

Report of the Interim Strategic Director Children's Services to the meeting of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 20 March 2019

AE

Subject:

Children's Services Performance Outturn Report

Summary statement:

This report provides a current position summary of key Children's Services performance indicators. The indicators in this report have been benchmarked against the England and Yorkshire & Humber averages for your information.

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Children's Services

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of key Children's Services performance indicators. The indicators in this report have been benchmarked against the England and Yorkshire & Humber averages for your information.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 This report provides an assessment of key performance indicators across children's services. These indicators are reported annually and the report is based on the latest published information. A comparison against the England and Yorkshire & Humber averages has been made. There are a number of successes to highlight in the Department:

- In September, funding was confirmed for the 'Glasses for Classes' trial in 8 schools. This will be delivered in partnership with Varilux who will provide 2 pairs of glasses for all young people who need them in trial schools.
- In August, we launched 'Parents and Partners in Learning' in three areas (Keighley, Eccleshill/Idle and Tong/Bowling). This aims to improve parent's engagement with their education providers on their children's learning journey.
- For our primary school pupils, our recent results show that there is an increase in the proportion of pupils achieving the expected standard across a range of subjects. However, the gap between Bradford and national performance has remained the same.
- GCSE results continue to improve with Attainment 8 narrowing the gap on the national average and Progress 8 showing positive progress and the second best performer in our family group of local authorities.
- Some of our schools and academy chains are performing at an exceptionally high level nationally. Dixon has performed particularly well at Progress 8 with Dixons Trinity the 3rd best nationally and Tauheedhal the highest performing nationally. This should bode well for local schools they sponsor.
- There is also improvement at A-levels and more young people continue to participate in the Industrial centres of Excellence and Bradford Pathways.

- 2.2 A case study from the B Positive Pathways project – supporting children on the edge of care and their families to safely return home:

"A Child was admitted to the Children's home on the 28th November 2017 after a breakdown in his relationships at home. The child's mother was initially rather resistant to making changes so that the child could return home, however with daily phone support from the Children's home and the social worker she began to understand that historical issues were clouding her ability to move forward. She also acknowledged that she often separated the child from his siblings leaving him feeling abandoned and singled out.

During twice weekly outreach sessions, the mother was able to apply more consistent boundaries and expectations and was open to the child having contact and or respite with his father’s family. She agreed that she needed to trust and make use of the professional support on offer while also taking responsibility for playing her part in the support package.

In the children’s home, the child started to respond positively in the children’s home. He acknowledged the need for support and opened up about his feelings about the domestic abuse that he had witnessed while living with his mum in the past. He came to see how this had led to his own aggressive behaviour, both at home and school.

The child returned home with a package of support. There have been ups and downs as the mother and child have settled back into living together. The child is attending school and is making great strides in his education. “

2.3 Performance Summary

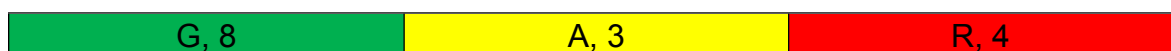
The rest of this section provides a summary of performance data against the Yorkshire and Humber average. Targets within Children’s Services are under review following the Ofsted Inspection.

Figure 1 outlines overall performance across the measures. A red/amber/green assessment of current performance against the Yorkshire & Humber average is included¹. A full list of all the indicators in this report is included in Annex A of this report.

Figure 2 includes both the overall performance rating against the regional average and also the direction of travel. A green direction of travel indicates that the measure has improved since the last reporting period; a red direction of travel indicates that the measure has got worse since the last reporting period.

A detailed narrative on performance against each of these targets can be found in Appendix A. In some instances it is more appropriate to benchmark performance against our statistical neighbours² and the narrative will reflect this.

Figure 1: Performance indicator RAG status (performance against regional average)



¹ Indicators are rated amber when there is a 5% variance from the Y&H average.

² Appendix B contains a list of our Children’s Social Care statistical neighbours

Figure 2: Performance indicator direction of travel

The following indicators are performing well against the regional average		
Description	Current Status	Direction of Travel
Re-referrals to children’s social care in 12 months	Green	Red
Children Looked After– short term placement stability	Green	Red
Children Looked After – long term placement stability	Green	Red
Children Looked After – Special Educational Needs with no statement/EHCP ³	Green	Green
Care Leavers – Suitable accommodation	Green	Green
Care Leavers – Education, Employment or Training	Green	Green
Special Educational Needs - appeals	Green	Red
Progress 8	Green	Red
The following indicators are amber rated (within 5% variance) against the regional average		
Description	Current Status	Direction of Travel
Key Stage 2 -reading, writing and maths	Yellow	Green
Foundation Stage Profile	Yellow	Red
Youth offending – reoffending rates (10-14 year olds)	Yellow	Green
The following indicators are underperforming against the regional average		
Description	Current Status	Direction of Travel
OFSTED – good or better schools	Red	Red
Unauthorised absence	Red	Red
Not in Education, Employment or Training	Red	Red
Children Looked After – missing	Red	Green

³ Education, Health and Care Plan

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 None.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

4.1 There are no specific financial issues or resource implications arising from this report.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

5.1 This report is for information only.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

6.1 This report is for information only. There are no specific legal issues.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Report is for information only. There are no specific issues.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Report is for information only. There are no specific issues.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

Report is for information only. There are no specific issues.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Report is for information only. There are no specific issues.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

Report is for information only. There are no specific issues.

7.6 TRADE UNION

Report is for information only. There are no specific issues.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

Report is for information only. There are no specific issues.

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CORPORATE PARENTING

Report is for information only. There are no specific issues.

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

There are no data protection issues.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

8.1 Not applicable.

9. OPTIONS

9.1 This report is for information only.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the report.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix A – Detailed Performance Information and Reporting

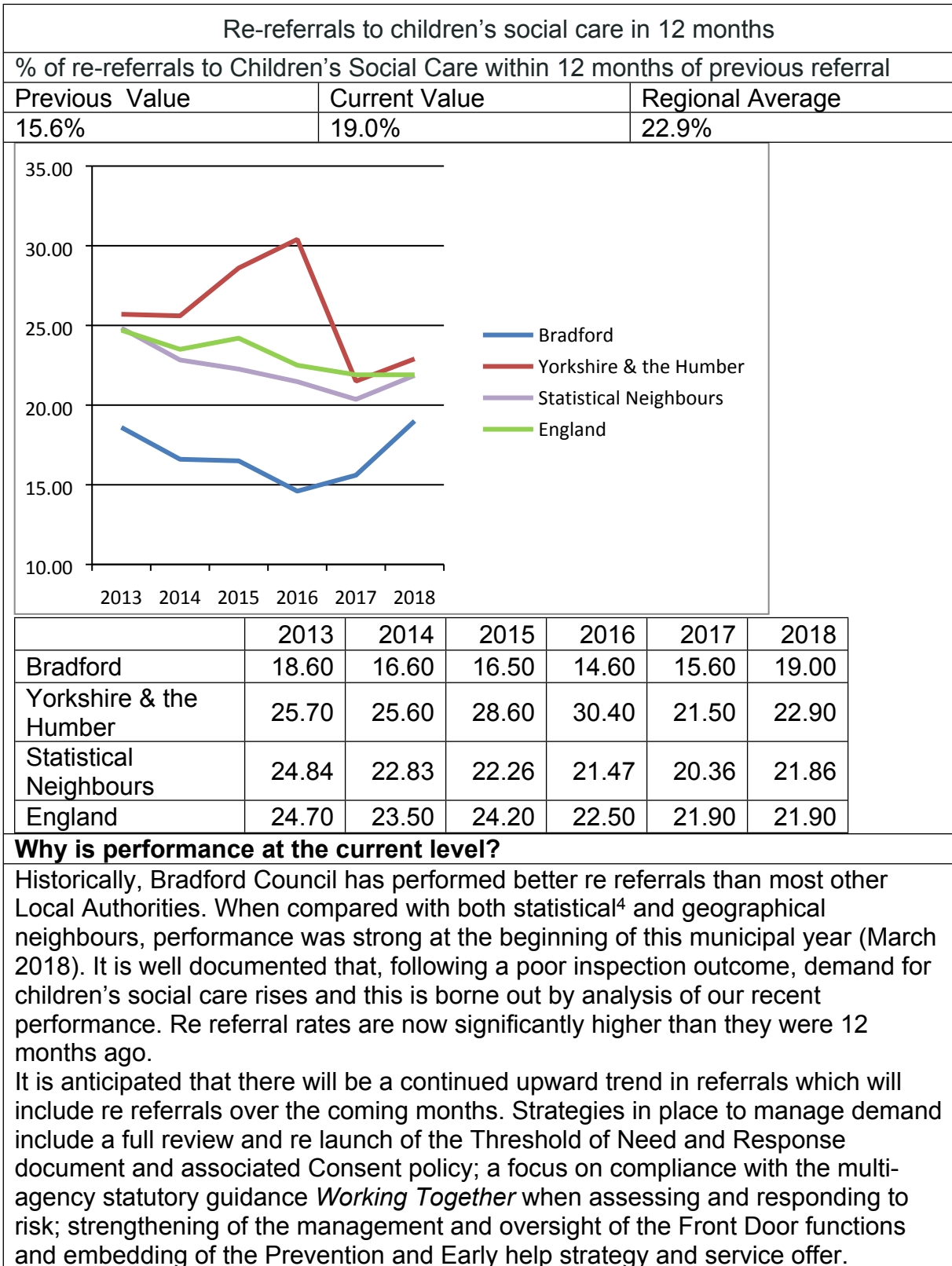
11.2 Appendix B - Children's Social Care statistical neighbours

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

12.1 None.

APPENDIX A: DETAILED PERFORMANCE INFORMATION AND REPORTING

Detailed Reporting for Performance Measures which are exceeding the Yorkshire & Humber average

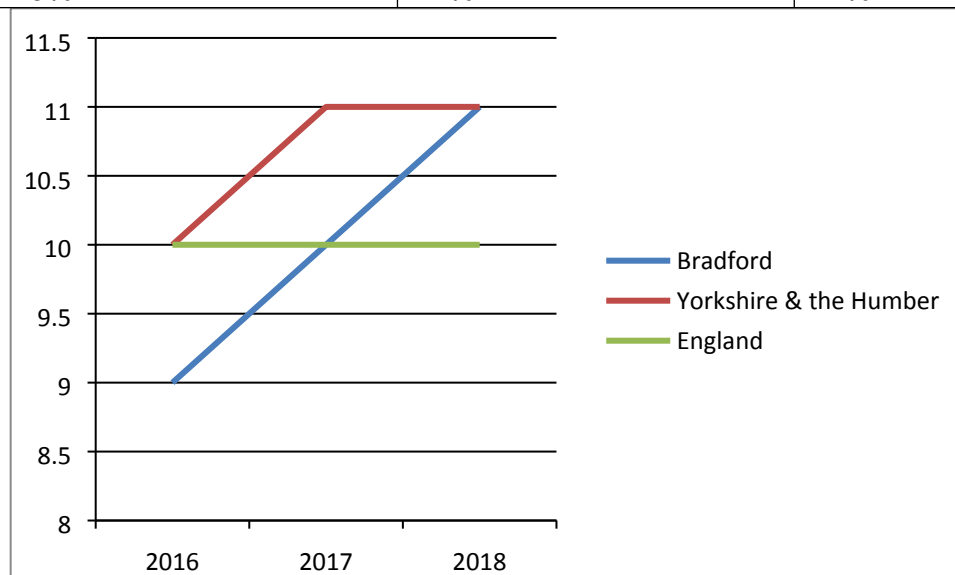


⁴ Appendix B contains a list of our Children's Social Care statistical neighbours

Children Looked After – short term placement stability

% children at 31st March with 3 or more placements during the year

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
10%	11%	11%



	2016	2017	2018
Bradford	9	10	11
Yorkshire & the Humber	10	11	11
England	10	10	10

Why is performance at the current level?

A sufficiency strategy is in place, focussing on reducing the number of children looked after; developing more local placements; having the right accommodation for care leavers and enabling more children to be cared for through Special Guardianship, taking them out of the care system altogether.

Increased investment in fostering marketing and recruitment team has resulted in the number of foster carers increasing by 11%.

Be Positive Pathways is working at the edge of care offering outreach and short breaks provision, in order to keep children out of full time care. 90% of the 98 children worked with remain outside the care system.

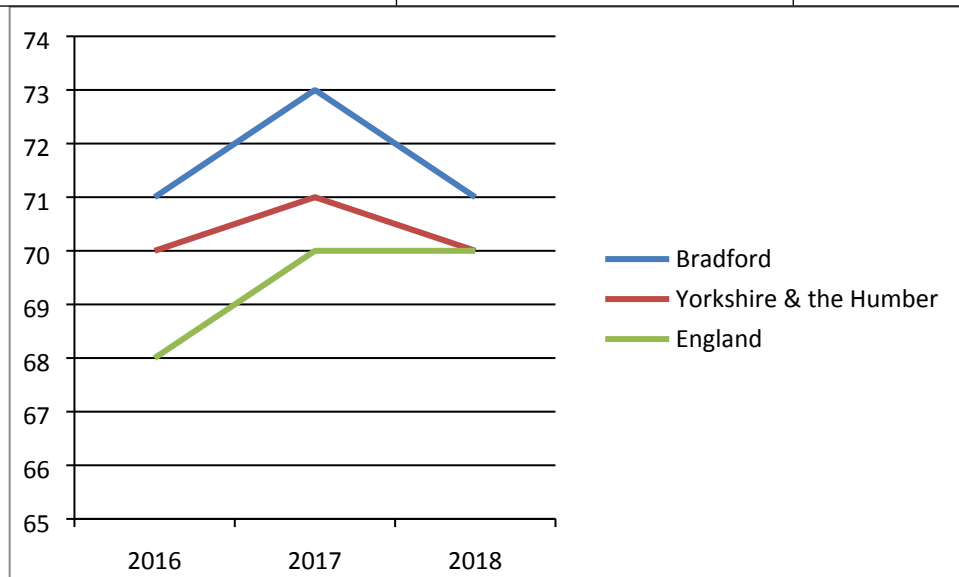
Some children have been returned to Bradford from external placements, resulting in an extra move, albeit a positive one.

Despite these strategies, numbers of children looked after have risen by 11% during 2018, in line with the additional demand across children's social care and the demographics of Bradford district.

Children Looked After – long term placement stability

% LAC in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption and their adoptive placement together with their previous placement , lasts for at least 2 years

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
73%	71%	70%



	2016	2017	2018
Bradford	71	73	71
Yorkshire & the Humber	70	71	70
England	68	70	70

Why is performance at the current level?

The Through Care service is designed so that children who are looked after long term have a consistent approach with fewer placement moves and changes of social worker. Investment in fostering recruitment (47% increase in number of assessments of prospective foster carers, resulting in 25 new households to be approved in 2018/19); support for family and friends placements and an emphasis on permanency planning and adoption all contribute to strong performance in this area.

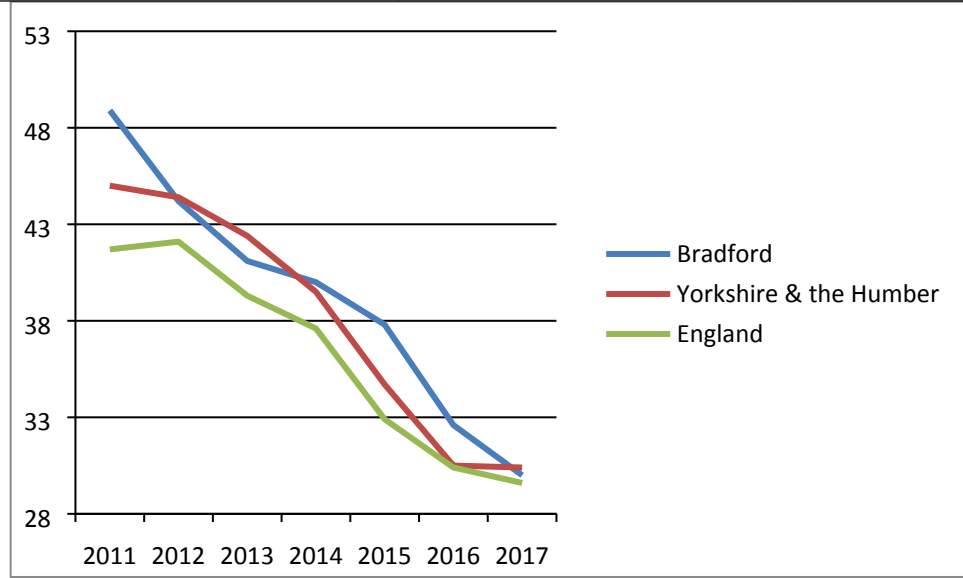
Further improvements in systems and processes are underway, to ensure continuous improvement in placement stability.

A small team provides therapeutic support to carers and residential staff, encouraging and supporting them to develop appropriate strategies to manage children’s behaviour positively. Using PACE techniques and working with the Mockingbird fostering project all contribute to strong performance in this area.

Children Looked After – Special Educational Need with no statement or Education, Health and Care Plan

% children who are looked after who have SEN but no statement/EHCP

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
32.6%	30%	30.4%



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Bradford	48.9	44.2	41.1	40	37.8	32.6	30
Yorkshire & the Humber	45	44.4	42.4	39.5	34.7	30.5	30.4
England	41.7	42.1	39.3	37.6	32.9	30.4	29.6

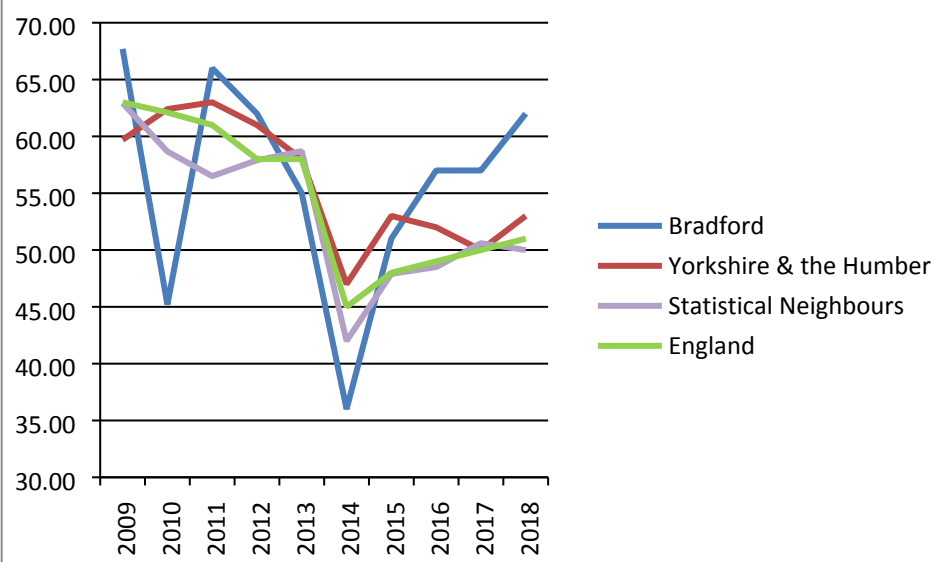
Why is performance at the current level?

This indicator relates to children who have been identified as having special needs but do not qualify for an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This group of children will receive additional support from school through Quality First Teaching. Bradford’s performance is comparable to regional and national performance.

Care leavers – Education, Employment or Training

% care leavers who are in education, employment or training

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
57%	62%	53%



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Bradford	67.70	45.20	66.00	62.00	55.00	36.00	51.00	57.00	57.00	62.00
Yorkshire & the Humber	59.70	62.40	63.00	61.00	58.00	47.00	53.00	52.00	50.00	53.00
Statistical Neighbours	62.92	58.67	56.50	57.90	58.70	42.00	47.90	48.50	50.60	50.00
England	63.00	62.10	61.00	58.00	58.00	45.00	48.00	49.00	50.00	51.00

Why is performance at the current level?

Bradford has good performance in this area when compared the regional neighbours and compares even more favourably to statistical neighbours with similar economic and social characteristics to Bradfor. This area was seen as a strength during the recent Ofsted ILACS⁵ inspection. The in house LEAP⁶ team is nationally recognised as best practice. They prepare young people who are at risk of dropping out and aim to raise their aspirations so that they are keen to remain in education or training after leaving school. In addition a dedicated NEET⁷ worker works within the Virtual School for children looked after, to ensure that the over 16 year olds receive appropriate support to continue to participate in education and training.

⁵ Inspection Local Authority Children's Services

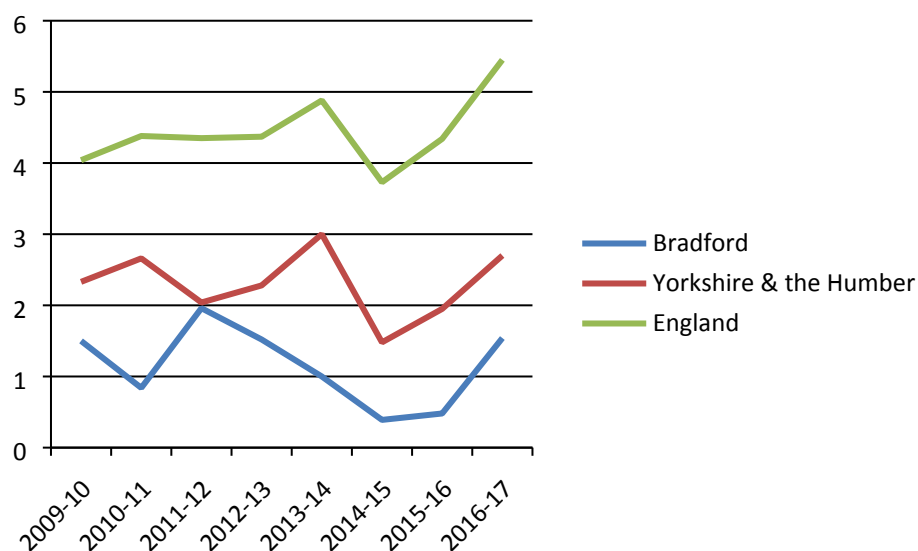
⁶ Learning , employment advice and preparation

⁷ Not in Education, Employment or Training

Special Educational Needs – Appeals

Registered appeals per 10,000 of school population

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
0.48	1.54	2.7



	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Bradford	1.5	0.84	1.96	1.52	1	0.39	0.48	1.54
Yorkshire & the Humber	2.33	2.66	2.04	2.28	3	1.48	1.95	2.7
England	4.04	4.38	4.35	4.37	4.88	3.73	4.34	5.45

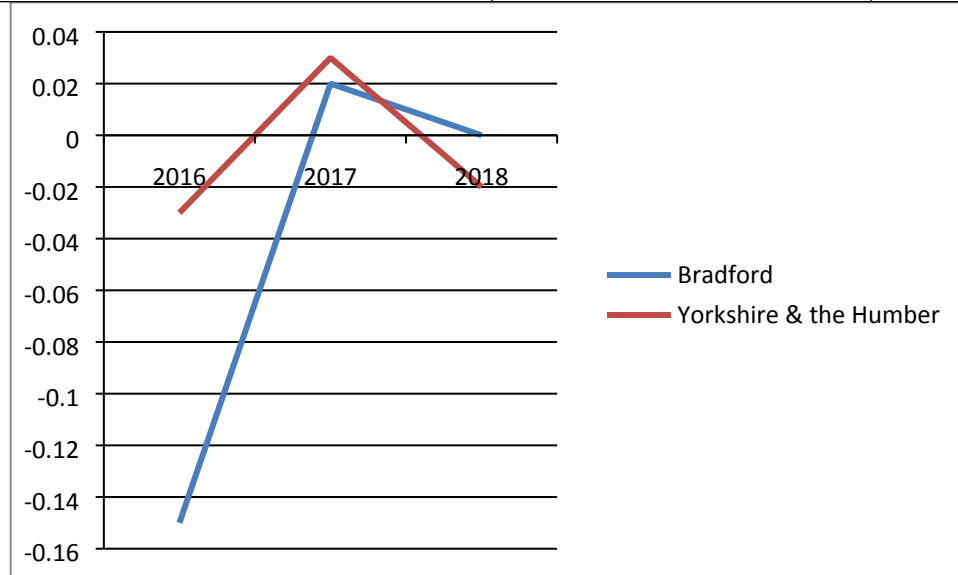
Why is performance at the current level?

Bradford has had and continues to have a very low level of appeals to tribunal. This is reflective of the engagement with parents at all levels including schools, officers, support services and other agencies. In addition the mediation process has had a positive impact on the number of potential appeals with cases resolved through this process and the support and engagement of parents.

Progress 8

Average Progress 8 Score per pupil

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
0.02	0	-0.02



	2016	2017	2018
Bradford	-0.15	0.02	0
Yorkshire & the Humber	-0.03	0.03	-0.02

Why is performance at the current level?

Bradford's Progress 8 remains positive at 0.00 even though it is a decrease of 0.02 on the 2017 score of 0.02. It is slightly better than the national average Progress 8 score of -0.02. The decline is due to the low Progress 8 scores achieved by 21 (out of 37) secondary schools of which 5 are Special schools.

However Dixons Trinity scored a Progress 8 of 1.55 ranking it as the 3rd best performing school in the country for Progress 8.

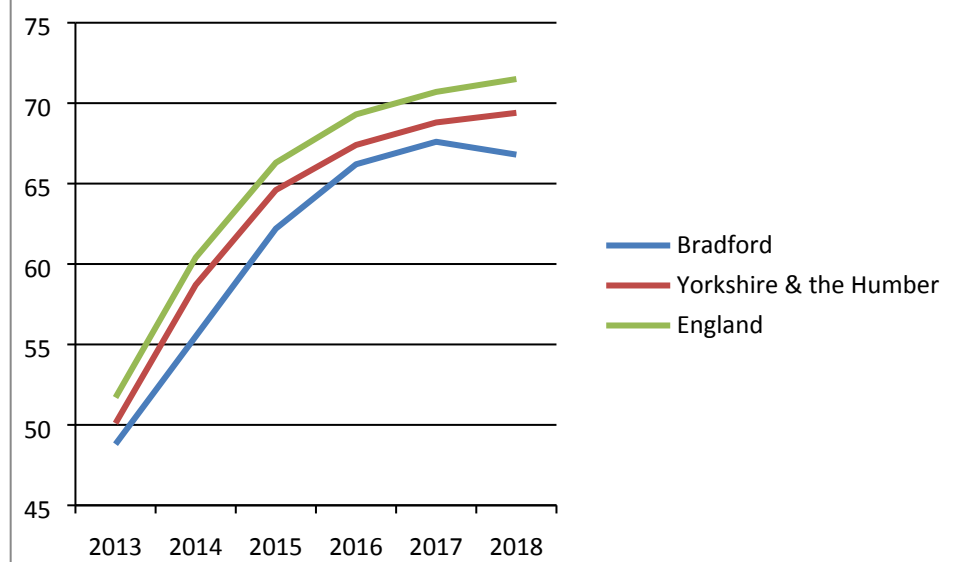
Detailed Reporting for Performance Measures which are within 5% tolerance of the Yorkshire & Humber average

KS2 – Reading, writing maths			
Key Stage 2: Reading, writing & mathematics – expected standard All Pupils			
Previous Value	Current Value		Regional Average
57%	61%		62%
	2016	2017	2018
Bradford	47	57	61
Yorkshire & the Humber	50	58	62
England	53	61	64
Why is performance at the current level?			
<p>This has improved in 2018 for Reading and Maths and slightly declined for Writing. The rate of improvement has gone up by 4% compared to national (3%) which has closed the gap to national by 1 percentage point.</p> <p>Number of LA maintained schools who scored below 65% in Reading, Writing and Maths combined has reduced from 79 to 59. Number of schools below floor level on KS2 has been reduced from 5 to 2.</p>			
How can we make sure things get better?			
<p>In order to improve the RWM at the end of KS2, the LA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is working in partnership with the Opportunity Area in the implementation of the School to School support initiative for a group of identified schools • has introduced 'Keeping in Touch' visit for its low risk schools categorised as P1 and P2 schools • is offering training to governors and school leaders where leadership has been judged as RI • has deployed a school improvement officer to monitor and challenge Schools with low KS2 outcomes (P3/P4 schools) • is using HT briefings to share best practice • is engaging with West Yorkshire Maths hub to develop the mastery curriculum in some schools • has analysed the predictions received to date and targeting schools whose RWM prediction is below their FFT 50 			

Foundation Stage Profile

% children achieving a good level of development in FSP

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
67.6%	66.8%	69.4%



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Bradford	48.8	55.5	62.2	66.2	67.6	66.8
Yorkshire & the Humber	50.1	58.7	64.6	67.4	68.8	69.4
England	51.7	60.4	66.3	69.3	70.7	71.5

Why is performance at the current level?

Latest EYFS data indicates that GLD is at 66.8% down slightly from 68% last year. National provisional data has increased from 70.7% to 71.5% which means there is a widening gap. Girls continue to out perform boys (73.5% GLD for girls compared to 60% for boys). In terms of children eligible for free school meals GLD is at 55% compared to 57% last year. Although Bradford has generally performed better than its statistical neighbours in regard to the FSM measure of GLD, this is a concerning development. The gender gap between boys and girls was particularly marked among children eligible for free school meals, where 47% of boys recorded GLD, compared to 63% of girls.

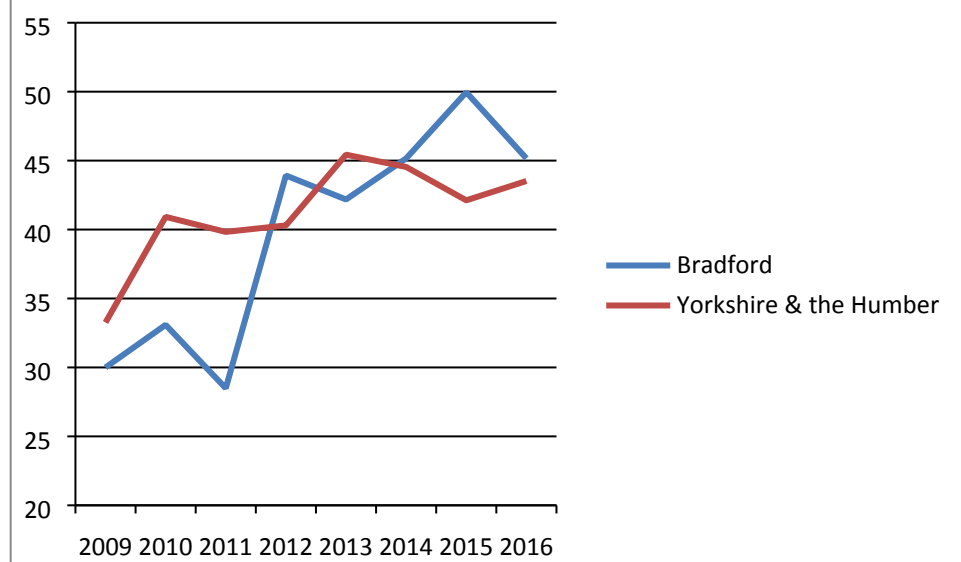
How can we make sure things get better?

The newly established Prevention and Early Help area teams have dedicated resource for access and take-up to address these issues and will target key wards and FSM children. Support for settings and schools continues to emphasise the need for different approaches to boys' learning.

Youth offending – reoffending rates (10-14 year olds)

% of young offenders who re-offend (19-14 year olds)

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
49.96%	45.16%	43.52%



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Bradford	30	33.09	28.49	43.92	42.18	45.16	49.96	45.16
Yorkshire & the Humber	33.26	40.92	39.83	40.3	45.43	44.54	42.12	43.52
England								

Why is performance at the current level?

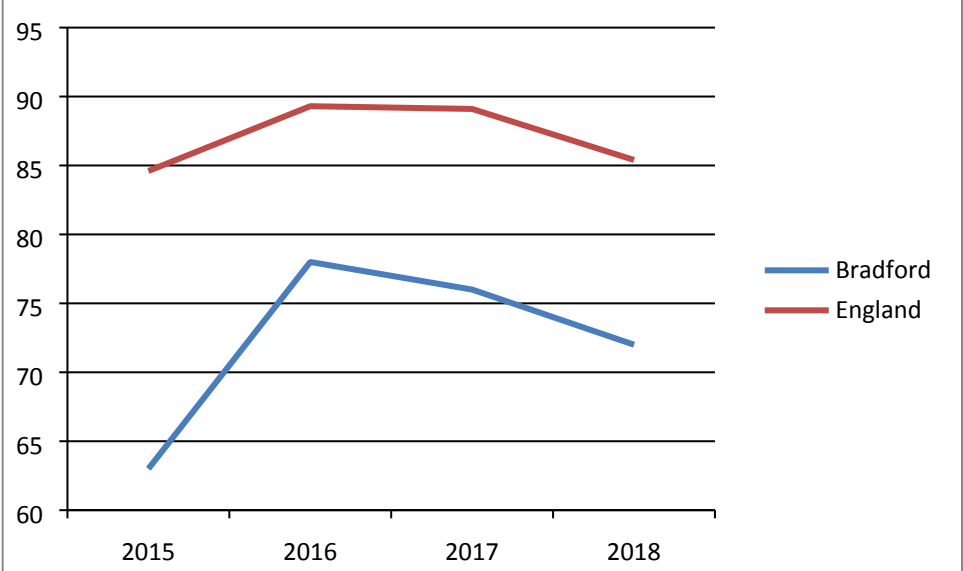
Performance is showing a decrease and is good. The cohort of young people who offend continues to fall, and has fallen at a faster rate than the numbers of reoffenders; this has resulted in an increase in the % of reoffenders.

How can we make sure things get better?

Continuous effort to improve outcomes for young people in the Youth Criminal Justice system through a focus on doing the basics well and maintaining the strength in the YOT multi-agency partnership.

Detailed Reporting for Performance Measures which are outside 5% tolerance of the Yorkshire & Humber average

Ofsted – good or better schools		
% schools that are judged good or better		
Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
77%	72%	81%



	2015	2016	2017	2018
Bradford	63	78	76	72
Yorkshire & the Humber				
England	84.6	89.3	89.1	85.4

Why is performance at the current level?

We are performing below the national average and were improving but the change in Ofsted’s approach in August 2018 has caused a drop in the number of schools judged good or better nationally and locally.

Nursery schools have been performing better than similar schools nationally over the last three years.

Primary schools are still performing significantly below similar schools nationally and the narrowing of the gap with the national has been maintained despite the decline in 2018.

Secondary schools are still performing significantly below similar schools nationally but the gap is narrowing.

How can we make sure things get better?

Some of the recent Ofsted visits have acknowledged the impact of the local authority’s intervention in its challenging schools e.g. Carrwood, Our Lady & St Brendan's, Lister, Knowleswood, St Williams and Worthinghead schools.

However, raising standards and increasing the number of good or better schools continues to be an area of high priority.

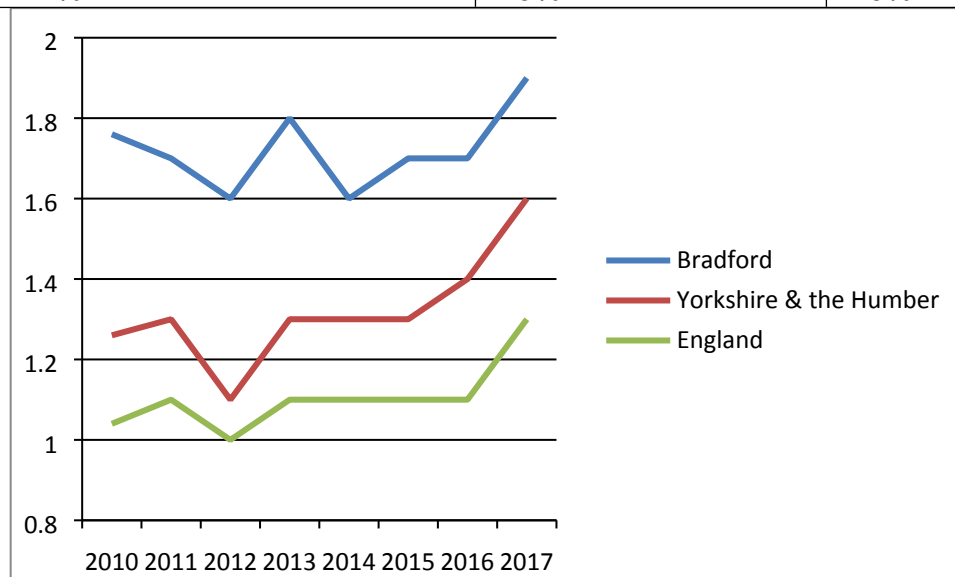
The Deputy Director has introduced “Learning Conversations” with the Chief Executives of the different Multi Academy Trusts operating in Bradford.

Propose KPI to be refined to take account of academisation and Free Schools as technically not possible to ensure all will be inspected by 2021. Need to be able to accurately measure against OFSTED Inspection schedule.

Unauthorised absence

% of unauthorised sessions missed State-funded primary, secondary and special schools

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
1.7%	1.9%	1.6%



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Bradford	1.76	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.9
Yorkshire & the Humber	1.26	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.6
England	1.04	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.3

Why is performance at the current level?

The overall unauthorised absence figures for Primary and Secondary Schools continue to be higher than the national averages whilst figures for our Special Schools are lower than the national average.

This is due to schools not authorising term time leave for families who make effective use of cheaper holiday packages as well as the application of stricter and more rigid systems for authorising extended leave.

How can we make sure things get better?

Education Safeguarding continue to promote and support Schools through the traded offer and statutory duties.

Current Focus

- Exceptional Cases meeting to deal with cases where pupils have been absent from school for long periods of time
- Working with Schools and families to address issues preventing good attendance
- Liaising with other professionals within Bradford Children & Young People's Services (Children's Social Care, Special Educational Needs, Children Looked After and more) services to ensure our most vulnerable Young People are receiving appropriate, quality support

Challenges

- Ensuring consistent and accurate register marking by ALL schools
- Obtaining data & supporting Non-traded Schools

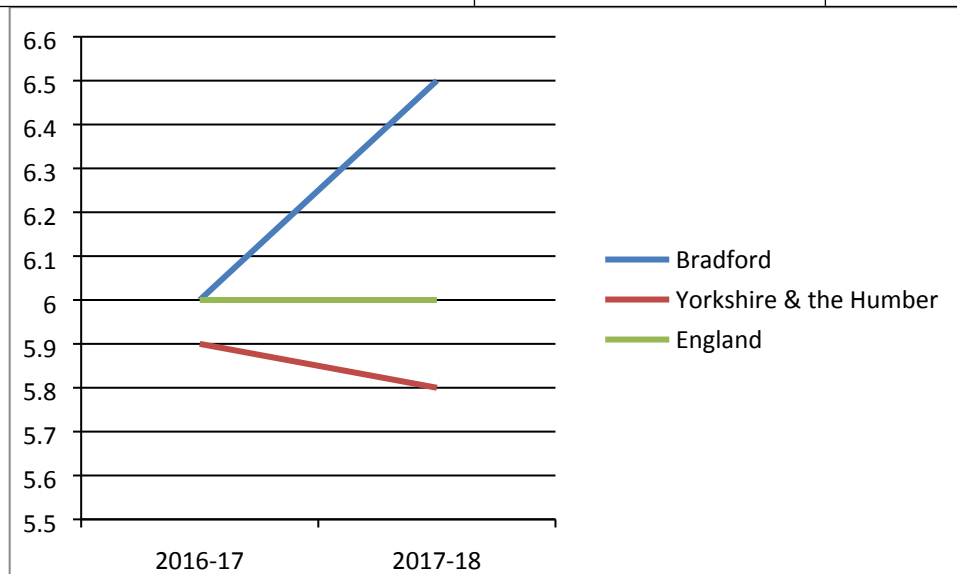
Intentions

- Clear guidelines given regarding expectations from Schools relating to register marking
- Challenge where possible to ensure PA is being addressed
- Network meetings to support school attendance staff to commence in June 2019

Not in Education, Employment or Training

% young people not in education, employment or training – including those ‘not known’

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
6%	6.5%	5.8%



	2016-17	2017-18
Bradford	6	6.5
Yorkshire & the Humber	5.9	5.8
England	6	6

Why is performance at the current level?

The last update fields relate to the average over the 3 month period December to February as this is what the DfE⁸ publish in the NEET⁹ Scorecard. The latest value and national and regional averages are all based on November 2018 as the last month for which we have national comparative data. It is typical for NEET and Not Known to be slightly higher in November and as is indicated above our performance is currently slightly better than national.

How can we make sure things get better?

We continue to co-commission a Connexions service with 20 of our schools and colleges to meet our respective statutory duties. There have been budget reductions in this area but a number of actions are in place to address the rise in

⁸ Department for Education

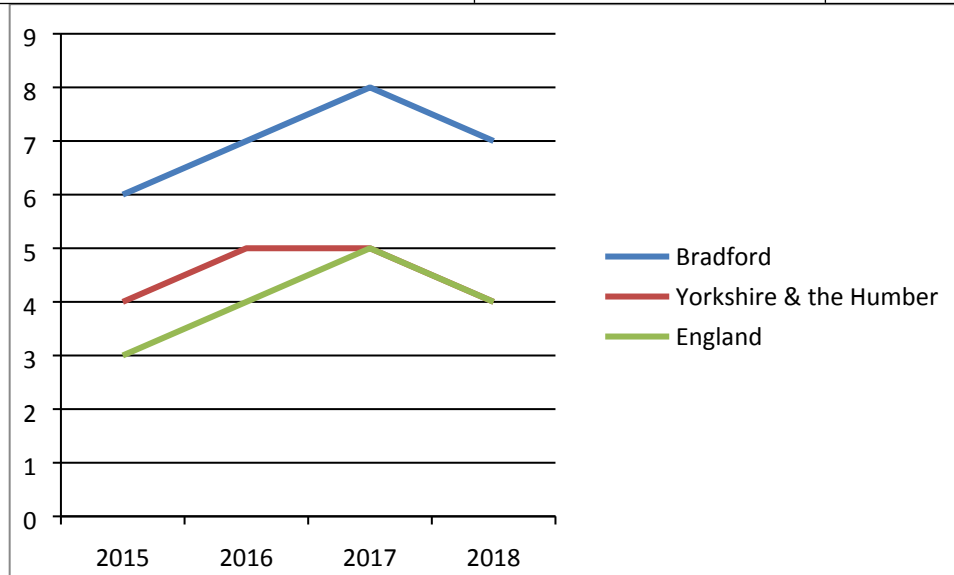
⁹ Not in Education, Employment or Training

NEET including: Skills Plan; additional post-16 adviser in Virtual School; Opportunity Area supporting careers work in Primary and additional ICE¹⁰ provision. As is the case nationally certain vulnerable groups (Youth Offending, Special Educational Needs, Children Looked After, Care Leavers) are over-represented in the NEET cohort and we continue to target our efforts accordingly and monitor the rate for these groups monthly.

Children Looked After – Missing

% Children Looked After who were away from placement without authorisation during the year

Previous Value	Current Value	Regional Average
8%	7%	4%



	2015	2016	2017	2018
Bradford	6	7	8	7
Yorkshire & the Humber	4	5	5	4
England	3	4	5	4

Why is performance at the current level?

The latest available benchmarking data describes performance to March 2018. In 2018, despite a growth in numbers of children looked after, fewer children have been reported missing from care between March and October than for the same period in 2017 (by 39% for girls and 14% for boys). West Yorkshire Police data shows that there has been a 23% overall reduction in missing occurrences in comparison to the last year. Specific measures taken to break a cycle of behaviour, has impacted positively on a number of very vulnerable girls. There has been a concerted effort over the last 24 months across the partnership to improve local arrangements for children missing from home and care. We are now in a much stronger position to prevent, protect and ensure there is the correct level of provision in place to address the issue.

¹⁰ Inclusive Care and Education

This is measuring something slightly different in that this is about missing incidents rather than children with a missing incident. It shows that while the numbers of Children Looked After has risen the number of missing incidents has reduced during the same period.

It should also be noted that Police data reflects all Children Looked After placed in the area as opposed to local data which is just Bradford children who are looked after.

How can we make sure things get better?

The Be Positive Pathways programme along with the Mockingbird fostering support programme works with children looked after, foster carers and residential staff to develop positive strategies for managing behaviour as well as bringing in changes to how and when missing incidents are reported. This has helped to distinguish between a child being late back, where their whereabouts are known and those who are genuinely missing and require police action to search and recover them.

Meetings with private providers in Bradford are planned to revisit expectation regarding management of risk and reporting strategies.

APPENDIX B: CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE STATISTICAL NEIGHBOURS

- Sheffield
- Peterborough
- Bolton
- Telford and Wrekin
- Walsall
- Derby
- Rochdale
- Blackburn with Darwen
- Oldham
- Kirklees