

Report to the Cabinet Committee on Performance Improvement

Meeting to be held on 28th July 2015

Report submitted by: Head of Service - Fostering, Adoption, Residential & YOT

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| Electoral Division affected: None |
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2014 Adoption Scorecard and 2014/15 In-year Performance

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Chris Greenwood, 07584581424, Performance, Development & Research Officer,
chris.greenwood@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The latest Adoption Scorecard was published by the Department for Education (DfE) in December 2014, covering the period April 2011-March 2014. The position of Lancashire has been considered compared with national and statistical neighbours with an update with regards to expected 2012/2015 scorecard performance anticipated from in-house tracking measures. Additionally, in-year adoption performance for the latest financial year is also provided and is compared with previous years to highlight recent performance. Isolated latest-year information for 2014/15 shows vast improvements which will positively affect future scorecards.

The scorecard looks at three key indicators and aggregates performance across a three-year bracket. Due to this format, there is a delay in showing the impact of the most recent year's performance in the published figures. Lancashire's adoption performance has been mixed compared with the last published scorecard which covered the period April 2010 to March 2013.

Recommendation

The Cabinet Committee on Performance Improvement is recommended to note the latest published Lancashire Adoption Scorecard analysis for 2011-14 and recent 2014/15 performance, as set out at Appendix 'A'.

Background and Advice

The Adoption Scorecard is published annually by the DfE. It is considered wise to compare Lancashire's performance against previous scorecards and against national and statistical neighbours for enhanced clarity.

The latest Adoption Scorecard was published in December 2014, covering adoption performance between April 2011 and March 2014. Lancashire's adoption

performance has been mixed compared with the last published scorecard which covered the period April 2010 to March 2013.

The scorecard looks at three key indicators and aggregates performance across a three-year bracket. Due to this format, there is a delay in showing the impact of the most recent year's performance in the published figures.

| | A1 | | A2 | | A3 | |
|----------------------------|--|---------|--|---------|---|----------------------|
| | Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, for children who have been adopted (days) | | Average time between a local authority receiving court authority to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family (days) | | Children who wait less than x months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (%) | |
| | 2010-13 | 2011-14 | 2010-13 | 2011-14 | 2010-13 (<20 months) | 2011-14 (<18 months) |
| LA's 3 year average | 786 | 779 | 254 | 272 | 43% | 36% |
| Stat Neighbour 3 year ave. | 680 | 636 | 240 | 251 | 50% | 49% |
| England 3 year ave. | 647 | 628 | 210 | 217 | 55% | 51% |

To further understand most recent Lancashire performance, in-year information is also monitored and reviewed. In addition, to gain an understanding of the direction that Lancashire is heading, in-house tracking measures are in place that detail the future projections (see Appendix 'A').

Performance on the adoption scorecard indicators is reviewed both monthly and quarterly. Furthermore, the full published scorecards for all authorities are readily available for further inspection from the DfE website.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

There are no risk management implications.

List of Background Papers

| Paper | Date | Contact/Directorate/Tel |
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N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A