

EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 17 th September, 2015
Report Subject	Quarter 1 Improvement Plan Monitoring Report
Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management
Report Author	Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Improvement Plan 2015/16 was adopted by the Council in June 2015. This report presents the monitoring of progress for the first quarter of 2015/16 focusing on the areas of under performance relevant to the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

This report is an exception based report and therefore detail focuses on the areas of under-performance.

RECOMMENDATION

1	That the Committee consider the 2015/16 Quarter 1 Improvement Plan Monitoring Report, highlight concerns and feedback details of any challenge to the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee which is responsible for the overview and monitoring of performance.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE IMPROVEMENT PLAN MONITORING REPORTS
1.01	The Improvement Plan monitoring report gives an explanation of the progress being made towards the delivery of the impacts set out in the 2015/16 Improvement Plan. The narrative is supported by performance indicators and/or milestones which evidence achievement. In addition, there is an assessment of the strategic risks and the level to which they are controlled.
1.02	The detailed sub-priority reports, shown at Appendix 1, are in a new format, which has been generated from the new performance management solution, CAMMS.
1.03	<p>CAMMS has been purchased to provide benefits which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • efficiencies by reducing duplication and data entry; • a single version of the truth; • improved visibility and accountability for performance and programme / project management objectives; including an audit trail; and • dynamic, exception based reporting with dashboards and standard reports.
1.04	During the process of setting the Improvement Plan into CAMMS, some changes were required/requested by officers. A log of all changes made can be found at Appendix 2.
1.05	<p>Analysis of performance against the Improvement Plan measures is undertaken using the RAG (Red, Amber and Green) status. This is defined as follows:-</p> <p><u>Performance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED – equates to a position of under-performance against target. • AMBER – equates to a mid-position where improvement may have been made but performance has missed the target. • GREEN – equates to a position of positive performance against target. <p><u>Outcome</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED – equates to a forecast position of under-performance against target at year end. • AMBER – equates to a forecast mid-position where improvement may have been made but performance will miss target at year end. • GREEN – equates to a forecast position of positive performance against target at year end.
1.06	The high level (RED) risk area identified for the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee, is as follows:-

1.06.1	<p>Priority: Skills and Learning (Apprenticeships and Training) <i>PI: The percentage of young people above school age in the youth justice system that are offered 25 hours education, training or employment (ETE) - Target 40% - Actual 33%</i></p> <p>This cohort comprises those children or young people (CYP) whose statutory order ended in the quarter. Lack of progress has been shaped by a number of factors: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small cohort size; improvements in most cases can be offset where a single case lacks progress. • The characteristics of the cohort; all cases evidence significant patterns of disengagement and disruption with ETE settings over many years, including exclusions in some cases. It can take time to achieve improvements in conduct/attitude. • Availability of offers; current decommissioning of some arrangements whilst others are being developed (due to commence September 2015). <p>In addition to the new arrangements, improved Youth Justice Service (YJS) recording and referral activities should also mitigate against sustained low performance. The YJS Management Board is monitoring progress in this target area.</p> <p>For young people in the secure estate, improved partnership with Werrington Youth Offenders Institute (YOI) and the implementation of protected education packages will support identification and sustainability of offers.</p>
1.06.2	<p>Priority: Skills & Learning (Modernised and High Performing Education) <i>Risk: Limited funding to address the backlog of known repair and maintenance works in Education and Youth assets will be further reduced to meet new pressures on the Education and Youth Budgets</i></p> <p>School Modernisation remains a key tool in enabling the Authority to invest appropriately in its school portfolio. This will involve a reduction in schools within the Council's portfolio (therefore reducing the backlog) and a reduction of unfilled places.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There are no specific financial implications for this report; however the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan is aligned to resource the priorities of the Improvement Plan.
3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	The Chief Officer Team and the Performance Leads from across the Authority have contributed to help shape the new approach to reporting.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Progress against the risks identified in the Improvement Plan have been reported on for quarter 1 and the detail is included in the report at Appendix 1.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Quarter 1 Improvement Plan Progress Report.
5.02	Appendix 2 – Log of changes to the Improvement Plan 2015/16.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p><u>Improvement Plan 2015/16</u></p> <p>http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Council-and-Democracy/Improvement-Plan.aspx</p> <p>Contact Officer: Ceri Shotton Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 702350</p> <p>Email: ceri.shotton@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Improvement Plan – the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Improvement Objectives and publish an Improvement Plan.
7.02	CAMMS – is an integrated planning, risk management and programme/project management and reporting software. It was purchased in April 2015 and work to commence implementation began in Mat; focusing initially on the Council’s Improvement Plan and the Portfolio of Social Services. The link below provides further information about CAMMS. http://cammsgroup.com/
7.03	Werrington Youth Offenders Institute (YOI): based in Staffordshire, this institute provides specialist custodial places for young people aged 15 - 18.
7.04	School Modernisation: the process by which the Local Authority ensures there are a sufficient number of high quality school places, of the right type in the right locations.