

PERFORMANCE REPORT

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **30th January 2019**

From: **Aidan O'Reilly
Service Manager Corporate Parenting**

Electoral division(s): **All**

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

Recommendation: **The sub-committee is asked to:**

- a) review performance for Looked after Children; and**
- b) comment on the themes and trends identified in this report.**

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Summary:

- As of 30 November 2018, 764 looked after children were supported by the Council.
- 58% of looked after children are male, 42% are female.
- 8% have a diagnosed disability.
- At the end of November 48.8% of (not unaccompanied) children were placed out of County and of that 48.8%, 37.8% were placed more than 20 miles over Cambridgeshire borders.
- 82.6% of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people are placed out of county.
- The proportion of looked after children being visited within the statutory timescales is 83.8% in November having fallen by 2-3% per month since the last reported data (August 2018).
- The number of looked after children reported as going missing has been as follows; 25 in September, 29 in October and 33 in November
- There were 12 children adopted in this 3 month period (there were 13 adoptions completed in the previous 5 months)

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report provides the sub-committee with an overview of performance of services for Looked After Children and Care Leavers for September, October and November 2018. The full performance report can be found in Appendix A.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 There has been an increase in the number of looked after children in the Council's care since the last report – to 56.8 per 10,000.
- 2.2 We had 48.8% of (not unaccompanied) children and young people out of county. 82.6% of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people are placed out of county and the majority of their placements are located in Peterborough, where their cultural needs are appropriately met. However, due to resource availability some are being placed further afield.
- 2.3 The proportion of looked after children being visited within the statutory timescales has fallen from 92.7% to 83.8%. This continues to be monitored closely.
- 2.4 Performance around newly looked after children having their health assessment within 20 days of becoming looked after rose from 35% in August to 54% in September. However performance then fell to 35.9% in October and 28.1% in November. Arranging assessments for children who are out of county remains a significant issue.

- 2.6 The following incidents of looked after children going missing were reported between September- November 2018: 25 children in September (42 incidents), 29 children in October (48 incidents) and 33 children in November (54 incidents).

There is a multi-agency approach to missing incidents and supporting children and young people to tell their story. The children and young people are monitored individually and patterns are examined to identify individuals and locations of concern and to plan intervention to break dangerous cycles.

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications

None

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

None.

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

None

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

None

3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

None

3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

None

3.7 Public Health Implications

None

Source Documents	Location
None	