

Overview and Scrutiny Committees have a role in monitoring the Council's performance, in particular how well the Council is doing when measured against the stated aims and priorities.

The following Corporate Plan aims are those that relate directly to Children's Services. It is suggested that, in terms of performance monitoring, the Committee prioritise those that relate to Every Child Matters outcomes 1 and 2, on a quarterly basis (See below). The remaining targets could be reported on as necessary, on an exception basis.

Every Child Matters outcome	Corporate Plan Aim (in suggested priority order)	Corporate Plan Target	OSC to give priority?
1. Be Healthy	3d Support the improvement of the health and well-being of children	Increase schools achieving Healthy Schools level 3 to 80% by 2008	
		Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol	
2. Stay Safe	3c Keep all children as safe as possible in their surroundings	Support schools in combating bullying	
		Reduce the number of children killed or seriously injured in road accidents from 32 in 2004 to 25 in 2008	
	5a With partner agencies, provide support for children and families with specific needs	By 2007, 100% of children who have been looked after for 6 months will have permanency plans	
		By 2008, 65% of initial Assessments will be completed within 7 working days of referral	
		By 2008, reduce re-registrations on the child protection register to 11%	
	5b Increase support for carers	Development of family centres	
		Providing parenting groups and classes	
Supporting parents in later life			

3. Enjoy and Achieve	6c Identify and remove barriers to Council services and foster strong relationships with diverse communities	By 2007 achieve level 3 of the Equality Standard regarding equal access to services and fair employment	
		Make 100% of Council buildings accessible to people with a disability by 2007	
	3a Increase the achievement of all children in all schools	Improve exam results	
		Narrow gap in educational achievement for underachieving groups	
	Provide 21 hours tuition for excluded children		
3b Provide high-quality pre-school education	Double the number of childcare providers in the Bucks QA scheme from 40 to 80 by 2007		
4. Make a Positive Contribution	1a Involve you and listen to your concerns and needs	Involve 30% more young people in decision making by 2008	
5. Achieve Economic Well-Being?	2a Keep Council Tax levels down by driving out waste and inefficiency	Review the efficiency and effectiveness of all services by 2008	
	7c Support motorists by reducing journey times and managing congestion	Reduce car use on the school journey by 4,500 car journeys per day by 2008	

Within the Council Plan the following priorities and services/areas for protection are identified:

Portfolio	Service or area for investment	Service or area for protection
Schools	Establish the Children's Services portfolio	Maintain funding to schools at the FSS level
	Implement the Ofsted action plan	Maintain the Link Advisory role
Children and Young People	Adoption and fostering	Child protection
	Establish the Children's Services portfolio	

