

**PERFORMANCE REPORT**

*To:* **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

*Meeting Date:* **13<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

*From:* **Jacqui Barry  
Service Development and Commissioning Manager**

*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) consider the data**
- b) highlight key themes**
- c) review the performance and outcomes for Looked After Children and Care Leavers**
- d) identify any additional information Members would want to see included in future reports**

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## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The following information is provided to inform the Sub-Committee of the numbers of children and young people currently being looked after by the Council and a breakdown of their placements, including comparative information for previous months as well as some key activity data
- 1.2 This Data-Set will expand in content and analysis over the next year.

## 2. MAIN ISSUES

### 2.1

#### LAC Numbers

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Total	685	675	681	689	687	697	695
LAC - Non UASC	619	613	614	623	622	629	626
LAC - UASC	66	61	67	66	65	68	69
UASC %	9.6%	9.0%	9.8%	9.6%	9.5%	9.8%	9.9%
Rate per 10,000	51.49	50.74	51.19	51.79	51.64	52.39	52.20
BLA - (county only)	21	17	13	36	31	26	22
CLA - (county only)	17	26	19	38	22	23	25

#### LAC Visits

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Children to be visited	465	471	495	466	503	462	477
No. not seen in timescale	138	93	88	61	105	85	56
% visited	70.3%	80.3%	82.2%	86.9%	79.1%	81.6%	88.3%

#### 3 or more placements during the year (cumulative)

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
No. of LAC with 3+ moves	1	8	12	20	31	37	45
% with 3+ moves	0.1%	1.2%	1.8%	2.9%	4.5%	5.3%	6.5%
Target - (County Target only)	0.4%	0.8%	1.3%	1.7%	2.1%	2.5%	2.9%

#### Children placed out of county (not incl: UASC)

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
LAC placed out of county	272	276	330		277	261	271
% placed out of county	43.9%	45.0%	53.7%		44.5%	41.5%	43.3%
LAC placed out of county & 20 miles +	196	199	195		206	195	203
% placed out of county & 20 miles +	72.1%	72.1%	59.1%		74.4%	74.7%	74.9%

#### UASC placed out of county

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
UASC placed out of county	47	46	50		46	51	52
% UASC placed out of county	71.2%	75.4%	74.6%		70.8%	75.0%	75.4%

#### Reviews - county level

Late Reviews this month	5
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Cumulative late reviews	29
LAC Reviews due in the month	186
% reviews in timescale	97.3%

#### Under 16 - LAC for 2.5 yrs and same placement 2 years

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
% of cohort	69.5%				68.4%	69.5%	71.0%

#### Aged 10-15 - LAC in foster placements or placed for adoption

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
% of cohort	84.9%				79.9%	84.9%	84.6%

#### Children who ceased to be LAC because they were adopted

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Total adopted	2	6	1	4	0	1	2
No. ceased LAC	17	26	19	38	22	23	25
% ceased LAC due to adoption	11.8%	23.1%	5.3%	10.5%	0.0%	4.3%	8.0%

#### Adoption Timescales

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
No of Adoptions	2	6	1	4	0	1	2
Average time between child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family	365	310	938	352	N/A	168	381
Average time between an LA receiving court authority to place a child and the LA deciding on a match	146	127	757	132	N/A	46	179
Children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family	100%	100%	0%	100%	N/A	100%	100%

#### Aged 17-21 - to calculate

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Care leaver cohort	27	30	21	27	20	15	
Care leavers in suitable accommodation - Yes	15	16	16	14	10	13	
Care leavers in suitable accommodation - Unknown	10	12	3	3	1	0	
Care leavers who are EET -Yes	6	5	9	13	8	9	
Care leavers who are EET - Unknown	10	12	3	3	1	0	
Care leavers in touch - Yes	23	21	21	23	18	12	
Care leavers in touch - RHOM	2	2	0	1	0	0	
Care leavers in touch - NREQ	0	2	0	0	0	0	

- 2.2 The number of looked after children has increased only marginally since the beginning of the year. 9.9% of the looked after population is made up of unaccompanied asylum seeking children. 6.5% of children have moved placements three times, but some of these moves are to permanent placements such as adoption or to long term fostering where children's care plans are to remain looked after until 18. 71% of looked after children have been in their placements for two and a half or more years. These children are most likely to be settled with their foster family, attending the right school, seeing their family at specified times and having their health and emotional needs met. 16 children have been adopted since April. All children who are adopted become so within 14 months of entering care, meaning that their future is secured without unnecessary delay. 43% of children are placed out of County and more than 20 miles from our borders. These children can experience delay in having a health assessment (carried out by the area in which the child resides).
- 2.3 Information about children's health is collated, but not currently available within this dataset. This will be rectified by the next Sub-Committee. This will be needed in future for members to evaluate and track children's experiences.

### **3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS**

#### **3.1 Resource Implications**

The number of Children looked after increased by 1.4% since April. For the same period in 2016, the increase was 2.6%. Social workers and other staff are travelling distances to visit children placed out of County. Many of these children are in Independent Fostering Agency placements due to a lack of in-house provision that can meet their needs and this adds pressure on the placement budget.

#### **3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications**

None

#### **3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications**

Ofsted will consider the data and analysis available to the Sub-Committee when considering the effectiveness of the council's Corporate Parenting Function.

#### **3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications**

All children who become looked after have access to the same service provision irrespective of their age, gender and ethnicity. There is a gap in suitable in-County provision for children and young people seeking asylum, with the majority of placements located in Peterborough.

#### **3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications**

None

#### **3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement**

Relevant to all Members in the role as corporate parents.

### 3.7 Public Health Implications

None

#### **SOURCE DOCUMENTS**

Source Documents	Location
Children's Service Performance Dashboard.	Matthew Tullett, Business Analyst Shire Hall, Cambridge  <a href="mailto:Matthew.Tullett@cambridgeshire.gov.uk">Matthew.Tullett@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</a>