

Children's Services Performance Update - Quarter 1 2025/26

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Key Performance Indicator Summary

KPI	Target	Period	Actual	RAG Status	Direction of Travel in last 12 Months
1. Uptake of the Ready to Learn Assessments	95%	Jun 26	NE 81% NW 94% S 86%	NE NW S	NE ▼ NW ▲ South ▼
2. % of Health Plan Indicators allocated by 24 weeks	95%	Mar 26	NE 97% NW 98% S 98%	NE NW S	NE ▲ NW ▲ South ▲
3. % of permanence reviews completed at 6 months for under 5s	90%	Q1	64%		▲
4. % Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration reports submitted by due date	60%	Q1	74%		▲
5. % young people receiving aftercare in employment, education and training	75%	Q1	76%		▲
6. Number of out of authority placements	25 or fewer	Q1	19		▲
7. Measles Mumps Rubella vaccine uptake at 24 months	95%	Q4	86.6%		▼
8. Measles Mumps Rubella vaccine uptake at 5 years	95%	Q4	94.3%		▶

Achievements

- Indicator 2: Health Plan Indicator assessment is a critical element of the Universal Pathway, ensuring appropriate level of early intervention support
- Indicator 4: % of Scottish Children's Reporter Administration reports completed on time has improved, reflecting a renewed focus on performance while continuing to build positive relationships with families
- Indicator 5: percentage of young people receiving aftercare in employment, education and training is achieving positive destinations to support long term resilience in care experienced young people
- Indicator 6: reduced number of out of authority placements means we are supporting more children and young people in the city and maintaining connections to their family, friends and schools
- Indicator 8: high MMR vaccine uptake at 5 years, in spite of high deprivation

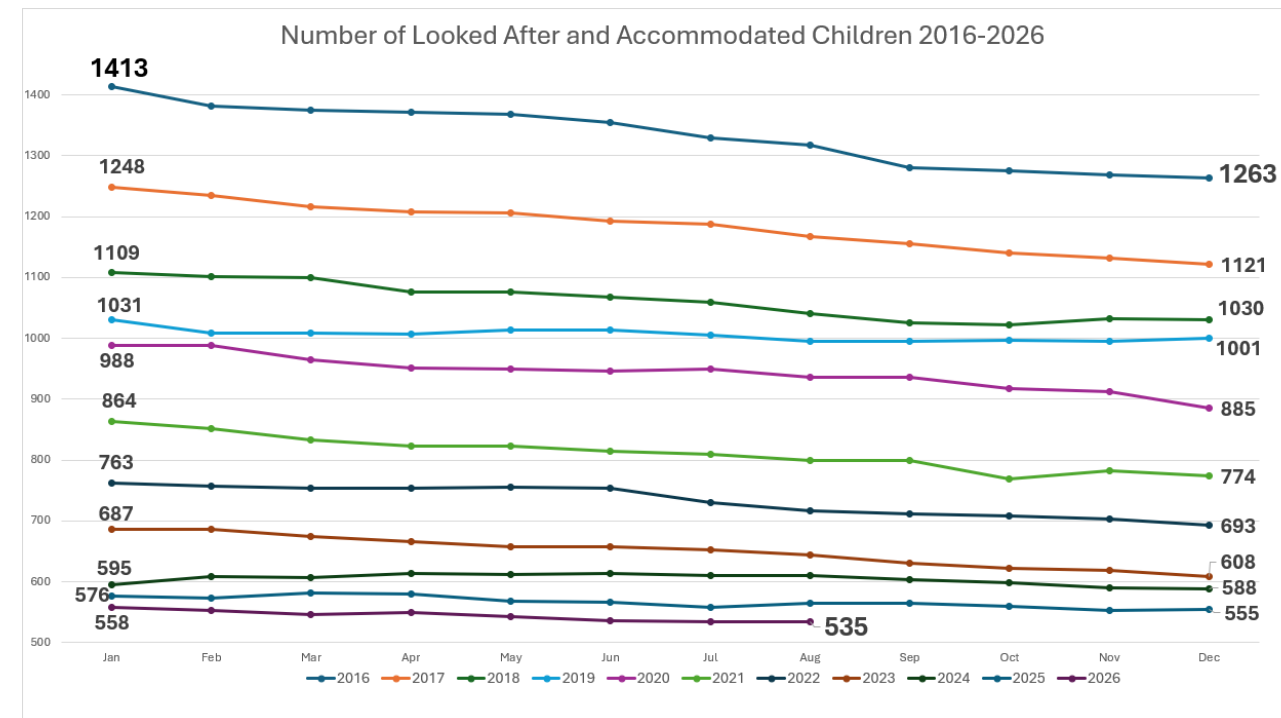
Areas for Improvement

- Indicator 1: continuing to develop inclusive and culturally sensitive approaches to support higher Ready to Learn completion rates in areas with higher deprivation; improved data to identify families not in the city at the point of assessment
- Indicator 3: renewed governance focus on completion of permanence reviews, while continuing to build relationships with families to fully explore all permanence options
- Indicator 7: addressing 24-month MMR vaccination hesitancy through catch up programmes in areas with higher deprivation and continuing development of culturally sensitive approaches

Taking Forward the HSCP Strategic Priorities

Prevention, Early Intervention and Wellbeing

- Building relationships with families to understand and manage risk
- Section 22, 0 – 5 family support pathway, child poverty demonstrations of change are focusing on scaling up poverty aware and trauma informed approaches
- Plateau in numbers of looked after and accommodated children, and children on child protection register
- Child protection audit and joint services inspection action plan aiming to review if children are being supported via the correct routes (CP, YPSP, accommodation etc.)



Taking Forward the HSCP Strategic Priorities

Supporting People in their Communities

- Children's Services Executive Group (CSEG) partnership focus on neurodiversity; jointly led by the HSCP and Education
- Tier 1 and 2 mental health services, with 24-hour online support platforms and targeted support for LGBTQIA+ children and young people, Black and Minority Ethnic communities, asylum seeking and refugee families, and parents of neurodivergent children
- Joint child poverty initiative (Drumchapel), with Glasgow Community Plan (2024 – 34) identifying family poverty as the overriding priority for the community planning partnership
- Community planning partnership anti-poverty strategy reflected in recently approved Children's Services Plan (2026 – 29), emphasising rights-based approach to understanding families' needs

Taking Forward the HSCP Strategic Priorities

A healthy, valued and supported workforce

- Professional development opportunities (PDP) and succession planning
- Refreshed induction programme and expansion of formal and informal support (inc. through peer support and mentoring)
- Joint work with universities to attract a diverse range of students into the HSCP, aiming to reflect the population diversity of the city in the workforce
- Building our culture of care, based on the learning from the nurture programme in children's houses, and applying nurture principles to understand and support the workforce (mirroring the practice with families)
- Developing skill mix teams and expanding the range of development opportunities (Drumchapel demonstration of change; STEP Forward)

Taking Forward the HSCP Strategic Priorities

Building a sustainable future

- Working closely with Child Poverty Programme to direct funding into effective approaches to support most vulnerable families
- Using lived experience to support redesign of services to optimise outcomes for children, young people and families (STEP Forward, 16+, children's houses, Families for Children). Incorporating principles of Scottish Approach to Service Design and Planning with People.
- Embedding nurture approach within fostering service, given the positive outcomes in children's houses, as reflected in inspection grades
- Exploration of transitional 16+ housing provision in partnership with Scottish Government

Future Service Plans, Challenges & Opportunities

Opportunities

- Shared partnership commitment to addressing poverty
- Public sector reform as a driver to develop holistic models of support
- Revised financial framework for foster carers and expansion of nurture programme to support retention and recruitment
- Multi-agency quality assurance (joint children's services inspection action plan)
- Renewed focus on performance to support timely assessment, decision-making and planning

Challenges

- National placement crisis
- Children (Care, Care Experience and Services Planning) (Scotland) Act 2026 – increasing eligibility for support
- Risk that current financial context disrupts early intervention and prevention across statutory and third sector services
- Embedding consistent and effective support for neurodivergent children