

<b>Report to:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding)	<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Tuesday 26 September 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Children's Social Care Overview of Practice		
<b>Report of:</b>	Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education	<b>Wards Affected:</b>	(All Wards);
<b>Portfolio:</b>	Children's Social Care		
<b>Is this a Key Decision:</b>	No	<b>Included in Forward Plan:</b>	No
<b>Exempt / Confidential Report:</b>	No		

**Summary:**

This Overview Practice report contains performance management and quality assurance information in respect of Children's Social Care.

**Recommendation(s):**

Members of the Committee are asked to

1. Consider and note the information provided
2. Request the Executive Director of Social Care and Education to submit a further report to the next meeting of the Committee

**Reasons for the Recommendation(s):**

To support members of the Committee to fulfil the functions of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee as they relate to Children's Services and Safeguarding.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:** (including any Risk Implications)

NA

**What will it cost and how will it be financed?**

**(A) Revenue Costs**

There are no direct revenue implications with this report.

**(B) Capital Costs**

There are no direct capital implications with this report.

**Implications of the Proposals:**

<b>Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):</b>	
<b>Legal Implications:</b>	
<b>Equality Implications:</b>	
There are no equality implications associated with this report.	
<b>Impact on Children and Young People: Yes</b>	
This report provides an overview of system health for safeguarding children.	
<b>Climate Emergency Implications:</b>	
The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	No
Have a neutral impact	Yes
Have a negative impact	No
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Yes
There are no climate emergency implications as a direct result of this report.	

**Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:**

Protect the most vulnerable: The Improvement Programme and management oversight seek to deliver change across Children's Services whose activity protects and supports those children and young people who have complex care needs.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Children's Services work with partners to support families in need of support and improve resilience.
Commission, broker and provide core services: Children's Services commission and provide services to support children and their families.
Place – leadership and influencer: The Council will take a lead role in work with partners to deliver change in Children's Services.
Drivers of change and reform: The Council will work with partners to deliver change in Children's Services.
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: NA
Greater income for social investment: NA
Cleaner Greener NA

## **What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?**

### **(A) Internal Consultations**

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD.7365/23.....) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.5565/23....) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

### **(B) External Consultations**

The Executive Director Children's Service and Education and his leadership team engage with partners across Sefton with regard to the Improvement Programme and case auditing. The voice of children, young people and their families will be integral to delivering change and audit work.

### **Implementation Date for the Decision**

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Joe Banham
Telephone Number:	Tel:
Email Address:	<a href="mailto:jjoe.banham@sefton.gov.uk">jjoe.banham@sefton.gov.uk</a>

### **Appendices:**

The following appendices are attached to this report:

Appendix A Dashboard

Appendix B Children's Services Analysis Tool (CHAT)

### **Background Papers:**

There are no background papers available for inspection.

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 This Overview Practice report contains performance management and quality assurance information in respect of Children's Social Care.
- 1.2 The data sets presented are those felt to provide as concise a view as possible of 'System Health' and were selected in consultation with the Improvement Board Chair. They have been divided into subsets which speak to Demand, Timeliness, Effectiveness, Management and Outcomes.
- 1.2 The data is continually being developed in terms of how officers feel it supports understanding and also what level of data is available to use.
- 1.4 Data sets are presented with a direction of travel, and where possible a regional comparator, these are drawn in the main from the CHAT report (Appendix B). It is important to bear in mind that regional data in this report often lags some months behind the Council's sets so comparisons need to be regarded in that context.
- 1.5 Direction of travel for each data set is indicated as well as any commentary or actions in place. The data presented is often as a rolling 12 month figure, this is in line with the CHAT presentation and enables a clearer understanding of direction of travel. What this does mean is that significant changes recorded over a month or two (for example as in assessment timeliness) have a less significant impact on the 12 month figure.
- 1.6 Running alongside the performance information is detail and analysis of recent QA activity. This includes an overview of what was reviewed, what the outcomes were and any specifics around findings, plus any improvement actions this has informed.
- 1.7 Due to the report cycle it may be that up to date information in respect of those cases which have been moderated is provided verbally at the Overview and Scrutiny meeting.