

## NOTICE OF MEETING

# JOINT MEETING OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY PANEL

**Monday, 7th April, 2025, 7.00 pm - Woodside Room - George Meehan House, 294 High Road, N22 8JZ (watch the live meeting [here](#) watch the recording [here](#))**

**CPAC Members:** Cllr Zena Brabazon (Chair), Felicia Opoku, Elin Weston, Lotte Collett, Marsha Isilar-Gosling, Cressida Johnson and Ibrahim Ali

**CYPS Members:** Cllr Makbule Gunes (Chair), Cllr Anna Abela, Cllr Gina Adamou, Cllr Marsha Isilar-Gosling, Cllr Mark Grosskopf, Cllr Anna Lawton and Cllr George Dunstall and Amanda Bernard (Haringey SEND Parent Carer Forum)

### 1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

Please note this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Although we ask members of the public recording, filming or reporting on the meeting not to include the public seating areas, members of the public attending the meeting should be aware that we cannot guarantee that they will not be filmed or recorded by others attending the meeting. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making deputations, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on. By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

The Chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend filming or recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the filming, recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual, or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the Council.

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

To receive any apologies for absence.

### 3. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of late items of urgent business. Late items will be considered under the agenda item they appear. New items will be dealt with at item 11 below.

#### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the consideration becomes apparent.

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgement of the public interest.

#### **5. PERFORMANCE REPORT (PAGES 1 - 10)**

#### **6. WHAT DOES CARE MEAN? (PAGES 11 - 22)**

#### **7. CARE LEAVING IN LONDON (PAGES 23 - 50)**

#### **8. PROGRESS REPORT ON OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN IN CARE SUPPORTED BY HARINGEY YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE (PAGES 51 - 64)**

#### **9. VERBAL UPDATE - OFSTED FOCUSED VISIT**

#### **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Nazyer Choudhury, Principal Committee Co-ordinator  
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Fiona Alderman  
Head of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer)  
George Meehan House, 294 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8JZ

Friday, 28 March 2025

**Report for:** Joint Meeting of The Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and Children's and Young People's Scrutiny Panel Meeting – 7 April 2025

**Item number:** 5

**Title:** Performance for Quarter 3 2024/25 with updates to including February where available

**Report**

**Authorised by:** Ann Graham, Director Children's Services

**Lead Officer:** Richard Hutton, Performance and Business Intelligence  
[richard.hutton@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:richard.hutton@haringey.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/ Non Key Decision:** Non key

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1. This report provides an analysis of the performance data and trends for an agreed set of measures relating to looked after children, on behalf of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee.
- 1.2. Section 4 contains performance highlights and key messages identifying areas of improvement and areas for focus. It provides an overall assessment relating to Children Looked After (CLA) so that Members can assess progress in key areas, within the context of the Local Authority's role as Corporate Parent.
- 1.3. The report covers the first three quarters of the year 2024/25 and most of quarter 4.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. For members to note.

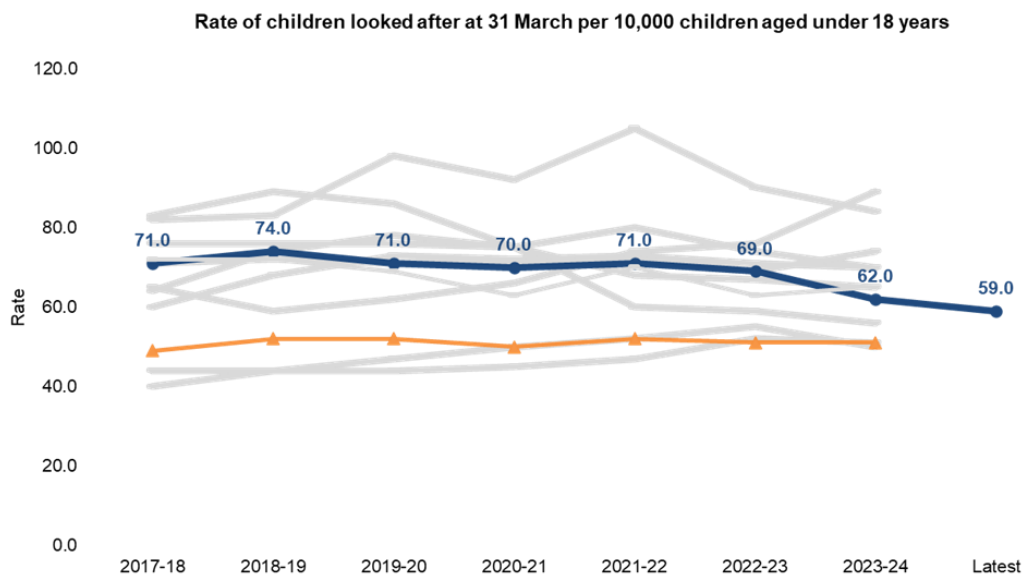
**3. Reasons for decision**

N/A

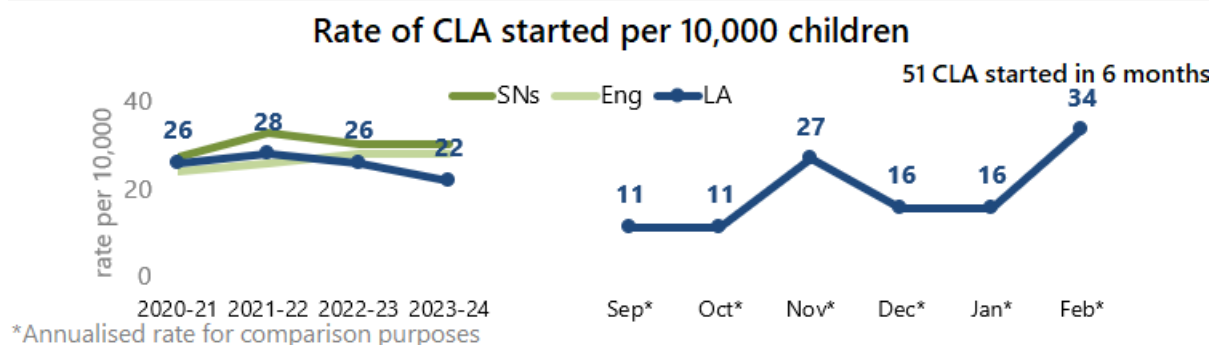
**4. Background information**

- 4.1. At the end of February 2025, there were 316 **children in care** (rate of 58 per 10,000). This is 18 fewer children than in September but remains within the interquartile range of our statistical neighbours latest published rates. This decline in numbers is a result of a combination of intentional work to the support

for children and their families and outside factors such as regional trends. The rate is still higher than the London rate of 51 per 10,000.



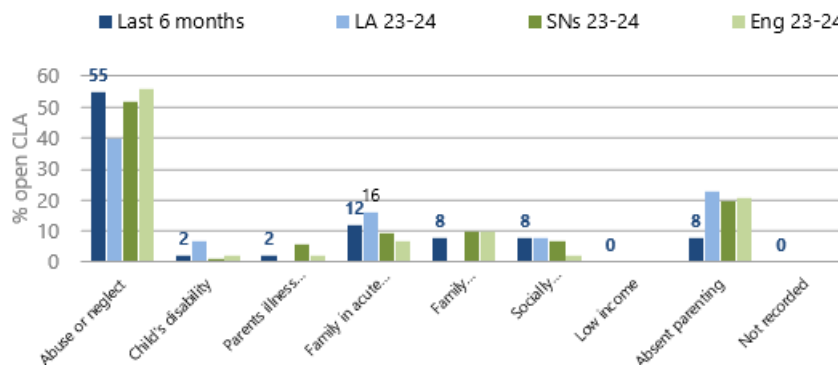
- 4.2. The number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (**UASC**) has decreased from 26 in the autumn to 22. This is now some 32 children below the national transfer scheme threshold.
- 4.3. The rate of children **becoming looked after** over the past 6 months (19 per 10,000) equates to 51 children. This is below the rate for the 12 months of 2023/24 and has contributed to the overall fall in CLA numbers.



- 4.4. “Family in acute stress” has fallen as a reason **for starting to be looked after** from an unusually high percentage last year. Over the past 6 months only 12% of newly Children Looked After fell into this category down from 16% in 2023/24, this is nearer our statistical neighbours and national rates.

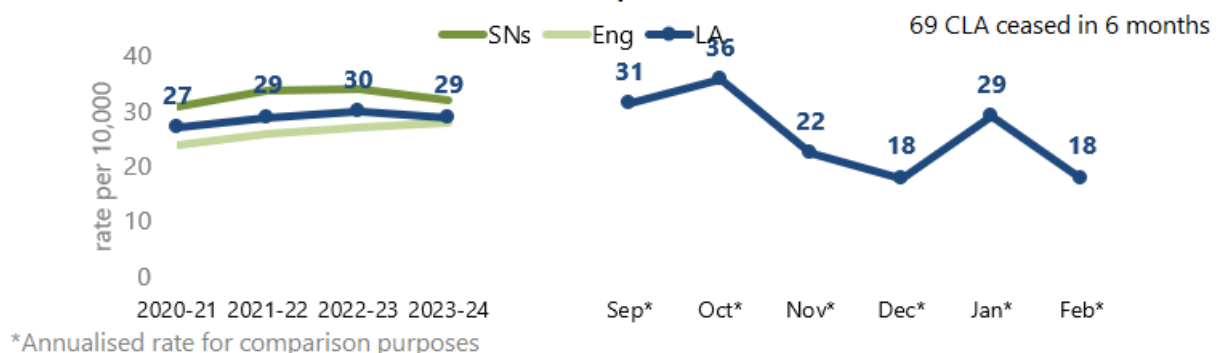
“Abuse & Neglect” remains the most common factor in line with our comparators. Absent Parenting (including UASC) and children with disabilities are comparatively underrepresented, the low numbers mean these can change rapidly.

Comparing the primary need of CLA starters



- 4.5. 69 children (rate of 25) **ceased to be looked after** over the 6 months to February this compares to 50 in the six months to September

Rate of CLA ceased per 10,000 children



- 4.6. Of the 316 children looked after as at the end of February, 40 are **aged 3 or under** (2 more than in November). Seven of these are placed with parents or family & friends and six with planned adoptive parents (4 older children are also with prospective adoptive parents).

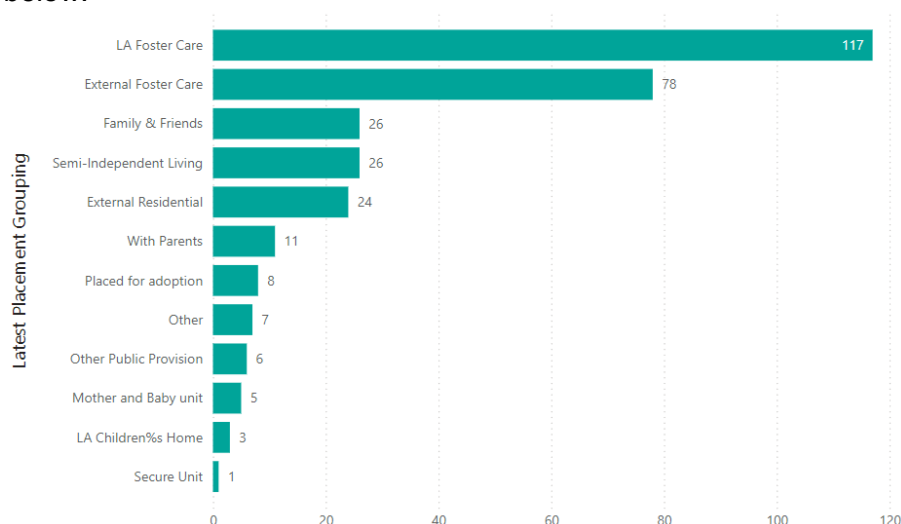
CLA aged 3 or under

March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	Sept 2024	Nov 2024	Feb 2025
49	67	60	54	40	42	38	40

- 4.7. As of February 2025, 88% of 217 looked after children aged under 16 had an **up-to-date Care Plan up from 77% in September and 84% in November**.
- 4.8. Of the 102 children in care aged 16 & 17 who require a **pathway plan**, 86% had up to date plans (up from 79% in November).

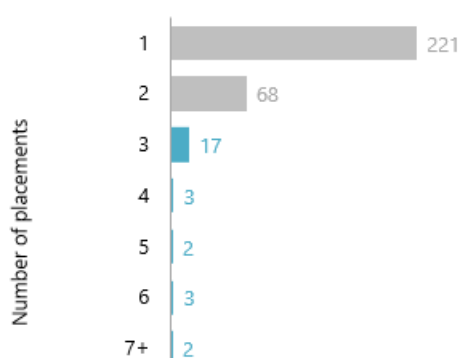
**Personal Education Plans (PEPs)** have performed well this year, with 241 up to date reviewed PEPs 92% so far for the spring term.

- 4.9. Most of our **children are placed with** foster carers either managed in house or by an independent (External) fostering agency, the breakdown of placement types is set out below.



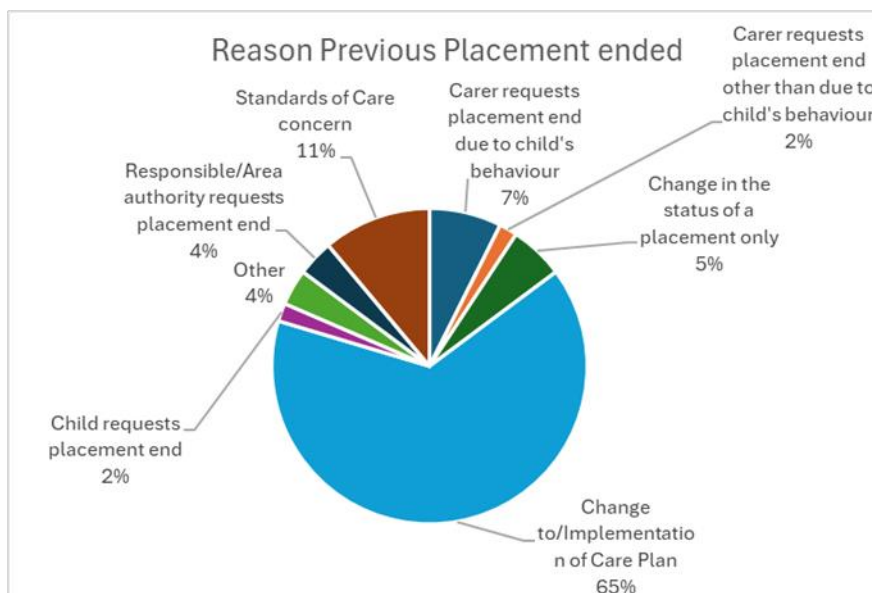
- 4.10. At the end of February, 9% (28) of children with an open episode of care had **three or more placements** in the last 12 months. This is down (better) than the previously reported figure (10% in November) and close to National and statistical neighbour averages.

#### Number of placements in the last 12 months.



Moves in placements are usually as part of the child's care plan, and these can be a positive benefit. For example, a baby may move from foster care to a mother and baby assessment unit, and then on to being placed in a permanent arrangement.

- 4.11. The reasons for changes of placement over the past 12 months are set out below. The data shows 65% are due to a planned change as part of the care plan for the child. This rises to 70% when change of placement status only is included, such as when a fostering placement status changes to placed for adoption, or long term fostering.



- 4.12. Children under 16 who had been in care for at least 2.5 years in the **same placement for at least 2 years**, is now 57%.

#### Length of time in current placement

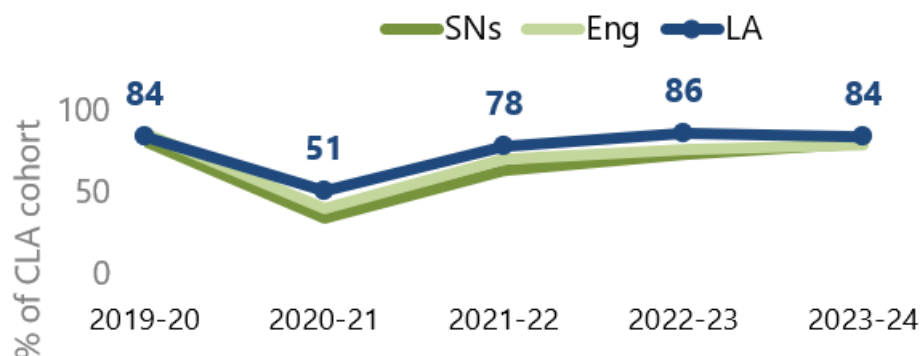
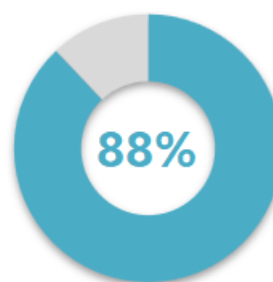


This indicator and the three or more placements indicator, above, should be viewed together to gain a view of placement stability for Haringey's children in care.

- 4.13. At the end of February, 90% of children who were looked after for at least 12 months had an up-to-date **health assessment**, close to with the levels of our statistical neighbours (92%).
- 4.14. **Dental visits** are at 88%. Up 8% points. Unfortunately, dental checks especially for older children has always been a challenging area but this is our highest monthly percentage for some years.

## Dental checks

Current open CLA who have been looked after for at least 12 months who have had a dental check in the last 12 months.



- 4.15. There are now 724 **care leavers** in receipt of, or eligible for leaving care services, in line with the definitions used by Ofsted, the figure includes young people who are:

<b>Eligible</b>	Age 16 or 17 Has been looked after for at least 13 weeks since age 14 (can be multiple periods) Currently looked after
<b>Relevant</b>	Age 16 or 17 Has been looked after for at least 13 weeks since age 14 (can be multiple periods) Looked after on or after their 16th birthday. Are no longer looked after
<b>Former Relevant</b>	Aged between 18 and 25 Previously an eligible or relevant child
<b>Qualifying</b>	Aged between 16 and 21 (or 25 if in education) Looked after on or after their 16th birthday. Not looked after for at least 13 weeks since age 14, or privately fostered after the age of 16 but before the age of 18, or were looked after prior to becoming subject to a Special Guardianship Order (SGO).

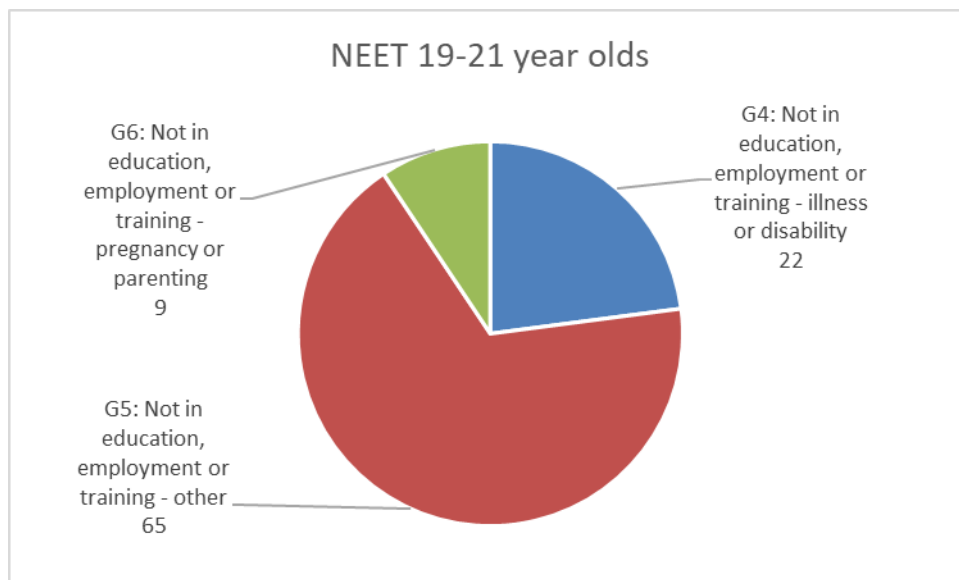
### Our cohort consists of:

- 98 young people under the age of 18 who will be eligible when they leave care,
- 7 Relevant



- 553 Former Relevant
- 34 who are classed as qualifying under 18
- 32 who are classed as qualifying over 18

- 4.16. All the care leavers aged 21 or under currently have an **allocated Personal Advisor**.
- 4.17. 96 % of those aged 19–21 year olds were considered as “**in touch with the local authority**” up from 92% in April. For 17-18 year olds it is 99%.
- 4.18. 51% (of the 248) 19–21 year olds and 66% (of the 73) 17 & 18 year olds were known to be in **Education Employment or Training (EET)**. Both figures improved since September. The recorded reasons for NEET 19 -21 year old are set out in the chart below:



- 4.19. 92% of 19-21 year old care leavers were known to be **in suitable accommodation** (up from 88%) and 96% of the 17–18-year-olds.
- 4.20. **Education Health Care Plans (EHCP)**  
Both the overall number of children with an EHCP and the percentage of CLA with a plan has increased steadily over time.

During 2024 we received a total of 590 requests for EHCPs, and issued 369, with 84% within 20 weeks excluding cases with exceptions.

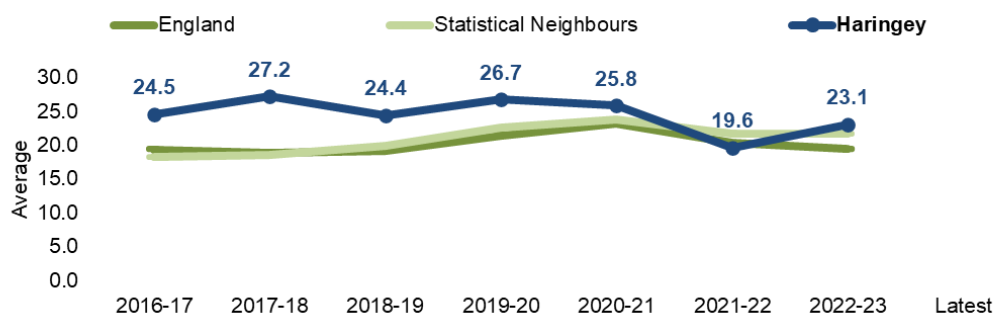
68 of the 316 current CLA have **active EHCP plans**.

- 4.21. **Virtual school**

The data for CLA attainment is updated annually with outturns for 2024 expected to be published in late spring 2025.

#### **Attainment 8 score for CLA at key stage 4**

Average Attainment 8 score per pupil at Key Stage 4



#### 4.22. Youth Justice Service

As of the end of February 2025 there were 68 active young people on the Youth Justice Service caseload.

- 22% of the current cohort are also Children in Care
- 6% are currently Children in Need and
- 3% have an active Child Protection Plan
- 73% have up to date Asset +

#### 5. Alternative options considered

#### 6. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2022-2024 High level Strategic outcomes’?

N/A

#### 7. Carbon and Climate Change

N/A

#### 8. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

##### Finance

N/A

##### Procurement

N/A

##### Head of Legal & Governance [Name and title of Officer completing these comments]

N/A

#### 9. Use of Appendices

None

**10. Background papers**

None

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**Report for:** Joint Meeting of The Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and Children's and Young People's Scrutiny Panel Meeting – 7 April 2025.

**Item number:** 6

**Title:** What does Care Mean?

**Report**

**authorised by:** Ann Graham, Director, Children's Services

**Lead Officer:** Dionne Thomas/Rubina Mazher/Emma Cummergen

**Ward(s) affected:** N/A

**Report for Key/**

**Non Key Decision:** Non key decision

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to highlight to members what being 'in Care' means for children and young people. This report will examine the pathways into care and will review progress made in relation to placement stability. The report will also focus on being a Care Leaver, independent living, and mental health.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 Members to note the contents of the report.

**3. Reasons for decision**

N/A

**4. Background information**

**4.1 What does Care mean?**

4.2 National research highlights that children and young people who are received into the care of the local authorities have often suffered significant harm, trauma and neglect. The emotional impact of separating a child or young person from his or her family is often minimised, leaving our children to experience feelings of rejection, separation and loss. These feelings are further compounded when our young people experience multiple placement moves (Schofield and Beek 2005).

4.3 For some children and young people 'being in care' can be perceived as stigmatising as you are often judged for not having your parents in your life? Children and young people have reported that some professionals may also not

be as ‘ambitious’ or ‘aspirational’ in terms of your skills and abilities and set lower academic levels in terms of your educational attainment. Children and young people have also commented that ‘your voice in relation to decision making and future life choices is often not heard.’

**4.4 What does Care mean for Haringey Council?**

4.5 Whilst we acknowledge some of the reported challenges of the public care system, officers at Haringey Council continue to work actively alongside our Children In Care Council (ASPIRE) to ensure that our children and young people are supported throughout their journey in care. From their initial entry into care, we work seamlessly with our partner agencies to ensure the best outcomes for our children and young people.

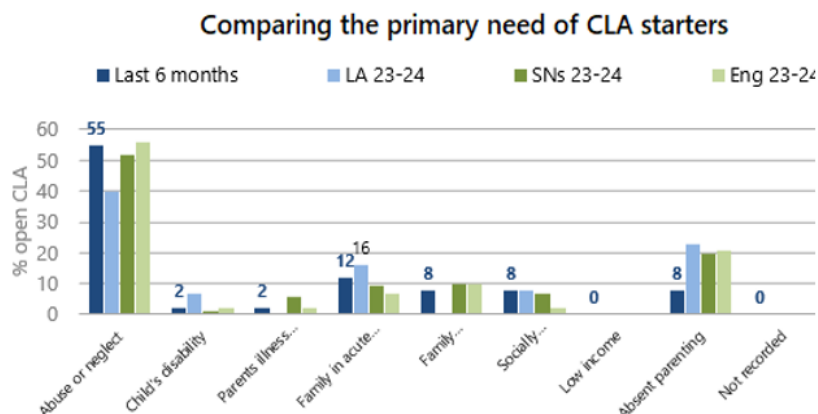
4.6 We are committed as a Council to being the best corporate parents and take our corporate parenting responsibilities very seriously. We are committed to listening to our care experienced young people and are actively taking steps to improve services. We have progressed the Champions model in terms of Health and Wellbeing, Housing and Independent Living skills, Transitional Safeguarding, Education, Training and Employment, and there has been noted progress in these areas.

4.7 We also remain ambitious and aspirational for all our children and young people and value their successes. We continue to ensure that children and young people in our care receive the support early on to help address any adversity or trauma they may have suffered, and to give them the foundations for a happy, healthy, and successful life.

**4.8 Reasons for children and young people being accommodated in the last six months.**

4.9 According to the Table 1 below the highest category in which children were accommodated within the last six months was a result of abuse and neglect. Fifty-five children were accommodated because of abuse and neglect concerns. This figure shows an incremental rise in comparison with 2023-2024 data. Families in acute distress has fallen compared to last year’s data, 12 children and young people were accommodated in the last six months compared to 16 children in 2023-2024. Family dysfunction, absent parenting, UASC, and social unacceptable behaviours are other stated reasons as to why children have become looked after.

**Table 1**



## 5.0 What are the pathways for Care?

5.1 In Haringey, as well as in other local authorities, there are several different ways a child or young person is received into care, which is primarily governed by the Children Act (1989). This legislation places key duties and responsibilities on local authorities to ensure the welfare of children are safeguarded and given paramount consideration.

- **Voluntary Agreement (Section 20, Children Act 1989)**, whereby parents' consent for their child to be accommodated by the local authority. This applies to situations where children are deemed beyond parental control, at risk of missing, affiliated to gangs, at risk of grooming child sexual exploitation and or criminal exploitation.

There may be other situations whereby a parent is having a medical procedure and has no extended family to be able to provide care for the child and this may be temporary arrangement, or if the parent is experiencing a chronic or debilitating illness, or parents having difficulties managing children with complex care needs.

- **Interim Care Order (Section 38) and Care Order (Section 31)**. The court must be satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the circumstances with respect to the child are as reported in Section 31(2) that 'the child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm'.

An Interim Care Order (ICO) allows the local authority to take steps to safeguard the child's welfare, such as placing the child in a safe environment, such as foster care, kinship care, and residential care, while the proceedings on the care order are ongoing.

Children and young people who are subjected to abuse or neglect, where the level of parenting is deemed not to be 'good enough' despite support being offered will form the basis of these Court applications.

When reports of such incidents are received by MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub), a child protection investigation is undertaken under

Section 47 of the Children Act 1989. If it is determined that the child has suffered significant harm or if there is a likelihood of harm, they may be removed from the home environment and from the parental care to ensure their safety.

Children and young people may also suffer abuse by parental substance or alcohol misuse. The struggles of parents dealing with addiction can lead to a child's removal from the home. When substance abuse compromises the safety and stability of the living environment, the local authority may need to intervene to share parental responsibility to protect the child under Section 38 of the Children Act (1989).

Similarly, domestic abuse between parents causes significant emotional and physical risks to children. This is one of the most common categories of harm suffered by the children. In such cases, a local authority may take action to remove children from the harmful situations.

Children with significant disabilities who require extensive medical care may enter the care system if their families are unable to provide the necessary support, resources, or expertise to meet those needs adequately.

Local authorities endeavour to work in partnership with the parents and families as far as possible to keep the children within their family environment as long as it is deemed safe and protects the welfare of the children. However, if this is not possible and parents continue to expose their children to harm, Family Courts have the authority to issue orders that place children into care under (Section 38 of the Children Act (1989)).

- **Police Protection and Emergency Protection Orders (EPO)** If a child or young person is at risk of immediate danger the Police can use powers under Section (46) of the Children Act (1989) to remove and accommodate a child to a safe place for up to 72 hours if they have reasonable cause to believe the child would otherwise suffer significant harm. If a police officer believes a child is at risk, they can remove the child to a suitable accommodation, such as a relative's home, hospital, police station, foster placement or residential children's home.

Similarly, in urgent situations where a child faces immediate danger or is at risk of significant harm, an Emergency Protection Order (Section 45 of the Children Act 1989) can be applied for from the Courts to remove the child or young person from the imminent danger. This order would allow the child or young person to be removed from the parents which can last up to eight days, and then can be extended once by the Court for a further 7 days, if there is reasonable case to believe that a child has suffered significant harm.

These various pathways illustrate the multifaceted nature of family dynamics and the array of factors that can lead to a child entering the care system. Each



case is unique, typically involving careful assessments conducted by social workers and other core professionals like health, education and the police to determine the most appropriate actions to safeguard the child's welfare and best interests.

#### 6.0 **Profile of children being received into Haringey Council's Care.**

Table 2 below highlights the demography of the children and young people being received into local authority care. We have seen an increase in the age ranged from 12 -17yrs old of 182 children out of the 316 children currently accommodated which is 53% as noted in the graph. In terms of gender, males 57% are more likely to be received into care, of Black / Black British or global majority heritage.

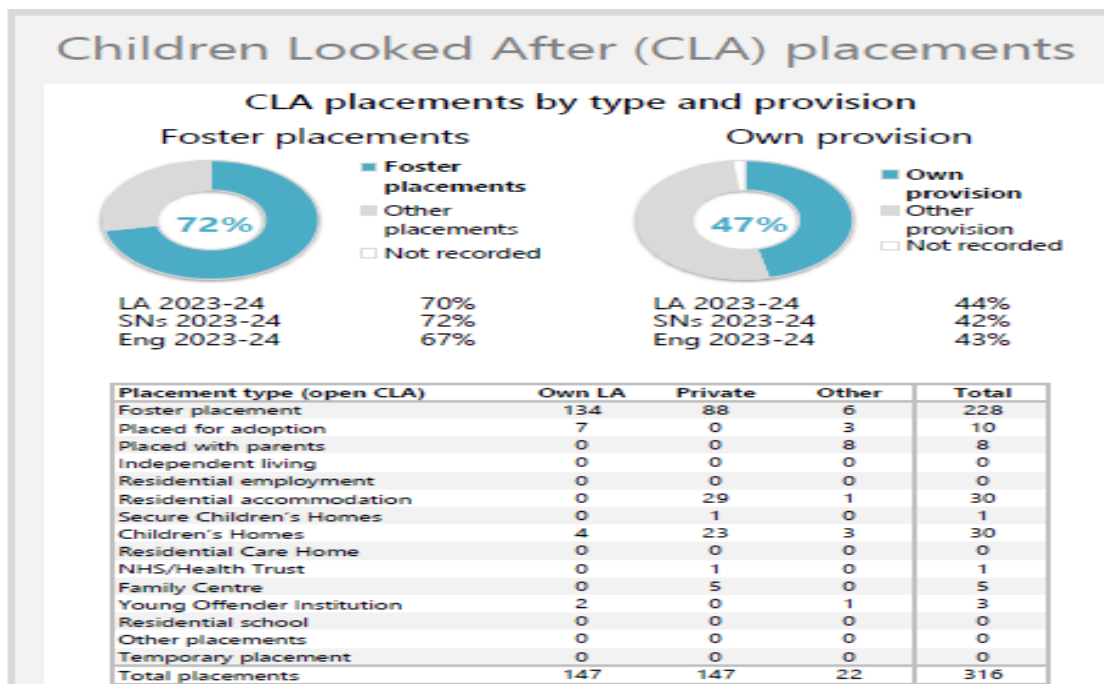
The data also suggests that there are increasing demands for 6–11-year-old with 77 children being accommodated which is 19% as noted in the table, this increases the importance early help strategies and family support services. In terms of the 0–5-year-old category, this accounts for 57 children which is 28% of the 316 children currently accommodated in care.

**Table 2 | Demography of Children in Care**

<b>Age Band</b>	<b>No. of Children</b>	<b>% of total</b>			
a) 0 - 5	57	28%			
b) 6 - 11	77	19%			
c) 12 - 17	182	53%			
<b>Gender</b>	<b>No. of Children</b>	<b>% of total</b>			
Female	139	43%			
Male	178	57%			
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>No of children</b>	<b>% of total</b>			
Asian or Asian British	12	4%			
Black or Black British	132	42%			
Mixed	75	24%			
Other ethnic groups	23	7%			
White	74	23%			

#### 6.1 **Types of placement**

When children are placed into care depending on the level of a child's needs they are placed with kinship carers, foster carers, residential placements / children's homes, support accommodation.



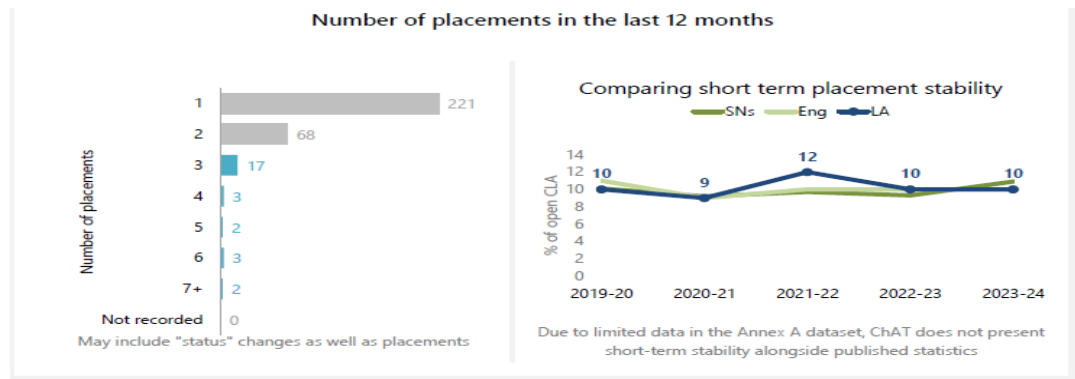
## 7. **Placement Stability**

- 7.1 Placement stability increases a child's opportunity to develop secure attachments with their carers. It ensures a child or young person has safe and consistent care, minimising frequent moves and disruptions which is crucial for a child's emotional health and development.
- 7.2 Schofield et al (2005) states that placement instability can have 'detrimental effects on the overall well-being and development of children leading to poor outcomes.' Munro and Hardy (2006) reported that frequent placement moves contributed significantly to placement breakdowns and feelings of rejection

### **Placement Stability Indicators**

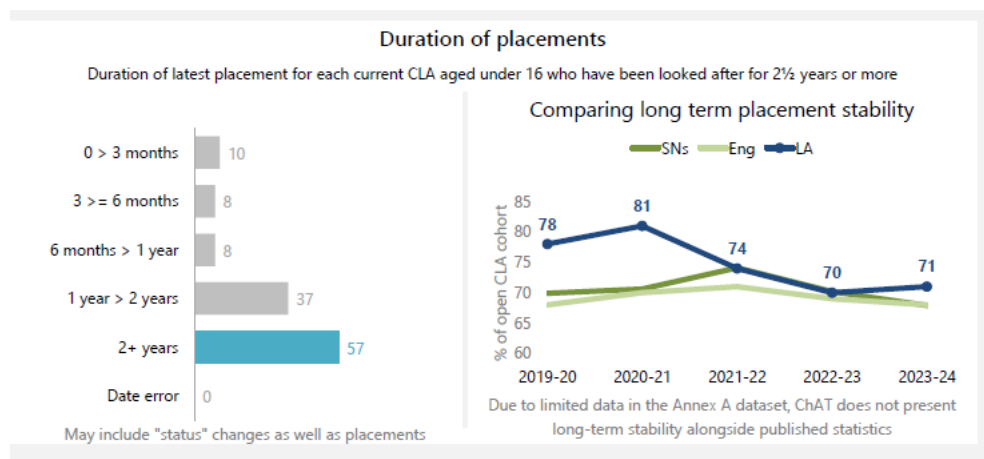
- 7.3 Haringey Council continues to monitor placement stability in terms of both short-term and long-term stability.
- 7.4 Short term placement stability is measured by 'a child having had three or more placements over the year.'
- 7.5 Table 3 illustrates the number of placement moves children in care have experienced during the last 12 months. The table highlights that out of 316 children who are currently accommodated, 289 children have had 0 and 2 placement moves which equates to 91.5 %of children in care
- 7.6 Table 3 indicates that 27 children have had 3 or more placement moves 8.5% which is comparable with statistical neighbours.

Table 3



- 7.5 In terms of long-term placement stability, this is measured by a child under the age of 16 years, who has been in placement for 2.5 years or more. The data suggests an increase in long term stability and a positive direction of travel compared with 2022-2023.

Table 4



- 7.6 Further work is needed to create additional capacity within our inhouse foster carers in terms of recruitment and retention, and to upskill our foster carers to equip them to support our most vulnerable children and young people.

## 8.0 Care Leavers

- 8.1 A care leaver is defined as a young person who was looked after by the local authority for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14 and who was looked after by the local authority at school leaving age or thereafter, and who is under 25 years old.
- 8.2 Young people will be deemed a “relevant care leaver” if they are a child in care between their 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. They will be entitled to a social worker who supports financial assistance, advice and guidance, pathway planning every 6 months, support with education, employment and training, support with mental well-being and access to CAMHs and support family time in a manner that is safe and enriching for the young person.
- 8.2 When a young person reaches 18, they become a “former relevant care leaver” and are allocated to a Personal Advisor, to provide support and guidance, financial support and access to permanent housing.
- 8.3 The Young Adults Service (YAS) currently supports 80 young people aged 16-18 and 407 young people aged 18 to 25 years old. We also have an additional 152 young people that live independently and are settled but we continue to maintain yearly contact via our duty team until they reach the age of 25 and intervene when any additional needs arise.
- 8.4 **Education Employment and Training.**
- 8.5 We are ambitious for our care leavers and lead a monthly aspirations panel working in partnership with our virtual school, Haringey Works, Drive Forward, North London Partnership Consortium and the Tottenham Foundation to provide ever increasing opportunities for our care leavers in Haringey and those that reside outside.
- 8.6 We also seek to identify mentorship programs from organizations such as Sister System, Haringey MIND, and Hope for the Young, that can offer additional guidance, support and encouragement to help develop the confidence to overcome challenges and boost self-esteem.
- 8.7 We are supporting 38 care leavers at university.
- 8.8 We have successfully supported 29 into civil service internships during 2018-2025.
- 8.9 We have a task and finish apprenticeship group dedicated to increasing jobs in the family business. We currently have 4 in council employment and developing and further 6 apprenticeship opportunities.
- 8.10 **Independent Living**
- 8.11 During the young person’s care journey from 16 – 18 it is the role of the foster carers and keyworkers to ensure that that young person is given the opportunity to develop their independence skills within their home environment by way of cooking, cleaning, managing their own personal finances and self-care. This is monitored and reviewed using our life skills modules.

- 8.12 All young people are expected to complete the Money House, which is a course in how to manage their money and budget before they are nominated for their permanent tenancy. This is to ensure that all the necessary preparation is provided to support a young person to sustain their own tenancy and reduce the risk of rent arrears and evictions. The course covers managing tenancy agreements, avoiding eviction, online safety and scams, budgeting and spending habits, benefits, banking, planning the future and energy efficiency.
- 8.13 All young people are assessed by their social workers or Personal Advisors as to their maturity and readiness to live independently. Young people are monitored and reviewed via an internal accommodation panel as to their progress towards independence. At 18, Care leavers in Haringey are given priority bidding status which means that they become priority for secure accommodation once they have registered for housing.
- 8.14 Former relevant care leavers are entitled to a 1 bedroom property via Haringey housing quota and a £3,000 setting up home allowance to assist with buying the essential items for their homes.
- 8.15 Where young people live outside of Haringey, they are given 3 housing options
- They can return to Haringey and take up their 1-bedroom quota
  - If they have local connections and networks in the local area outside of Haringey and do not want to return, they can be supported to approach another local authority under a reciprocal housing arrangement
  - Where a reciprocal housing arrangement is not an option, they can be supported to find private rented accommodation via the home finder's route and financially supported with a rent deposit grant.
- 8.16 **Young parents**
- 8.17 We are supporting an increasing number of care leavers who are parents. To support their housing needs we have a small additional 2 bed quota we can nominate our families for. We currently have access to 6, 2 beds dedicated to care leavers who are parents.
- 8.18 **Young people released from prison**
- 8.19 We have a small minority of young people in custody, we have a prerelease resettlement program in conjunction with our Youth Justice and probation service to ensure that young people are fully supported to return to live in the community where they will be safe and able to be supported to engage in education employment or training, support to increase their independent living skills and access to their permanent accommodation. There can be location and post code challenges for this group of care leavers which can make settling to permanence more complex.
- 8.20 **Young people with Additional needs**
- 8.21 Where young people are assessed as having significant additional support post 18, they are presented to our Transitions panel prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and referred to adult social care for a care act assessment. If they meet threshold

for adult support based on enduring mental health needs or learning disability, they will be entitled to ongoing adult support and accommodation. We also work closely with shared lives carers which is essentially adult fostering.

- 8.22 For some young people who have more complex needs and are already in their permanent accommodation there is also additional support from our partner agency Housing First, they offer intensive support to assist young people in maintaining their tenancy, whilst supporting them with mental health and wellbeing. This adds to the ability for young people to stay in their homes and maintain their tenancy, avoiding eviction and homelessness. Due to the intensive nature of the work, we can refer 10 care leavers for this scheme via housing related support contract.

8.23 **Reunification with parents or family**

- 8.24 After a period in care some young people make the choice to return to live with their families as adults and we will always plan and assess whether it is safe and in their best interests for them to return. They remain entitled to support and guidance, their leaving care flats and setting up home allowance up to the age of 25 and we continue to work to ensure their independent living skills to sustain a tenancy for when the time is right.

9.0 **Mental Health**

- 9.1 Children in Care and Care Leavers are among the most vulnerable groups in society, with significantly higher rates of mental health difficulties compared to their peers. Despite having high levels of need this cohort of young people experience significant barriers in accessing timely and effective mental health support.

9.2 **Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaires (SDQ's)**

- 9.3 When a child is received into care, a strengths and difficulties questionnaire is completed by the main carer i.e. foster carer, friends and family carer (kinship/connected carer) or residential worker within six months in preparation for a child's annual statutory health assessment. The questionnaire helps assess the emotional and behavioural health of the child and identifies any potential areas of concern.

- According to national figures, in 2024, 75% of 43,390 care experienced children who met the criteria had a SDQ score returned.
- 40% of care experienced children who received an SDQ score which was identified as a cause of concern, and a further 13% of the scores were considered on the borderline of cause for concern.
- In terms of Haringey Children's Services, 84% of children in care have had an SDQ. Data is not yet available in relation to the number of children described as 'borderline', and the number deemed to be a 'cause for concern'.

9.3 **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)**

The Haringey Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service provides multi-disciplinary assessment and treatment for children aged between 0-17years with mental ill-health or severe emotional and behavioural difficulties. The team also has a crisis line for those who are in need of urgent mental health support. CAMHS provides Tier 2 targeted services for more complex needs, for children experiencing mild and moderate emotional or mental health difficulties. Tier 3 specialist services address more complex and severe mental health needs, such as severe emotional difficulties and functional impairment.

9.4 **First Steps Plus**

9.5 Children who continue to experience 3 or more placement moves during the course of the year will continue to receive support from First Steps Plus. This provision is designed to support children aged between 5-16yr, to minimise and prevent further placement instability by using targeted and assertive outreach support.

9.6 **Conclusion**

This report seeks to highlight that being a 'child in care' or a 'care leaver' is not without its challenges. The trauma of being received into care is significant and needs to be managed with sensitivity and compassion. Being in care is a journey many children struggle with in terms of adapting to new situations which requires careful planning and nurturing to ensure that positive relationships and attachments to new carers can flourish. The pathways into care are unique for different children depending on their circumstances, and placements are identified to meet their needs.

9.7 The issues discussed in relation to placement stability are critical for care experienced children. It is imperative that council officers identify and support placements where there is instability. Frequent changes of placement for children impacts on their emotional health, development, and educational outcomes and the practice is to ensure where appropriate placements are supported early on.

9.8 In relation to Care Leavers we continue to remain ambitious and aspirational for all of our young people and acknowledge that being a care leaver is not without its challenges. We do recognise the importance of relationships in sustaining positive outcomes and are proud of the 38 young people who are in university and 29 young people in civil internships. We also continue to celebrate the smaller wins when our young people make small but sustained changes.

9.9 It is important to recognise that we cannot remain complacent in the delivery of services for children in care and care leavers, and we need to ensure that our Children In Care Council continue to work in partnership with officers in the council to further improve services and service delivery for our most vulnerable children.

**10. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2022-2024 High level Strategic outcomes'?**

N/A

**11. Carbon and Climate Change**

N/A

**12. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance ( procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)**

**Finance**

N/A

**Procurement**

N/A

**Head of Legal & Governance [Name and title of Officer completing these comments]**

N/A

**12. Use of Appendices**

**None**

**13. Background papers**

**None**



**Report for:** Joint Meeting of The Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and Children's and Young People's Scrutiny Panel Meeting – 7 April 2025

**Item number:** 7

**Title:** Care Leaving in London

**Report authorised by :** Ann Graham, DCS

**Lead Officer:** Matthew Raleigh, LIA  
Dionne Thomas, Interim AD Children's Safeguarding & Social Care

**Ward(s) affected:** N/A

**Report for Key/  
Non Key Decision:** Non key decision

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

1.1 This report provides Members with an update on the Care Experience in the London region.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 The report is for information.

**3. Reasons for decision**

N/A

**4. Alternative options considered**

N/A

**5. Background information**

4.1 In 2021 the DfE recovery funding is allocated to develop a Pan London Care Leavers Compact.

4.2 The work is delivered by LIA and Partnership for Young London.

4.3 Governance is undertaken through a Care Leavers Trust Board bringing together statutory and wider partners.

4.4 The London Children in Care Council co-lead every aspect of the work.

**6. Alternative options considered**

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7. **Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2022-2024 High level Strategic outcomes’?**

N/A

8. **Carbon and Climate Change**

N/A

9. **Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance ( procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)**

**Finance**

N/A

**Procurement**

N/A

**Head of Legal & Governance [Name and title of Officer completing these comments]**

N/A

10. **Use of Appendices**

None

11. **Background papers**

None

# Care Leaving in London

27.11.2023

Page 25

***‘The disadvantage faced by our care experienced community should be the civil rights issue of our time. Children in care are powerless, they are often invisible to society and face some of the greatest inequalities that exist in England today... ‘***

**(Independent Review of Social Care 2022)**

# The backstory to the regional work

- 2021 DfE recovery funding to develop a Pan London Care Leavers Compact
- Increase consistency, breadth and quality in the support offered to London's Care Leavers
- Delivered by LIIA and Partnership for Young London
- Governance through a Care Leavers Trust Board bringing together statutory and wider partners. Works to 'community parenting' principles.
- The London Children in Care Council co-lead every aspect of the work

JOHN LEWIS  
& PARTNERS

GREATER  
LONDON  
AUTHORITY



Partnership  
for Young  
London

  
Department  
for Education

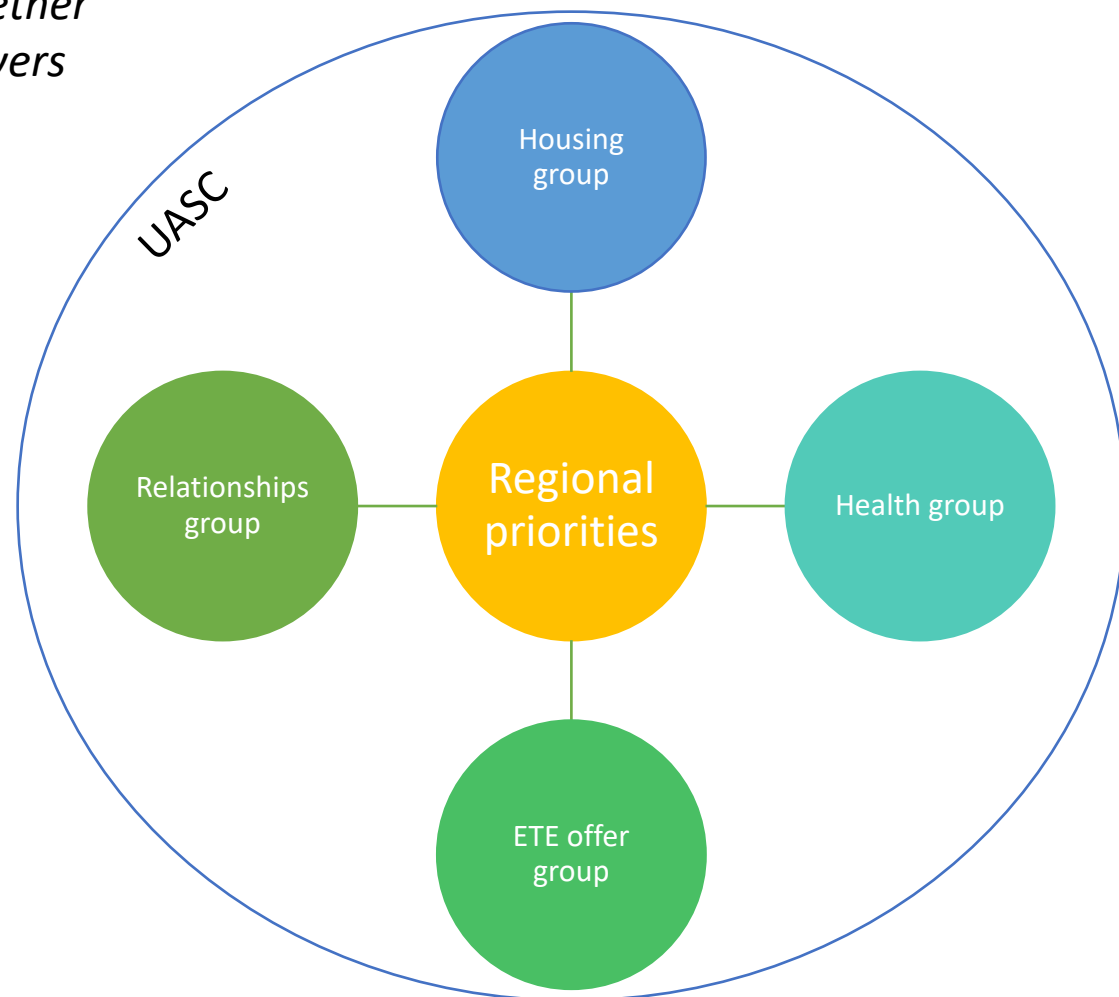
  
Lambeth

## London Care Leavers Trust Board

*Statutory and other organisations working together to improve the experience of London's care leavers*

### Pan-London Care Leavers Compact

A series of partner offers to build consistency and quality in supporting care leavers



Partnership  
for Young  
London



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**LiiA** Together for  
London's Children  
LONDON INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT ALLIANCE

**ALDCS**  
The Association of London  
Directors of Children's Services



# Pan London Compact - Progress to date



- **Free Prescriptions** – Funding agreed by all five ICS areas, delivery in two with remaining three imminent
- **TfL** – Half price travel on buses and trams for circa 16k Care Leavers
- **LA** – Housing commitments on Council Tax, IH, Priority Need, Rent Deposit, Joint Housing / CS protocols
- **LA** – Membership of the Care Leavers Covenant and Whole Council Approaches
- Launch in March '24

# Momentum and wider ambition



- More can be done beyond a common offer
- Momentum from the Trust Board partnership, SHBOL, Ofsted ILACS, and increased business sector awareness
- 7 London LA's adopt Protected Characteristic positions
- ALDCS adopts Care Leaving as its 5th Strategic Priority in May '23
- Design of a more ambitious regional programme to meet Care Leaver needs starts
- DfE Wave 3 Improvement Fund application



# A wider programme



Will cover 4 thematic areas, with specific consideration of former UASC needs across each:

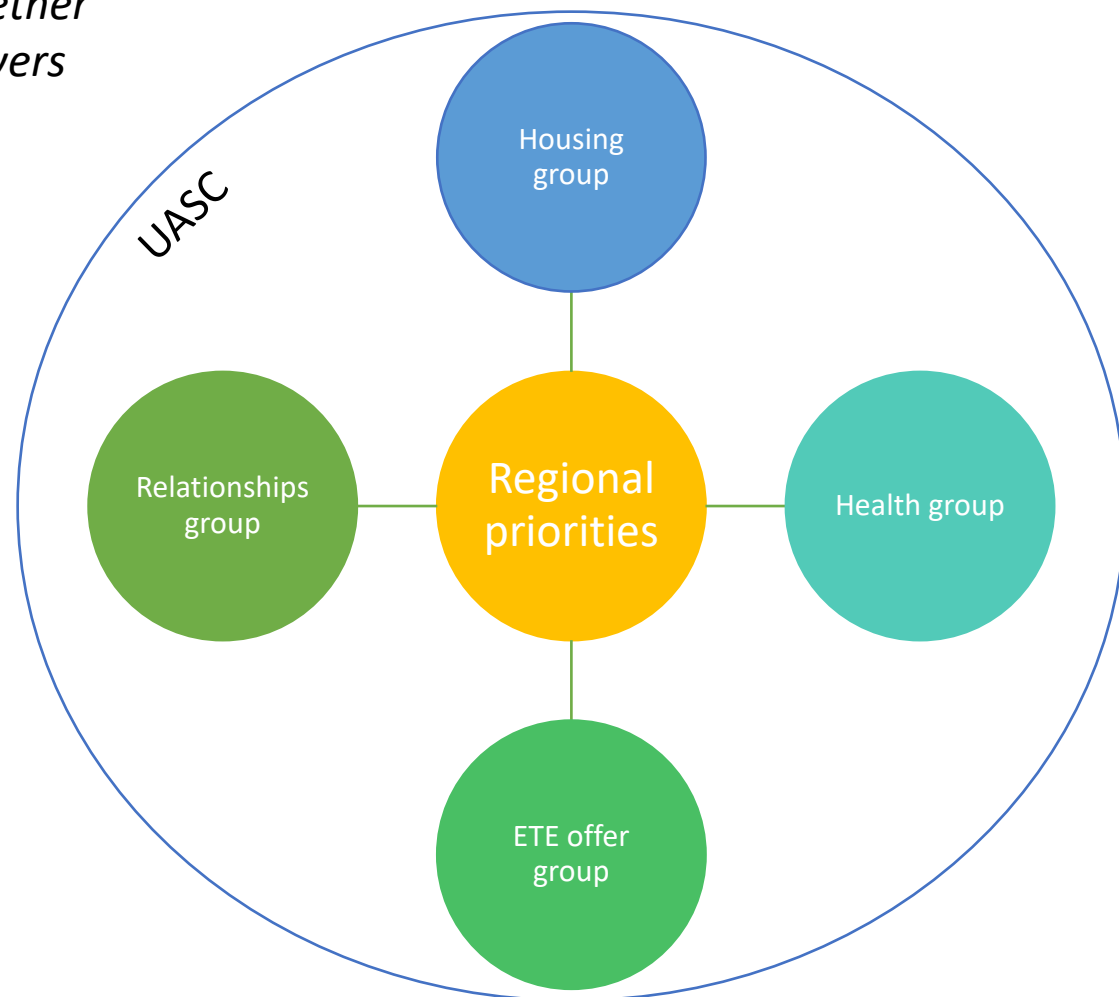
- Health – ICS areas looking at Dentistry and Optometry. Mapping of emotional well-being/MH support is complete.
- ETE – Three strands – the LA role, HE/FE, and links with employers
- Relationships - Building on SHBOL developments (Lifelong links etc..), Mayor's New Deal
- Housing – Working effectively across LA's and Housing Associations

## London Care Leavers Trust Board

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### Pan-London Care Leavers Compact

A series of partner offers to build consistency and quality in supporting care leavers



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London



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**ALDCS**  
The Association of London  
Directors of Children's Services

**NHS**

Newham  
Kingston upon Thames  
Haringey  
Hammersmith and Fulham  
Greenwich  
Redbridge  
City of London  
Wandsworth  
Islington  
Bromley  
Southwark  
Kensington and Chelsea  
Hackney  
Enfield  
Camden  
Richmond upon Thames  
Lambeth  
Havering  
Waltham Forest

21

LA responses

**Practice and Views on:**

Housing

Education Training Employment

Health

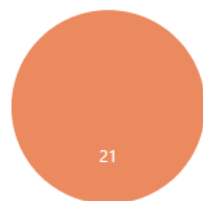
Relationships

Immigration/Criminal Justice/Safeguarding

Miscellaneous

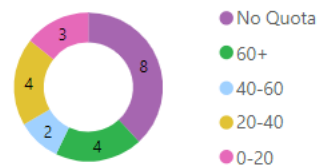
# Housing

Do you have specific priority in your housing allocation policy regarding care leavers (including former UASC)?



Yes

Do you have a quota for care leaver housing allocations?



No Quota  
60+  
40-60  
20-40  
0-20

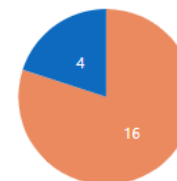
Do you have any specialist housing support for care leavers - e.g. a dedicated housing officer?

	No.
Specialist within your service	11
Dedicated Housing Officer	9
Partner / Commissioned provision	6
No specialist support	2
20 young people per year aged between 17 & 18 participate in the House Project. This prepares them for independent living and offers ongoing support and community once they have their own home.	1
managers from LCT and Housing meet every two months to review the housing for care leavers	1

What other housing solutions do you provide for care leavers?

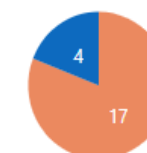
	No.
Commissioned places from accommodation provider	16
Dedicated property for care leavers	8
Looking to purchase/repurpose property	7
Housing First Project	1
None	1
Ringfenced private sector transition properties	1
Seek reciprocal arrangements with other local authorities. There is an option for private rental sector accommodation but this is very rarely, if ever, used.	1
Staying put with foster carers as long as needed up to age 25	1

Do you have a joint childrens/housing policy for care leavers?



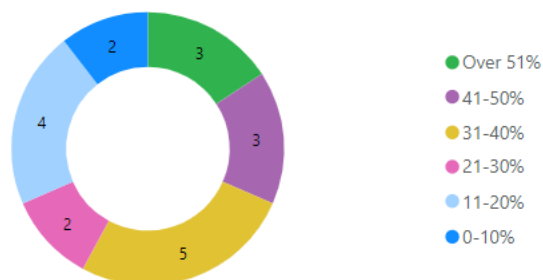
Yes No

Do you work with Housing Associations or other Accommodation Providers to find places, ensure quality, and wrap around support?



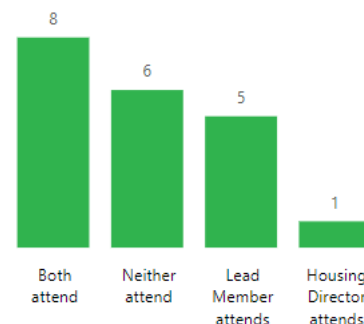
Yes No

What percentage of your care leavers between 18-25 live in accommodation outside the Local Authority?

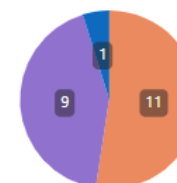


Over 51%  
41-50%  
31-40%  
21-30%  
11-20%  
0-10%

Does your Council Housing Director and Lead Member attend your Corporate Parenting Board?

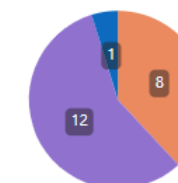


Does your protocol follow new DHLUC and DfE good practice advice (03.05.24)



Yes We will be updating it No

Have you implemented updated DHLUC guidance (31.05.24)



Yes We will be putting this in place No

# Housing – Key considerations

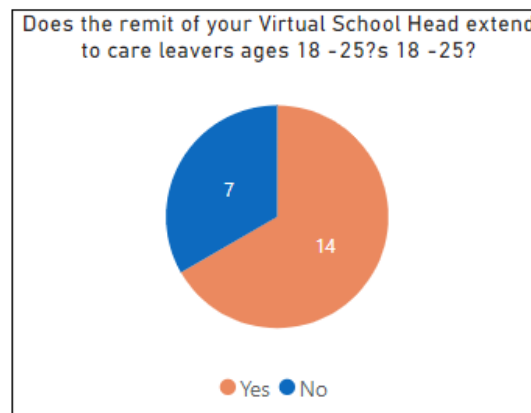
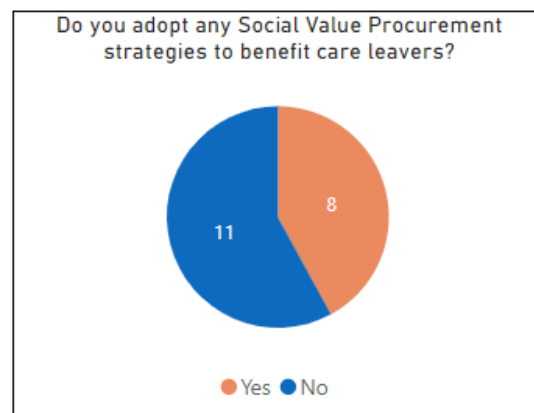
- Housing stock is mentioned in almost every response, esp final stage independent accommodation.
- What is available does not always match CL need.
- The cost and barriers of private renting are prohibitive.
- Lack of reciprocal agreements, including when needed for safety.
- Joint working with housing and specialist roles are effective – should all LA's have these?

- LA's are showing innovative repurposing of properties to provide small scale semi-independent accommodation for care leavers – can we grow this?
- High quality, well co-ordinated support is vital to success in tenancy, can we grow the best models?
- Can we incorporate care leaver housing need into new building projects
- How can we use our commissioning powers and relationships with HA's to leverage better provision and support for CL?

# Education Training Employment

Do you offer care leavers bespoke ETE opportunities within the LA (the 'family firm')?	No.
Guaranteed interviews	14
Apprenticeship	13
Work experience/internship	13
Ring fenced posts	8
None	2
Recently employed 2 ex Redbridge Care leavers into the leaving care service	1

Do you have specialist provision to support care leavers to enter and sustain ETE?	No.
In-house ETE service	17
VCS/commissioned service	9
Business	5
Partnership with HE/FE providers	5
Camden has community budget in conjunction with DWP to provide care and capacity support to our young people through Drive Forward Foundation. Partnership with HE/FE providers UCL and Camden have a joint MoU which sets out principles of joint working. Business Other – Inner Circle Education Trust: Charity no. 291583	1
No	1
Our Virtual School works with care leavers up to 25	1
Virtual College	1



Do you support care leavers financially to enter and sustain ETE?	No.
Study equipment including laptop/IT	21
Travel Costs	21
Clothing	18
Accommodation outside of term time	16
Course Fees	15
Living Costs	14
Bursaries, prom and graduation funds, termly incentive payments	1
Grants and top up payments	1

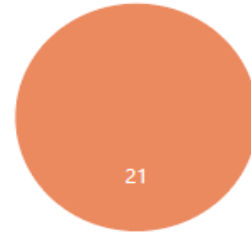
- Intersecting needs were flagged, especially mental health, housing, financial barriers and a lack of familial/social role modelling and support.
- Previously negative experiences of education, in particular school. Linked with lower levels of qualifications and skills than peers.
- Discrimination and stigma, including a lack of understanding around the experiences and needs of care leavers.
- Former UASC face language and legal barriers
- Geographic displacement – being out of borough
- Financial incentives to progress into employment from benefits
- Lack of co-ordination and quality in ETE offers – often feel hurriedly put together without a proper understanding of CL needs.



- A holistic approach. Supporting ETE alongside emotional wellbeing, housing, financial security, relationships etc.... How can we build these approaches? Has commissioning a role?
- Should all LA's have Virtual School involvement until age 25?
- Should London take a more consistent approach to a family firm offer?
- Strong partnerships, including with DWP, employers and employer networks, and skills/training providers. How can we influence?
- Ring fenced opportunities and apprenticeships, which should be at the London living wage
- Can we grow effective social procurement strategies?

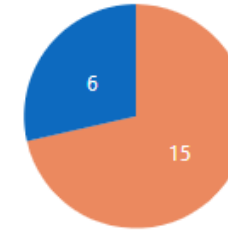
# Health

Do you collaborate with your ICS area to support care leaver health?



● Yes

Do you work with any other organisations to support care leaver health?



● Yes ● No

## SAMPLE RESPONSES - What would help joint working with your ICS area to support care leaver health?

- Would be good to develop some best practice / standard ways of working across new ICB footprints (ie multi LAs) as offer across boroughs seems very inconsistent.
- Shared approach to ensure timely health summaries are available to care leavers
- Regular meetings with Health professionals: eg attendance to Service /Team meetings, or to the Cocoon
- Extension of looked after nurse duties to aged 25
- Dedicated support to care leavers around mental health and those with complex conditions to support better transitions and not being lost in the adult system
- Clearer escalation pathways for emotional wellbeing into adult mental health services similar to arrangements in place for escalation to CAHMS.
- A standard NEL commitment from the regional ICB
- To create opportunity for collaborative at a designated space.

# Health - Key Considerations

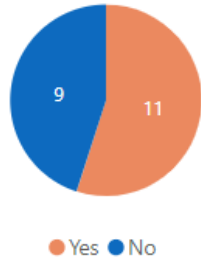
- By a distance the top issue flagged is mental health and emotional wellbeing, particularly for a cohort that has experienced high levels of trauma. Views are that, with some exceptions, the services do not exist to meet this need.
- Lack of continuity in healthcare caused by geographic moves and differences in provision
- Health care transitions into adult services (higher thresholds, navigating the system, not equipped to meet CL needs)
- Access to dentistry
- Wider lifestyle factors such as diet, exercise, preventative healthcare. Social Prescribing?
- Accessing timely NHS GP appointments, and the complexity of doing this

The following have been flagged as working well, can we build consistent, best practice approaches?

- Co-designing CL mental health services across LA's and ICS
- Health passporting
- Specialist health posts within the LA CL team such as transitions nurses and post-18 mental health support
- Early transitions and preparing for adulthood work, including with adult services where they are going to be required
- Outreach health services, including at hubs
- Where it is available, MH and EWB support from health and voluntary sectors is highly valued. How does this affect our commissioning?

# Relationships

Have you developed any LA led mentoring activity for care leavers?



## SAMPLE RESPONSES - details of the LA led mentoring activity for care leavers.

Within leaving care team we have a volunteering scheme and mentors

We have set up a mentoring scheme for children in care and care leavers. This includes mentoring by council employees, Grandmentors.

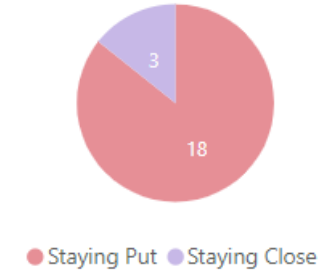
We have an Experienced Practitioner for Social Capital who leads the in house mentoring service

The Participation service is developing older YP within th service who support activities for the younger ones. Our Care Leaver Influencers (the steering group of young people who drive service development) are also developing a Big Brother, Big Sister scheme. We also have a very proactive lifelong links service.

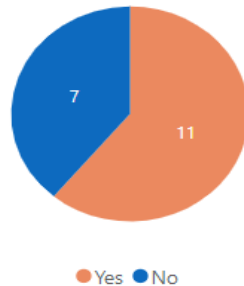
Need for a mentor is identified via Needs assessment and Pathway Plan and referral made accordingly.

Managed by participation service

Do you have a 'staying put', 'staying close' or other policies to enable care leavers to sustain relationships via accommodation arrangements?



Do you access or commission any partner led mentoring activity, e.g. GLA funded services or services like 'lifelong links' or the House Project etc?



## SAMPLE RESPONSE - please provide further details of any partner led mentoring activity.

DfE funding to mentor UASC

Grandmentors- in conjunction with Volunteer Matters. Networks for life- recently recruited to this role

Hope for the Young

LifeLong Links, House Project and a GLA funded service for young people living in buyback council properties used as TA.

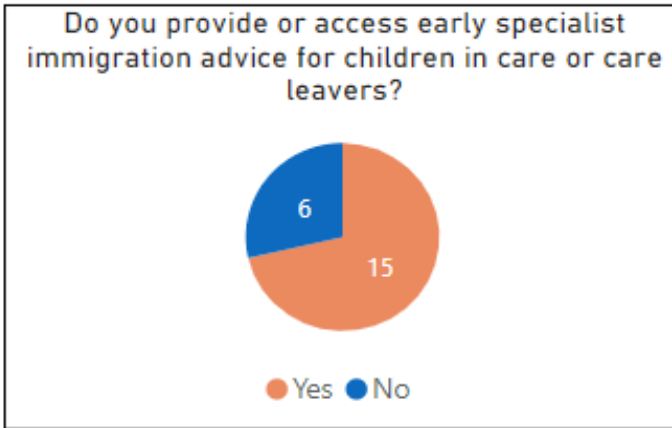
# Relationships – Key Considerations

- Just over half (55%) of LA's have developed their own mentoring scheme
- These vary, for example peer mentoring, staff mentoring, grandmentoring
- 61% of LA's commissioned or accessed externally commissioned mentoring services
- The most referenced was Lifelong Links – six boroughs have partnerships with these scheme, some of whom are supported by DfE funding.
- Richmond and Kingston have a DfE funded mentoring scheme for UASC and former UASC
- No LA mentioned regional schemes – e.g. New Deal for Young People schemes – are PA's sufficiently connected with these?
- Geographic moves, language barriers, and lack of trust/confidence in relationships (stemming from previous trauma) are barriers

The following are valued, can we build on them:

- ☐ Participation forums, group activities, and opportunities for care leavers to get together
- ☐ Hubs as a physical location for care leavers to gather, have 'ownership' of, and access support
- ☐ Lifelong links is highly regarded, as is the importance of undertaking this work early
- ☐ Reconnection with family and foster carers
- ☐ Improved awareness/connection with regional mentoring offers
- ☐ Consistent, long term PA support, without changes of worker (PA workforce retention)
- ☐ Some answers referred to the council as a 'family', (see also the 'family firm'), this appears to be a cultural factor, linking to 'whole council approaches' and maybe protected characteristic decisions.

# Immigration

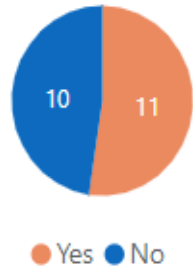


- 71% of LA respondents provide access to early specialist immigration advice (15/22 LA's).
  - Some Local Authorities have this embedded within their CL service, for example Hounslow and LBHF have specialist posts
  - Several other LA's partner to access support, for example from Coram, SLRA, Refugee Action. Some work with local law associations.
- 
- Access to solicitors – more challenging still at the point of appeal. Query whether there are enough practising.
  - Knock on effects to housing, health, ETE access
  - The impact of uncertain status on emotional wellbeing and mental health
  - Delays and lack of communication throughout the system, again the impact of this on mental health
  - Why do some boroughs consider they don't provide or access early specialist support?



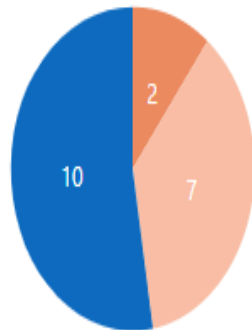
# Criminal Justice/ Transitional Safeguarding

Do you have any working agreements with Police, Probation and/or HMPS to better support care leavers within the criminal justice system?



- 52% of LA's reported having working agreements with partners such as the police, prisons and probation around care leaver support
- Some of these arrangements cross over with transitional safeguarding approaches in those LA's
- WF brings together a quarterly meeting between the LA, Probation, DWP, Housing, Virtual School, Homelessness team to take a multi-agency approach to meeting CL needs.
- Some LA's are part of the Prisons Group. Wandsworth have also undertaken workshops for Care Experienced young people within Wandsworth Prison.
- Some LA's are in the process of developing working agreements with Probation.
- Resettlement approaches appear to vary, with some LA's adopting their normal PA support role and some taking a more enhanced approach.

Do you have a Transitional Safeguarding policy and are care leavers included as a priority cohort?

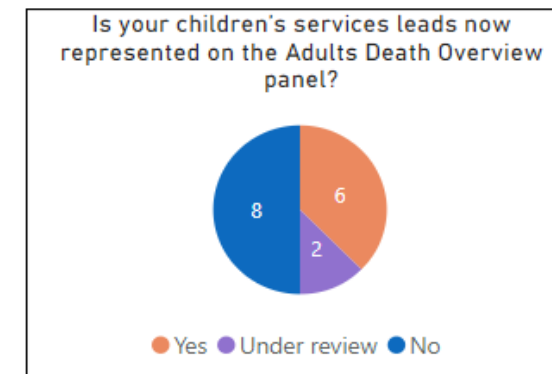
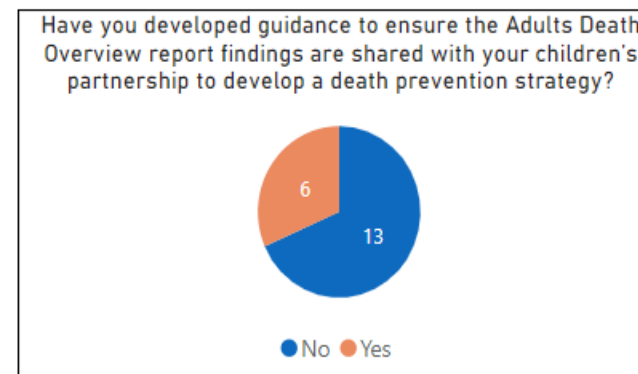
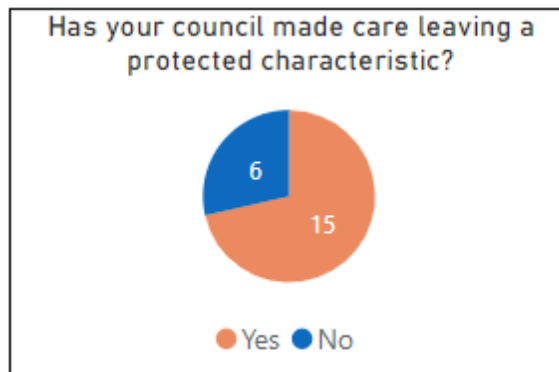


Yes - care leavers are NOT a priority cohort Yes - care leavers are included as a priority cohort No

- ☐ Just under half of LA's have a transitional safeguarding policy, the majority of those that do have care leavers identified as a priority cohort
- ☐ Mostly the focus is contextual harms and exploitation, though Greenwich also have a focus on SEND. There is some overlap with adult transitions more widely.
- ☐ Several Boroughs refer to having developing approaches, or reviewing their approach.

# Miscellaneous

- ☐ 71% of responding boroughs (15) have made care leaving a protected characteristic
- ☐ All but one borough felt their elected members champion the cause of care leavers.
- ☐ Boroughs talk highly about their lead members pushing through measures to support care leavers.
- ☐ Although responses generally have a theme that members are supportive, there appears some variation in the level of 'whole council approach'. Some LA's appear to have high level of support and prioritisation across the council. Others appear to be more dependent on children's services and the lead member.
- ☐ At the time of responding a minority of boroughs (6) had developed guidance to share adult death overview report findings with their children's partnership to develop a death prevention strategy.
- ☐ LA's who responded were generally aware of the requirement to notify care leaver deaths, some had put in place formal frameworks for doing this, others signalled their intent to do so.



## Catch all question – Would you like to add anything else?

- ☐ Planning policy across London should have mandatory allocations for care leavers
- ☐ Benefits – Care Leavers should be entitled to 25+ rates, they are living independently from family support.
- ☐ Wider health issues such as access to GPs must be sorted for this cohort of young people as a priority
- ☐ Reconsider care leaver status for a cohort of those who enter care through serious offending at the age of 16/17 and do not want to engage or have our support
- ☐ Clear immigration timeframes and access to housing stock
- ☐ Dedicated MH provision
- ☐ Full reciprocal council tax exemption
- ☐ Better, and easier, reciprocal housing agreements between LAs
- ☐ Full transport discount on all TfL travel, including underground
- ☐ DfE to undertake an analysis of care leavers death nationally; by capturing the themes and recommendations from Coroner's inquests; Domestic Homicide Reviews and safeguarding adult review. The aim to inform policy and strategy development.
- ☐ 'Family Firm' offers to be reciprocal, enabling placement with another LA
- ☐ Dentistry and eyesight support.

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<b>Report for:</b>	Joint meeting of Corporate Parenting Advisory Panel and Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel
<b>Item number:</b>	8
<b>Title:</b>	Progress report on outcomes for children in care supported by Haringey Youth Justice Service
<b>Report authorised by:</b>	Ann Graham, Director: Childrens Services
<b>Lead Officers:</b>	Matthew Knights, Head of Service, Youth Justice and Youth at Risk, <a href="mailto:matthew.knights@haringey.gov.uk">matthew.knights@haringey.gov.uk</a> Jackie Difolco, Director: Early Help, Prevention and SEND <a href="mailto:Jackie.difolco@haringey.gov.uk">Jackie.difolco@haringey.gov.uk</a>
<b>Ward (s) affected:</b>	All
<b>Report for Key/ Non-Key Decision:</b>	Not applicable

## **1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform members of Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel and the Corporate Parenting Advisory Panel of the progress to date from targeted work to improve outcomes for children in care who are being supported by the Youth Justice Service (YJS).

## **2. Cabinet Introduction**

- 2.1 Not applicable

## **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 As this report is for information only, members of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny panel and Corporate Parenting Advisory Panel are asked to note the contents of the report, directing any comments and observations to the Director: Early Help, Prevention and SEND.

## **4. Reasons for Decisions:**

- 4.1 Not applicable

## **5. Alternative options considered**

5.1 Not applicable

## **6. Background Information**

6.1 The presentation attached outlines the recommendations from a previous meeting of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee to develop a targeted approach to improving outcomes for children in care who are also subject to intervention from the YJS.

6.2 As of March 2025, 25% of the youth justice cohort are children in care, this equates to 17 children. Over the last year since April 24, 22% of the youth justice cohort were children in care, equating to 43.

6.3 The YJS has embedded a targeted approach with this cohort, ensuring any innovation projects are always offered to this cohort. The service has a number of different support agencies embedded which consist of CAMHS, Speech and Language, Education and Substance Misuse services. The support the cohort receives will be dependent on whether they're placed in Haringey or out of borough.

6.4 The YJS also offers AQA certification for their participation in community reparation projects and over the past year three of children from this cohort have received at least one certificate that they can use for their CV's.

6.5 For the majority of outcome areas, children in care open to the Youth Justice Service (YJS) continue to have poorer outcomes than children who are not in care and open to YJS. Of the 27 outcome areas, there has been improvement in only four of these which relate to:

- a) more CIC being in education, training and employment
- b) improved health
- c) reduction in drug offences committed
- d) reduction in offending by family members

6.6 Some of the challenges to improving outcomes for CIC within the YJS cohort include:

- a) children legal status changing and transient which impact on interventions and support that can be offered
- b) children are often placed outside of the borough resulting in small numbers of CIC being able to access local support,
- c) frequent changes of placement impact on continuity of support and relationships with host youth justice services.
- d) Youth Justice, Social Care and SEND responsibilities are all different for when children are placed out of borough.

6.7 The multi-agency task and finish group in place are reviewing the outcome measures for CIC and expanding the scope of targeted interventions to ensure they are impactful and lead to positive outcomes. These include:

- a) YAS are completed a mini self-assessment audit on joint cases with YJS to look at working practices and outcomes for children.
- b) YJS and CYPS Joint Protocol reviewed and updated in line with new and relevant legislations and practices
- c) Review of the Reducing Criminalisation of looked after children and care leavers protocol into practice
- d) CYPS Audit Tool amended to capture YJS involvement and children's lived experiences in Youth Detention accommodation
- e) Consistent sharing of the YJS CiC cohort with the Social Care services, SEND and Education to ensure systems are updated with up to date information.
- f) Review the support for children when placed out of borough that are in need of education support via virtual school

6.8 Haringey Youth Justice Service had an inspection in November 2024 with the report published in March 2025, see here for link to the report [An inspection of youth justice services in Haringey](#). The service was given a grade of '**good overall with outstanding features**' which is excellent and a true reflection of where we are as a partnership in supporting some of our most vulnerable children and young people within the youth justice system. "The YJS and children's services had effective strategic and operational relationships with an understanding of their differing roles and responsibilities. Inspectors saw examples of collaborative work to support children and families, as well as effective challenge and escalation where required."

## **7. Contribution to Corporate Delivery Plan and strategic outcomes**

7.1 The objectives of the early help system and delivery services are aligned with the priorities within Haringey's Corporate Delivery Plan' specifically:

### Theme 3: Children and young people

- Outcome 2 Happy Childhoods - All children across the borough will be happy and healthy as they grow up, feeling safe and secure in their family networks and communities.
- Outcome 3 Successful Futures - Every young person, whatever their background, has a pathway to success for the future

### Theme 7: A Safer Borough

- Outcome 1: A borough where all residents and visitors feel safe and are safe.

7.2 This work contributes to the Mayor of London's Policing and Crime Strategy, Haringey's Corporate Delivery Plan, the Haringey Community Safety and Early Help Strategy. It will also help to deliver on the Young People at Risk strategy, as well as the North Area Violence Reduction Group (NAVRG).

7.3 Officers and partners work strategically across related work areas and boards such as Youth Justice, Safeguarding Children and Adults, Health and Wellbeing, Early Help and the Community Safety Strategy.

## **8. Carbon and Climate Change**

8.1 Not applicable

## **9 Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)**

9.1 Not applicable

## **9. Use of appendices**

10.1 Appendix One: Progress report on outcomes for children in care supported by Haringey Youth Justice Service

## **11. Background Papers**

11.1 Not applicable

## **10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

11.1 Not applicable



# Appendix One: Progress report on outcomes for children in care supported by Haringey Youth Justice Service

Extra Ordinary meeting of Corporate Parenting Advisory Group and Children, Young People and Schools Scrutiny

7 April 2025

Matthew Knights  
Head of Service: Youth Justice and Youth at Risk



# Recommendations from previous CPAC

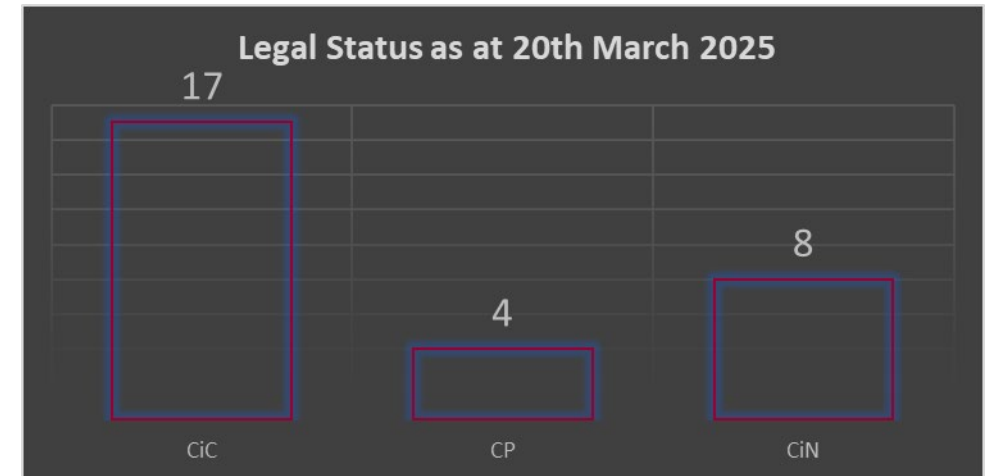
- ▶ Youth Justice Service (YJS) to produce an annual report for CPAC on the outcomes for children in care (CIC) supported by YJS with a targeted approach,
- ▶ Deep dive of CIC cases over a longer period to see trends with a view to improve outcome – findings to be presented in annual progress update.
- ▶ YJS attend CPAC biannually providing an overview of data, interventions, outcomes and impact.
- ▶ CIC to remain a priority for the YJS in our Annual YJ Plan 2024/27
- ▶ Further focus on Community Intervention plans for CIC children.

# Current CiC Numbers

The latest YJS caseload currently stands at 68 children as of 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

- ▶ 15 (22%) have an EHCP
- ▶ 17, or 25% are currently CiC
  - ▶ 10 (59%) are Haringey CiC
  - ▶ 3 (18%) are CiC due to their remand to custody
  - ▶ 3 (18%) are placed elsewhere (W Forest, Barking & Dagenham) We have one child placed in a secure centre in Durham on welfare grounds
- ▶ Haringey are caretaking seven cases – (Enfield 2, Croydon, Hackney, Ealing, K&C and Westminster)

Status	No	% of Caseload
Current Caseload	68	
CiC	17	25%
CP	4	6%
CiN	8	12%
Total open to CS	29	43%

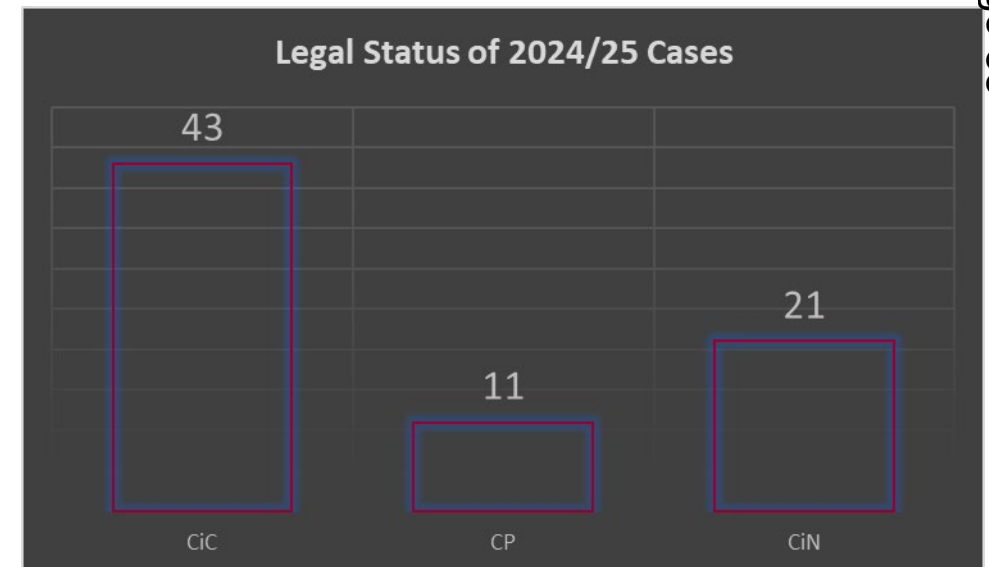




# Annual 24/25 CIC Numbers

- ▶ We have had 196 children on disposals since April 2024.
- ▶ 43 (22%) were CiC at some point over this period,
  - ▶ Of these, 32 (72%) are Haringey CiC
  - ▶ 14 (33%) were in custody
  - ▶ 8 (19%) were placed elsewhere. Redbridge, Enfield, LBBD, W Forest, Herts, Reading, Birmingham. One child was in secure in Durham on welfare grounds.
  - ▶ 11 (26%) were placed in Haringey by other boroughs – Enfield 2, Ealing, Essex, Hackney, K&C, Newham, Harrow, Brent, Croydon, Westminster
  - ▶ 23, or 12% had an EHCP

Status	No	% of Caseload
Current Caseload	196	
CiC	43	22%
CP	11	6%
CiN	21	11%
Total open to CS	75	38%



# YJS Resources:

- CAMHS
- SLT
- Substance Misuse
- Well-being packs
- Education support
- Workshops
- Additional contacts when placed out of borough

Apr 24 to Mar 25	Non-CiC Population	CiC Population
Total Cases	81	25
Average Age of First OOC	14.2	13.1
Average Age of First Conviction	15.7	14.6
Average ASSET+ YOGRS Score (% Risk of Reoffending)	42.1	51.8
Not in Education (NEET)	35%	30%
Over 15 Offences Committed	8%	12%
Average No of Offences Charged (ever) per YP	6.3	9.4
Average Gravity of Seriousness Rating	3.0	3.5
Violent Offence committed (% of all offences)	26%	27%
Robbery Offence committed (% of all offences)	4%	17%
Drugs Offence committed (% of all offences)	21%	12%
Committed offence(s) with knife inc possession	40%	57%
Re-Offending Rate	23%	29%
Breach Rate	33%	54%
High Safety and Wellbeing	32%	61%
High Serious Harm	14%	26%
High Likelihood of Re-offending	25%	39%
Mental Health Concerns (ASSET Plus)	61%	83%
Evidence of Substance Misuse (ASSET Plus)	62%	78%
Physical Health Concerns (ASSET Plus)	23%	4%
Education Concerns	75%	87%
Housing/Accommodation Concerns	57%	75%
Risk of sexually harmful behaviour	4%	4%
Vulnerable to Criminal Exploitation	72%	83%
Behaviour Cause for Concern	96%	95%
Local tensions	64%	67%
Offending by Family Members	36%	25%
Experienced Loss/Bereavement	20%	38%

# Key Indicators

This dataset includes all children with an outcome since April 24 that have been through our assessment process and compares CiC to the non-CiC cohort.

Those highlighted in red have a poorer outcome

# Key Outcomes

## Key 24/25 Targets

To improve outcomes for the YJS Looked After Cohort by reduce the percentage of CiC with the following identified risks in the child's most recent YJS assessment.

	Latest (Mar 25)
Reduce those with ETE Concerns to 80% (prev 90%)	87%
Reduce those with Substance Misuse concerns to 75% (prev 90%)	78%
Reduce those with High Risk of Serious Harm to 23% (prev 28%)	26%
Reduce those with High Risk of Safety and Wellbeing to 56% (prev 66%)	61%
Reduce those that breached/did not complete their intervention to 31% (prev 46%)	54%

# Key challenges for YJS and Partnership

- ▶ Children's legal status can fluctuate between child in need, child protection and children in care, or they become a CIC if placed in Youth Detention Accommodation.
- ▶ The percentage of children placed in borough are small which means that only a small selection of children are receiving local services
- ▶ Youth Justice, Social Care and SEND responsibilities are all different for when children are placed out of borough.
- ▶ The YJS are reliant on host boroughs to carry out YJS assessments if child is not known to Haringey YJS prior to the original offence.
- ▶ Frequent changes of placements or being placed far away can impact on the relational work with the child by the professional network. Suitability of placements and area/location can sometimes not match with needs and ethnicity of the child.
- ▶ Strategy meetings impacted when professionals don't attend or refuse due to different interpretation of risks or different practices across different areas eg) borough command units (BCU's).



# YJS Update on work planned and ongoing

- ▶ New improvement targets were set to improve the lives and outcomes of our CIC cohort – these have been published in our Annual Youth Justice Plan 24-27
- ▶ Targeted work aimed at our CIC cohort – MOPAC Disproportionality Mentoring Project, pilot Social Prescribing models.
- ▶ Wellbeing packs for all CIC on the YJS Cohort
- ▶ Aspirations to Increase the CIC AQA achievements
- ▶ Aspirations to create a CiC residential in spring 25/26.
- ▶ Increase the understanding and experience of Stop and Search for CIC
- ▶ Development of the task and finish group representation from YJS, Safeguarding, SEND and Education with the aim to share the children in care data, understanding some of the barriers and identifying the opportunities to change practices in order to improve outcomes for children.



# Task and Finish group key reflections and actions

YJS and CYPS Joint Protocol reviewed and updated in line with new and relevant legislations and practices

CYPS Audit Tool amended to capture YJS involvement and children's lived experiences in Youth Detention accommodation

YAS are completed a mini self assessment audit on joint cases with YJS to look at working practices and outcomes for children.

YJS CIC data is shared with children services and SEND management teams on a monthly or quarterly basis.

YJS completed a Learning Review of a child that was remanded into Youth Detention Accommodation

Review of the Reducing Criminalisation of looked after children and care leavers protocol into practice

Review the support for children when placed out of borough that are in need of education support via virtual school

YJS Asset Plus Assessment, CIC Pathway Plans and Safety Plans need to be shared more frequently

To review the current CiC cohort and ensure that relevant EHCP have been completed / Reviewed including those out of borough

YJS completed the Top 20 most prolific offenders audit/report

# YJS Inspection report Mar 25

(Overall grading of Good with outstanding features)

“The YJS and children’s services had effective strategic and operational relationships with an understanding of their differing roles and responsibilities. Inspectors saw examples of collaborative work to support children and families, as well as effective challenge and escalation where required.”