

NOTICE OF MEETING

CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Thursday, 19th October, 2017, 7.15 pm - Civic Centre, High Road,
Wood Green, N22 8LE**

Members: Councillors Patrick Berryman, Bob Hare, Liz Morris, Felicia Opoku, Sheila Peacock, Anne Stennett and Elin Weston (Chair)

Quorum: 3

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

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2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

3. URGENT BUSINESS

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

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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

5. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 10)

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 2017

6. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING WITH ASPIRE

Discussion on follow up actions following the earlier meeting with Aspire.

7. LEAVING CARE RE-DESIGN (PAGES 11 - 26)

8. IRO ANNUAL REPORT

Report to follow.

9. LAC PLACEMENTS (PAGES 27 - 40)

10. FOSTER CARERS (PAGES 41 - 44)

11. DENTAL CHECK AUDIT (PAGES 45 - 48)

12. CARE LEAVERS WITH NO CONTACT TO COUNCIL SERVICES

Verbal update

13. SAFEGUARDING AND SEMI-INDEPENDENT LIVING PROVIDERS

Verbal update.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 16th January 2018

Philip Slawther, Principal Committee Co-ordinator

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Bernie Ryan

Assistant Director – Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer

River Park House, 225 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8HQ

Wednesday, 11 October 2017

**MINUTES OF CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 4 JULY 2017**

Councillors Cllr Weston [Chair], Cllr Berryman, Cllr Stennett, Cllr Hare & Cllr Opoku

Apologies Cllr Morris

Also attending Sarah Alexander (Assistant Director – Safeguarding and Social Care), Dominic Porter-Moore (Head of Children in Care & Placements), Fiona Smith (Virtual School Head), Margaret Gallagher (Corporate Performance Manager), Yvonne Mendes (Interim Service Manager – Fostering and Adoption), Denise Gandy (Director of Housing Demand – HfH), Annie Walker (Deputy Head of Service - Children in Care & Placements), Philip Slawther (Clerk), Anneke Fraser.

CPAC337. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Morris.

Apologies were also received from Kim Holt and Lynn Carrington

CPAC338. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING WITH ASPIRE

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

- Update on maintenance courses for care leavers at next meeting with Aspire.
- Update on 14+ Aspire group around their housing support needs at next meeting with Aspire.
- Report on safeguarding and semi-independent living providers at next CPAC meeting.
- Final version of pledge to be sent to Aspire and Committee Members. Pledge to go to Full Council in July.
- Aspire CSE film to be shown at future Aspire meeting.

CPAC339. URGENT BUSINESS

NONE

CPAC340. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NONE

CPAC341. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2017 were AGREED.

The Head of Service Children in Care & Placements advised that he would give a verbal update on Item 12. The Chair suggested that a broader update on the Care

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Leavers work would incorporate some of this area and requested that Mark Kidson attend the next CPAC meeting. **(Action: Clerk)**

CPAC342. MATTERS ARISING

The Committee NOTED the Corporate Parenting Agenda Plan 2016/17

CPAC343. PERFORMANCE

RECEIVED the report on Performance for the Year to the end of May 2017. Report included in the agenda pack (pages 11 to 20).

NOTED in response to discussion:

- 434 children were in care at the end of the second week in June 2017 or 71 per 10,000 population including 38 unaccompanied asylum seeker children. There had been a gradual increase in the level of children in care in comparison to the position at the end of March 2016 but the rate had been fairly steady at around 70 in the last few months.
- Provisional data for indicators around stability of placements for looked after children remained broadly in line with statistical neighbours and targets albeit with a slightly increasing proportion with 3 or more placement moves. In the year to March 2017, 10% of children had three or more placement moves, just above the statistical neighbour average (7%) but in line with the latest published national position (10%). 77.5% of children under 16 who had been in care for at least 2.5 years had been in the same placement for at least 2 years, higher than the national average (68%).
- At the end of May, data showed 94% of children in care for over a month had an up to date health assessment, close to the target and continuing the positive trend.
- The number of care applications increased by 20% in 2016/17 which reversed the downward trend maintained since 2010/2011. The expected impact of the improvements from the use of the PLO process and introduction of the Signs of Safety model of social worker practice in January 2016 to maintain the decrease, had not occurred.
- In the 2017/18 financial year, there were 7 adoptions and 4 special guardianship orders to date. This was a big improvement compared with 2016/17 where there were only 11 adoptions for the whole year. A trend towards placement with families, kinship or connected persons as opposed to adoption or SGOs was evident.
- Timeliness of children placed for adoption in 2016/17 at an average 560 days remained higher than the national threshold (426-day average for 2013-16). In the financial year to June 2017, children waited an average of 402 days from

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becoming looked after to being placed for adoption. However, the statistical significance of these figures was based on only 7 adoption cases.

- 86 or 22.5% of Looked After Children at the end of March 2017 were placed 20 miles or more from Haringey compared to a 16% target and 19% at the end of March 2016. However fewer children were being placed over 20 miles away, with good reasons for those placements outside the borough many linked to complex care requirements or long term foster care arrangements.
- 72% of the current LAC cohort (age 2 and over and in care for over one month) had an up to date dental visit as at May 2017. There were 118 children without a recorded up to date dental check, 70% of those with outstanding visits were between the ages of 13 and 17 years old.
- Performance on Personal Education Plans (PEPs) declined in recent months with current data showing that 72% of PEPs for statutory school age children had an up to date PEP within the last term.
- In 2016/17, provisional data as at 31 March showed that 69% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation down from 74% (for 19-21 year olds) and 71% (of 17-18 year olds) in 2015/16. This performance was comparatively low as nationally 83% of care leavers aged 19-21 were in suitable accommodation and 88% of 17-18 year olds (2015/16).
- In response to a clarification around the reasons behind a fall in PEP performance, officers advised that there had been a move to fill these in on a more regular basis and that this may have undermined the ability of respondents to meet the deadline.
- In response to a question, officers advised that payments for SGOs were means tested.
- Officers were asked to feedback to the Committee on what the exact definition was of a young person being 'in touch' with the Council. **(Action: Sarah Alexander).**
- In response to a question around local authority ran children's care homes, the Committee was advised that the divestment of children's homes was very much the national picture and that those that still existed tended to be ran by the third sector.

AGREED to note the report.

CPAC343. DENTAL CHECK AUDIT

The Committee noted that this item was deferred to the next meeting.

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**CPAC344. HOUSING LEGISLATION AND WELFARE CHANGES AFFECTING
CARE LEAVERS**

The Committee received an update from the Director of Housing Demand, HfH on recent legislation and welfare reform changes that may impact care leavers.

It was noted that Homelessness Reduction Act was due to be implemented from 1st April. The Act included a specific clause that stated that in addition to a local connection with the authority whose care the young person was in; they could also claim a local connection with the area which they had been placed provided that it was a continuous period of 2 years some of which was prior to their 16th birthday. The Committee also noted that local housing allowance caps were being brought in for the social rented sector from April 2019. It was anticipated that this change would have a particular impact on people aged under 35 whose housing benefit payment would be limited to the shared room rate (£90.64 in Haringey). These changes would only apply after their 22nd birthday.

The Chair enquired about what was known about Haringey's current cohort and sought assurances about what the Council was doing to prepare for these changes. Officers advised that a written report would be drafted for CPAC meeting in January 2018. The Chair requested that someone from the Benefits team also attend the January meeting. **(Action: Denise Gandy/Clerk).**

The Chair queried why the cut off for the introduction of the local housing cap was 22, given that the care leaver responsibility had been extended to 25. Officers agreed to raise the issue at the national care leavers forum in the first instance and then potentially write to the relevant Government minister. **(Action: Sarah Alexander).**

CPAC345. ADOPTION

NOTED the Adoption report introduced by the Assistant Director Safeguarding and Social Care, which was included in the agenda pack at pages 27-36. The Committee was advised that there was no update on the London regional adoption agency and that progress seemed to have stagnated.

Figures for the adoption scorecard were calculated over a three year rolling average and it was noted that the scores for 2016/17 were provisional. The average duration of adoption proceedings of 560 days compared favourably with statistical neighbours and whilst this exceeded the national target, data showed an improving trajectory. The Committee requested statistical comparison figures for consortium neighbours. Officers advised that the figures should be available once scorecards are published. **(Action: Yvonne Mendes).**

The current number of children with Placement Orders who were waiting to be matched was 17. The Committee were advised that there were more children on Haringey's books than there were adopters available. This was largely due to children being older, from sibling groups, or had special needs, which didn't match the identified needs of the approved adopters. The number of adopters in Haringey had reduced from 11 to six in 2016/17. This was largely due to changes in court

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judgements and the success of placement activities. In response the Council was continuing to seek adopters outside of Haringey but other local authorities were facing the same issues.

The Committee sought assurances that officers were satisfied that everything possible was being done to improve performance around adoptions. Officers responded that a number of staffing changes had helped and that the key aspect was speeding up the process and management ensuring that key timescales were met.

In response to a question around adoption breakdowns, officers advised that the figures were only counted from the day the child was placed to the day the Adoption Order was issued and that therefore accurate figures for overdue adoption timescales were not available.

The AD Safeguarding and Social Care agreed to email the Chair details of the fostering and adoption panels, including the likely level of commitment required and any preferred criteria. The Chair agreed to circulate the details to Members. **(Action: Sarah Alexander/ Chair).**

CPAC346. SUPERVISION ORDERS

NOTED the verbal report of the Assistant Director of Safeguarding & Social Care on the use of Supervision Orders by the courts in preference to Care orders and the impact on safeguarding a child in these circumstances. In Haringey there were 13 Supervision Orders in place for children from 12 families which represented 3% of the total LAC.

CPAC345. FOSTERING

In light of pending changes to the fostering team, the report was deferred to the next meeting. **(Action: Clerk)**

**CPAC 348. EXPLORING WHY A HIGHER PROPORTION OF CARE LEAVERS
NO LONGER REQUIRE SERVICES**

The Committee agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. **(Action: Clerk).**

CPAC348. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

CPAC350. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee expressed its thanks to the Director Children's Services and the Head of Service for Children in Care and Placements for their hard work and wished them well in their future endeavours.

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Future meetings

NOTED the following provisional dates:

19th October 2017

16th January 2018

20th March 2018

Meetings are scheduled to start at 6.30pm.

The meeting ended at 20:30 hours.

**Cllr Elin Weston
Chair**

Corporate Parenting Agenda Planning 2017/18

Corporate Parenting meeting Date	Agenda Items	Lead Officer
4 th July 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performance inc. evaluation of dental health indicator 2. CPAC and Aspire notes with update on actions 3. Pan-London Adoption Bid 4. Update on foster carer recruitment and future models of provision 5. Homelessness Reduction Bill <p><u>Reports for noting</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Reasons behind Haringey having a higher proportion of care leavers who no longer require services 7. Adoption Paper 8. Supervision Orders <p><u>Action Updates</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Fostering Advert on Sky <p>Draft Reports will be due with Jon Abbey on 20th June and due for publication on 23rd June</p>	<p>Margaret Gallagher</p> <p>Jon Abbey</p> <p>Jon Abbey</p> <p>Dominic Porter-Moore</p> <p>Denise Gandy</p> <p>Dominic Porter-Moore/ Margaret Gallagher</p> <p>Sarah Alexander</p> <p>Sarah Alexander</p> <p>Sarah Alexander</p>
19 th October 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LAC Placements 2. CPAC and Aspire notes 3. IRO Annual Report 	<p>Margaret Gallagher</p> <p>Jon Abbey</p> <p>Sarah Alexander</p>

Corporate Parenting Agenda Planning 2017/18

	<p>4. Foster Carers</p> <p>5. Care Leavers with no contact to Council services</p> <p>6. Dental Check Audit</p> <p>7. Safeguarding and Semi-Independent Living Providers</p> <p><u>Main Presentation item</u></p> <p>8. Care Leavers Work</p> <p><u>Action Updates</u></p> <p>9. Adoption figures for consortium neighbours</p> <p>10. Introduction of Local Housing cap at 22</p> <p>Draft Reports will be due with Margaret Dennison on 6th October and due for publication on the 11th October.</p>	<p>Yvonne Mendes</p> <p>Emma Cummergen</p> <p>Lynn Carrington</p> <p>Sarah Alexander</p> <p>Mark Kidson</p> <p>Yvonne Mendes</p> <p>Denise Gandy</p>
16 Jan 2018	<p>1. Performance</p> <p>2. CPAC and Aspire notes</p> <p>3. Welfare Changes affecting Care Leavers and impact on Haringey</p> <p><u>Substantive discussion item</u></p> <p><u>Action Updates</u></p> <p>Draft Reports will be due with</p>	<p>Denise Gandy & Benefits team</p>

Corporate Parenting Agenda Planning 2017/18

	Margaret Dennison on 24th December and due for publication on the 8th January 2017	
20 March 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performance 2. CPAC and Aspire notes <p><u>Substantive discussion item</u></p> <p><u>Reports for noting</u></p> <p><u>Action Updates</u></p> <p>Draft Reports will be due with Margaret Dennison on the 5th March and due for publication on the 12th March.</p>	

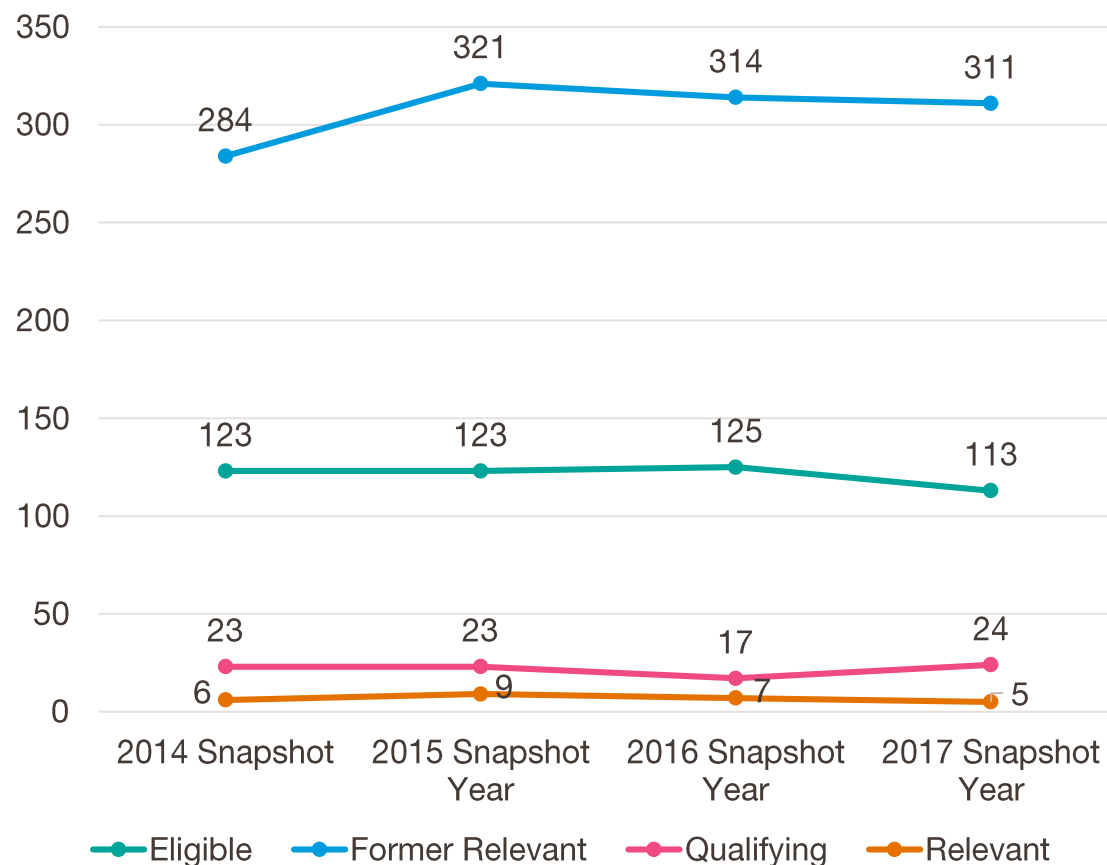
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Leaving Care redesign

Summary of findings & proposals

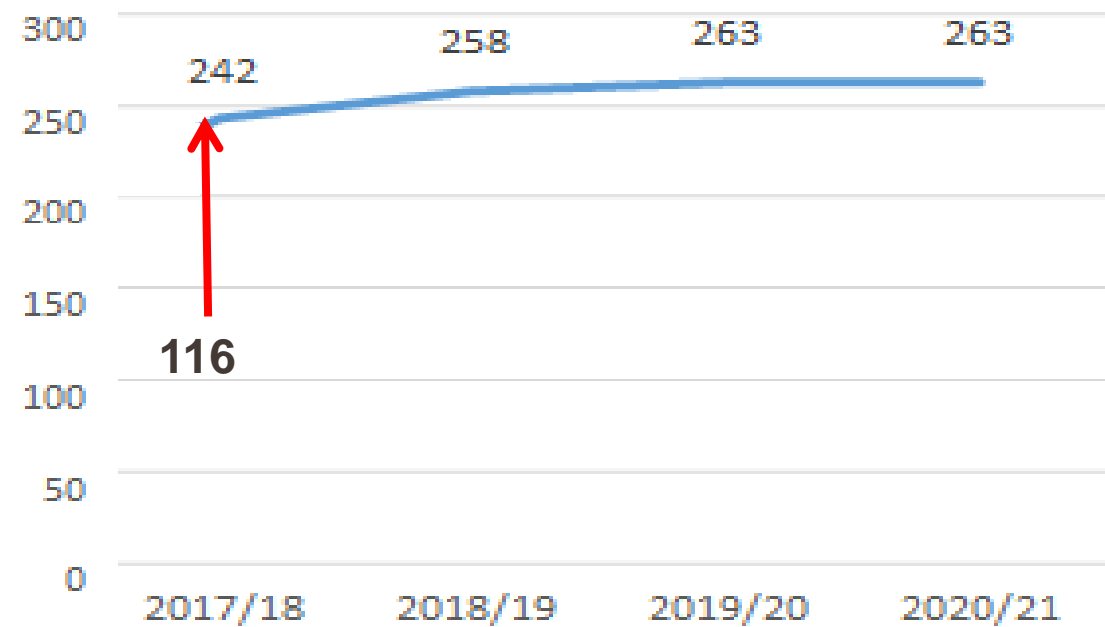
The challenge

Count of Care Leavers per year, by type



The number of care leavers in the service is high relative to the number of children in care and these numbers are stable, with small reductions over the last three years.

Number who were in care on 18th birthday who will be aged 21-25 in the year

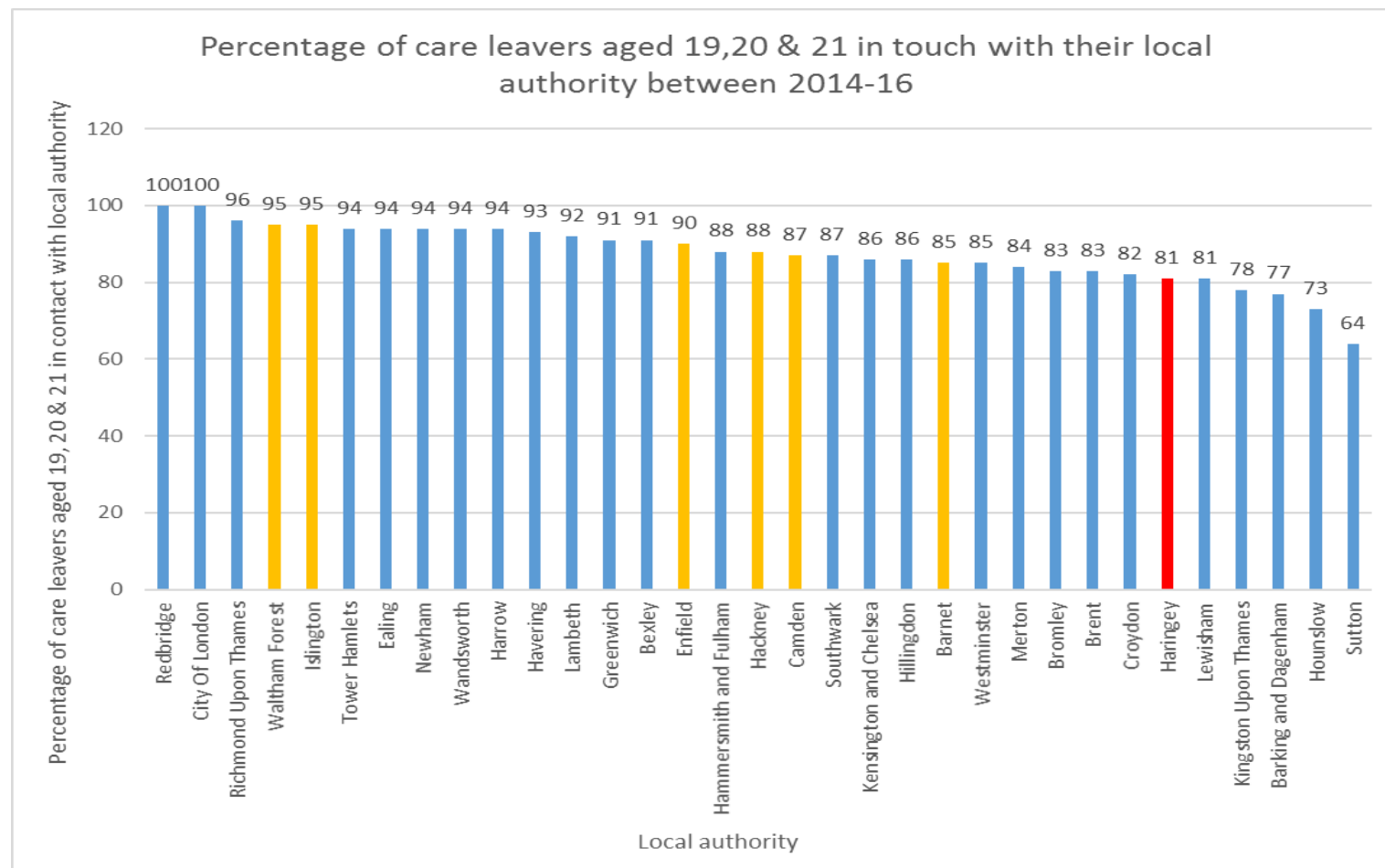


The Children & Social Work Act 2017 will extend our duty to all former relevant care leavers to 25, which would increase the size of our cohort between 21-24 from 116 to 242 if all young people take up services

The challenge

	Age 19	Age 20	Age 21	LBH total	National data
LA in touch	72%	72%	63%	70%	87%
EET	49%	36%	39%	42%	40%
Suitable accommodation	68%	68%	61%	67%	83%

While there are limitations to the data, Haringey reports below-average outcomes for our care leavers and there are concerns about the long-term success of our care leavers despite good GCSEs and university take-up.



The ability to be in touch with our care leavers and complete our statutory returns impacts upon this picture, and Haringey is below all statistical neighbours on this measure.

The leaving care cohort – need

Through case-level tracking data provided by YAS workers, we have identified the prevalence of needs within the care leaver cohort. Based on a snapshot of our care leaver cohort in May of **419 individuals**:

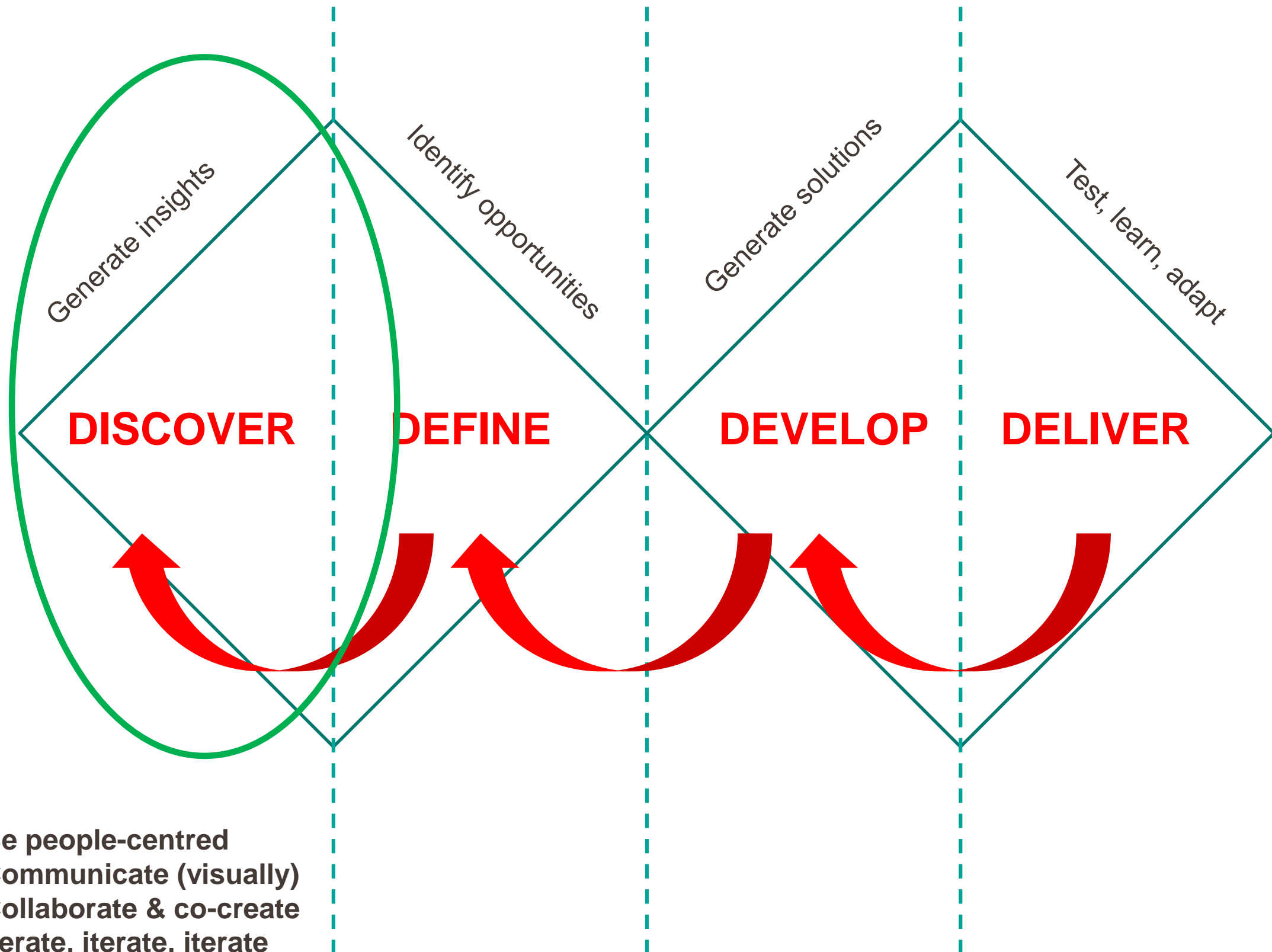
- **Geographic spread:** a minority of care leavers 18+ live outside of Haringey (28%) and fewer outside of London (7%) but these numbers are higher for Children in Care aged 16/17
- **Gender:** 59% of care leavers are male, 41% female
- **Ethnicity:** 41% black; 32% white; 12% mixed race; 8% other; 6% Asian
- **UASC:** 17% of care leavers are Asylum Seekers, of which 90% are male
- **Gang affiliation:** 49 care leavers estimated to be gang affiliated
- **Prison:** 23 care leavers are in prison, 100% of which are male and 2/3 are 19 or older
- **Substance Misuse:** 83 care leavers with substance misuse issues, of which over 3/4 are male
- **Parents:** 59 care leavers are parents, of which 1/3 are fathers
- **Emotional & Behavioural & Mental Health:** 141 estimated to have behavioural difficulties and 173 with emotional difficulties; 53 have a diagnosed mental health condition
- **Hard to engage:** 108 care leavers are described by their workers as 'hard to engage', of which 70% are male

The leaving care cohort – need

There is a particular need to consider how we can develop more targeted pathways for the following groups:

- **Late entrants into care** – whereas for children who are in care from an earlier age being looked after can provide a degree of stability and support, for instance around education, those coming into care later often have more complex needs and are harder to engage in Pathway Planning and preparing for independence; this group often includes those who have been involved in the criminal justice system and would particularly benefit from a more assertive and specialist response to keep them out of care or meet their needs.
- **Young parents** – we have a significant number of both mothers and fathers and these young people can be concerned about their own ability to parent successfully or how ‘professionals’ view their choice to have children or their choice of partner; alongside practical support around budgeting and accommodation, help with parenting and maintaining social networks, training or employment are required.
- **Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children** – for these young people, barriers to accessing employment, training and other forms of support make it difficult to ensure their outcomes are positive and they are over-represented in the group of care leavers with whom we are not in touch.

The service design approach



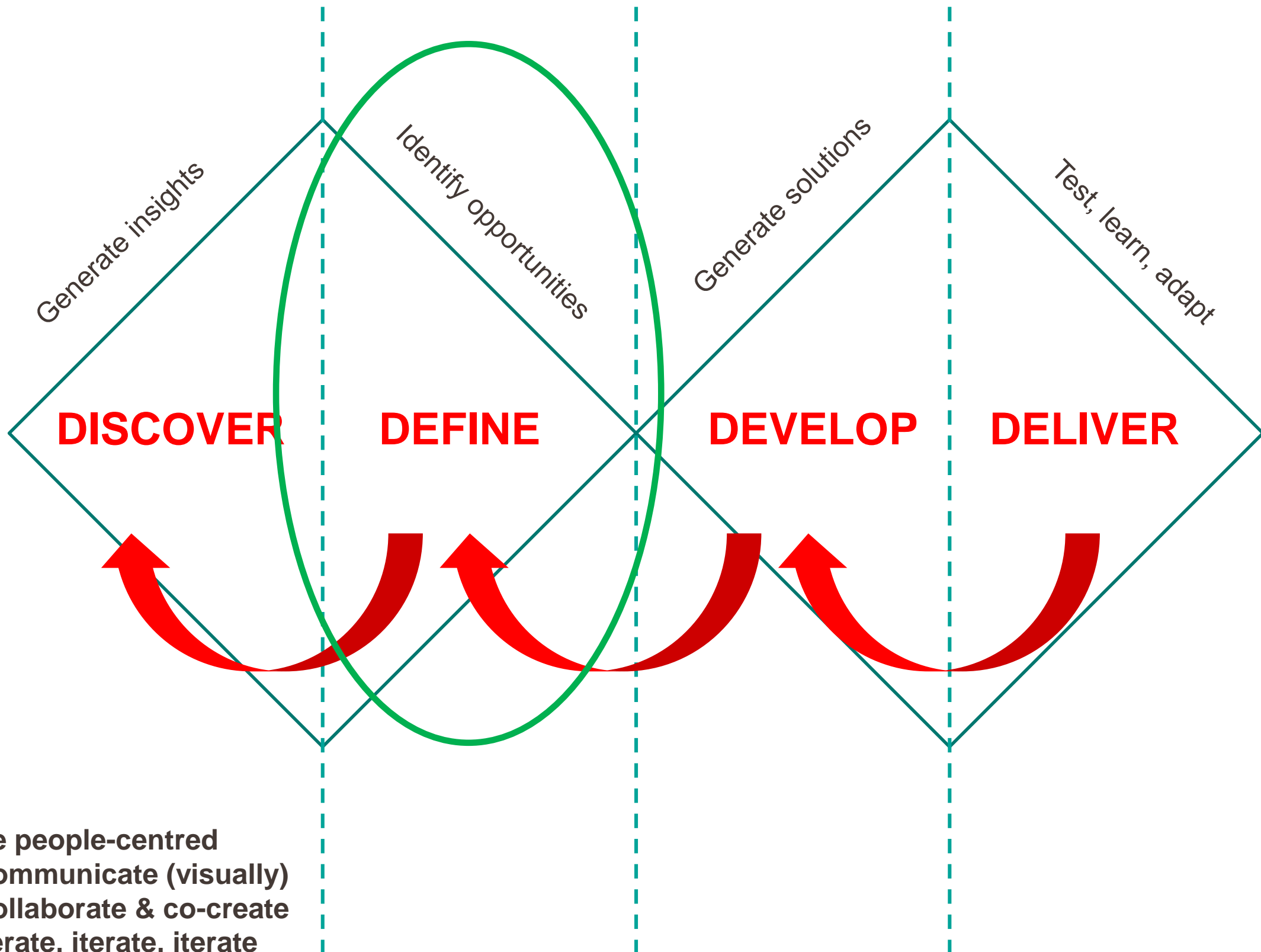
The 'discovery' phase

Gathering & analysing data

- **Care leaver interviews** – 20 care leavers volunteered to take part in a 1hour, semi-structured interview – answering questions around their experience of being in care, their current living situation and their mental health status
- **YAS staff interviews** – 6 staff were happy to answer questions on their experience of the service, what they feel works well and what could be improved
- **Stakeholder workshops** – 3 workshops were organised on the 3 main themes that kept arising
 - Education, Employment & Training
 - Housing & Life Skills
 - Mental Health



The service design approach



- 1) Be people-centred
- 2) Communicate (visually)
- 3) Collaborate & co-create
- 4) Iterate, iterate, iterate

Priorities for new model of Leaving Care



1. A trusting and stable relationship with a worker who can support a young person from an earlier stage and provide continuity as they leave care
2. A specialist and targeted offer that combines careers coaching, mental health and substance misuse, supporting vulnerable young adults flexibly across services
3. A more digitally engaged service that helps young people to access information and advice when they need it and makes it easier and more flexible to 'keep in touch'
4. A streamlined Pathway Plan that is centred on the needs of the young person, connects with other plans they might have and is supported by tools for direct work
5. A coherent and targeted approach to developing life skills that starts earlier in the care journey and is integral to planning with the young person about their future housing options
6. A coordinated approach to maintaining contact with former care leavers who can act as role models and peer mentors to young people in care

1. A trusting and stable relationship with a worker who can support a young person from an earlier stage and provide continuity as they leave care

Key messages

- There are some strong relationships between workers and care leavers and the impact of these can be seen in young people with more stable and successful experiences
- Frequent changes of worker throughout the care journey erodes trust and makes it harder for young people to develop relationships with new professionals
- The handover at 18 too often feels abrupt for the young person and comes at a time when there is significant change due to formally 'leaving care'
- Too much of the practical and emotional preparation for independence starts at 18, so young people feel they are not always ready for the changes that take place

Design questions

- How can services begin the process of preparing children in care for independence from an earlier age and at a pace that works for them?
- How can we minimise the disruption of handovers for the young person and ensure they always feel supported and know who to turn to?

2. A specialist and targeted offer that combines careers coaching, mental health and substance misuse, supporting vulnerable young adults flexibly across services

Key messages

- There are a very large number of services and voluntary organisations in Haringey that are relevant to the needs of our leaving care cohort, but it is not always clear how to find out about them either as a service user or staff member
- Engagement with other services is often challenging and young people can be reluctant to work with additional services even when they acknowledge the need
- Without an embedded specialist offer for mental health and substance misuse, it is difficult for workers in YAS to develop their own skills and to provide effective 'outreach' for harder to engage young people

Design questions

- How can we access and make the best use of specialist workers as part of a stronger 'team around' the young person with improved take-up?
- How can we create a more consistent offer that is linked to the outcomes in the young person's Pathway Plan and reflects their own understanding of their need?

3. A more digitally engaged service that helps young people to access information and advice when they need it and makes it easier and more flexible to ‘keep in touch’

Key messages

- Care Leavers often have questions that they don't feel able to bother their worker with and would often like to be able to find information themselves online
- Young people want to feel like the service is keeping in touch with them, and want this to be regular, relevant and flexible around their preferred ways of communicating
- Communicating with our cohort of care leavers about opportunities and services that they could tap into is often a very labour-intensive process and does not encourage or enable easy take-up
- Young people want information in different formats, particularly video, and want to receive it from people who have ‘been in their shoes’, especially older care leavers

Design questions

- How can we develop and maintain a better web presence for information, communication and interaction with our care leavers?
- How would we need to support more of our young people to access the web, including availability of devices and internet connection?
- How can digital tools help us to provide a more personalised offer for each YP?

4. A streamlined Pathway Plan that is centred on the needs of the young person, connects with other plans they might have and is supported by tools for direct work

Key messages

- While all workers recognise the importance of the Pathway Plan, it is unwieldy and not well-liked by staff or care leavers as a means for having a useful, focused conversation about outcomes & support needs
- Young people do not play (or currently want to play) an active part in their own planning and there is little evidence of 'ownership' of plans by care leavers
- There is not enough self-assessment by care leavers of their own confidence, knowledge or skills to help them understand what they need to do next and why
- Some care leavers reported feeling like they had too many 'plans' and that it did not feel like professionals were all working to the same goals agreed with the YP

Design questions

- How can we focus the Pathway Plan and the discussions that inform it more closely on what the young person needs to do and who is available to support them?
- How can we make the Pathway Plan a more user-friendly document that supports by more engaging ways of working with the young person?

5. A coherent and targeted approach to developing life skills that starts earlier in the care journey and is integral to planning with the young person about their future housing options

Key messages

- Some children in care are ready to begin thinking about what it will be like to leave care from an earlier age and want to understand this in the context of their wider ambitions
- Young people often over-estimate their readiness to live independently but see 'getting my own place' as a top priority – they want to hear what it's really going to be like and need to connect this to steps they will need to take
- PAs provide a lot of hand-on support around life skills but often with young people that haven't much input on this before 18; there is not a consistent expectation on social workers, foster carers, providers and HfH to support independent living

Design questions

- How can we develop a more consistent framework for developing skills for independent living that could be applied by workers, providers and the young person themselves?
- How can we build on the tenancy workshops currently on offer to reach more young people and to improve the sustainability of independent living?

6. A coordinated approach to maintaining contact with former care leavers who can act as role models and peer mentors to young people in care

Key messages

- Individual workers across YAS have examples of young people they remain in touch with after their cases are closed, but this is often ad hoc
- Many of our children in care and care leavers want more opportunities to meet or hear about Haringey children in care who have made successful moves into adulthood
- Care leavers say they are more likely to listen to difficult messages about what it is like leaving care and how to prepare for independence if it comes from 'peers'
- Keeping in touch with care leavers to understand their long-term outcomes would help the service to understand what makes for sustainable positive impact

Design questions

- How might we maintain contact with care leavers whose cases have closed in a way that is simple for us and them?
- How can we encourage/incentivise former care leavers to offer their time and experience to younger people?
- How should this fit with a wider offer of 'mentoring' or 'coaching' for care leavers?

Taking this forward

- **Engaging with care leavers**
- **Developing ideas with staff**
- **Securing input from partners**
- **Establishing the resources required**

London Borough of Haringey

Looked After Children Placement Sufficiency Analysis

October 2017

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“We will work together to ensure that every child in Haringey will have the very best start in life, including through world class education, delivering the best outcomes for our children, young people and families, which are sustainable and designed around their needs”
(Haringey Corporate plan, 2015-18)

Part 1: LAC Position, August 2017

Summary of current position

Between 2013/14 and 2015/16, there had been a decline in the number of children looked after in Haringey. At the end of 2015/16, the number of looked after children in Haringey was below the statistical neighbour average. There has since been an increase, positioning the current LAC number closer to comparative boroughs (424).

As at the end of August 2017, 422 children were looked after in Haringey, 5% decrease since the end of March 2017.

Figure 1: Number of Looked After Children

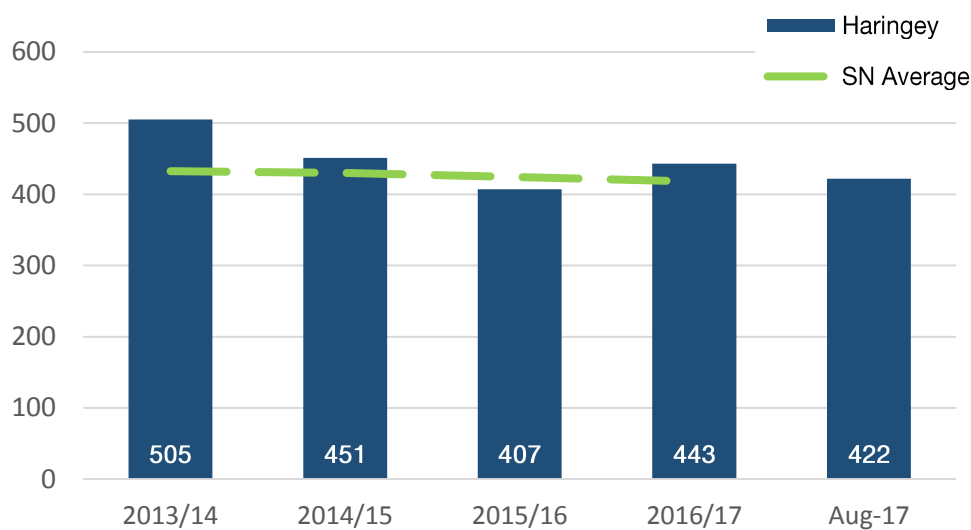
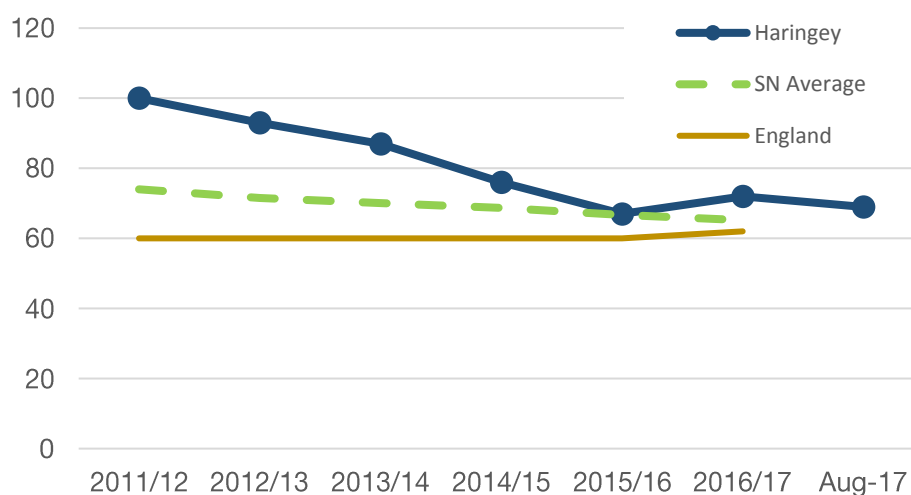


Figure 2: Rate of Looked After Children, per 10,000 children

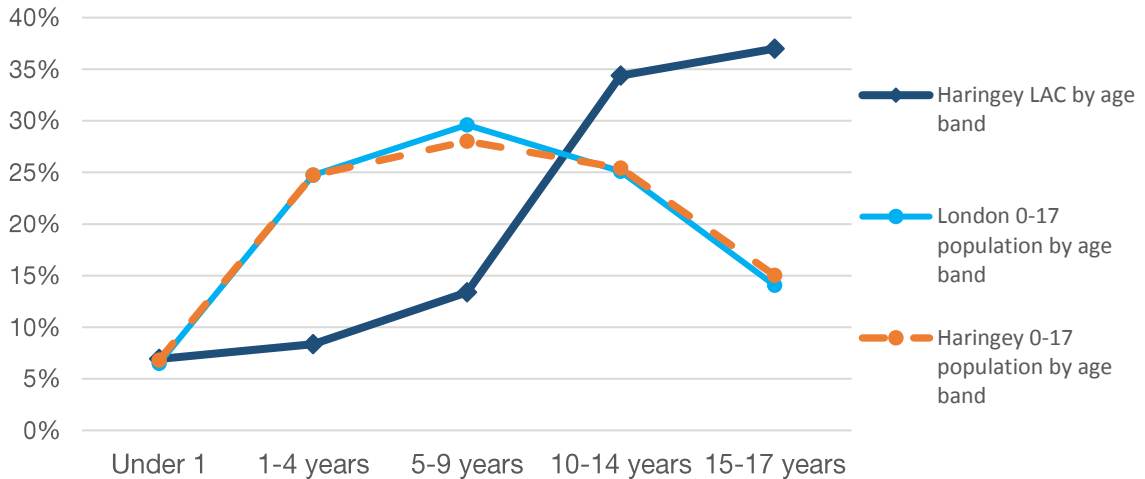


Contrary to national trends, Haringey's LAC rate per 10,000 children has seen a significant decline since 2011. In 2015/16 we were in line with statistical neighbours however most recent data positions us slightly above.

LAC by age

At the end of August, the largest proportion of looked after children were aged between 15-17 years. Of these, 41% have been in care for more than 5 years, 29% have looked after for less than 1 year, whilst 16% were for 1-2 years and 14% for 3-4 years.

Figure 3: LAC by age, August 2017

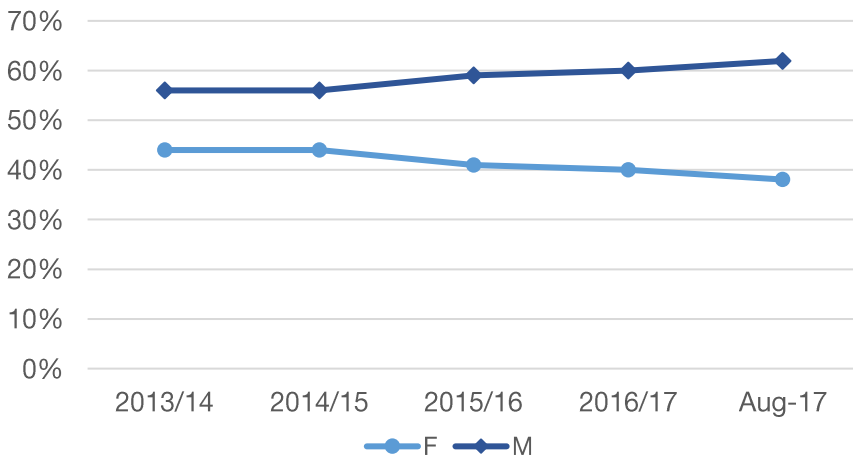


43% of 15-17 year olds are in care due to abuse or neglect; 28% due to absent parenting. Of the 43 15-17 year olds in care due to absent parenting, 37 are unaccompanied asylum seekers.

LAC by gender

62% of current LAC (August 2017) are male; considerably higher than the proportion of under 18 males in Haringey (51%). Comparatively, there have been more males than females looked after in Haringey over the last 5 years. However, we have seen an increasing trend of males and a decrease of females since 2014/15.

Figure 4: LAC by gender, 2013/14 to August 2017

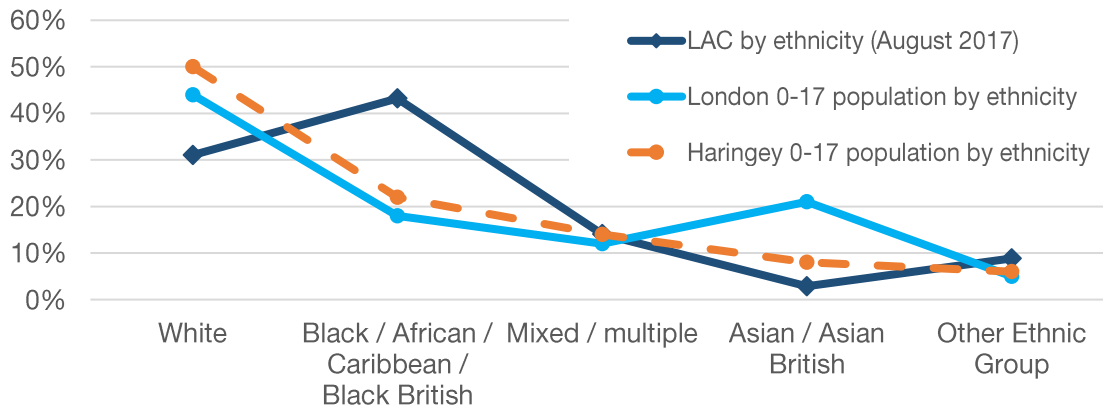


Highest proportion of males cared for are aged 10-14 years and of females 15-17 years old.

LAC by ethnicity

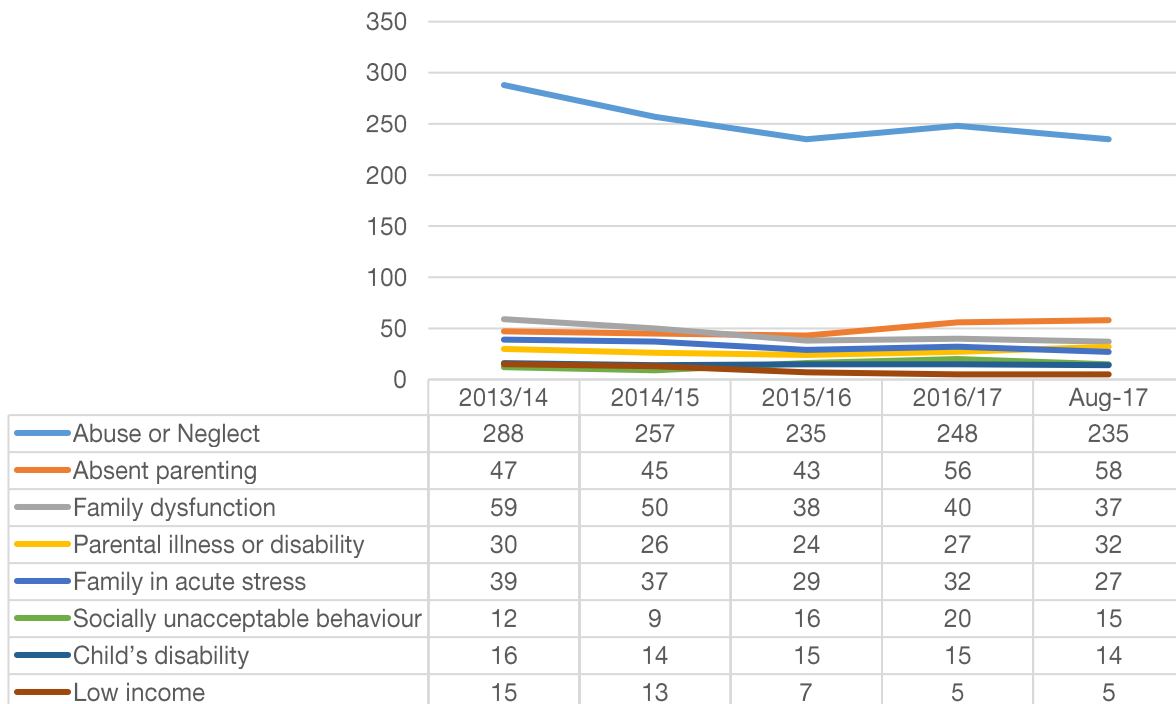
Children of Black ethnicity represent the largest ethnic group of children looked after in Haringey (43%), followed by children of White ethnicity (31%). However, this is disproportional to the proportion of white and black under 18s in Haringey. Haringey LAC of white descent is lower than the proportion of Haringey 0-17 population whilst LAC of black ethnicity is significantly higher.

Figure 5: LAC by ethnicity, August 2017



Presenting Needs

Figure 6: LAC by presenting needs, 2013/14 to August 2017



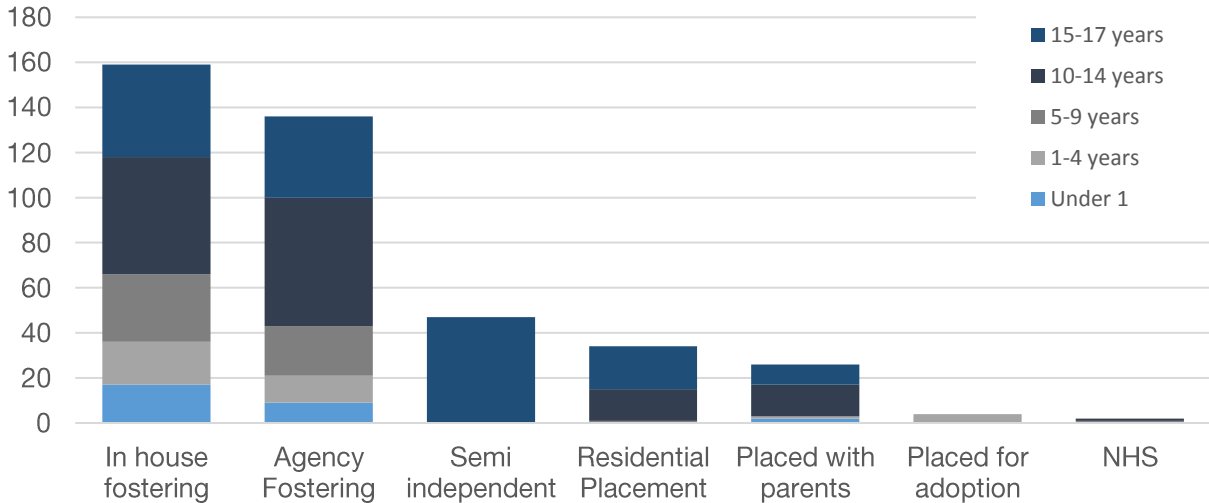
Although the proportion of LAC by presenting needs has fluctuated over the years, the majority were in care due to abuse or neglect. Since 2015/16 we have seen an increase of children in care due to absent parenting. Of the 58 LAC with absent parents at the end of August, 40 (69%) were Unaccompanied Asylum seekers.

Part 2: Stability of Placements

LAC Placements

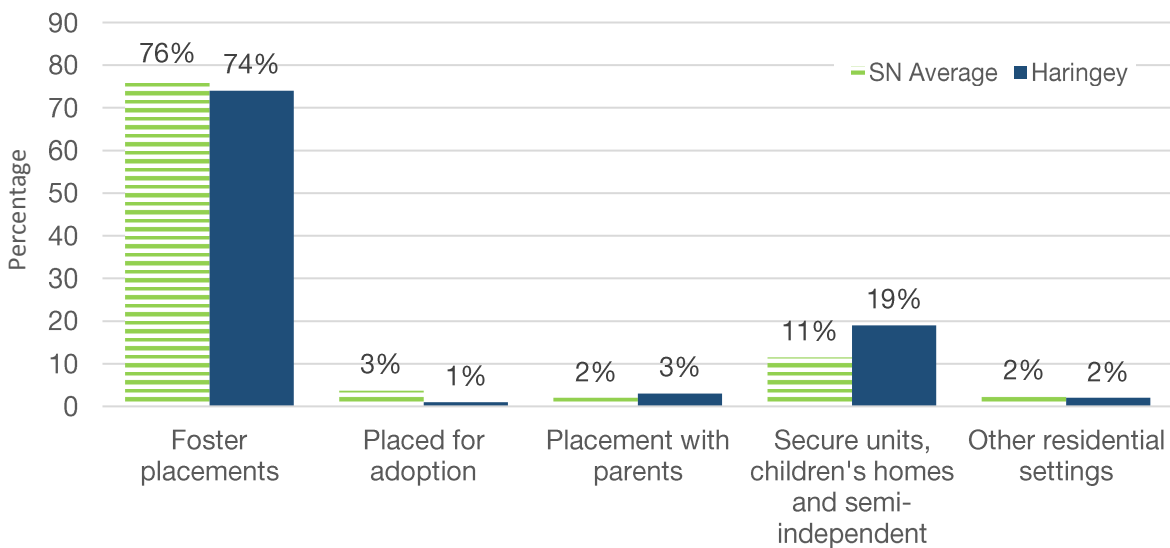
The highest proportion of LAC as at the end of August, were placed with in-house foster carers followed by agency foster carers.

Figure 7: Placements by age, August 2017



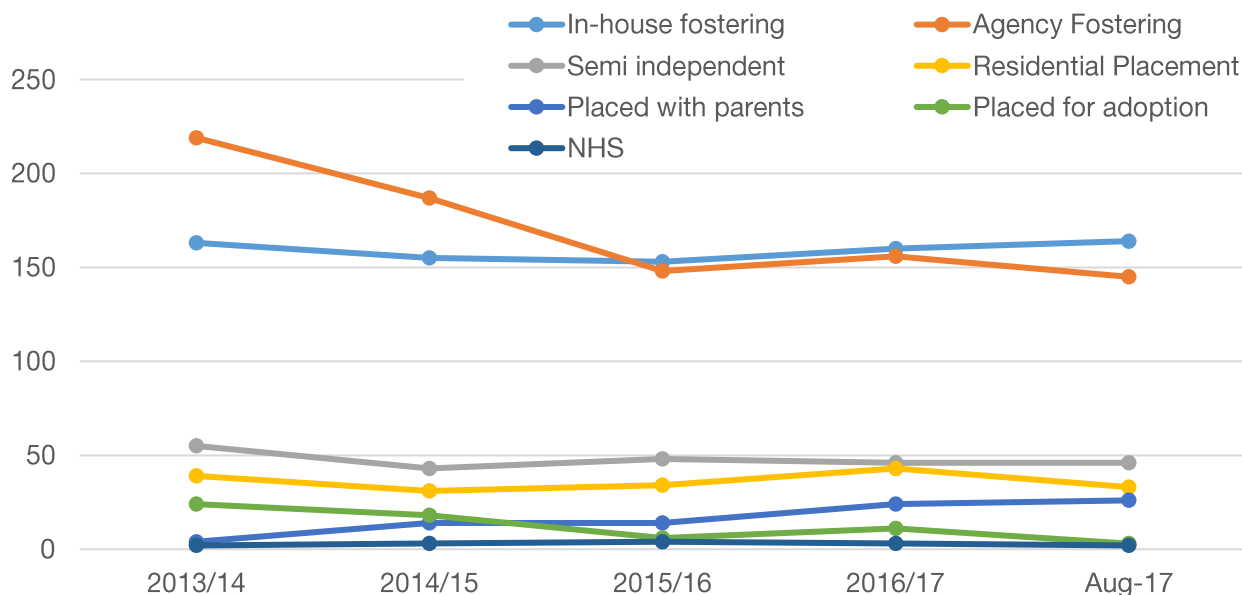
All LAC placed in residential settings were aged 15-17 years whilst all children placed for adoption were 1-4 years. LAC aged 5-9 years were either placed with in-house or agency foster carers. Majority of children in foster placements were aged 10-14 years.

Figure 8: Placement comparison to statistical neighbours as at 31st March 2016 (2016-17 placement data not available as yet)



At 31st March 2016, the proportion of LAC by placements in Haringey were similar to that of statistical neighbours. However, the percentage of LAC placed in secure units, children homes and semi-independent settings were slightly above the statistical neighbour average.

Figure 9: LAC placement types, 2013/14 to August 2017



We have seen an overall downward trend of children placed with agency foster carers, and an increase in trend of children placed with in-house carers. There has also been an increase in the number of children being placed with their parents/guardians since 2013/14 and a reduction in children placed with prospective adopters.

Locality of Placements

Table 1: Locality of placement, by placement type (August 2017)

Locality	Agency Fostering	In house fostering	NHS	Residential Placement	Semi independent	Total LAC
IN	1%	18%	0%	0%	3%	22%
OUT	37%	25%	0%	8%	7%	78%
Total	38%	43%	0%	9%	10%	100%

Most of Haringey's LAC at the end of August who were placed within the borough were placed in either in-house foster placement whilst the highest percentage of LAC outside the borough were placed with agency foster carers.

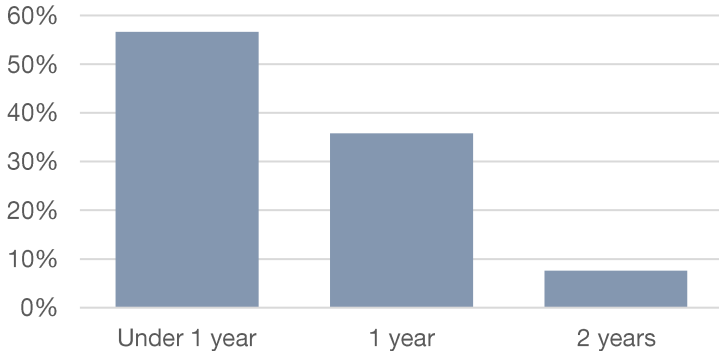
Table 2: Placements within 20 miles? (August 2017)

Within 20 miles or more	Agency Fostering	In house fostering	NHS	With parents	Residential Placement	Semi independent	Total LAC
No	10%	3%	0%	0%	4%	1%	18%
Yes	26%	38%	0%	4%	4%	9%	82%
Total	36%	41%	0%	4%	8%	10%	100%

The majority of LAC placed 20 miles or more from Haringey are placed with agency foster carers, followed by residential placements.

Residential and Semi-independent placements, by length of stay

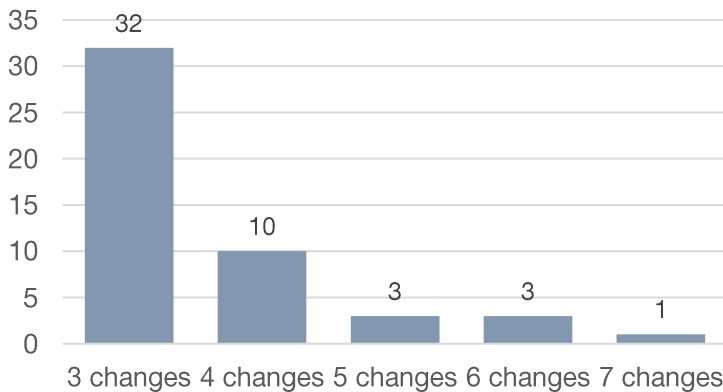
Figure 10: Duration of semi-independent placements (includes both placements which ceased for new placement to begin and placements which ceased as child no longer looked after)



Majority (57%) of children placed with semi-independent providers stayed in their placements for under 1 year before their placement ceased; 36% for 1- 2 years and 8% for more than 2 years. Of those currently in semi-independent placements 59% have been placed for under a year. Please note 18+ data relating to semi-independent placements is not included in the above.

Placement moves

Figure 11: LAC at 31st August, by number of changes



12% of children looked after at the end of August have had 3 or more placement changes in the last 12 months.

There has been an increase in trend in the proportion of LAC with 3+ placements changes in the year. Latest data positions us considerably higher than the same period last year and above local target (see below).

Figure 12: % of LAC with 3+ placement moves in 12 months, last 12 months

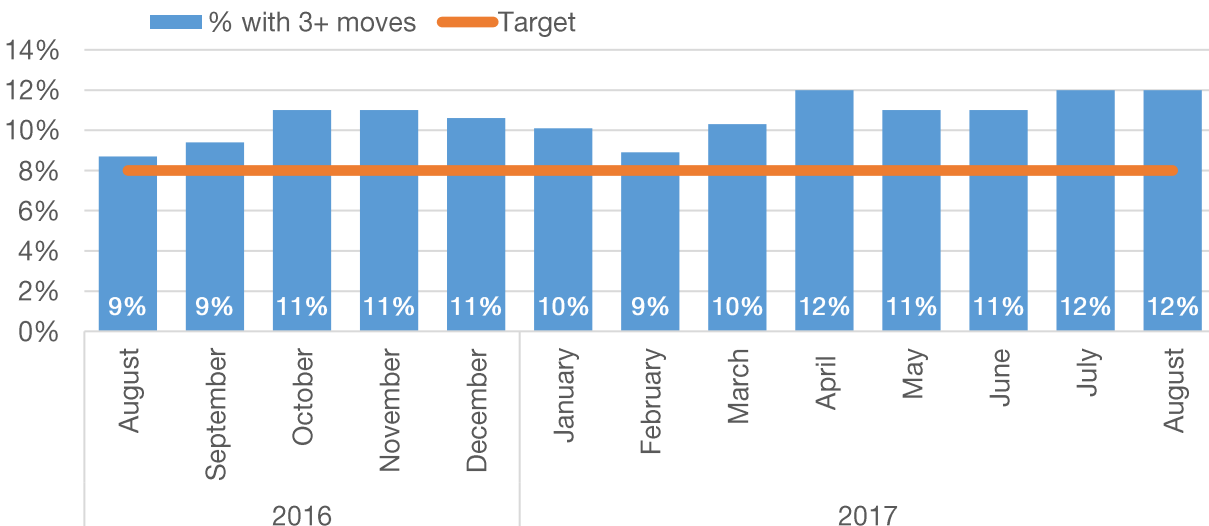


Figure 13: Current placement of LAC with 3 or more placement moves, August 2017

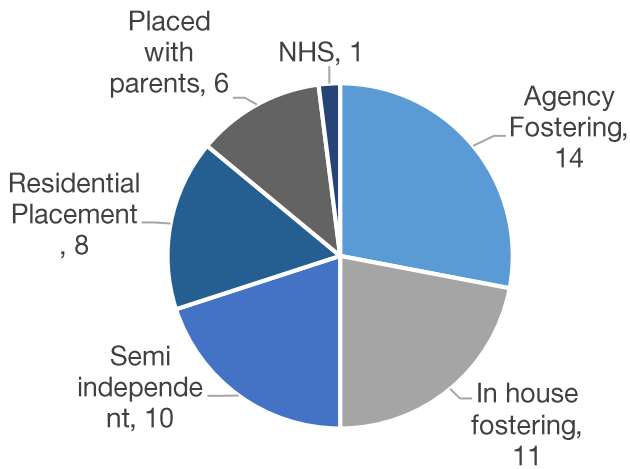


Figure 14: Previous placement of children currently placed in agency foster care with 3+ placements moves in last year

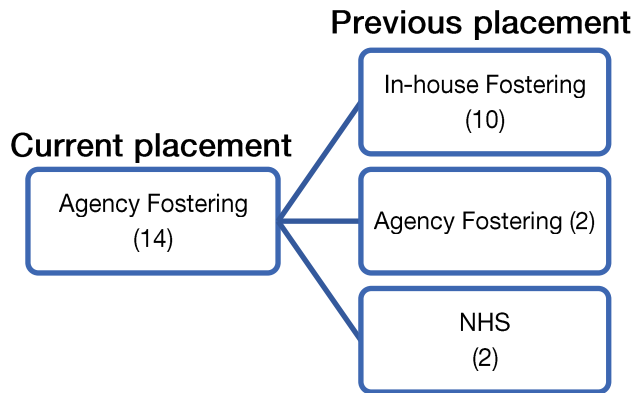


Figure 14: Number of unplanned placement changes, 2013 to August 2017

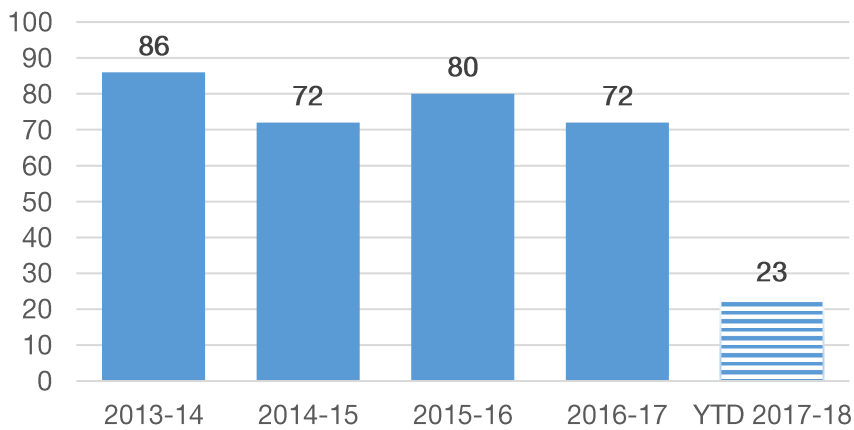
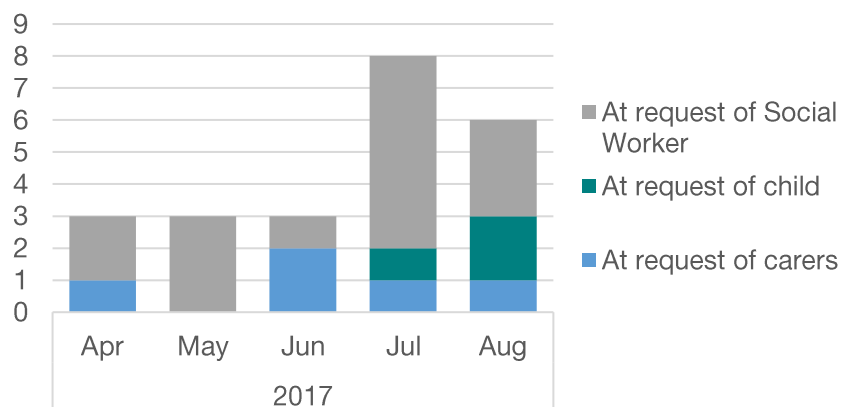


Figure 15: Number of unplanned placement changes by end reason, April to August 2017



Majority of the children (20) who had an unplanned placement change were above the age of 10.

Part 3: Fostering and Adoption

Fostering applications and approvals

The number of initial enquiries has fluctuated since 2013/14 however reached a peak in 2015/16; there has since been a decline. Throughout 2016/17 6% of initial enquiries lead to successful applications which were approved.

Figure 16: Number of initial enquiries from new prospective fostering households and fostering applications approved

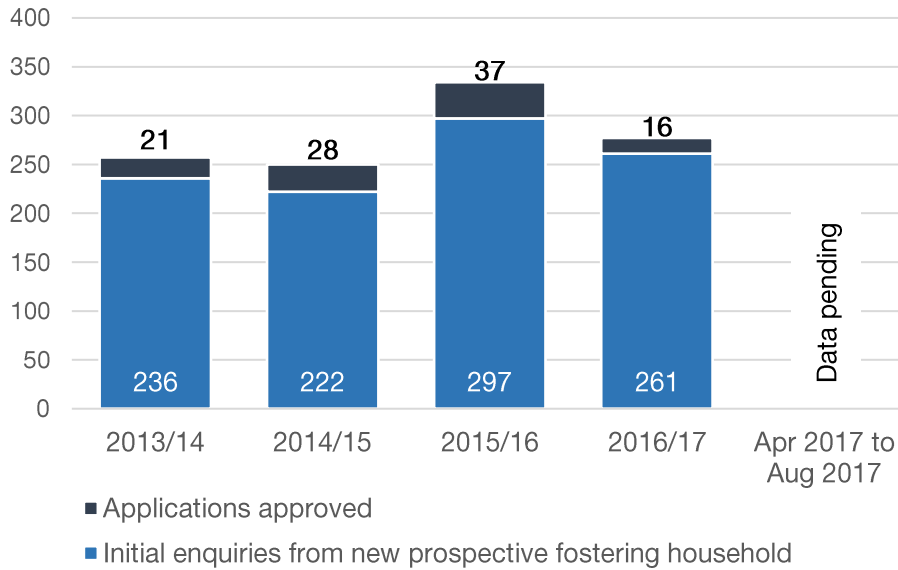
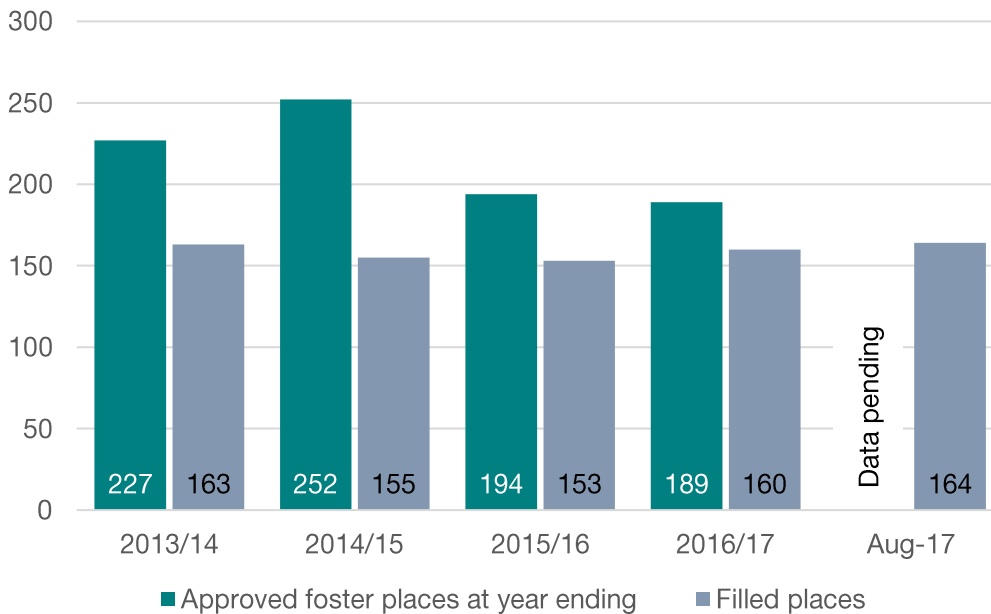


Figure 17: Number of foster places and filled places



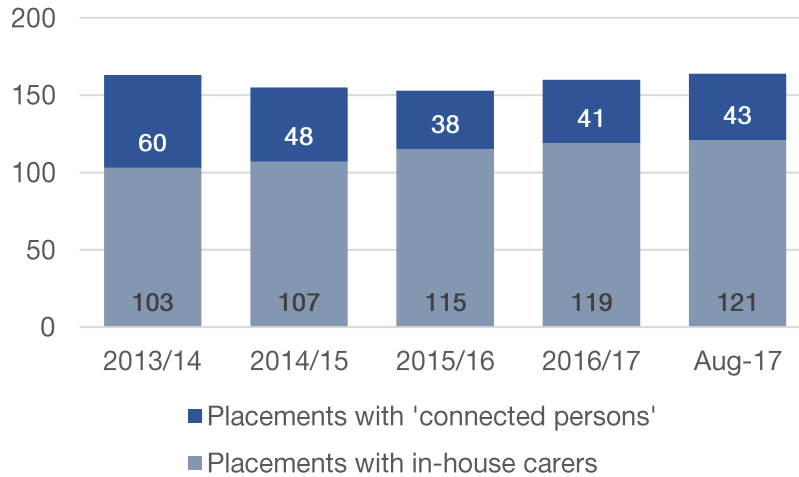
The proportion of approved foster places filled has varied over the years however, at the end of 2016/17 85% of places were filled; the highest since 2013/14.

At the end of August, 164 of foster places were filled; 39% of all children looked after.

Utilisation of in-house foster carers and ‘Connected Person’ households

The number of children placed with in-house foster carers has shown an increase since the end of 2013/14 to August 2017 whilst the number of children with ‘connected persons’ has decreased.

Figure 18: Children placed in in-house foster placements, by placements with ‘connected persons’ and placements with in-house carers



Special Guardianship

We saw a peak in Special Guardianship Orders being achieved in 2014/15 (35 children). However, there has since been a significant decline.

35% (34) of SGOs achieved since April 2013 were made to former foster carer(s) whilst 65% (62) were made to carers other than the former foster carer(s).

Figure 17: SGOs, by years

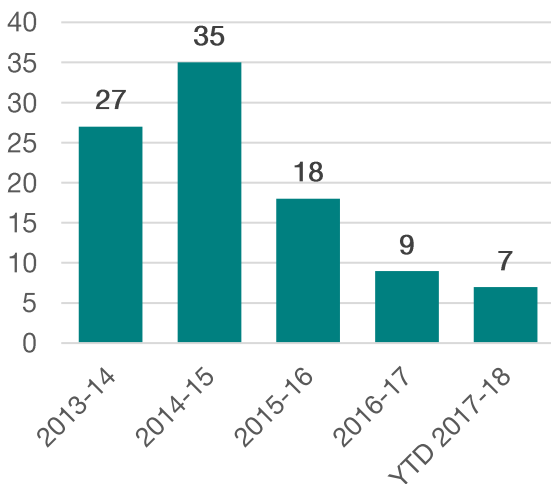
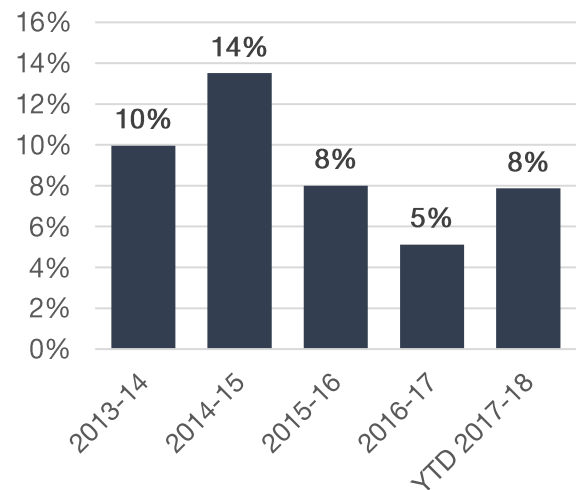


Figure 18: % of permanency achieved of LAC ceased



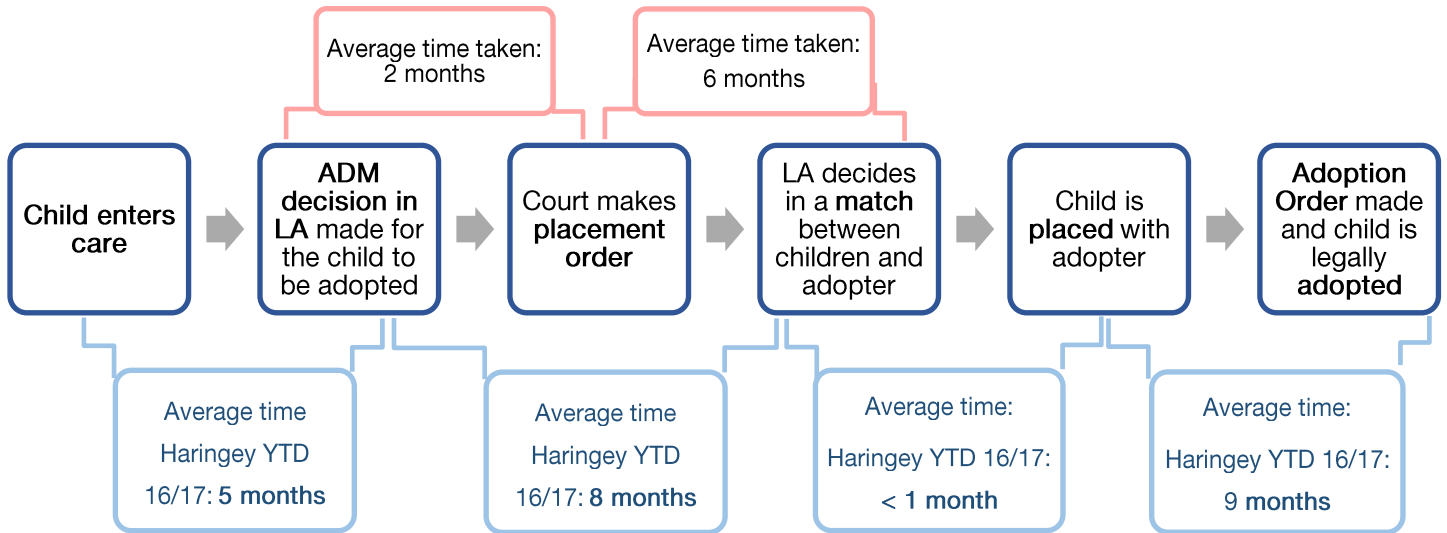
In the year to August 2017, there have been 7 SGOs – 5 more achieved in comparison to the same period last year. Of these, the average number of days spent in care was 251 days (8 months).

Adoptions

At the end of August, 28 children awaiting adoption had not been placed whilst 3 children awaiting were placed with prospective adopters. An adoption order was granted for 10 children were adopted in the year to August; permanency being achieved for 11% of children who have ceased to be looked after in the year.

Adoptions (Child timeliness)

The flow chart below shows the average time taken for each stage of a child’s journey in the year to August 2017 (based on 10 adopted children):

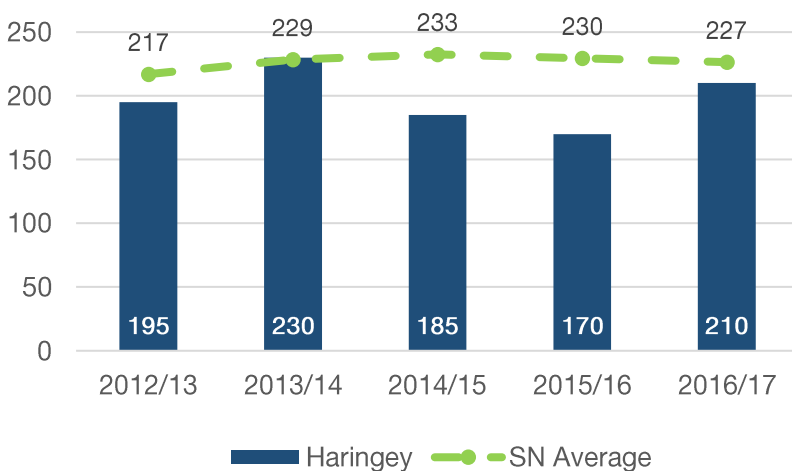


At the end of August, the average number of days between entering care and placed for adoption for those who have been adopted was 419 days; decline since 2016/17 (560 days).

Part 4: Children becoming and ceasing to be looked after

Children becoming looked after

Figure 19: LAC starters by years, Haringey and comparative boroughs

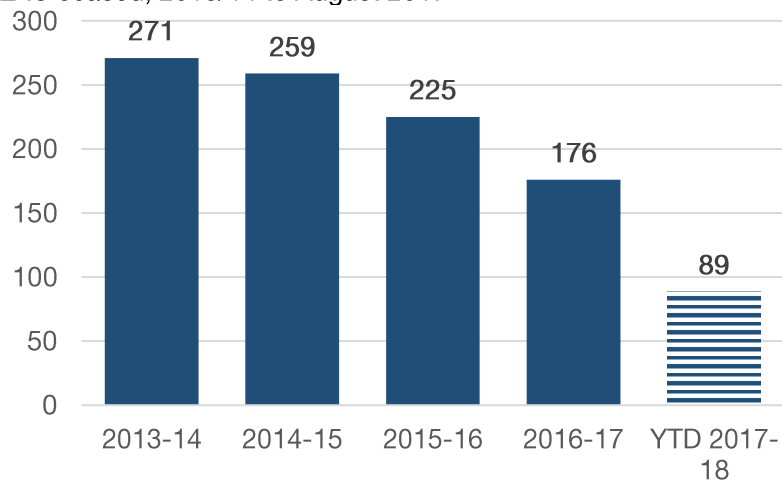


There has been a reduction in the number of children becoming LAC in Haringey since 2013/14 positioning us below the statistical neighbour average. In 2016/17 we saw an increase narrowing the gap slightly however we continue to remain below our comparative boroughs.

Children ceasing to be looked after

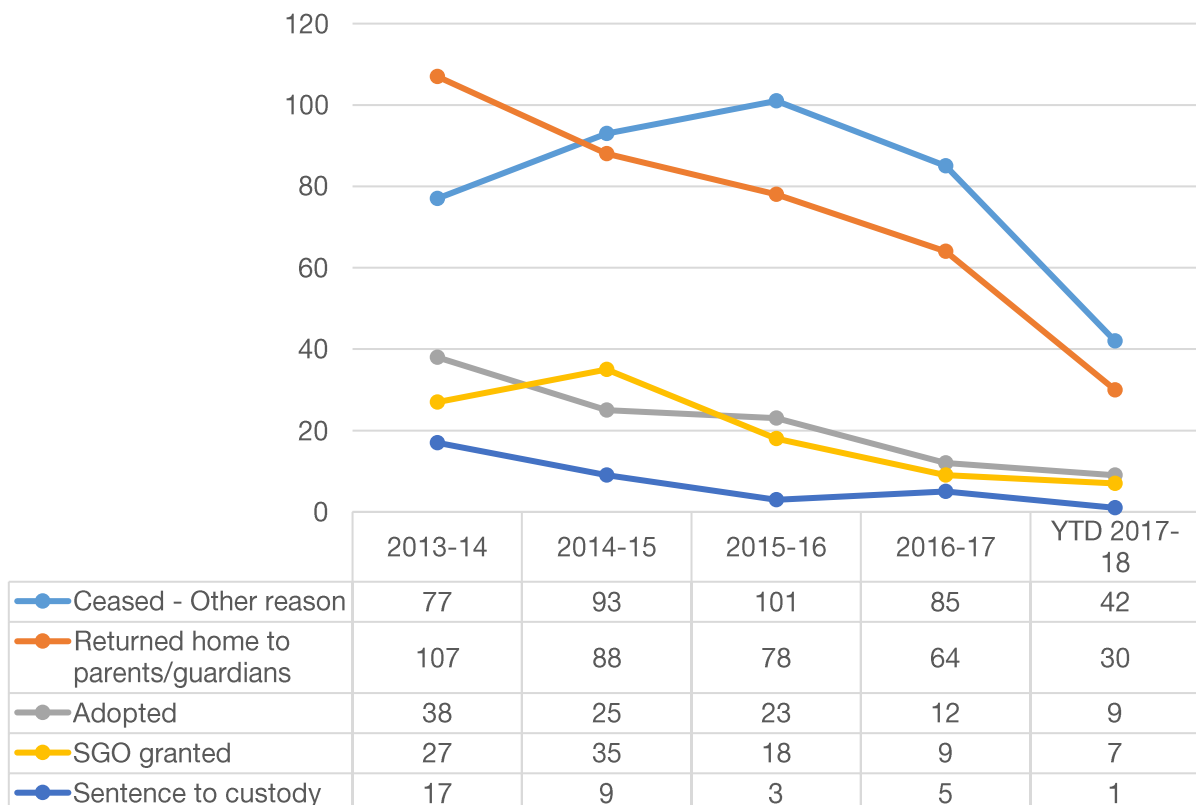
Since 2013/14, there has been a reduction in the number of children ceasing to be looked after.

Figure: Number of LAC ceased, 2013/14 to August 2017



Highest proportion of children leaving care either ceased for any other reason (including turned 18 years of age) or returned home to their parents.

Figure: Top 5 reasons LAC ceased, 2013/14 to August 2017

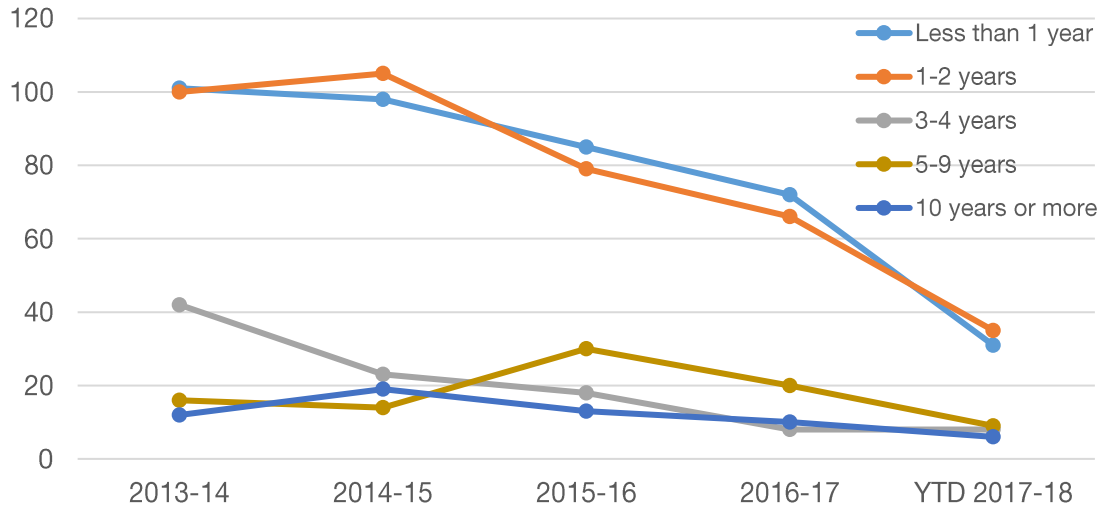


There was a peak of SGOs granted in 2014/15 which has since continued to decline; similarly, since the peak of adoptions in 2013/14 we have seen a reduction.

Length of time in care

Of those that have ceased since 2013/14, majority were in care for up to 2 years.

Figure: LAC ceased by length of time in care, 2013/14 to August 2017



Part 5: Expenditure

Further analysis required

Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee 19 October 2017

Item number:

Title: In-House Fostering Status Update

Report authorised by: Assistant Director

Lead Officer: Erica Owusu-Boateng, Project Manager, 020 8489 4629

Ward(s) affected: All

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

1. Describe the issue under consideration

This report is to provide CPAC Members with an update on In-House Fostering.

2. Recommendations

- Invest to save to embed a strong workforce in the interim at a cost of £50k, with views to increase for the long term model.
- Increase marketing campaign budget to at least £5-10k
- Develop retention model based on best practice and including more incentives for foster carers; reduction in council tax, reward scheme, as part of a Council pledge to endorse the key role that in-house foster carers play.

3. Background information

3.1 The primary objective of the project is to provide a commissioning plan for the recruitment and assessment of foster carers (in house model) looking to:

- implement an in-house delivery model
- recruit a workforce and improve the sustainability of the market
- Recruit more foster carers to meet the needs of our emerging LAC population
- ensure sufficiency of fostering provisions in Haringey to meet the needs of the children and young people LAC population.

3.2 The project will take a two-stage approach.

1. Short term interim solution:
 - a. Implement an interim recruitment team.
 - b. Develop retention programme for existing and new foster carers.

2. Long term solution:
 - a. Design an integrated in-house fostering recruitment and retention model.

4. The following has been achieved:

- Governance set up for the project, which consists of weekly Working Groups to maintain pace, a monthly Steering Group and regular slots in team meetings to ensure that all staff are engaged in the progress;
- Project Brief presented and signed off at both P1 Board and OIA Board.
- Web page updated to remove all references to NRS
- New publicity material produced:- leaflet, information pack, pull up banners
- Agreed performance targets and success criteria which have been embedded into fostering recruitment workflow on mosaic (IT system to support staff and collate data)
- Recruitment process for a Recruitment & Marketing Officer in progress. CVs received for agency post. Interviews to take place.
- Reviewed capacity of current team and allocated four social workers with the capacity to deliver a total of six recruitment assessments
- Bid submitted to the Transformation budget to secure extra funds for marketing and communication.
- Implementing communication plan, with a limited budget of £1500, which means that only an online campaign is feasible at this stage, which includes:
 - updated web page
 - regular social media posts
 - advert on all council customer service TV screens
 - three-part case study - on a foster carer, social worker and a care leaver – will be published in December's *Haringey People*.

5. **Upcoming activities**

- First Information Session planned for Wednesday 18th October.
- Developing a retention model, reviewing other best practice models for inspiration
- one potential foster carers in progress
- Social workers booked to attend training session on delivering recruitment assessments
- Mapping exercise of current foster carers to enable targeted marketing in areas with a higher need

6. Issues encountered

- 6.1 Initial plans to recruit a Fostering Recruitment Team of four staff members was descaled due to budget pressures. Therefore, a skeleton team was developed using existing staff taking on recruitment assessments, with the recruitment of a Recruitment & Marketing Office to support with administration task and engaging with the community.
- 6.2 Delayed recruitment of an agency or redeployment staff member to bridge gap till fixed term post can be recruited as finance challenged supremacy, after it had already been agreed by Finance and all necessary boards. This delayed the interview dates by another week, therefore unlikely the recruitment will be completed for September. Need someone in place by 13 October to support the first information session, planned for 18 October.
- 6.3 Small budget for an intensive marketing campaign, limits volume and reach of campaign. Requesting funds from the Transformation budget.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

These proposals relate to Priority 1.

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Whittington Health

Sample audit by CIC Nurses

The team asked the following questions to 27 Children and or carers that attended for Review health assessments over the last 10 weeks.

Ages of children seen

Age	2	3	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Number	2	1	1	2	2	2	5	4	1	3	4

Date of last dental check?

21 had dental checks within the last year. 6 forms did not have the date recorded, so it was unclear if the nurse just didn't record date as the child/carer couldn't remember the date, or the child didn't have the check-up. (Question needs to be more detailed on a subsequent audit).

What's important to ensure your teeth remain healthy?

Answers:

If you don't care for your teeth they will fall out.

9 said brushing them. 6 said brushing twice a day. 2 using mouthwash

1 using floss. No sweets. Not too much sweet stuff. Cut down on sugary things. Not too many sweets. Carer said getting her off sugar. No fizzy drinks. Eat properly. Use fluoride toothpaste. Not eating too much sugary food. Not eating too many sweets and chocolate. Healthy eating

What did the dentist say about your teeth?

Dentist had a quick look no concerns.

No problems

Good and strong had fissure sealant

They are good

They are good and healthy

To keep on brushing teeth

Good shape.

Good

Dentist said they are lovely

Floss often health teeth advised.

Brush bottom set better

1 child aged 10 year old with small filling, dentist said there was improvement but slight build-up of plaque.

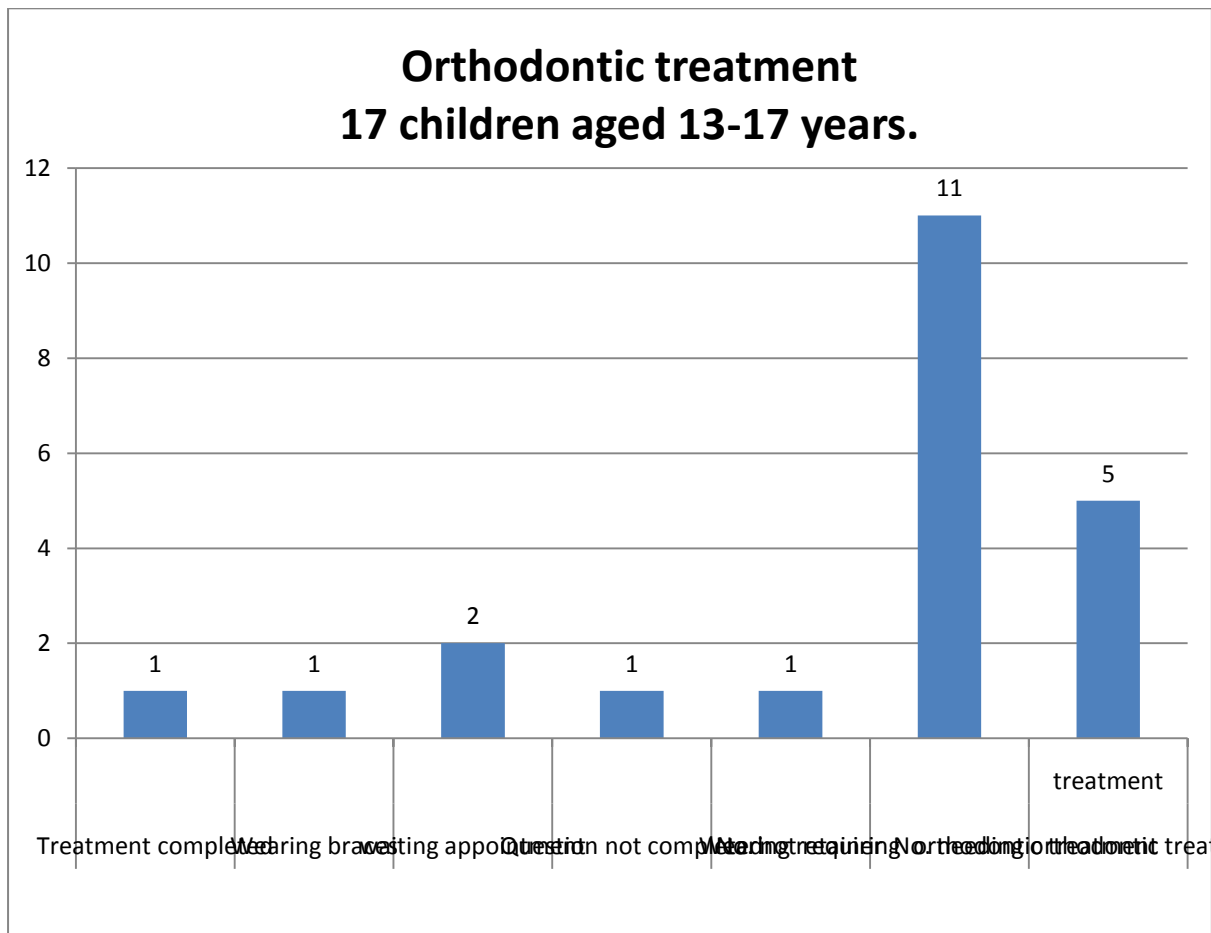
1 16 year old 1 filling and 2 extractions coated with, fissure sealant advice re dental hygiene.

I had teeth removed due to crowding last year.

1 17 year old has a filling.

Older young people

Have you got braces or orthodontics?



Why orthodontics is used ?

Why do so many children seem to be having treatment?

About one third of all children have a demonstrable need of orthodontic treatment and a further third are borderline cases (British orthodontic society)

The benefits of orthodontics can include:

- Correction of dental crowding and straightening of your teeth
- Correction of your bite so the front and back teeth meet evenly
- Reducing the chance of damage to prominent teeth
- Improving your appearance, including your smile

Many people have crowded or crooked teeth or their teeth don't meet correctly when they bite. These problems can mean the teeth are more likely to become damaged or put a strain on jaw muscles.

In some cases, abnormal development of the teeth and jaw can affect the shape of the face.

Orthodontics can also be used to treat other health problems, such as a cleft lip and palate or cases of mild sleep apnoea.

Who can have orthodontics ?

Orthodontic treatment is usually only started after most of a child's adult teeth have started to come through.

This is usually when they're about 12 years old, but depends on the number of adult teeth and the growth of their face and jaws.

Orthodontic treatment for adults can begin at any age, but the treatment options are more limited.

Treatment also won't begin unless you have a good standard of oral hygiene as orthodontic treatment can increase the risk of tooth decay.

Types of orthodontic treatment

Orthodontics mainly uses braces to correct the position of the teeth. Your exact treatment will depend on the problems with your teeth.

In some cases, you may have to wear headgear at night, or have small pins placed temporarily in the jaw as well as a brace. You may also need to have some teeth removed as part of your treatment.

The length of treatment will depend on how complicated the problem is, but it's usually between 18 and 24 months. (Source NHS choices)

Audit tool – Given to child/carer at health assessment

Today's date	Nurse
Date of last dental check?	
How are you looking after your teeth?	
What's important to ensure your teeth remain healthy?	
What did the dentist say about your teeth?	
<u>Older young people</u>	
Do you need to see the Orthodontist?	
Have you got braces or orthodontics?	
Have you had braces removed?	

Lynn Carrington

Designated Nurse Children in Care 20.6.2017
