

PERFORMANCE REPORT

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **21 November 2019**

From: **Kate Knight
Lead Manager, Corporate Parenting**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: **To report on the performance of services for Children in Care and Care Leavers - as required in legislation and fulfilling the purpose of monitoring and offering advice.**

Recommendation: **The Sub-Committee is asked to review performance for Children in Care and comment on the themes and trends identified in this report.**

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Kate Knight	Name: Role:	Councillor Lis Every Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Post:	Lead Manager Corporate Parenting	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Email:	Kate.Knight@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398
Tel:	01223 728362		

Summary:

The data referred to within this report reflects the situation on 1st October 2019.

- At the end of September 2019, 768 Children in Care are supported by the Council.
- 57% of Children in Care are male, 43% are female.
- 9% of Children in Care have a diagnosed disability.
- 51% of children (excluding unaccompanied children) are living out of County and of those 34.9% are living more than 20 miles over Cambridgeshire borders.
- 86.2% of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people are living out of county.
- The proportion of Children in Care being visited within the statutory timescales was 76.7% in September 2019.
- The number of Children in Care reported as going missing has been as follows; 30 in August 2019 and 25 in September 2019
- At the end of September 2019, 2 children had been made subject of Adoption Orders; 26 children had been placed for adoption; 6 children had been matched and awaiting introductions and 17 children had been linked and booked into matching panel.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report provides the Sub-Committee with an overview of performance of services for Children in Care and Care Leavers for August and September 2019. The full performance report is attached at Appendix A.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 As noted in previous reports, there continues to be difficulties in the capturing and analysis of data around initial health assessments (IHA's) for Children in Care. A multi-agency working group continues to review this process and a further joint meeting is booked for the 27 November 2019. A dip in performance for IHA's was seen in August 2019, but the expectation is this will improve again in September. Progress has already been made in relation to children who have been in care longer to receive their annual review health assessments and dentist appointments.
- 2.2 Cambridgeshire adoption services are again reporting good outcomes and it is anticipated that a further 43 children will be matched with prospective adopters by the end of December 2019.
- 2.3 The percentage of children who have been visited within statutory timescales is below target and is currently reported at 76.7%. Additional management oversight has been introduced across the Corporate Parenting Teams to

improve the numbers of children visited by their social worker on time and in accordance with their care plan.

- 2.4 There continues to be a steady decrease in the Children in Care cohort over August and September 2019. This is due to the activity being undertaken to support children to remain living with their families and not become looked after as well as the successful reunification of children who have been looked after for a period of time to live back with their birth families.

3. ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Evaluation of proposals being made

3.1 A good quality of life for everyone

n/a – no proposals being made

3.2 Thriving places for people to live

n/a – no proposals being made

3.3 The best start for Cambridgeshire's children

n/a – no proposals being made

4. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 None

n/a

Source Documents	Location
None	