on Dorset’s roads”. A performance measure for the County Council on this is “The percentage of roads in need of maintenance”, since one of the ways we improve road safety is to ensure that roads are kept in good condition.
- 1.3 Unlike the population indicators, the County Council is directly accountable for the progress (or otherwise) of performance measures, since they reflect the degree to which we are making the best use of our resources to make a positive difference to the lives of our own customers and service users.
- 1.4 Where relevant, this report also presents **risk management** information in relation to each population indicator, identifying the current level of risks on the corporate register that relate to our four outcomes.

1.5 Outcome lead officers work to ensure that the commentaries on each page of these monitoring reports reflect the strategies the County Council has in place to improve each aspect of each outcome for residents. The commentary seeks to explain the strategies we have in place to make improvements – such as smoking cessation – and then report on the success of those strategies.

1.6 Members are encouraged to consider all the indicators and associated information at Appendix 1, scrutinise the evidence and commentaries provided, and decide if they are comfortable with the direction of travel. If appropriate, members may wish to consider a more in-depth review of specific areas.

2.0 Overview

2.1 Children

2.1.1 The number of children on Child Protection (CP) Plans has taken an upward turn but the rate remains below the national benchmark. It is too early to tell if this is the beginning of a trend upwards. Monitoring will continue.

2.1.2 The number of looked after children has remained consistent and near national and regional figures per 10,000. The number of care proceedings issued also remains consistent and there has been a further reduction in the number of children looked after under section 20 arrangements.

2.1.3 The persistent absence measures report on those pupils who miss more than 10% of their possible school sessions. Primary figures are showing a reduction and remain below the national trend but the reverse is true for the secondary sector. Possible factors include an increase in mental health/anxiety issues and the use of study leave and pupils leaving school before the end of term.

2.2 Adults

2.2.1 23% of the adult safeguarding concerns received in Q2 led to a Section 42 or Non-Stat enquiry with 77% requiring no further action. Of those leading to a S42 enquiry this year, 85% have been concluded and outcomes continue to show that risks overall have been reduced. Feedback from Service Users shows that 76% felt safer because of the safeguarding intervention. Locally we still capture all contacts received into the safeguarding team and 40% of these were confirmed as not safeguarding and were managed by providing Information and Advice.

2.3 Crime

2.3.1 Total crime in Dorset continues to rise, as it has done in the past few years.

2.3.2 Recorded Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) is considerably lower than last year and has shown a fairly stable overall trend in the past few years.

2.3.3 Domestic abuse incidents are lower than at the same time last year; the trend has been fairly static in the past few years.

2.3.4 Domestic abuse crimes continue to increase, which has been a trend for the past few years.

2.4 Road safety

2.4.1 The number of people killed or seriously injured during the 12 months to July 2018 was 213 - 22 fatalities and 191 serious injuries. This compares to 13 fatalities and 202 serious injuries for the 12 months to July 2017.

2.4.2 The trend for all casualties (KSI and slight injury) is an additional measure to help set context. There has been a relatively consistent downward trend in the total number of road traffic casualties in recent years. The 2005-09 baseline for all casualties is 1,830, the figure for the 12 months to July 2018 is 1,062, 42% fewer.

2.5 **Areas for focus**

2.5.1 Children: The rate of persistent absenteeism has risen among secondary school age children. Responsibility for pupil absence primarily rests with the parent/carer, with schools responsible for monitoring and encouraging attendance where there are problems. The local authority will support this role through the offer of early help where appropriate and providing an enforcement role regarding parents/carers who fail to ensure that their children attend school regularly.

2.5.2 Adults: In adult safeguarding, areas for focus include:

- Ensuring decision making is consistent and accurate;
- Ongoing monthly case file audits to highlight areas of development and good practice;
- Focus on Making Safeguarding Personal to ensure robust recording of service users identified outcomes;
- Ensuring S42 enquiries are concluded on MOSAIC and outcome (i.e. risk reduced, risk remains, risk removed) is completed.

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People in Dorset are Safe

Outcome Sponsor - Nick Jarman
Director for Children's Services



Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report

December 2018













Dorset County Council

People in Dorset are Safe

Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report Produced by Insight, Intelligence and Performance

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OVERVIEW: Direction of travel

S01 Rate of children subject to a child protection plan	Q1 2018/19	32.7 Per 10,000	Q2 2018/19	43.6 Per 10,000	
S02 Rate of children in care	Q1 2018/19	57.6 Per 10,000	Q2 2018/19	57.5 Per 10,000	
S03A The rate of children who are persistent absentees from school (Primary)	2015/16	7.6	2016/17	7.3	
S03B The rate of children who are persistent absentees from school (Secondary)	2015/16	13.9	2016/17	14.6	
S04 The number of Adult Safeguarding Concerns	Q1 2018/19	487	Q2 2018/19	562	
S05A Rates of crime, antisocial behaviour and domestic abuse in Dorset (Total Crime)	Q1 2018/19	6,038	Q2 2018/19	6,270	
S05B Rates of crime, antisocial behaviour and domestic abuse in (Total Anti-Social Behaviour)	Q1 2018/19	2,901	Q2 2018/19	2,920	
S05C Rates of crime, antisocial behaviour and domestic abuse in (Domestic Abuse Incidents)	Q1 2018/19	551	Q2 2018/19	539	
S05D Rates of crime, antisocial behaviour and domestic abuse in (Domestic Abuse Crimes)	Q1 2018/19	668	Q2 2018/19	685	
S06 Number of people killed or seriously injured on Dorset roads	Jul 2017	215	Jul 2018	213	

OVERVIEW: Areas for focus

The rate of persistent absenteeism has risen among secondary school age children. Responsibility for pupil absence primarily rests with the parent/carer, with schools responsible for monitoring and encouraging attendance where there are problems. The local authority will support this role through the offer of early help where appropriate and providing an enforcement role regarding parents/carers who fail to ensure that their children attend school regularly.

In adult safeguarding, areas for focus include:

- Ensuring decision making is consistent and accurate;
- Ongoing monthly case file audits to highlight areas of development and good practice;
- Focus on Making Safeguarding Personal to ensure robust recording of service users identified outcomes;
- Ensuring S42 enquiries are concluded on MOSAIC and outcome (i.e. risk reduced, risk remains, risk removed) is completed.

SAFE S01: Rate of children subject to a child protection plan

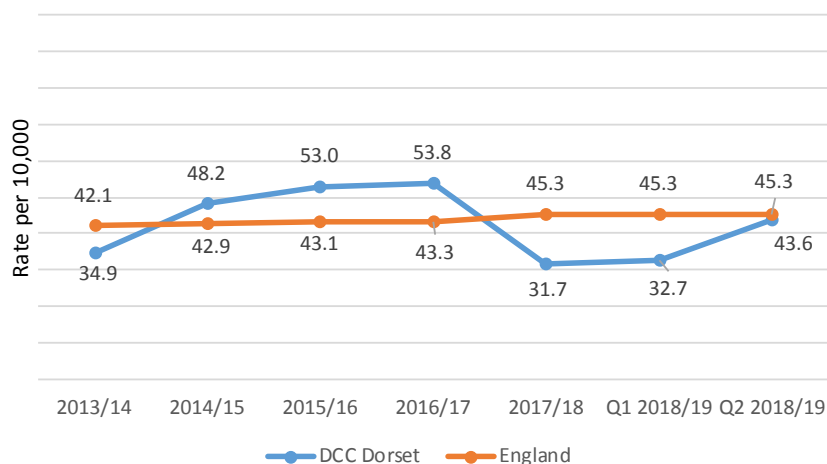
Outcome Lead Officer Claire Shiels; Population Indicator Lead Officer Claire Shiels

Trend:



Benchmarking: Lower than England

Children subject to a child protection plan



What are the indicators/performance measures telling us?

The number of children on Child Protection (CP) Plans has taken an upward turn but the rate remains below the national benchmark. It is too early to tell if this is the beginning of a trend upwards. Monitoring will continue. Re-referrals to social care have increased slightly as has the proportion of children subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent plan.

What has changed and why?

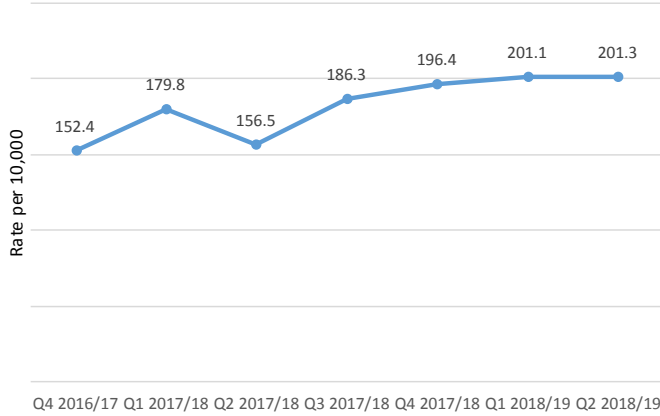
There was an increase in the rate over the quarter. This could be due to the significant drive to improve practice with audits highlighting where there has been drift and delay in some cases at children in need level. This has resulted in an increase in child protection enquiries and subsequent decisions to hold child protection conferences. Unusually, in August there was a significantly greater number of children (52) made subject to a CP Plan than those that had plans ending (7). Analysis of the reasons for children becoming subject to a plan for a second or subsequent time has identified that these are appropriate and seek to address new problems.

What are the issues and how can we address them?

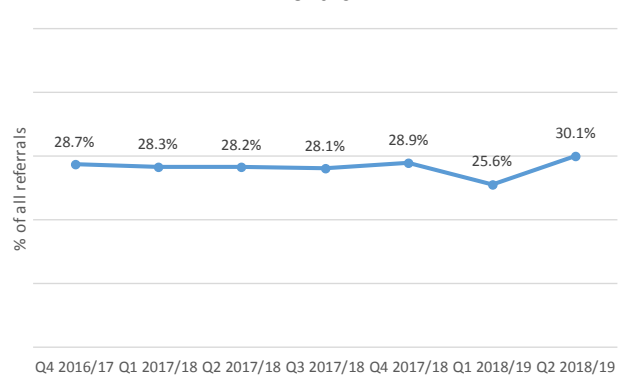
The numbers of children subject to a child protection plan are relatively small. It is important that children who require a robust safeguarding response are appropriately supported by a robust multi-agency plan. An independent review of the CP service was recently undertaken. This found that a CP plan was appropriate for all the children currently being supported in this way. We are currently working with Essex as a 'Partner in Practice' to ensure that child protection processes are strengths based. We continue to support social work practice through our Reinvigorating Social Work Programme; Diagonal Slice meetings; audit programme and quality assurance meetings.

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

Children in need

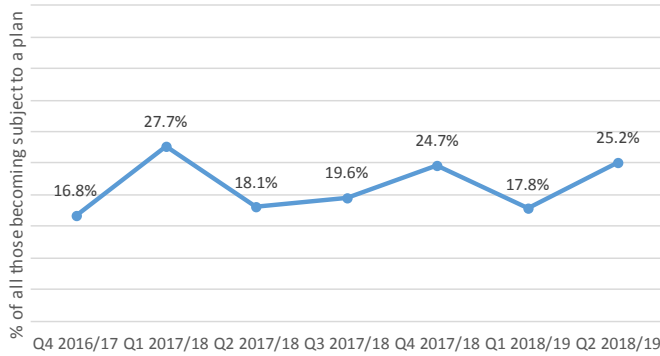


Re-referrals to children's social care within 12 months



Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

% of children subject to plan for second or subsequent time



Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
02a - Failure to consider the impacts that vulnerable adults have on children and families	MEDIUM	IMPROVING
02b - Unsuitable housing results in an increased risk to vulnerable children and adults	MEDIUM	WORSENING
11c - Inefficient commissioning processes and monitoring of contracts to support delivery of Directorate and Children & Young People Priorities	LOW	UNCHANGED
14b - Inability to attract and retain suitably qualified specialist safeguarding staff within Children's Services	HIGH	UNCHANGED

SAFE S02: Children in care

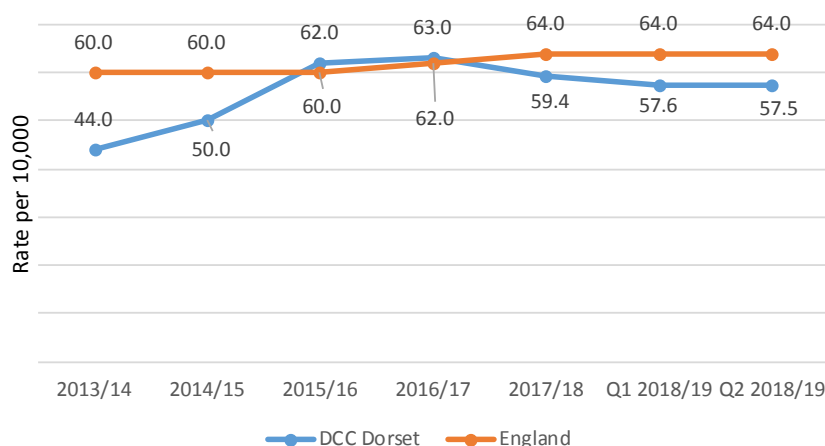
Outcome Lead Officer Claire Shiels; Population Indicator Lead Officer Claire Shiels

Trend:



Benchmarking: Lower than England

Children in care



What are the indicators/performance measures telling us?

The number of looked after children has remained consistent and is now lower than national rates per 10,000. Children leaving care through special guardianship and adoption have both decreased. The proportion of care leavers in suitable accommodation has reduced (however this data is provisional, and checks are currently being undertaken to validate the data).

What has changed and why?

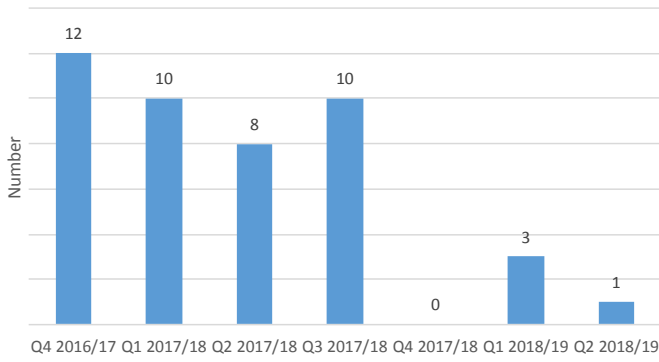
The continued focus by social workers and managers on seeking alternatives to entry to care and permanency planning is ensuring that the number of children in care remains stable. The number of care proceedings issued has remained consistent and there has been a further reduction in the number of children looked after under section 20 arrangements. Although the number and proportion of children leaving care through special guardianship and adoption have both decreased, it is important to note that these are only 2 of the ways that children achieve permanence. It is too early to identify if the changes in the proportion of care leavers in suitable accommodation reflects current performance.

What are the issues and how can we address them?

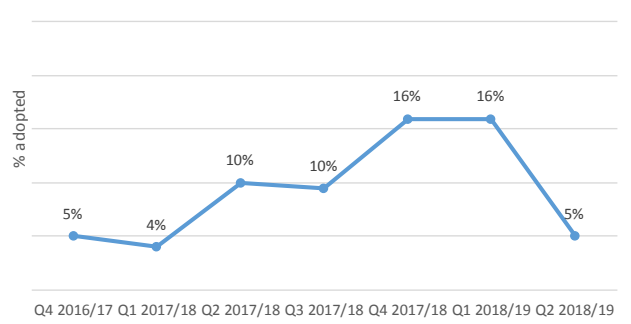
Our annual plan for ensuring that there are sufficient placements available for children in care locally is currently being updated. This focuses on making sure we have enough in-house foster carers and a range of placements available locally. We have joined two regional framework agreements to increase the range and choice of fostering and residential placements available for children in care and are currently evaluating tenders for increasing the availability of supported accommodation. This will help increase the availability of suitable accommodation for care leavers. The primary focus for the next year is to continue to recruit more in-house foster carers; building on successful campaigns between the fostering team, west district social work team & the communications team. Work will also focus on developing support services for alternatives to care.

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

LAC ceased because of Special Guardianship Order

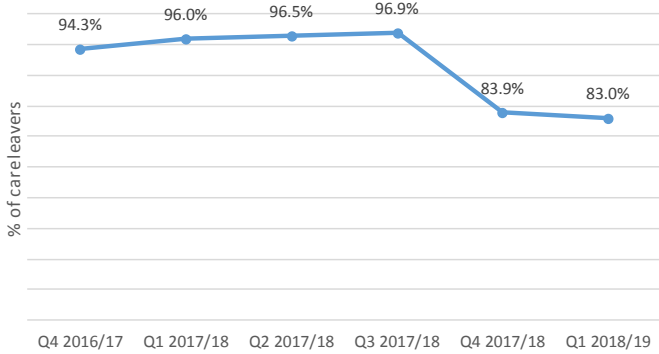


% looked after children adopted in year



Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

% of care leavers in suitable accommodation



Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
01d – A lack of sufficiency (placements/ residential/ foster care) impacts negatively on the demands led budget for children in care		HIGH UNCHANGED
02c - Failure to keep children safe that are known to, or in the care of, DCC		MEDIUM UNCHANGED

SAFE S03: The rate of children who are persistent absentees from school (Primary and Secondary)

Outcome Lead Officer Claire Shiels; Population Indicator Lead Officer Claire Shiels

Trend:

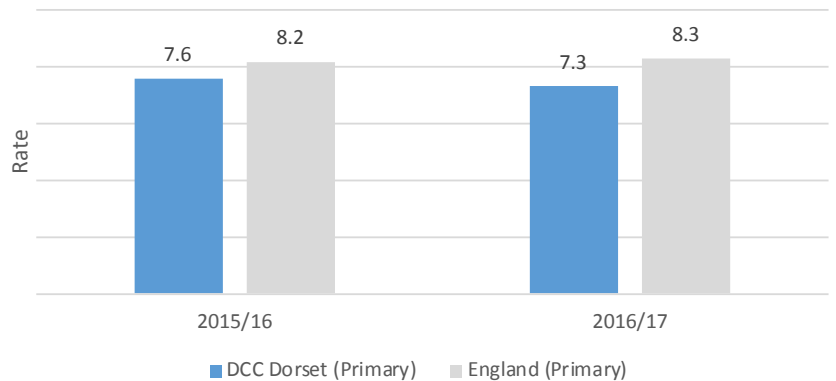


Benchmarking:

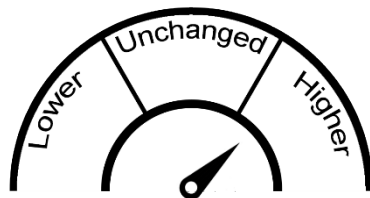
Primary: below the England average

2017/18 data not yet available

Rate of children who are persistent absentees from school (primary)



Trend:

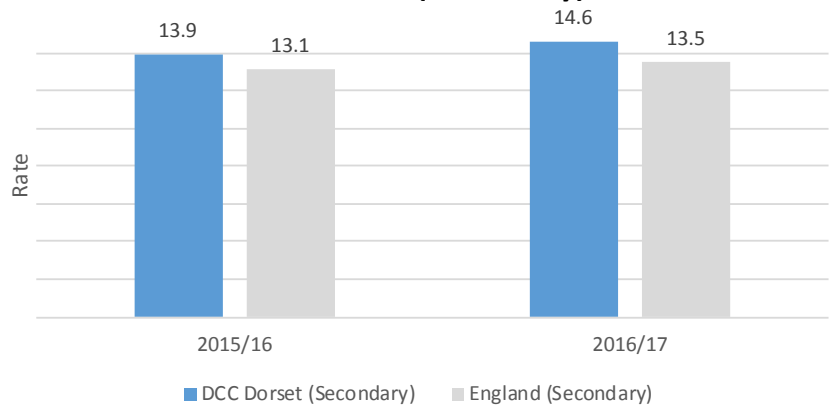


Benchmarking:

Secondary: above the England average

2017/18 data not yet available

Rate of children who are persistent absentees from school (secondary)



What are the indicators/performance measures telling us?

The persistent absence measures report on those pupils who miss more than 10% of their possible school sessions. Much of the work children miss when they are off school is never made up, leaving these pupils at a considerable disadvantage for the remainder of their school career. Children who are missing from school are more vulnerable to exploitation.

What has changed and why?

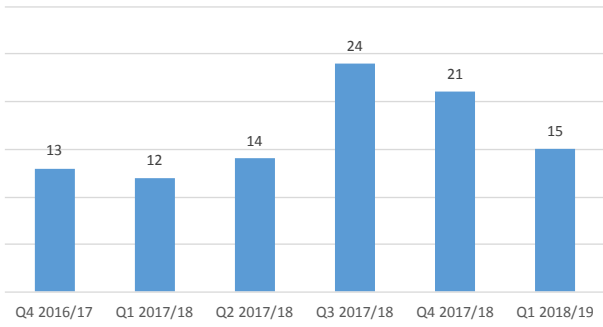
Primary figures are showing a reduction and remain below the national trend but the reverse is true for the secondary sector. Possible factors include an increase in mental health/anxiety issues and the use of study leave and pupils leaving school before the end of term.

What are the issues and how can we address them?

Responsibility for pupil absence primarily rests with the parent/carer, with schools responsible for monitoring and encouraging attendance where there are problems. The local authority will support this role through the offer of early help where appropriate and providing an enforcement role regarding parents/carers who fail to ensure that their children attend school regularly. We are currently recruiting two additional attendance officers (externally funded) to focus on secondary attendance of disadvantaged pupils in Weymouth and Portland as this is a priority area for improvement.

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

Families who have successfully completed support & seen attendance improve



Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
No associated current corporate risks		

SAFE S04: The number of adult safeguarding concerns)

Outcome Lead Officers Jonathan Carter and Sue Evans; Population Indicator Lead Officer Claire Summerhayes

Trend:

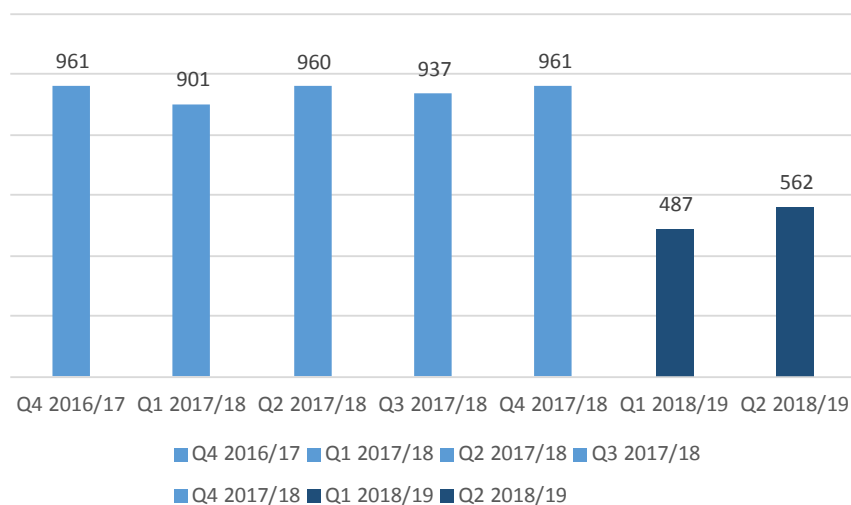


Benchmarking:

Total number of safeguarding concerns per 100,000 adults for 2017/18:

England – 902 concerns, Dorset – 1083 concerns. Unfortunately, there are not yet England figures for 2018/19.

Adult safeguarding concerns (Qly)



What has changed and why?

New for 2018-19: due to ongoing development of guidance and definitions with NHS Digital for National reporting there has been a change in the cohort we report for Adult Safeguarding concerns. We have applied this to our local information and are only including safeguarding concerns received that have been confirmed as Adult Safeguarding by the specialist safeguarding team on Mosaic, hence the lower number of safeguarding concerns being reported in the last two quarters. This will ensure a more accurate reporting of safeguarding concerns and conversion rate for enquiries. Previously we had included ALL safeguarding activity received by the specialist team to demonstrate demand.

Following the Pan Dorset multi Agency audit in April 2018 which reviewed the section 42 conversion rates across Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset, a number of actions have been taken to address the recommendations made in the report. A safeguarding adults improvement plan was created and identified necessary changes. This included the triage team being recently relocated to County Hall to ensure it is better aligned with the adult access team, MCA Team, Quality Improvement and Service user financial affairs. This has already made a significant difference in communication, providing a more cohesive response to safeguarding concerns received.

In addition to this a monthly case file audit programme has been implemented (Sept 2018) which focuses on ensuring consistent decision-making processes are in place and any areas for improvement are identified. The outcome of these audits is also reported to the Safeguarding Adults Board Quality Assurance sub group (SAB).

The current specialist model in Dorset is also being reviewed as part of the improvement plan.

Following the SAB meeting on the 12th December 2018 it was agreed that a full review of the Board will take place to ensure that it is effective and achieving its purpose. This follows the review recently completed by the Children's Boards and a similar methodology will be used to identify the most appropriate future model.

What are the indicators/performance measures telling us?

23% of the Safeguarding concerns received in Q2 led to a Section 42 or Non-Stat enquiry with 77% requiring no further action. Of those leading to a S42 enquiry this year, 85% have been concluded and outcomes continue to show that risks overall have been reduced. Feedback from Service Users shows that 76% felt safer because of the safeguarding intervention. Locally we still capture all contacts received into the safeguarding team and 40% of these were confirmed as not safeguarding and were managed by providing Information and Advice.

What are the issues and how can we address them?

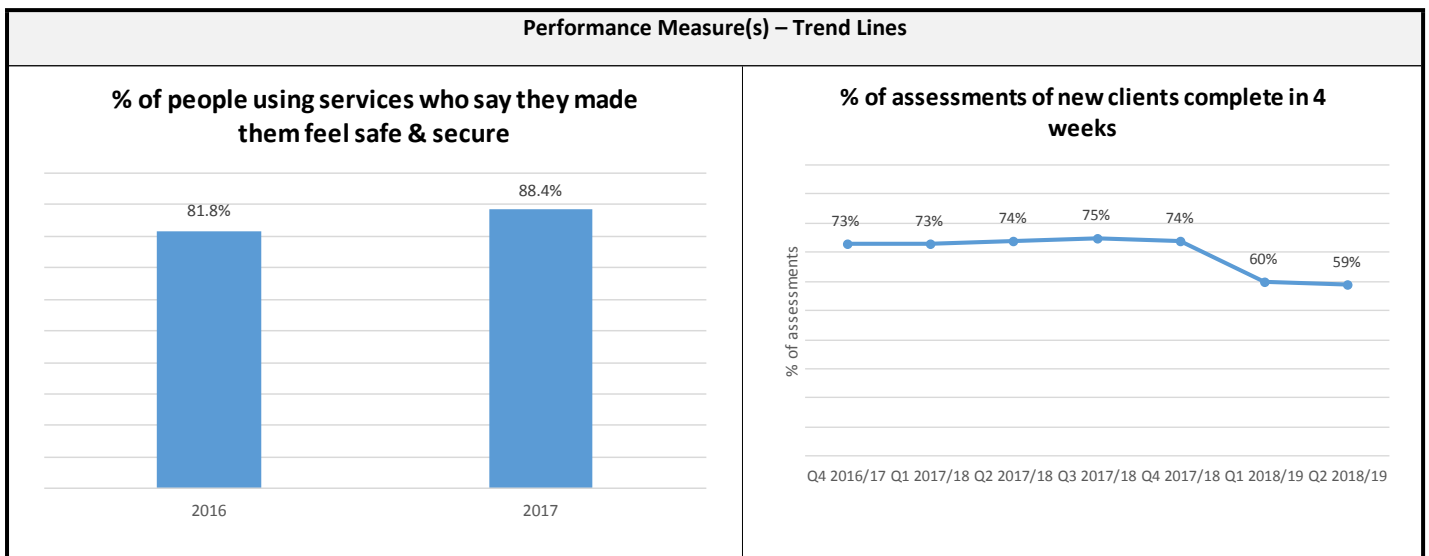
Developing and sustaining a safeguarding culture that focuses on positive personal outcomes for people with care and support needs who may have been abused is a key operational and strategic goal for Dorset County Council. With the journey to the new councils underway in Dorset, it is proposed to fully review the Adult Safeguarding Model, to ensure that safeguarding is in line with Dorset Council’s statutory duties and is fully embedded across Adult and Community Services. The outcomes from this will aim to improve practice and the experience of service users and their families:

- Ensure a safe transition of Safeguarding Adults responsibilities through Local Government Review.
- Ensure the best use of available resources.
- Support a shift to intensive and evidence driven priorities and delivery.
- To integrate and co-operate at an operational and strategic level where it adds value.
- Deliver a refreshed Safeguarding Adults Board with improved governance.

The conversion rate of Safeguarding concerns to S42 enquiries is being investigated at a National, Regional and Local level due to significant variances reported between Local Authorities. These findings will feed into the above review. A recent review of the Trading Standards Service in Dorset highlighted the County Council's responsibility under the Care Act to minimise the damaging effects of scams and rogue traders by supporting residents' independence.

The victims of scams and rip-off rogues include a very high proportion of the most vulnerable adults and can cost thousands of pounds; lead to loss of dignity and raise questions as to ongoing independence. Vulnerable residents who have spent vast sums on unnecessary repairs or other scams will be less resilient to deal with life's problems and where social care needs are confirmed they will have less saved to help themselves.

Two posts are being moved into the Special Projects Team from other teams to help focus, refine and improve outcomes on tackling rogue traders and their effects. Collaboration with the Police and regional trading standards colleagues will continue to be key. Engaging with victims of scams is one way we have been trying to limit damage to consumers, educating them and following up leads from the national scams team and this engagement is an important step in getting key preventative messages out in the community, while helping individual victims understand what has happened to them. Nationally there is work on a pilot outcomes framework because of a lack of comparable information in this sector and locally we are looking at how to implement performance measures that demonstrate the value of intervention and prevention by Trading Standards in helping people to feel safer.



Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
03e - Failure to meet primary statutory and legal care duties - Adult Safeguarding	MEDIUM	UNCHANGED
14c - Recruitment, development and retention of a suitably qualified workforce (internal and external) in key areas of the Adult & Community Services Directorate	MEDIUM	UNCHANGED

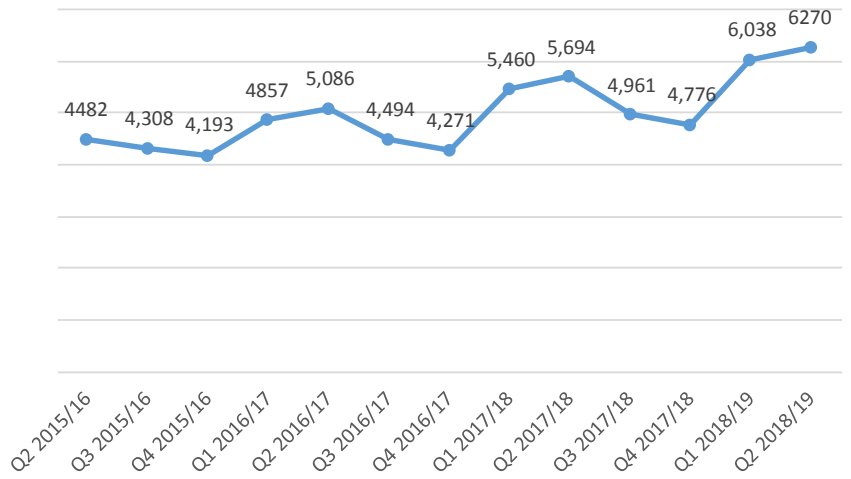
SAFE S05: Rates of crime, antisocial behaviour and domestic abuse in Dorset

Outcome Lead Officer Paul Leivers; Population Indicator Lead Officer Andy Frost

Trend:



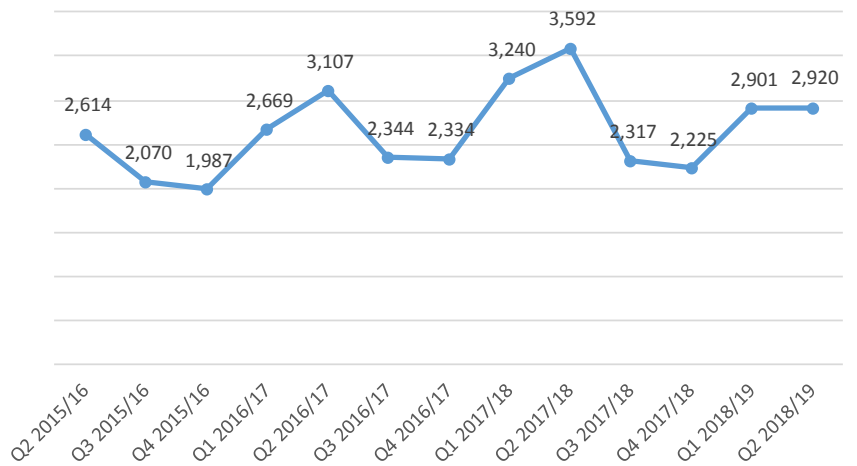
Dorset 3 year trend: total crime



Trend:



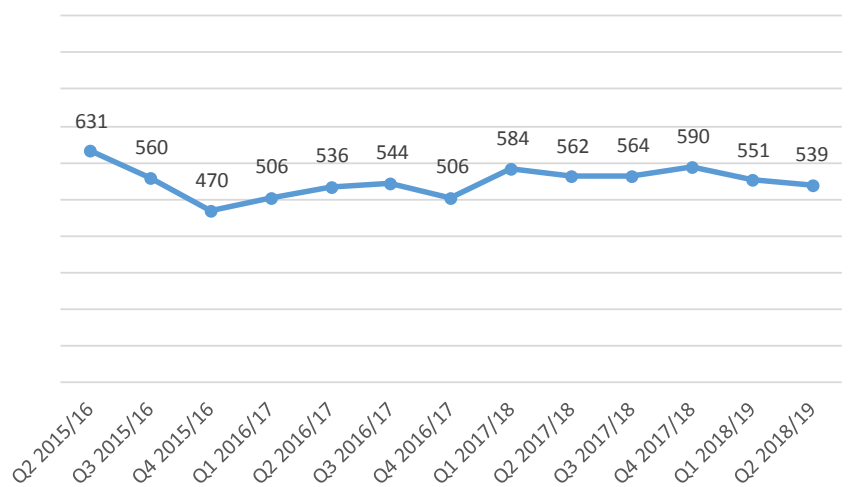
Dorset 3 year trend: total anti-social behaviour

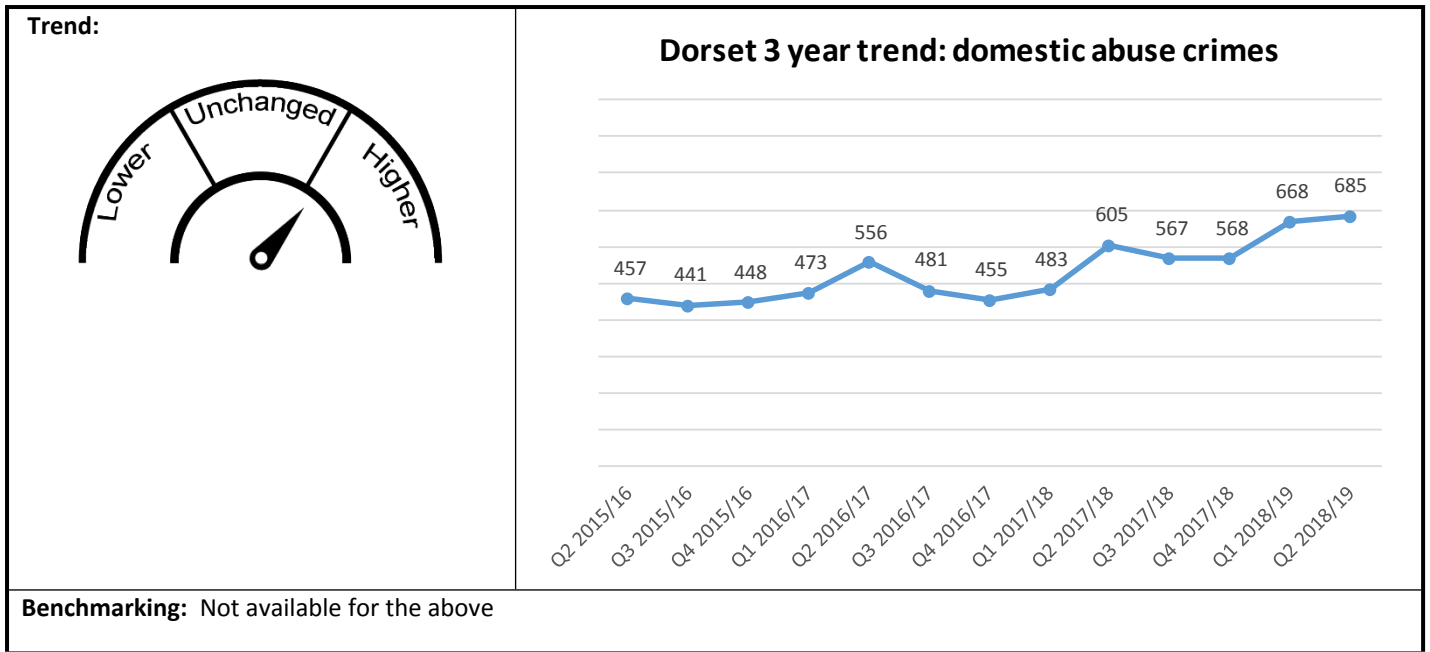


Trend:



Dorset 3 year trend: domestic abuse incidents





What are the indicators/performance measures telling us?
 Total crime in Dorset continues to rise, as it has done in the past few years.

Recorded Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) is considerably lower than last year and has shown a fairly stable overall trend in the past few years.

Domestic abuse incidents are lower than at the same time last year; the trend has been fairly static in the past few years.

Domestic abuse crimes continue to increase, which has been a trend for the past few years.

What has changed and why?
 Dorset Police cite improvements to recording practices and increased confidence to report incidents as the main reasons for the increases we are seeing.

What are the issues and how can we address them?
 Regular data reports continue to be provided to the multi-agency Dorset Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and the pan-Dorset Community Safety & Criminal Justice Board. These reports highlight trends across the crime types prioritised in the 2018/19 Partnership Strategic Assessment. Thus all partners are regularly informed of the latest trends and issue areas.

Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
No associated current corporate risk(s)		

SAFE S06: Number of people killed or seriously injured on Dorset roads

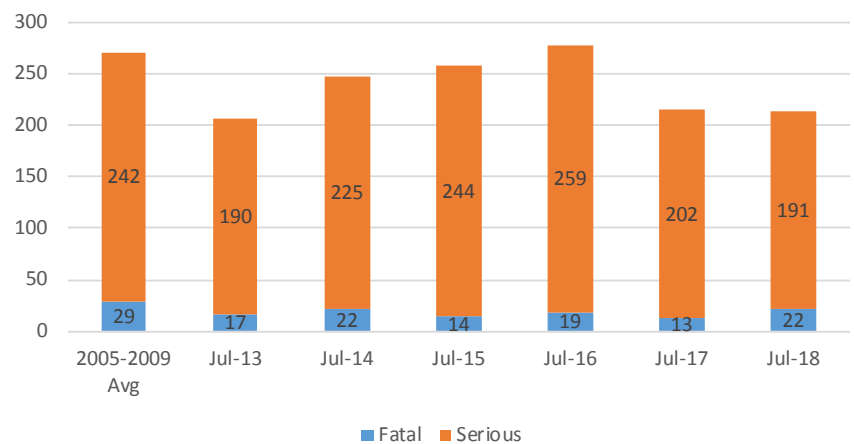
Outcome Lead Officer Mike Potter; Population Indicator Lead Officer Mike Potter

Trend:



Benchmarking: Not available

Killed or seriously injured on Dorset roads in one year period



What are the indicators/performance measures telling us?

- The number of people killed or seriously injured during the 12 months to July 2018 was 213 - 22 fatalities and 191 serious injuries. This compares to 13 fatalities and 202 serious injuries for the 12 months to July 2017.
- The most notable difference between the number of fatalities between the 12 months to July 2018 and to July 2017 is pedestrians; during the 12 months to July 2018 there were seven pedestrian fatalities, during the 12 months to July 2017 there was one.
- The trend for all casualties (KSI and slight injury) is an additional measure to help set context. There has been a relatively consistent downward trend in the total number of road traffic casualties in recent years. The 2005-09 baseline for all casualties is 1,830, the figure for the 12 months to July 2018 is 1,062, 42% fewer.
- Principal road condition has improved this year. This could be attributed to National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF) investment on sections of the A350 in poor condition, to improve safety and journey times, as well as trials of micro-planing and redressing failed sites.
- Non-Principal road condition maintained, with increased surface dressing programme providing good value treatment with increased network coverage.
- Improvement in recent months for defects repaired on time. This follows more in-depth analysis of the data and identifying specific areas for improvement. We should see some further improvements now, following catch-up from snow events earlier in the year, with month-by-month decreases in defects raised/repared, as well as average repair times dropping, and defects repaired on time improving.
- Improvement in inspections on time in recent months. There was an issue with the system, which has now been resolved. 91% of inspections were on time in September.
- No change in Skid Resistance data from last report.

What has changed and why?

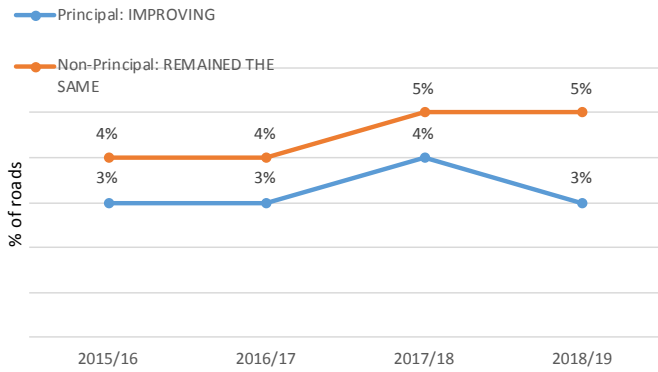
- A wide variety of factors influence the occurrence of road traffic collisions and casualties – many outside the direct control of the County Council so it is difficult to explain or pinpoint any particular reason for current casualty levels.
- The number of cyclists killed or seriously injured remains the only road user group to be consistently higher than the 2005-09 baseline. The trend in recent years is downwards from a peak in November 2015 and will continue to be monitored.
- Responsibility for improving road safety is shared with key partners including Dorset Police, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service and the South West Ambulance Service as well as individual road users.
- Collision data is regularly reviewed and analysed to identify locations or routes that we as the highway authority could influence a reduced likelihood of a road traffic casualty. The collision cluster and route programme for 2018-19 is being established with minor improvement works being investigated in the short term and consideration given into whether major improvements are required.

What are the issues and how can we address them?

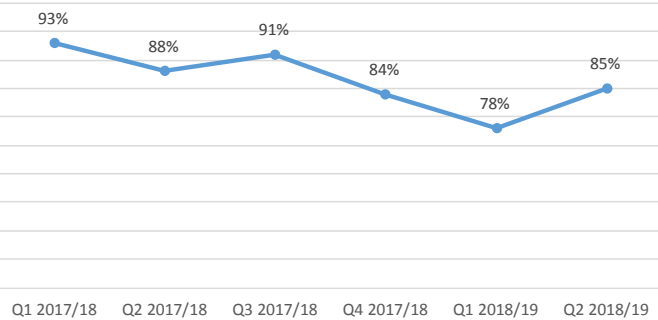
A focused review of cyclist casualties has been carried out by the Dorset Road Safe Partnership and has helped to inform a new 'road respect' style campaign which will be led by Dorset Police – the County Council has contributed to the development of this campaign and supported financially.

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

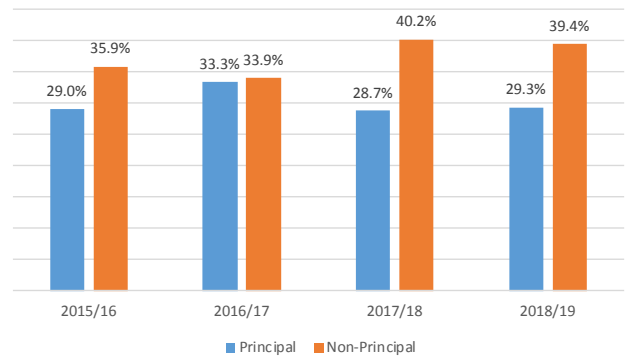
% of road condition in need of maintenance



% of inspections completed on time: SHORT TERM IMPROVEMENT (but declined since Q1 17/18)



% of roads with skidding resistance below level



Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
09b - Inability to maintain the highways infrastructure to an acceptable standard in the face of changing circumstances (e.g. budget reductions; climate change)	HIGH	UNCHANGED

Corporate Risks that feature within SAFE but are not assigned to a specific POPULATION INDICATOR (All risks are drawn from the <u>Corporate Risk Register</u>)		
04a – Health and Safety risks associated with occupation of premises	HIGH	IMPROVING
04l – Serious injury or death of staff, contractors and the public	MEDIUM	UNCHANGED
04o – Limited supervision results in an injury to a service user / Dorset Travel driver	MEDIUM	UNCHANGED
05b – Response to a major event that could impact on the community, the environment and or/ the council	MEDIUM	UNCHANGED
04b – Serious injury or death of a Children’s Services employee, including assault	LOW	UNCHANGED
04d – Injury or death of a service user, third party or employee	LOW	UNCHANGED
06d – Failure to fulfil our statutory ‘Prevent’ duty to combat radicalisation	LOW	IMPROVING

Key to risk assessments	
Corporate Risk(s)	
High level risk in the Corporate Risk Register and outside of the Council’s Risk Appetite	HIGH
Medium level risk in the Corporate Risk Register	MEDIUM
Low level risk in the Corporate Risk Register	LOW

CONTACT

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Tel 01305 225503

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Safeguarding Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Chairman: Pauline Batstone
Vice Chairman: Katharine Garcia

Specific issues previously discussed by the Panel for potential further review:

The Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee has now completed its work and other topics that had been identified for Review/Consideration are suggested below for notification to the Shadow Council.

For all items listed to the left members are asked to:

- **Complete the prioritisation methodology**
- **Identify lead Member(s) and lead Officer(s)**
- **Provide a brief rationale for the scrutiny review**
- **Indicate draft timescales**
- **Assign the item to a meeting in the work programme**

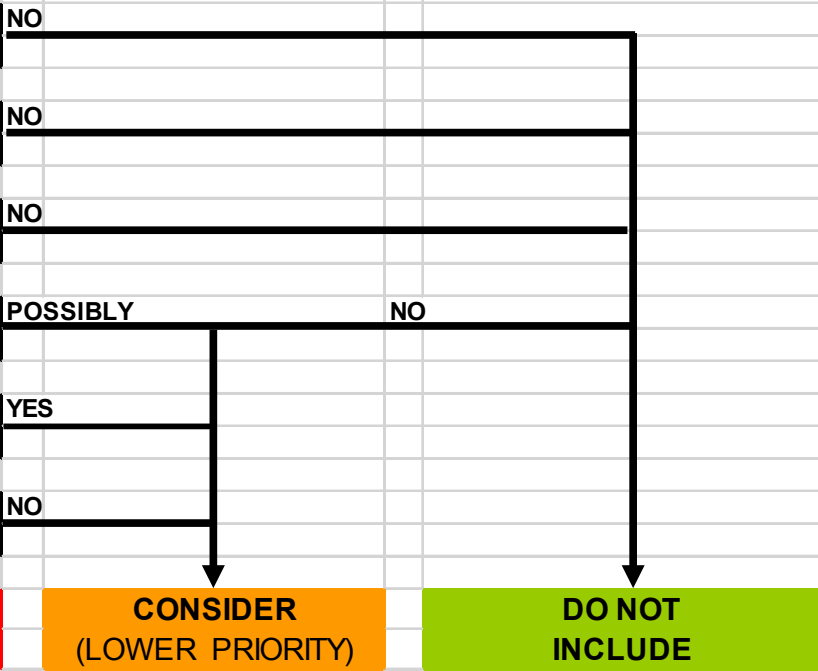
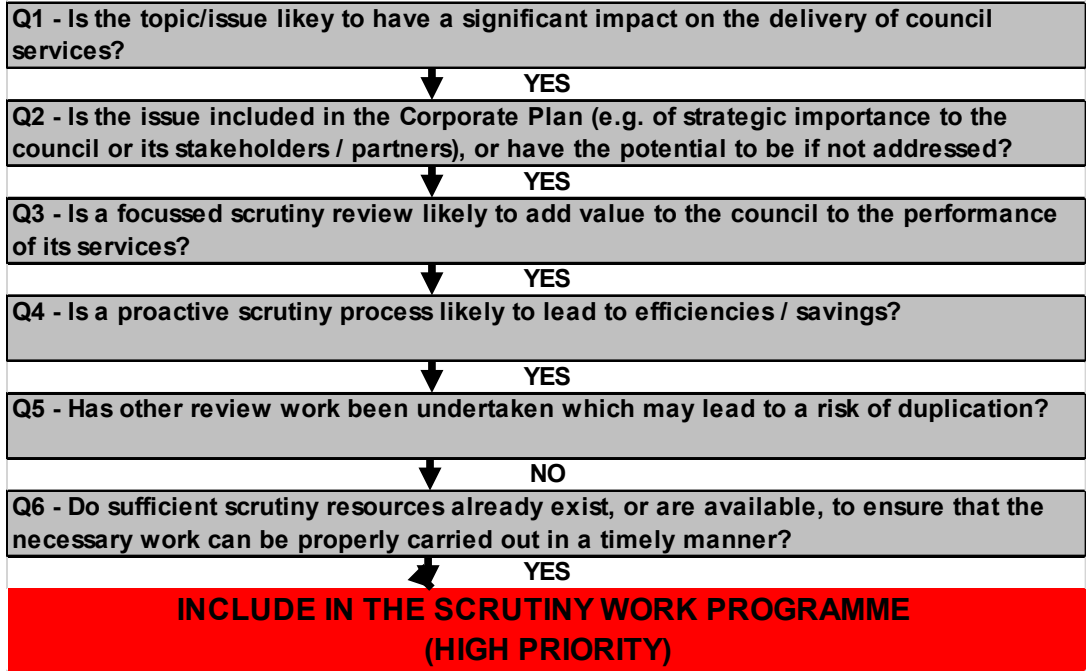
Topics Completed

- Looked after Children (080916)
- Personal Independence Payments (Motion to County Council 200717, update 050718)
- EHCPs (update 121017)
- Domestic Abuse (Inquiry Day 171017)
- Emergency Planning (update 300118)
- Road Traffic Collisions (update 300118)
- Early Intervention and Prevention (scoping report 05718, update 111018)
- Elective Home Education and Attendance (Scoping report 300118, summary report 050718)

The Shadow Executive and Shadow Overview and Scrutiny Committee have been informed of the work undertaken by the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee over the last 2 years. They have also been advised of topics that could benefit from further and ongoing consideration. It is recommended that the Shadow Council are notified of the following:-

- Personal Independent Payments (PIP)
- Universal Benefits
- Children Out of School (i.e. children missing education and school exclusions)
- Domestic Abuse
- Delayed Transfers of Care

Scrutiny Review Prioritisation Methodology:



All items that have been agreed for coverage by the Committee have been scheduled in the Forward Plan accordingly.

Date of Meeting	Item/Purpose	Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE)	Lead Member/Officer	Reference to Corporate Plan	Target End Date
14 January 2019 (10.00am)	Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report		David Bonner		
12 March 2019 (10.00am)	Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report		David Bonner		

Nick Jarman

Interim Director for Children's Services (Lead Officer for the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

Date: 14 January 2019