

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Children and Young People (CYP) Scrutiny

Date: 8th October 2019

Report of: Glynis Williams Strategic Lead Quality Assurance and Improvement
Report Title

Child Protection Re-plans

Summary

Background

The Service reported to CYP Scrutiny in October 2018 that we ended the year (March 2018) with 29% of the cohort with a second / subsequent Child Protection (CP) Plan. This figure was higher than previous years. Our proportion of re-plans was higher than the latest available figure (2016/17) for both statistical neighbours (20%) and the national average (19%).

The impact for children and their families when they are on a re-plan is that they are potentially being supported at a more intense and intrusive level than they require. It can also be confusing for families to “bounce around” the thresholds of intervention (e.g. from child protection to child in need and back into child protection) and this can at times make sustaining positive working relationships more difficult.

Trafford needed to be confident that we were working at the most appropriate level and that our families were not becoming overly reliant on statutory services. A high proportion of CP re-plans means the current system wouldn't be working in the most effective and efficient manner.

The good news is over the last 10 months, we have seen 32 re-plans, equating to 20.4% of the total number of plans starting. This is fully in-line with national and statistical neighbour comparisons of 20/21% at March 2018.

If we continue at current levels over the next couple of months, we will see further year-on reduction.

What has made the difference?

1. This area of business has been a sharp focus for Children Social Care in the last year particularly a focus on re-plans where domestic violence is a feature.
2. The successful implementation of restorative CP conferences has had a positive impact.
3. Pre-strategy meeting consultations were overseen by the Strategic Lead to ensure the application of thresholds was consistent.

We will continue to monitor this area of performance and ensure the learning is embedded.

Recommendation(s)

To note the contents of the report and request a further update if required

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

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Background Papers:

Implications

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	
Financial	
Legal Implications:	
Equality/Diversity Implications	
Sustainability Implications	
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	
Risk Management Implications	
Health and Safety Implications	