

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD – 11th MARCH 2015**

**CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES BOARD PROGRESS  
UPDATE (2014/15)**

**REPORT OF: LAURA JOHNSTON, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND  
FAMILIES SERVICES, TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT**

**1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS**

The Children, Young People and Families Board is a Commissioning and Transformation Partnership which reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board and has the responsibility for “*reducing teenage pregnancy*” (the Health and Wellbeing Strategy priority). This reports sets out progress against this target and the wider work of the CYPFB.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1. To consider the progress that has been made against the:

- Children, Young People and Families Board strategic priorities; and
- Health and Wellbeing Board’s priority “*Reducing Teenage Pregnancy*”.

2.2. To identify any specific areas where greater focus/improvement should be sought by the Board.

**3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>	Do these proposals contribute to a specific HWB Priority?	
	Yes	The Children, Young People and Families Board have responsibility for progressing the HWB priority “ <i>reduce teenage pregnancy</i> ”.
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	Children, young people, families and carers within Telford and Wrekin.

<b>TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE</b>	<i>Insert date and if more than 6 months after the date of the HWB report, list key milestones</i>	
<b>FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT</b>	Yes	<p>The work being undertaken and highlighted in this report has been considered when formulating the current budget strategy. Therefore the working groups highlighted, and priority work tasks should be funded from within those formulated budgets. The Strengthening Families Programme is fully funded from grant received from the Government, and the payment by results system has rewarded the positive results of the programme resulting in the Council receiving around £0.3m in payment by results grant to add to the base grant of around £1m. Further funding for the phase 2 programme is available over a 5 year programme term.</p> <p>The transfer of responsibilities for Commissioning services for 0-5's is due to happen from October 2015. The estimated full year cost of delivering the services is £3.1m (£1.6m 2015/16). The final funding agreement has yet to be secured and is Subject to final agreement with the Department of Health.</p> <p>The Job Centre Employment Advisor referred to in paragraph 4.3.4 is funded by the Job Centre Plus with the Council being responsible for travel expenses only. The post is likely to be extended from 2 days to 4 days and this post will be fully funded by the DWP.</p> <p><b>RP 26.02.15</b></p>
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	Yes	The Children Act 2004 , supported by relevant Regulations and Statutory Guidance, sets out the duties of local authorities and their partner agencies

		<p>to co-operate and work together when undertaking their respective statutory functions so as to improve the wellbeing of children and relevant young persons.</p> <p>The Children, Young People and Families Board and the Local Safeguarding Children Board undertake these co-operation responsibilities.</p> <p>Rates of conceptions for under 18 year olds and under 16 year olds are indicators under the Public Health Outcomes Framework.</p> <p><i>KF 19.02.2015</i></p>
<b>EQUALITY &amp; DIVERSITY</b>	Yes/No	If yes, briefly list any other significant impacts in relation to equality & diversity.
<b>IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS</b>	No	Borough-wide impact
<b>PATIENTS &amp;/OR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT</b>	Yes	Please refer to the main section of the report for details on engagement.
<b>OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b>	No	N/A

## **PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

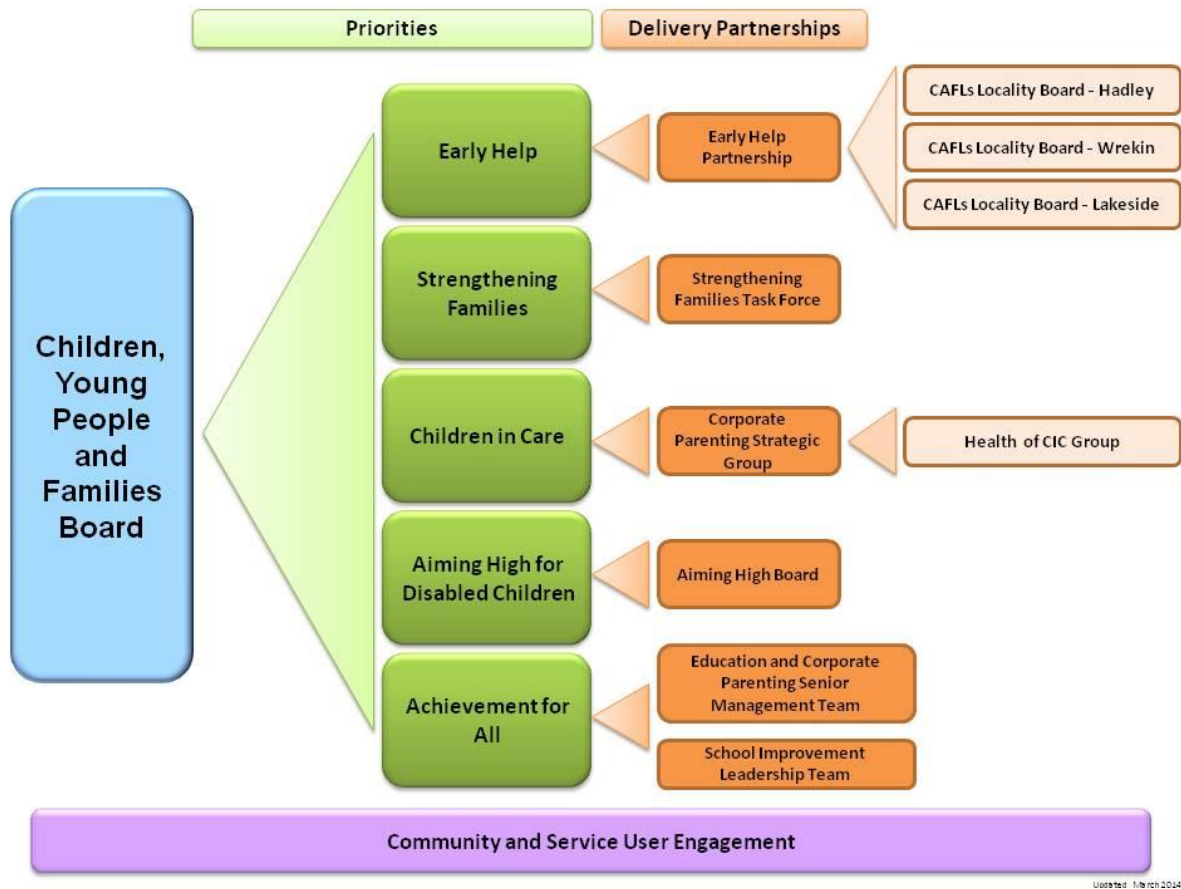
### **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1. The purpose of the Children, Young People and Families Board (CYPFB) is to promote the wellbeing of children and young people in Telford and Wrekin by taking a critical look at the challenges facing children, young people and families and agree action to address them. It is focussed on greater integration or alignment of partner services.
- 1.2. The CYPFB is a Commissioning and Transformation Partnership (CATP) that reports into the Health and Wellbeing Board. It has delivery responsibilities for the Health and Wellbeing Board's priority, "*reduce teenage pregnancy*".
- 1.3. The purpose of this report is to update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the progress being made against this priority as well as providing an update on the CYPFB targeted areas.

### **Strategic Focus**

- 1.4. The CYPFB has five strategic priorities where improved outcomes are sought:
  - **“Early Help”** – to ensure children, young people and families receive the *“right help at the right time”*. We want to improve the provision of support to ensure that needs are met as quickly as possible to avoid needs escalating and requiring more intensive intervention. This also includes reducing the number of teenager's conceiving.
  - **“Strengthening Families”** – to provide support to families, whether 'light' or 'intensive', at the right time. The Council's Strengthening Families Programme also delivers the DCLG Troubled Families payment by result programme.
  - **“Children in Care”** – to ensure that the Council and its partners act as effective corporate parents, challenging the support and services provided to children in care to ensure that they are able to fulfil their potential.
  - **“Aiming High for Disabled Children”** – seeks to improve outcomes for children with disabilities so that they fulfil their potential, in particular ensuring that children with disabilities and their families are supported and their views sought to inform service design, commissioning and delivery.
  - **“Achievement for All”** – to ensure that all children regardless of their background, vulnerable or the brightest, fulfil their educational potential.

1.5. Where appropriate, to support the CYPFB to drive its strategic priorities delivery partnerships have been established:



1.6. The CYPFB challenges and holds these partnerships to account on the work they are delivering as well as ensuring that we are improving outcomes for every child and young person while closing the gap for those who are disadvantaged.

## **2. ENGAGEMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, FAMILIES AND CARERS**

2.1. An integral part of the work of the CYPFB and its delivery partnerships is around ensuring that the voice of children, young people, their families and carers is heard and shapes service provision. A few examples of where engagement of children, young people, carers and families has made a difference are:

- *Early Help Offer and Strategy* – through a consultation process with children, young people, carers and families they were able to identify gaps in the current provision and areas to improve.
- *SEND reforms* – engagement with parents and carers has shaped local implementation and subsequently work with local voluntary groups about raising awareness of the reforms and how it impacts on them has occurred.

- *National Takeover Day:* On 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014 Children in Care spent the day with Council staff and members. As part of this day the Corporate Parenting Strategic Group hosted a session looking at educational achievement. The young people identified areas that enable them to achieve, barriers to achieving and things that might “blow them off course”. The outcomes from this session have been fed back into the Strategic Group and will inform actions to improve educational achievement in 2015.
- *Strengthening Families consultation:* All members of the family involved in the programme are consulted with as part of a systemic approach to developing a common purpose and agreed actions for the whole family. As part of the programme a piece of work was commissioned to:
  - Reach out to people who do not currently use our family support services and may benefit from using them;
  - Explore opportunities for joint working with statutory and voluntary organisations to meet unmet need; and
  - Explore community/or voluntary organisation provision within the community

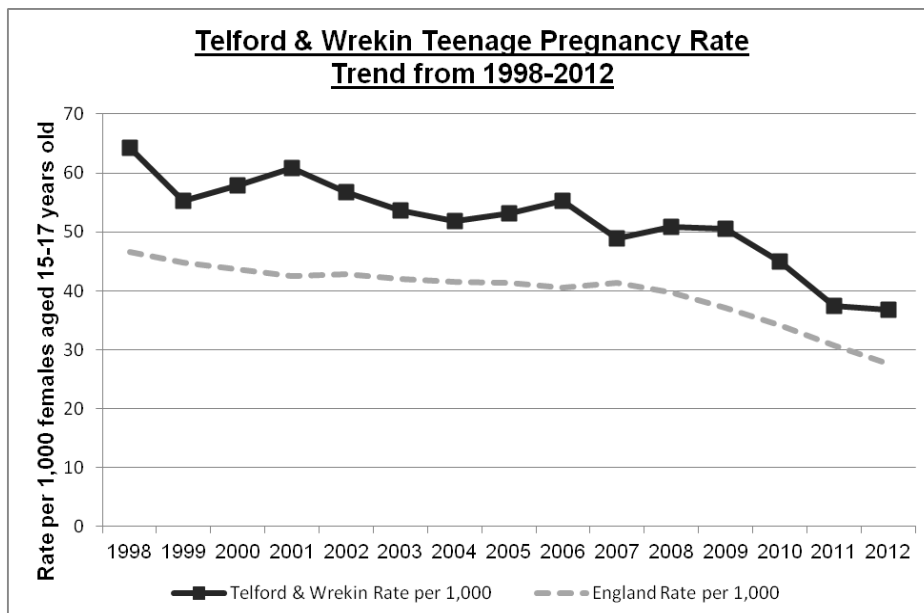
Furthermore the Council were involved in the Local Authority Research Consortium 5 which involved talking to five different families with multiple complexities to understand more about their situation and how they felt they could have been supported earlier.

### **3. PROGRESS UPDATE AGAINST HEALTH AND WELLBEING PRIORITY** **“REDUCE TEENAGE PREGNANCY”**

#### Current Performance

3.1. Teenage pregnancy rates in Telford & Wrekin have fallen over the past 20 years; however our local rate is significantly higher than the national rate. As such, reducing the number of teenage pregnancies remains a key priority.

3.2. The following graph shows the trend for teenage pregnancy in Telford and Wrekin since 1998. The latest rate is 36.1 per 1,000, compared to the national rate (27.7 per 1,000).



3.3. The Early Help Partnership is driving forward the progress within this area and as part of this work they are looking at establishing local targets to ensure good enough progress is being made and to utilise it as an evaluation tool against the services we commission that impact on teenage pregnancy.

#### Progress

3.4. Following a review of the evidence base and best practice an action plan to reduce the rate of teenage conceptions has been created. This includes:

- Improving access to high quality, young people friendly Contraception and Sexual Health Services
- An emphasis on high quality Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) in schools with clear links to contraception and sexual health services
- Provision of SRE and contraception information in other settings particularly popular with teenagers such as youth centres
- Clear and consistent communication to young people and parents including use of social media to 'reach out' to teenagers
- Embedding SRE within the practice of our Early Help workforce across partners, ensuring we *Make Every Contact Count* to promote the key messages and signpost to support services
- Support for parents of young people to provide SRE within the family environment
- Targeted support to at risk groups including young people in and leaving care, NEET's, those in the criminal justice system and those living in supported housing

3.5. The Family Nurse Partnership continues to provide intensive support to teenage parents which includes the provision of SRE and contraception advice to prevent repeat pregnancies.

## **4. PROGRESS AGAINST CYPFB STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

4.1. The CYPFB receive reports relating to its five strategic priorities highlighting the progress made and bringing to the Board's attention any ongoing areas of challenge. A summary against each priority is set out below.

### **4.2. Early Help**

*"Everyone needs some help and support at different times in their lives"*

4.2.1. The development of the Early Help Offer and Strategy provided an opportunity to revisit the responsibilities of the Council and partners around the prevention agenda for Early Help and Emotional Health and Wellbeing. Early Help and Emotional Health and Wellbeing are major components of many service areas within the Council and key partners including the NHS, schools, police, voluntary sector, and the community. Both are crucial to the health, wellbeing and development

of the children and families in Telford and Wrekin. The strategy outlines 5 outcomes:

- Improve the health and wellbeing of children, young people, families and carers.
- Improve the attainment of children and young people
- Improve the emotional health and wellbeing of children, young people, families and carers.
- Improve the prospects of children and young people in Telford and Wrekin
- Improve the engagement of children, young people, families and carers in services

4.2.2. The CYFPB has now agreed the Early Help Strategy, offer and performance monitoring framework.

#### Next Steps

4.2.3. As part of Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2013 the Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Children Board (TWSCB) has the responsibility to challenge the effectiveness of the early help offer and the impact on the children and young people within Telford & Wrekin. To date, the TWSCB has challenged the work around early help, ensuring that it is inclusive to all children and young people within Telford and Wrekin, including those with a disability. The TWSCB is due to receive a report outlining the effectiveness of the early help strategy in September 2015 (allowing for changes to be implemented and embedded).

4.2.4. The Early Help Partnership has developed a comprehensive action plan. Key priorities include:

- Further development of the Child Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) pathway with a focus on developing tier 2 provision
- Development of a bespoke schools based programme to deliver improved outcomes for emotional health and wellbeing
- Development of a health improvement proposal for primary and secondary schools
- Development of a needs led commissioned model of parenting support maximising links to local communities and the voluntary sector
- Work with NHS England and the Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust to manage the transfer of the commissioning responsibility for Health Visiting and Family Nurse Partnership to the local authority
- Refining our model for delivering Early Help Services to:
  - reduce duplication across service areas and teams
  - maximise the skills and expertise of our highly trained local workforce
  - build capacity and resilience within local communities and the voluntary sector
  - strengthen the links with education

### 4.3. **Strengthening Families**

4.3.1. The Government's Troubled Families Programme is a three year results based funding scheme, which aims to turn around the lives of 120,000 'troubled' families. At a local level we are delivering this programme as part of our 'Strengthening Families' agenda, which has three key objectives:

- Deliver and monitor evidence based, intensive, light and superlight family interventions with our identified families across all of the associated funding streams.
- Better understand how the community perceives our family support services and how they feel services can be delivered (our co-operative approach).
- Identify, develop and implement changes to service delivery and commissioning as a result of the learning from the programme.

4.3.2. Locally a target was set by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) Troubled Families Programme to turn around the lives of 365 families who meet the DCLG Troubled Families criteria. The outcome measures included:

- Increased attendance at school;
- Reduced ASB and youth crime; and
- Increased employment.

4.3.3. "Troubled Families" is a payment by results (PBR) initiative. To date there has been limited sharing/pooling of resources; however, phase 2 will provide more scope for this with the introduction of a cost savings calculator. This will allow us to develop a much better understanding of the financial benefits achieved through the programme to different partner agencies.

4.3.4. Job Centre Plus has seconded a Troubled Families Employment Advisor (TFEA) to phase1 of the programme. Such has been the success nationally that this arrangement will be extended with more capacity for phase 2. Locally this has proven to be an invaluable inclusion to our programme and we have been fortunate to secure the same worker moving forward into phase 2.

#### Current Performance:

4.3.5. Telford & Wrekin is currently performing above average within the DCLG Troubled Families Programme (50<sup>th</sup> out of 152 Local Authorities on the most recent published league tables).

4.3.6. The most recent published results show that Telford and Wrekin have "turned around" 296 families, equating to 81% of our total commitment.

4.3.7. A turn around can be achieved by a combination of outcomes for a family with respect to attendance at school, crime and antisocial behaviour and employment. The breakdown of results achieved to date are as follows:

- Exclusion results achieved: 56
- Attendance results achieved: 113
- School Roll results achieved: 7
- Permanent exclusion results achieved: 8
- Youth Offending results achieved: 81
- ASB results achieved: 124
- Progress to work: 13
- Maintained Employment: 8
- Subsequent employment: 6

As of 16 February 2015 the turnaround figure had increased to 365 meaning that we have achieved 100% turnaround. This will be published nationally in April 2015.

Next Steps:

4.3.8. Telford and Wrekin has achieved the eligibility threshold to become an early starter area for the expanded programme from January 2015, ahead of a national roll out in April 2015. Phase 2 will reach up to an additional 400,000 families across England with a further £200million already committed to fund the first year of this five year programme. The focus of phase 2 will be the continued transformation of our services locally and the cost benefits to the taxpayer.

4.3.9. Phase 2 progress will continue to be reported to the CYPFB and information pertaining to Phase 2's implementation will be shared and challenged to ensure that it is fit for purpose within Telford and Wrekin.

#### 4.4. **Children in Care**

4.4.1. In 2014 Telford & Wrekin Council teams that support children in care and care leavers were reviewed. The CYPFB was consulted upon regarding the changes to the teams to ensure that it would improve the outcomes for the children and young people they supported:

- *Children in Care and Leaving Care Team integration in Spring 2014.* The aims of the integration of both of these teams were:
  - To focus upon 'Stage not Age'; that age alone is not a determinant of the level of service provision that a young person receives.
  - To strengthen our approach to placement stability.
  - To reduce unnecessary changes of Social Workers at key transition points for 16-18 year olds in particular.
- *Corporate Parenting Team.* Following the restructure of the Education and Corporate Parenting Service in September 2014 the Corporate Parenting was changed into the Virtual School Team and certain aspects, including the support of the Care Council (VOICE), were no longer completed by this team but others within

the Council. This change is also beginning to see positive outcomes for children in care by providing more one-two-one support for the children in and out of school as well as supporting the schools to support the children appropriately.

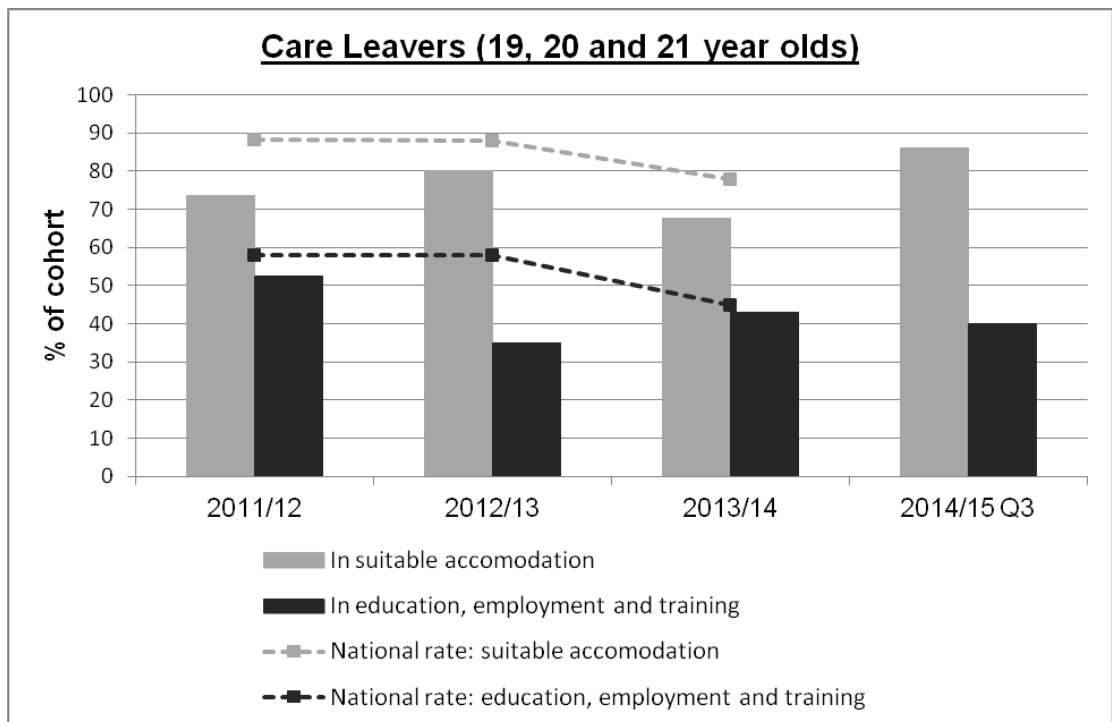
4.4.2. The Corporate Parenting Strategic Group, that reports to the CYPFB, has 5 outcomes:

- Improve both care and education placement stability
- Improve educational attainment
- Improve health and emotional wellbeing
- Ensure that all Children in Care/Care Leavers are supported as they move towards independence
- Ensure that all children and young people in care fully participate in the planning of the support and services they receive

Current Performance

4.4.3. The numbers of children in care have continued to decrease and as at end of December 2014 there are 292 children in care. This has brought the rate of children in care per 10,000 population (74.9) closer to the National rate (60).

4.4.4. *Care Leavers* has been a key area where the CYPFB has challenged around the progress being made to improve their outcomes. The following graph highlights the progress in the two key outcomes for Care Leavers (those in education, employment or training and those in suitable accommodation) and plots them against the National averages.



*N/B Although this graph highlights trends over the past three years, the cohort of care leavers that this measure now measures has increased from only including 19 year olds to include 20 and 21 year olds. From April 2015 this measure will be expanded further to include 16 and 17 year olds.*

The Corporate Parenting Strategic Group will receive a report from the services involved around how they will improve the numbers of care leavers in education, employment and training in March 2015.

#### Next Steps

- 4.4.5. The next CYPFB in March will concentrate on this priority, especially around its five outcomes to ensure that good enough progress is being made in each area.

### **4.5. Aiming High for Disabled Children**

4.5.1. The Aiming High for Disabled Children Group have been concentrating on the implementation of the Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) reforms came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. The aim of the reforms is to improve the life chances of children and young people through promoting early identification and intervention, bringing together the services needed to support the holistic needs of the children/young people 0-25, through a single assessment process, which co-ordinates existing assessments and leads to an appropriate plan.

4.5.2. Several work streams report to the SEND Steering Group chaired by the local Parent and Carers Council (PODS). All the work streams have required a significant cross agency/service strategic approach which encompass extended new duties which require significant changes in practice across a wider age range (0-25) and children and young people who are considered as “vulnerable learners”, for example young people in custody. In addition, there is an increased focus on personalisation, including personal budgets and development of a Local Offer.

#### Current Performance (as at 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015):

4.5.3. The Early Years Pilot has supported the completion of 15 Education Health Care Plans (EHCP) for children under the age of 5. This is higher than would normally be expected, but may eventually reflect similar numbers overall as the reforms encourage earlier identification of need. In practice many of these are children already attending The Bridge Assessment Nursery.

4.5.4. 28 other EHC assessments have been initiated since September 1<sup>st</sup> 2014. These numbers compare to a similar period in 39 in total 2013. Numbers may increase as awareness of the new systems beds in. 14 Transfer of Statements to EHCP (Year 11) have been initiated by Future Focus, none have yet been completed which is what would be expected at this time.

4.5.5. Discussions are underway to establish a benchmark for what a good EHCP looks like, we have some evidence of improved outcomes for some individuals, but the sample is too small to be able to evidence complete success.

Next Steps:

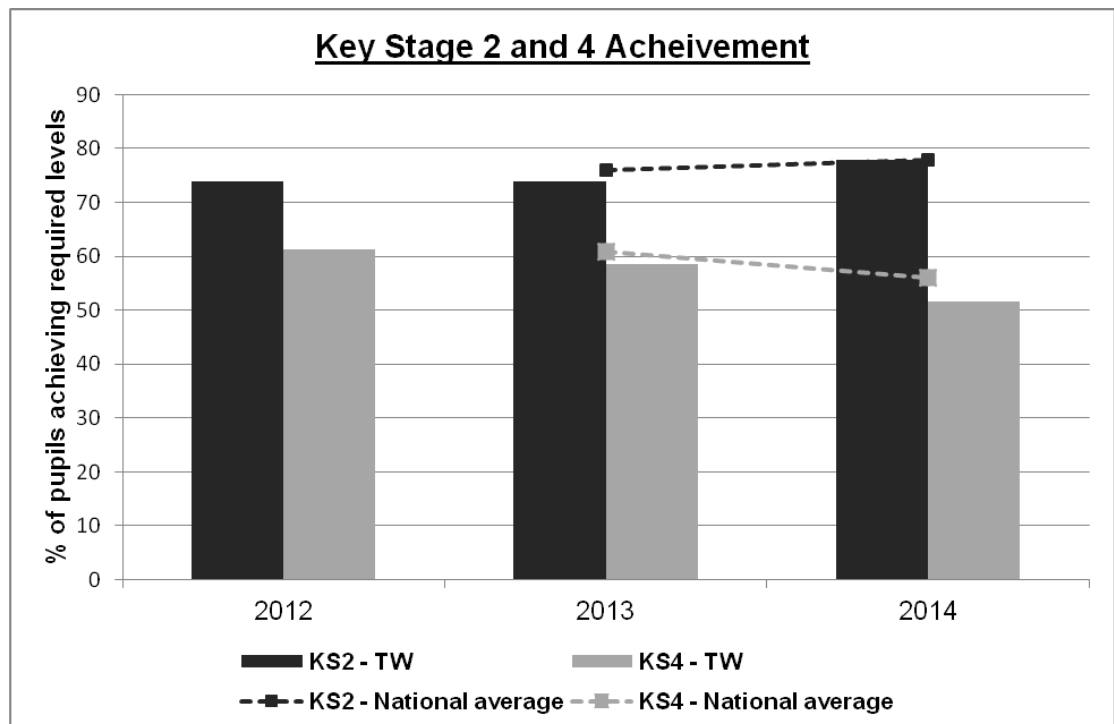
4.5.6. There is recognition for a need for significant culture change and the time it takes to achieve it. The multi-disciplinary approach supports staff development and systemic practice and specialist training has been accessed through attendance at cost free conferences, workshops provided by DfE and Pathfinders. This work has begun and will continue to be implemented and reported to the CYPFB in June 2015.

4.5.7. The need for culture change is also apparent in the work to develop a personalised approach in responding to assessed need, the need to work with parents/carers, children and young people is apparent and we need to further develop the Resource Allocation System (RAS) and change the thinking of professionals working with families to embed a personalised approach.

**4.6. Achievement for all**

4.6.1. The CYPFB receives regular updates from the Assistant Director for Education regarding the educational achievement of the children and young people within Telford and Wrekin and in December received an update around educational attainment for 2013/14 academic year.

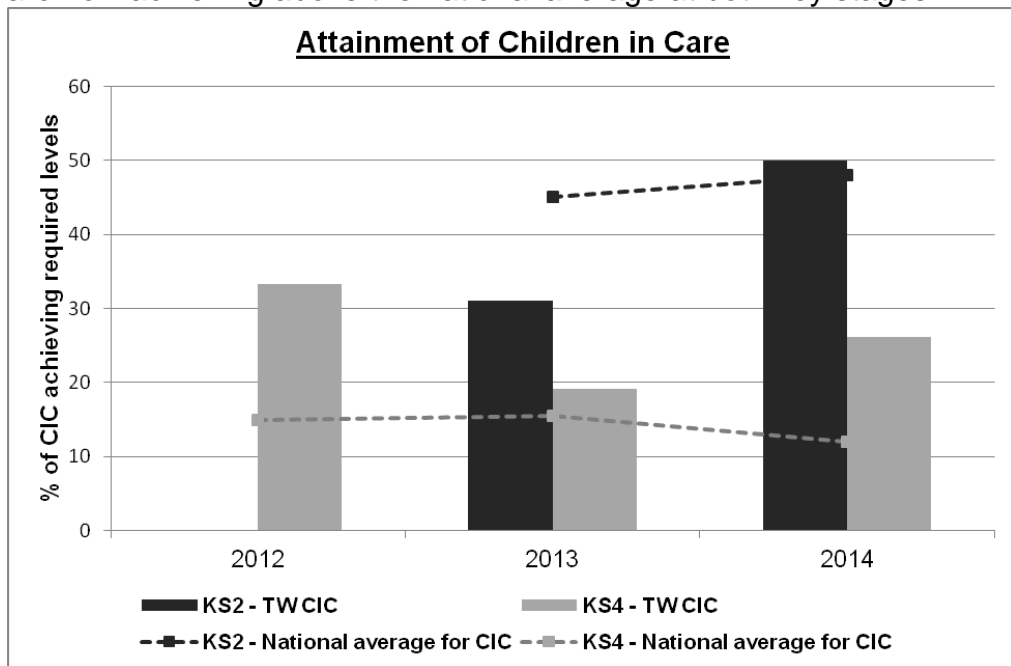
Current Performance



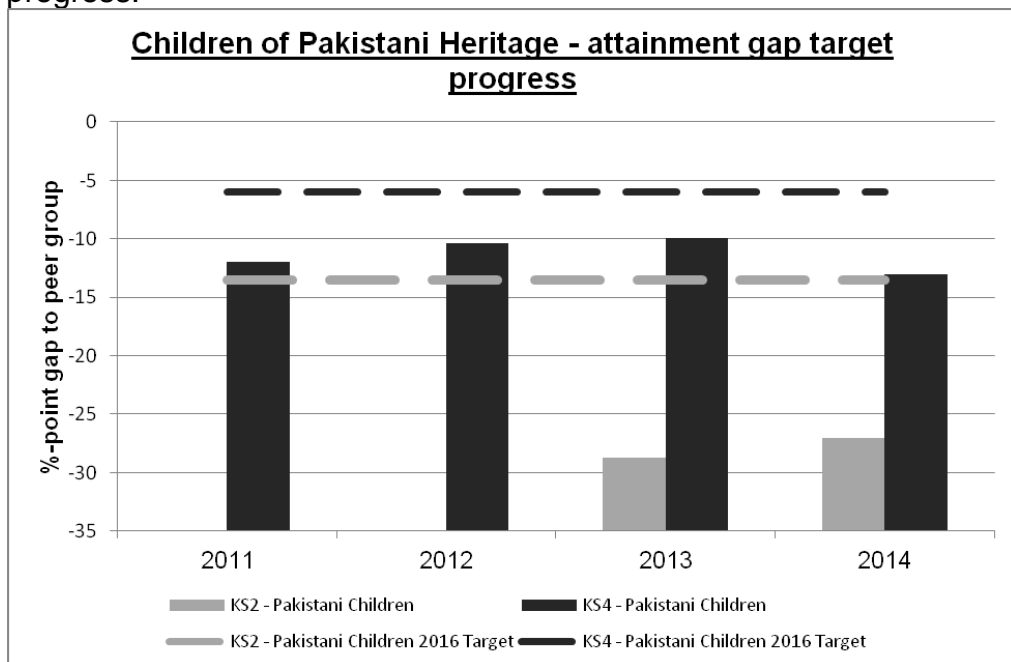
NB/ 2014 KS4 results are not directly comparable to 2013 results due to a change in methodology.

4.6.2. The educational attainment of children at Key Stage 2 has seen an improvement in 2014 and Telford and Wrekin children are now achieving at the same level as the National rate. At Key Stage 4 Telford and Wrekin children are performing at a slightly lower level than the national rate.

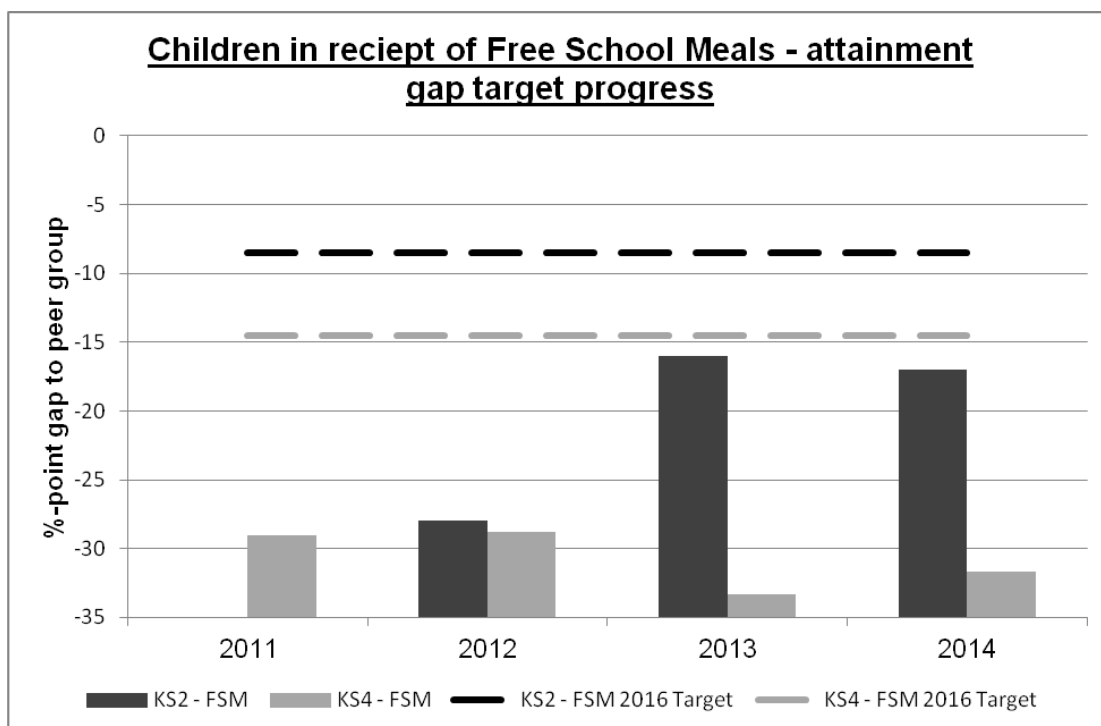
4.6.3. In both Key Stage 2 and 4 there have been improvements in the educational achievement of Telford & Wrekin Children in Care and they are now achieving above the national average at both key stages:



4.6.4. For the Council's attainment equality targets (those in receipt of Free School Meals and those of a Pakistani heritage) there has been mixed progress:



NB/ The cohort of Pakistani children is small and thus small changes in numbers affect the overall percentage. Similarly due to changes in the KS4 methodology the 2014 measure for Pakistani children only relates to one year data rather than an average over three.



### Next Steps

4.6.5. Following the publication of the results for equality targets the Education and Corporate Parenting Team have identified which schools they need to target to improve the attainment of those children that are not achieving. A package of training and support has been developed to improve the performance of our vulnerable learners by targeting the resources available through Pupil Premium in order to narrow the achievement gap. This will concentrate on developing good practice across all key stages in order to reduce the variability in performance.

4.6.6. The team supporting the educational progress of Children in Care has been strengthened and we are piloting a new system to make better use of data across our schools and settings which will allow the team to intervene in a more timely manner and hopefully improve outcomes.

## **5. OTHER KEY AREAS**

5.1. Implications of the Care Act 2014 on young people, especially young carers and the transition between children's services and adult services.

5.2. Missing Children – update from the Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Children Board sub-group about its progress and highlighting areas of challenge, especially around the completion of return home interviews for young people who go missing in timescale.

5.3. Overall performance against the CYPFB priorities. A report was received in December highlighted some key areas of progress noted against the

priorities but also highlighting areas of further challenge. One of particular note was around homelessness of young people; 77.5% of the homelessness acceptances for the first 6 months of 2014/15 were from the 16-24 age group.

5.3.1. The CYPFB requested a more detailed report surrounding the causes of this issue and how the Council and its partners were addressing it.

5.3.2. At the February 2015 meeting Jas Bedesha (Service Delivery Manager for Cohesion) presented at report outlines the current issues within homelessness. In summary the report outlined that both locally and nationally the demand for housing for 16 to 17 year olds and care leavers has increased due to the changes in the Welfare Reform alongside the lack of appropriate and suitable accommodation. Additional temporary accommodation properties are being sourced and the opening of The Woodlands in Woodside (supported accommodation for young people with complex needs) on 27<sup>th</sup> March/April 2015 should assist in alleviating some the challenges. Linked to The Woodlands will also be a “step up and step down” facility at what is currently Dodmoor and this will provide the young people the required level of support they need to move on. This area is being driven forward by the Homelessness Partnership which feeds in to the Community Safety Partnership.

5.4. *Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)*. The provision of this service has been a key area of concern for the CYPFB for the past few years, especially around the provision of Tier 2 and 3 services. In December 2014, the CAMHS Tier 2 team and a parent who had involvement with the service presented an update on the progress they have made in the last year. The CYPFB were pleased to hear that at point in time there were only 4 young people awaiting an assessment and that the time take to complete an assessment was now between 4 and 6 weeks. The parent who attended the meeting commented that the team had provided her with advice and guidance at every step and that there was excellent communication between the team and herself. Although this is significant progress pathways around certain areas, especially for supporting children in care, are being reviewed to ensure they are fit for purpose.

## **6. NEXT STEPS FOR CYPFB IN 2015**

6.1. In 2015 the CYPFB will receive progress report from each of the delivery partnerships concentrating more specifically on the following areas:

- Progress against action plans;
- Performance against outcomes;
- Engagement of young people/families/carers/frontline staff and the impact it has had;
- Financial implications (especially considering collective resources if applicable); and

- Risks and mitigation

6.2. The aim of this more detailed progress report is to enable the CYPFB to bring a greater consistency and connectivity to partnership working around children and to further enable the Board to drive and challenge how services to children and young people in the Telford and Wrekin are being delivered.

6.3. The CYPFB will focus on other key areas including:

- Child Sexual Exploitation;
- Volunteering;
- Engagement with families around the SEND reforms;
- Hearing from the local British Muslim women community about the issues that effect them and their community; and
- Partaking in National Takeover Day 2015.

## **7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

None.

## **8. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Health & Wellbeing Priority Update: Reducing Teenage Pregnancy - 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

## **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Children, Young People and Families Plan 2013-2016

**Report prepared by Sarah Constable, Partnership and Planning Officer,  
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