

People in Dorset are Safe

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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

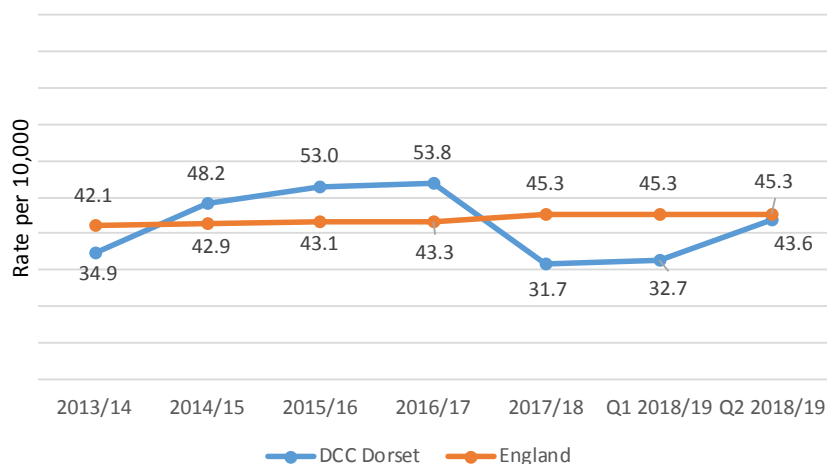
Outcome Lead Officer Claire Shiels; Population Indicator Lead Officer Claire Shiels

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?

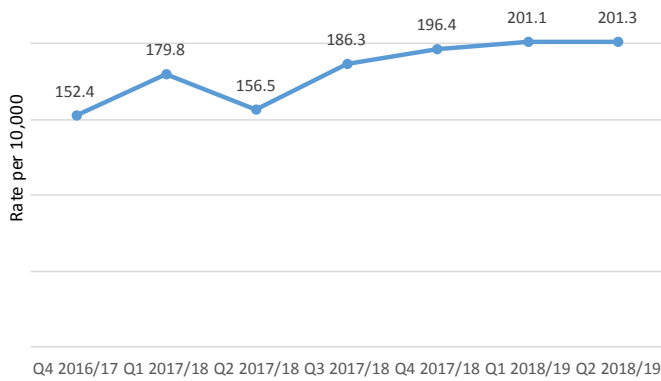
There was an increase in the rate over the quarter. This could be due to the significant drive to improve practice with audits highlighting where there has been drift and delay in some cases at children in need level. This has resulted in an increase in child protection enquiries and subsequent decisions 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?

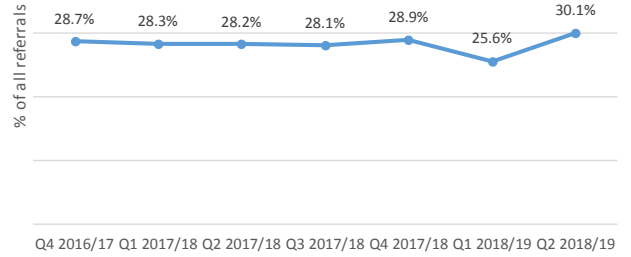
The numbers of children subject to a child protection plan are relatively small. It is important that children who require a robust safeguarding response are appropriately supported by a robust multi-agency plan. An independent review of the CP service was recently undertaken. This found that a CP plan 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

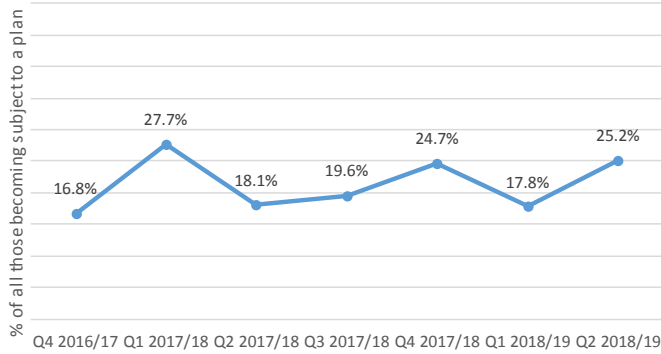


Re-referrals to children's social care within 12 months



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

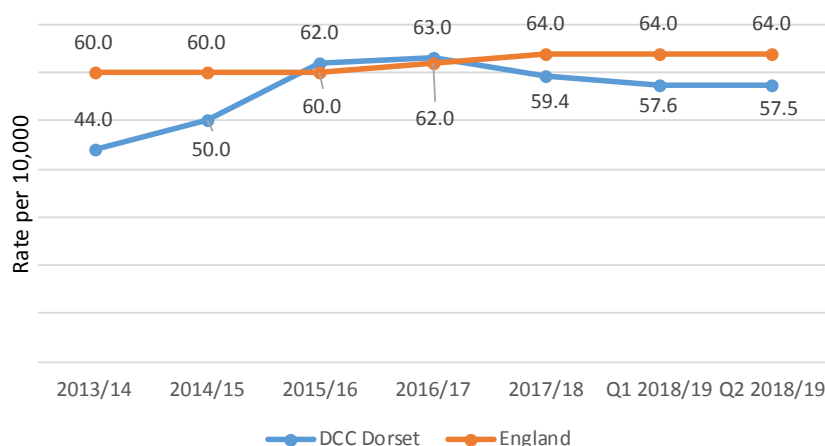
Outcome Lead Officer Claire Shiels; Population Indicator Lead Officer Claire Shiels

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?

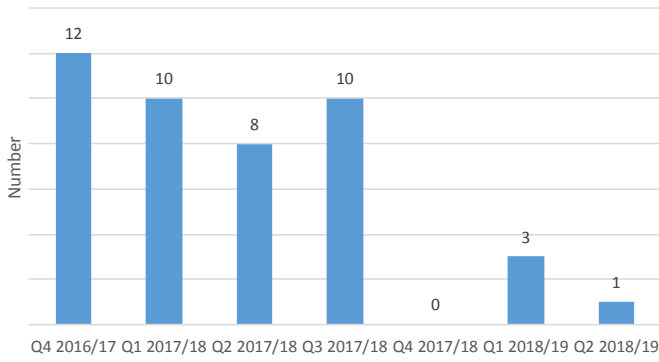
The continued focus by social workers and managers on seeking alternatives to entry to care and permanency planning is ensuring that the number of children in care remains stable. The number of care proceedings issued has remained consistent and there has been a further reduction in the number of children 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?

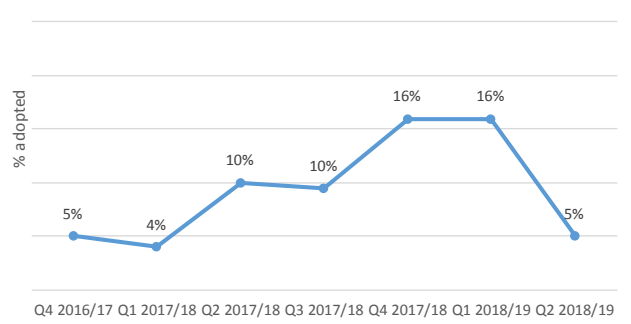
Our annual plan for ensuring that there are sufficient placements available for children in care locally is currently being updated. This focuses on making sure we have enough in-house foster carers and a range of placements available locally. We have joined two regional framework agreements to increase 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

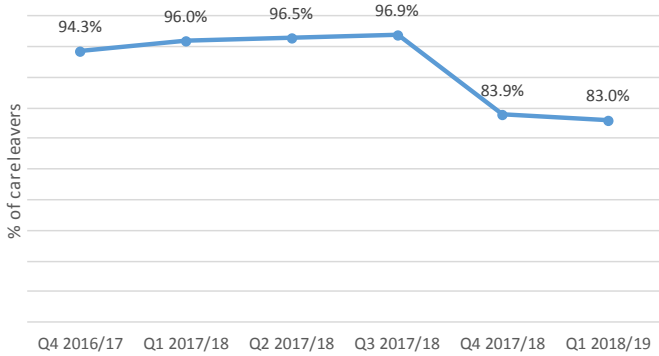


% looked after children adopted in year



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:

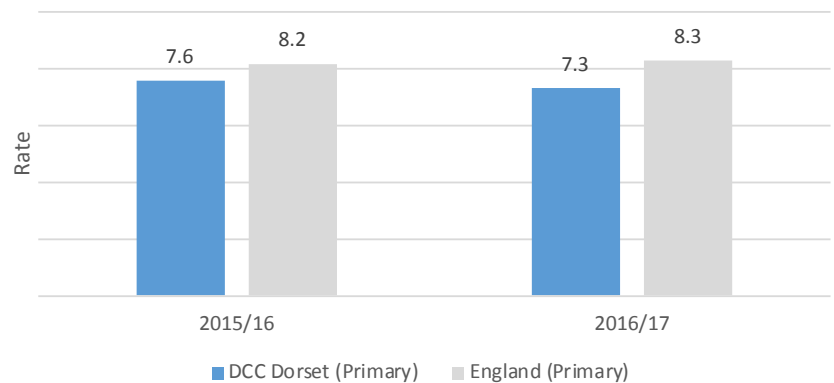


Benchmarking:

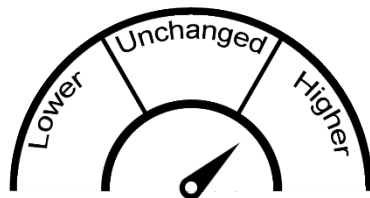
Primary: below the England average

2017/18 data not yet available

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



Trend:

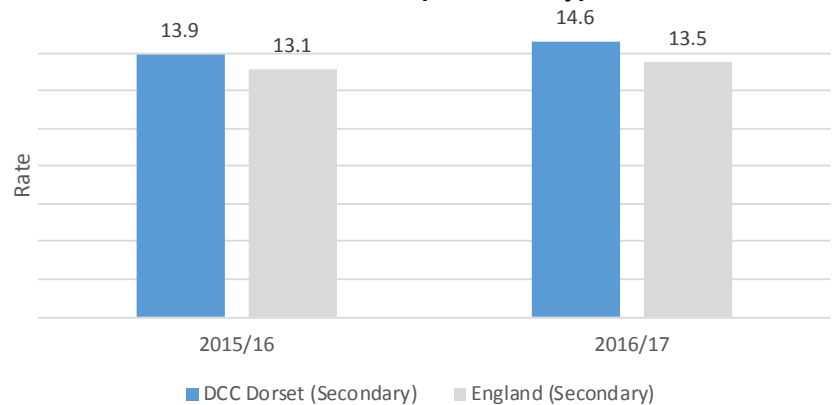


Benchmarking:

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?

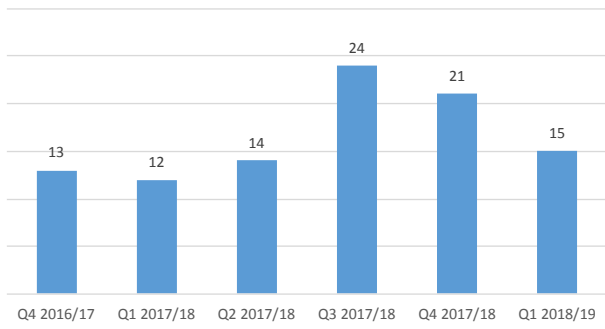
Primary figures are showing a reduction and remain below the national trend but the reverse is true for the secondary sector. Possible factors include an increase in mental health/anxiety issues and the use of study leave and pupils leaving school before the end of term.

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:

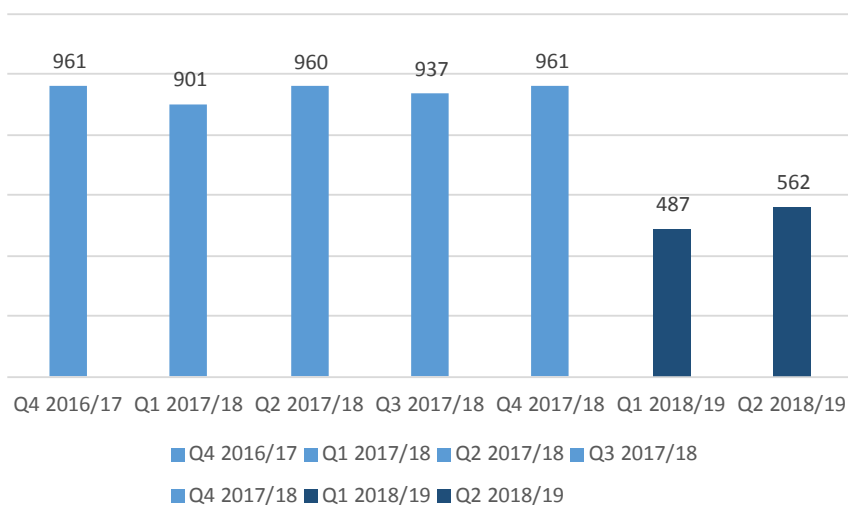


Benchmarking:

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?

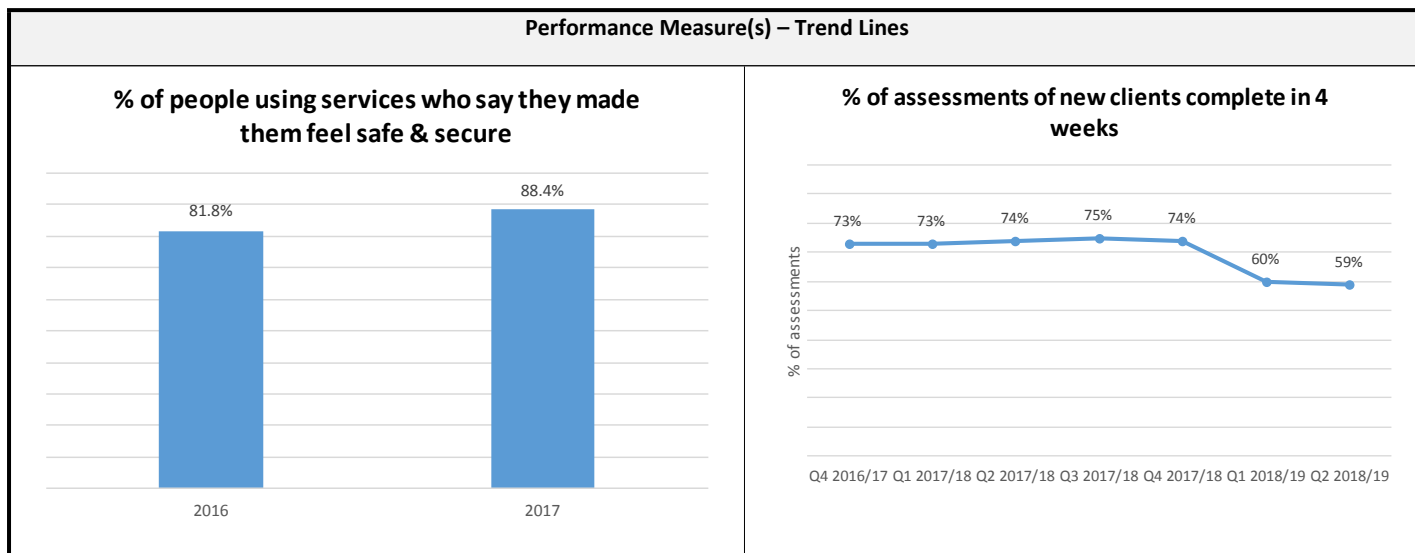
Developing and sustaining a safeguarding culture that focuses on positive personal outcomes for people with care and support needs who may have been abused is a key operational and strategic goal for Dorset County Council. With the journey to the new councils underway in Dorset, it is proposed to fully 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

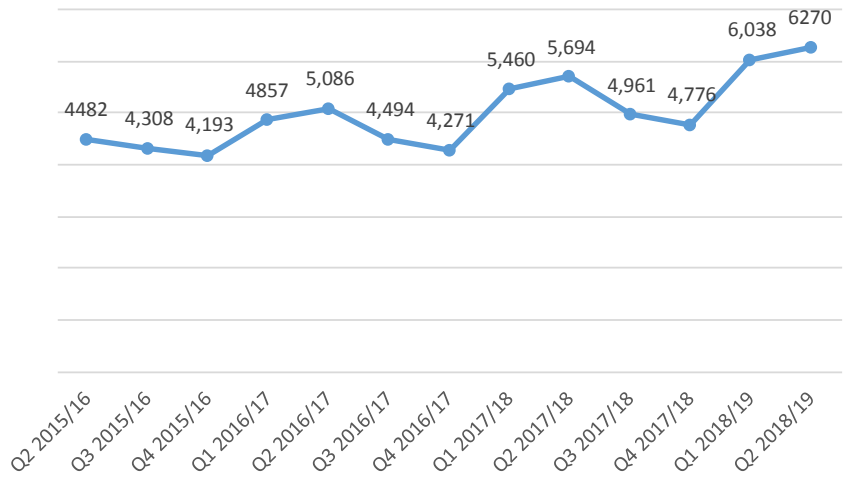
SAFE S05: Rates of crime, antisocial behaviour and domestic abuse in Dorset

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

Trend:



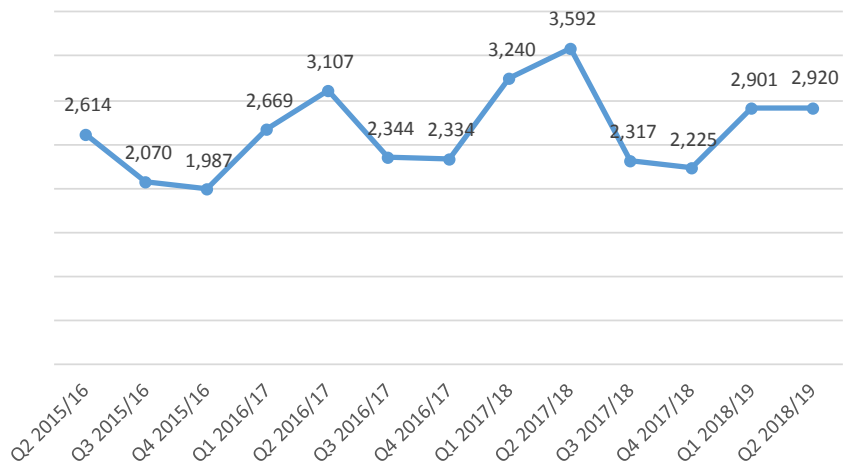
Dorset 3 year trend: total crime



Trend:



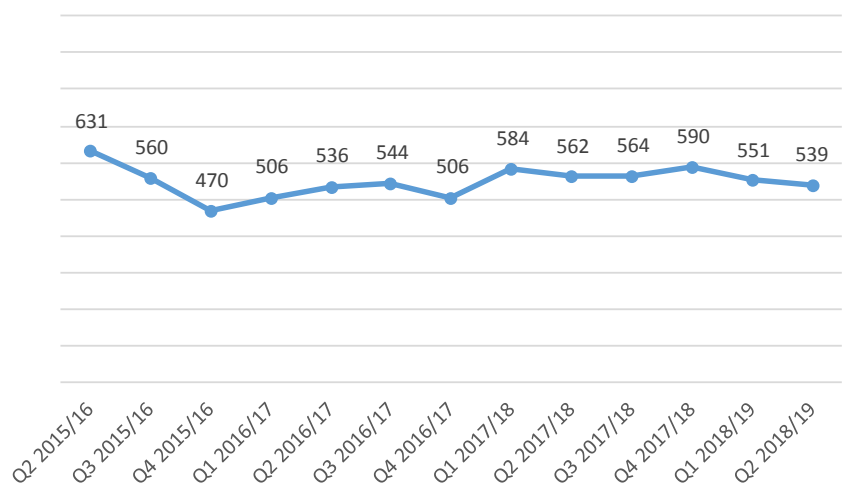
Dorset 3 year trend: total anti-social behaviour

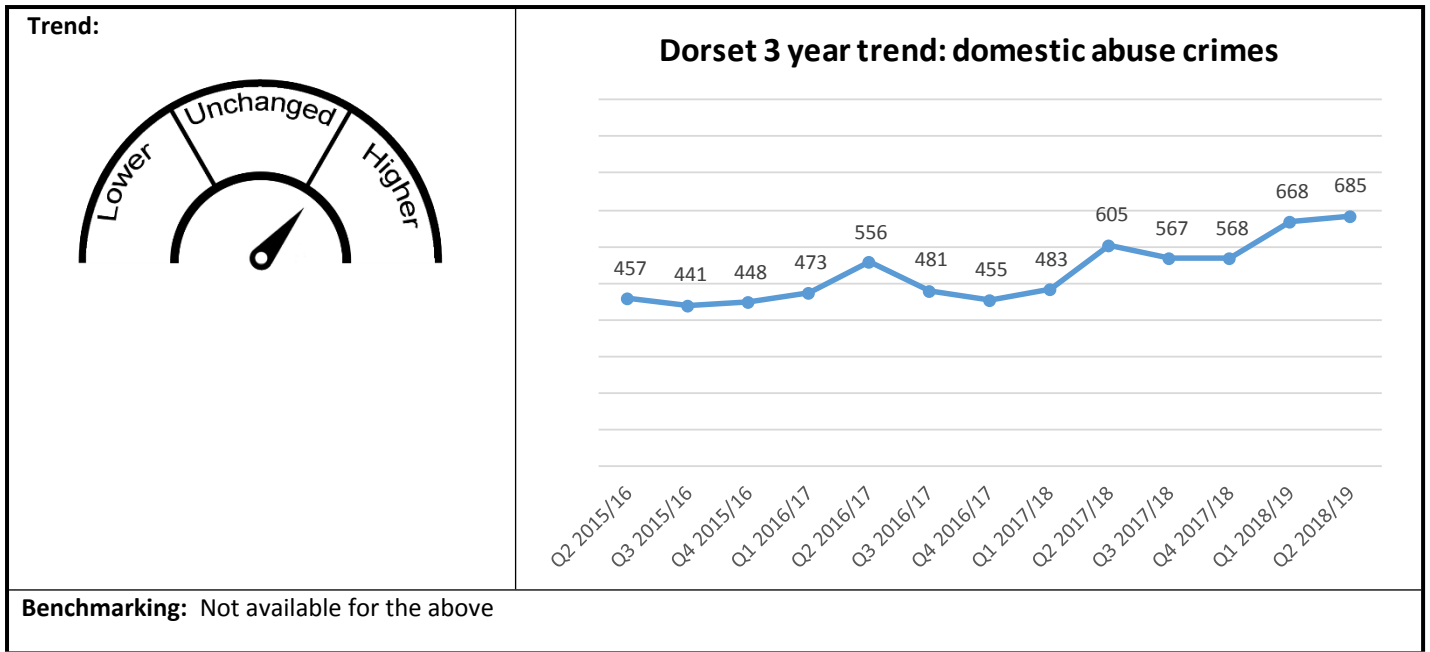


Trend:



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

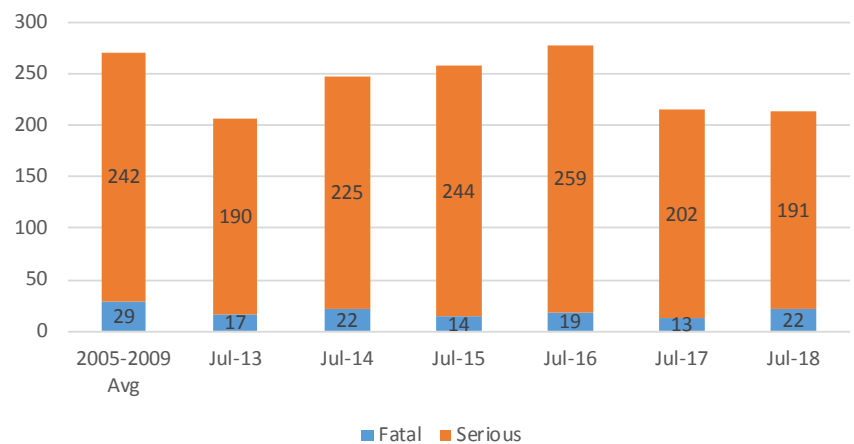
Outcome Lead Officer Mike Potter; Population Indicator Lead Officer Mike Potter

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?

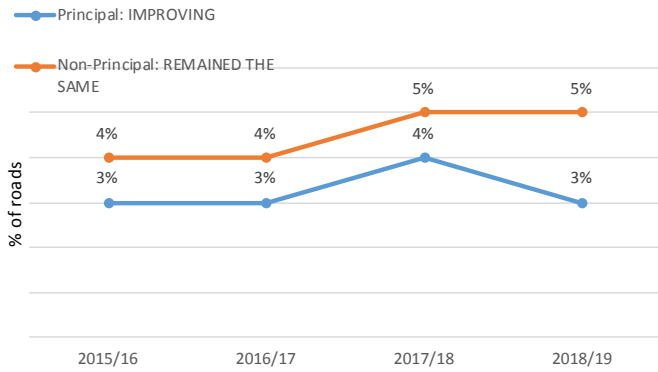
- A wide variety of factors influence the occurrence of road traffic collisions and casualties – many outside the direct control of the County Council so it is difficult to explain or pinpoint any particular reason for current casualty levels.
- The number of cyclists killed or seriously injured remains 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?

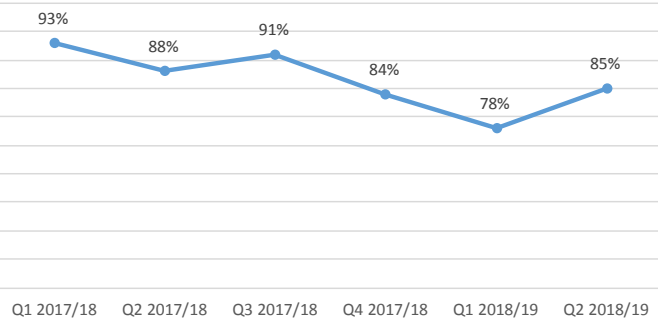
A focused review of cyclist casualties has been carried out by the Dorset Road Safe Partnership and has helped to inform a new 'road respect' style campaign which will be led by Dorset Police – the County Council has contributed to the development of this campaign and supported financially.

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

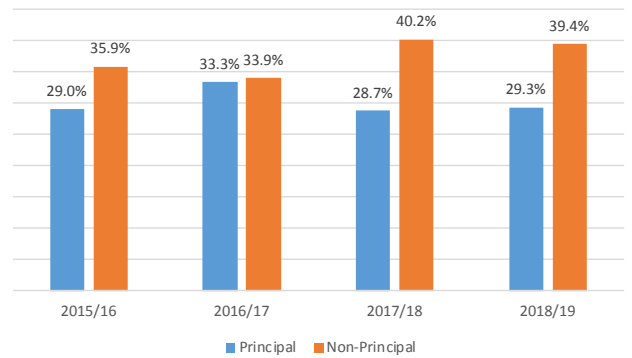
% of road condition in need of maintenance



% 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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