## Title: Social Care and Education Performance Report

### Report of the Commissioning Director; Children’s Care and Support and the Commissioning Director; Education

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**Accountable Director:** Chris Bush, Commissioning Director, Children’s Care, and Support and Jane Hargreaves, Commissioning, Director Education

**Accountable Strategic Director:** Anne Bristow, Strategic Director, Service Development, and Integration

### Summary:

This report provides the Children’s Services Select Committee (CSSC) with an overview and analysis of the latest performance trends in the Children’s Care and Support and Education portfolio areas. The report aims to bring to the Cabinet Member’s attention those key performance indicators that have been flagged as areas of concern, for example, indicators that are RAG rated Amber or Red (middle and lower quartile position) to support the development of the Committee’s work programme for 2017/18. The report does not provide a commentary for performance indicators that are performing well (RAG rated Green).

The performance indicators reported on in this report represent the headline measures across statutory social care and education standards, including post 16 performance outcomes reported to senior management and Portfolio Lead Members.

Alongside the performance commentary are two data appendices; Appendix 1 (Care and Support performance dashboard) and Appendix 2 (the education performance dashboard comprising of the headline education measures). The figures in this report relate to 2016 for education performance and performance as at the end of November 2016/17 for social care.

### Recommendation(s)

The Children’s Services Select Committee is recommended to:

(i) Note content of the performance report;

(ii) Develop a work programme based on the performance report and appended datasets.

### Reason(s)

As above. The CSSC has requested a Children’s Services performance report to assist with the development of a scrutiny work programme for 2017/18.
1. Introduction and Background

1.1 This report provides the Children’s Services Select Committee (CSSC) with an overview and analysis of the latest performance trends in the Children’s Care and Support and Education portfolio areas.

1.2 The performance report aims to bring to the Cabinet Member’s attention to those indicators that have been flagged as areas of concern and risk i.e. indicators RAG rated Amber and Red (middle and lower quartile position) to support the development of the Committee’s work programme for 2017/18.

1.3 The performance indicators reported on in this report represent the headline performance metrics across statutory social care and education standards and participation, including post 16 performance outcomes.

1.4 Alongside the performance commentary are two data appendices; Appendix 1 - the local care and support performance dashboard, comprising of key performance indicators reported on in social care. The figures in this report relate to end of November 2016 for social care and 2016 results for education performance – the latest data available.

1.5 Current performance frameworks are in place for children’s performance indicators and, where relevant, are presented at existing Boards and senior management meetings. These are:

- Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Children Board (B&DSCB) quarterly performance dataset;
- The Children’s Trust receives performance datasets and reports across priority areas;
- Looked after children quarterly dataset presented at the Corporate Parenting Group, which meets bimonthly; this dataset provides a comprehensive profile of looked after children and care leavers and reports on adoption;
- Education Improvement Board – a sub-group of the Children’s Trust responsible for monitoring and reporting on education standards, participation, post 16 outcomes and school inspection outcomes;
- Corporate Performance Group (quarterly);
- Portfolio leads monthly performance meetings; and
- Senior management monthly meetings in social care and education.

2. Performance Overview

2.1 For each indicator, where data is available, a performance status has been applied and takes the form of a R/A/G assessment. In each case, the assessment has been made based upon performance in relation to a quartile analysis on latest available benchmark position (National), as well as progress to target. For each indicator, a direction of travel arrow is provided to note improvement or decline in performance.

2.2 There are many areas of good performance (RAG rated Green) apparent in the Care and Support and Education performance dataset. However, this performance report is not focusing on areas which are performing well (RAG rated Green). This report
provides a commentary on key performance indicators currently RAG rated Amber and Red and, therefore, a cause of concern for the Local Authority. This approach has been taken for the CSSC to inform the development of a scrutiny work programme that is focused on priority areas in need of consideration or detailed scrutiny.

Performance Commentary

Social Care

2.3 The following indicators are currently RAG rated Amber (middle quartile position) based on our latest position and are, therefore, considered to be a cause for close monitoring. However, it is important to note the direction of travel as many of those indicators are improving.

- **Timeliness of assessments (45 days):** The timeliness of assessments is now monitored in terms of a statutory assessment to be completed within 45 days. 71% of statutory social care assessments were completed within 45 days in the year to date up to November 2016/17, a 1% increase on last month. Performance remains below the year end 2015/16 performance of 76%, and our target of 80%. Performance is RAG rated amber based on direction of travel and progress to target (10% within target set at 80%).

- **Number and rate of children on child protection plans:** The number of children on child protection plans decreased by 1 to 254 in November 2016. The rate per 10,000 remains at 42. This is below the national rate (43) and the statistical neighbours rate (49) but above the London rate (38).

- **Percentage of Core Groups within timescale:** November data shows an increase from 85% to 92% (225/244) of Child Protection Core Groups completed in time. This compares to 84% at year-end 2015/16. Performance needs to increase to over 95% to be in line with target.

- **Percentage of ceased child protection plans lasting 2 years or more:** This performance indicator measures children ceasing to be the subject of child protection plan during the year who had been the subject of the plan for two years or more. 12 children (6.1%) were de-planned in the year to November who had been on a plan for 2 years or more and performance is just above the local target of up to 5%.

- **Number and rate of looked after children:** The number of children looked after decreased from 423 to 412 in November. The rate per 10,000 is now 68, a similar position to our year end 2015/16 figure (69). The borough still has however, a higher rate of looked after children per 10,000 compared to London and nationally, but is in line with similar areas.

- **% of school age looked after children with an up to date Personal Education Plan (PEP):** As at the end of November 2016/17, 95% (228/241) of school aged looked after children had an up to date PEP compared to 92% in October. Performance has improved year-on-year over the last five years and we are just short of our target set at over 95%. National data is not published for PEPs so benchmark data is not available.

- **% of care leavers in suitable accommodation (at age 19, 20 & 21 from 2014):** November performance has decreased by 1% to 76% (129 out of 169) of care
leavers living in suitable accommodation. Performance remains below London, national and statistical neighbour averages. It is important to note that of the 40 care leavers not in suitable accommodation, 8 are in Prison and 32 are not engaging with the Council.

(Accommodation is regarded as suitable if it provides safe, secure, and affordable provision for young people. It would generally include short-term accommodation designed to move young people on to stable long-term accommodation, but would exclude emergency accommodation used in a crisis.)

- **Percentage of children looked after in the same placement for at least 2 years during the year:** November 2016/17 performance increased to 64% compared to 62% in the previous month. We remain 4% lower than the local target set of 68% and RAG rated Amber.

- **Child Protection visits completed in 4 weeks:** Monitoring and reporting is now on 4 weekly child protection visits and our target is 100%. As at the end of November 2016/17, 95% of child protection visits were completed in 4 weeks, a decrease on the October figure of 98%. All managers across the division have been set a target of 100% for 4 weekly child protection visits.

2.4 The following indicators are currently RAG rated Red (lower quartile position) based on our latest position and are, therefore, considered to be a cause for concern.

- **Looked after Children with up to date Health Checks:** At the end of November 2016/17, 72% of looked after children in care for a year or more had an up to date health check compared to 77% last month. Despite this decline, performance is predicted to increase to 90% by end of year.

**Education**

2.5 The following education indicators are currently banded as quartile C (RAG rated Amber) based on our latest position and are, therefore, considered to be closely close monitored. However, it is important to note the direction of travel as many of those indicators are improving and in quartile A (RAG rated green) for progress.

- **EYFS Good Level of Development:** In 2016, 69.8% of children in the borough reached a good level of development, a 2-percentage point increase from 2015. Performance remains above the national and statistical neighbour\(^1\) picture of 69.3% and 68% respectively. Although the gap has narrowed with London, performance is below the London average of 71.2%. Based on 2016 performance, the borough is in quartile B.

- **Key Stage 2 test results:** In 2016, 65% of pupils achieved the expected standard or above in Reading at KS2, 1 percentage point below national and in quartile C. Attainment for Reading is also below London average of 69% but above statistical neighbours. The borough’s 2016 average scaled score is also above national for maths and GPS (both in quartile B) but below for Reading.

\(^1\) Greenwich, Newham, Enfield, Waltham Forest, Birmingham, Coventry, Manchester, Luton, Slough and Nottingham.)
GCSEs: 2016 sees the introduction of some significant changes to national performance measures. The percentage of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE grades A*-C including English and maths as the headline indicator has been removed and replaced by A*-C in English and maths. Other key performance measures are the percentage of pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate, Progress 8 and Attainment 8. In 2016, Barking and Dagenham is above the national for each GCSE measure, apart from performance in the EBacc and is also in Quartile C for each measure.

A*-C English & Maths: The provisional headline results for the borough at A*-C English and maths shows a good improvement on 2015 with a 3.8% rise to 59.5%. This reverses last year’s dip and is a result of all the schools improving on their 2015 performance (ELUTEC is reporting for the first time in 2016). Attainment for 2016 is above the national average (58.7%), in line with statistical neighbours (59.9%), but below the London average of 65.9%. Based on 2016 performance, the borough’s performance is in quartile C (RAG rated Amber).

Average Progress 8 Score: In 2016, the Local Authority average score of 0.16 is above the overall national value of 0 and in line with London (0.16). This can be interpreted as every LBBD pupil achieving one whole grade better for every 8 GCSEs taken when comparing performance with students with the same prior attainment at KS2. Average Attainment 8 Score: The LA average attainment 8 score is 49.6, above national and statistical neighbours, but just below the London average score of 51.7. 2016 performance is in quartile C.

% English Baccalaureate (EBacc): The percentage of pupils achieving the EBacc rose in 2016 to 22.1%, despite the national figure remaining steady at 22.8%. Despite improvement, performance remains below similar areas (23.8%) and around 10% below London. The LA is in quartile C but progress is in the top quartile A.

Average point score per entry A Level Cohort (New): From 2016, new measures related to APS per entry have been reported by the DfE and are, therefore, not comparable with previous years. In 2016, the average point score per entry A level cohort is 28.8, lower than national and London. Although the average point score is slightly lower, this equates to a grade C on average for A levels taken and this is also the case for pupils nationally and London. Performance is in quartile band C.

Average point score per entry - Best 3 A Levels: In 2016, the average point score per entry – Best 3 A levels is 31.9, lower than national, similar areas and London. Although the average point score per entry for best 3 A levels is lower when compared to all benchmarks, this equates to a grade C+ on average for A levels taken for pupils in Barking and Dagenham, nationally, London and similar areas. 2016 performance is also in quartile band C.

2.6 The following indicators are currently in quartile band D and RAG rated Red based on our latest position and are, therefore, considered to be a cause for concern:

- % 16-17 year olds participating in education and training: Participation has improved to 90.4% of 16-17 year olds in education and training in 2015 compared
to 89% in 2014 and 85% in 2013. As at the end of Q1 2016/17, the proportion has remained at 90.4%. Participation levels remain below the national average of 91.5% and our current performance falls in the lower quartile position (ranked 120th). London participation rates are also higher at 92.2%, but we are in line with our statistical neighbours.

- **The percentage of 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment, or training (NEET) or who have Unknown Destinations (new DfE measure):** This measure was introduced on 1 September 2016. The annual published measure is an average taken between November and January of each year (Q3/4). In 2013, the borough’s Nov-Jan NEET and Unknown average was poor at 13.7% against the national average of 8.2%. Since 2013, performance has improved at a faster rather than other East London boroughs and national, with the 2015 figure sitting at 8.5% against 7.1% nationally. The DfE has published new NEET scorecards based on the annual published figure Nov-Jan average 2015/16 and LBBD is in the 5th quintile (RAG rated Red). Current performance still places performance more than 10% away from target as at end of Q3 (8.2%) but the rate of improvement is continuing and, if it continues at this pace, performance will be in line or close to the national average. The November 2016 combined NEET and Unknown figure for 16 and 17 year olds figure was 7.8% and in December 2016 the figure dropped to 7.2%. We, therefore, fully anticipate that that we will be within 10% of the national target once our November-January average data is published and RAG rated Amber.

**Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:**

None.

**List of appendices:**

- **Appendix 1** – The Children’s Care and Support Performance Dataset; and
  - **Appendix 2** – The Education Performance Dataset