

Scrutiny Children & Young People Sub-Committee Agenda



To: Councillors Councillor Richard Chatterjee (Chair), Councillor Maddie Henson (Vice-Chair), Mike Bonello, Mark Johnson, Holly Ramsey, Helen Redfern, Manju Shahul-Hameed and Catherine Wilson

Co-optee Members

Josephine Copeland (Non-voting Teacher representative), Elaine Jones (Voting Diocesan Representative (Catholic Diocese)) and Paul O'Donnell (Voting Parent Governor Representative)

Reserve Members: Tamar Barrett, Adele Benson, Samir Dwesar, Amy Foster, Eunice O'Dame, Luke Shortland and Fatima Zaman

A meeting of the **Scrutiny Children & Young People Sub-Committee** which you are hereby summoned to attend, will be held on **Tuesday, 27 June 2023 at 6.30 pm. The Council Chamber, Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon CR0 1NX**

Katherine Kerswell
Chief Executive
London Borough of Croydon
Bernard Weatherill House
8 Mint Walk, Croydon CR0 1EA

Tom Downs
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www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings
Monday, 19 June 2023

Members of the public are welcome to view the webcast both live and after the meeting has completed at <http://webcasting.croydon.gov.uk>

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If you require any assistance, please contact Tom Downs as detailed above.

AGENDA – PART A

1. Apologies for absence

To receive any apologies for absence from any members of the Committee.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 14)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2023 as an accurate record.

3. Disclosures of Interest

Members are invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other registrable and non-registrable interests they may have in relation to any item(s) of business on today's agenda.

4. Urgent Business (if any)

To receive notice of any business not on the agenda which in the opinion of the Chair, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.

5. Update on the Health Visiting Service (Pages 15 - 32)

For the Sub-Committee to receive an update on the Health Visiting Service, and to reflect on a recent meeting between Members and frontline Health Visitors.

6. Cabinet Report - Maintained Nursery Schools Report (Pages 33 - 34)

For the Sub-Committee to receive and comment on the upcoming June Cabinet Report outlining the current position in relation to Maintained Nursery Schools and options for the future provision of this in Croydon.
(To Follow)

7. Early Help, Children's Social Care and Education Dashboard (Pages 35 - 38)

To receive the Early Help, Children's Social Care and Education Dashboard.

8. Draft Work Programme 2023/24 (Pages 39 - 44)

The Sub-Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the draft work programme for 2023-24, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

- b) Consider whether there are any changes to the work programme that should be considered.

9. What Difference has this Meeting made to Croydon's Children

This item is an opportunity for the Children & Young People Sub-Committee, at the conclusion of the meeting, to review the difference made to Croydon's children from the meeting.

10. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The following motion is to be moved and seconded where it is proposed to exclude the press and public from the remainder of a meeting:

“That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within those paragraphs indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.”

PART B

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 2

Scrutiny Children & Young People Sub-Committee

Meeting of held on Tuesday, 18 April 2023 at 6.30 pm in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon CR0 1NX

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Councillor Richard Chatterjee (Chair), Councillor Maddie Henson (Vice-Chair), Sue Bennett, Gayle Gander, Eunice O'Dame, Helen Redfern, Manju Shahul-Hameed and Catherine Wilson

Co-optee Members

Josephine Copeland (Non-voting Teacher representative) and Paul O'Donnell (Voting Parent Governor Representative)

Also

Present: Councillor Maria Gatland (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People)

Apologies: Elaine Jones (Voting Diocesan Representative (Catholic Diocese))

PART A

20/23 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Elaine Jones (Voting Diocesan Representative (Catholic Diocese)).

21/23 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 28 February 2023 were approved as an accurate record.

22/23 Disclosures of Interest

There were no declarations made at the meeting.

23/23 Urgent Business (if any)

There was none.

24/23 Exclusions Update

The Sub-Committee considered a paper set out on pages 17 to 26 of the agenda, which provided an update on Exclusions and Suspensions in Croydon. This item was deferred from the last meeting on the 28 February 2023. The Director of Education introduced the item and went through the presentation slides.

Members asked whether officers attended Exclusion Panels for academy schools, and heard from the Head of Access to Education that parents were provided the contact details of the Council Exclusions Lead in the statutory exclusions letter, and could invite them should they wish; academies were not obligated to inform the Council of the details of Exclusion Panels. The Director of Education explained that the Council has a statutory duty to provide education to excluded students and so would be aware of these pupils, if they have not been informed, after the Panel had taken place, or earlier in some cases. The Sub-Committee asked if academies had their own Pupil Referral Units and heard that this was not the case.

The Sub-Committee asked about challenge where patterns of disproportionality with exclusions were identified, and what training opportunities were provided to Head Teachers. The Head of Access to Education explained that there were training opportunities available, but these were at the discretion of Head Teacher to attend. Representatives from every school in Croydon had attended a training session on 'Adultification' in the 2021/22 academic year; this had been followed by other ongoing training sessions for which the Council held attendance logs. Academies held their own training and reported these sessions to the Council. The Head of Access to Education explained that the Council did undertake Section 11 statutory audits of safeguarding which included scrutiny of the training schools were providing. Members asked if training had been effective in reducing disproportionality for black children and the Head of Access to Education explained that it was effective on an individual basis and that strong challenge was being made on the basis of race, which would be reflected in this year's exclusions figure. The Head of Access to Education acknowledged that systemic change would take a much longer time to embed.

Members asked about the independent review of exclusions decisions and the Director of Education explained that every permanent exclusion went through an independent review panel that was usually convened by the school's governing body. The Sub-Committee asked about Croydon's adoption of a 'Public Health' approach to crime, and whether there was a correlation between exclusions and youth crime. The Director of Education explained that there was a known link that had been identified through the Vulnerable Adolescents Review. Members heard that sometimes young people 'self-exclude' by taking a decision not to attend school and that this could impact on their outcomes. Members heard that Saffron Valley Collegiate, the Council's Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), have been involved in the AP 'taskforce' project and that pupils within the PRU were receiving support that extended beyond their education and incorporated a 'trauma informed' approach.

The Vice-Chair asked about scenarios where exclusions would or would not be challenged by the Council. The Head of Access to Education explained that there was always an initial challenge and conversation with a Head Teacher from the Exclusions Lead, followed by scrutiny of the exclusions paperwork. Members heard that the Council would investigate whether there had been a lack of effort or intervention with the child prior to the exclusion,

and if there was any evidence of discrimination or unfair treatment. The only circumstances where the Council would not challenge is when the paperwork and evidence for the Exclusion were 'watertight', but this was extremely rare. The Vice-Chair asked how confident officers were that the advice and support being provided to parents by schools was good and relevant. The Director of Education responded that the Council worked closely with Head Teachers, and that they were confident that Head Teachers had a strong understanding of the exclusions process and their statutory responsibilities.

The Sub-Committee asked about the target number for exclusions in the borough, acknowledging that exclusions could be a positive journey for some students and the right decision for a school to have made. The Director of Education explained that early intervention was always preferred, but those being identified as being at risk of permanent exclusion were discussed and alternative pathways were always considered to ensure interventions were taking place as early as possible. Members heard ideally no students would be excluded, but it was recognised that this was a power that sat with Head Teachers to be used where appropriate for the students, schools and staff. The Director of Education explained that regularly reviewing exclusions data was important to identify disproportionality in the way students were being excluded in schools. Members asked if it was ever possible for exclusions to be reversed because incorrect processes had been followed, and heard that this was the case but that many conversations were had leading up to an exclusion, including at the Fair Access Panel. The Sub-Committee asked about more in depth breakdowns of exclusions data and heard that this was contained in the Education Standards report received annually by the Sub-Committee. The Head of Access to Education explained that three primary school students had been permanently excluded in the current academic year, and 27 secondary school students.

Members asked about disproportionality with regards to children with Special Educational Needs (SEN), and whether there was best practice in regards to reducing disproportionality for Black Caribbean students. The Director of Education explained that children with Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) were not excluded from schools, and that any concerns were picked up in the annual review process. Members heard the reducing disproportionality for Black Caribbean students was a priority and that work with Head Teachers was ongoing, but that the Local Authorities' power here was limited. The Education Partnership would have representatives from all schools and would set priorities across Croydon; the Director of Education would be suggesting that inclusion and the reduction of disproportionality be a priority for the Partnership. The Head of Access to Education explained that where serious concerns around disproportionality were identified, the Council could intervene under safeguarding legislation; this had happened a few times in the last year and had resulted in visits from the Director for Education and members of the Exclusions Team to conduct in depth reviews of the school's practices.

The Sub-Committee asked if the Council had any Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) around reducing disproportionality in exclusions, and heard that this

was the case and that reductions were being seen. The Corporate Director of Children, Young People & Education explained that the Council could influence schools through the Partnership and other work, and was able to have a positive impact in this way given the large number of academy schools in Croydon; however, it was acknowledged that there was always more that could be done. The Cabinet Member for Children & Young People commented on the positive step being taken in establishing the Education Partnership, which would work to achieve shared priorities for all schools in Croydon.

The Vice-Chair asked about the increase in primary exclusions and the Head of Access to Education explained that there two trends that had been acknowledged. The first was increased numbers of children in nursery with complex needs, SEN and EHCP applications; this was impacting on the ability of schools to meet the needs of some very young children coming into schools. The second was children who had missed significant amounts of nursery and reception schooling during the pandemic. Long wait times for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and the complex diagnosis pathway for Autism and ADHD was also acknowledged as a contributing factor. The Director for Education explained that Croydon Locality SEND support was providing funding into primary and secondary schools to support early interventions for students; this would be rolled out to Early Years settings in the near future to pick up on the needs of children at an earlier stage.

The Sub-Committee asked about the statutory requirement to capture internal exclusions and whether the Council would hold this data; the Director of Education explained that schools would report this to their governing bodies. Members heard that the Schools White and Green papers had been focussed on attendance and that conversations would take place through the Education Partnership to decide exactly what data is required. The Director of Education commented that it was important to consider capacity in regards to this data, as it was not just about information capture, but about the resultant action and follow up that would be needed.

Members asked if there was data on how successful 'managed moves' were and whether there were ever multiple managed moves for the same child. The Director of Education explained that multiple managed moves had been stopped, as if it had not been successful initially it was unlikely to be successful a second time; instead, additional support was provided to these children. It was acknowledged that managed moves could take place outside of the Fair Access process, which the Council would not be aware of. The Director of Education explained that it was difficult to put a figure on the number of successful managed moves as not all of this data was collected, and it was likely easier to find data on where a move had not been successful as these children may come back into the Fair Access process. In response to questions, the Director of Education explained that where a managed move broke down, this could lead to a permanent exclusion; it was explained that successful 'managed moves' required a strong level of understanding and support, and that processes were always under review. The Director of

Education stated that they would discuss with the Head of Access to Education a way to provide some data from the Fair Access Panel to the Sub-Committee in an appropriate format.

Members commented on the need for school governors to be trained and aware of best practice to ensure they were best able to scrutinise the decisions of Head Teachers. The Director of Education agreed and explained that the Council did provide training to governing bodies and that the best training did include examples of best practice. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to have experienced chairs of governing bodies talk at these training events and that this would be something considered in the future.

The Chair asked about the availability of soft data on exclusions for the current academic year. The Director of Education explained that they needed to be careful on this to ensure children were not identifiable and that incorrect data was not provided. The Vice-Chair asked about the impact in the change in name from 'fixed term exclusions' to 'suspensions', and heard that this had been limited but was still seriously considered in the context of inclusion. The Director of Education explained there was an expectation that schools kept good data on this and that the Council and Ofsted monitored suspensions. Members and the Director of Education highlighted that all cases needed to be considered on the basis of the individual children concerned.

Conclusions

The Sub-Committee concluded that training on exclusions for governors to support head teachers in making different decisions was vital in reducing the number of exclusions and disproportionality amongst the children affected.

The Sub-Committee concluded that a future work programme item should be added to talk to Head Teachers at schools that were examples of best practice in their exclusions processes.

25/23 Elective Home Education

The Sub-Committee considered a paper set out on pages 27 to 50 of the agenda, which provided a briefing on Elective Home Education (EHE) in Croydon, including the data showing the number of Children and Young people receiving EHE. The Head of Access to Education introduced the item and summarised the report.

Members asked whether the Council provided any open days for EHE pupils and heard from the Director of Education that this was not the case due to the small size of the EHE team and the different circumstances of families that were better addressed through individual conversations. The Head of Access to Education added that the Local Authority had to remain neutral in regards to EHE, and could not make a judgement on any family's decision to take that route. Members heard that historically the EHE team had provided a number

of resources to EHE families, and that additional online resources were planned for the future with expansion of the team.

The Sub-Committee asked what the Council could do to address children who fell significantly behind in EHE. The Director for Education explained it was expected that any child with a special need was in a school that could meet their needs, but where families had chosen to EHE, they would be responsible for meeting these needs without resources from the Council. The Corporate Director for Children, Young People & Education explained that there was very little power for the Council to intervene over issues that could not be in the child's best educational interest, but that forthcoming legislation may change this. The Sub-Committee heard the Council was supportive of this legislation changing. The Sub-Committee asked how many SEN children were being home educated and heard that currently there were seven in Croydon with an EHCP, but some parents may be in the process of applying for EHCP, or have less substantial needs. The Head of Access to Education explained that families were responsible for delivering the EHCP should they chose to EHE.

The Sub-Committee asked if the Council knew how many 'not known' EHE students were in Croydon, and whether there were any processes to try to identify these children. The Director for Education explained that families did not have to register with the Council to notify of EHE, but the Council would know if the child had previously been on a school roll. The Vice-Chair asked how an EHCP process would be conducted for a child receiving an EHE. The Director of Education explained that a parent or GP could submit an application for an EHCP assessment. Members asked about the increase in parents not providing a reason for EHE and heard that this was not known but that possibly this was because it was the first year that this option had been included as a 'tick box' on the notification form.

The Sub-Committee asked about the most common obstacles facing children in receipt of EHE. The Head of Access to Education explained that many families delivering EHE did so very successfully. Challenges were referred on to the 'Children Missing Education' team, and referrals for EHE were only accepted when the family wanted to EHE; if this were found not to be the case, then the school would be challenged and this could lead to a referral to Children's Social Care. Members asked if the Council tried to intervene with students and families who taken the EHE route as a result of bullying. The Head of Access to Education explained that this was the case and that there would be an immediate conversation with the school. It was likely that these cases would not sit under the EHE team for very long and would be passed on to the 'Children Missing Education' team to work with the family alongside inclusion officers where a number of options could be considered, including a move to a different school.

The Sub-Committee enquired as to if there was any curriculum that EHE students needed to follow. The Head of Access to Education explained that any EHE curriculum needed to be 'suitable' and 'efficient', both of which were very low legal tests. Members heard it was not appropriate for the Local

Authority to intervene in EHE curriculum at all, unless it was presenting a safeguarding concern, but that many children receiving EHE had a wide and varied curriculum that could include group sessions with other EHE children. Members asked if EHE officers ever talked directly to children and the Head of Access to Education explained that this did happen, but that it was always at the discretion of the parents. Children were regularly involved in reviews for the registered families administering EHE. In response to questions about whether whole families opted to EHE, or if it could just be one child with their siblings in mainstream schools, the Sub-Committee heard that it was a whole range.

Members asked about the philosophical and ideological reasons for families choosing to EHE, and heard from the Head of Access to Education that this may be due to cultural, religious or anti-establishment beliefs (e.g. unschooling or de-schooling). The Sub-Committee asked if there was any common social or economic factors amongst families choosing EHE, and heard that again this was a whole range, but that demographic data was not collected in line with current legislation.

The Vice-Chair asked if there were any indicators that children were likely to go from mainstream schooling into EHE, and whether any data on this was collected. The Director of Education explained that there was going to be a greater national focus on attendance in the future, but that low attendance did not necessarily indicate students would be moving to EHE. Members commented on anecdotal evidence that attendance could often increase before students moved to EHE in an attempt to get as much out of schools as possible before children stopped attending.

The Sub-Committee highlighted families who had wanted to move to EHE who were involved with Children's Social Care or were on child protection plans. Members noted that the report stated that this had been challenged robustly and asked how it was ensure that these children were still attending school. The Director of Education explained that the Council would monitor attendance for these children in conjunction with Social Care; a social worker would be assigned to each of these families. Members asked if pupils who received EHE disproportionality went on to become 'Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEETs)'; the Head of Access to Education explained that this was difficult to benchmark for a number of reasons.

Conclusions

The Sub-Committee concluded that they should continue to monitor any upcoming legislative changes for Local Authority powers on Elective Home Education.

26/23 Experience of Care Leavers

The Sub-Committee considered a paper set out in the supplementary agenda, which outlined the position of Care Experienced young people in Croydon as

assessed by Officers in the Annual Self-Assessment and Improvement plans and a recent review and recommendations by Mark Riddell, the National Implementation Adviser for Care Leavers, at the Department for Education (DfE). The Head of Looked After Children and Care Leavers introduced the item and summarised the report. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People explained that this report was a very early response to the recent review and recommendations by Mark Riddell, and that a full report would be coming forward through Cabinet and the Corporate Parenting Panel.

Members asked about the housing offers available to Care Leavers, and whether there was effective support from the Council Housing department. The Corporate Director for Children, Young People & Education explained that significant work with Housing colleagues was already underway, but the scale of the challenge in this area was not being underestimated. A full Cabinet paper would be forthcoming on the housing responsibilities to Care Experienced Young People that would be a collaboration between the Housing department, Deputy Mayor, Children, Young People and Education department and Cabinet Member for Children & Young People. The Corporate Director for Children, Young People & Education agreed with the Sub-Committee that a 'whole Council' approach was needed in addition to good partnership working.

The Sub-Committee asked if all departments were aware of their Corporate Parenting responsibilities. The Head of Looked After Children and Care Leavers explained that he felt departments were as a whole, but often individuals were not and there needed to be additional training and available information to further embed this approach and knowledge to make sure every officer was aware of their responsibilities.

The Chair asked what housing support and options were offered to Care Leavers. The Head of Looked After Children and Care Leavers responded that a large number of Care Leavers had 'stay put' arrangements where they were able to stay with their foster carers. Some young people did not want to do this and wished to live independently, but housing waiting lists for those who wished to move on could be long, and often other alternatives had to be sought in the private rental market, rent guarantee schemes or supported living where appropriate. The Head of Looked After Children and Care Leavers stated there was an aspiration for more supported housing to be available. Members heard that there were a number of wraparound services that were available and work had begun on developing these further to provide some additional support. The Head of Looked After Children and Care Leavers explained that Housing colleagues were on-board with further developing housing pathways for Care Leavers.

The Sub-Committee asked what the main obstacles were to providing a good service for Care Leavers. The Head of Looked After Children and Care Leavers explained that this question had been considered in a recent restructure of the service; the housing expectations of young people could often be challenging, as well as finances, a lack of expertise for welfare benefit advice and support for young parents. Members heard that improving

interdepartmental working with Housing and Public Health would be important in meeting these challenges.

Members asked about 'Supported Lodgings' and heard that this scheme was being investigated with commissioning colleagues, alongside looking at individuals who had previously applied to be foster carers. The Cabinet Member for Children & Young People explained that there was a large transformation project on fostering planned that would look at this in part.

The Sub-Committee asked about KPIs and monitoring of the service. The Head of Looked After Children and Care Leavers explained that a number of KPIs were received by and monitored by the Corporate Parenting Panel who would also be receiving the full action plan once completed; in addition to this, the department also had a number of internal KPIs. The Cabinet Member for Children & Young People highlighted the work happening on the Corporate Parenting Strategy that it was hoped would be launched in September 2023. The Corporate Director for Children, Young People & Education explained that this report was an introduction and overview to the next phase of a significant improvement plan; it was recognised that this work would involve the whole of the Council and its partners.

Conclusions

The Sub-Committee recognised that this was an early report on what would be a wider and larger piece of work to transform services for Care Leavers and concluded that the Sub-Committee would continue to monitor it closely.

The Sub-Committee welcomed the ongoing work to expand the reach of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

The Sub-Committee concluded that the voice of Care Leavers should be prominent in the transformation work happening and welcomed the plans for the inclusion of a Care Experienced Young Person in the role of Co-Chair on the Corporate Parenting Panel.

27/23 Early Help, Children's Social Care and Education Dashboard

The Sub-Committee considered a report set out on pages 51 to 54 of the agenda, which provided the Early Help, Children's Social Care and Education Dashboard.

Members asked about 'Progress 8', and heard from the Director of Education that the figure in the report was an average across schools and that the Council was focussed on improving outcomes for Key Stages 4 and 5. One of the main remits for the Education Partnership would be around working collectively to improve outcomes for children in attainment and progress. The Director of Education explained that recent Ofsted inspections had been very positive, but a balance needed to be struck between making sure children made progress and making sure outcomes were comparable to Croydon's

neighbours. The Director of Education commented that this needed to be a collective priority that was shared between schools.

The Chair commented on the Sub-Committee's desire to include some KPIs on Care Experienced Young People in future versions of the dashboard.

28/23 Cabinet Response to Scrutiny Recommendations

The Sub-Committee noted the report.

29/23 Work Programme 2022/23

The Sub-Committee noted the report.

The meeting ended at 8.56 pm

Signed:

Date:

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LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

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| REPORT: | Children & Young People Sub-Committee |
| DATE | 27 June 2023 |
| REPORT TITLE: | Update on the Health Visiting Service |
| LEAD OFFICERS: | <p>Chris Terrahe - Deputy Director of Nursing Croydon Health Services NHS Trust</p> <p>Andrea Cuff - Associate Director of Operations and Croydon Health Services</p> <p>Matthew Kershaw - Chief Executive of CHS and Place Based Lead for Health</p> <p>Rachel Flowers – Director of Public Health</p> |
| PERSON LEADING AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING: | Chris Terrahe - Deputy Director of Nursing Croydon Health Services NHS Trust |
| LEAD MEMBER: | Councillor Maria Gatland Cabinet Member for Children and Young People |
| ORIGIN OF ITEM: | This item was included on the Children & Young People Sub-Committee Scrutiny Sub-Committee Work Programme for 2023/24. |
| BRIEF FOR THE COMMITTEE: | The Children & Young People Sub-Committee Scrutiny Sub-Committee is asked to receive the presentation provided at Appendix 1, and to note the update provided from Croydon Health Services on Health Visiting. |
| PUBLIC/EXEMPT: | Public |

1 HEALTH VISITING SERVICE

- 1.1. The Sub-Committee received an update on Health Visiting at its meeting on 1st November 2022. Members concluded that commissioning data on Health Visiting should be shared with Members on a regular basis, and that an update on Health Visiting would be a six-monthly item on the Sub-Committee’s Work Programme. Health Visiting is scheduled as an item for the Sub-Committee on the 19th March 2024.

- 1.2. The Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the 22/23 Children & Young People Sub-Committee met with frontline Health Visitors on 13 June 2023 to discuss their insights into the challenges of delivering these services. These discussions will be used to inform the questions at the Sub-Committee, and notes from the meeting will be circulated before the 27th June 2023.
- 1.3. The Children & Young People Sub-Committee Scrutiny Sub-Committee is asked to receive the presentation attached at Appendix 1.

2 APPENDICES

- 2.1 Appendix 1 – Health Visiting Service Update Slides

3 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 3.1 None

Public Health Nursing

Service context and Mandated checks

27th June 2023



Excellence in care for all

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Working Together, continuing the conversation

- Following our visit in November in 2022, we continue to recognise and appreciate the value of the conversation and joint working across the system in relation to improving the provision Health Visiting services for the people of Croydon.
- The Local and National context continues to remain challenging for all parties involved.
- There is good joint working and relationships with Public Health, Local Authority and the Commissioners
- We are keen to continue the conversation and open relationship with members of the scrutiny committee following both our visit in November, conversations with the Chairs and the engagement meeting on the 13th June



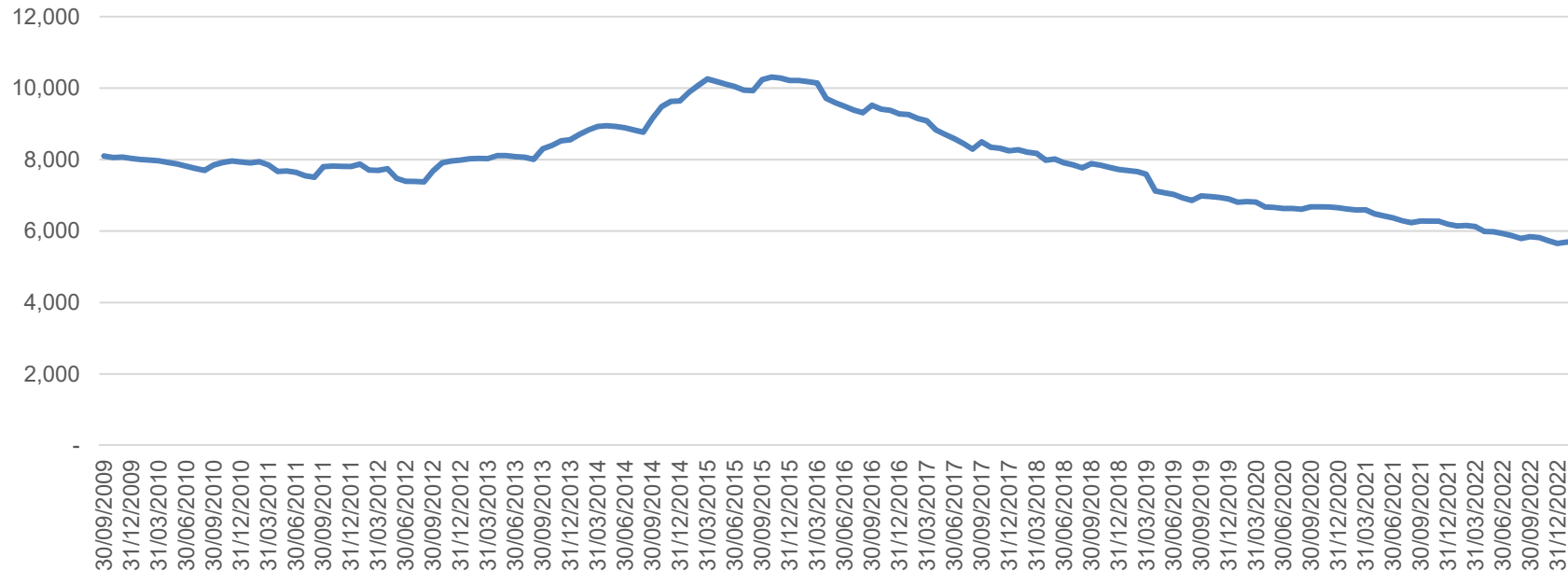
National Context of Health Visiting Services



Croydon Health Services
NHS Trust

The Indicative Health Visitor Collection (IHVC) was set up to support the government’s commitment to increase the number of Health Visitors by 4,200 FTE to 12,292 FTE by March 2015, from a baseline of 8,092 FTE in 2010. There has been a 37% decrease in Health Visitor numbers nationally since 2015 with only 5690 FTE Health Visitors in post in February 2023

National Health Visitor Numbers



- 9% of Health Visitors in England reported that they have the recommended ratio of 250 children aged 0-5, or less, per full time equivalent health visitor.
- More than 1 in 4 health visitors in England report that they are accountable for over 750 children
(Institute of Health Visiting 2021)
- The National position has worsened since our last visit in November 2023 by 37WTE

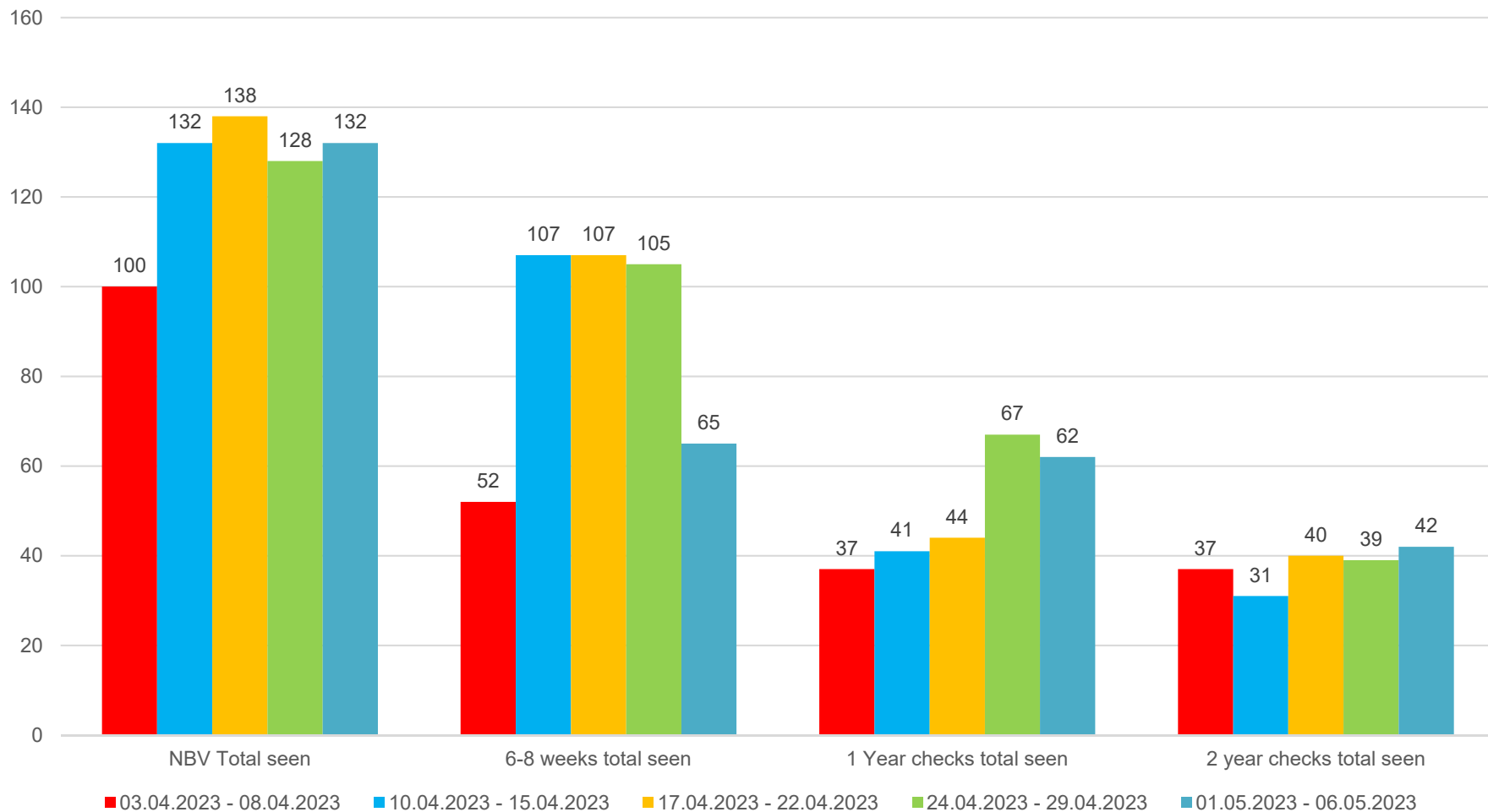
Local Context of Health Visiting Services



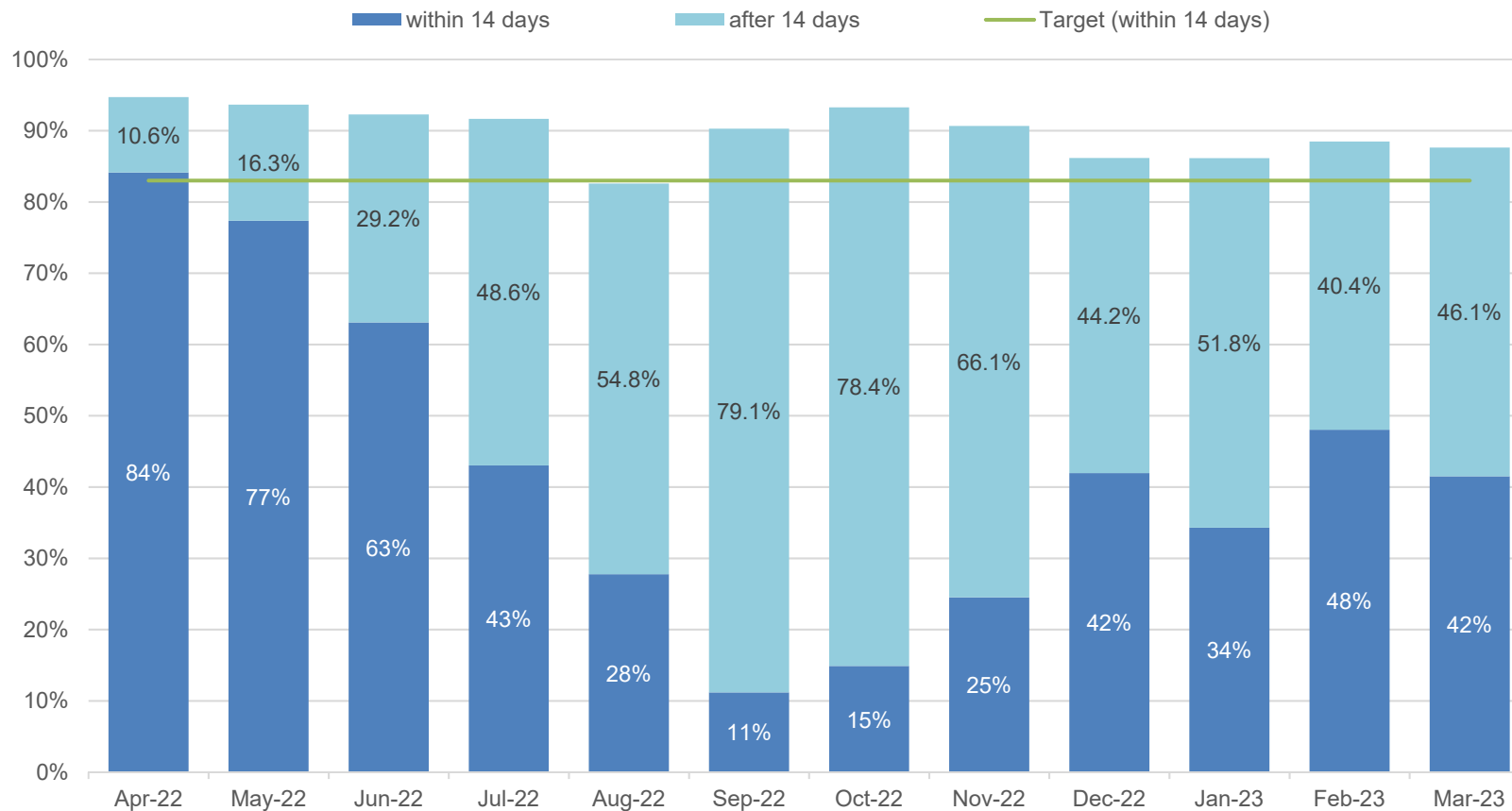
Croydon Health Services
NHS Trust

- Current Croydon Health Visitor Case load is 25,130 with 877 Universal plus and 471 Universal partnership plus which is an increase of 900 circa 3.6% increase in demand
- Current Croydon Caseload per 1 FTE Qualified Health Visitor 1:1157
- CHS uses Community and Nursery Nurses to support the families leading to a ratio of 1: 550
- The Health Visitor Workforce remains challenging with continued high levels of vacancies at 45.5% an increase of 2% since our last visit to committee.
- Short term absence of 9% and high caseloads are driving significant turnover over the last 12 months with a stability index of 58%.
- There was also significant turnover of staff (7) who left within 1 year of starting within the service. Reasons cited for leaving by staff as part of the Trusts exit questionnaire process were:
 - Retirement
 - Work Life balance
 - Relocation
 - High workload
- The Health Visiting Team, Trust Board and Scrutiny Committee are keen that face to face visits are maintained due to the complexity of the local population, it is worth highlighting that virtual visits are part of the higher performing boroughs standard operating procedure, continuing face to face will have a performance implication.

Total number of families seen across 4 week period by CHS Health Visiting Services

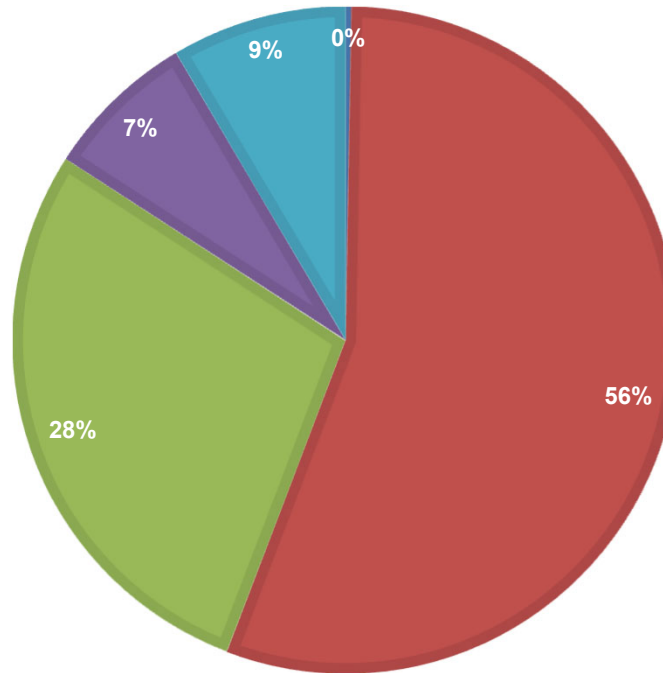


New Birth Visit



May Performance Data New Birth Visits

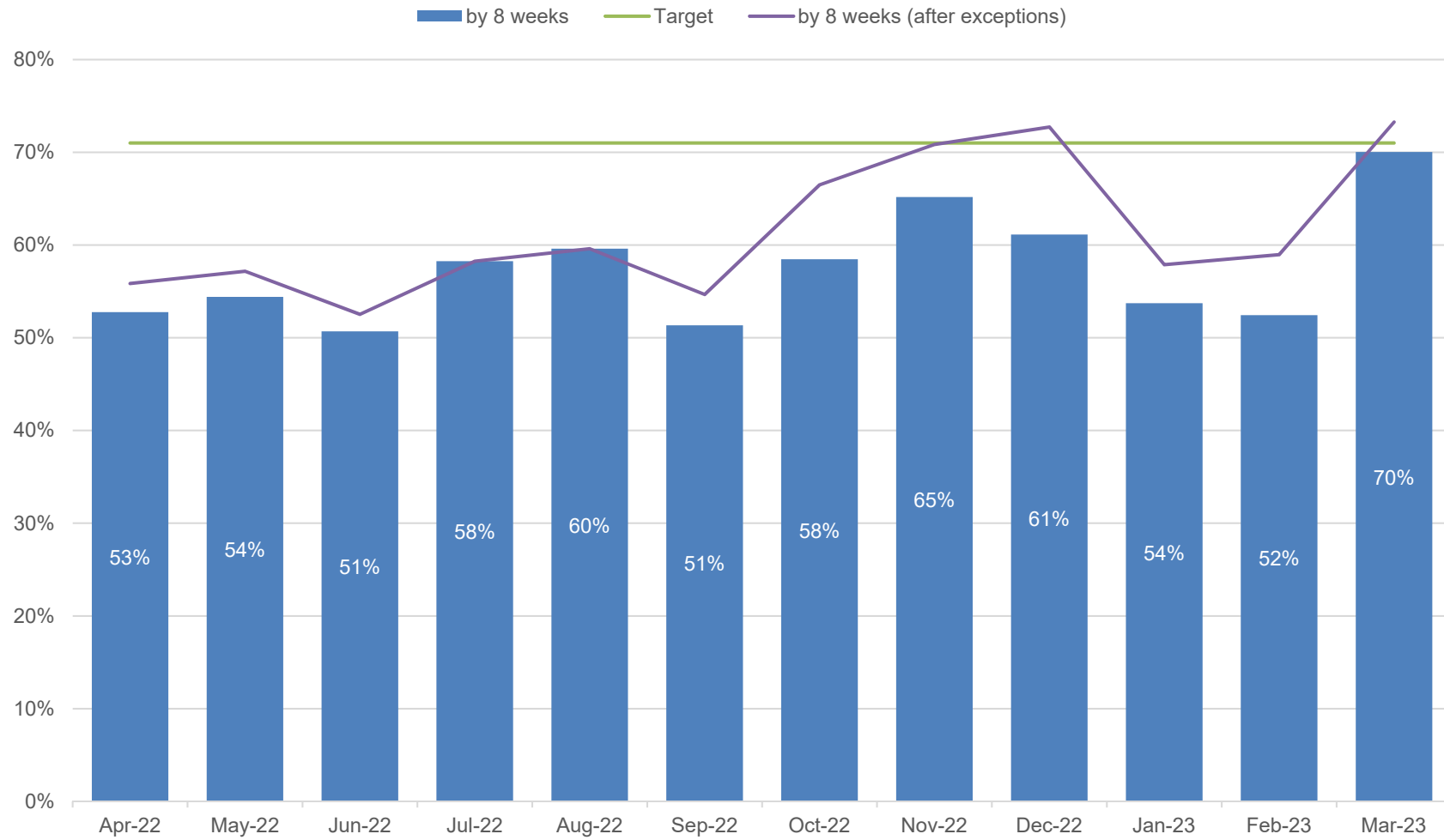
■ 0-9 days ■ 10 - 14 days ■ 15 - 21 days ■ 22 - 28 days ■ Over 28 days



A total of 353 Children received a their new birth visit with 19 exceptions consisting off:

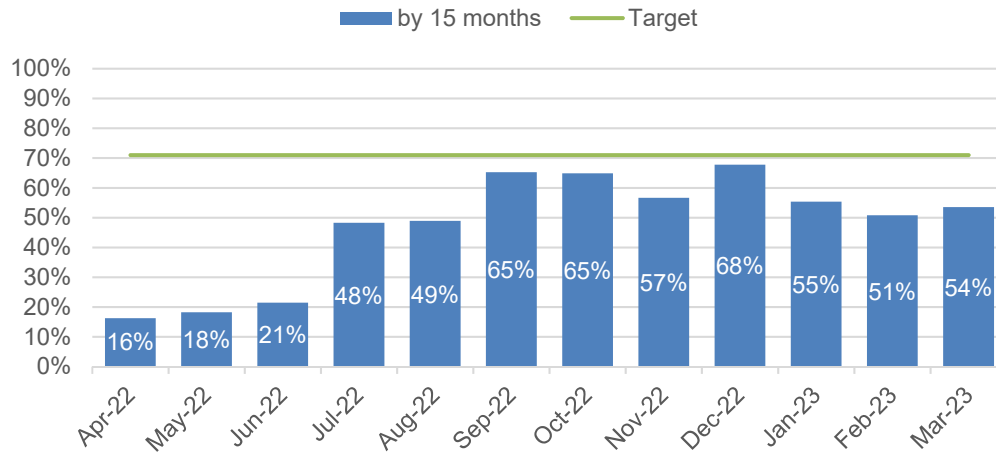
- 4 Transfers in from another borough who had a NBV by the original Borough
- 3 Patients who remained in hospital and will receive a NBV on discharge
- 2 Transfers outside the borough
- Remaining pts have been visited or visits booked outside of this reporting period

6-8 Week Check

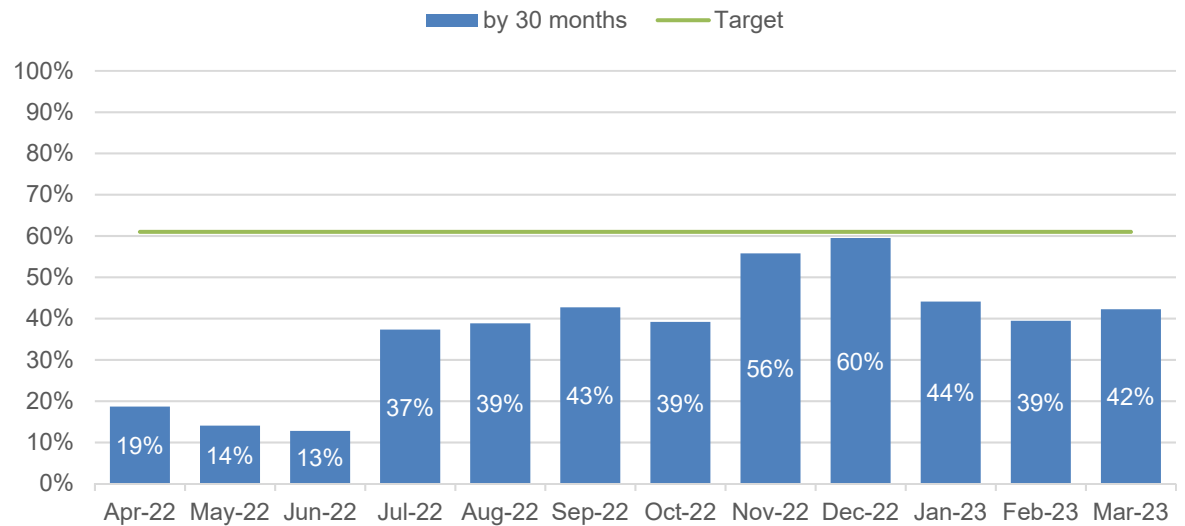


One and two year checks

12 month check



2 year review



A day in the life of Health Visitor



Croydon Health Services
NHS Trust

Activities outside of the mandated checks

A Health Visitor works 7.5 hours per day.

The day will include – Reviewing electronic records of contacts during the day.

Morning Huddle with team leader and colleagues

Re-arrange diary if any urgent patient issues – safeguarding or covering for absent colleague

Home visits lasting 30/60/90 minutes excluding travel time.

Diary may need to be rearranged if home visit does not go to plan and family is in distress.

Attending core group 1 hour/child protection case conferences 2-2.5 hours/clinic cover 2 hours including contributing to appropriate reports

Maintain accurate and detailed records

Consult with other professionals and share relevant patient information

Review communication shared with them relating to their caseload – A/E attendance

Complete records and electronic diary including mileage

Patient Feedback



Public Health Nursing Improvement Programme

Actions delivered so far



Croydon Health Services
NHS Trust

Single Front Door Model In Place

improved oversight of all CYP and Families. Oversight of all activities, improved access to Health Visitors

Recruitment and Retention Strategy

Croydon Recruitment offer in line with peers. Will deliver over the next 6 to 12 months

New ways of working

Saturday Clinics in place leading to improved 6 – 8 week performance and reduced DNA's



Public Health Nursing Improvement Programme

Actions delivered so far



Croydon Health Services
NHS Trust

New ways of working

Development of complex needs
Health Visiting team currently
recruiting to (3 x HV & 3x NN)

Improved Operational Oversight

- Operational manager now in post
- Performance meeting in place
- Reduction in variation
- NBV May data shows improvement trend 57% within 14 days and 85% within 21 days

Organisational Development

Program in place, change in
narrative and ownership starting to
emerge

Public Health Nursing Improvement Programme

Actions identified for Year 2 so far

- Review Organisational Development impact to date
- 360 reviews for all Team and Operational Leaders across Health Visiting and School Nursing
- Restructure of program governance
- Program of staff engagement across all bases including further ad hoc site visits
- 6 Day service provision formal launch
- Year 2 improvement plan developed with Commissioners and Public Health to address the system wide wicked issues, ongoing capacity vs increase demand
- Protect leaders time to lead
- Review incentives scheme
- Recruit to Public Health Nurse Consultant Role, focusing on Health Inequalities and Service development.



Priorities for 2023-2024



Croydon Health Services
NHS Trust

- Improved coverage levels on 5 key mandatory checks
- Improved coverage for targeted UP and UPP, including working closely with MW team
- Clear focus on Universal Plus and Universal partnership Plus families by having a dedicated complex families team
- Improve Digital and Clinic Offer
- Working with Early years to reinstate integrated 2 year review.
- Working in partnership to deliver integrated services as part of family hub model.





Croydon Health Services
NHS Trust



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www.croydonhealthservices.nhs.uk

Excellent care for all

Home | Community | Hospital

Professional
Compassionate
Respectful
Safe



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| | |
|--|---|
| REPORT: | Children & Young People Sub-Committee |
| DATE | 27 June 2023 |
| REPORT TITLE: | Pre-Decision Scrutiny: Maintained Nursery Schools |
| LEAD OFFICER: | <p>Debbie Jones - Corporate Director, Children, Young People and Education</p> <p>Shelley Davies - Director of Education, Children Young People and Education</p> <p>Denise Bushay - Head of Service, Early Years, School Place Planning and Admission</p> |
| PERSON LEADING AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING: | Shelley Davies - Director of Education, Children Young People and Education |
| LEAD MEMBER: | <p>Councillor Maria Gatland Cabinet Member for Children and Young People</p> |
| ORIGIN OF ITEM: | This item was included on the Children & Young People Sub-Committee Scrutiny Sub-Committee Work Programme for 2023/24. |
| BRIEF FOR THE COMMITTEE: | The Children & Young People Sub-Committee Scrutiny Sub-Committee has asked to review the Cabinet Paper concerning Maintained Nursery Schools to conduct Pre-Decision Scrutiny with a view to considering whether there are any concerns that should be raised or recommendations that should be made. |
| PUBLIC/EXEMPT: | Public |

1 EDUCATION ESTATES STRATEGY

- 1.1. Attached at Appendix 1 is the upcoming June Cabinet Report outlining the current position in relation to Maintained Nursery Schools and options for the future provision of this in Croydon. The report sets out why this is required as a result of decreasing funding for Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) and the impact that this is having on the budget situation for all of the Council's MNS settings.
- 1.2. The Children & Young People Sub-Committee Scrutiny Sub-Committee has asked to review the upcoming Maintained Nursery Schools report with a view to understanding the possible risks and next steps.

2 APPENDICES

2.1 Cabinet Report & Appendices – Maintained Nursery Schools

3 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

3.1 None

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

| | |
|--|--|
| REPORT: | Children & Young People Sub-Committee |
| DATE | 27 June 2023 |
| REPORT TITLE: | Early Help, Children Social Care and Education Performance Dashboard |
| LEAD OFFICER: | Debbie Jones - Corporate Director, Children, Young People and Education |
| PERSON LEADING AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING: | Debbie Jones - Corporate Director, Children, Young People and Education |
| LEAD MEMBER: | Councillor Maria Gatland Cabinet Member for Children and Young People |
| ORIGIN OF ITEM: | Performance dashboards are provided for the Children & Young People Sub-Committee as a standing item on the work programme. |
| BRIEF FOR THE COMMITTEE: | The Children & Young People Sub-Committee is asked to review the performance dashboard provided for Early Help, Children Social Care and Education and consider whether there are any areas of concern that may need to be scheduled for further scrutiny at a future meeting. |
| PUBLIC/EXEMPT: | Public |

1 EARLY HELP, CHILDREN SOCIAL CARE & EDUCATION PERFORMANCE DASHBOARDS

- 1.1 In order for the Children & Young People Sub-Committee maintain an overview of the performance of the Early Help, Children Social Care and Education services, performance data is provided in dashboard form at most meetings.
- 1.2 The performance dashboard is appended to this cover report.
- 1.3 If in reviewing the data provided the Sub-Committee identifies any area of concern that it feels may require further investigation this will be reported to the Scrutiny Work Programming Group by the Chair for further consideration.

2 APPENDICES

2.1 Appendix 1: Early Help, Children Social Care & Education Performance Dashboard

3 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

3.1 None

Corporate Performance Report Overview - CYP&E

Red - Performance has not met target / performance differs from comparators by more than 10%

Amber - Performance has not met target but is within 10% / performance differs from comparators by 10% or less

Green - Performance has met or exceed target / performance has matched one or more comparators

- Percentage of C&F assessments completed within 45 working days
- Average Caseload per allocated Social Worker in Children's Social Care
- Proportion of 16 and 17 year olds not known if in education, employment or training (NEET)

- Percentage of re-referrals within 12 months of the previous referral
- Percentage of children for whom Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) was held in the month within 15 working days of the Strategy discussions
- Number of local CLA
- Rate of local CLA per 10,000 under 18 years population
- Number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) CLA
- Percentage of the under 18 years population who are UASC
- Average Caseload per allocated Social Worker in Children's Social Care
- Juvenile first time entrants to the criminal justice system per 100,000 of 10-17 year olds
- Overall absence rate from State-funded primary, secondary and special schools
- Persistent absence rate from State-funded primary, secondary and special schools
- Proportion of 16 and 17 year olds who were not in education, employment or training (NEET)
- Percentage of children with an EHCP educated in-borough mainstream schools
- Percentage of Education Health & Care Plans issued within 20

| CROYDON CORPORATE PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK | | | | | | | | | | CROYDON www.croydon.gov.uk | | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------------|-------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|--------|---------|---|
| REF. | INDICATOR | Bigger or Smaller is better | Frequency | Timeframe | LATEST DATA | | | RAG | PREVIOUS DATA | | BENCHMARKING | | | | COMMENTS ON CURRENT PERFORMANCE |
| | | | | | Target | Croydon position | Change from previous | | Timeframe | Croydon position | Timeframe | Statistical Neighbours | London | England | |
| CYPE 01 | Percentage of re-referrals within 12 months of the previous referral | Smaller is better | Monthly | Financial year to Apr 23 | 20% | 18% | ↑ | Green | Financial year to Mar 23 | 19% | 2021/22 | 18% | 18% | 22% | The proportion of assessments taking longer than 45 days to complete is affected by the combination of staff turnover, vacancies, caseloads and high volume of demand for statutory assessments. Since October 2022 the performance has been close to or above 80% or above evidencing stability at a rate closer to target. The new structure within Family Assessment Service is now in place and caseloads are gradually reducing, vacancies are low and turnover has reduced therefore we are anticipating gradual increase in performance over the coming year to reach and maintain our target. Managers continue to review all delayed assessments to ensure that services are in place where families require them prior to an assessment concluding. |
| CYPE 02 | Percentage of C&F assessments completed within 45 working days | Bigger is better | Monthly | Financial year to Apr 23 | 85% | 79% | ↓ | Amber | Financial year to Mar 23 | 80% | 2021/22 | 89% | 86% | 84% | |
| CYPE 03 | Percentage of children for whom Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) was held in the month within 15 working days of the Strategy discussions | Bigger is better | Monthly | Financial year to Apr 23 | 77% | 96% | ↑ | Green | Financial year to Mar 23 | 76% | 2021/22 | 74% | 76% | 79% | |
| CYPE 07 | Number of local CLA | Smaller is better | Monthly | Apr-23 | 450 | 432 | ↓ | Green | Mar-23 | 425 | 2021/22 | 4,819 | 8,165 | 72,629 | |
| CYPE 08 | Rate of local CLA per 10,000 under 18 years population | Smaller is better | Monthly | Apr-23 | 49.9 | 47.9 | ↓ | Green | Mar-23 | 47.1 | 2021/22 | 53.3 | 39.9 | 60.1 | |
| CYPE 09 | Number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) CLA | N/A | Monthly | Apr-23 | 95 | 102 | N/A | Green | Mar-23 | 102 | 2021/22 | 494 | 1541 | 5507 | Threshold for all Local Authorities regarding UASC was raised to 0.1% of Child Population on 24th August 2022, taking account of census data this equates to 90 children minimum. Consequently our target has been adjusted to reflect this change and is now 95 children. With Lunar House situated in Croydon the council will always have an expectation of supporting the initial assessment of these asylum seeking and separated children liaising with other LA's regarding their transfer through the National Transfer Scheme. |
| CYPE 10 | Percentage of the under 18 years population who are UASC | N/A | Monthly | Apr-23 | 0.105% | 0.113% | N/A | Green | Mar-23 | 0.113% | 2021/22 | 0.05% | 0.08% | 0.05% | See above commentary for CYPE 09 |
| CYPE 11 | Average Caseload per allocated Social Worker in Children's Social Care | Smaller is better | Monthly | Apr-23 | 17.0 | 17.4 | ↓ | Amber | Mar-23 | 16.8 | No comparable data available | | | | Average caseload has increased slightly above target due to the interplay of factors of increasing demand, reduction in case holding capacity due to recruitment challenges and staff sickness and turnover of staff. Mitigating actions of continual recruitment, caseload support from managers and robust management of demand are in place to address the challenges. |
| CYPE 12 | Juvenile first time entrants to the criminal justice system per 100,000 of 10-17 year olds | Smaller is better | Monthly | Apr-23 | 262 | 217 | ↑ | Green | Mar-23 | 219 | 2021 | 207 | 184 | 147 | Historically having a large youth population and a borough rank size being second largest in London has meant Croydon's throughput of first time entrants to the criminal justice system has been higher than the London average. The Youth Offending team has assisted in the implementation of Community Resolutions (an alternative to arrest for small cannabis amount which was a leading offence type) since October 2021 and have already begun to see a significant number of young people being diverted away from the system. This together with a decline in first time entrants following the lifting of COVID restriction means we could see the Croydon rate be in line the London average for the first time by December 2022. |
| CYPE 13 | Percentage of schools rated 'good' or 'outstanding' | Bigger is better | 2 times per year | Aug-22 | 88% | 88% | ↓ | Green | Aug-21 | 89% | Aug-22 | 93% | 95% | 88% | |
| CYPE 14 | Overall absence rate from State-funded primary, secondary and special schools | Smaller is better | Annual | 2021/22 Academic Year | 7.55% | 7.01% | ↓ | Green | 2020/21 Academic Year | 4.65% | 2021/22 Academic Year | 6.71% | 6.64% | 7.55% | Nationally, all schools at each stage (primary and secondary) have seen significant negative shifts in absence trends post covid, with higher numbers of students not returning or taking more absence than historically. Croydon's figures reflect this so while we can evidence progress against other areas nationally and in London (Amber) we have significantly higher rates than we did pre-covid. |
| CYPE 15 | Persistent absence rate from State-funded primary, secondary and special schools | Smaller is better | Annual | 2021/22 Academic Year | 22.51% | 21.17% | ↓ | Green | 2020/21 Academic Year | 12.20% | 2021/22 Academic Year | 19.99% | 19.48% | 22.51% | See above commentary for CYPE 14 |
| CYPE 16 | Permanent exclusions from schools as a percentage of the school population | Smaller is better | Annual | 2020/21 Academic Year | 0.06 | 0.03 | ↑ | Green | 2019/20 Academic Year | 0.05 | 2020/21 Academic Year | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.05 | Like the previous year, the 2020/21 academic year was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Schools were open to all pupils in the Autumn term, however during the Spring term schools were only open to key worker and vulnerable children from January for the first half term, before all pupils returned during the second half term. During this period online tuition was provided for pupils. Schools were then open to all pupils during the Summer term. |
| CYPE 17 | Suspensions (fixed period exclusions) from schools as a percentage of pupils | Smaller is better | Annual | 2020/21 Academic Year | 3.76 | 3.46 | ↓ | Green | 2019/20 Academic Year | 3.39 | 2020/21 Academic Year | 2.78 | 2.79 | 4.25 | As with 2019/20, while suspensions and permanent exclusions were possible throughout the academic year, these restrictions will have had an impact on the numbers presented and caution should be taken when comparing across years. |
| CYPE 18 | EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) - Percentage of children achieving a good level of development | Bigger is better | Annual | 2021/22 Academic Year | 67.8% | 67.4% | N/A | Amber | Not available - break in series | | 2021/22 Academic Year | 68.0% | 67.8% | 65.2% | Our target has been revised/increased to the London average as a 'stretch' target as we have exceeded the national average. In 2021/22, the percentage of pupils achieving a good level of development in Croydon was 67.4% which is above the national average (65.2%) but slightly below London (67.8%) and our statistical neighbours (68.0%). |
| CYPE 19 | KS2 - Percentage of pupils achieving expected standard at KS2 in Reading, Writing and Mathematics | Bigger is better | Annual | 2021/22 Academic Year | 65% | 60% | ↓ | Amber | 2018/19 Academic Year | 67% | 2021/22 Academic Year | 62% | 65% | 59% | Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the KS2 external assessments had not taken place in 2019-20 or in 2020-21. The assessments in 2021-22 were set at the same standard as 2018-19 and previous years in order to measure the effects of the pandemic on pupil achievement. The drop of 7%, as a result of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic was in line with that of other local authorities and national figures. |
| CYPE 20 | KS4 - Average Progress 8 score per pupil | Bigger is better | Annual | 2021/22 Academic Year | -0.03 | -0.02 | ↓ | Green | 2018/19 Academic Year | 0.07 | 2021/22 Academic Year | 0.19 | 0.23 | -0.03 | In 2021/22 the average Progress 8 score in Croydon was -0.02, slightly better than the national average of -0.03. The Progress 8 score ranged from 0.8 to -0.89 across Croydon schools, this has undoubtedly been affected by the uneven impact of Covid-19. |
| CYPE 21 | KS4 - Average Attainment 8 score per pupil | Bigger is better | Annual | 2021/22 Academic Year | 48.8 | 47.4 | ↑ | Amber | 2018/19 Academic Year | 45.5 | 2021/22 Academic Year | 49.8 | 52.6 | 48.8 | In 2021/22 the average attainment 8 score in Croydon was 47.4. This is the 2nd lowest compared to our statistical neighbours, and slightly below the national average. |
| CYPE 22 | KS4 - Percentage of pupils achieving grades 9-5 in English and Maths | Bigger is better | Annual | 2021/22 Academic Year | 49.8% | 48.7% | ↑ | Amber | 2018/19 Academic Year | 40.5% | 2021/22 Academic Year | 52.3% | 57.3% | 49.8% | In 2021/22, the percentage of pupils achieving grades 9-5 in English and Maths in Croydon was 48.7%. This is the 3rd lowest compared to our statistical neighbours, and slightly below the national average. 67.7% of pupils gained at least a grade 4 in English and Maths in Croydon. There are wide variances in both measures across Croydon schools. |
| CYPE 23 | Proportion of 16 and 17 year olds who were not in education, employment or training (NEET) | Smaller is better | Monthly | Mar-23 | 2.6% | 1.6% | ↔ | Green | Feb-23 | 1.6% | Average of Dec 21, Jan 22 and Feb 22 | 1.4% | 1.5% | 2.6% | |
| CYPE 24 | Proportion of 16 and 17 year olds not known if in education, employment or training (NEET) | Smaller is better | Monthly | Mar-23 | 2.2% | 2.4% | ↑ | Amber | Feb-23 | 2.6% | Average of Dec 21, Jan 22 and Feb 22 | 2.6% | 1.9% | 2.2% | The NEET nor Not Known figures should not be considered in isolation. More often than not, if the destination of a Not Known young person is confirmed, they are in more cases than not, NEET. Targets CYPE 23 and 24 influence one another. Whilst our NEET stat (CYPE 23) is smaller than target this invariably means that there are more young people whose destinations we have not been able to confirm, hence higher Not Known figures (CYPE 24). Most recent validated data (Mar 2023) is 2.4% which shows our trajectory towards target and the progress we are making. CYPE 23 in the recent round shows we have achieved the target and are continuing to increase our awareness of NEETs. This indicator shows us to be in line with our statistical neighbours' and all of London, better than England, which represents a significant positive trend. Whilst CYPE24 is not on target, it must be noted that the figure is considerably closer to the target than the previous year, likewise our historical stats, were often in excess of 10%, and did previously attract ministerial attention. |
| CYPE 25 | Number of children with an EHCP educated in-borough mainstream schools | Bigger is better | Monthly | Apr-23 | N/A | 1253 | ↑ | N/A | Mar-23 | 1215 | No comparable data available | | | | |
| CYPE 26 | Percentage of children with an EHCP educated in-borough mainstream schools | Bigger is better | Monthly | Apr-23 | To increase | 30% | ↑ | Green | Mar-23 | 29% | No comparable data available | | | | |
| CYPE 28 | Number of Education Health & Care Plans issued (excluding exceptions) | N/A | Monthly | Calendar year to Apr 23 | N/A | 159 | N/A | N/A | Calendar year to Mar 23 | 77 | 2021 | 2538 | 5464 | 34249 | |
| CYPE 29 | Percentage of Education Health & Care Plans issued within 20 weeks (excluding exceptions) | Bigger is better | Monthly | Calendar year to Apr 23 | 62% | 88% | ↑ | Green | Calendar year to Mar 23 | 86% | 2021 | 61% | 64% | 60% | |

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

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|---------------------------------|--|
| REPORT: | Children & Young People Sub-Committee |
| DATE | 27 June 2023 |
| REPORT TITLE: | WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24 |
| LEAD OFFICER: | Tom Downs, Democratic Service and Governance Officer- Scrutiny T:020 8726 6000 x 63779 |
| ORIGIN OF ITEM: | The Work Programme is scheduled for consideration at every ordinary meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee. |
| BRIEF FOR THE COMMITTEE: | To consider any additions, amendments, or changes to the draft work programme for the Committee in 2023/24. |
| PUBLIC/EXEMPT: | Public |

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This agenda item details the Sub-Committee's draft work programme for the 2023/24 municipal year.
- 1.2 The Sub-Committee has the opportunity to discuss any amendments or additions that it wishes to make to the work programme.
- 1.3 The Sub-Committee is able to propose changes to its work programme, but in line with Constitution, the final decision on any changes to any of the Committee/Sub-Committee work programmes rests with the Chairs & Vice-Chairs Group, following consultation with officers.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Sub-Committee is asked to:

- 2.1 Note the draft work programme for 2023-24, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 2.2 Consider whether there are any changes to the work programme that should be considered.

3 WORK PROGRAMME

3.1 The work programme

The proposed work programme is attached at **Appendix 1**.

Members are asked to note that the lines of enquiry for some items have yet to be confirmed and that there are opportunities to add further items to the work programme.

3.2 Additional Scrutiny Topics

Members of the Sub-Committee are invited to suggest any other items that they consider appropriate for the Work Programme. However, due to the time limitations at Sub-Committee meetings, it is suggested that no proposed agenda contain more than two items of substantive business in order to allow effective scrutiny of items already listed.

3.3 Participation in Scrutiny

Members of the Sub-Committee are also requested to give consideration to any persons that it wishes to attend future meetings to assist in the consideration of agenda items. This may include Cabinet Members, Council or other public agency officers or representatives of relevant communities.

4 APPENDICES

- 4.1** Appendix 1: Draft Work Programme 2023/24 for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

5 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 5.1** None

Children & Young People Sub-Committee

The below table sets out the working version of the Children & Young People Sub-Committee work programme. The items have been scheduled following discussion with officers and may be subject to change depending on any new emerging priorities taking precedent.

| Meeting Date | Item | Scope | Directorate & Lead Officer |
|------------------|---|---|---|
| 27 June 2023 | Update on the Health Visiting Service | To receive an update on the Health Visiting Service. | Children, Young People, Education and Health Jane McAllister |
| | Cabinet Report - Maintained Nursery Schools Report | To receive the upcoming June Cabinet Report outlining the current position in relation to Croydon's Maintained Nursery Schools and options for the future provision of this in Croydon. The report sets out why this is required as a result of decreasing funding for Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) and the impact that this is having on the budget situation for all of the Council's MNS settings. | Children, Young People, Education and Health Shelley Davies |
| 14 November 2023 | Croydon Safeguarding Children Board - Annual Report 2022-23 | The Children & Young People Sub-Committee is asked to: - 1. Note the Croydon Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2022-2023 2. Consider whether there are any considerations or concerns it may wish to submit to the Cabinet during its consideration of the Annual Report. | Children, Young People & Education Debbie Jones |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|---|
| | | 3. In particular, give consideration as to whether the Annual Report provides sufficient reassurance on the performance and effectiveness of the Croydon Safeguarding Children Board. | |
| | TBC | | |
| 23 January 2023 | Budget Scrutiny Challenge | <p>The Children & Young People Sub-Committee is asked to review the information provided on three budget proposals (to be identified) and reach a conclusion on the following:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are the savings deliverable, sustainable and not an unacceptable risk. 2. Is the impact on service users and the wider community understood. 3. Have all reasonable alternative options been explored and do no better options exist. | <p>Children, Young People & Education</p> <p>Debbie Jones</p> |
| | Cabinet Report - Education Estates Strategy | For the Sub-Committee to consider whether there are any considerations or concerns it may wish to submit to the Cabinet during its consideration of the Strategy. | <p>Children, Young People & Education</p> <p>Shelley Davies</p> |
| | Cabinet Report - Education Standards 2022 | For the Sub-Committee to receive the summarised performance of children and young people in Croydon schools for the academic year 21/22. | <p>Children, Young People & Education</p> <p>Shelley Davies</p> |

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|---------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 19 March 2023 | Update on the Health Visiting Service | To receive an update on the Health Visiting Service. | Children, Young People, Education and Health Jane McAllister |
| | TBC | | |

Standing Items:

Early Help, Children's Social Care and Education Dashboard & Health Visiting KPI Data - To receive the Early Help, Children's Social Care and Education Dashboard and quarterly Health Visiting KPI Data.

Items of Interest

The following items haven't been scheduled into the work programme but are highlighted as potential items of interest to be scheduled during the year ahead.

| Unallocated Items | Notes |
|---------------------------|--|
| Recruitment and Retention | <p>To review Staff Caseloads, AYSE Caseload Sharing and the number of supervisions carried out.</p> <p>To receive a breakdown of vacancies and caseloads by individual teams and to look at London Councils best practise for recruitment and retention.</p> <p>To undertake direct engagement with social workers</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| | To look at how feedback from exit interviews can be incorporated into retention strategies |
| Apprenticeships & Youth Unemployment | To look at the offer of available apprenticeships in the borough and data on youth unemployment. |
| OFSTED Reports | To review any OFSTED reports as and when they are available. |
| Delivery of Early Years Strategy | To review the delivery and implementation plan of the Early Years Strategy |
| SEND Strategy | To review the implementation of the SEND Strategy |
| Surplus Schools Places | To review the Surplus Schools Places report |
| Free School Meal offer in Croydon | To scrutinise the provision of free school meals in the borough through the Mayor of London scheme. |
| Cabinet Report - Youth Safety delivery plan | To conduct pre-decision scrutiny on the upcoming Youth Safety delivery plan Cabinet report. |