

PERFORMANCE REPORT

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **20 March 2019**

From: **Aidan O'Reilly
Service 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.**

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Summary:

The data referred to within this report is reflective of the situation on 31 January 2019.

- As of 31 January 2019, 759 Children in Care are supported by the Council.
- 43% of Children in Care are male, 57% are female.
- 8% have a disability.
- At the end of January 2019, 50.6% of children (excluding non-unaccompanied asylum seekers) were placed out of County and of those 39.2% were placed more than 20 miles over Cambridgeshire borders.
- 80.7% of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people are placed out of county.
- The proportion of Children in Care being visited within the statutory timescales is 89.8% in January 2019 having risen by 2-3% per month since the last reported data (November 2018).
- The number of Children in Care reported as going missing has been as follows; 22 in December 2018 and 26 in January 2019.
- There were 5 children adopted in this 2 month period (there were 25 adoptions completed in the previous 8 months).

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 December 2018 and January 2019. The full performance report can be found in Appendix A.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 As noted in the performance dashboard (Annexe A) there have been ongoing difficulties with securing the required data in regards to the percentage of Initial Health Assessments (IHA) that have been completed in timescale. This has resulted with no data being available for December 2018 and January 2019. There is ongoing joint agency work to resolve this issue and to agree and implement an effective mechanism for reporting.
- 2.2 Adoption Activity; Routinely December is a month where fewer Adoption Orders are made and this was the case in December 2018 with only one Adoption Order being granted. In respect of children waiting for less than 14 months to be adopted, the reason for the drop in performance from 100% to 25% in January 2019 was as a result of the adoption of three siblings during this month. All of these children had complex needs and required extensive searching and additional support before adoption could be secured.

- 2.3 The percentage of children who have been visited within statutory timescales has risen month on month since November 2018. This aligns with services stabilising after structural change and it is anticipated that this improvement will be sustained.

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 Resource Implications

n/a

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

n/a

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

n/a

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

n/a

3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

n/a

3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

n/a

3.7 Public Health Implications

Source Documents	Location
None	