

NOTICE OF MEETING

Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee

MONDAY, 5TH OCTOBER, 2015 at 7.15 PM OR ON THE RISE OF THE INFORMAL MEETING WITH ASPIRE - CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, N22 8LE.

MEMBERS: Councillors; Patrick Berryman, Makbule Gunes, Bob Hare, Liz Morris, Anne Stennett, Ann Waters (Chair) and Elin Weston

AGENDA

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)

3. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING WITH ASPIRE

Feedback from the earlier meeting with Aspire.

4. 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 13 below.

5. 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.

6. MINUTES

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2015

7. MATTERS ARISING

8. PERFORMANCE, INCLUDING PERMANENCY PLANS FOR LAC

The report provides analysis of the performance data and analysis for an agreed set of measures on behalf of Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee.

9. DISABLED LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The report will provide an update to Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee on the current cohort of disabled Looked After Children.

10. PEP PERFORMANCE, PATHWAY PLANS AND CARE PLANS

The report will provide an update on current performance around completion of Personal Education Plans. The report will also provide an update around performance for Pathway Plans and Care Plans.

11. FINDINGS FROM TASK & FINISH GROUP ON MISSING CHILDREN

Verbal Update.

12. PAN-LONDON ADOPTION BID

Verbal Update.

13. PLAN/VISION FOR CORPORATE PARENTING

Verbal Update.

14. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

As per Item 4.

15. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of any items that 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.

16. MINUTES

To consider the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 6th July

17. NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS

As per Item 4.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Date of next meeting: 5th January 2016

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Assistant Director – Corporate Governance and
Monitoring Officer
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225 High Road
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**MINUTES OF CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MONDAY 6 JULY 2015**

Councillors Berryman, Gunes, Morris, Stennett and Waters (Chair)

Apologies Councillors Hare, and Weston

Also attending Jon Abbey (Interim Director of Children's Services), Neelam Bhardwaja (Assistant Director – Safeguarding and Social Care), Cath Hogan (Children in Care Service Manager), Lesley Kettles (Children's Service Manager), Annie Walker (Deputy Head of Service – Children & Families), Fiona Smith (Virtual School Head), Philip Slawther (Clerk), Margaret Gallagher (Performance Manager)

CPAC337. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hare.

Apologies were also received from Denise Gandy and Lyn Carrington.

Councillor Weston had to leave early to attend another meeting (at 7pm during the informal meeting with Aspire).

An apology was also received from Cllr Berryman who had to leave early to attend another meeting.

CPAC338. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING WITH ASPIRE

NOTED: The actions listed in the notes of the meeting with Aspire.

In response to a discussion Cllr Waters proposed asking Councillors if they were prepared to offer a day's work experience to young people either in Council care or recent care leavers. The Committee noted that there could be issues with requiring DBS checks. Cllr Waters agreed to raise the issue at Labour Group as well as arrange training for all Members around the role of corporate parents.

Action: Cllr Waters

CPAC339. URGENT BUSINESS

NONE

CPAC340. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NONE

CPAC341. RATIFICATION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED: The committee ratified the terms of the reference for CPAC, as agreed at Cabinet on the 16th June 2015.

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REPORTED: Cllr Waters noted that the Committee needed ensure that its commitment to ensure the voices of disabled children were provided for was monitored effectively. It was agreed to bring a paper back to CPAC on disabled Looked After Children, including who are the disabled Looked After Children and what the issues and challenges were.

Action: Jon Abbey

The Director of Children's Services commented that the Committee needed to develop a Corporate Parenting strategy and agreed to look into developing one, particularly around what the model of good corporate parenting looked like.

Action: Jon Abbey

CPAC341. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2014 were AGREED, as the previous meeting of the Committee on 16th March was not quorate.

The Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Social Care REPORTED that the Borough Commander was leading a task and finish group on missing children and that the findings of this group suggested a cohort of reoccurring cases, often linked to CSE. It was NOTED that a copy of this report would be shared with CPAC once the report had been seen by the LSCB.

Action: Jon Abbey / Neelam Bhardwaja

The minutes of the meeting on the 16th March were also AGREED. The Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Social Care commented that the previous action referred to in the minutes around diversionary activities was not accurate and that the discussion at the time related to developing edge of care panels and targeting support to help keep children out of care. It was AGREED to bring back a report outlining what help was given to young people and their families to help support them whilst maintaining them within their families and communities.

Action: Neelam Bhardwaja

CPAC342. MATTERS ARISING

The Committee NOTED The Corporate Parenting Agenda Plan 2015/16.

CPAC343. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT: CHILDREN & FAMILIES

RECEIVED the report on Performance for the Year to May 2015, including summary of 2014/15 year end performance. Report included in the agenda pack (pages 17 to 48).

NOTED in response to discussion:

- The downward trajectory in the number of Looked After Children (LAC), which equated to a 10.6% reduction since March 2014.

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- Permanency was secured for 22% of children who ceased to be Looked After. In April May 2015 there were 6 adoptions and 2 Special Guardianship Orders.
- The downward trajectory of the average amount of time taken for children being placed for adoption. The committee noted significant improvement in performance for this indicator.
- 77 children were placed 20 miles or more from Haringey at the end of March 2015. This equated to 18% against a 16% target but on an improving trajectory. It was acknowledged that 20 miles wasn't a great distance in London. It was agreed that the figures for pan-London performance would be fed back to the Committee.

Action: Margaret Gallagher

- In 2014/15, 92% of LAC had an up to date health assessment, an improvement from the 88% reported the previous year and in line with the London average. 91% of LAC had an up to date dental visit as at 31st March, a significant improvement from 71% performance achieved in the previous year and exceeding both the London and National average.
- There had been an improvement in the number of Personal Education Plans (PEP) being completed since publication of the report with 57% of school aged children having completed and up to date PEP. The Children in Care Service Manager commented that broadly speaking the plans were being developed and interviews had been taking place but that performance in this area was being undermined by a failure to upload the PEP's on to Mosaic. The Committee noted that further management action was being put in place to unblock this issue. It was agreed to bring back PEP performance to the next CPAC meeting.

Action: Cath Hogan / Fiona Smith.

- The Committee noted that 49% of LAC had an up to date (within 6 months) Care Plan at the end of May, down 67% at the end of February. The Committee acknowledged similar issues with the recording of information that were outlined above for the PEP's. In addition, 74% of LAC had a care plan completed within 1 year.
- 78% of Children in Care visits were recorded as completed in the relevant timescales in May. In response to questioning it was reported that there were recoding issues and that officers were looking into capturing the correct frequency for the visit of a child.
- The average care proceedings duration in 2014/15 was 34 weeks with trends towards cases of longer duration than the 26 weeks statutory minimum. It was reported that the government had accepted that the 26 week target was not feasible and, in response to questioning, it was reported that Haringey had a high proportion of cases that were classified as exceptional (deemed by a judge that the case would take longer than 26 weeks due to complicating factors).

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- In response to a question, officers acknowledged that although the number of LAC was decreasing, the rate of the decrease has fallen sharply and that this was partly due to fluctuations in the numbers of LAC. The Committee also noted that a national report released that week stated that CSE cases had risen 35% nationally. Homelessness of young people was also reported as having a significant effect on the number of LAC.
- In response to a question on the number of children missing in care, the Committee noted that this figure tended to increase during the summer holidays. In terms of frequency, officers advised that it was hard to give an accurate figure as a particular individual could go missing on numerous occasions. It was noted that there were currently 5 children missing in care.
- In response to a question on declining performance on care leavers in suitable accommodation, which was down from 78% in 2013/14 to 70% 2014/15, officers acknowledged that the increasing cost of accommodation in London was a significant pressure on care leavers. This was noted as particularly significant when compared to other areas of the country. Officers clarified that care leavers, for the most part would be looking for semi-independent and supported accommodation and that most young people would be eligible to apply for benefits to assist in funding their accommodation needs. The committee noted that problems could occur with sourcing accommodation for young people who lived outside of the borough as those people wouldn't have the same rights of priority in another local authority, but they would be classified as part of Haringey's cohort.

AGREED to note the report.

CPAC344. OFSTED REPORT

RECEIVED the Ofsted Action Plan update that was requested following the report submitted to CPAC in December 2014 on progress against the recommendations from the Ofsted inspection of services for Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After and Care Leavers. The report was included in the agenda pack (pages 49 to 52).

NOTED that

- There were 17 recommendations in the Ofsted report in total, which had been condensed into 7 key actions for CPAC to note.
- Numbers of in-house foster carers had increased, and the numbers of independent fostering agencies (IFA) placements reduced.
- 29% cases where foster carers were successfully approved, their first contact with the Council were attributed to the banners advertising for foster carers that were put up around the borough. The Children's Service Manager

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agreed to speak to NRS about ensuring that banners were in good condition and were suitably attached to their lamppost/railing etc.

• **Action: Leslie Kettles.**

- Pathway plans and life story work were both noted as areas of challenge and the Committee noted that separate action plans had been developed to improve performance.
- Quality Assurance functions had been strengthened to support performance around ensuring LAC were comprehensively assessed, documented and reviewed.
- The role of the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) had been strengthened.
- A guide book and DVD had been produced to help LAC and care leavers understand their rights and entitlements, including arrangements to access their health records later in life.

AGREED to note the report.

CPAC345. CLARIFY FUNDING FOR ASPIRE MEETINGS

NOTED that funding arrangements for Aspire had been agreed outside of the meeting and that a dedicated budget was in place. Aspire had met with Nina Morgan from Finance to clarify how they process their invoices

CPAC346. ROLE OF CORPORATE PARENT

RECEIVED the Local Government Improvement and Development guide, 10 questions to ask if you're scrutinising services for looked after children, pages 53-74 of tabled the agenda pack.

The Committee agreed that the guide was a useful aide memoir when considering the kind of questions that the Committee and the wider Council should be considering when examining services for Looked After Children. NOTED further to discussion and questions that:

- The previous minutes suggested that schools were not always applying the Pupil Premium Grant and questions were raised about what the Council was doing to change that. Officers responded that the Virtual Schools would manage the grant and they distributed it on a on a term by term basis. Schools had a responsibility to engage with the Virtual School on the issue. The Virtual School Head to feedback on what the figures are around unclaimed Pupil Premium Grants.

Action: Fiona Smith

- The Peer Review that was carried out in conjunction with LB Lambeth was not across all Children's Services, but instead focused on CSE. This took place before Christmas 2014. All of the London Boroughs undertook a peer audit

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which was then sent to the all London Director of Children's Services which will compile an overview report due to be produced for the LSCB.

CPAC347. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

CPAC348. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

None.

CPAC 349. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT EXEMPT BUSINESS

None.

CPAC350. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Future meetings

NOTED the following dates:

5 October 2015

5 January 2016

4 April 2016

All meetings are scheduled to start at 6.30pm.

Cllr Ann Waters
Chair

The meeting ended at 21:00 hours.

Corporate Parenting Agenda Planning 2015/16

Corporate Parenting meeting Date	Agenda Items	Lead Officer
6 th July 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performance 2. CPAC and Aspire notes with update on actions 3. Ofsted update • Previous Minutes from 8/12 & 16/03 <p><u>Action Updates</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Information on locations of new foster carers. 5. Update on no. of carers recruited through advertising banners 6. Clarify funding for Aspire meetings. <p>Draft Reports will be due with Jon Abbey on 19th June and due for publication on 26th June</p>	<p>Margaret Gallagher/Richard Hutton Cath Hogan</p> <p>Jon Abbey</p> <p>Jon Abbey</p> <p>Jon Abbey</p> <p>Neelam Bhardwaja</p>
5 th October 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performance Inc. Permanency Plans 2. CPAC and Aspire notes 3. Pan-London Adoption Bid 4. Plan / Vision for Corporate Parenting <p><u>Action Updates</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Disabled LAC 	<p>Margaret Gallagher/Richard Hutton/Dominic Porter-Moore</p> <p>Jon Abbey</p> <p>Jon Abbey</p> <p>Jon Abbey</p>

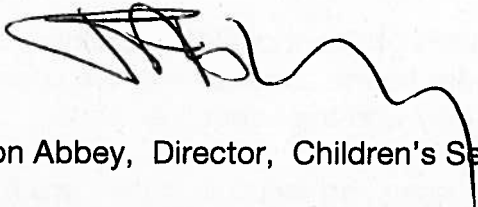
Corporate Parenting Agenda Planning 2015/16

	<p>6. PEP Performance and update on Pathway Plans and Care Plans</p> <p>7. Findings from Task & Finish Group on Missing Children</p> <p>8. Adoption Banners</p> <p>9. Unclaimed Pupil Premium Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous minutes from 6th July <p>Draft Reports will be due with Jon Abbey on 18th September and due for publication on the 25th September.</p>	<p>Dominic Porter-Moore / Fiona Smith</p> <p>Neelam Bhardwaja</p> <p>Leslie Kettles</p> <p>Fiona Smith</p>
5 Jan 2016	<p>1. Performance</p> <p>2. CPAC and Aspire notes</p> <p>Draft Reports will be due with Jon Abbey on 17th December and due for publication on the 24th December 2015</p>	
4 th April 2016	<p>1. Performance</p> <p>2. CPAC and Aspire notes</p> <p>Draft Reports will be due with Jon Abbey on the 18th March and due for publication on the 25th March.</p>	

Report for: Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: 5 October 2015

Item number:

Title: Performance for the year to August 2015

Report authorised by :  Jon Abbey, Director, Children's Services

Lead Officer: Margaret Gallagher, Corporate Performance Manager
margaret.gallagher@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/
Non Key Decision: Non key

1. Describe the issue under consideration

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.

2. Positive or Improving Performance

- 446 children were in care on the last day of August 2015 or 76 per 10,000 population including 36 unaccompanied asylum seeker children. The level of children in care is similar to the position at the end of March - five fewer children. Despite a reduction in Haringey's rate of looked after children, the rate remains significantly above the London (54) and national average (60) although we have closed the gap with our statistical neighbour rate of 70.
- In the year to August 2015 there have been nine adoptions and seven special guardianship orders (SGO). This equates to permanency being secured for 18% of children that ceased to be looked after but is two fewer legal orders achieved compared with the same period last year.
- In the year to August, children waited an average of 438 days from becoming looked after to being placed for adoption. This is marginally higher than the national threshold (426 day average for 2013-16) but an improvement on the 589 days in 2014/15. Haringey's three year average (2012/15) of 690 days is better than our statistical neighbour position of 769 days, the England position of 628 days and an improvement on our 2011/15 average days of 731.

- Indicators around stability of placements for looked after children remain in line with statistical neighbours and targets. In the year to August 2015, 7% of children had three or more placement moves.
- 79 children or 18.3% were placed 20 miles or more from Haringey at the end of August 2015, slightly worse than the 16% target but on an improving trajectory. Although higher than national levels this proportion is in line with the average for London and our Statistical Neighbours (18%).
- At the end of August, 96% (408 out of 425) of children in care for over a month had an up to date health assessment, a sustained improvement and comparing favourably with the London average.
- 61% of looked after children had an up to date Care Plan at the end of August, improved from the position of 49% at the end of May but remaining below the expected level. Focused effort in this area including technical input and data cleansing has resulted in further improvement as at mid Sept with 74% of current care plans up to date.
- 86% of Children in Care visits were recorded as completed in the relevant timescales in this period, August. Performance in this area has improved considerably in recent months (77% at the end of April 2015) but remains below levels achieved in previous years.
- The average care proceedings duration in 2014/15 was 34 weeks (including cases commenced in 2013/14) with trends towards cases of longer duration than the 26 weeks statutory minimum. The Quarter 1 data reveals that the trend has reversed towards cases of shorter duration and this has been maintained with an average duration of 32.4 weeks in Q1. 66.6% of 18 cases were concluded in over 26 weeks.
- 2014 Attainment results of our looked after children at Key stage 2 and GCSE are mostly in the top quartile nationally. 2015 provisional data for children looked after for more than a year suggests that GCSE results have improved further and Key Stage 2 performance has been sustained.
- Attainment for other vulnerable groups e.g. Children with Special Educational Needs is also good but Children in Need attainment at Key Stage 2 is an area for focus.
- Haringey's performance for care leavers aged 19-21 in higher education (16%) compares very favourably with the national position of 6%.

3. Areas for Focus

- Performance on care leavers in suitable accommodation and in education, employment and training is below levels achieved last year albeit that the variation between Haringey and national performance levels in these areas is not significant.

- 57% of school age children had completed and up to date Personal Education Plans (PEP) at the beginning of September. This is a decline on the high of 71% achieved by the end of July before the schools broke up. A separate report and update on performance and action to prioritise completion of PEPs is on the agenda for this meeting. Notwithstanding this seemingly low level of performance on PEPs, educational achievement of our looked after children remains in the top quartile nationally with high rankings and Haringey amongst the best performers in London.
- 27% of looked after children aged 16 plus (35 out of 128) had pathway plans less than 6 months old which although better than levels achieved earlier in the year, remains below the expected level. Focused attention has increased performance on pathway plans to 36% up to date by mid September but this remains below target. The new Head of Service is putting a performance review system in place with team managers attending a session to review all relevant care and pathway plans and dates for their timely completion and update on the system as needed.
- In August five children were recorded as missing from care in the month and 16 were away from their placement without authorisation. A task and finish group is working on bringing together multi-agency datasets on children missing from home, care and education for matching and learning so that analysis and activity can be reported to the LSCB. A Haringey Runaway & Missing from Home & Care Protocol is being completed by all agencies and will be the basis for dealing with children who run away or go missing in the area.
- 91% of LAC children had an up to date dental visit as at 31 March 2015 but, as at August 2015, 76% of the current LAC cohort have up to date dental checks. Performance has been on a downward trajectory since April 2015 but current performance is an improvement on the position at the end of July (72.5%).
- Latest published education attainment data shows that 30% of Children in Need achieved Reading, Writing and Maths at Level 4+ , a decline from 44.2% the previous year and significantly below average for London (52%) and nationally (46%).

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

Priority 1: Enable every child and young person to have the best start in life, with high quality education.

5. Use of Appendices

Scorecard.

Data presentation: Children with Disabilities

September 2015 Quality and Performance Network Exception Scorecard

This performance scorecard has been developed and refined in order to ensure that the business has the information required to manage the service effectively and achieve improved outcomes for children, young people and their families. The information within the scorecard is based upon the required business management data, as well as a specification for each service area and set within the context of the Ofsted framework and the Haringey Corporate Plan 2015 – 2018. It will always be a live report, developed and adapted whenever necessary to provide insight and analysis on areas of interest or challenge.

Performance data is updated on a daily (Dashboard), weekly (Performance Screens) and monthly (Scorecard) basis across the service and should be actively used at any opportunity, including a standing item on each services meeting agenda – utilising the management information provided to drive forward improvements in the service.

The Quality Performance Network is held on a monthly basis and will review a performance highlight report focussing on areas by exception and where necessary developing actions to strengthen systems, processes and practice to drive up performance and deliver improved outcomes.

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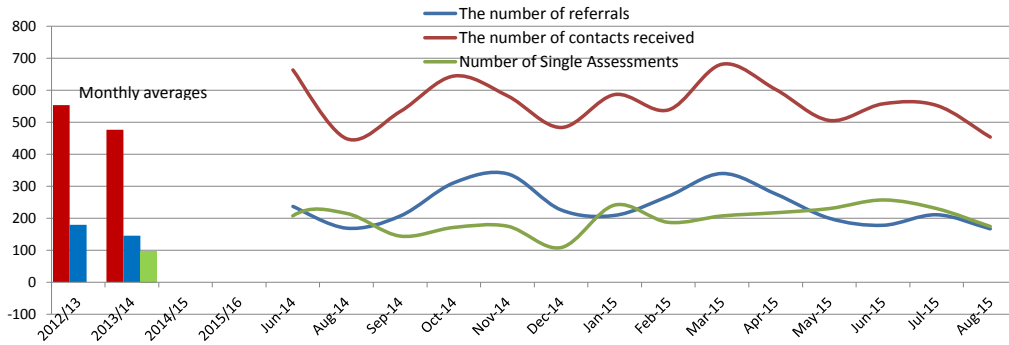
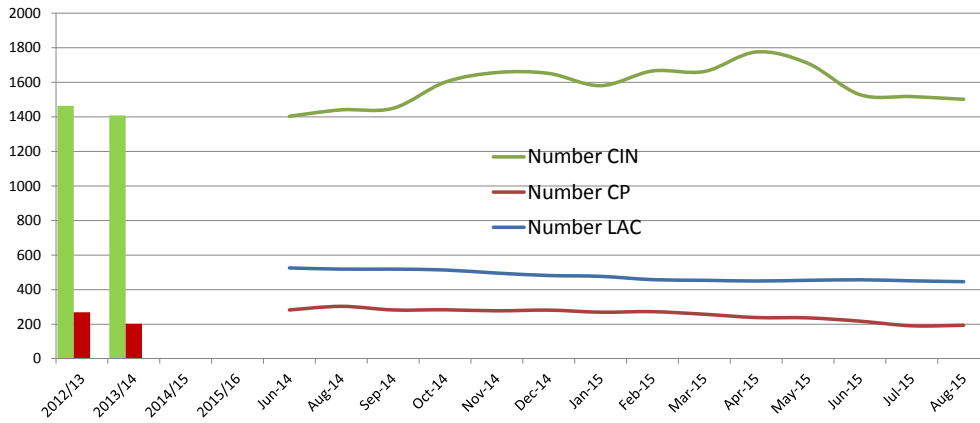
2 Volumes

LAC

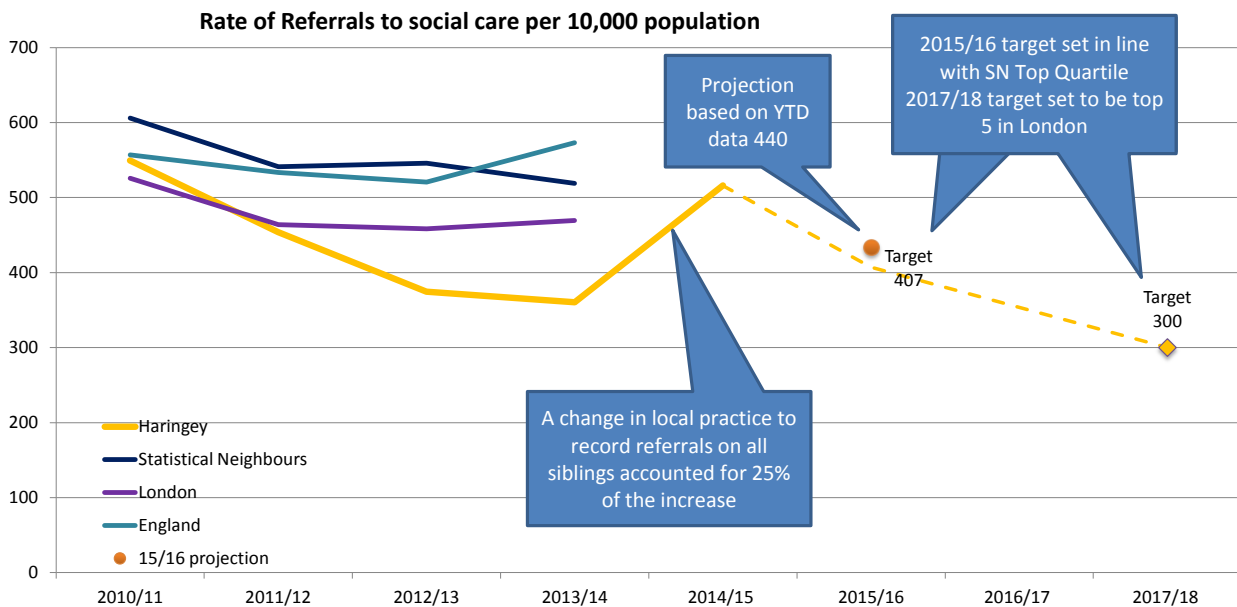
3 Performance by service

Children in Care & Placements

August 2015 Quality and Performance Network
Exception Scorecard



How many?



Team	31/08/15 Total no. Allocations	Number of workers (That hold Cases)	Average Caseload
Children with Disabilities	182	9	20
First Response Team 1	75	5	15
First Response Team 2	96	6	16
First Response Team 3	79	6	13
First Response Team 4	85	5	17
NRPF *	128	3	43
Safeguarding & Support Team 1	59	4	15
Safeguarding & Support Team 2	136	15	9
Safeguarding & Support Team 3	132	8	17
Safeguarding & Support Team 4	70	5	14
Safeguarding & Support Team 5	81	6	14
Screening Team	13	2	7
Young Adults Service	285	18	16
Young People in Care Team (CiC)	374	20	19
Court Team (CiC)	186	15	12

* 66 cases allocated to a Duty Folder

Children Missing in August	
From Home	37
Education	44
From care	5 Missing 16 Away

Children in Care & Placements

	2014/15			2015/16								YTD	Target	Traffic Light	
	Haringey	England 2013/14	SNS 2013/14	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15						
Children in Care															
OP389	Children in care including unaccompanied asylum seeking children	451			454	450	454	457	451	446	L	↑	446	420	Red
OP389b	Children in care - unaccompanied asylum seeking children (FWI service user group)	34	-	-	34	29	29	35	34	36	V	↑	36	-	Data Only
OP389a	The rate of Children in care per 10,000 pop	77	60	70	77	76	77	77	76	76	L	→	76	-	Data Only
Op415	Children becoming LAC	202	30430	222	11	14	18	22	11	14	V	↑	79	-	Data Only
Op416	Children Ceasing LAC	260	-30430	231	16	18	14	19	17	20	V	↑	88	-	Data Only
	Net Increase / Decrease		-	-		-4	+4	+3	-6	-5	V		-5 (-1%)	-	Data Only
OP414	Percentage of Children becoming looked after previously subject to Child Protection plan	41.6%			0.0%	14.3%	27.8%	29.4%	36.4%	64.3%	H	↑	24.5%	-	Data Only
OP438	Number of young people becoming looked after on remand	13	-	-	0	1	3	2	2	1	V	↓	9	-	Data only
OP450	% of Children in Care for over a month with an up to date Dental check (in the last 12 months)	92.9%			92.9%	85.9%	84.9%	80.2%	72.5%	75.9%	H	↑	75.9%	90.00%	Red
OP420	% of children in care for over a month with an up to date Health Assessment	94.1%			94.1%	93.9%	96.6%	95.4%	93.8%	96.0%	H	↑	96.0%	90.00%	Green
OP_703	Percentage of children LAC for more than 20 working days with an up to date Care Plan	67.0%	-	-		53.0%	49.0%	50.0%	54.0%	61.0%	H	↑	61.0%	90.00%	Red
OP_704	Percentage of LAC age over 16 with a Pathway Plan less than 6 months old	47.0%	-			22.0%	21.0%	20.0%	28.0%	27.0%	H	↓	27.0%	90.00%	Red
OP_702	Percentage of school age LAC with an up to date PEP	62.0%	-			39.0%	37.0%	47.0%	71.0%	n/a	H	↑	47.0%	90.00%	Red
Op382	Children in Care visits	79%	-		79%	77%	78%	88%	88%	86%	H	↓	86%	90%	Amber

	2014/15			2015/16								YTD	Target	Traffic Light	
	Haringey	England 2013/14	SNS 2013/14	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15						
Placements															
OP389c	In-house Fostering	153	-	-	153	154	159	154	157	158	H	↑	158	-	data only
OP389d	Independent Fostering (including third sector)	-	-	-		178	178	177	178	170	L	↑	170	-	data only
OP389e	Semi-Independent	-	-	-		51	47	54	51	53	V	↑	53	-	data only
OP389f	Homes and Hostels	-	-	-		22	25	26	31	27	V	↓	27	-	data only
	Other (inc Placed at home and for Adoption)	-	-	-		45	45	46	34	38	V	↑	38	#N/A	

Children in
Care &
Placements

Missing and Stability	2014/15			2015/16								YTD	Target	Traffic Light
	Haringey	England 2013/14	SNS 2013/14	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15					
OP700	-			3	2	3	5	7	5	L	↑		-	data only
OP701	-			2	1	1	2	5	16	L	↓		-	data only
HY62	8%	11%	13%	8%	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%	L	↓	7%	8%	Green
Op63	74%	67%	70%	74%	74%	74%	74%	75%	76%	H	↑	76%	-	data only
Op581b	73%	38%	65%	73%	73%	73%	73%	73%	76%	L	↓	76%	-	data only
HY_653	18.0%	13.0%	18.0%	18.0%	16.9%	17.3%	18.2%	19.5%	18.3%	L	↑	18.3%	16.0%	Red

Children in
Care &
Placements

Care leavers in education, employment or training	2014/15			2015/16								YTD	Target	Traffic Light
	Haringey	England 2013/14	SNS 2013/14	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15					
OP148	41%	45% (19, 20 & 21)	-	44%	0%	0%	44%	14%	0%	H	↓	14%	-	data only
OP148d	78	-	-	9	10	5	9	7	5			36	-	data only
OP148b	29%	-	-	50%	0%	0%	0%	25%	30%	H	↑	13%	-	data only
OP148bd	73	-	-	2	6	6	4	4	10			30	-	data only
OP148c	37%	-	-	40%	0%	0%	50%	25%	17%	H	↓	19%	-	data only
OP148cd	76	-	-	5	3	2	2	8	6			21	-	data only
Care leavers in suitable accommodation														
OP147	61%	78% (19, 20 & 21)	-	67%	0%	0%	56%	43%	0%	H	↓	22%	90%	Red
OP147b	59%	-	-	100%	0%	0%	25%	75%	50%	H	↓	30%	-	data only
OP147c	55%	-	-	40%	0%	0%	50%	50%	50%	H	→	38%	-	data only

Children in
Care &
Placements

		2014/15			2015/16										
Adoption and Special Guardianship Orders		Haringey	England 2013/14	SNS 2013/14	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15			YTD	Target	Traffic Light
Op 418	Number of adoptions/special guardianship orders	57	55	46	4	4	5	3	3	1	H	↓	16	18	Red
Op 418a	Number of adoptions	25	33	23	2	2	4	2	1	0	H	↓	9	<i>9YTD 22 by March 15</i>	Green
Op 418b	Number of special guardianship orders (SGOs)	32	22	23	2	2	1	1	2	1	H	↓	7	11	Red
HY483	A1. Average number of days from becoming LAC to being placed for adoption	589	628 3yr Average	769	500	708	349	346	N/A	N/A	L	→	438	-	Amber
HY483a	A10. Average number of days Adjusted for Current Foster Carer adoptions	415	525 3yr Average	521	500	708	349	346	N/A	N/A	L	→	438	-	Data only

Report for: Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: 5 October 2015

Item number:

Title: Disabled Looked After Children

Report authorised by :



Jon Abbey, Director, Children's Services

Lead Officer: Vikki Monk-Meyer, Head of Integrated Services for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
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Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/
Non Key Decision: Non-key

1. Describe the issue under consideration

The Committee requested in the meeting of 6 July 2015, a report on Looked After children who are disabled. The committee requested information as to who was in the council's care and what the issues and challenges are with Looking After Disabled children. The committee was minded that one of the functions of the Board is to 'ensure that the voice and needs of disabled children are identified and provided for'.

2. Background information

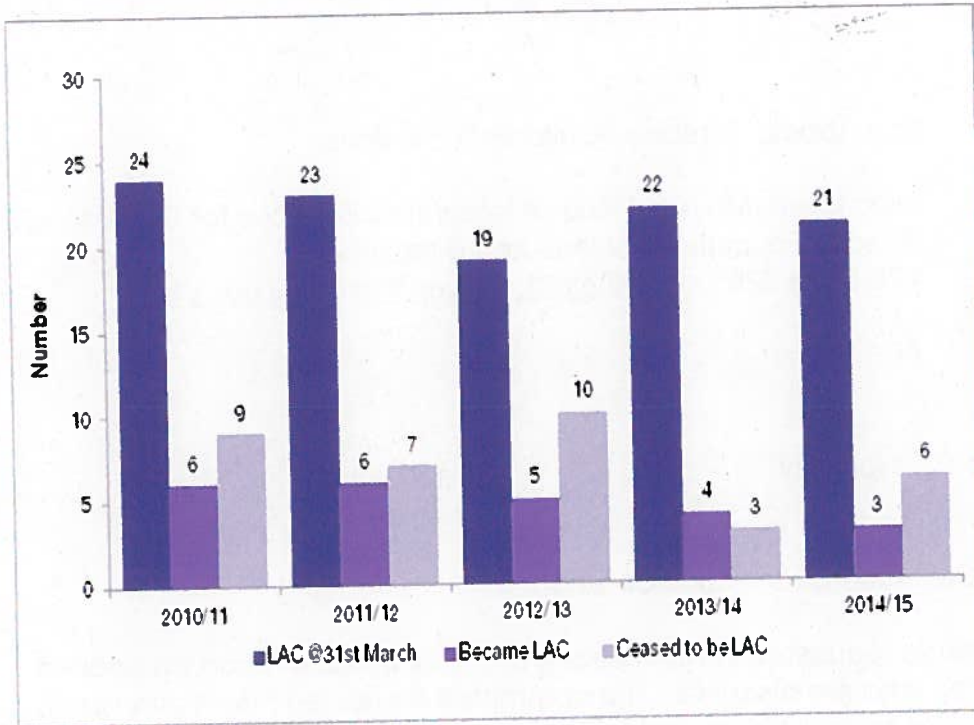
2.1 The Disabled Children's Social Work and Early Support Services are specifically arranged to offer a specialised service to those children who have an undisputed disability that can be defined as 'a permanent severe / profound learning and / or physical disability and / or profound sensory impairment'.

Within this context a disabled child will have one of the following:
Neurodisability (i.e. Cerebral palsy, physical disability, genetic conditions and syndromes), Neuro-Developmental disorders (i.e. ASD, Severe developmental delay – unknown origin), Profound and multiple disabilities and Severe sensory impairment (blind or deaf).

2.2 The Disabled Children Social Work Team (DCT) is part of the Integrated Service for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. It is a specialist service that sits within the mainstream Children and Young People's Service. The team's primary function is safeguarding disabled Young People (0-18 years of age) who meet the criteria of the DCT. The work that the DCT undertakes is as follows: Safeguarding, Child Protection, Child in Care (CIC), Child in Need, court proceedings, Duty. The team comprises of a small team of Social Workers (8.4 positions).

There are 22 children who are currently 'Looked After' by Haringey who have a permanent and substantial disability.

2.3 The figures below are based on the data for 2014/15 when there were 21 children looked after by Haringey allocated in the Disabled Children's Team.



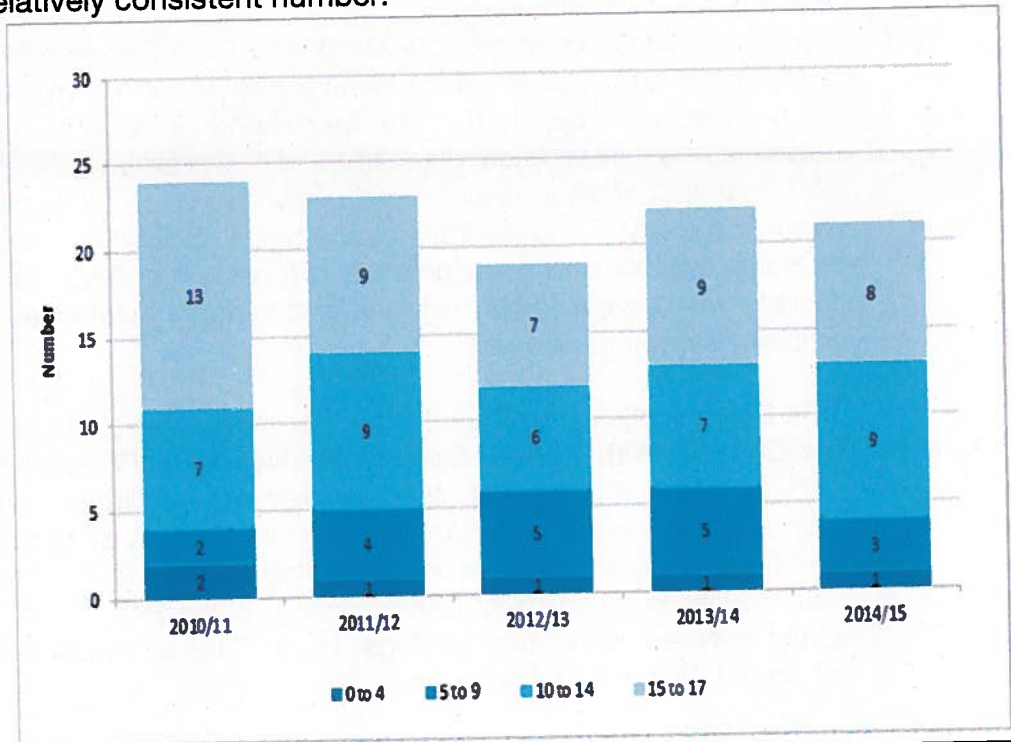
21 children with disabilities were looked after at 31st March 2015, representing 5% of all children looked after at year ending 2015.

There has been a gradual reduction in the number of children starting to become LAC over the last 5 years.

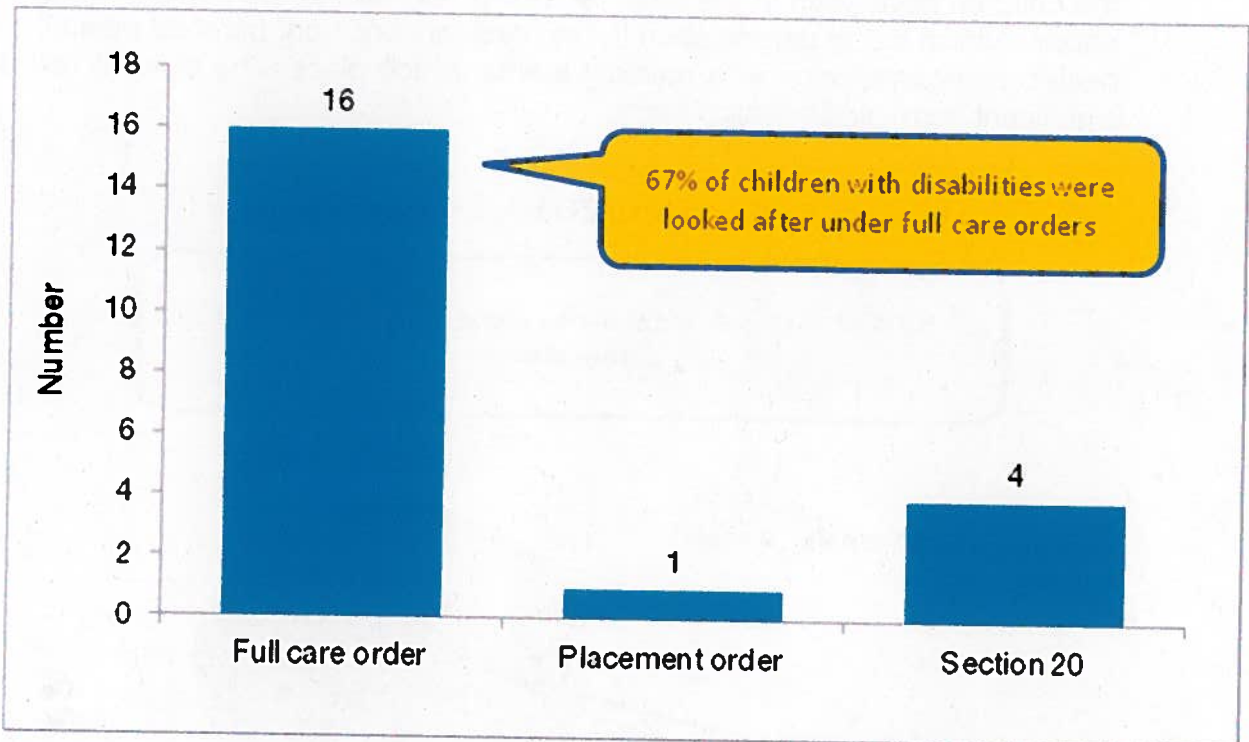
Since 2012/13, there has been a 40% decrease in the number of children ceasing to be LAC

2.4 The current number of children who are looked after is 22. This shows that the number accommodated over the past 5 years, although showing a small reduction, is a relatively consistent number.

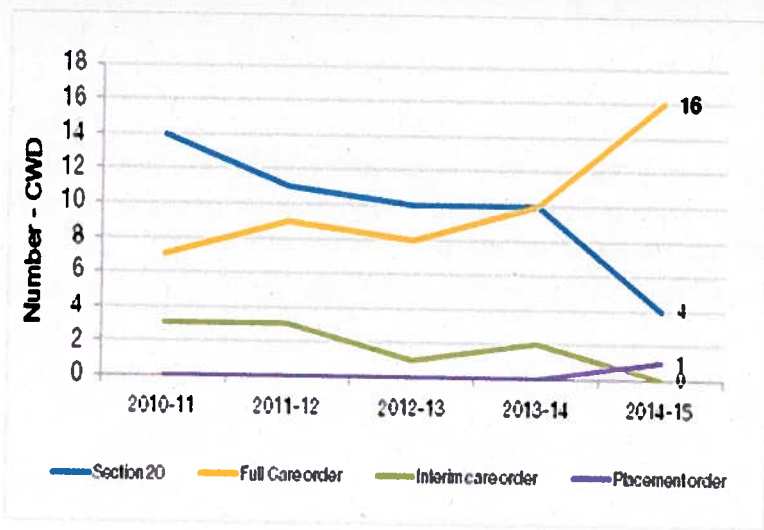
In year ending 2015, 43% of children with disabilities looked after were aged between 10 to 14, 38% were between 15 to 17 years; 14% were between 5 to 9 and 5% (1 child) was aged between 0 to 4



2.5 The data evidences that the Disabled Children’s Team current LAC cohort are in the 10 – 17 age bracket – this age group accounts for 81% of the Disabled Children’s Team LAC population. Twelve of the twenty one children looked after were previously subject to child protection plan which may account for the time allowed for the plan to work, and to then issue proceedings. Three of the children were accommodated before 2005, five were accommodated between 2005 and 2010 and 13 children have been accommodated between 2011 to date.



LAC legal status' by years



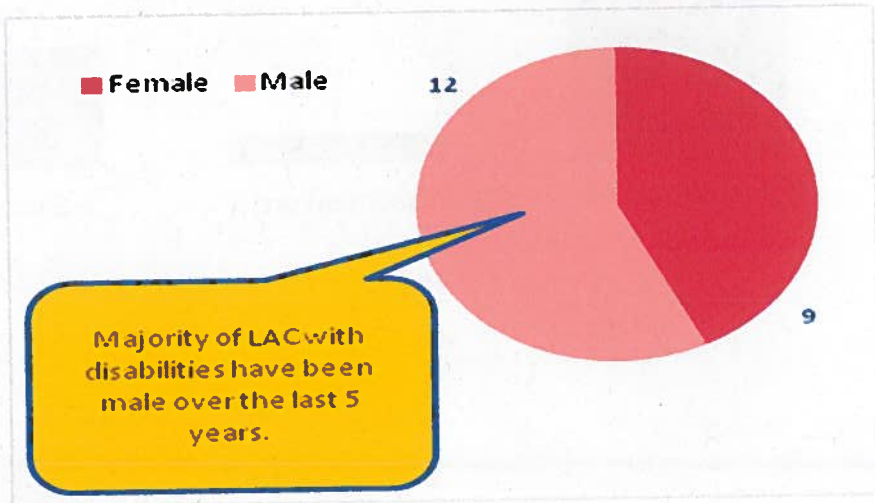
At year ending 2015, 67% of children with disabilities were looked after under full care orders

Of the 16 LAC subject to full care orders 12 children (75%) were placed with a foster carer; the remainder were placed in a residential home/hostel.
 1 child subject to a placement order was placed with a foster carer.
 3 of the 4 children subject to Section 20, were placed in residential care home/hostel whilst 1 was placed with a foster carer

- 2.6 The data shows that the status of intervention for Disabled children in need of accommodation has been proportionate to their need to be safeguarded. Historically DCT had a larger number of children who were accommodated under S20 with parental agreement rather than issuing applications to court. The evidence above illustrates that safeguarding issues have been addressed appropriately. The remaining children under S20 have significant issues affecting their education and learning and have presented as being beyond parental control.
- 2.7 The issues that have led to the DCT making applications to court on behalf of the children have been in the main regarding neglect e.g. non-engagement by parents which led to deterioration in the medical condition, parental mental – ill health, non-compliance with medical advice which places the child at risk of significant harm, and physical harm.

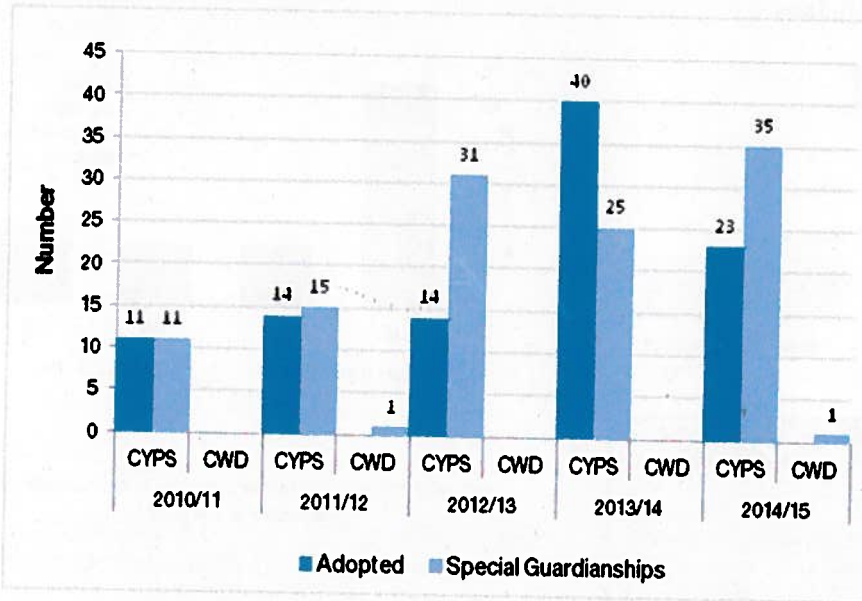
LAC at 31st March 2015, by gender

57% of LAC with disabilities were male; 43% were female.



- 2.8 The data indicates that more boys are accommodated in the Disabled children's team than girls. This prevalence is likely due to genetic disorders that disproportionately affect males, or affect them more severely.

Number of SGO's and Adoptions



Although there has been an overall increase in the number of adoptions and special guardianships across CYPS since 2009/10, there has only been 2 special guardianship orders made for children with disabilities over the 5 years. Both orders were made to former foster carers.

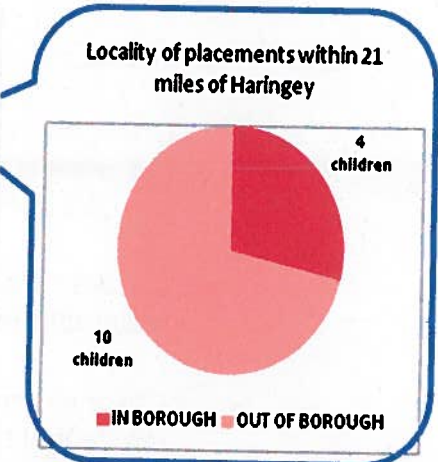
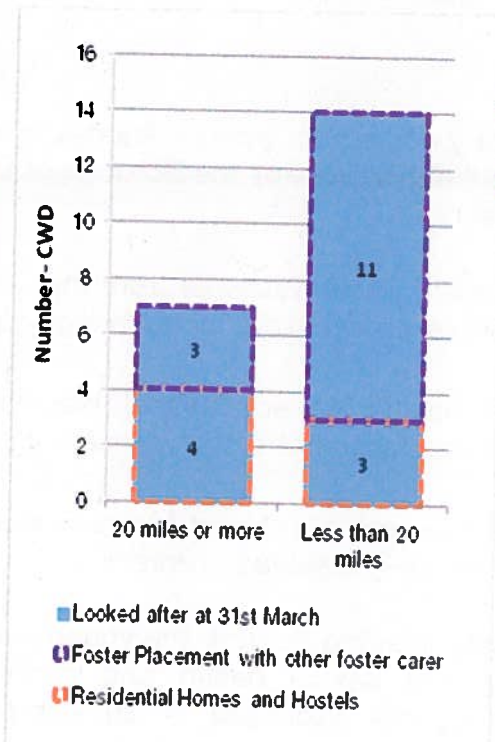
No children with disabilities have been adopted since 2010/11.

- 2.9 Foster carers who were considering the option of applying for SGO status have not pursued the option due to concern that the support identified in the SGO plan, would not be sufficient to meet their needs compared to the allowance they receive through their fostering allowance.
- 2.10 At the end of the year there were no LAC children in the Disabled Children's team who were placed with connected persons. Connected persons may be more willing to apply for a SGO as they would not be relinquishing a fostering allowance in so doing.

LAC Placements at 31st March 2015

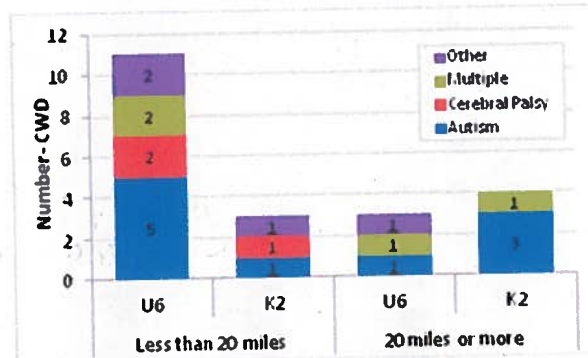
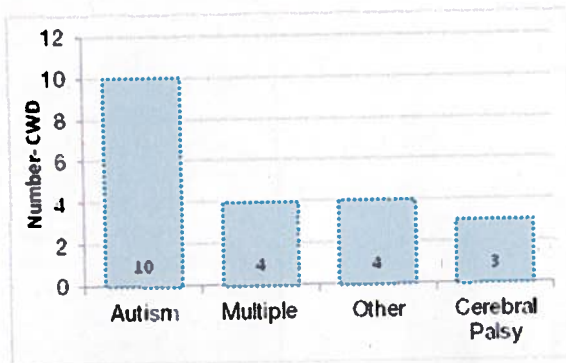
Of the 21 children with disabilities looked after at 31st March, majority (14 children) were placed less than 20 miles of Haringey; of which 4 children were placed within the LA boundary with other foster carers.

7 children were placed over 20 miles from Haringey; of these 3 children were placed with other foster carers and 4 children were placed in residential homes/hostels.



At 31st March, 7 children were placed with internal placements providers and 14 children were placed in private provisions.

LAC at 31st March, by disabilities



Of the 4 children who had multiple disabilities recorded, 1 child was autistic and 1 child was diagnosed with cerebral palsy.

'Other' disabilities included Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) Neuropathy, Global Development Delay and physical disabilities. Please note, 1 child with no recorded disabilities was accommodated by the disabilities team with her sibling.

75% of children in residential placements over 20 miles of Haringey were autistic.

All children with cerebral palsy were placed less than 20 miles of the LA

2.11 One third of the Disabled Children's Team's LAC are placed over 20 miles from Haringey, with four of the seven children placed in residential homes or schools. Three of the 4 children placed over 20 miles in residential homes or schools are Autistic. The children placed outside of the 20 mile radius live between 33 miles and 139 miles from Haringey.

2.12 The children placed in foster care out of the 20 mile radius live between 57 and 65 miles from Haringey.

2.13 The issues:

- Cross boundary equipment where Haringey agrees to fund the equipment but work is not undertaken by the Borough of Ordinary Residence as they are CIC to Haringey.
- Children travelling some distances from their residential home in order to maintain their placement in the local Haringey special school.
- Children not having an educational placement identified when their residential home placement/foster placement is identified.
- Lack of available specialist foster carers that are local and that can meet the needs of severely disabled children.
- Promoting safeguarding through the young people's Health Assessments by ensuring that sexual health and other safeguarding issues are communicated and discussed in an appropriate way with Disabled children.

2.14 The challenges:

- Identifying appropriate placements for Disabled children which meet the needs arising out of the disability.
- Identifying appropriate placements for Disabled children which not only meet the needs arising out of the disability but also meet their cultural needs.
- Identifying appropriate placements that address the above and are within 20 mile radius of Haringey.
- Ensuring that our most vulnerable children are safeguarded in placements especially ones that are residential and miles from Haringey with children who may not have the vocabulary to disclose abuse or who's testimony is easily minimised.
- Promoting permanency plans through SGOs which will provide a favourable support package for Disabled children so that they do not become a disincentive.

2.15 Next Steps:

- This exercise of collating the data and compiling the narrative that sits behind the data has been an interesting and informative process for this service.
- There have been many examples of how outcomes have been improved for children looked after by DCT.
- The service has evidence of how children have thrived in care; examples such as how children have grown out of their equipment at an accelerated pace due to the good care they are receiving. Children have required less medical intervention, less medication and have subsequently required less hospital admissions. One young person who previously had a very unstable chaotic relationship with her parents, has now for the past two years settled into her residential home whilst maintaining her special school place in Haringey. In addition there are two siblings placed in Hastings whose language development since being accommodated has improved significantly along with their ability to form positive relationships and attachments with their carers. For some LAC in the Disabled Children's Team access to a 24 hour curriculum that incorporates their need for shared routines across their school and care facilities, has made a positive significant difference to their lives. Of note also is that some of Haringey's most multiply disabled children are placed in foster families and not in residential homes / schools.

- The evidence of outcomes and how different placements make a positive difference to children with differing needs will be systematically collected in order to plan for future placements and to learn from what works for Disabled LAC and what promotes the best outcomes.
- The borough has one unit in Haringey where three of our LAC live, cared for by a foster carer. They live locally, have local friends, access local special schools and can have access to family. As these three young people will all be age 18 by May 2016 and under Staying Put Regulations may wish to remain in the placement, we are hoping to develop plans to create a new unit locally for Disabled children and young people.

3. Contribution to strategic outcomes

Priority 1 : Outstanding for All

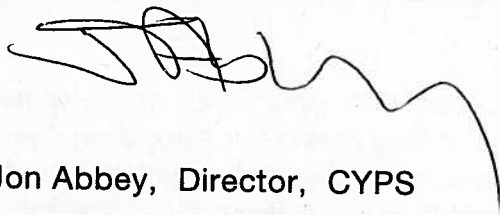
4. Use of Appendices
NA

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
NA

Report for: Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: 5 October 2015

Item number:

Title: **Update on PEP Performance September 2014-July 2015**



Report authorised by : Jon Abbey, Director, CYPS

Lead Officer: Fiona Smith, Head of Virtual School
Fiona.smith@haringey.gov.uk 020 8489 3163

Ward(s) affected: NA

Report for Key/
Non Key Decision: Non Key

1. Introduction
 - 1.1 This report addresses Haringey's Performance on Personal Education Plans (PEPs) for Looked After Children (LAC) Sept 2014-July 2015 with additional commentary on care plan and pathway plan performance.
 - 1.2 Section 2 provides background information on the legislative framework for Personal Education Plans.
 - 1.3 Section 3 provides detail on the Council's performance and highlights areas for improvement.
 - 1.4 Section 4 highlights actions for continued improvement and focus.
- 2 Background information
 - 2.1 The Children Act 1989 ("the 1989 Act") (as amended by the Children Act 2004 ("the 2004 Act")) places a duty on local authorities to promote the educational achievement of looked after children ("the duty"). Local authorities as their 'Corporate Parents' should therefore demonstrate the strongest commitment to helping every child they look after, wherever the child is placed, to achieve the highest educational standards he or she possibly can. This includes supporting their aspirations to achieve in further and higher education. Though some do well, the educational achievement of looked after children as a group remains unacceptably low.

2.2 Part of discharging the duty on a day-to-day basis means that a local authority should do at least what any good parent would do to promote their child's educational aspirations and support their achievements and this includes ensuring that all looked after children of compulsory school age have an effective and high quality PEP. Wherever the child is placed, his/her social worker, supported by his/her manager, should take the lead to initiate a PEP, as part of the Care Plan, even where a looked after child or young person is without a school place.

2.3 The PEP is then reviewed each term, and a PEP meeting held at least once every six months, to ensure it fully meets the education needs of looked after children and helps them to achieve their full potential. The designated teacher for looked after children, which is a statutory role in schools, leads on how the PEP is used as a tool in school to make sure the child's progress towards education targets is monitored and additional resources agreed if required.

3 Council Performance

3.1 The Council's performance on PEP completion between September 2014 and July 2015 has shown an overall improvement from 51% in October 2014 to 71% at the end of July 2015. However, there have been points during the year when completion rates have dropped to 37% and the concern is that if children are not having their PEP reviewed in line with the statutory guidelines this may impact on their educational progress and attainment.

Table 1: Percentage of school age LAC with an up-to-date PEP

Sep 14	Oct 14	Nov 14	Dec 14	Jan 15	Feb 15	Mar 15	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15	YTD
N/A	51%	54%	58%	60%	62%	N/A	39%	37%	47%	71%	47%

3.2 The latest figures for performance on PEP completion shows a 14% point dip from 71% in July 2015 to 57% in September 2015. This may be accounted for by it being the start of the school year as figures from 2014 show a similar picture. The focus for the coming year will be to improve the rate of PEP completion to at least 90% and for this to be sustained.

3.3 Provisional exam results for looked after children in 2015 indicate an overall improvement, with 65% of pupils at the end of Key Stage 2 attaining at least the expected level 4 in reading, writing and maths, compared with 50% in 2014 and 28% of pupils attaining at least 5 GCSEs A*-C including English and maths compared with 21.6% in 2014. Both are above the national averages for 2014 which were 48% attaining level 4 at the end of Key Stage 2 in reading, writing and maths and 12% attaining 5 A*-Cs at GCSE, including English and maths.

3.4 The PEP is one of the ways that the Council, as corporate parent, can ensure that children and young people are continuing to make and exceed progress and while the PEP completion rate is an area for improvement, the consistent performance of Haringey Looked After Children above national average and on a rising trajectory is an indication that social workers are working with schools

to improve attainment. Haringey Social Care and the Virtual School will continue to work together to strengthen systems and practice to increase PEP quality and completion rate. The Virtual School also run a programme of activities throughout the year for children and foster carers with a strong focus on education, celebrating achievements and raising aspirations.

Table 2: Percentage of LAC with an up to date care plan or pathway plan

	2014/15	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15	Aug 15
Percentage of LAC with an up to date care plan	67%	53%	49%	50%	54%	61%
Percentage of LAC aged over 16 with an up to date pathway plan	47%	22%	21%	20%	28%	27%

- 3.5 Performance data for care plans and pathway plans is also closely related to education performance. The target for completion is 90%. The data for 2014/15 is better than the data for the current year to date but both sets of data are unacceptably low. A weekly compliance and performance review meeting will meet to drive up the timeliness of these key meetings to meet the current target.
- 4 Recommendations:
- 4.1 Mosaic team to develop pop up reminders for Social Workers when PEP is due
- 4.2 Virtual School to offer 'surgery' sessions to Social Workers to assist with preparation for PEP meetings
- 4.3 Virtual School to circulate a snapshot of the Attainment Tracker data to support Social Workers to track progress of children and young people and inform discussions with schools
- 4.4 Virtual School to continue with training programme on PEPs and PPG, building on the successful roll out of Educational Guidance for LAC Training Tool to Social Workers and Designated Teachers.
- 4.5 Virtual School and Social Care to continue to ensure the voice of the child is an integral part of the PEP, following successful consultation prior to the development of the young people's PEP guide
- 4.6 Virtual School to continue with monthly PEP audits and liaise with social work teams to pick up emerging themes through training/seminars

- 4.7 Virtual School Head will join a weekly performance review chaired by the Head of Service for Children in Care, attended by the Service Manager Court teams and Young People in Care and the individual Team Managers to resolve compliance and performance issues and ensure PEPs are in place and up to date.
- 4.8 The weekly performance review will also resolve compliance and performance issues to ensure that care plans and pathway plans are in place and up to date. The meeting will analyse why PEPs, Care Plans and Pathway Plans are late and identify a plan to resolve the problem. These weekly meetings will in the first instance run for three months when the Head of Service will review whether these meetings have had a positive impact.