DfE Quarterly Data Requests – response from LA working group, December 2021

New indicators – not raised at quarterly data working group

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| **Metric** | **Rationale** | **ADCS working group response** |
| CSC referral total by source [in addition to referral data already included]  | Indicator of front door demand, success of early help, issues arising in multi-agency arrangements  | **Yes**, if possible – this is useful, however may be costly for councils to report on a quarterly basis |
| Section 17 assessments total/rate per 10,000 *(Ofsted annex A)* | Indicator of demand, severity of cares | **Yes** – this is useful |
| Number of placements for UASC | Indicator of longer-term demand, severity, budget and sufficiency pressures | **Alternative suggested** – our proposed measures count UASC children as opposed to placements |
| Proportion of LAC placed outside of LA boundary vs. stat neighbours (*Ofsted Annex A)* | Helps understand/address placement sufficiency, budget pressures | No – “good” performance on this would be unpredictable given to geographic differences between LAs |
| CSC referrals with prior early help assessment | Measures effectiveness of early help | **No – but** we note our ongoing work to arrive at a common early help dataset which we think is a better way of delivering on these information goals |
| Section 17 (Assessment) timeliness (% on time) | Efficiency and risk indicator | **Yes** – this is useful |
| CiN/CPP/LAC contact with a SW | Efficiency and risk indicator | No – we don’t consider this informative, and LAs will find it hard to generate as a new measure spanning all care categories |

Potential indicators on points already raised as being of interest

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| **Metric**  | **Rationale** |  |
| Workforce: SW agency rate (*Ofsted Annex A)* | Understand LAs facing higher costs to meet extra demand and/or deal with disruptions to workforce from absence etc | No – we think these measures as comparable to the workforce census are too difficult for LAs to produce accurately quarterly, with too many caveats, and not enough value to LAs |
| Workforce: SW vacancies not covered by an agency worker, as a % of FTE | Indicates capacity to meet demand/safeguarding risk | No – we think these measures as comparable to the workforce census are too difficult for LAs to produce accurately quarterly, with too many caveats, and not enough value to LAs |
| Workforce: SW caseload (*Ofsted Annex A)* | Indicates capacity to meet demand/safeguarding risk | No – we think these measures as comparable to the workforce census are too difficult for LAs to produce accurately quarterly, with too many caveats, and not enough value to LAs |
| Early Help: Number of Early help assessments *(Ofsted annex A)* | Understand use of/pressure on preventative services | **No – but** we propose to add to development list for future consideration, and note our ongoing work to arrive at a common early help dataset which we think is a better way of delivering on these information goals |
| Early Help: Number of Early help assessments that result in the child/family receiving support (not escalated to CSC) vs NFA | Efficiency and risk indicator | **No – but** we propose to add to development list for future consideration, and note our ongoing work to arrive at a common early help dataset which we think is a better way of delivering on these information goals |
| Placements: Average cost per placement, by type | Aids budget forecasting/efficiency oversight/identification of cost variation/extremes – Parliamentary scrutiny of DfE efforts to address  | **No – but** we propose to add to development list for future cosideration |