



## NOTICE OF MEETING

---

# Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee

---

TUESDAY, 20TH OCTOBER, 2009 at 18:30 HRS - CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, N22 8LE.

MEMBERS: Councillors Adamou, Alexander, Allison, Engert, C. Harris, Patel and Reith (Chair)

### AGENDA

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)**

**2. 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 10 below. New items of exempt business will be dealt with at item 16 below.

**3. 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' judgement of the public interest.

**4. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 6)**

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2009.

**5. MINISTERIAL STOCKTAKE (PAGES 7 - 16)**

To provide the Committee with feedback from a young person in attendance at a recent ministerial event held for Children in Care.

**6. PROMOTING THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AND DEVELOPING LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN'S CAPACITY TO BE HEARD (PAGES 17 - 18)**

To update the Committee on issues regarding children's rights and participation including establishing a Children in Care Council.

**7. LAPTOPS FOR CHILDREN IN CARE**

To provide a verbal update on the feasibility of providing laptops to Children in Care.

**8. CHILDREN MISSING FROM HOME OR CARE (PAGES 19 - 26)**

To provide an update on Children in Care missing from placements.

**9. SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP ORDERS (PAGES 27 - 30)**

To update the Committee on progress with Special Guardianship Orders.

**10. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - SEPTEMBER 2009 DATA (PAGES 31 - 34)**

To consider specified performance data for Looked After Children.

**11. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items admitted at item 2 above.

**12. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Items 13 to 18 as they contain exempt information as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1985); paras 1 & 2; namely information relating to any individual, and information likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

**13. MINUTES (PAGES 35 - 40)**

To consider the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2009.

**14. EMERGENCY DUTY TEAM SERVICE UPDATE**

To provide the Committee with a verbal update on issues arising from a review of the service provided by the Emergency Duty Team.

**15. MUSWELL HOUSE**

To provide a verbal update on the restructure of Muswell House Children's Homes.

**16. BUDGET MANAGEMENT FOR CHILDREN IN CARE (PAGES 41 - 54)**

To provide an update on issues surrounding budgetary management for Children in Care.

**17. CHILD SAFEGUARDING**

To provide a verbal update on safeguarding issues pertinent to the remit of the Committee.

**18. NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items admitted at 2 above.

**19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Date of next meeting; 7 December 2009.

Ken Pryor  
Deputy Head of Local Democracy and Member  
Services  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
River Park House  
225 High Road  
Wood Green  
London N22 8HQ

Maria Fletcher  
Principal Committee Coordinator  
Tel: 020 8489 1512  
Email: [maria.fletcher@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:maria.fletcher@haringey.gov.uk)

12 October 2009.

This page is intentionally left blank



**MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2009**

	<p>April 2010. Details of the proposed new allocations system were set out against the wider strategic context and the current situation in Haringey, with the aim of ensuring the best use would be made of a limited supply of properties. The proposed new system would be based on a banding structure used as best practice in a number of London boroughs and would replace the current complex points system to prioritise allocations according to need through a more transparent and fair system.</p> <p>Confirmation was provided that the new Policy would allocate a specific quota of properties for care leavers in line with arrangements adopted in other boroughs. Further research would need to be undertaken to determine the size of quota although it was emphasised that it would be unlikely to meet all demand. The new Policy would also encourage close working with the Leaving Care team and support agencies to provide settlement support to care leavers and encourage sustainable tenancies. Concerns were raised regarding care leavers aged 16-17 being unable to sign tenancy agreements and the impact on ability to achieve sustainable tenancies.</p> <p>In relation to consideration of the housing needs of foster carers and adopters, the Chair requested that the Policy recognise the strict adoption criteria requiring adopted children to be provided with their own bedrooms and subsequent impact on housing need.</p> <p>Concerns were raised by Members regarding the quality of private sector housing provision used by the Council in the borough. Confirmation was provided that a revised accreditation scheme for landlords was now in place, setting out environmental health endorsed accommodation standards and 'fit for purpose' tests based around checks of the property and the landlord.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That a briefing note on the revised standards and tests for private sector housing provision used by the Council be circulated to Committee members.</li> <li>• That the summary document for the new Allocations Policy be circulated to Committee members and that any further comments be forwarded to the Head of Housing Needs and Lettings.</li> </ul>	<p>Head Hsg Needs &amp; Letting</p> <p>Head Hsg Needs &amp; Letting Head Hsg Needs &amp; Letting</p>
<p><b>CPAC40</b></p>	<p><b>PERFORMANCE MONITORING: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES JULY 2009 DATA</b></p> <p>The Committee received a report setting out the July performance monitoring data in relation to CiC within the Children and Families Service and details of statistical neighbour comparative data collected by central government on a national basis for 2007/08 for a range of CiC health and education outcome indicators.</p> <p>Concerns were raised regarding performance against the health assessments and dental check indicators for CiC. It was confirmed that improvements to reporting mechanisms and the assignment of a dedicated paediatrician for CiC health assessments was anticipated to</p>	

**MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2009**

	<p>improve performance against this target in the future.</p> <p>In response to concerns raised regarding the number of Personal Education Plans for CiC that were out of date, the Committee were advised that significant work would be undertaken at the start of the academic year to review Plans and meet the target. Additional concerns were expressed regarding the progressive decline apparent in educational attainment of CiC from Key Stage 1-3 and whether this could be attributed to factors such as time spent in care etc. It was proposed that the Committee consider a random sample of CiC selected by the CiC Education Team to look at educational attainment at a more detailed level.</p> <p>In relation to concerns identified regarding offending rates amongst Haringey's CiC and the lack of information on re-offending rates, it was confirmed that improving the relationship between the Youth Offending Service and the council was an important area of work currently underway. In addition, the value of benchmarking offending and re-offending rates in CiC with statistical neighbours was noted, providing a comparable method of measuring data could be used.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the July 2009 performance monitoring information for CiC within the Children and Families Service be noted.</li> <li>• That up to date educational attainment information for CiC be provided at a future meeting of the Committee, in addition to more detailed consideration of educational progress for CiC through examination of attainment for a random sample of children.</li> </ul>	DDCF/ CiC Edu Team
CPAC41	<p><b>FOSTERING CAMPAIGN</b></p> <p>The Committee received a brief update on progress with the recent fostering campaign based on the year to date position. Whilst it was recognised that the campaign had resulted in increased levels of enquiries and initial visits, the monthly carer approval rate remained fairly low. Members were advised that concerns existed around the performance of the fostering team in managing enquiries and it was recognised that improvements were required to how enquiries were received and progressed to maximise the number reaching approval stage.</p> <p>It was suggested that an exercise be undertaken to examine the reasons provided from prospective foster carers not completing the approval process, such as housing, financial issues. This could also feed into negotiations for determining the quota of properties allocated for adopters/fosters under the Allocations Policy.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That progress of the fostering campaign be noted.</li> <li>• That a report be received to a future meeting of the Committee</li> </ul>	Head Service (Res & Plcmts)  Head Service

**MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2009**

	setting out work underway to improve the fostering service.	(Res & Plcmts)
<b>CPAC42</b>	<p><b>PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR LEAVING CARE AND ASYLUM SERVICE</b></p> <p>The Committee received proposals for a series of suitable performance monitoring indicators for the Leaving Care and Asylum Service to be reported on a frequent basis to the Committee.</p> <p>The Committee requested that their thanks to Roger Smith for his work with the Committee and best wishes for the future be noted.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the proposed performance indicators for the Leaving Care and Asylum Service be approved and reported to the Committee on a frequent basis.</li> <li>• That the intention to join the Leaving Care 'benchmarking group' be noted, with regular updates provided to the Committee.</li> <li>• That an update on progress with establishing the proposed CiC Council be provided at the next meeting of the Committee.</li> </ul>	DDCF  DDCF  DDCF
<b>CPAC43</b>	<p><b>HARINGEY PARK AND MUSWELL HOUSE INSPECTION REPORTS</b></p> <p>The Committee received inspection reports from recent statutory Ofsted visits to Muswell House and Haringey Park Children's Homes to assess compliance with registration requirements. Also provided were the subsequent action plans produced to address areas of non-compliance within the provision.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Ofsted inspection reports and subsequent action plans for Muswell House and Haringey Park Children's Homes be noted.</li> </ul>	
<b>CPAC44</b>	<p><b>NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS</b></p> <p>None.</p>	
<b>CPAC45</b>	<p><b>EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That as Items 12 and 13 contained exempt information (as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government 1972; namely information likely to reveal the identity of an individual, and information relating to any individual) members of the press and public should be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.</li> </ul>	
<b>CPAC46</b>	<p><b>HARINGEY PARK AND MUSWELL HOUSE</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Cllrs Weber and Hare receive an update briefing on the situations at Muswell House and Haringey Park following their</li> </ul>	Head Service



**MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2009**

	<p>frequent Regulation 33 visits to the Homes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Ofsted inspection reports for Muswell House and Haringey Park for the last year are forwarded to Committee members.</li> <li>• That an update report on progress at Haringey Park be provided at the December meeting of the Committee.</li> </ul>	<p>(Res &amp; Plcmts) Head Service (Res &amp; Plcmts) Head Service (Res &amp; Plcmts)</p>
<b>CPAC47</b>	<p><b>CHILD SAFEGUARDING</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That a report regarding the Emergency Duty Service Team be provided at the next meeting of the Committee.</li> </ul>	DDCF
<b>CPAC48</b>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the following items be considered at the October meeting of the Committee in addition to those identified under previous items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An update report on Special Guardianship Orders.</li> <li>○ Feedback presentation from a group of CiC that attended a recent ministerial event looking at the views of CiC.</li> <li>○ Summary report of budget management issues for CiC.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	DDCF
<b>CPAC49</b>	<p><b>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</b></p> <p>Noted.</p>	

Cllr Lorna Reith

Chair

This page is intentionally left blank



**Haringey** Council

<b>Briefing for:</b>	Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Ministerial Stocktake</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Ana Beaumont
<b>Date:</b>	20 October 2009

The Care Matters White Paper proposed the introduction of an Annual Ministerial Stocktake for the care system to review progress in improving outcomes for children and young people in care.

On the **21 And 22 July 2009** Roger Morgan, Children's Rights Director for England and Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children, Young People and Families Baroness Delyth Morgan, invited children and young people from all local authorities across the UK to share their views of life in care. Over the two days. 90 councils and approx. 140 children and young people took part.

Kieran, an 18 year-old Haringey care leaver and a member of staff from the Participation Team attended the event on the 22 July, which was held at the Science Museum. Children and young people who attended took part in an interactive voting session and discussion on care issues in the Museums IMAX Theatre.

**Topics and questions covered at the event included:**

- How well are councils doing at keeping children in care safe?
- Are children in your authority allowed to stay overnight at friend's houses?
- Have you ever been discriminated against because you are a child in care?
- How well are councils doing at helping children in care prepare to get good jobs in the future?



**Haringey Council**

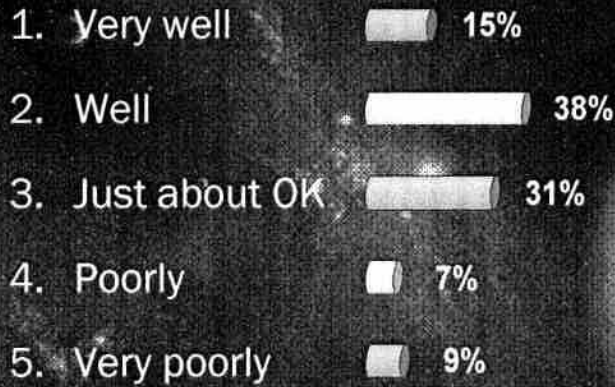
The findings from the two days along with issues that children and young people raised with the Minster, will be compiled by Roger Morgan in to a report called 'Messages to the Minster'; this will initially go to the Minster and DCSF and will be published in time for the November DCSF Stocktake. The 'Message to the Minister' report will be published publicly by the Children's Rights Director and fed directly to the government decision makers.

**Attachments:**

PowerPoint presentation with feedback from interactive questionnaire.

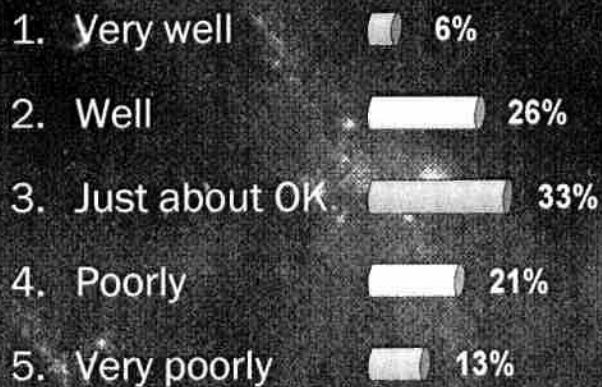
## How well are councils doing at keeping children in care safe?

Press the button that matches what you think !



## How well are councils doing at keeping children in care healthy?

Press the button that matches what you think !



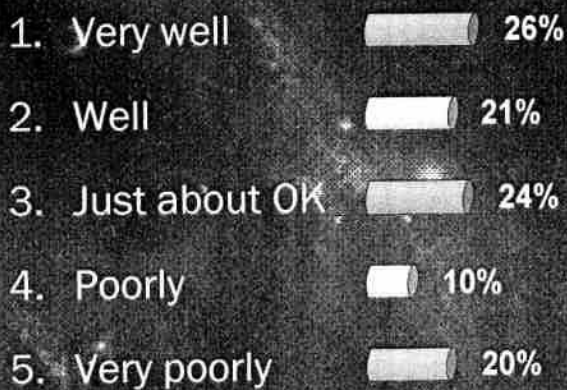
How well are councils doing at making sure children in care enjoy good activities and leisure time?

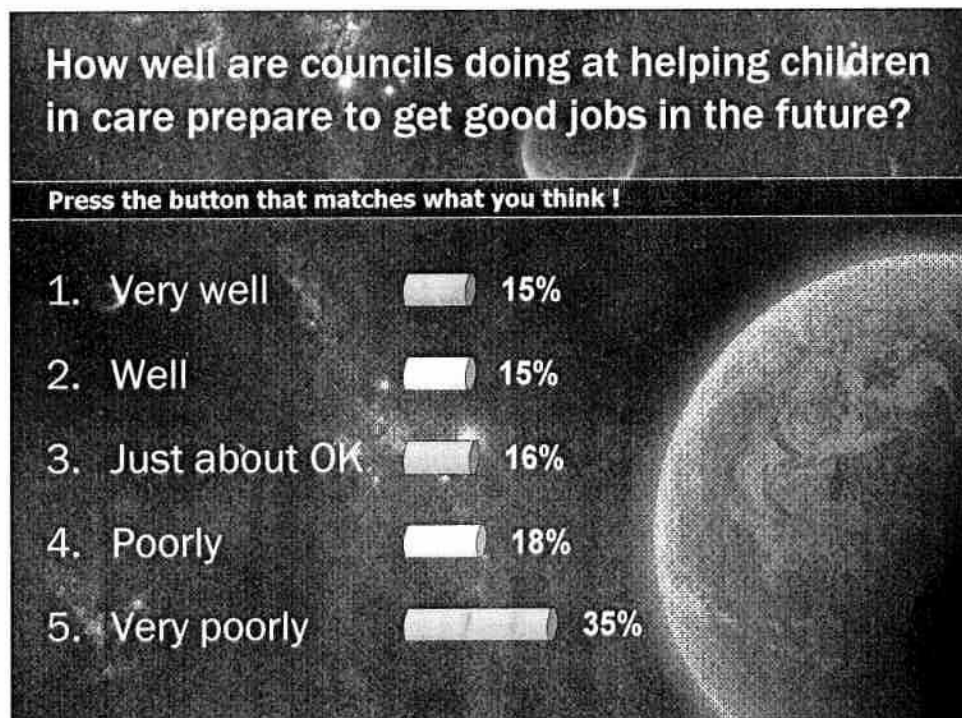
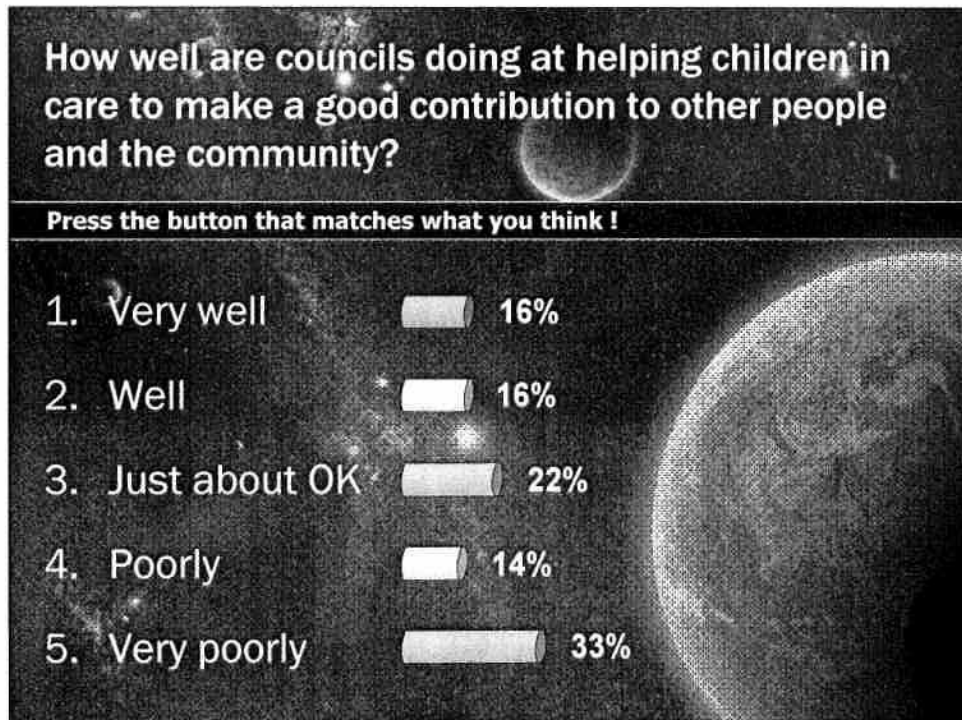
Press the button that matches what you think !



How well are councils doing at making sure children in care achieve well in their learning?

Press the button that matches what you think !







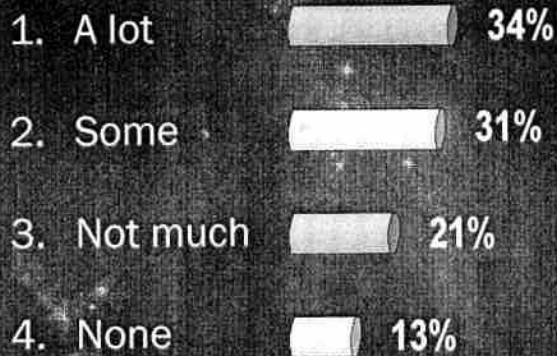
**Have you ever been discriminated against by other people just because you were in care?**

**Press the button that matches what you think !**



**How much difference do the Children in Care Council's opinions make to what happens for children in care in your council area?**

**Press the button that matches what you think !**





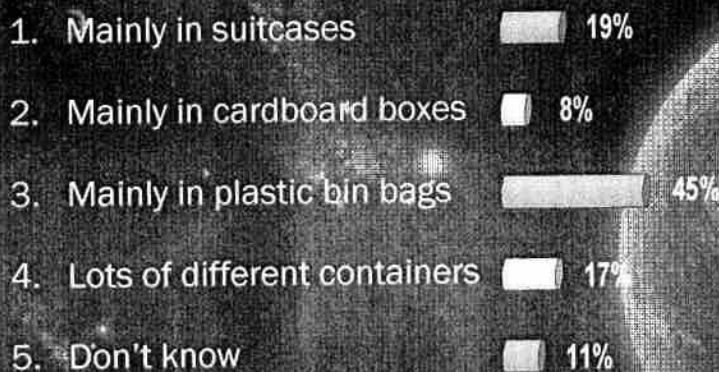
### Are children and young people in your authority allowed to stay overnight at friends' houses?

Press the button that matches what you think !



### The last time someone you knew moved to a new placement in care, how were their possessions taken to the new place?

Press the button that matches what you think !



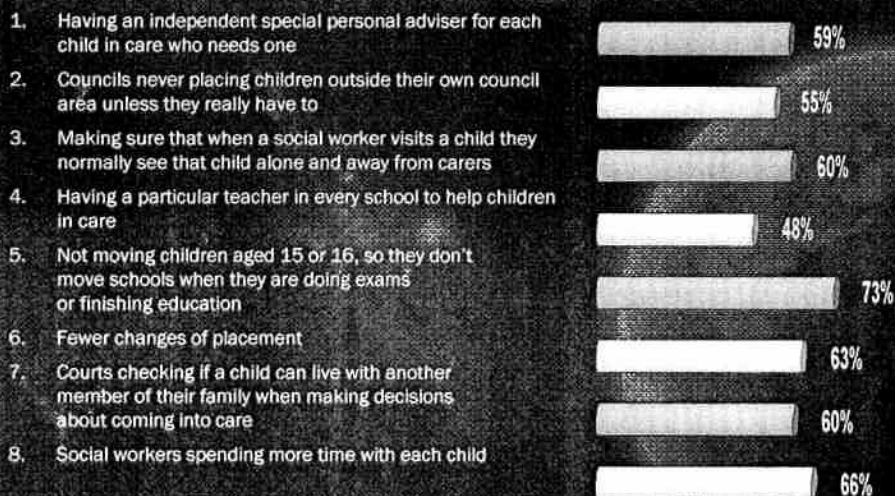
## How often should a child in care get a visit from someone from the council?

Press the button that matches what you think !



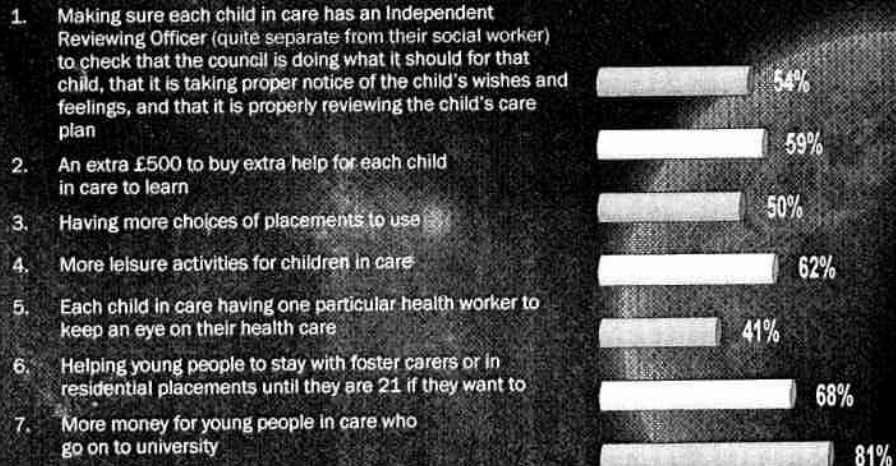
## Here are some changes the Government is working on for children in care. Which ones do you think will make the biggest positive difference for children in care?

Vote for as many as you want to



Here are some more changes the Government is working on for children in care. Which ones do you think will make the biggest positive difference for children in care?

Vote for as many as you want to



This page is intentionally left blank



**Haringey Council**

<b>Briefing for:</b>	Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee
<b>Title:</b>	Promoting the rights of the child and developing LAC capacity to be heard
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Ana Beaumont
<b>Date:</b>	20 October 2009

1. In response to Haringey's commitment to ensuring children in care and other vulnerable children have a voice in decisions that affect them; are involved in shaping services and in doing so, improve outcomes for themselves, the following work is now underway.
2. Children's Rights becomes part of the provision within the Children & Young People's Service from October 2009. The contract with Action for Children ended in September 2009 as it was widely felt that this provision has been ineffective as an externally commissioned service. Posts will be sited within an established mainstream service that will enable the more effective development of this specialist work stream and ensure that the JAR objective *to develop the authority's capacity to promote the rights of the child and to listen to and address comments and complaints from children and young people* is met.
3. To support this work, we will recruit to the following posts:
  - 1.5 FTE Children's Rights Workers
  - 1 Children in Care Participation Worker
  - 1 Disabled Children's Participation Worker.

Until recruitment is completed interim arrangements have been made so that an advocacy and support service can continue to be provided.

4. The increased capacity created by these appointments will enable Haringey to carry out key projects and activities including:
  - developing contact, a voice and support for Haringey children not placed within the borough



**Haringey Council**

- establishing and supporting a council for children in care and creating a Haringey-specific pledge
- enabling children and young people in care to express their views with a range of decision makers and ensuring they are kept informed about decisions that affect them
- developing and embedding awareness of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child amongst children and young people and across the Council
- ensuring that the views of children and young people with learning needs and disabilities are represented in the planning, delivery and evaluation of services
- the provision of specific activities and opportunities alongside support to vulnerable children and young people to be involved in mainstream activity

## **5. CWDC's (Children's Workforce Development Council) Youth Advisory Group**

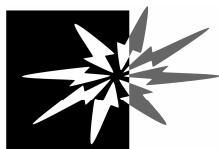
5.1 Following a tendering process that involved local authorities from across the UK, children and young people (aged 10-15) from Haringey\* and four other local authorities have been selected to be part of the CWDC's Youth Advisory Group as '**Young Leaders of Change**'.

5.2 This group of children and young people will be supported by the CWDC over the next year to ensure they have all the necessary skills and opportunities to be part of the project. The views of the Young Leaders will feed directly into the CWDC board, influencing and guiding the organisation in how it involves children and young people in its work.

5.3 The Haringey group made up of four children and young people from Haringey aged 10-15. The group includes a child with learning needs and a child in care.

5.4 On Takeover Day (6 November) the Haringey group will travel to the CWDC headquarters in Leeds, where they will have an opportunity to meet the other groups involved in the project, find out about the CWDC and the work it does and to learn about the December residential.

5.5. To support the children and young people in this new role, they will receive training on team building, planning and communication as well as taking part in lots of fun activities and residential weekends.



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

**[No.]****Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee****On 20 October 2009**

Report Title: Children Missing from Home and missing from Care

Forward Plan reference number (if applicable): **N/A**Report of: **The Director of The Children and Young People's Service**Wards(s) affected: **All**Report for: **Information****1. Purpose (That is, the decision required)**

1.1 For information.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 That members note the content of the report and endorse the action plan

Report Authorised by: Eleanor Brazil  
 Interim Deputy Director  
 The Children and Young People's Service

Contact Officer: Marion Wheeler – Head of Service Children in Care

Telephone: 020 8489 1084

E-mail: [marion.wheeler@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:marion.wheeler@haringey.gov.uk)**3. Director of Finance Comments**

3.1 Not relevant to this report

**4. Head of Legal Services Comments****5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

5.1 The guidance referred to in this document is issued under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 which means that, except in exceptional circumstances, Local authorities must act in accordance with the guidance.

'Stepping Up' The Children's Society 2008.

**6. Financial Implications**

## **7. Equalities Implications**

- 7.1 Children from deprived and disadvantaged backgrounds are over represented in the socio – demographic profile of children in care in the UK and in the care of Haringey council. Nationally the profile of children who run away from home and care is similarly profiled and runaways are over represented in the population of young adults who are homeless and serving prison sentences. This report highlights the critical importance of the work of the C&YPS, the LSCB and the Children’s partnership in understanding, preventing and reducing running from home and care by vulnerable children.

## **8. Background**

- 8.1 In July 2009 the DCSF issued new statutory guidance on children who run away and go missing from home or care. The new guidance was developed to support local authorities to meet the requirements of National Indicator 71 – Missing from Home and Care. The terms ‘young runaway’ and ‘missing’ in this context refer to children and young people up to the age of 18 who have run away from their home or care placement, have been forced to leave, or whose whereabouts is unknown.
- 8.2 Research carried out by the Social Exclusion Unit Young Runaways (2002), found that the top reasons for running away are:

### **Push factors**

- Problems at home – ranging from arguments with parents to long-term abuse or maltreatment.
- Family break-up – young people drawn into their parents’ conflicts are less likely to do well at school and more likely to truant or to run away from home.
- Mental health problems – a disproportionate number of young people who run away from home have mental health problem.
- Bullying – children who are being severely bullied are more likely to run away from school and home or care.
- Teenage pregnancy – some young women run away or are forced to leave home because they become pregnant (or fear that they may be pregnant). They may also be in denial about their pregnancy, meaning that they are not getting the advice they need about pregnancy options. There is also a greater risk of pregnancy when girls run away, and those working with them will need to ensure they have rapid access to confidential contraception and sexual health services to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

### **Pull factors**

- Running to be near friends or family – especially when a young person is in care and there are problems in contact arrangements with family and friends.
- Grooming for potential sexual exploitation or child trafficking – young people may run away or go missing following grooming by adults who will seek to exploit them.



- 8.3 The Every Child Matters agenda states that children have the right to happy, healthy and safe childhoods that will prepare them for adult life. Vitaly important in achieving this are effective interagency plans and protocols that support children and young people who go missing or decide to run away. Running away can be symptomatic of wider problems in a child or young person's life, but whatever the reason, one thing is very clear: children who decide to run away are unhappy, vulnerable and in danger. Research from The Children's Society report, *Stepping Up* (2008), states that as many as two-thirds of young people who run away are not reported to the police as missing, and even fewer as having run away. As well as short-term risks, there are also long-term implications. Nearly half of sentenced prisoners report having run away as children, and nearly half of homeless young people at Centrepont ran away as children.
- 8.4 In June 2008, the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families published the Young Runways Action Plan. The plan was developed after evidence from The Children's Society report 'Stepping Up', and findings from a series of hearings of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Children who Run Away or Go Missing, found that more needed to be done to support young people who run away from home.
- 8.5 The guidance replaces the Missing from Care and Home Guidance published by the Department of Health in 2002 and reflects developments across children's services, in particular the introduction of Targeted Youth Support (TYS), Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and the role of the Lead Professional and Team Around the Child (TAC). It also supports local authorities in meeting the requirements of National Indicator – Missing from Home and Care; this began in April 2009.

## **9. Local arrangements**

- 9.1 Establishing strong communication networks between stakeholder agencies and practitioners in the locality will help ensure risk factors are identified early, and will lead to the completion of a CAF where necessary, will identify a child or young person's additional needs and which services are required to address the young person's needs. Effective joint-working by the local authority, police, health and voluntary sector partners, with monitoring by the LSCB overseeing strategic responsibility will enable us to build up good working agreements for the type of information to be collected to aid individual risk-assessment and for planning purposes.
- 9.2 The guidance sets out the need for local and regional Runaway and Missing from Home and Care protocols to be in place (referred to in the guidance as RMFHC protocols) especially for out-of-hours referrals. For Haringey this will include both adoption of the Pan London protocols and development of robust local arrangements.
- 9.3 All Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) and their partners in local

areas are required to take account of this guidance. Locally the arrangements for implementation of the new Missing Guidance is being mapped and monitored through the LSCB Quality Assurance sub Group. The Action plan for the Missing from Care and Home implementation will be presented to the November 2009 LSCB QA sub group for cross agency agreement. A copy of the action plan is attached at Appendix 1.

## **10. Data Collection**

- 10.1 Collecting the right data at a local level is essential to driving improvements in services for young runaways. April 2009 saw the introduction of a new indicator in the national indicator set called 'Children Missing from Home and Care', this new data set tests out the extent to which local agencies have a picture of 'running' patterns in their area; how this information informs local service provision; and what procedures are in place to respond to the needs of young runaways.
- 10.2 Data collection and sharing is also important to understand the complete picture in relation to running away. Effective information sharing between agencies identifies criminal activity which is otherwise hidden, and similarly identifies how vulnerable some of these children are when they run away.

## **11. Conclusion**

- 11.1 Implementation of the new statutory guidance on reducing risks and harm to children missing from care and home will embed into our overall work to safeguard children and ensure that agencies work collaboratively to gather and analyse data which will inform local provision and further development of effective operational responses.

APPENDIX 1 - Action Plan - NI71 Children missing from home and Care

## Action Plan - NI71 Children missing from home and Care

## MISSING FROM HOME MISSING FROM CARE

Task no.	Criteria	Tasks to reach level 3	Actions	Action Start Date	Action by
1	Local information about running is gathered	Aggregate data about the profile of running in the area is collated between police, children's service and other partner agencies  From data gathered LSCB to be able to identify: - incidences of running; - individuals who have run; - individuals who have run on 2 or more occasions; - incidents that have generated a case conference; or professionals meeting. This information can be broken down by the child's age, gender and ethnicity, whether child is running from home or care, and - in the case of children running from care - whether the child is in an out of area placement	- Report to LSCB QA sub-group quarterly  - Meeting to be set up with all private care providers in Haringey to ensure they are aware of the guidance and are following it  - Data from social care to be reported to LSCB QA sub-group quarterly  - Work with police missing persons unit to gather data from them on a regular basis to feed into QA sub-group  - Liaison between LSCBs on action to take regarding children in our area who originate from other LAs <b>To be discussed at LSCB QA sub-group</b>	Sept 09 onwards  Nov 09  Sept 09 onwards  <b>for discussion at October LSCB SUB GROUP</b>	CYPS & Police Missing Persons Unit Roy Choudhury  Performance manager - Christine Jorge  CYPS/Police Missing Persons Unit/LCSB
2	Local needs analysis-based information gathered about levels of causes of running are in place	LSCB to be able to identify: - children's homes that have particularly high levels of 'missing' reports in relation to other homes in the area; - areas where missing young people or runaways are frequently located; - the proportion of young people who are hurt or harmed whilst they are away; and - the proportion of young people who have committed an offence whilst they are away  Procedure is in place for the collecting and sharing of data collected by the police, childrens service and other partners	- LSCB QA sub-group to agree on appropriate action where regular locations are frequently identified (e.g. derelict properties)  - Police and ASBT to advise CYPS on where runaways gather - <b>Discuss at LSCB QA sub-group how this information can be shared with ASBT</b>  - Evaluation of guidance to Children's Homes on reporting missing children to police and possibly use 3 stage approach to assess levels of concern  - Send updated guidance on children who go missing from care/home to all schools in Haringey so they are aware of their responsibility to inform police if parents are unwilling to do so  - List of designated teachers to be made available.	Sept 09 onwards  <b>for discussion</b>  Aug/Sep 09  Oct 09  Oct 09	LSCB QA sub-group, CYPS & Police Missing Persons Unit  Police Missing Persons Unit, Anti-Social Behaviour Team  CYPS/Police  Terry O'Reirdan  Terry O'Reirdan
		Data is frequently analysed and reviewed by the LSCB and is used to inform a proactive response to running and patterns of running in the local area.	- Put procedure in place for giving individual homes feedback on their performance around children who go missing  - A CAF will be completed for any child who goes missing on 2 or more occasions.  - If child already in care, a planning meeting should be held to review care plan and placement issues	01/11/2009  Sep/Oct 09  Oct onwards	Roy Choudhury  Jan Doust  C&f

Action Plan - NI71 Children missing from home and Care

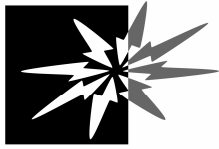
MISSING FROM HOME MISSING FROM CARE	
Task no.	Criteria
3	<p><b>Local procedures to meet the needs of runaways agreed</b></p> <p>Where there are multiple incidents of running involving a young person, an action plan to bring about behaviour change is put in place and implemented and is regularly reviewed for its effectiveness</p> <p>In cases where the area has a child running from an out of authority placement, the area (as home authority) calls a professionals meeting involving the relevant organisations from the host authority, to determine action, and to ensure change.</p> <p>When a child who has a history of running is put in an out of authority placement, the host authority is informed of the risk, and as part of the placement agreement, appropriate details are shared to support the home authority to manage that risk and inform care planning for the individual child.</p> <p>Where the young person has run from local authority care, this information is shared with the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO)</p>
	<p><b>Tasks to reach level 3</b></p> <p>Where there are multiple incidents of running involving a young person, an action plan to bring about behaviour change is put in place and implemented and is regularly reviewed for its effectiveness</p> <p>In cases where the area has a child running from an out of authority placement, the area (as home authority) calls a professionals meeting involving the relevant organisations from the host authority, to determine action, and to ensure change.</p> <p>When a child who has a history of running is put in an out of authority placement, the host authority is informed of the risk, and as part of the placement agreement, appropriate details are shared to support the home authority to manage that risk and inform care planning for the individual child.</p> <p>Where the young person has run from local authority care, this information is shared with the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO)</p>
	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>- Action Plan to be written and disseminated - this will be managed within a core group of professionals working with children e.g. Strategy Discussion or care review for CIC; Core Group or CP Plan update for children subject to a CP Plan; CAF, Core Assessment or CYP Plan for all other children. <b>(Track through LSCB Audits - discuss)</b></p> <p>- When Haringey is informed about a child coming into care in our area details of whether the child has a history of running away and an assessment of risk to be obtained - a standard pro-forma to be agreed.</p> <p>- Agree who will attend professionals meetings</p> <p>- To be picked up in PAN London Children in Care meetings</p> <p>- When children are newly placed in Haringey, Education Welfare Service to be notified if they do not have a school place</p> <p>- When children from Haringey go to an out of authority placement, a letter should be sent to the relevant LA to advise them of any history of running and an assessment of risk - a standard pro-forma to be agreed.</p> <p>- To be picked up in PAN London Children in Care meetings <b>(LSCB QA sub-group to advise)</b></p> <p>- Children in Care Review exemplars need to include a question about whether the child has gone missing and the number of occasions</p> <p>- CIC Reviews to discuss action planning for children who run away from care and agree the action plan</p>
	<p><b>Action Start Date</b></p> <p><b>Discuss at QA Sub Group October</b></p> <p>Dec 09</p> <p>Dec 09</p> <p>Dec 09 onwards</p> <p>Dec 09 onwards</p> <p>Dec 09</p>
	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>CYPS/Police/CAF Panel</p> <p>LSCB/Roy Choudhury</p> <p>LSCB/Roy Choudhury</p> <p>Perminder Chahal/Denise Sourris</p> <p>IROs</p>

## Action Plan - NI71 Children missing from home and Care

## MISSING FROM HOME MISSING FROM CARE

Task no.	Criteria	Tasks to reach level 3	Actions	Action Start Date	Action by
4	Protocols for responding to urgent/out of hours referrals from the police or other agencies are in place	Multi-agency protocols for out-of-hours referrals are in place. These protocols include a system for monitoring whether each out-of-hours referral is handled in line with protocols, and a way of ensuring that remedial action is instituted following the identification that the protocols have not been followed	- To be included in the review of the EDT Project outline		Rachel Oakley
5	Local procedures to support effective prevention and early intervention work	A service in place that facilitates prevention of running - working with those young people identified as at risk of running, but who have not yet run, to prevent the continuation and escalation of running behaviour. This draws on local voluntary sector expertise	- Identify how this can be achieved through the CAF process - Seek advice from local 'experts' (Youth Council, School Councils, Open Door, etc) - Police and PCSOs to regularly meet with Haringey Children's Homes' staff and residents - Ensure service is appropriately publicised through Young Runaways, Barnardos Sexual Exploitation Programme, EWS, Youth Space, schools' Peer mentors, TFL, etc - To be reviewed through LSCB QA sub-group	Sep 09 Oct 09 Oct 09 Dec-09 Mar-10	- Jan Doust - Jennifer James, Mike Davies, Anna Beaumont, Micheal Welton, Open Door Borough Commander CYPS/LSCB CYPS/LSCB

This page is intentionally left blank



Haringey Council

## REPORT TEMPLATE

Agenda item:

**[No.]****Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee****On 20 October 2009**

Report Title: Special Guardianship Orders	
Forward Plan reference number (if applicable):	
Report of: The Director of Children and Young People's Service	
Wards(s) affected: <b>All</b>	Report for: <b>Non key decision</b>
<b>1. Purpose (That is, the decision required)</b> 1.1 Update on progress in the use of Special Guardianship orders	
<b>2. Introduction by Cabinet Member (if necessary)</b> 2. n/a	
<b>3. Recommendations</b> 3.1 Members of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee are asked to note the contents of the report	
Report Authorised by: Eleanor Brazil Interim Deputy Director The Children and Young People's Service	
Contact Officer: <b>Chris Chalmers, Senior Team Manager Adoption and Permanency</b> <b>Telephone 0208 489 5959</b> <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:chris.chalmers@haringey.gov.uk">chris.chalmers@haringey.gov.uk</a></b>	
<b>4. Chief Financial Officer Comments</b> 4.1 The financial implications of these activities are monitored as part of the council's monthly budget management process.	
<b>5. Head of Legal Services Comments</b>	

There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

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

6.1 [List background documents]

6.2 [Also list reasons for exemption or confidentiality (if applicable)]

## **7. Consultation**

7.1 Chris Chalmers, Senior Team Manager for the Adoption and Permanency Service and Roy Choudhury, Interim Head of Service, Children in Care Resources, have contributed to this report.

## **8. Background**

8.1 A report was presented to CYPCC on March 10 2009 regarding special guardianship. Clarification was provided in relation to the legal context of this order. To recap briefly, special guardianship is a court order that can be obtained by carers as an alternative option to legally secure permanence for children. A special guardianship (SG) order gives the special guardian legal parental responsibility for the child which is expected to last until the young person is 18. However, unlike adoption orders, these orders do not sever the child's legal relationship with their birth parents, although their ability to exercise parental responsibility is extremely limited.

Our target figure for special guardianship orders for 2009-2010 is linked to adoption orders. The joint outcome is set at 28 legal orders for children in care this year. To date there are 10 SG orders and 7 adoption orders. Two of the SG orders are for children in need who have not been in care to the local authority. There are a further 6 SG orders expected before the end of the financial year for children who are not in care. An additional 13 SG orders are anticipated in the same time frame for children in care. A further 3 adoption orders are likely to be made by the end of 2009-10. The service should be in a good position to exceed the target and to bring the total to 31 orders plus a further 8 for children in need.

Almost all the SG orders have been made, or will be made, to family members. Within the total number there are only 3 foster carers who have taken on SG orders. In recent reviews of placements across the Children in Care Service it has become clear that there is more potential for a greater number of foster placements moving to SG orders. As stated in the March 10<sup>th</sup> report, support to special guardians is being strengthened and developed, particularly with regard to allowances to carers. In adoption carers have generally spent years preparing financially for the arrival of a child in their family. Special guardians are in the main family members of the young person, for whom the arrival of additional children is unplanned by them thereby only making the placement viable with funding.

Procedures which inform the day to day work in special guardianship are about to be added to the CYPCC electronic data base. This should ensure that there is consistency



in practice within this area. Alongside this Chris Chalmers, STM Adoption and Permanency will be attending consultation meetings at British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering to share practice issues which arise from the challenges local authorities across the country are experiencing in the context of special guardianship. This should ensure that Haringey CYPS is closely involved with any new developments in this field nationally.

## **9. Conclusion**

9.1 The use of special guardianship orders is now embedded in permanent placement practice in Haringey. This affords more young people the opportunity for legal security which avoids the stigma of being a child in care. Steps are now being taken to allow more foster carers the opportunity of applying for SG orders in respect of those children for whom this would be an appropriate plan.

This page is intentionally left blank



**Haringey Council**

<b>Briefing for:</b>	Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee
<b>Title:</b>	Performance Management Data in Children and Families – September 2009 Data
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Eleanor Brazil
<b>Date:</b>	20 October 2009

**1. To provide a monthly update of performance monitoring activity in relation to Children in Care (CiC) within the Children and Families Service. Please note that only some up to date comparative data has been published for 2008/2009 – where this is not available, this report will refer to 2007/08 statistical neighbour data and will be amended as data becomes available.**

## **2. Background information**

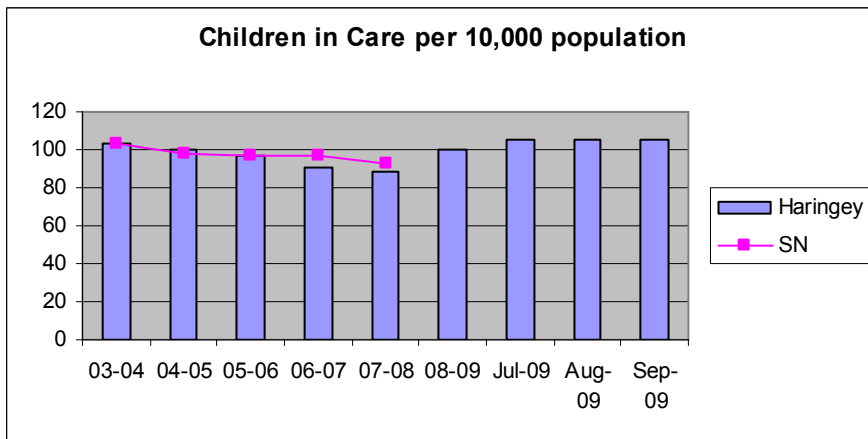
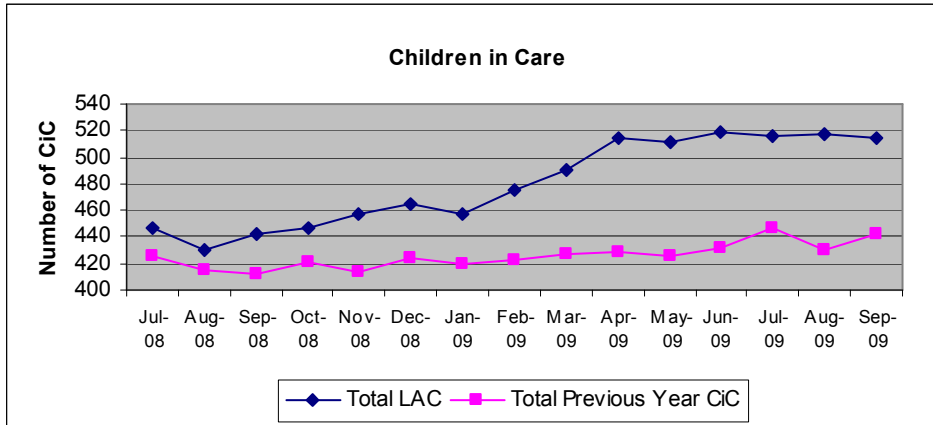
2.1. The total number of CiC at the end of September 2009 was 515 compared to 518 children in August (105 per 10,000 population compared with 92.4 per 10,000 for our statistical neighbours in 2007/08). Of the 515, 50 children are unaccompanied minors. These numbers have remained consistent for some time.

2.1.1. 16 children became looked after in September and 15 children ceased to be looked after. Care proceedings were initiated on 8 children in September.

2.1.2. Since early 2008 we have seen increasing numbers of children in our care population but this number is now beginning to stabilise. The first chart below compares the number of children in care over the last year with the previous year and the second chart compares the yearly position with our statistical neighbour averages over the same period.



**Haringey Council**



2.2. Allocations. All CiC had an allocated Social Worker in September.

2.3. Visits to CiC. 97.7% of CiC had an up to date visit at the end of September. 12 children did not have an up to date visit.

2.4. NI 66 Reviews in timescale. The percentage of CiC for whom there was a review held in timescale was 98% at the end of September. Out of 502 children who had been looked after continuously for the previous 4 weeks, 491 had been reviewed within the required timescales. The number of reviews held out of timescale is 11.

2.5. Adoptions and special guardianship of CiC. 14 children have been made subject to an adoption or special guardianship order in the year to date, the target is 28 by the end of March 09. 7 of these were special guardianship orders and 7 adoption orders.

2.6. NI63 - This indicator is based on children under 16 who have been looked after for at least 2.5 years and have been in the same placement for at least two years or are placed for adoption. The position at the end of September



**Haringey Council**

is 65%. Of 146 children who had been looked after for at least 2.5 years, 95 were in the same placement for at least 2 years.

2.7. NI62 - This is an indicator of the number of children who have had 3 or more placements during the year. In the last 12 months, 12.8% of children have had 3 or more placements (66 out of 515). Our target for this indicator is 11%. Since April 09, 25 children have had 3 or more placements and 94 children have had 2 placements.

2.8. Personal Educational Plans (PEP). 78% of CiC have a PEP in place at the end of September. Out of 417 children who require a PEP, 324 have one. 44% of these are up to date (143 out of 324). Work to review PEPs has commenced from the beginning of the new school year in September.

2.9. Health Assessments. Children in Care are expected to have a health assessment undertaken once a year. Although this indicator is only collected annually, to assist us in monitoring progress in this area we have developed an indicator which looks at the percentage of children who have been in care for over a month who have had a health assessment within the previous 12 months. The position at the end of September is 75% (380 out of 507).

2.10. Dental Checks. Children in Care are expected to have a dental check at least once a year. As above, we have developed an indicator which looks at the percentage of children who have been in care for over a month who have had a dental check within the previous 12 months. The position at the end of September is 68% (345 out of 507).

2.11. Outcome indicators for children in care – A separate report will be presented at this meeting of CPAC in relation to provisional education results for children in care. Other outturns for outcome indicators will be presented to the next meeting.

2.12. NI 147 Care Leavers in suitable accommodation. This indicator looks at care leavers who were in suitable accommodation on or around their 19th birthday. The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation at the end of September is 76% (22 out of 29 who turned 19 in the year to date).

2.13. NI 148 Care leavers in Education, Training or Employment. This indicator looks at care leavers who were in Education, Training or Employment on or around their 19th birthday. 62% of young people who have turned 19 in the year to date were in Education, Training or Employment on or around their 19th birthday (18 out of 29 who turned 19 in the year to date). These figures are based on low numbers who have left care so far and will vary considerably from month to month.

2.14. Audits of Quality. A new audit framework has been developed and has been implemented throughout September, the first audits have been issued for



**Haringey** Council

October and results will be available in November. Details on audits relating to children in care will be fed back to members through the CPAC meeting on 7 December.

- 3. Options for consideration – For information only**
- 4. Financial Implications - none**
- 5. Legal Implications - none**
- 6. Policy Implications - none**
- 7. List the proposed routing for the report through the formal decision making process**
- 8. Appendices – None**

Document is exempt

This page is intentionally left blank



Document is exempt

This page is intentionally left blank