



SWINDON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

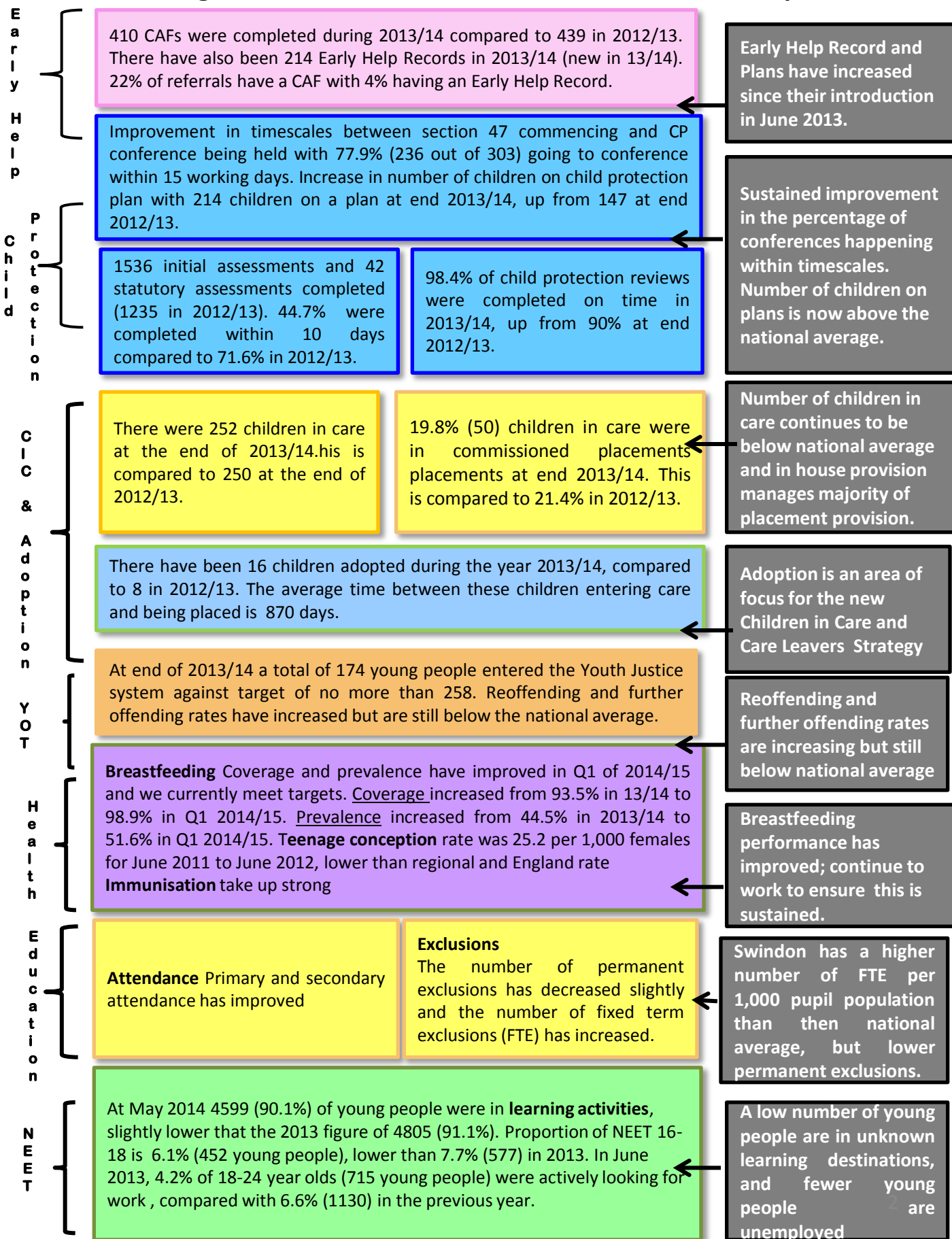
Children's Trust Board Performance Report

Meeting Date 11th September 2014

Final 2013/14 data position

Quarter 1 2014/15 where data available

Headline Messages from Q4 13/14 & Q1 14/15 - detail in main report



Performance Assessment

Early Help

Early Help Assessments have significantly increased. In 2012/13, 437 CAFS were completed, this increased to 637 In 2013/14. November 2013 saw the introduction of the Early Help Record and Plan which replaced the CAF. This has been positively received by our practitioners and partners.

	Financial Year	
	<u>12/13</u>	<u>13/14</u>
CAF	437	410
EHR	N/A	227
Total	437	637

Our data is not showing a commensurate increase in TACs and Plans. This requires further investigation as every Early Help Record requires a plan to be developed.

The Early Help Record and Plan is also part of the new processes being introduced in September 2014 to meet the requirements of new Code of Practice for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This means there will be a common process for Early Help for children with additional needs and those with SEN and disabilities. It also means one process for escalating concerns and needs across SEND and Social Care and stepping down when outcomes are achieved. This will lead to less duplication and a graduated response to need. It will further build on the concept of a single assessment, across education, health and social care. The Early Help Record and Plan will inform the decision to issue an Education, Health and Care Plan.

Contacts to Social Care There were 8297 contacts to social care during the year 2013/14 compared to 6625 in the previous year, a 24.6% increase. 2254 contacts (27.1%) have progressed to referral. In 2012/13, 24.6% of contacts (1632 out of 6625) progressed to referral. Ofsted judged thresholds into social care were widely understood across the system and interventions in families at the threshold were proportionate to risk and need. Between April and June 2014 there have been 2508 contacts to children's social care.

Strengths

- ✓ Increased number of contacts progressing to referral are a good indication that work around thresholds in multi agency context is having an impact at the frontline

Challenges/Risks

- The overall numbers of EHRs in comparison to Statutory assessment is the reverse of what might prefer to see

Safeguarding at the social care front door – referrals and assessments

Performance Assessment

Referrals and Re-Referrals 2254 referrals were received during 2013/14. This is higher than in 2012/13 but below the national and statistical neighbour average. It is in line with the south west region. Swindon has seen an increase from 346 referrals per 10,000 population in 2012/13 to 479 per 10,000 population in 2013/14. This translates to an additional 622 referrals. The average monthly number of referrals for 2013/14 is 188 compared to 136 in 2012/13, a 38% increase.

Of the 2254 referrals for 2013/14, 24.6% (544) are re-referrals. This compares to 18.8% (306) re-referrals in 2012/13. The high rate of re-referrals needs further analysis as it can indicate that children are being re-referred as a result of their needs not being fully and consistently met. It can also indicate that more referrals are stepped down to early help for a period of time prior to re-referring to social care at a later date following early intervention services. A re-referral audit has been commissioned to increase understanding on the reasons for the increase. At the end of June 2014 the re-referral rate (cumulative for April-June 2014), was 23.6%, or 199 re-referrals out of a total of 845 referrals between April and June 2014.

Distribution of Statutory Assessment Completion.

As advised in the last performance report, the introduction of the statutory assessment nationally, means that initial and core assessments are now effectively combined as one single assessment process, and this will be measured in terms of distribution of days of all statutory assessments completed in the reporting period. The average duration of a statutory assessment in Swindon for those completed between April and June 2014 was 21 days. This compares to an average of 26 days based on the 12/13 published outturns for a handful of trial authorities for trial assessment (all of which were London Authorities). The variation in performance was between 12 and 43 and so this average should be treated with some caution.

Number of children in need (Section 17 social care).

There were 993 children in need at end 2013/14. This does not include children subject to child protection plan, children in care or children who are care leavers. This is a 27% increase from 780 in 2012/13. In addition to this there were 163 children who are aged over 18 that are open cases to the 16+ team. At the end of June 14 there were 1214 children in need cases open. Some of these will be awaiting case closure following assessment and some will be in the assessment process.

Strengths and Challenges

Strengths

- ✓ Referral rate still remains lower than national average. This is an indicator that early help services are intervening effectively and helping to keep the number of referrals meeting social care thresholds in Swindon at a lower rate in the national context. This is still the case even with the increased referral rate experienced locally.

Challenges

- ✓ Statutory Assessment completion rates are new and require close monitoring. High caseloads in Assessment and Child Protection contribute to assessment completion timeliness.

Performance Assessment

Section 47s going to conference within 15 working days.

519 Section 47s were completed during 2013/14. This compares to 399 in 2012/13. This is a 30.1% increase. Between April and June 2014 there have been 98 investigations.

303 out of the 531 Section 47s completed went to conference, compared to 185 in 2012.13. Of the 303 conferences, 77.9% (236) went to conference within 15 working days, compared to 50% in the previous year. This is above the national average of 70% and the statistical neighbour average of 67.7%. The position at the end of June 2014 has improved further to 80.6% of conferences (64 completed on time out of a total of 79) taking place between April and June 2014 taking place within 15 working days.

Children on Child Protection Plans 214 children were on a child protection plan as at 31st March 14, up from 147 at the end of 2012/13. This is a 45.6% increase. Swindon now has a higher rate (45.4 per 10,000 population aged under 18, than nationally (37.9), and statistical neighbours (37.3). It is important to remember that latest benchmarking data is only available for 12/13 and when the 13/14 data is published there is likely to be an increase nationally. At the end of June 2014 there were 219 children on child protection plans.

Of the 214 children on child protection plans at the end of 2013/14, 98.4% had their reviews completed on time, compared to 90% at the end of 2012/13. The national average was 96.2% in 12/13. Performance has improved in Quarter 1 of 2014/15 with 99% of reviews being completed within timescales.

Number of children having second or subsequent plans For 2013/14, the rate of children starting a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time is 12.4% (36 out of 290). This is an increase from 8.9% in 2012/13, This is lower than the national average of 14.9% and below the statistical neighbour average of 15.8%. At the end of June 2014, 6% of children (4 out of 66 children) were the subject of a second or subsequent plan based on the number of children commencing plans between April and June 2014.

Duration of children on child protection plans For 2013/14 5.4% of children (12 out of 221) ceasing a child protection plan remained on a plan for two years or more, compared to 2.5% in the previous year. This is slightly above the 12/13 national average of 5.2% and above the statistical neighbour average of 4.5%. At the end of June 2014. 1.85% of children (1 out of 54 children) ceasing plans had been on a plan for 2 years or more a the point of ceasing to be on a plan.

Strengths

- ✓ Improved timescales between section 47 commencing and child protection conference being held

Challenges/Risks

- The numbers of children subject to CP Plans is higher than we would wish to see.

Children in Care and Adoption

Performance Assessment

Number of children in care 252 children were in care at the end of 2013/14. This compares with 250 at the end of 2012/13. Swindon is below the national average based on the 12/13 comparator data and the number of children in care as at the end of June 14 was 238. **A report on teenagers in care is brought to the Trust Board meeting in September 2014.**

Commissioned Placements 50 children in care (19.8%) were in commissioned placements at the end of 2013/14. This compares with 21.4% in 2012/13. The number of children in commissioned placements has remained the same (50 children) at the end of June 14, however due to the decrease in the care population, the percentage has gone up to 21%.

Placement Stability 17.9% (45 out of 252) of children in care will have had 3 or more placements in 2013/14. This is higher than national and statistical neighbour averages which were 11% and 11.6% respectively for 2012/13. The higher rate in Swindon is attributable to Swindon having a higher number of young people aged 16 or over in care. This group of young people do tend to move placement more frequently. During quarter 1 2014/15, just over 1% of the children in care population have more than 3 placements recorded. As performance is cumulative over the year it does increase as the months go on. There are data recording issues with this measure which leads to the measure being under reported in year. A hotspot action plan is in place to address.

Adoption - 16 children have been adopted between April 2013 and March 2014, an increase from 8 in 2012/13. There were 7 special guardianships in 2013/14, down from 20 in 2012/13. There have been 3 adoptions in quarter 1 of 2014/15.

Timeliness of Adoption – The average number of days between coming into care and placed for adoption for children adopted is 870 (measure over 3 years). This reflects the impact of children who are ‘statistical outliers’ and form the last of the legacy cohort of children who will skew performance for this measure and for whom the expectation is the completion of adoption orders during 2013/14. Without these outliers performance was 650 days. This has been a recognised performance ‘hotspot’ in Swindon and detailed analysis has been undertaken. National data for 2012/13 adoption scorecard was 636 days.

Strengths

- The number of children in commissioned placements has reduced.
- The number of children adopted has increased.

Challenges/Risks

- Increase in number of children in care with 3 or more placements.

Quality Assurance

Performance Assessment

Findings from Quality Assurance audits

LSCB Quality Assurance :

Undertook a multi-agency audit of 8 teenagers at risk, the audit findings were limited as the audit took place over the course of the CQC and then Ofsted inspections in Swindon when agencies had limited resources to complete it. The main area requiring improvement was record keeping across agencies. Multi agency working and information sharing was found to be good with the exception of some cases where records were not transferred between schools.

Completed a multi-agency audit of 20 strategy meetings in July 2014. The audit group judged 50% of these to be inadequate due to the lack of involvement of health professionals, issues of poor recording across agencies including the Police and health and some action plans lacking timescales. Strategy meetings were of a higher quality than telephone discussions. The audit did not raise any concerns about thresholds or the immediate protection of children

The LSCB is currently undertaking 2 local case reviews which will be reported to the December LSCB meeting

Children and Families Quality Assurance

An audit of child sexual exploitation was commissioned by Children's Social Care in June 2014, draft findings indicate that there are areas for improvement in terms of identification and robustness of response at the social care 'front door'.

Strengths

- Learning from past case work better enables service improvements for all partner agencies

Challenges/Risks

- To embed the learning from the reviews and audits into all workers case work

Performance Assessment

Reducing the number of Young People committing offences for the first time – First time entrants (FTE)

The Youth Offending Team has a local target of no more than 258 young people entering the youth justice system for the first time between April 2013 and March 2014. Against this target, the end of year figure was a total of 174 young people coming in to the system, including 55 Cautions and 28 Youth Conditional Cautions, which continues an encouraging long term trend predominantly influenced by the increasing use of Local Resolutions by the Police 273. Local Resolutions are known to improve victim satisfaction, reduce administration across the youth justice sector, and help keep young people from entering the system for relatively minor offences.

April – June 2014/15 (Q1 data) Local target to maintain low numbers of FTE's less than 44 per quarter. Against this figure actual figures were 32 First Time Entrants, ie well below target. In addition the quarterly stats include 31 Youth Cautions, 7 Youth Conditional Cautions and 56 Community Resolutions

Re-Offending Rates

Re-offending is close to national rates in line with trends for all YOTs, which reflects the changing nature of the cohort of young offenders. Data on re-offending amongst young people is beginning to show an upward trend in line with experience elsewhere, although Swindon's performance is still below the national average (34% in Swindon compared with a national rate of 35%). The increase is largely attributable to the fact that, although the overall population of young offenders has been falling due to the successful use of pre court disposals, the percentage of young people that do enter the youth justice system have more complex needs and more entrenched in offending behaviour is subsequently higher. The next available data on re-offending rates is due to be published by the Ministry of Justice in January. At the time of completing this update, PNC data had not been received. Local YOT data suggests that our rate of re-offending will rise. Note: Re-offending data is based on a cohort relating to 2011/12. The YJB and CACI are in discussion to use the 2012/13 cohort across all YOTs but system changes are required before this can happen.

Further Offending

Further offending is also showing an upward trend which the Youth Offending Team is closely monitoring in order to focus resources accordingly. The data for further offending has been re-calculated with the result now 0.95 offences per re-offender compared with the national average of 0.98. PNC were due to publish data January, but this has not been received in time for this report. Local data suggests that this will remain reasonably static.

Strengths

- ✓ The number of young people offending for the first time has decreased.

Challenges/Risks

- There is an upward trend in relation to re-offending and further offending. This is still just below the national average but is an area of performance challenge.

Performance Assessment

Obesity

Headline data- National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) data from the school year 2012/13, published in December 2013, shows that obesity prevalence in Swindon in year 6 pupils is 19.5%. The Swindon Corporate Strategy target for childhood obesity is to reduce obesity at age 11 to the same level or less than the average for England, as measured by NCMP data. The England prevalence for year 6 is 18.9%. Although the England prevalence is slightly lower than the Swindon prevalence, the difference is not statistically significant, therefore this target has been met. The prevalence in year 6 pupils has risen from 17.3% in 2006/07, but the change is not statistically significant. Early indications for Swindon NCMP data for the 2014/15 school year are that obesity in year 6 has reduced to 17.5%; validated data are published in December 2014 and this figure may change slightly. There is no statistically significant difference between the Swindon year 6 data for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 school year. We await England data to make comparisons with England and statistical neighbours.

For reception year the prevalence was 10.2% in the 2012/13 school year. The prevalence has risen slightly from 9.8% in 2006/07, although this change is not statistically significant. Nevertheless, the possibility of an upward trend is concerning. There was not a statistically significant difference between Swindon and England, nor between Swindon and the South West in 2012/13, although in both instances the Swindon prevalence was the higher one. Early indications for Swindon NCMP data for the 2014/15 school year are that obesity in reception year has reduced to 9.5%; this figure may change when the validated data are published in December 2014. There is no statistically significant difference between the Swindon reception year data for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 school year. We await England data to make comparisons with England and statistical neighbours

A number of new programmes are being developed in Swindon schools and the wider community which will encourage an increase in physical activity and the consumption of a healthy diet. These include a new Department for Education project aiming to increase take-up of school meals (including Free School Meals) in Primary and Secondary schools, which is recruiting schools from May 2014 and which starts in September 2014 for one year; national PE and sports premium funding of £9,000/year/primary school for the next 3 years (starting in 2013/14 academic year); active travel programmes in schools including an art competition with the theme 'Travelling through time' in Walk to School week, which runs from 19th until 23rd May 2014; free school meals for reception, year 1 and year 2, starting September 2014 and on-going work to improve school meals nutritional quality in Swindon. We also have an early years obesity prevention programme.

Strengths

- Un-validated data indicate a small drop in obesity levels in Reception and Year 6 pupils for 2013/4 school year data

Challenges/Risks

- Slight rise in obesity levels in Reception and Year 6 in 2012/13 school year data

Performance Assessment

Breastfeeding

The breastfeeding prevalence target of 47% for quarter 1 of 2014/15 was met - the actual prevalence was 51.6%. The national breastfeeding coverage target of 95% was met - the actual coverage was 98.9%.

There were issues with data quality for Swindon in 2013/14 which have now been resolved. There have been issues with data recording in many areas of England and no data was reported for England by Public Health England due to poor data quality overall.

Actions taken

We will continue to implement the breastfeeding action plan. One key programme on this plan is to improve breastfeeding is the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative, which includes different stages of implementation and assessment involving a number of initiatives, including training staff to support mothers who wish to breastfeed and ensuring that our policies are supportive to breastfeeding. Stage 1 has been achieved in the Swindon community. Stage 2- the assessment took place on 2nd and 3rd July 2014. Swindon achieved excellent scores in all areas except one, which relates to 'increasing understanding from staff on the importance of frequent stooling as a sign that a baby is receiving an adequate milk transfer'. This standard relates to preventing hospital admissions for feeding problems. Swindon has developed an action plan to resolve this through training and audit of practice. Once an audit shows that practice has improved, the results will be sent to the national Baby Friendly team for sign off and stage 2 will be passed. This should be achieved by the end of 2014.

Strengths

Targets for prevalence and coverage are being achieved.

Challenges/Risks

Breastfeeding will be monitored closely going forward to check performance improvement is sustained

Performance Assessment

Immunisation data for 2013/14 Q4 is as follows:

The uptake rates for the fourth quarter of 2013-14 were higher than all those reported nationally and all but two measures in the regional figures: Primary DTaP/IPV/Hib and Primary PCV in the 12-month cohort. The data for Primary MenC at 12 months was not available due to inaccuracies across PCTs following the change to the UK Immunisation Programme in June 2013.

The figures for Swindon were between 1.3% and 5.6% higher than the national totals, with an average difference of 3.1%. The biggest differences between the national figures and those reported in Swindon occurred again in the 5-year cohort (723 children in Swindon; 164,141 in the whole of England) for booster vaccinations:

- Preschool booster DTaP/IPV (Swindon: 94.1%; National: 88.5%)
- Booster MMR (Swindon: 92.7%; National: 88.2%)
- Booster Hib/MenC (Swindon: 96.4%; National: 92.1%)

Data for Quarter 1 of 2014-15 has not yet been published nationally; however, the key headlines are:

- All five measures in the 5-year cohort increased since the previous quarter, four of which were the highest ever recorded.
- All four measures in the 2-year cohort decreased from the previous quarter by at least 1%.
- All three measures in the 12-month cohort increased by 0.8%.
- The uptake for MenC at 12 months was the highest ever recorded.

Strengths

- ✓ Swindon has a high uptake generally for immunisations

Challenges/Risks

Performance Assessment

Teenage Conception:

Reducing risky sexual behaviour and teenage pregnancies continues to be a key public health issue of health, educational and social inequalities. Swindon continues to follow the national trend in reducing teenage conceptions and unwanted teenage pregnancies. We have reduced teenage pregnancy by 48.0% since the launch of the first Strategy in 1998 which is significantly ahead of the national reduction of 40.6%. In Swindon the rate of conceptions in women aged under 18 years was 27.8 per 1,000 in the year 2012. This is higher than the regional South West rate (24.8 per 1,000) and similar to the England average rate (27.7 per 1,000). The 2012 Ward Data for Teenage Conceptions will be released in September 2014. Local (unpublished) data shows that teenage conceptions and conceptions leading to birth are continuing to fall.

The work to reduce risky sexual behaviour and teenage pregnancy in Swindon continues to be achieved through well-developed partnerships across Swindon Borough Council, Health, Schools and Colleges and other local key partners. To update our intelligence a Sexual Health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is currently being undertaken in line with the national strategy contained in the *Sexual Health Improvement Framework* which will provide us with a strong empirical evidence base for our future commissioning.

Our commissioned *Swindon Integrated Sexual Health Service* (SWISH) continues to raise the profile of good sexual health outcomes and reduce risk-taking behaviour which includes high quality outreach to colleges and vulnerable young people. A new one stop Sexual Health Website and accompanying campaign was launched in August 2014 (<http://www.swindonsexualhealth.nhs.uk/>). Our front line services for young people continue to play a key role; the *School Nursing Service* provides in-school clinics and our Youth Engagement Workers promote healthy relationships and sexual health within their targeted work.

Swindon's priorities are to ensure the provision of high quality, comprehensive sex and relationships education linked to easy access to contraception. We aim to continue to provide a universal offer with good SRE education and access to contraception for all, whilst also providing targeted support for young people at risk. This will be achieved by supporting schools and colleges to review their delivery and quality of relationships education, targeted work to increase Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARCs) and STI prevention with high risk young people. In addition a *Teenage Pregnancy Strategic Group* is in place to look at how we support young parents by increasing opportunities to engage in education, training and employment to ensure positive outcomes for young parents and their children.

A full report on Teenage Pregnancy will be submitted to the Children's Trust Board in September 2014.

Strengths

Challenges/Risks

Education Attendance

Performance Assessment

Primary School Attendance

Primary absence was 3.3% in May 2014, lower than for the same period of previous year, 4.0%. For reference, absence in Primary schools in Swindon in 2012/13 (terms 1 to 4) was 4.6% while the national and regional averages were 4.8% and 4.9%, respectively.

Secondary School Attendance

Secondary absence was 5.7% in May 2014, lower than for the same period of previous year, 6.8%. For reference, absence in Secondary schools in Swindon in 2012/13 (terms 1 to 4) was 5.8% while the national and regional averages were 5.8% and 6.0%, respectively.

Persistent Absenteeism (less than 85% attendance)

Based on the latest official data for school absence (Autumn Term 13/14) 4.1% of pupils had less than 85% attendance (authorised and unauthorised) and this compared with 4.3% nationally.

For comparison purposes, in 2012/13, 4.6% of all pupils were persistent absentees (those with less than 85% attendance) during 2012/13 (terms 1 to 4), while the national and regional averages were 5.1% and 4.8%, respectively.

Strengths

✓ Primary and secondary attendance continues to be strong in the national context.

Challenges/Risks

.

Education Exclusions

Performance Assessment

How many children have had fixed term exclusions (FTEs)?

There were 1523 FTEs in Swindon schools up to end of June 2014, higher than the 1382 FTEs for the same period in the previous year.

207 (14%) of FTEs were from primary-aged pupils while 1316 (86%) were from secondary-aged pupils. Almost half of all FTEs 633 (42%) were from pupils at Years 10 and 11. 315 (21%) pupils with an FTE were Female while 1208 (79%) were Male. 961 (63%) of FTEs were from pupils with Special Educational Needs.

The average length of a FTE is 1.68 days, compared to 1.85 days for the previous year.

The main reasons for FTEs up to end of June 2014 were: 503 (33%) for Persistent Disruptive Behaviour, 296 (19%) for Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against Adult, 290 (19%) for Physical Assault against Pupil, 143 (9%) for Physical Assault against Adult and 291 (19%) for other reasons.

Latest figures made available by the Department for Education show that FTEs as percentage of school population for Swindon in 2011/12 was 4.78, an increase from 3.53 in the previous year, and this compares to 4.05 for England, 3.82 for the South West, and 4.44 for Statistical Neighbours.

How many children have been Permanently Excluded from school?

13 children were permanently excluded from Swindon schools up to end of June 2014, compared to 14 for the same period in the previous year. 8 PEXs were from secondary-aged pupils, and 5 were from primary-aged pupils. 1 was female and 12 were male. 9 PEXs pupils had a Common Assessment.

6 were for Physical Assault against Pupil, 3 PEXs had Persistent Disruptive Behaviour as the reason for exclusion, 3 were for Physical Assault against Adult and 1 for Verbal Abuse / Threatening Behaviour Against Pupil.

28 pupils had their Permanent Exclusion withdrawn during September to June 2014, compared to 26 for the same period in the previous year.

Latest figures made available by the Department for Education show that PEX as percentage of school population for Swindon in 2011/12 was 0.05, the same as for the previous year, and this compares to 0.07 for England, 0.06 for the South West, and 0.08 for Statistical Neighbours.

Strengths

- The number of permanent exclusions has decreased slightly, and is below the national average.

Challenges/Risks

- The number of fixed term exclusions has increased and is above the national average.

Performance Assessment

NEET, Participation in Learning and Youth Unemployment

May 2014 figures show that the proportion of 16-17 year-olds (academic ages) **in learning activities** in Swindon was 90.1% (4,599 young people), slightly lower than last year's figures of 91.1% (4,805 young people).

The proportion of 16-17 year-olds (academic ages) **in Unknown activities** in Swindon is 3.1% (170 young people), higher than last year's figures of 2.7% (141 young people), but below national and regional averages of 4.0% and 3.9%

The proportion of **16-18 year-olds (academic ages) that is NEET** in Swindon is 6.1% (452 young people), lower than last year's figures of 7.7% (577 young people).

JSA Claimant Count figures from the Office for National Statistics show that in June 2014 4.2% (715 young people) of **18-24 year-olds were actively looking for work in Swindon**, compared to 6.6% (1,130 young people) for the same period in the previous year. National and regional figures for are 3.8% and 2.6%, respectively. 9.5% of 18-24 year-olds were unemployed in Swindon during the period Jan 2013-Dec 2013, compared to 15.6% for the same period in the previous year. National and regional figures for the same period are 12.8% and 11.8%.

Strengths

- ✓ The proportion of 16-18 year olds NEET has decreased
- ✓ The number of 18-24 year olds unemployed has decreased

Challenges/Risks

- The proportion of 16-17 year olds in learning activities has decreased