

# CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE



**Wednesday, 20 March 2024**

**Democratic and Members' Services**  
Emma Duncan  
Service Director: Legal and Governance

**16:00**

New Shire Hall  
Alconbury Weald  
Huntingdon  
PE28 4YE

**Red Kite Room, New Shire Hall , Alconbury Weald PE28  
4YE  
[Venue Address]**

## **AGENDA**

**Open to Public and Press**

**Meeting Theme: Health**

**1. Change to Sub-Committee Membership**

To note that Councillor Alan Sharp succeeded Councillor Mac McGuire as a member of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on 8 December 2023, and that Councillor Elisa Meschini was appointed a substitute member of the Sub-Committee on 21 February 2024.

**2. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

*Guidance on declaring interests is available at <http://tinyurl.com/cc-conduct-code>*

**3. Minutes - 15th November 2023**

**5 - 12**

**4. Petitions and Public Questions**

**5. Participation Report**

**13 - 18**

<b>6.</b>	<b>Cambridgeshire Fostering Service and Cambridgeshire Foster Carers' Association (CFCA) Report</b>	<b>19 - 28</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Annual Health Report February 2024</b>	<b>29 - 36</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Clinical Team Annual Report February 2024</b>	<b>37 - 42</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Corporate Parenting Performance Report</b>	<b>43 - 50</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Workshop and Training Plan</b>	<b>51 - 66</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Sub-Committee Agenda Plan</b>	<b>67 - 72</b>

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The Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee comprises the following members:

Councillor Anna Bradnam (Chair) Councillor Philippa Slatter (Vice-Chair) Councillor Alex Bulat Councillor Anne Hay Councillor Alan Sharp

Clerk Name:	Richenda Greenhill
Clerk Telephone:	01223 699171
Clerk Email:	Richenda.Greenhill@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



## Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee: Minutes

Date: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
Time: 4.20pm – 6.20pm  
Venue: New Shire Hall, Alconbury Weald PE28 4YE  
Present: Councillors A Bradnam (Chair), A Bulat, A Sharp and P Slatter

Meeting theme: Education

### 84. Chair's Announcements

The Chair expressed the Council's pride that the Children in Care Council had received a National Voice Award from the National Children in Care Council for their Every Word Matters project. Production of their animated video was led by a care leaver and discussed how the words people used could make children and young people feel, and the importance of talking to them about the words that were used and hearing their views. The video is available to watch on [YouTube](#).

### 85. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Atkins (substituted by Councillor Slatter), Councillor Hay (substituted by Councillor Sharp) and Councillor McGuire.

Technical difficulties had prevented the Chair of the Cambridgeshire Foster Carers' Association from joining the meeting remotely, and the Chair expressed her apologies for this.

There were no declarations of interest.

### 86. Minutes – 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and Minutes Action Log

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chair. The action log was noted.

### 87. Petitions and Public Questions

No petitions or public questions were received.

### 88. Participation Report

Summer activities had been well received, especially the three art workshops and the art produced would be donated to the Council's contact centres. A youth club had been established for 8-12 year olds and seasonal events were being planned for care leavers

at locations across Cambridgeshire in recognition that this could be a difficult time of year for them. This would include providing a food parcel.

In response to questions from individual members, officers stated:

- the seasonal events for care leavers would offer an opportunity to engage with these young people on career planning and to sign-post them to sources of further information and support. The Chair referenced councillors' knowledge and experience across a wide range of professions which could provide an additional resource.
- the joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Participation Team had five officers. Following the uncoupling of the two authorities Cambridgeshire now had two Participation officers. There had been no noticeable impact to date on the services provided and the groups established previously were being maintained.

The Executive Director for Children, Education and Families stated that hearing from children in the Council's care and care leavers was a priority. Work was being progressed to broaden the number of children and young people engaged in this dialogue so that they were able to influence their own care and also the work of the directorate and the Council. A new service director would be joining in December 2023 who would be leading this work.

The report was noted.

## 89. Foster Carer Update

The report had been produced jointly with the Chair of the Cambridgeshire Foster Carers' Association (CFCA). The increase in payments to foster carers described at the last meeting had now been implemented, including all backdated payments. There was a continuing focus on the recruitment and retention of foster carers with a 100% increase in enquiries. Twelve new fostering households had been approved to date which was bucking the national trend. An increasing number of foster carer resignations were being seen nationally and there had been 16 to date in Cambridgeshire, although this seemed to be slowing down. This included a number of foster carers who were retiring, and reflected the aging demographic of the county's in-house foster carers. The uncoupling of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's Children's Services was viewed as a natural progression by foster carers and was being done incrementally to minimise disruption.

In response to questions from individual members, officers stated:

- following the uncoupling from Peterborough City Council all foster carers would remain with their respective local authority. No children had been moved or affected by the change.
- Local Authority fostering outperformed any other type of fostering arrangements in terms of the stability of the homes it provided and cost. A variety of recruitment initiatives were being used to appeal to different and diverse cohorts of potential foster carers. However, the market was tight and cost of living increases were impacting on people currently considering fostering. Realistically, most foster carers

- needed three or four bedroom houses and these were out of the reach of most younger households. Officers were looking at ways this might be addressed.
- currently around 40% of Cambridgeshire's children in care were placed out of county.
  - the new Head of Fostering was leading work to build on the existing relationships with foster carers. Exit interviews were conducted with all foster carers leaving the Council, and concerns which had been expressed around social worker support would be addressed as part of the service re-shape.

The report was noted.

## 90. Cambridgeshire Fostering Service

The Sub-Committee was advised of the principles and plans around a planned re-design of the Fostering Service. This included a separate recruitment and assessment team to ensure that potential applicants would receive an efficient and timely response and two supervision and support teams. The retention of a separate Quality Assurance service would enable it to act as a critical friend and to drive improvement, and there would also be a clinical team. The changes would deliver the additional support for foster carers requested by the Cambridgeshire Foster Carers' Association (CFCA) and consideration was being given to an opt-out rather than opt in approach on this. An ambitious service improvement plan was being developed and would include additional support to fostering families caring for the increasing number of adolescents in the Council's care. Work was also in hand to increase the number of emergency foster carers and to develop specialisms amongst both foster carers and practitioners.

In response to questions from individual members, officers stated:

- there was more discretion available in relation to kinship assessments, and that a key consideration was the quality of the relationship between the family member and the child.
- there was national debate around whether councils should be more flexible about their requirements in relation to foster carers' accommodation. Some local authorities actively worked with district councils to look for accommodation for foster carers, although in practice this tended to work best for children with disability issues. The question of partnership working would need to be discussed with district councils. The Chair commented that there was a need for larger affordable housing for this type of provision.

The report was noted.

## 91. Virtual School Annual Report 2022/23

The Virtual School (VS) annual report for 2022/23 annual report had been shared with the Children in Council and informally with Sub-Committee members, but the validated data would not be available until March/ April 2024 and an addendum would be issued at that time. The focus of the report was on attainment and progress. There was still a significant attainment gap for children in care in comparison to their non-care experienced peers. The dashboard had been improved and the data was being used to

inform the decisions being made, including identifying young people on the cusp of achieving a Level 4 pass (Good) and having their papers re-marked. This had resulted in one young person achieving Level 4 and 10 young people being within 10 marks of achieving grade 4. Additional support had been put in place to support those young people to re-sit their GCSE and to access courses at a higher level. Work had also been undertaken with an educational psychologist to drive improvement amongst Early Years cohorts to close the attainment gap.

Members welcomed the VS acting forcefully in support of the children and young people in the Council's care in relation to their educational attainment. They also welcomed the work being undertaken with West Suffolk College and additional funding being sought from the Prince's Trust in relation to employment.

In response to questions from individual members, officers stated:

- half of young people in care were not sitting 8 GCSE subjects. Officers were looking at this with schools, but that conversation needed to be based around the needs of the young person.
- an increase in the number of school exclusions was being seen both locally and nationally. The VS was proactive in opposing exclusions and suspensions and promoted a trauma informed practice approach at both school and multi-academy trust (MAT) level, working closely with officers in the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) team. The Chair commended the training on a trauma informed approach which had been undertaken by a number of councillors and the Council's senior management team. She suggested that more members of the Children and Young People Committee and Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee might like to do this training if capacity was available.
- most Post-16 unaccompanied asylum seeking learners were located on the Cambridgeshire/ Peterborough border. Officers were looking at how to better capture their prior attainment and encouraging a variety of local colleges and providers to consider what additional opportunities they might offer for this group of young people.

The Chair thanked the VS for working hard on behalf of the Council's children in care in Early Years and other educational settings. This supported the best outcomes for children in care as well as best value for money.

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the content of the report
- b) Raise any questions with the lead officer

## 92. Children in Care and Care Leavers Education, Employment and Training Action Plan Update

The Sub-Committee was advised that officers were working strategically to raise participation in education and learning. Provision could be an issue and there was a



need to focus on more vulnerable children such as those with additional needs, or who were known to the Youth Offending Service. The personal advisors based in care leaver teams were good at engaging more hard to reach young people, but there were still some young people who chose not to engage.

The Chair welcomed the gradual improvement being seen and the practical help on offer to help young people find out more about Higher Education.

The report was noted.

### 93. Corporate Parenting Scorecard September 2023

Key issues for improvement were identified as the number of visits to children in care and the timeliness of initial health assessments (IHAs). The homes stability figure was shown as around c7%, but officers judged the actual figure was around 10%. The difference was due to technical issues with the data system and old data not having been updated.

The Chair noted that the Children in Care Council had asked that the word 'homes' should be used rather than the term 'placements'.

In response to questions from individual members, officers:

- confirmed that the additional data provided this time included the detail which lay behind the summary report which was usually presented.
- stated that they expected to see a decline in figures nationally around access to dental care. They were looking to work with health colleagues to establish pathways around dental issues. There was a drop-in clinic in Ely for emergency treatment.

The Chair stated that the majority of issues around initial health assessments related to the Council's performance and delays in referrals. She had met health colleagues and hoped to see a significant improvement by February. Health was allocating c90% of children within target times, but Council referrals were delayed. The Interim Service Director for Fostering, Regional Adoption and Specialist Young People's Services acknowledged this, stating that this was ultimately a practice issue and that whilst it was a tough issue he was confident that improvements would be seen by January.

The report was noted.

### 94. Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2022/23

The Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2022/23 set out the Council's target of being an ambitious corporate parent. This would involve improving when and how councillors and officers saw the Council's children in care, how that time was used and looking systematically at the experience of children in care and care leavers. Caseloads were high and there was a large number of children and young people living out of county. The report also examined the offer to unaccompanied asylum seeking children and permanence planning alongside a focus on building bridges with care leavers and examining why some of them chose not to stay in touch.

Officers were looking at the possible establishment of a Corporate Parenting Board with multi-agency partners and the development of a three-year corporate parenting strategy. They welcomed the suggestion of a Member/ officer workshop to discuss this. Action required

It was noted that section 1.5 of the report wrongly stated that the three informal meetings each year were jointly chaired with a young person, which did not happen at present.

It was resolved to agree the report and the areas of development listed for Corporate Parenting in 2023/24.

#### 95. Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan

The Chair asked that trauma informed training should be added to the Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan for those members who had not yet done this. Action required.

It was agreed that training relating to corporate parenting should be offered to all county councillors wherever possible. Action required

It was resolved to note the Sub-Committee workshop and training plan.

#### 96. Sub-Committee Agenda Plan

The Chair stated the wish to review the current thematic approach to meetings. Action required

The Executive Director for Children, Education and Families reported a change in approach on contextual safeguarding. Details of this would be shared with Sub-Committee members. Action required

(Chair)

## Action Log

### Summary

The Action Log is a list of all of the things that people have been asked to do at earlier meetings. It is included at each meeting so that councillors can check that everything is being done. It was last updated on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

### Minutes – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023

68.	Health Report	Katie Liddle	The Designated Nurse offered to share data from the NHS England national audit with the Sub-Committee when it became available.	<p>22.06.23: Results from the Pilot Audit for Health Assessments has not yet been shared. They will be shared with the Sub-Committee when available.</p> <p>16.02.24: Results from the Pilot Audit have not been shared or published by NHS England. However, the Audit is now up and running across England and is reported Quarterly to NHS England by the 42 ICBs in the Country. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough ICB submit data for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough region as a whole. The Audit is formally named ‘Assurance of Statutory Health Assessments for Looked After Children’ and consists of 114 separate questions/pieces of data.</p>	Completed
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## Minutes 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023

83.	Sub-Committee agenda plan	<del>Brian Ralph</del> Ranjit Chambers	Work would be progressed outside of the meeting to populate the Sub-Committee's agenda plan, including looking at how its business aligned with the work of the Children and Young People Committee.	06.11.23: On-going due to the new Service Director joining in November 2023.	On-going
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## Minutes 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

94.	Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2022/23	Ranjit Chambers	Members welcomed the suggestion of a member/ officer workshop to discuss the possible establishment of a Corporate Parenting Board with multi-agency partners and the development of a three-year corporate parenting strategy.		
95.	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan	Catherine Isaacs	The Chair asked that trauma informed training should be added to the Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan for those members who had not yet done this		
95.	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan	Catherine Isaacs	It was agreed that training relating to corporate parenting should be offered to all county councillors wherever possible.		
96.	Sub-Committee Agenda Plan	Ranjit Chambers	The Chair stated the wish to review the current thematic approach to meetings.		

## Participation Report

To: Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

From: Service Director, Quality Assurance and Practice Improvement

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: No

Executive summary: To ensure children and young people in care are empowered to express their voices and experiences to improve services. This report outlines the participation work with children and young people.

Recommendation: The Sub-Committee is recommended to:

- a) Note the contents of the report.
- b) Raise any queries with the lead officers.

Officer contact:

Name: Helen Love

Post: Service Manager Quality Assurance, Participation and Independent Visitors

Email: [helen.love@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:helen.love@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

# 1. Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

- 1.1 This report relates to ambition 7 of the Council's seven ambitions as participation activity supports our children and young to have opportunities to thrive.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 The Participation Team is responsible for supporting Cambridgeshire County Council Children's Services in gathering and responding to the voice of children and young people in care, and Care Leavers. They do this directly by offering a variety of opportunities for engagement and feedback, supporting participation groups with projects and consultations, and ensuring action is taken as a result of feedback from children and young people. They also do this indirectly by supporting the work of the wider service.

## 3. Main Issues

- 3.1 The Participation Strategic Group was implemented in December 2023 and will meet quarterly going forward. This group is chaired by the Service Director for Quality Assurance and Practice Improvement and has the following objectives:
- To develop an organisational culture of valuing children and young people's views and be proactive in facilitating their participation and keeping them at the centre of everything we do, listening and acting on their views and opinions.
  - To provide a framework, guidance and activities for our organisation to effectively involve children and young people in the development, delivery and evaluation of services that affect their lives.
  - To increase the number of children and young people in our services who have had opportunities to participate in both corporate parenting subcommittee meetings and activities and events, including those children placed at a distance.
  - To ensure that structures are in place to embed best practice relating to engagement, participation / co-production and that we as an organisation are responsive to the issues or concerns that have been highlighted by children and young people.
  - To encourage managers and practitioners to develop and embed participation / co-production in their service area and keeping them informed of activities through regular communication.
- 3.2 The Participation Team continues to promote opportunities for children and young people through regular newsletters, as well as creating event-specific publications to encourage engagement. Recent newsletters have updated young people on the work of the Children in Care Council (CiCC), Care Experienced Forum (VOICE) and other participation groups including the Young Recruiters and Young Trainers. They have also promoted other

relevant opportunities with external organisations such as *IMO* (the Children's Commissioner's digital offering for teenagers in care and care leavers) and *Become* (the national charity for children in care and care leavers).

- 3.3 All feedback, including suggestions and ideas from children and young people, is communicated to services on a regular basis. This is compiled in the Quarterly Feedback Loop Report. Responses on action taken is shared with the CiCC for final review.
- 3.4 The previously named Informal Corporate Parenting Subcommittee has, following consultation with the CiCC, been renamed to the Young People's Corporate Parenting meeting. Our children wanted this change to reflect that this is their meeting. Young people have also shared their view on the current venue for this meeting and work is underway to see what changes are possible.
- 3.5 The Corporate Parenting Strategy is currently under review and the Participation Team have supported our children to be involved in this process. This work has enabled our children to review and prioritise the five key areas of the strategy and they are co-producing the foreword for the strategy. The Participation Team is also running a competition to design the front cover of the strategy.
- 3.6 Cambridgeshire County Council has renewed their contract with Mind of My Own to provide their online messaging and support platform for young people. The Participation Team are supporting the wider service with integrating the use of Mind of My Own into their practice, including coordinating train the trainer and practitioner learning sessions. They are also supporting young people to share their feedback via the app. Further information about Mind of My Own is available here [www.mindofmyown.org](http://www.mindofmyown.org)
- 3.7 Throughout December, the Participation Team organised seasonal drop-ins for care leavers at five different locations across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, with support from the leaving care service. Young people were able to access information about Participation groups, talk to a PA, pick up a free food hamper and an additional shopping voucher for a supermarket of their choice. Several of the young people who attended the drop-ins have since engaged in Participation groups, or plan to in the near future.
- 3.8 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) and Young People make up an increasing number of our Children Looked After and Leaving Care population. These children and young people often have distinct needs, and it is therefore important for us to capture their unique voices. The Participation Team have been continuing to build relationships with young people from a UASC background, with group visits and workshops being the main method of engagement. These visits have led to involvement in other Participation projects, and we will continue this work to improve relationships and engagement.
- 3.9 An Art Exhibition was held in Cambridge Central Library, in October 2023, to showcase young people's artwork that was created during our summer workshops. Several young

people visited the exhibition to see their work on display, and members of the public were able to view the artwork throughout the day, sparking comments and discussion about the pieces. This collection of art was also on display at the Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement Service Development Day in November 2023.

- 3.10 The CiCC continues to meet in person monthly, to work on projects and consultation requests, meet professionals and give feedback on services. Several CiCC members will soon be expanding their skillset by delivering training workshops to trainee social workers and prospective foster carers, through our Young Trainers group.
- 3.11 The CiCC have agreed on their initial set of questions to kick-start their 'Frequently Asked Questions' project and are awaiting confirmation of the responses from the service, so they can press ahead with their plans for marketing the project to young people. Once the initial questions have been answered and shared with Cambridgeshire young people, the CiCC will look at creative ways of sharing the information more widely, and how they can further develop the project to have the biggest possible impact.
- 3.12 VOICE - Care Experienced Network members have been discussing their experiences and focusing on improving the support and preparation for young people leaving care. The group are working with the Leaving Care Service on developing a Pledge for Care Leavers, to set out areas of support that the service will provide for young people, and for young people to know what to expect from the service.
- 3.13 The Young Trainers group continues to deliver training for prospective foster carers across Cambridgeshire, as part of the Foster Carer Training programme. The Young Trainers will be looking at the overall training programmes for foster carers and social workers, to select other areas that they can contribute towards from a young person's perspective, and to explore ways to develop their current training sessions.
- 3.14 The Young Recruiters have been involved in the recruitment of service manager roles within the Leaving Care Service and Children in Care Social Work Teams.
- 3.15 Children and Young People across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire have worked on the 'Every Word Matters' project, looking at the language used around children with social care experience. The second animated video of the series, entitled 'Who is PEP?', focussing on the language used in schools, is now available on the [Participation Youtube](#) page. This has been shared with the Virtual School, who have included it in their latest training resources.
- 3.16 The Youth Club continues to run monthly in the Fenland area and is gradually increasing in popularity, with further interest coming from renewed efforts from social work teams to promote the Participation offer.
- 3.17 The Bright Spots Surveys have recently been launched. This is a collection of wellbeing surveys for all children and young people aged 4-25 who are or have been looked after by Cambridgeshire County Council. We want all our young people to have the opportunity to



complete these surveys, so lots of work is being done to raise awareness with every child and young person who is or has been looked after.

As children and young people cannot complete the surveys with their carer or allocated worker, work has been undertaken to ensure they have access to a trusted adult to provide support if they require it. This includes people like our Participation Officers, Independent Reviewing Officer's (IRO's), Designated Teachers in Schools, Advocacy Services and Supervising Social Workers of Foster Carers.

#### 4. Alternative Options Considered

Not applicable

#### 5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

5.1 Sub-Committee are asked to note the report.

#### 4. Significant Implications

N/A.

#### 5. Source documents guidance

5.1 Source documents

None.



## Report from Cambridgeshire Fostering Service and Cambridgeshire Foster Carer Association

To: Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

From: Assistant Director Fostering, Regional Adoption and Corporate Parenting

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: n/a

Key decision: No

Outcome: This report has been submitted by the Fostering service in partnership with the Cambridgeshire Foster Carer Association.

Recommendation: The Sub-Committee is recommended to:

- a) Note the content of the report
- b) Raise any queries they have with the lead officers

Officer contact:

Name: Despina Kaoura  
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Tel: 01480 372758 (office)

# 1. Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

## 1.1 Ambition 7 - Children and young people have opportunities to thrive

The report reflects the engagement and support to foster carers who play a vital role for those children and young people who are in care

# 2. Background

- 2.1 This report has been prepared to update the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on engagement activity with the Cambridgeshire Fostering Community, and to provide an overview of development activity Foster Carers have participated in within the service.
- 2.2 The Fostering Service has attended meetings with the Cambridgeshire Foster Carer Association (CFCA) to hear feedback from Foster Carers on what is working well and what Foster Carers feel needs to be considered or addressed by the Fostering Service and colleagues within the wider children's services. The Head of Service for Fostering and the Service Manager for the support and part of the Fostering service are also invited to attend the CFCA meetings.
- 2.3 The Head of Service for Fostering will meet monthly with the Chair and Vice Chair of the CFCA which is a good opportunity to discuss service developments and plans in more detail and review feedback from Foster Carers received at formal meetings.
- 2.4 The CFCA are involved in some of the work being initiated within the service alongside other members of our fostering community. The service recognizes that there are further opportunities for the CFCA as an association to be involved in service development and we will work with the CFCA to utilize their support to engage more carers in working groups relating to recruitment, retention, training and mentoring. The service and the CFCA will work together to continue to develop this partnership.
- 2.5 The retention working group had been meeting bi-monthly and attended by staff from all functions within the service, Foster Carers from the CFCA and the rest of the fostering community attended and contributed to the various working groups. The retention working group has previously focussed on improving the following areas: financial processes, feelings of isolation, allegations/complaints and managing complex behaviours. The impact of the group had seen an improvement in retention of carers in quarter one compared to the same period last year. In addition, to support the work of the group, retention visits are carried out to all carers who have indicated they may wish to leave the service to discuss their situation and to agree how the service can support them to remain within our fostering community. This approach has proven positive and will be developed further in partnership with the CFCA. There is some work required to further develop the work of this group, in recent meetings the service and the CFCA discussed the following:
- Re-introducing our Foster carer Retention Meetings (bimonthly) as well as our mentoring project both of which require a slightly different approach/focus as well as needing to revisit the Terms of Reference (ToR) after a period of change due to the recent uncoupling with PCC
  - Foster Carers welcome the collaborative working to raise/address any issues which may impact on carer retention. Carers are keen to continue to work together to identify

themes of concern and be part of the collaborative solution focused working group (as appropriate)

- The same applies to the mentoring group where we aim to identify a mentor for each new carer and/or any household experiencing difficulties with the fostering task/role
- For Foster Carers to continue to be remunerated for the support they provide to the service in their range of roles.

- 2.6 The Fostering Recruitment Ambassadors from within the wider Fostering Community continue to work alongside the service supporting recruitment activity and raising the awareness of Private Fostering in their communities using their wealth of knowledge and experience of the fostering task. Our Recruitment Ambassadors attend and support with our information sessions for prospective carers who have registered an interest in fostering.
- 2.7 The mentoring scheme for Foster Carers continues to be developed. The Fostering Service has provided training via the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) to one of our Mentors so that they can focus their support to Foster Carers who are subject to allegations or concerns. This is a voluntary arrangement, but we hope that Foster Carers will find it beneficial. We hope to be able to provide this training again to carers who may have an interest in supporting peers through what the role of a Foster Carer Mentor is, to support Foster Carers in their first year of being approved, to provide peer support to enable carers to look after children with complex needs and prevent unplanned moves for Children in Care.
- 2.8 Foster Carer Support Groups are being delivered using a hybrid model of 'face to face' and virtually, which has proven successful in increasing the number of attendees. Four groups are held in Cambridgeshire on a monthly basis. A specific group is held to support Foster Carers who care for children with disabilities. We also have a bi-monthly virtual Teenage Support Group which focusses on the needs of this cohort of children. The CFCA and other members of the fostering community are very proactive in attending and supporting the carers groups.

### 3. Main Issues Raised by CFCA

#### 3.1 Delay in Passports

**Feedback Theme and Context:** Delays in obtaining passports for Children in Care. This has been raised as a challenge by Foster Carers in Cambridgeshire.

**Foster Carer Feedback and Ideas:** Foster Carers are requesting that Children's social workers apply for passports, and these are not being processed in a timely manner due to ambiguity around the process and who is responsible for making the application and progressing the result in a timely manner. Foster Carers are requesting a defined process and carers would like to have a point of contact. Previously this was a Business Officer.

**Corporate Parent's Response:**

Corporate Parenting Service: response required.

Fostering Service: The fostering service recognises this is an important issue for carers and will be adopting an escalation model as follows:

- Firstly, the Fostering Social Worker will raise the matter with the Child's Social Worker for a response within 5 working days
- If there is no response or the matter is delayed, the Fostering Team Manager will contact the Child's Team Manager to progress the issue and allow 3 working days for a response
- If there is no response within 5 days, the Fostering Head of Service will request a meeting with the Head of Service for Corporate Parenting and Team Manager to formulate a plan with timescales for completion.

### 3.2 Transport for Children in Care

**Feedback Theme and Context:** Transport for Children in Care to Family Time, school and important appointments are cumbersome and continue to be unreliable. This has been raised as a challenge by Foster Carers to Cambridgeshire fostering staff via the regular feedback loop meetings between the service and its carers, this is an ongoing issue.

**Foster Carer Feedback and Ideas:** Where Social Workers have not made applications for transport in a timely manner and no transport is available, this means that Social Workers or carers are required to meet this deficit. This is not a good use of social work time and Foster Carers struggle to meet the competing needs of all the children in the family home to be able to take on this task for any length of time. Foster Carers need to feel reassured that the transport is in place for the children to whom they offer care. This continues to be an issue, particularly when children come into a care arrangement often in an emergency and the children's social worker has not been proactive in setting up transport to and from school. This not only becomes difficult in terms of managing the journey and the impact this may have on either the SW or carers but also for the child who often misses up to two weeks of school (or more) which is not acceptable.

Foster Carers have asked that where there are no changes in placement or school, could the contracts roll onto the next term?

Could carers have some delegated authority along with Supervising Social Workers to make changes as required where there are no funding implications?

#### **Corporate Parent's Response:**

**Fostering Service Response:** The service recognises that this matter is significant for Foster Carers and has met with the Local Authority transport services in order to address this issue. Unfortunately the meeting also coincided with the arrival of Ofsted and as such the meeting was not well attended. The service will be rearranging the meeting to seek to improve working relationships, however we are also wanting to expand the use of delegated authority to enable Foster Carers to be creative in identifying solutions within their network.

#### **Corporate Parenting Service:**

Corporate parenting acknowledge that this is a significant matter impacting upon foster carers. As the Head of Service I have received feedback that in the vast majority of cases requests to manage transport are submitted in a timely way to reduce the burden upon carers and Social Work Staff. As a service we have recently held one meeting with the transport service to seek to improve their uptake of referrals which can in some instances

take several weeks to progress. We will provide further updates as this matter seeks resolution and thank the carers for raising the issue.

Transport Team: awaiting response.

### 3.3 Savings for Children in Care

**Feedback Theme and Context:** Clarity required around savings. Policy around ISA's, confirmation on amounts, make sure discussed at placement planning meeting. There is lack of clarity around how ISA's/savings accounts are set up for Children in Care. Savings expectations for children by their carers is yet to be written into a policy and rolled out to all carers as a mandatory expectation. However, it is understood that the Service Director (SD) for corporate parenting is currently being updated.

**Foster Carer Feedback and Ideas:** There is no process, procedure or a point of contact for ISA accounts. Foster Carers are still waiting for clarity on savings allowances and expectations. Need a process, procedure and a person in post/point of contact for Savings/ISA accounts for children. Could there be a dedicated email for this service, in order that all queries are responded to.

**Corporate Parent's Response:**

Corporate Parenting Service: In CCC we have a dedicated officer.

Fostering Service Response: We are sorry that there has been a delay with the policy and clarification of expectations. Cambridgeshire recognises that the current process for accumulating savings for children in care is both cumbersome and also creates vulnerabilities in ensuring that all children are able to accumulate savings. The new Service Director, Ranjit Chambers, has delivered her vision to ensure that all children's savings are taken at source and invested by the Local Authority. This will remove the onerous tasks from carers and also protect the savings of children from potential mismanagement.

### 3.4 Emergency clothing payments

**Feedback Theme and Context:** Children are arriving with Foster Carers in an emergency without the clothing they need, and Foster Carers may not have the funds to buy immediately. This has been raised as a challenge by Foster Carers in Cambridgeshire.

**Foster Carer feedback and Ideas:** This issue has come up from Foster Carers to the committee. Foster Carers appear more aware that they can claim for emergency clothing. Where carers are purchasing emergency clothing, they need to be reimbursed in a timely manner. Supervising Social Workers need to be more proactive in ensuring that carers are aware that they can apply for emergency clothing allowance.

**Corporate Parent's Response:**

Corporate Parenting Service:

Fostering Service: Where there is uncertainty about who is responsible for funding certain items or activities, there needs to be a process for both fostering and Children in Care (CiC) services to follow, which provides a timely response.

Receipts to be provided at the Placement Planning Meeting to Supervising Social Workers.

Fostering have reviewed (our) processes around how we reimburse carers expenses and ensure the process is robust and timely.

The Fostering Service will republish the current expenditure allowance for Foster Carers to ensure this is well communicated.

### 3.5 Finance Issues

#### **Feedback Theme and Context:**

Foster Carers have informed us that they would like Fostering fees and allowances (fortnightly payment) to be broken down into skills and child allowance as per NMS guidelines.

The CFCA would like their Budget to be confirmed as per previous assurances. This has been raised as a challenge by Foster Carers in Cambridgeshire.

**Foster Carer Feedback and Ideas:** Fosters Carers would appreciate Foster Carer finances to be accessible i.e. in the form of a leaflet, to be clear and transparent and to be broken down into skills element and children's allowances as per NMS guidance and for their pay slip to reflect this.

The CFCA would like their annual budget confirmed.

The fostering service to consider how best to ensure the fostering allowances are made available and are clear and transparent and are represent both the skills element as well as the child's allowances.

#### **Corporate Parent Response:**

Corporate Parenting Service: - N/A

Fostering Service: The fostering service will commit to a review of the Fostering finance remuneration scheme which will start in April 2024 and is anticipated to take a year to complete. The review will be undertaken by the service, in consultation with carers and will be sensitive to feedback already received about the carers desire to have both skills and child payment recognised separately.

The Head of Service will confirm the budget for the CFCA for the financial year starting 2024 by the 25<sup>th</sup> of April.

### 3.6 Children's Files

**Feedback Theme and Context:** Carers have requested examples of logs for children's recordings, either fictitious or redacted to maintain confidentiality but to provide examples which would support carers to develop their narrative about the child and could write logs that represent the child, their feelings and wishes, and their experiences as positively as possible.



Foster Carers would like to have access where appropriate to Childrens chronologies when children first arrive, maybe to review this at the initial Placement Planning Meeting.

This has been raised as a challenge by Foster Carers in Cambridgeshire.

**Foster Carer Feedback and Ideas:** Having clear, detailed, transparent information about the child would support carers to better understand how they can meet the needs of the child as well as mitigate any risks.

To share a child's chronology and most up to date risk assessment/referral at the PPM. Having the correct information available enables the carer to better understand the needs of the child and the fostering service to know how better support their carer.

**Corporate Parent's Response:**

Fostering Service: The fostering service recognises that in order to produce excellence we need to be shown at times what high standard recordings might look like. The service will be running a brief campaign in May 2024 in which we will spend the month exploring the importance of accurate and child centered recordings for children. The service will be providing training and examples during this month for Foster Carers.

### 3.7 Online Safety

**Feedback Theme and Context:** Foster Carers have requested an online/e-safety checklist and they feel that access to tech help/guidance would be helpful - generally carers don't feel prepared especially when teenagers are so much more able with regards social media platforms and technology. This can be the source of difficulties in the relationship between carers and young people. This has been raised as a challenge by Foster Carers in Cambridgeshire.

**Foster Carer Feedback and Ideas:** That more informed specialist training would be helpful in keeping children and young people safe. Foster Carers feel inadequately equipped to help young people manage their social media access to stay safe or even to help manage the devices young people may have. Specialist training/online support would be welcomed.

**Corporate Parent's Response:**

Corporate Parenting Service: - N/A

Fostering Service: The fostering service has received this feedback and will be seeking to commission training from experts within the 2024 training brochure. We will further work with the trainer to produce a checklist or written guidance that carers might use to help children remain safe online.

### 3.8 Dialogue between the Fostering Service and CFCA

**Feedback Theme and Context:** The Fostering Service meets regularly with chair of the CFCA and has (in more recent meetings) discussed the following: re-introducing our Foster Carer Retention Meetings (bi-monthly) as well as our Mentoring Project, both of which require a slightly different approach/focus and require a review of the terms of reference (ToR) after a period of change due to the recent uncoupling with PCC. This has been discussed by Foster Carers and the service as beneficial and in need of renewed focus

from the service.

**Foster Carer Feedback and ideas:** Foster Carers welcome the collaborative working to raise/address any issues which may impact on carer retention. Carers are keen to work together to identify themes of concern and be part of the collaborative solution fostered working group (as appropriate).

The same applies to the mentoring group where we aim to identify a mentor for each new carer and/or any household experiencing difficulties with the fostering task/role.

For Foster Carers to continue to be remunerated for the support they provide to the service in their range of roles.

**Corporate Parent's Response:**

Corporate Parenting Service: - N/A

Fostering Service: The service recognises this is important and has already relaunched the retention meetings. The Service Manager and author of this report will be pleased to review the terms of reference for the mentoring project and further explore how excellence in carer retention looks like.

#### 4. Alternative Options Considered

Not applicable

#### 5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

5.1 The Sub-Committee are asked to note the report.

#### 6. Significant Implications

##### 6.1 Finance Implications

There are no significant implications

##### 6.2 Legal Implications

There are no significant implications

##### 6.3 Risk Implications

There are no significant implications

##### 6.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no significant implications

##### 6.5 Climate Change and Environment Implications (Key decisions only)

There are no significant implications

## 5. Source documents

5.1 None



## Annual Health Report February 2024

To: Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

From: Designated Nurse for Children in Care, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care Board

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: No

Forward Plan ref: n/a

Executive summary:

- Initial Health Assessments
- Review Health Assessments
- Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire
- Dental care
- Separated Migrant Children
- Health Assessment Audit

Recommendation: The Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee is recommended to:

- a) Note the content of this report
- b) Raise any queries with the Lead Officers

Officer contact:  
Name: Katie Liddle  
Post: Designated Nurse Children in Care  
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# 1. Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

1.1 Not applicable

## 2. Background

2.1 This report provides an update on health services for Children in Care. The report provides an overview of the Integrated Care Board's (ICB) activities to ensure robust monitoring and quality assurance systems are in place to meet the health needs of Cambridgeshire's Children in Care including those with a disability.

## 3. Main Issues

3.1 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care Board (ICB) commission the Children in Care (CIC) Health Team, Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) to have oversight of the health needs of our children in care via Initial and Review Health Assessments; this means that the doctors and nurses within the team undertake the health assessments, or ensure provision by a health service in another part of the country for those children and young people placed outside of Cambridgeshire. The Designated Nurse and Doctor for Children in Care work with commissioners and providers across social care and health to ensure the provision, quality and timeliness of the required health services.

3.2 Initial Health Assessments (IHAs) are a statutory requirement for every child or young person when they first become looked after. The IHA must be completed by a qualified doctor within 20 working days of the child coming into care. The IHA is completed in a clinical setting, face to face with a Paediatrician. CCS are able to offer 15 slots per month with a paediatrician for IHA appointments. The number of children requiring an IHA to be completed in Cambridgeshire each month fluctuates and can be unpredictable. CCS Paediatricians are commissioned to see all children living within Cambridgeshire for their IHAs, this includes children placed in Cambridgeshire by other Local Authorities.

3.3 Initial Health Assessments

<b>Initial Health Assessment Performance 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023</b>		
<b>In County Placements</b>		
	Number of IHA requests	Number of IHAs completed within 20 working days
Total numbers	118	14
<b>Total Percentage</b>		12%
<b>Out of County Placements</b>		
	Number of IHA requests	Number of IHAs completed within 20 working days
Total numbers	114	8
<b>Total percentage</b>		7%
<b>Overall Totals (combining In County and Out of County placements)</b>		
Total Number	232	22
Total percentage		9%

In addition to the 118 IHAs completed for Cambridgeshire Local Authority children and young people, CCS have completed 44 IHAs for other Local Authorities whose children are placed in Cambridgeshire and offered a further 108 IHAs that were not attended (41 Cambridgeshire Local Authority children and 67 other Local Authority children).

- 3.4 Completion of the IHA within the statutory timescale relies on the timely receipt of referral and consent from Children’s social care. Analysis of data collated between 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 until 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 shows only 6% of referrals and consent are received within the 5 working day timeframe and 59% being received after the whole of the 20 working day timeframe has passed (please see chart below).

Number of Cambridgeshire children new into care	232	%
Consent and referral received within 5 working days	13	6%
Consent and referral received within 6-10 working days	26	11%
Consent and referral received within 11-15 working days	34	15%
Consent and referral received within 16-20 working days	22	9%
Consent and referral received 21+ working days of becoming looked after	126	54%
Still awaiting	11	5%

The health team are unable to make arrangements with the carer for IHAs until the referral and consent are received. The target for this is 5 working days which then allows 15 working days for the health team to arrange the appointment and see the child/young person for their IHA.

From 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 the average time taken for CCS Children in Care Health team to receive both consent and referral from Cambridgeshire Children Social Care was 45 working days from the date the child became looked after.

The average time taken from receipt of referral and consent by the health team to completion of the IHA during the same time frame as above (1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023-30<sup>th</sup> November 2023) was 21 working days, therefore a delay of 6 working days.

- 3.5 In response to the delays explained above, the Designated Nurse Children in Care has worked in collaboration with the CCS health team and colleagues in the Local Authority to develop a pathway which was launched in December 2023. The pathway includes a timeline for the health assessment process. This clearly identifies which agency is responsible for which action and includes details of where to send information with documents embedded within the pathway. This will assist Social Workers with knowing when to do what and where to send etc. The Team Manager of the CiC Health Team has plans to attend team meetings with social workers to problem solve and improve collaboration.
- 3.6 Review Health Assessments (RHAs) are also face-to-face appointments completed at the child or young person’s home address by a Specialist Nurses. Virtual assessments can be undertaken if the agreed criteria are met as this will offer a degree of flexibility in certain circumstances. For those who decline their consultation a questionnaire is provided which enables a Health Action Plan to be created.

<b>Review Health Assessment Performance 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 – 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023</b>		
<b>In County Placements</b>		
	Number of RHAs due	Number of RHAs completed within timescales
Total numbers	245	204
<b>Total Percentage</b>		83%
<b>Out of County Placements</b>		
	Number of RHAs due	Number of RHAs completed within timescales
Total numbers	204	122
<b>Total percentage</b>		60%
<b>Overall Totals (combining In County and Out of County placements)</b>		
Total number	449	326
Total percentage		73%

In addition to the 245 RHAs completed for Cambridgeshire Local Authority children and young people placed in Cambridgeshire, the CCS Children in Care Health team have completed a further 150 RHAs for other Local Authorities whose children are placed in Cambridgeshire and an additional 20 RHA appointments that were not attended (10 Cambridgeshire Local Authority children and 10 other Local Authority children).

- 3.7 To further enhance the above performance of RHAs the Partnership are keen to embed enduring consent. Enduring consent would be lasting parental consent for the child's time in care and would cover statutory and routine reviews. Currently, social workers are required to gain consent from biological parent/s each time a review health assessment is required. This can delay referrals reaching the CiC health team, thus delaying the health assessment taking place. Enduring consent has been discussed within the Children in Care Partnership meetings and it is hoped that once this is in place it will improve delays with RHAs.
- 3.8 For Cambridgeshire Children in Care living outside of Cambridgeshire, the CCS Health Team send a request to the nearest CIC Health Team to the child or young person's placement address. This is sent 3 months in advance of the date the RHA is due. Many areas are struggling with capacity and hold waiting lists for children and often prioritise their own Local Authority's children. The Cambridgeshire CIC Health Team have little control over when our children are seen who are living out of area.
- 3.9 It is a requirement for the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) to be completed in preparation of the RHA. This informs the clinician of any emotional health and wellbeing difficulties the young person might be experiencing so as to ensure this is explored further in their RHA appointment. Until recently, the health team were sending the SDQs out with the RHA appointment on behalf of the Local Authority and requesting that carers completed their version and return to the health team for scoring prior to the RHA. It was expected the Social Worker would assist the young person to complete the SDQ during the visit prior to the RHA appointment.



The table below shows the poor return rate over a three-month period, despite sending leaflets to guide the carers through the process.

	Number of SDQs sent and requested to be returned prior to RHA.	SDQs returned by carer	SDQs returned by young person
Aug 2023	20	5	1
Sept 2023	9	8	1
Oct 2023	25	8	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Percent</b>		<b>39%</b>	<b>4%</b>

To improve the response rate, the process was reviewed at the Partnership meeting and a new pathway developed which involves the Health Liaison team at the Local Authority to have oversight of SDQs and prompt the child's social worker to complete the SDQ with the young person and carer at their next visit 3 months before the RHA is due. The child's social worker will then return the completed SDQs to the Health Liaison team for scoring, who will ensure the score is shared with the health professional in preparation of the health assessment. It is hoped this will improve the response rate and flow of information to inform the health assessment.

- 3.10 National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance regarding oral health for children states the longest interval between oral health reviews for patients younger than 18 years should not be more than 12 months.

The table below shows data collected from October-December 2023 of Cambridgeshire Local Authority children in care living in Cambridgeshire and outside of Cambridgeshire.

Month	Total number of Cambridgeshire children who have been in care for 12 months or more at month end	Number of those children who <b>had seen a dentist</b> in the last 12 months	Number of those children who <b>had not seen a dentist</b> in the last 12 months	Number of children <b>not seen by dentist</b> in last 12 months placed outside of Cambridgeshire ( <b>out of county children</b> ).	Number of <b>children not seen a dentist</b> in last 12 months living within Cambridgeshire ( <b>in county children</b> ).
October 2023	452	226	226	126	100
Oct 23 %		50%	50%	56%	44%
November 2023	452	220	232	128	104
Nov 23 %		49%	51%	55%	45%
December 2023	450	212	238	132	106
Dec 23 %		47%	53%	55%	45%

The table above indicates that between October and December 2023 49% of Cambridgeshire children in care had seen a dentist within the last 12 months.

Of the children that hadn't seen a dentist within the last 12 months, 55% were living out of county. Therefore 77% of Cambridgeshire children living in Cambridgeshire had seen a dentist within the last 12 months.

- 3.11 All children in care placed in Cambridgeshire have their dental health reviewed during health assessments. Children seen for Initial Health Assessments (IHAs) have a mouth check completed by a paediatrician and every child that is seen for a Review Health Assessment (RHA) has their dental health and access to dental care discussed as part of their review with a specialist nurse.
- 3.12 Children in care are advised of their local dental access centre if they are in pain or score red on the mouth check RAG (red/amber/green) rating system. All children in care are advised of the CHiC (children in care) dental practices identified on the volunteer dentist map for routine dental check-ups and preventative dental care. There are 4 practices signed up in Cambridgeshire and 1 practice in Peterborough. These are NHS dental service providers that have agreed to accept children in care who do not have a regular dentist. This is not to say that other dental providers will not accept children in care, but would be dependant on their capacity at the time.

There are a further 4 locations across Cambridgeshire for Access dental surgeries. These dental clinics are for those who have pain or infection and require treatment who are not registered with a dentist.

The Designated Doctor for Children in Care has written to all dental practices across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to encourage them to add their details to the CHiC volunteer Dental Map and commit to seeing children if they are looked after. This will be circulated by ICB Communications team in February 2024.

- 3.13 The Designated Doctor for Children in Care completed an audit of health assessments which concluded in January 2024. A sample of 5 x IHAs and RHAs from the following categories were reviewed; 0-4 years, 5-10 years, 11-17 years, 17-18 years (Care Leavers Passport) and an additional 5 x IHAs for Separated Migrant Children (SMC).

Cambridgeshire IHAs:

- All IHAs were undertaken by doctors.
- 100% of Neonatal Blood spot results were obtained, however information on Birth and Family history was only available in 85-90% of cases in the 0-10 years of age.
- 50% of children in the 0-5yrs, and 40% of those in the 5-17 years old have seen a dentist, the remaining were all signposted.
- Vision and Hearing checks were 100% achieved
- Immunisation uptake - 100% in the 0-10-year group, 85% in the 11-17yrs
- Height, weight Head circumference – 100% achieved
- Developmental – 100% detailed assessments.
- Emotional well-being - was asked about in all age categories 100%.
- Lifestyle Screening - 100% was done in the 11-17 years age group.
- The Health Action plan was 100% SMART (Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant Timed) in all that were reviewed.

There has been an increase in the numbers of Separated Migrant Children (SMC) being placed in county in the last few years. Health assessments for this group of children and young people also need to address screening for infections, nutrient deficiencies and

mental health support where needed. Better signposting to supportive voluntary organisations to improve mental health and well-being is important for these groups.

Of the 232 children that became looked after during 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023-30<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 67 were SMC. However, only 7 of these SMC were placed in county (within Cambridgeshire). Based on those SMC placed in Peterborough which were reviewed as part of the audit

- 100% of their IHAs were conducted by doctors.
- There was little or no history available relating to birth and family history.
- 40% had a date for a dentist at the time of the IHA.
- Immunisation history showed need for catch up in 100%
- Education – 100% awaiting a place.
- Emotional – Would like to play football, go to the Gym, misses his mum - no weekly contact. Wants to spend time with others who can speak the same language. Would move for education place. Would like a copy of the Quran.

In summary, the audit showed that the majority of IHA and RHA were carried out to a good standard. There has been a marked improvement in access to and uptake of dental provisions across both Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. For those who have not yet registered with a dentist, there was clear sign posting of dental practices who were willing to offer care in certain areas. There has also been a more detailed focus on the emotional well-being of children in care this year.

There remains a problem with completing SDQ before the RHA and making sure that those that are not completed, are done so shortly afterwards. There is a need for better integration of Separated Migrant Children into the local community for them to be aware of and sign posting to local facilities may help to improve their physical and mental well-being. 100% of IHAs audited for separated migrant children were awaiting a place in Education.

## 4. Alternative Options Considered

4.1 Not applicable

## 5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

5.1 Sub-Committee is asked to note the report.

## 6. Significant Implications

6.1 Finance Implications  
Not applicable

6.2 Legal Implications  
Not applicable

6.3 Risk Implications  
What are the risk implications? None

6.4 Equality and Diversity Implications  
What are the equality and diversity implications? None

## 6.5 Climate Change and Environment Implications (Key decisions only)

What are the climate change and environment implications? None

## 7. Source Documents

None

## 8. Accessibility

8.1 An accessible version of the information contained in this report is available on request from the report author.

## Clinical Team Annual Report February 2024

To:	Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Meeting Date:	20 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
From:	Clinical Team, Cambridgeshire County Council
Electoral division(s):	All
Key decision:	No
Forward Plan ref:	n/a
Executive summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Clinical team overview</li><li>- Service structure</li><li>- Service developments</li></ul>
Recommendation:	<p>The Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Note the content of this report</li><li>b) Raise any queries with the Lead Officers</li></ul>

Officer contact:  
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Post: Clinical Lead  
Email: [clinicalteam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:clinicalteam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

## 1. Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

### 1.1 Ambition 7 – Children and young people have opportunities to thrive

The clinical services role is to support and advise professionals with how best to support children and young people with their emotional wellbeing and mental health which would lead to greater opportunities for children and young people to thrive across Cambridgeshire.

## 2. Background and Clinical Team Overview

2.1 Cambridgeshire County Council local authority children's services commission a clinical team, who offer clinical consultations, meetings with the immediate and wider professional network, direct and indirect work with children and young people and their families, including reunification and SGO/Foster Carers and connected persons. In addition to the above the team attend complex case meetings and offer collaborative work with health partners CAMHS. The team are a multi-skilled and multi-professional group with many years of experience working with young people, using an embedded attachment and trauma informed care approach. Flowchart can be found in Appendix 1.

## 3. Service delivery model of practice

- 3.1 The clinicians have a wide range of professional backgrounds, this allows them to bring in unique skillsets to integrate multiple therapeutic approaches and interventions as required including: Dyadic Developmental Practice (DDP), Family Systemic Approach, Person Centred Counselling, Solution Focused Therapy, the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT), Attachment, Regulation and Competency (ARC), Parent and Child Psychotherapeutic approach, Non-Violent Resistance (NVR), CBT(Cognitive Behavioural Therapy) informed practice, Motivational Interviewing, mindfulness-based approaches, AMBIT (Adaptive Mentalisation Based Integrative Treatment), Sensorimotor Psychotherapy, and EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing).
- 3.2 When we offer consultation about a child or young person, who is struggling with life, emotional regulation, self-esteem, and relationship issues, it would make sense to think that helping the child/young person directly would make a difference. However, due to the children's history of developmental trauma and attachment disruption we work primarily with an indirect approach by providing clinical consultation and advice to carers and professionals around the child. A useful question is "who has the most capacity for change?" Is it the carer with their adult abilities or a child who lives their lives reacting to triggers?
- 3.3 While the therapeutic relationship with a therapist can be healing, it often takes several months, sometimes a year, to create a meaningful relationship with children and young people, to then start doing some healing work.
- 3.4 An understanding, accepting, and empathetic relationship from an adult, will support the child's self-esteem and emotional regulation. A curious carer will support the child's meaning making and identity formation.
- 3.5 We work collaboratively with our CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) partners by supporting referrals from children's social care or offering therapeutic interventions alongside a CAMHS team that may have a limited role e.g. a looked after child that has a neuro-developmental condition such as autism or attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder that needs medication or other specialist assessment and monitoring.

### 3.6 Referral data

<b>Clinical Team Referrals 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 (CCC and PCC referrals)</b>		
	Number of CCC Referrals received.	Number of CCC Referrals accepted
Total numbers	81	66
<b>Total Percentage</b>		79% 81%
		Number of Referrals declined
Total numbers	81	15
<b>Total percentage</b>		19%

3.7 Referrals are discussed at a weekly referral meeting. Accepted referrals will be those that the team are able to offer consultation and ongoing work directly or indirectly with the child and/or the professionals and carers supporting the child.

3.8 The team record the reasons why the referrals are declined, some the common reasons are that the child has recently been moved to a new home, is residing out of county or has current involvement with the CAMHS specialist services.

## 4. Team Structure

4.1 The clinical services team has the following team structure:

- 1 x Clinical Lead
- 1 x Senior Specialist Clinician
- 6 x Specialist Clinician (1 x vacant currently)
- 1 x Play Therapist
- 1 x Assistant Psychologist (vacant currently)
- 2 x Business Support capacity

The team profile is as follows:

4.2 Head of Service, trained as a specialist CAMHS mental health nurse and worked therapeutically within CAMHS for years, also worked previously as an auditor and quality officer. Very passionate about hard-to-reach young people and Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy (DDP).

4.3 Senior Specialist Clinician, trained as a social worker and worked therapeutically within CAMHS for years. They are also trained in many modalities, including EMDR and sensorimotor psychotherapy. They are very passionate about widening the Eye movement desensitisation and reprocessing (EMDR), EMDR application such as walking-EDMR groups.

4.4 Specialist Clinician, has worked three years in Safeguarding and four years in Children in Care teams, where she was Social Worker star of the year for 2023, before joining the

team. They are very passionate about Adoption and early years development.

- 4.5 Specialist Clinician, trained as a counsellor with many years of experience. They are passionate about being with people in the moment, the good ones, and the tough ones.
- 4.6 Specialist Clinician and Play-therapist, trained in the foundation of systemic and VIG accredited. They are very passionate about the importance of the attachment system around the child.
- 4.7 Specialist Clinician, trained as a developmental psychologist in Israel, They are also trained in child-parent psychotherapy and is passionate about parent-child relationship difficulties.
- 4.8 Specialist Clinician, trained as a Mental Health Counsellor in the USA. They are also trained in the Neuro-sequential model of Therapeutics (NMT) and in the Attachment Regulation Competency (ARC) model. They are passionate about the brain, giving communities ways to heal and about trauma-informed systems.
- 4.9 Specialist Clinician, trained as a psychologist and with a post-graduate certificate in systemic therapy and is currently also training to become a sex therapist. They are passionate about systems and systemic thinking around children.
- 4.10 Social Worker Student, in there last year of training and soon to become a social worker herself. They are passionate about learning how trauma impacts people and how it is displayed. They are also learning how important it is to have a trauma-informed perspective when working with children.
- 4.11 Senior Business Support Officer, is always ready to step in if needed and is very supportive of the team. They are passionate about giving back to the community, helping people, and about mental health awareness and wellbeing.
- 4.12 Business Support Officer, who plays a vital and crucial role in the team helping us getting out paperwork organised and keeping track of all our cases. They are passionate about finding new ways to support the team.

## 5. Service developments

- 5.1 The clinical team has grown from April 2023, gaining a number of staff, which has enabled the team to handle more cases within that timeframe. The increase in workload has required a waiting list to be incorporated into the working practices and maintained, and in person, clinics have started to be used to meet the social workers directly who are involved in the young people's lives. There is an active monitoring and reviewing process in place to manage the waiting times for consultation are currently up to a maximum of 10 weeks.
- 5.2 Our therapeutic offer to foster carers includes provision of training in different areas of interest such as self-harm, eating difficulties, attachment and sensory-processing difficulties. The training sessions are 3 hours long and have up to 20 foster carers attending.
- 5.3 We continue to work closely with our colleagues in the access to resources teams and social work colleagues to identify providers of residential homes and semi-independent living provisions that would benefit from the clinical team's advice and support to better support the children and young people they look after. We have been able to create bespoke training and reflective group work for providers which enables the staff to



mentalize the child experiences so that they can use a compassionate and empathic approach to support the child more robustly.

- 5.4 For the next year there are some exciting plans for us all. We have all completed our Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy (DDP) Level 1 training and are planning to embed DDP approach and offer our foster carers Dr Kim Goldings 'Foundation for Attachments' Training. Three members of staff have completed Building Underdeveloped Sensory Systems (BUSS) level 1 training. We are working towards staff wellbeing programmes with EMDR (Eye movement desensitisation and reprocessing) Group (Group-Traumatic Episode Protocol) therapy programmes for foster carers, planned for 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024 with Wellbeing Walk Programmes. We are also offering a comprehensive training programme for our fostering training department and offer reflective supervision to our 'Child in Care' colleagues. We have offered TRiM (Trauma Risk Management) framework to establish the areas where a colleagues may need emotional support with following a traumatic incident with a child or family, who there are working with. These include a work with family, who may have experienced a death, abuse or the staff member has been impacted. We will be expanding our work with our colleagues on training, reflective supervision and staff wellbeing, including using somatic tapping as a technique for our colleagues to use in times of stress.

## 6. Alternative Options Considered

Not applicable

## 7. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 7.1 Sub-Committee are asked to note the report.

## 8. Significant Implications

### 8.1 Finance Implications

There are no significant implications.

### 8.2 Legal Implications

There are no significant implications.

### 8.3 Risk Implications

There are no significant implications.

### 8.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no significant implications.

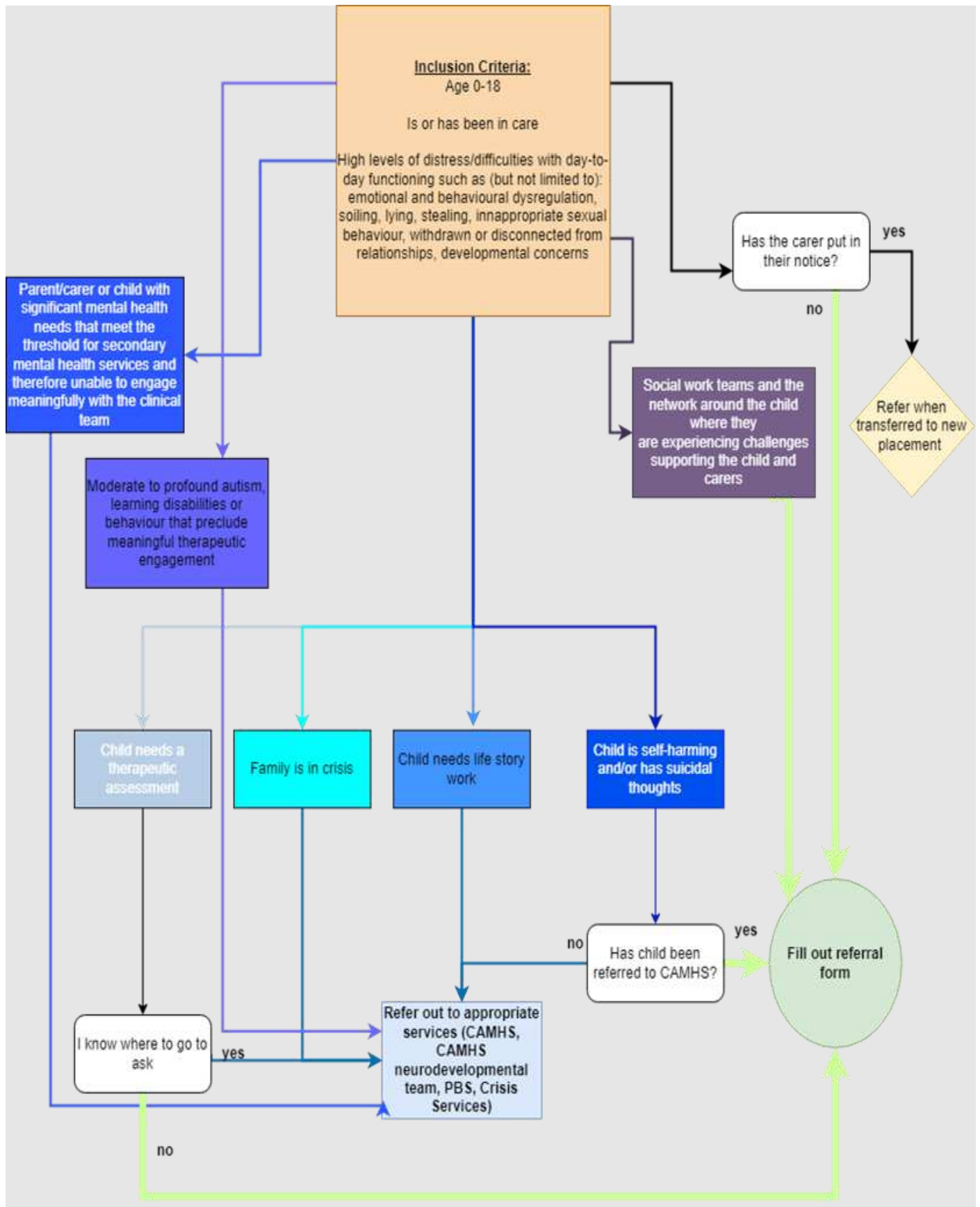
### 8.5 Climate Change and Environment Implications (Key decisions only)

There are no significant implications.

## 9. Source Documents

None

**Appendix 1**



## Corporate Parenting Performance Report

To: Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

From: Service Director, Fostering, Adoption and Corporate Parenting

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: No

Forward Plan ref: Not Applicable

Executive Summary: This report provides an update to the Sub-Committee on the performance monitoring information for February 2024.

Recommendation: The Sub-Committee is asked to:

a) Note and comment on performance information.

Officer contact:

Name: Catherine Isaacs  
Post: Head of Service for Corporate Parenting  
Email: [catherine.isaacs@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.isaacs@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

# 1. Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

- 1.1 This report monitors the key performance indicators (KPIs) which directly link to Ambition 7 'Children and young people have opportunities to thrive'. Due to the complex nature of KPIs, some indicators may also impact other ambitions.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 The Performance Management Framework sets out that Policy and Service Committees should:
- Set outcomes and strategy in the areas they oversee.
  - Select and approve the addition and removal of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the committee performance report.
  - Track progress quarterly.
  - Consider whether performance is at an acceptable level.
  - Seek to understand the reasons behind the level of performance.
  - Identify remedial action.
- 2.2 This report continues to support the Sub-Committee with its performance management role. It provides an update on the status of the selected Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which track the performance of the services the committee oversees.
- 2.3 The report provides a snapshot of performance in February 2024.
- 2.4 The most recent data for indicators for this committee can be found in the dashboard at Appendix 1. The dashboard includes current and previous performance and the projected linear trend.

## 3. Main Issues

- 3.1 Based on current performance indicators clear areas of focus for the upcoming year include:
- Ensuring visit write ups to children are completed in a timely manner
  - Short term placement stability
  - Timeliness of initial health assessments
  - Access to the dentist every year for children in care

## 4. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

The performance report will feed into the Corporate Parenting Strategy that is currently under development.

Further reports are proposed for upcoming Corporate Parenting Sub Committee meetings that will provide a detailed analysis of some areas such as children in care who go missing, and placement stability.

## 5. Significant Implications

5.1 This report monitors quarterly performance. There are no significant implications within this report.

## 6. Source Documents

6.1 None.



Last Updated: February 2024



# CCC Corporate Parenting Scorecard

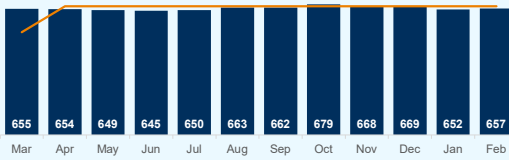
Business Intelligence  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
[business.intelligence@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:business.intelligence@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

HEADLINE FIGURES

Number of children in care (CIC) on the last day of the month

657

Target: below 546

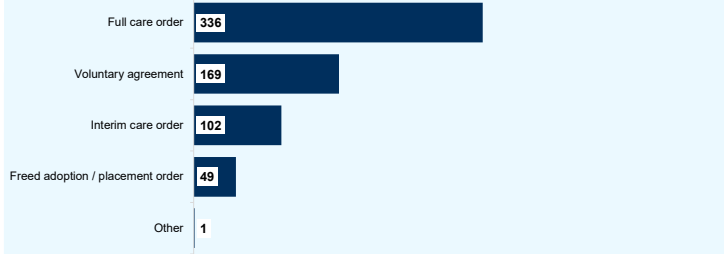


Staffing

	Staff	Average Caseload	Change*	Performance
Children in Care Qualified social workers	#N/A	#N/A		-
Leaving Care Personal Advisors	#N/A	#N/A		-
Independent Reviewing Officers	#N/A	#N/A		-

\*Change in average caseload is from December 2021 to March 2022

Legal status of children in care



Key  
 Change since previous month: Improved (green up), Stayed the same (orange), Deteriorated (red down)  
 Performance against target: Strong (green check), Acceptable (yellow exclamation), Poor (red X)

Length of time children have been in care



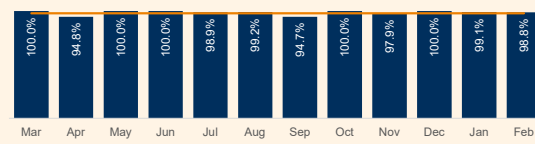
SERVICE STANDARDS

% of CIC reviews which were held on time (year to date, and during each month)

99%

1093 out of 1109

Target: above 98%



% of CIC statutory visits which were carried out on time (year to date, and during each month)

72.4%

461 out of 637

Target: above 98%



HOMES

Home Stability

3+ Homes

12.2%

12.2% of children in Cambridgeshire's care had 3 or more different homes in the last 12 months. Out of those children who have been in care for over 2.5 years, 0.0% have been in their current home for two or more years.

80 out of 655

Target: below 9%

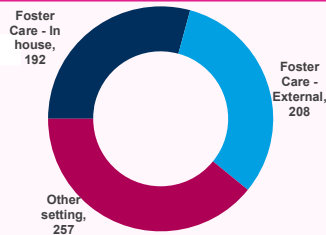
In home 2+ yrs

73.3%

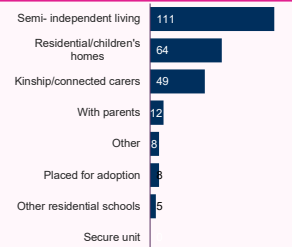
148 out of 202

Target: above 68%

Type of home of children in care



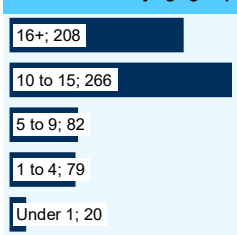
Other settings: breakdown



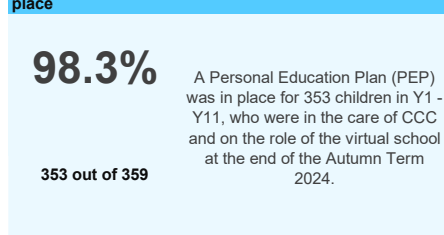


EDUCATION

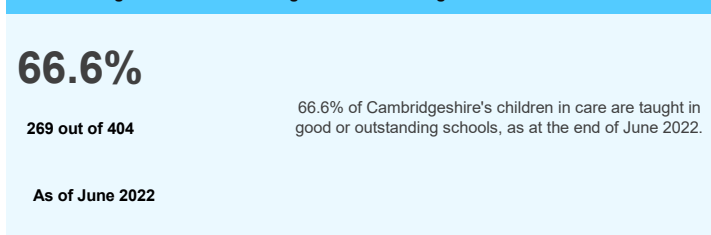
Children in care by age group



% of school-aged children in care who have a PEP in place

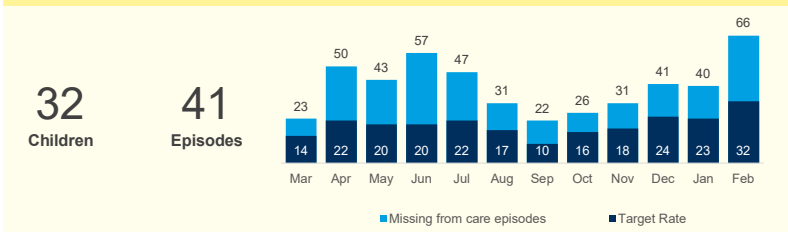


% of school-aged children in care in good or outstanding schools

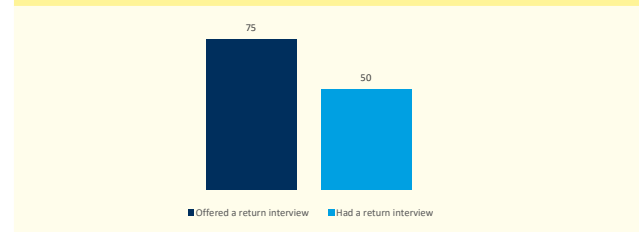


MISSING

Children in care who go missing (with number of episodes)

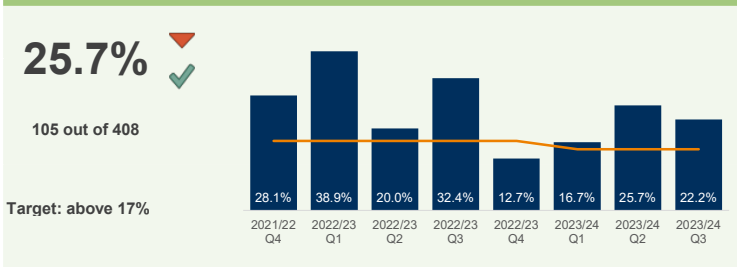


Children in care who have a return interview

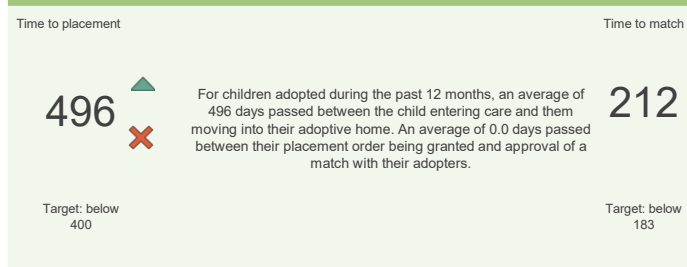


ADOPTION

% of children leaving care who are adopted (Year to date and by quarter)

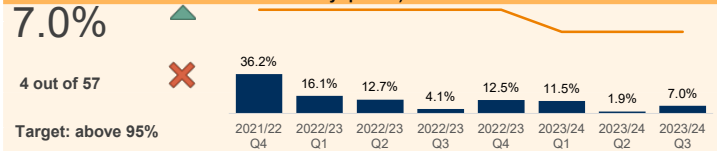


Timeliness of adoption process

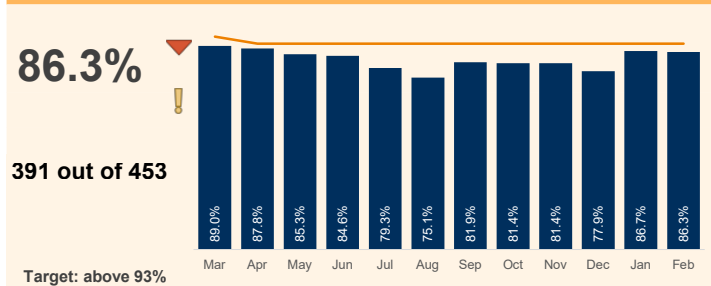


HEALTH - SERVICE STANDARDS

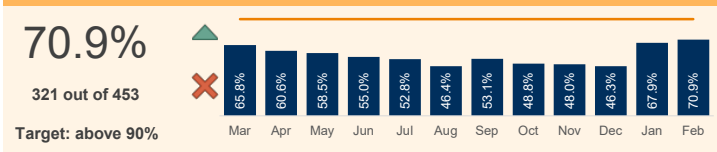
Children in care whose initial health assessment was completed on time (Year to date and by quarter)



Children in care whose annual health assessment was completed on time

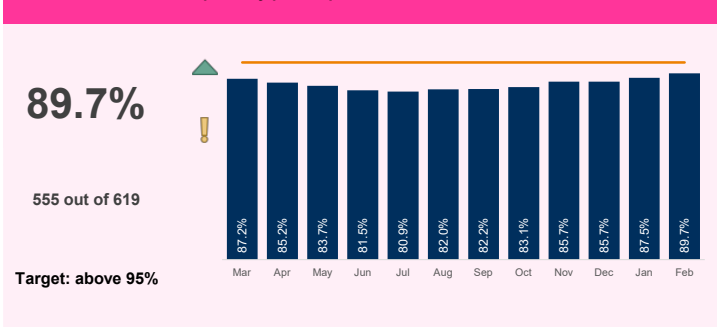


Children in care whose annual dental examination was completed on time

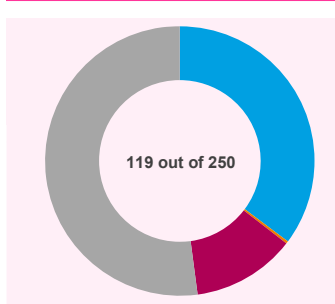


CARE LEAVERS

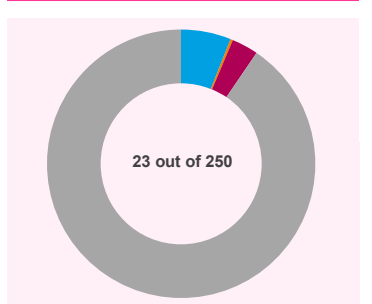
Care Leavers who have a pathway plan in place



19 to 21 year old care leavers who are not in employment, education or training (NEET)



19 to 21 year old care leavers who live in unsuitable accommodation





## Children and Young People (CYP)/ Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Committee Training Plan

The training plan provides details of training sessions which have taken place during the current Council and topics for potential future training sessions and visits.

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
1.	Children & Young People Committee induction	To brief Members of the role and responsibilities of the Children and Young People Committee	High	15.06.21 12.00-2.00pm	Executive Director: People and Communities	Teams	All CYP Members	Cllrs Ambrose Smith Atkins Bywater Bradnam Bird Bulat Coutts Daunton Goodliffe Gowing Hay Hoy Prentice Kindersley M King J King Sharp Slatter Thompson

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
								Taylor van de Ven
2.	Member Induction Programme: Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee	To brief new and returning Members and Substitute Members on the responsibilities of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee	High	12.07.21	Nicola Curley/ Myra O'Farrell	Teams	Members and Substitute Members of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee	Cllrs Ambrose Smith Bird Bradnam Bulat Goodliffe M King Slatter van de Ven
3.	Safeguarding	To brief Members on safeguarding issues and responsibilities	High	08.10.21	Director of Children's Services	Teams	All Members	Cllrs Bulat Goodliffe Taylor Thompson Bird Bradnam Coutts Cox Condron Gowing Nethsingha van de Ven Meschini

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
4.	Corporate Parenting and the Fostering Service		High	22.10.21  10.00am - 12.30pm	Assistant Director: Regional Adoption and Fostering	Virtual	All Members	Cllrs Atkins Bulat Goodliffe Hay Slatter Taylor Kindersley Nethsingh a van de Ven
5.	Ofsted – Inspection Framework – Key areas of focus in assessing quality	Cambridgeshire children's services will have a focussed visit from Ofsted at some time in 2022, and a graded inspection in 2023. The aim:  Introduce to the framework for inspection used by Ofsted  How we ensure that we are prepared for inspections.	Director of Children's Services	02.12.21 12pm – 1pm	Director of Children's Services	Virtual		
6.	Education Finance	Members gain a clear understanding of		10 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2022 12.30 – 2pm	Service Director:	Teams	All CYP Members	Atkins, Bulat,

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		education funding and council decision making.			Education & Strategic Finance Business Partner			Goodliffe, Daunton, Coutts, Meschini, Bywater, Slatter, Taylor, M King, Bradnam
7.	Education - Attainment	Members gain a clear understanding of the assessment system used in schools.		23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022 12 – 1.30 pm	Service Director: Education	Teams	All CYP Members	Cllrs Atkins, Daunton, Bulat, Coutts, Hay, Kindersley, M King, Taylor
8.	Supporting the mental and emotional health needs of children in care/on the edge of care	To introduce CYP Members and the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee to the clinical framework and how it supports our foster carers and contributes to the emotional wellbeing of		7 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 1.30 – 2.30	Assistant Director Safeguarding and Quality Assurance	Virtual	CYP Members and Corporate Parenting Sub Committee	Cllrs Atkins, Bradnam, Goodliffe, M King, Hay, Hoy and Slatter

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		children and young people.						
9.	The Role of the Foster Carer	To introduce CYP Members and the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee to the role of the Foster Carer, and the part they play in impacting positively on the lives of children in care		21 October 2022 – confirmed & booked 12pm-1pm	Ricky Cooper Fiona Van Den Hout	Virtual	All Members	Cllrs: G Wilson, C Daunton, A Whelan, H Cox Condron, S King, A Bradnam, A Bulat, S Taylor, B Goodliffe
10.	Estimating Demand for Education Provision Arising from New Housing Developments	To brief Members on the process of estimating demand for education provision for new housing developments.		28.09.23	Alan Fitz	Teams	CYP members and substitutes	Cllrs Ambrose Smith, Atkins, Bulat, Count, Coutts, Daunton, Goldsack, Goodliffe, Hay, Read, Slatter,

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
								Stone, Thompson
11.	Children & Young People and Corporate Parenting Committee overview	To brief Members of the role and responsibilities of the Children and Young People Committee and corporate parenting sub committee	Utilising reserve CYP committee  TBC	Executive Director Children Education and Families:  Martin Purbrick	Microsoft Teams/Member seminar	All Members		
12	Corporate Parenting Roles and Responsibility LGA Training	To brief Members and Substitute Members with responsibilities to represent Corporate Parenting	June 2024  TBC	Service Director Quality Assurance and Practice Improvement:  Liz Clarke  and  Service Director Fostering and Adoption:  Ranjit Chambers.	Bespoke Training delivered in person at New Shire Hall.	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee		
13.	Safeguarding refresher course	To brief Members on safeguarding issues and responsibilities	23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2024  12-1	Acting Service Director Targeted Support and Children Social Care:	Microsoft Teams/Member seminar	All Members		



	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
				Raul Burton				
14	Childs Journey  (Broken down into 4 parts – see 4 a-d)	Members to obtain a briefing on the teams/ service objectives, by meeting managers and hearing about the day in the life of a Social Worker/Front line worker.	See date below.	Representatives in Children Family and Education.	Team Visits – in Geographical areas.	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee		
14 a	Start of the Childrens Journey	Members to meet with Contact Centre and members of the Integrated front door, including, MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub), MET (Missing and Exploited and Trafficked Team), Early Help Hub, Assessment Team and EDT (Emergency Duty Team).	June 2024	Interim Head of Service IFD and Assessment:  Modupe Ijasan	Team Visit  Huntingdon	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee		
14 b	Early intervention and social care involvement for families subject to a Child in Need Plan, Child Protection or PLO.	Members to meet with Targeted Support, Family Safeguarding, Adolescent and Child Protection Conference.	August 2024	Head of Service Targeted Support  Sarah Tabbitt  and	Team Visit  Cambridge  Or Wisbech	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
				Acting Head of Service for Family Safeguarding: Kai Tsanga		Sub-committee		
14c	Corporate Parenting Service including Children in Care teams and Care leavers teams	Members to meet with Children in Care teams and Care Leavers	Sept 2024	Head of Service Corporate Parenting:  Catherin Issacs	Team Visit  Huntingdon	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee		
14d	Fostering and Adoption	Members to meet with Fostering, Adoption and Supervised Contact services.	November 2024	Interim Head of Service Fostering and Supervised Contact:  Jo Spender  And	Team Visit  Huntingdon	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
				Head of Regional Adoption Agency:  Joanne Banks.				
15	Ofsted – Inspection Framework – Key areas of focus in assessing quality	Understanding of Cambridgeshire children's services focus and graded inspections. The aim: Introduce to the framework for inspection used by Ofsted How we ensure that we are prepared for inspections.	29 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Executive Director Children Education and Families:  Martin Purbrick	Microsoft Teams	CYP Members and Corporate Parenting sub committee		
16	Meeting with Young People's Council)	Members to meet the young people's council and understand how the service engages with children in care to help improve delivery of service.	May 2024	Head of Service Corporate Parenting:  Catherin Issacs	Microsoft Teams	CYP Members and Corporate Parenting sub committee		
17	Education - Finance	Members gain a clear understanding of education funding and council decision making.	January 2024	Service Director Education:  and  Strategic Finance Business Partner	Microsoft Teams	All CYP Members		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
18	Education - SEND	<p>Members to gain a clear understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is SEND?</li> <li>• SEND Support in schools and settings</li> <li>• Exclusions</li> <li>• Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP)</li> <li>• High Needs Block and EHCP Demand in Cambridgeshire</li> <li>• Cambridgeshire's SEND Transformation Programme</li> </ul>	July 2024	Assistant Director: SEND & Inclusion	Microsoft Teams/Member seminar	All CYP Members		
19.	Performance Management Framework	An introduction to the Performance Management Framework and review of the Children and Young People's Committee's key performance indicators.	March 2024	Executive Director Children Education and Families: Martin Purbrick and Service Director Education: and Business Intelligence	Microsoft Teams	All CYP Members and corporate parenting sub committee		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
20	Place Planning 0-19; Admissions, Attendance, Elective Home Education (EHE), Children in Education/ Employment/Training	To brief Members about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Council's statutory responsibilities with regard to commissioning educational provision and DfE guidance which informs decisions on design and build projects</li> <li>the roles and responsibilities of internal and external partner organisations, including the DfE, Multi-Academy Trusts and the Diocesan Boards for Education</li> <li>the business planning processes involved in</li> </ul>	April 2024	Assistant Director Education Capital & Place Planning: Fran Cox	Microsoft Teams	All Members		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		commissioning educational provision						
21	Education Transport	Members gain further understanding of education transport processes	November 2024	Assistant Director Education Capital & Place Planning: Fran Cox	Microsoft Teams	All CYP Members & appeal committee members		
22	Education - Attainment	Members gain a clear understanding of the assessment system used in schools.	May 2024	Service Director Education:	Microsoft Teams	All CYP Members		
23	Supporting the mental and emotional health needs of children in care/on the edge of care	To introduce CYP Members and the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee to the clinical framework and how it supports our	September 2024	Service Director Quality Assurance and Practice Improvement:	Teams	CYP Members and Corporate Parenting Sub Committee		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		foster carers and contributes to the emotional wellbeing of children and young people.		Liz Clarke, joint with the CPFT.				
24	Commissioning Services – what services are commissioned and how our services are commissioned across Children Services	<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cambridgeshire’s needs are <b>Analysed</b> to inform recommendations made to internal governance boards, and ultimately Committees.</li> <li>How we work with internal and external partners and stakeholders to <b>Plan</b> and develop services responding to gaps in need and themes in demand.</li> </ul>	October 2024	Service Director: Commissioning & Head of Service Children’s Commissioning	Microsoft Teams	All members		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What we <b>Do</b> to deliver this need, via open and transparent procurement activity</li> <li>• How we <b>Review</b> both internal and externally commissioned services to evidence value for money, positive outcomes and to continually shape service delivery.</li> </ul>						
25	The role of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE),		April/May 2024	Service Director Education:	TBC			
26	Safeguarding & the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)	To brief Members on Safeguarding issues and responsibilities		Service Director QAPI/ Janet Farr	Virtual	All CPSC Members invited		



	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
27	Meeting the Needs of Children in Care	To include briefings from Education, SEND, Clinical Team		Service Director/HOS CP	Virtual	All CPSC Members invited		

For more information contact [Emma Nederpel](#)



## Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Agenda Plan

### Notes

The definition of a key decision is set out in the Council's Constitution in Part 2, Article 12.

\* indicates items expected to be recommended for determination by full Council.

+ indicates items expected to be confidential, which would exclude the press and public.

The following are standing agenda items which are considered at every Committee meeting:

- Minutes of previous meeting and Action Log
- Workshop and Training Plan
- Agenda Plan

### Summary

The Agenda Plan shows the dates and times of future meetings and what reports are expected to be considered. Unless otherwise stated, all public meetings will be held in the Red Kite Room, New Shire Hall, Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon PE28 4YE.

## Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Public Meeting

### Meeting Theme: Health

Date: 20.03.24 4.00pm	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for reports	Agenda despatch date
	1. Agenda Plan	Ranjit Chambers, Assistant Director		07.03.24	11.03.24
	2. Workshop/Training Plan	Catherine Isaacs Head of Service			
	3. Participation Report	Helen Love			

Date: 20.03.24 4.00pm	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for reports	Agenda despatch date
	4. Performance Scorecard	Ranjit Chambers, Assistant Director			
	5. Cambridgeshire Foster Carers' Association report	Steve Crossman, Head of Fostering			
	6. Health report	Katie Liddle			
	7. Clinical Team Annual Report	Vanessa Kingsley Thatcher			
	8. Change to Sub-Committee Membership	Richenda Greenhill			

## Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Public Meeting

### Meeting Theme: Homes

Date: 10.07.24 2.00pm	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for reports	Agenda despatch date
	1. Participation Report	Helen Love		28.06.24	01.07.24
	2. Performance Scorecard	Ranjit Chambers, Assistant Director			
	3. Cambridgeshire Foster Carers' Association report	Tracey Stephenson / Steve Crossman			
	4. Foster Carers' Statement of Purpose	Steve Crossman			
	5. Commissioning Service	Lucy Munt/ Gavin Mullins			

Date: 10.07.24 2.00pm	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for reports	Agenda despatch date
	6. Placement Stability	Catherine Isaacs			
	7. Housing and Leaving Care Service	Catherine Isaacs			
	8. Children Missing from Care	Paul Butron			
	9. Workshop/Training Plan	Catherine Isaacs			
	10. Agenda Plan	Ranjit Chambers, Assistant Director			

Date: 04.09.24 [Reserve meeting date]	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
	1.				n/a
	2.				

Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Public Meeting  
 Meeting Theme: Education

Date: 13.11.24 2.00pm	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for reports	Agenda despatch date
	1. Participation Report	Helen Love		31.10.24	04.11.24
	2. Performance Scorecard	Ranjit Chambers, Assistant Director			
	3. Cambridgeshire Foster Carers' Association report	Tracey Stephenson / Steve Crossman			
	4. Workshop/Training Plan	Catherine Isaacs			
	5. Agenda Plan	Ranjit Chambers, Assistant Director			

Date: 22.01.25  [Reserve meeting date]	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
	1.				n/a
	2.				

Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Public Meeting  
 Meeting Theme: Health

Date: 19.03.25 2.00pm	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for reports	Agenda despatch date
	1. Participation Report	Helen Love		06.03.25	10.03.25
	2. Performance Scorecard	Ranjit Chambers, Assistant Director			
	3. Cambridgeshire Foster Carers' Association report	Tracey Stephenson / Steve Crosman			
	4. Workshop/Training Plan	Catherine Isaacs			
	5. Agenda Plan	Ranjit Chambers, Assistant Director			

