

For general release

REPORT TO:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub Committee 21 January 2020
SUBJECT:	Update on the Early Help and Children's Social Care Improvement Programme – Performance trends
LEAD OFFICER:	Rob Henderson, Executive Director, Children, Families & Education
CABINET MEMBER:	Cllr Alisa Flemming, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Learning
PERSON LEADING AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING:	Rob Henderson, Executive Director, Children, Families & Education

CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON:

[Corporate Plan for Croydon 2018-2022](#)

The plans and recommendations in this report focus on ensuring that all Croydon's children live a happy, healthy life, free from harm and that they have every opportunity to thrive and become fulfilled adults.

ORIGIN OF ITEM:	This item is contained in the Committee's work programme.
BRIEF FOR THE COMMITTEE:	To review and consider Early Help and Children's Social Care Performance trends June – November 2019. To note the feedback from Ofsted following the seventh monitoring visit to children's social care and early help in October 2019.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the children's improvement programme, including:

- Performance trends across Early Help and Children's Social care between June and November 2019
- Seventh and final Ofsted monitoring visit letter

2. PERFORMANCE TRENDS JUNE – NOVEMBER 2019

- 2.1 A presentation on the trends across key performance indicators (KPI's) for Early Help and Children's Social Care is included as an appendix to this report (see appendix 1). This report covers the available data at the time of writing; June to November 2019.
- 2.2 The report has been adapted from information (the KPI's) that are presented to the Children's Improvement Board, on a monthly basis, to take a retrospective look back at performance from June 19 – November 19 and offer some analysis around key trends.
- 2.3 It should be noted that this report looks at quantitative progress only, e.g. metrics that can be measured such as average caseloads and timeliness of work (e.g. visits). Qualitative feedback from the last Ofsted monitoring visit about one of the largest service areas, Social Work with Families (SWwF), can be found in appendix 2.

3. SEVENTH OFSTED MONITORING VISIT LETTER

- 3.1 Following the Ofsted inspection in 2017 which judged children's services as inadequate, Ofsted completed the seventh and final monitoring visit in October 2019 and published a letter summarising their findings on 13th December. The letter is included as appendix 2. Publication was delayed until after the December 2019 general election.

The visit focused on two areas:

- Services for children who receive support through a child protection plan or a child in need plan.
 - Services offered to children who have a plan for adoption
- 3.2 A standard inspection under the inspection of local authority children's services (ILACS) framework is required to overturn an inadequate judgement. This inspection is expected in the first quarter of 2020

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Performance trends
across Early Help and Children's
Social Care June - November 2019

Appendix 2: Ofsted 7th Monitoring Visit
Letter - October 2019