

NOTICE OF MEETING

CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 2nd July, 2019, 7.15 pm (or on the rise of the meeting with Aspire) - Civic Centre, High Road, Wood Green, N22 8LE

Members: Councillors Peray Ahmet, Zena Brabazon (Chair), Sakina Chenot, Eldridge Culverwell, Julie Davies, Erdal Dogan and Tammy Palmer

Quorum: 3

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. URGENT BUSINESS

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

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the

existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the consideration becomes apparent.

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

5. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 6)

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April 2019.

6. MATTERS ARISING

7. PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR TO MAY 2019 (PAGES 7 - 24)

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.

8. EUROPEAN UNION AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (PAGES 25 - 30)

Briefing note on the broad overview of the ways that EU law can affect children. To be introduced by the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Date of next meeting

15th October 2019

Glenn Barnfield, Principal Committee Co-ordinator
Tel – 020 8489 2939
Fax – 020 8881 5218
Email: glenn.barnfield@haringey.gov.uk

Bernie Ryan
Assistant Director – Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer
River Park House, 225 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8HQ

Wednesday, 26 June 2019

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 23RD APRIL, 2019,
6.55 - 8.25 pm**

PRESENT: Councillors Peray Ahmet, Sakina Chenot, Erdal Dogan,
Peter Mitchell, Tammy Palmer and Elin Weston (Chair).

49. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred Members present to agenda Item 1 as shown on the agenda in respect of filming at this meeting, and Members noted the information contained therein.

50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Culverwell.

51. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

52. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

53. MINUTES

The minutes of the 17th January 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

In addition, the Chair informed that the implementation date for the regionalisation of adoption had been delayed until 1st September 2019. This was to allow for the finalisation of the recruitment process needed.

Regarding member training, the Chair informed that an additional Corporate Parenting training session was due to be held in September 2019, for those unable to attend the previous session.

54. PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR TO MARCH 2019

The Committee considered this report which provided 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.

Bev Hendricks, Interim Assistant Director for Children's Social Care, took the Committee through the report as set out. In addition, the following was highlighted:

- There was concern nationwide that the National Transfer Scheme (NTS), which aimed to ensure the care responsibilities of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children was shared by local authorities, was not working. Haringey looked after 50 unaccompanied asylum seeker children. This figure was above the nationwide average, which was approximately 42 per local authority. Haringey had agreed to a request from Croydon Council to take on unaccompanied asylum seeker children on their behalf.
- In response to a question from the Committee, Officers informed that unaccompanied asylum seeker children had no on arrival entitlements but by virtue of the fact they were unaccompanied, the local authorities were required to discharge duties to them as corporate parents. If the children sought to apply for citizenship, then they would have to apply for this through the Home Office and the Council supported them throughout that process. However, there was concern by the Committee that this provided the children with only a short period in which they could apply for citizenship before they turned 18 and were then eligible for deportation by the Home Office. Officers encouraged the children to apply for indefinite leave to remain over settled status. However, Officers found the Home Office usually granted temporary leave to remain over settled status, which would then be subject to review every 12 months.
- There were issues around Personal Education Plans (PEPs). These were transitioning to the new e.PEP system which was praised for allowing a more collaborative approach in their production. Guidance was continuing to be provided to the educators and social workers but the figures of completed e.PEPs had been improving, as well as their quality. Officers were confident that the system was beginning to be better understood and that proposed targets would be attainable.
- Homes for Haringey were praised on their work in helping to provide permanent accommodation for care leavers and the training they provided on independent skills.
- The Chair and Director of Children's Services paid a special tribute to Denise Gandy for all the work she had done with the Homes for Haringey Pledge for Care Leavers.

In response to questions from Committee Members, the following information was noted:

- Regarding the '*Reason episode of care ceased*' – '*any other reason*' on page 17, it was clarified that the system social workers used, Mosaic, was restrictive in the options it listed. For example, not all forms of permanency options were listed on Mosaic. Officers would take the 109 cases under '*any other reason*' and list those in a separate grid to demonstrate what those reasons were. (**Post meeting note: A review of Mosaic established that the 109 cases under '*any other reason*', are all children who achieved their 18th birthday.**)

- The two zero recordings for 'CLA placements out of borough' in 2013-14, 2014-15 was an error likely due to information not being available.
- If the young person was unable to find anywhere to live, then he/she may be accommodated by the Local Authority. This was known as Section 20 accommodation (S20 Children Act 1989) and the young person acquired 'looked after' status. Children's Services had a duty to take such steps which were reasonably practicable to accommodate the young person.
- It was explained that Residential accommodation was typically for older children, whilst Children's Homes were typically for younger children who might have significant needs, such as mental health challenges or not being ready to live in a family setting.
- Regarding the chart on page 17 - '*Comparing the primary need of CLA starters*', Officers clarified that the missing details were - '*Parents illness or mental health*', and '*family in acute distress*'. Officers confirmed a footnote would be provided in the future (**Action: Bev Hendricks**).

The Chair thanked Officers and was reassured by the positive trajectory of the performance indicators overall.

55. HARINGEY YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE - LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

Bev Hendricks, on behalf of Jennifer Sergeant and Gill Gibson, highlighted that, in light of the report, the following key areas were being addressed:

- Statistics showed looked after children were more likely to receive a custodial sentence than non-looked after children. Jennifer Sergeant was part of an advisory group which was challenging the courts on this matter and sought for there to be a review on the arrangements for sentencing.
- Officers would continue to review the interventions to address offences related to violence and knife carrying.
- Officers would review the arrangements for looked after children in the cohort of children in young people who had special educational needs.

The Chair praised the exit questionnaires but felt more detail needed to be brought to the Committee to highlight what specific action was being taken to help those young people.

The Chair deferred the item until the next meeting on 2nd July 2019 to allow the relevant report authors to attend and answer any Member questions. It was suggested that Cllr Mark Blake, Cabinet Member for Communities, Safety and Engagement, also be invited to attend (**Action: Clerk**).

The Committee wished for the following to be addressed (**Action: Jennifer Sergeant**):

- What strategies the Council had in place to address the disparity between custodial sentences received for looked after children and non-looked after children.

- What support was offered to foster carers to help prevent young people from being drawn into the type of behaviour that might lead them to being involved with the Youth Justice Service.
- Regarding page 30 and “*range of interventions*” offered to young people, what specifically was offered to looked after children to support them.

56. OFSTED INSPECTION OF CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

Ann Graham, Director of Children's Services, introduced this report. The Committee noted that the Action Plan prepared for Ofsted had been discussed at Cabinet and the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee. It was noted that the Action Plan at pages 55 to 64 was a summarised version of the plan.

The Action Plan covered the nine areas where services needed to improve, as found by Ofsted at its most recent inspection. There had been detailed discussions across the service about what measures could be put in place to improve those nine areas. The Heads of Services would regularly attend the Department Management Team meetings to provide the Director of Children Service's reports on what measures and strategies were being put into action to improve not only the nine areas recognised as needing improvement but the service in general.

The Director of Children's services gave a commitment to provide an annual update on the Action Plan to the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee. The Action Plan was seen as an ongoing and evolving plan. If there were other areas that the Services considered needed improvement then those would be added to the Action Plan so they could be monitored. Officers were committed to maintaining the Action Plan, including where improvements were made, to ensure the services did not become complacent.

Regarding the amber RAG ratings (5.1 and 5.2 on page 62), Officers noted the service needed to be clearer and consistent about decision-making. The Service also needed to ensure there was a sufficient number of placements for children and young people at the higher end who might have, for example, complex mental health issues, behavioural issues or disabilities.

The Chair noted there was due to be an Ofsted 'Keeping in touch' meeting in July 2019. It was requested that a verbal update be provided at the CPAC meeting on 15th October 2019 regarding this (**Action: Ann Graham**).

57. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS STRATEGY 2018-2021

Colette Elliott-Cooper introduced this report regarding the draft Looked after Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2018-21 for the Members to ratify.

The following was highlighted to the Committee:

- There were attempts being made to increase the number of apprenticeships provided by the Council for care leavers.

- There was an emphasis on ensuring children in care and care leavers who had particular needs were safeguarded with the appropriate mental health support provided.
- The aim was to help children remain at home with their parents. Where this was not possible, the strategy sought to provide those children with the best possible care the Council was able to provide.

In response to questions from Committee Members, the following information was noted:

- Officers noted that unaccompanied minors were monitored and discussed at management meetings to ascertain challenges they faced and what the Council could do to assist them further. Legislation had been introduced which clarified unaccompanied asylum seeker children were children in care and so efforts were made to ensure that they were not singled out as being separate from children in care.
- Officers agreed that the wording of the first sentence in paragraph 4 (page 69) could be better clarified to ensure inclusivity, such as including reference to disabled and transgender children. The Chair suggested including an introductory sentence that stated a commitment to hearing from as many different groups and their experiences as possible.
- Officers confirmed all efforts were made to ensure that children in care were returned to their parents, where it was safe to do so. There was a number of children in care who remained at home but were legally looked after by the local authority. The Council continued to monitor and review the situation at the 6 month review to see if it was safe to return the care of the children back to the parents, at which point the care order would be discharged.
- The Chair suggested the Youth Justice Plan be referenced under the '*Reference to local strategies*'.

RESOLVED

That the Looked after Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2018-21 be ratified.

58. EUROPEAN UNION AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

Bev Hendricks and Ann Graham informed they were in the process of creating a report that examined the impact of Brexit on EU nationals who were not able to exercise treaty rights and, consequently, what that meant for the Councils looked after children and care leavers.

There were 27 looked after children and 11 care leavers who held EU national status. Haringey had taken part in a pilot scheme to look at following the proposed Home Office guidance on settling children who are EU nationals. After intensive consultation and policy driven advice from the Home Office, Haringey left feedback for it to consider revising its proposed plans. The Home Office guidance was too theoretical and, when applied, Haringey was only able to secure 1 of those 38 looked after children and care leavers settled status. Officers considered that the reason this

number was so low was that the Home Office wanted a chipped passport and documentation that the children did not have.

Officers noted that settled status was not akin to citizenship with the latter providing legal rights the former did not. Haringey would continue to advocate to ensure EU national children were not deprived of any rights through not being able to secure citizenship. The pilot had been helpful in highlighting the challenges involved in children securing British citizenship.

In response to a question from the Committee, Officers noted there was difficulty in securing citizenship for EU children where the parents did not have the relevant documentation, which they had found was the case for most.

The Chair invited Officers to present a written update on the progress of this report at its next meeting, to include an outline of the situation and what the challenges might be (**Action: Bev Hendricks/ Ann Graham**).

59. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair paid a special tribute to Fiona Smith, the Head of the Virtual School, who was leaving Haringey Council. The Chair praised all of the work she had done in helping the Virtual School achieve its positive results and wished her all the best for the future.

Dates of the next meeting

2nd July 2019

15th October 2019

16th January 2020

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date

Report for: Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: 2nd July 2019

Item number:

Title: Performance for the year to May 2019

Report

Authorised by:  Director Children's Services Ann Graham

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

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: Non key

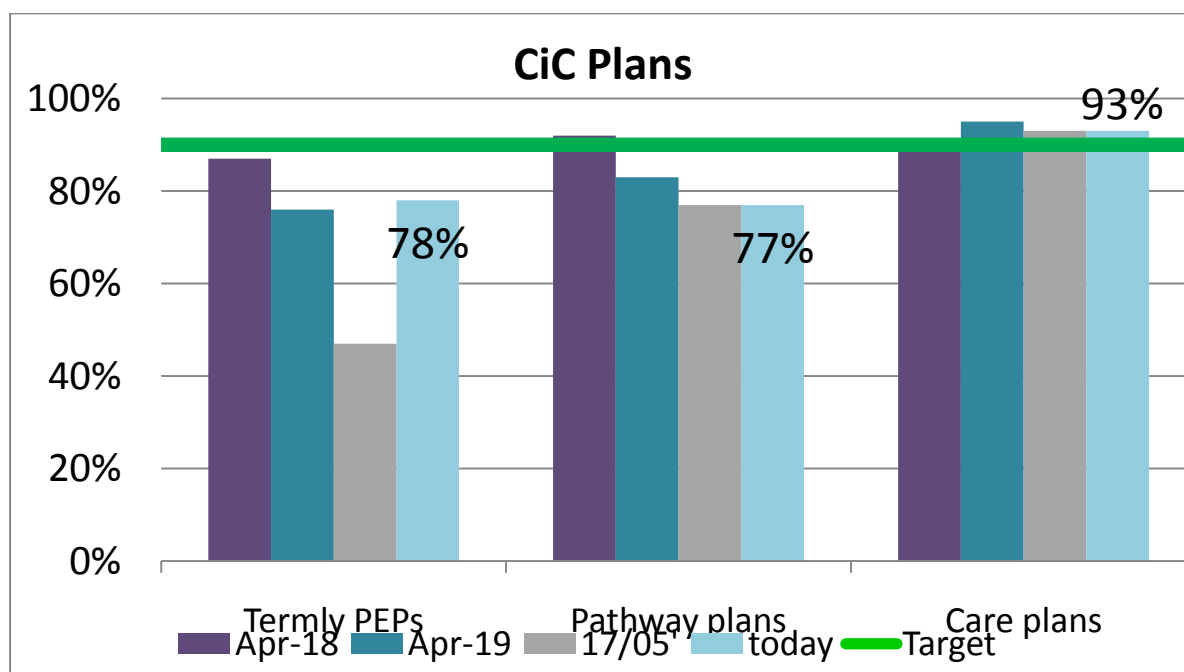
1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report provides an analysis of the performance data and trends for an agreed set of measures relating to looked after children on behalf of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee.
- 1.2. Section 2 contains performance highlights and key messages identifying areas of improvement and areas for focus. It provides an overall assessment relating to Children in Care so that Members can assess progress in key areas within the context of the Local Authority's role as Corporate Parent.
- 1.3. To provide some additional detail on the profile of children receiving social care services as well as the pertinent performance measures relating to Looked After children, an extract from May ChAT- Children's Analysis Tool has been included for the Committee's reference. (Appendix 1)

2. Overall Assessment of Performance

- 2.1. **424 children were in care** as at the end of May 2019 or 70 per 10,000 population including 52 unaccompanied asylum seeker children or 12% of open children looked after cases, a reduction from the 13% at the end of 2017/18. The rate of looked after children in Haringey has remained relatively stable but was ranked 6th highest in London in 2017/18. Haringey's rate is slightly above that of our statistical neighbours (66 per 10,000 population) and the national average (64).

- 2.2. The rate of children becoming looked after (in the last 12 months) is showing a slight decrease at 36 per 10,000 population compared to 37 at the end of March 2019 and it is broadly in line with statistical neighbours rates and similar to the past two years.
- 2.3. In the first 2 months of 2019/20, 36 children have started to be looked after and 36 children have ceased to be looked after.
- 2.4. There were 3 **permanency orders** during April and May, 1 **adoption** and 2 **special guardianship orders** (SGO) equating to 3% and 6% of those that ceased to be looked after in the period. Of the current Children in Care population 27 (6%) have a placement order and 10 are placed for adoption.
- 2.5. At the end of May 2019, 93% of looked after children aged under 16 had an **up to date Care Plan** continuing the positive trend. The graph below illustrates the trend on this and other areas relating to looked after children overtime.

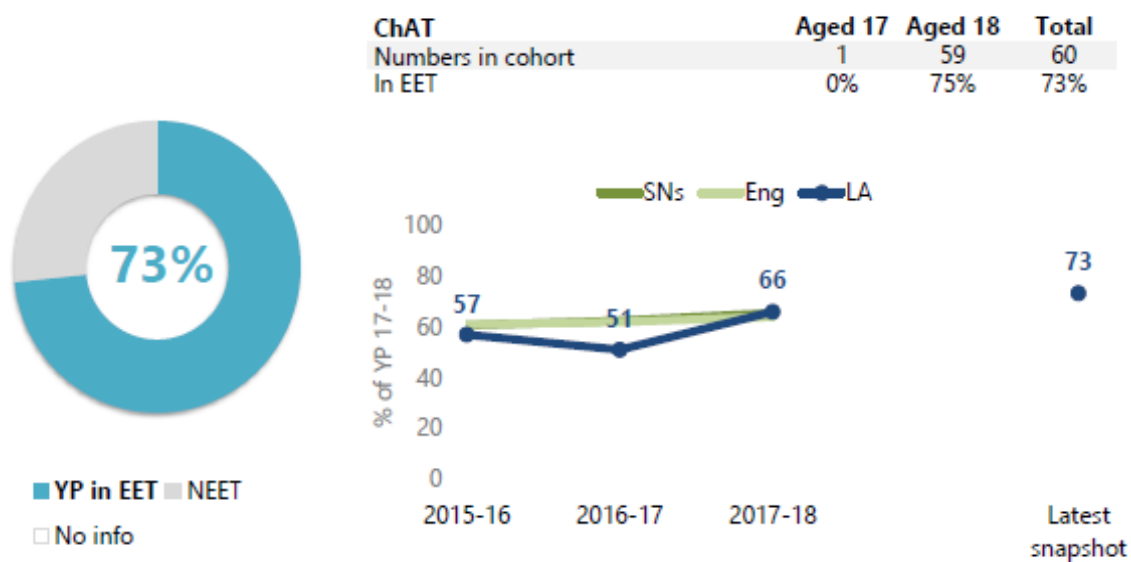


- 2.6. Regular weekly meetings to track activity and performance continue to be held with the Head of Service for Children in Care and team managers. The light blue bar (93% - furthest right bar in each block) shows the position relating to the week ending 24th May 2019.
- 2.7. As shown above 77% of looked after children aged 16-17 had **up to date Pathway Plans**. This area remains a challenge and continues to be tracked and monitored with fortnightly performance meetings but is improving. The Young Adults service are focusing more on the quality of the pathway plans and although the 90% target has not been achieved the service are working more collaboratively and innovatively using new techniques to engage the young people concerned.

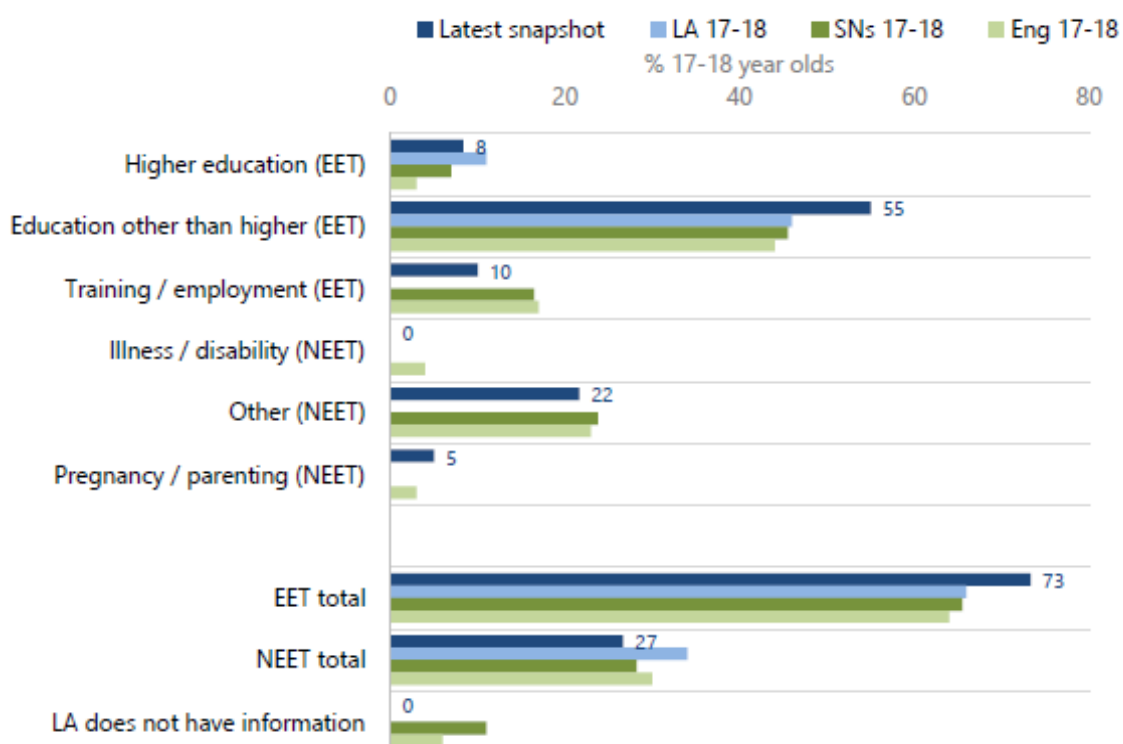
- 2.8. Performance on **Personal Education Plans (PEPs)** stands at the end of the Spring term 2019-20 at 78% for statutory school age children with an up to date PEP. The focus needs to be on drawing up plans for the 22% of children without an up to date PEP and for information to be gathered in a more timely fashion. Detailed weekly management information by team is available to show what needs to be done and by which party e.g. social work, school or virtual school. The start of each school term sees a fall in the percentage as the older PEPs become out of date, the percentage rises over the course of the term as more are completed. PEPs are only counted as in date if they are dated in the current or previous term.
- 2.9. Guidance and training on the process and use of the new e-form is being embedded to support further improvement in this area. Since the introduction of e.PEPs the virtual school has reported a positive impact and has seen real improvements in quality with a much larger proportion of PEPs now meeting the expected standard. There are still some anomalies in reporting completion and approval of e.PEPs including the update of the child's record on Mosaic social care system as e.PEPs are recorded on a separate Welfare Call system. A plan to closely track social worker updates on Mosaic and focus on those children who do not have a recorded e.PEP early in the new term is in place so should contribute to improved timely completion of PEPs as well as continued improvements in the overall quality of the PEPs impacting on the outcomes for the young people.
- 2.10. 87% of **visits to Children in Care** were recorded as completed in the relevant timescales at the end of May. This is a slight improvement (2%) on the end of March result. Court Team 3 and the Young Adults Team 1 have managed to achieve the new 95% visit target. The other teams are working very hard to adhere to this challenging target. Performance on visits to looked after children continues to be tracked at performance meetings, held by the Head of Service for Children in Care, and along with supervision meetings continues to be actively monitored.
- 2.11. At the end of March 2019, 12% of the current looked after **children had three or more placement moves**, an increase on the 2017/18 figure of 9% and 1% higher than published statistical neighbour average. This equates to 50 children. Children **under 16 who had been in care for at least 2.5 years in the same placement for at least 2 years**, has decreased slightly to 71% from 76% in 2017/18 but is in line with the national average and our statistical neighbours (68%). These two indicators should be viewed together to gain a view of placement stability for Haringey's children in care. The data confirms the Ofsted finding that the majority of children in care receive good care, support and placement choice in both the short and long term and experience placement stability.
- 2.12. At the end of May children who were looked after for at least 12 months with an **up to date health assessment was 96%**, a slight decrease on the end March 2019 figure (98%), but this is still above statistical neighbour performance 90%, national levels 88% and our achievement in both 2016/17 (93%) as well as 2017/18. Excellent performance has been sustained in this area this year.

- 2.13. At the end of May 75% of eligible children had **up to date dental visits**. In order to drive this figure up a bit, a slight system change is being considered to ensure that social workers have this bit of information on their horizon when they meet the carer/visit the children. This is a focal point of the two weekly Young Adults Service performance meeting.
- 2.14. Of the 219 **care leavers aged 19-21** and 60 **17-18 year olds** in receipt of leaving care services, 95% and 98% were considered as in touch with the local authority at the end of March, a considerable improvement on the proportions previously reported. 53% of the 19-21 year olds and 73% of the 17-18 year olds were known to be in **Education Employment or Training (EET)** better than statistical neighbour figures. Haringey has higher proportions of young people in Higher Education than our statistical neighbours and compares favourably with the national position - see graphs below detailing activity types for 19-21 year olds ChAT appendix for 17-18 year old breakdown.
- 2.15. 96% of 19-21 year olds were known to be in suitable accommodation at the end of March and 93% of 17-18 year olds. Again this area is showing a slight improvement on the March figures and a significant improvement from the 83%(19-21 year olds) in suitable accommodation, returned for 2017/18 and compares favourably to the 17/18 statistical neighbour average of 81%.
- 2.16. We are very proud of our robust care leavers reporting system, which we have recently introduced. We now have a tool to monitor not just how our 17-21 year old care leavers lives, but our older care leavers' too (more than 200 of them), we use the data to provide them with help strategically, where they really need it most.

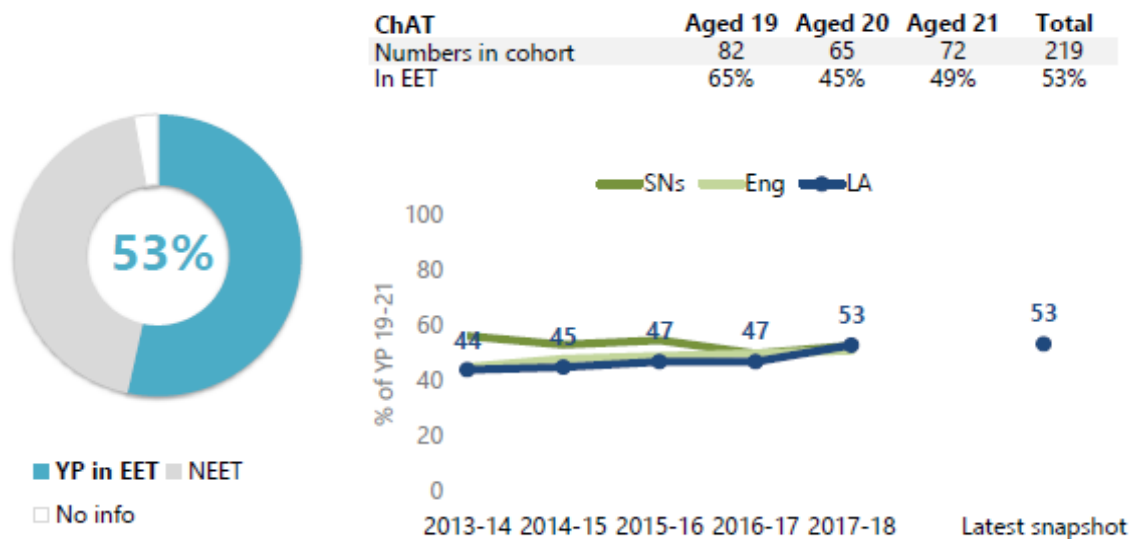
Education, Employment, or Training (EET) of 17-18 year olds



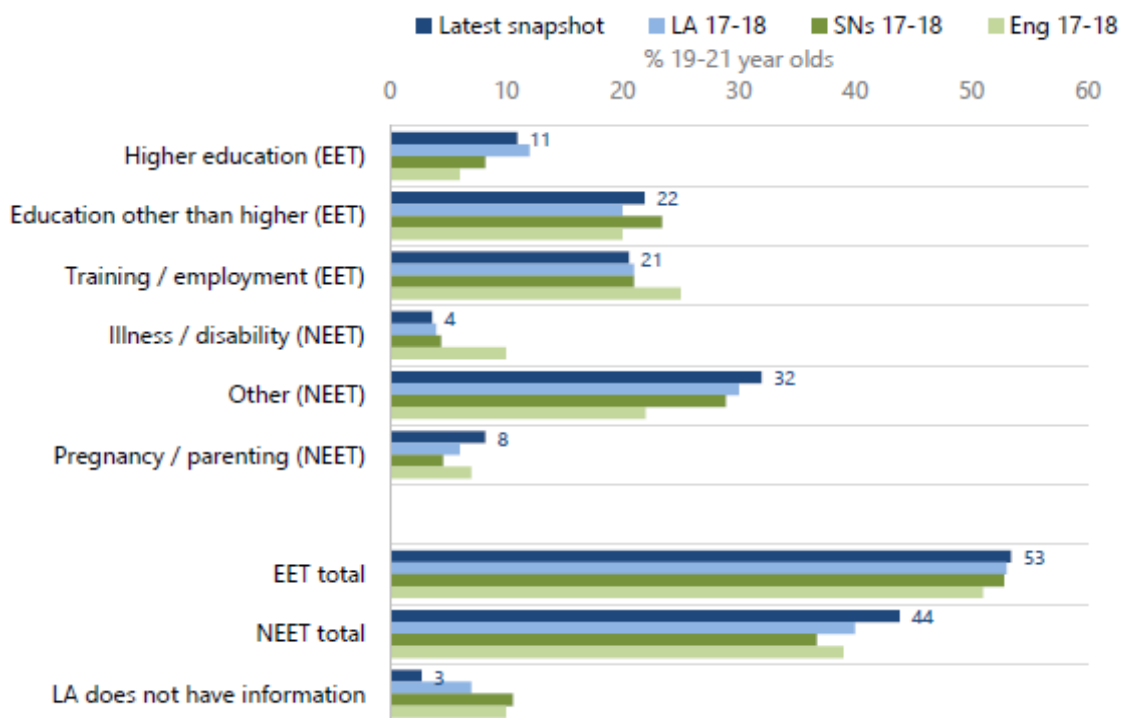
Activity types of 17-18 year olds



Education, Employment, or Training (EET) of 19-21 year olds



Activity types of 19-21 year olds



3. Contribution to strategic outcomes

3.1. Borough Plan 2019-2022

3.2. People Priority: A Haringey where strong families, strong networks and strong communities nurture all residents to live well and achieve their potential

Appendices

- Looked after children pages from May 2019 ChAT (Appendix 1)

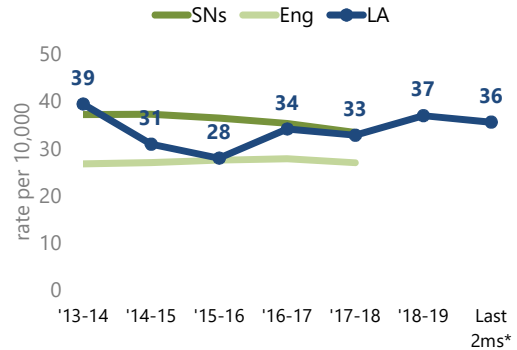
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Children Looked After (CLA) started and ceased in the last 2 months

from 01/04/2019
to 31/05/2019

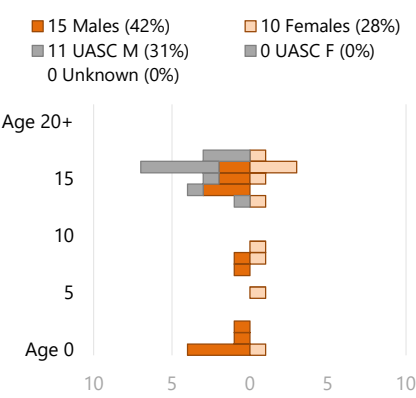
36 CLA started in the last 2 months

Rate of CLA started per 10,000 children



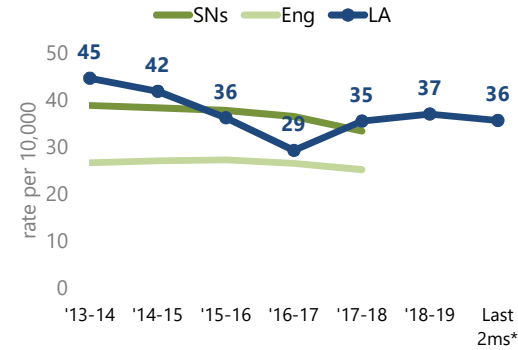
*Annualised rate for comparison purposes

Age and gender



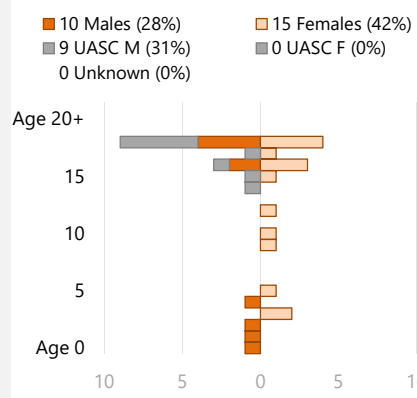
36 CLA ceased in the last 2 months

Rate of CLA ceased per 10,000 children



*Annualised rate for comparison purposes

Age and gender



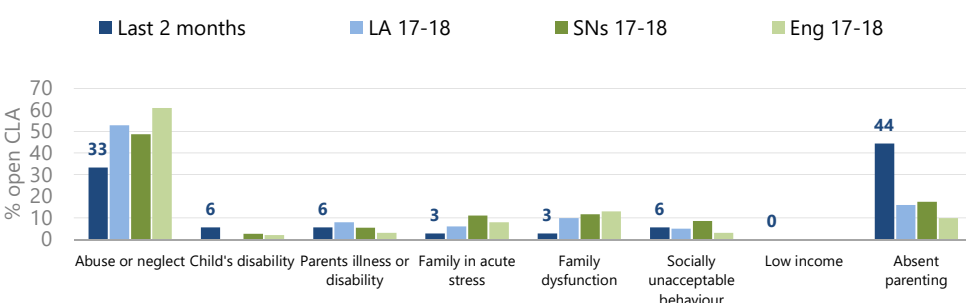
11 of the 36 CLA starters were unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC)

31%

1 of the 36 CLA starters have previously been looked after

3%

Comparing the primary need of CLA starters



Reason episode of care ceased

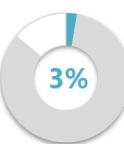
Adopted



Last 2 months
0%

2017-18 (published)
LA 5% SNs 6% Eng 13%

Special Guardianship Order



Last 2 months
3%

2017-18 (published)
LA - SNs 12% Eng 11%

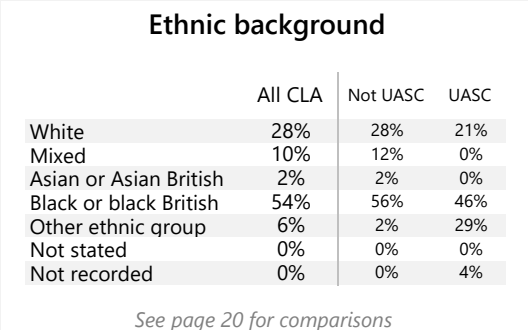
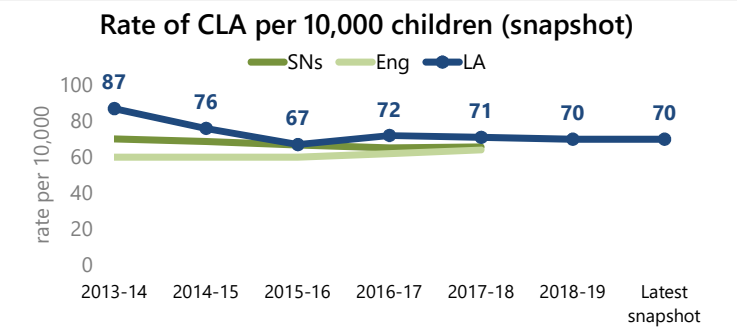
Number of CLA ceased by reason in the period

Adopted	0
Died	0
Care taken by another LA	0
Returned home to live with parents/ relatives	7
Live with parents/relatives (not PR)	1
Residence order granted	0
Special Guardianship Orders	1
Moved into independent living	0
Transferred to residential care funded by ASS	0
Sentenced to custody	0
Accommodation on remand ended	0
Age assessment determined child was 18+	0
Child moved abroad	0
Any other reason	22
Not recorded / Error	5

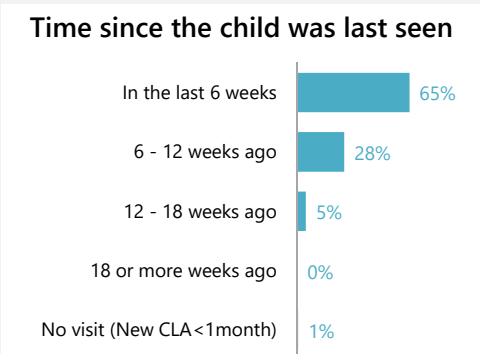
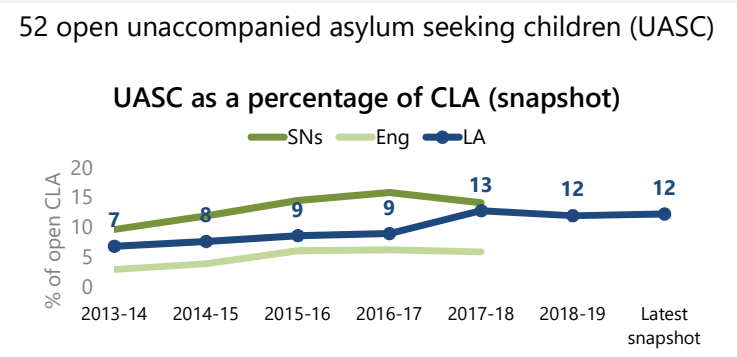
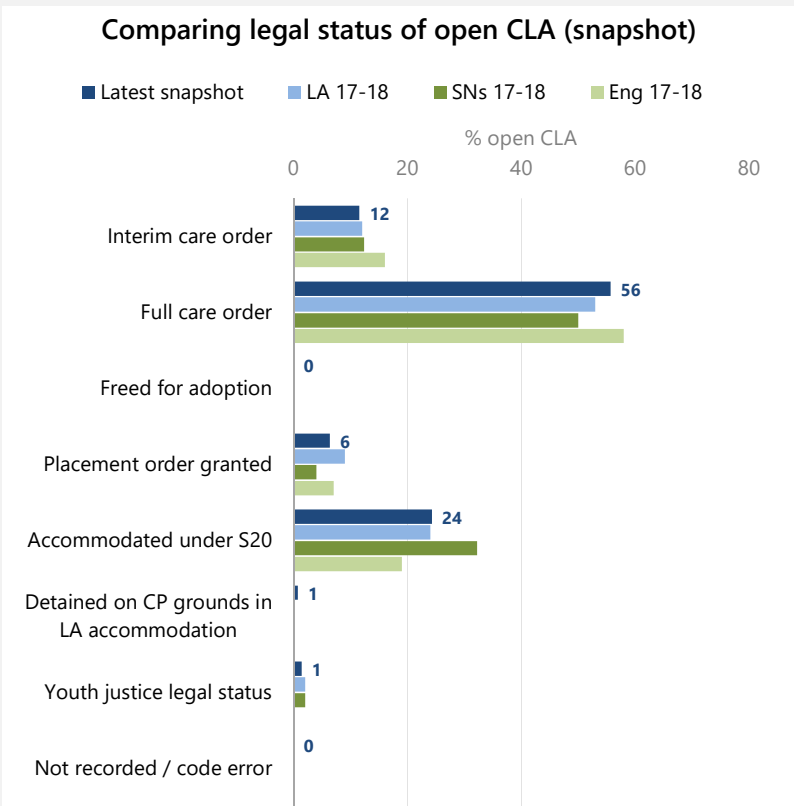
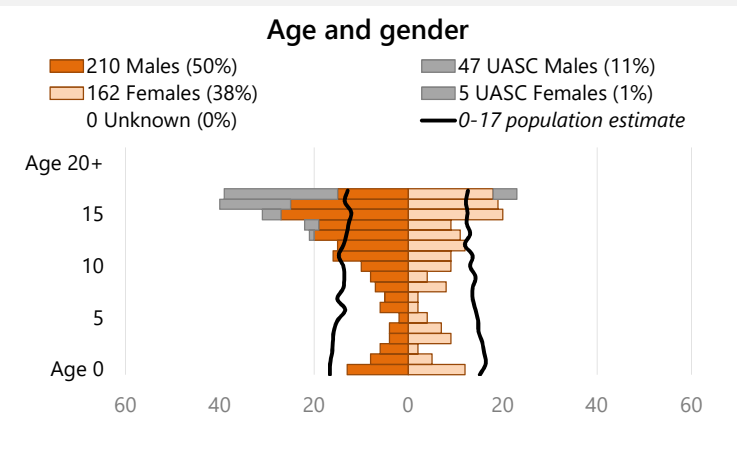
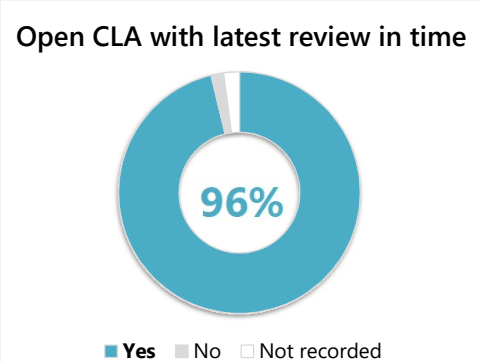
Children Looked After (CLA) with an open episode of care

Snapshot 31/05/2019

424 Children Looked After (CLA) with an open episode of care



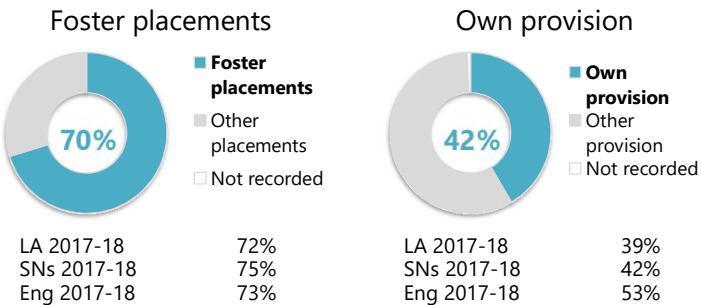
33 children (8%) with a disability



Children Looked After (CLA) placements

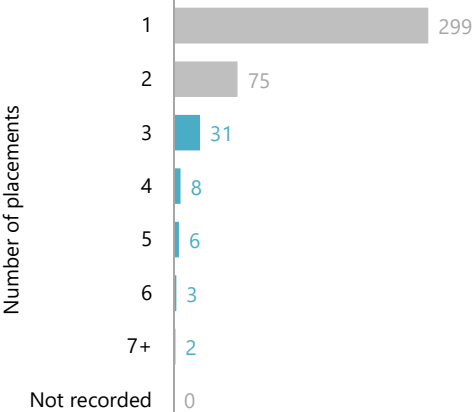
Snapshot 31/05/2019

CLA placements by type and provision

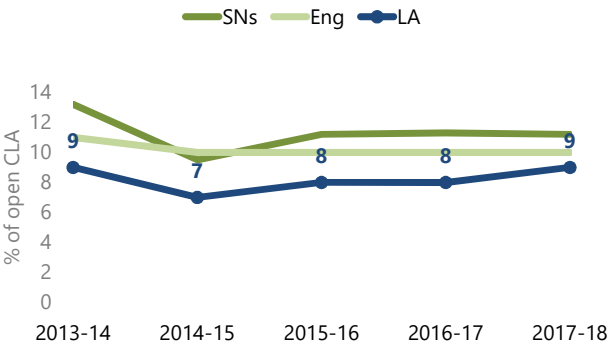


Placement type for open CLA	Own LA	Private	Other	Total
Foster placement	165	114	19	298
Placed for adoption	0	0	10	10
Placed with parents	0	1	19	20
Independent living	0	0	0	0
Residential employment	0	0	0	0
Residential accommodation	1	12	26	39
Secure Children's Homes	5	0	0	5
Children's Homes	1	30	9	40
Residential Care Home	0	1	0	1
NHS/Health Trust	0	0	2	2
Family Centre	0	0	1	1
Young Offender Institution	4	0	1	5
Residential school	0	2	1	3
Other placements	0	0	0	0
Temporary placement	0	0	0	0
Total placements	176	160	88	424

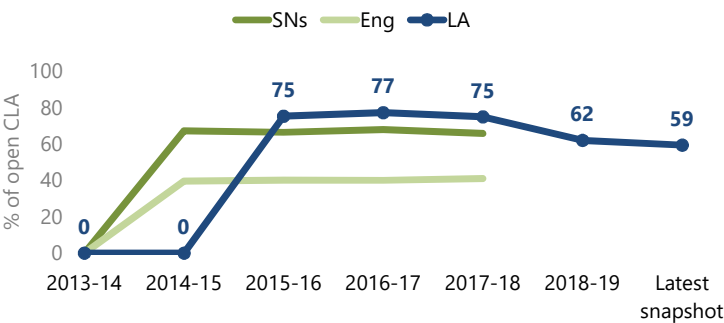
Number of placements in the last 12 months



Comparing short term placement stability

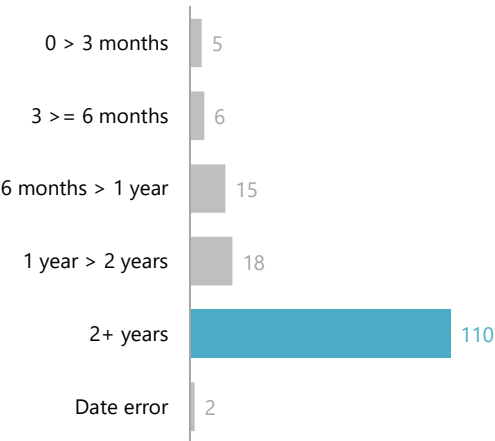


CLA placements out of borough

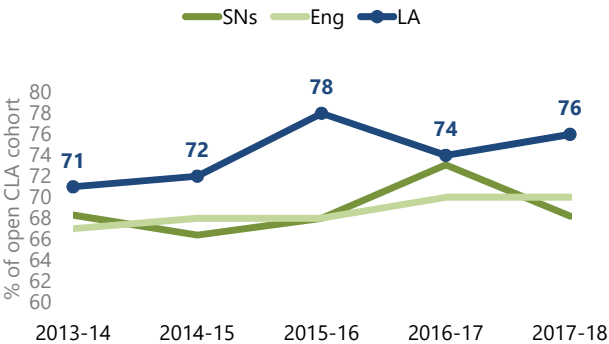


Duration of placements

Duration of latest placement for each current CLA aged under 16 who have been looked after for 2½ years or more



Comparing long term placement stability



Children Looked After (CLA) health and missing/absent from placement

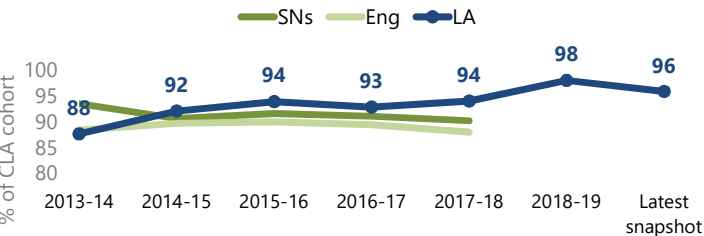
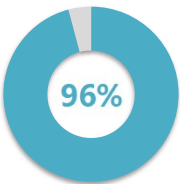
Snapshot 31/05/2019

Health

288 current open CLA looked after for at least 12 months

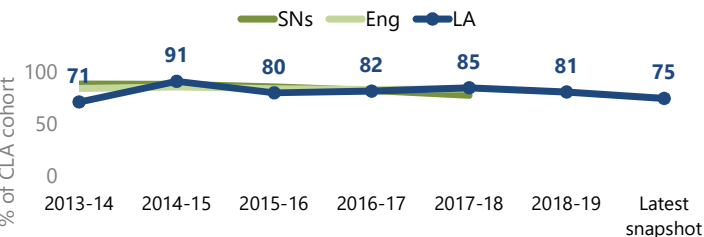
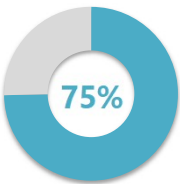
Health assessments

Current open CLA who have been looked after for at least 12 months with an up to date health assessment (in the last 6 months for CLA aged under 5, and in the last 12 months for CLA aged 5-plus)



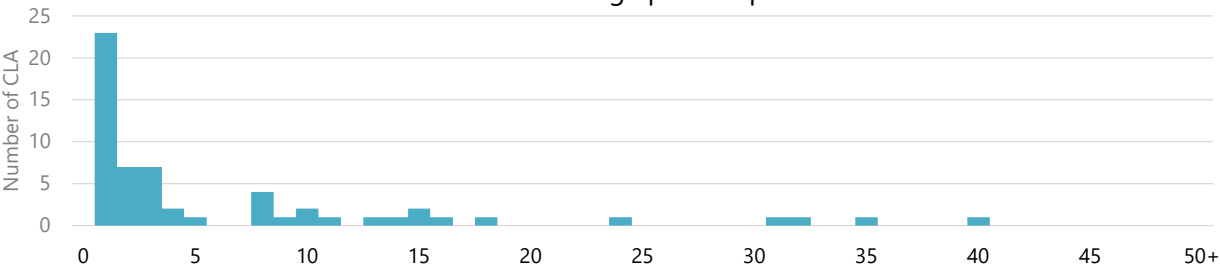
Dental checks

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



Missing from placement

Number of missing episodes per CLA



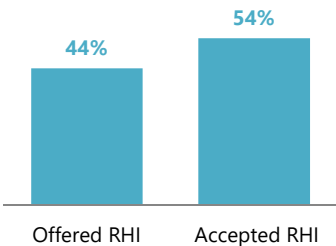
59 of 460 looked after children had a missing incident in the last 12 months

	Latest data	LA 17-18	SNs 17-18	Eng 17-18
Number of all CLA with a missing incident	59 of 460	104		
Percentage of all CLA with a missing incident	13%	16%	14%	11%
Total number of missing incidents for all CLA	396	882		
Average number of incidents per CLA who went missing	6.7	8.5	5.8	6.1

Missing incidents - return home interviews

	Latest data	
Missing children offered return interview	26 of 59	44%
Missing children not offered return interview	3 of 59	5%
Missing children return interview offer not recorded	0 of 59	0%
Missing children where return interview was n/a	0 of 59	0%

	Latest data	
Missing children accepted return interview	14 of 26	54%
Missing children not accepted return interview	12 of 26	46%
Missing children return interview acceptance not recorded	30 of 26	###



Absent from placement

41 of 460 looked after children had an absent incident in the last 12 months

	Latest data	LA 17-18	SNs 17-18	Eng 17-18
Number of all CLA with an absent incident	41 of 460	47		
Percentage of all CLA with an absent incident	9%	7%	9%	4%
Total number of absent incidents for all CLA	389	324		
Average number of incidents per CLA who were absent	9.5	6.9	4.2	4.0

279 young people leaving care

Age and gender

177 Males (63%)

102 Females (37%)

Ethnic background

White	31%
Mixed	11%
Asian or Asian British	6%
Black or black British	44%
Other ethnic group	9%
Not stated	0%
Not recorded	0%

See page 20 for comparisons

LA in touch with 17-18 year olds

ChAT

	Aged 17	Aged 18	Total
Numbers in cohort	1	59	60
LA in touch with YP	100%	98%	98%

98%

In touch

Not in touch

Not recorded

% of YP 17-18

SNs

Eng

LA

86

79

91

2015-16

2016-17

2017-18

Latest snapshot

98

0 (0%)

young people living in a House of Multiple Occupancy (HMO)

0 (0%)

young people with a disability

Eligibility category

Relevant	0
Former relevant	0
Qualifying	0
Other	0
Not recorded	279

Remained in care until aged 18

YP leaving care aged 16-plus who were looked after until their 18th birthday

% of YP

SNs

Eng

LA

69

63

60

58

73

60

65

'13-14

'14-15

'15-16

'16-17

'17-18

'18-19

Last 2ms

Remain with former foster carer

Aged 18

LA

SNs

Eng

56

54

0

2015-16

Aged 19

LA

SNs

Eng

29

23

0

2015-16

Aged 18

LA

SNs

Eng

58

51

0

2016-17

Aged 19

LA

SNs

Eng

17

26

25

2016-17

Aged 18

LA

SNs

Eng

56

57

55

2017-18

Aged 19

LA

SNs

Eng

29

19

26

2017-18

LA in touch with 19-21 year olds

ChAT

	Aged 19	Aged 20	Aged 21	Total
Numbers in cohort	82	65	72	219
LA in touch with YP	94%	94%	99%	95%

95%

In touch

Not in touch

Not recorded

% of YP 19-21

SNs

Eng

LA

81

80

83

2015-16

2016-17

2017-18

2018-19

Latest snapshot

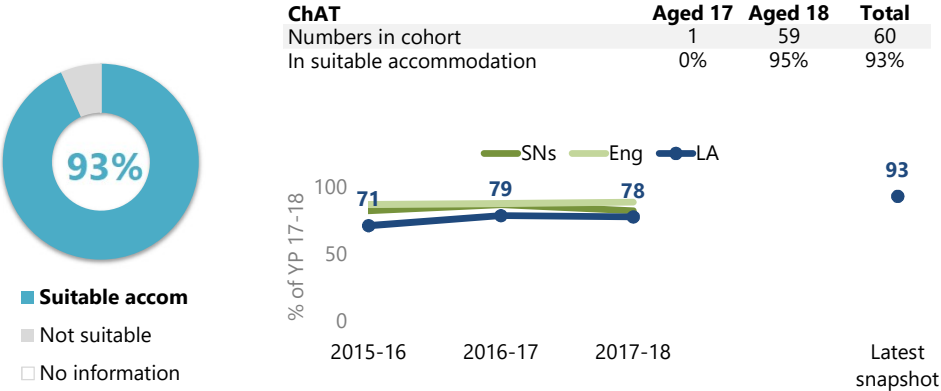
95

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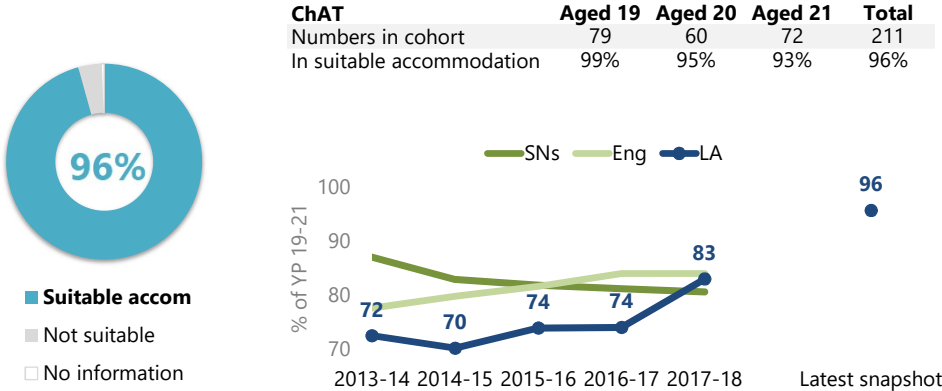
Care leavers accommodation suitability and type

Snapshot 31/05/2019

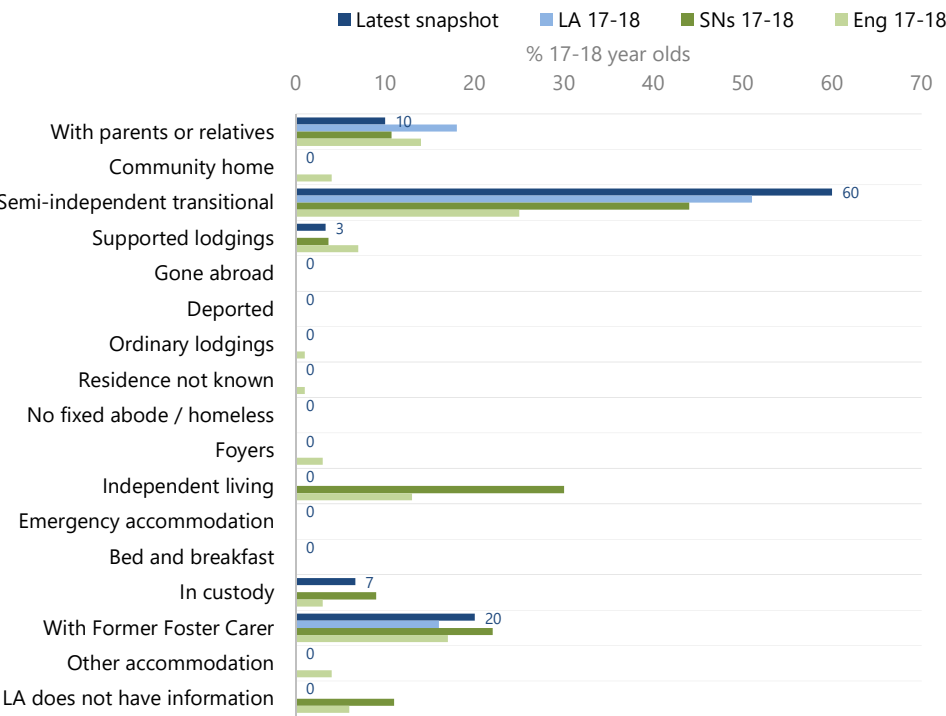
Accommodation suitability of 17-18 year olds



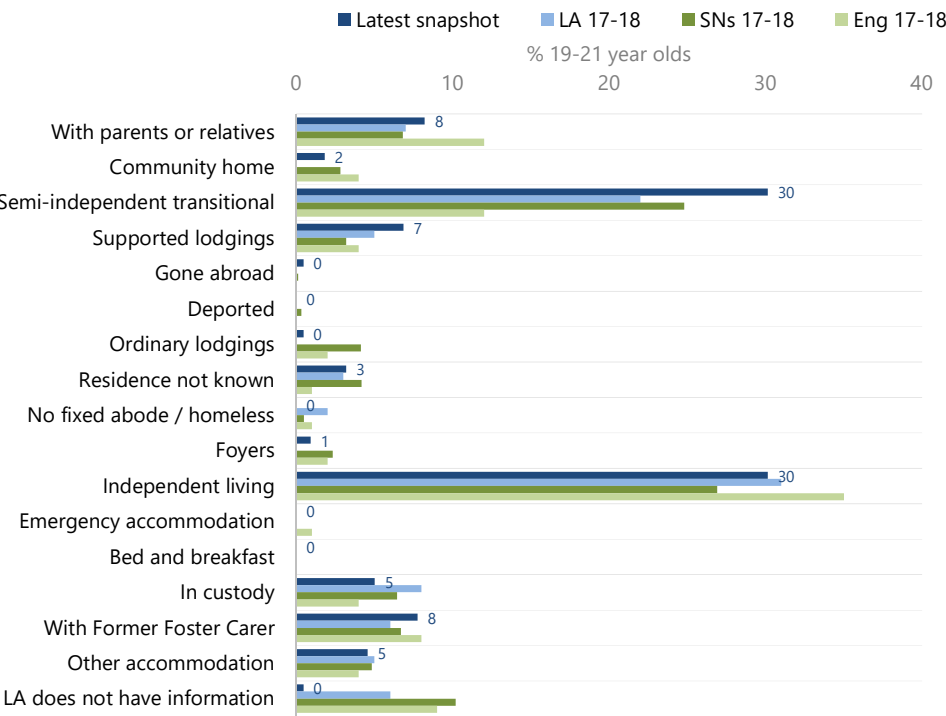
Accommodation suitability of 19-21 year olds



Accommodation types of 17-18 year olds

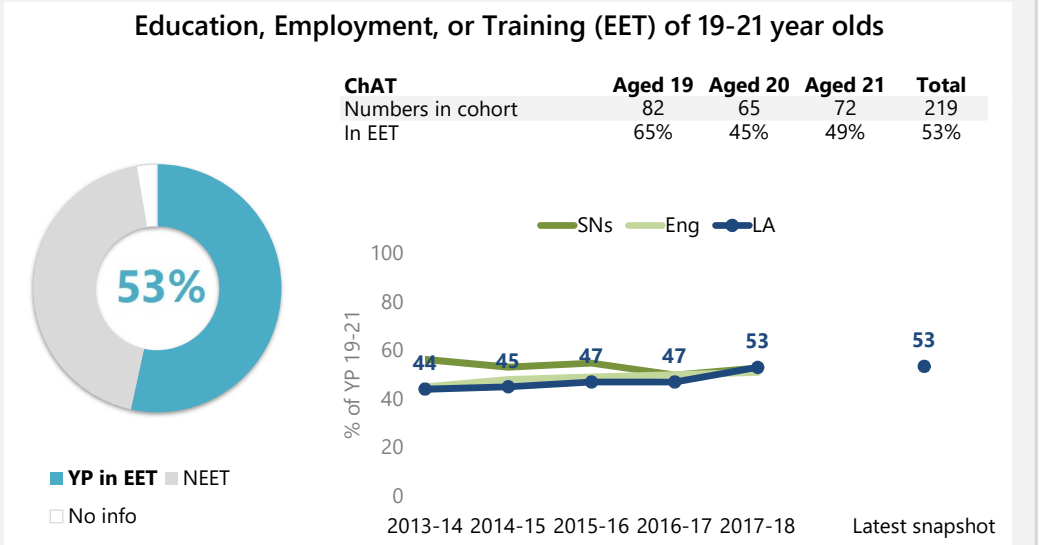
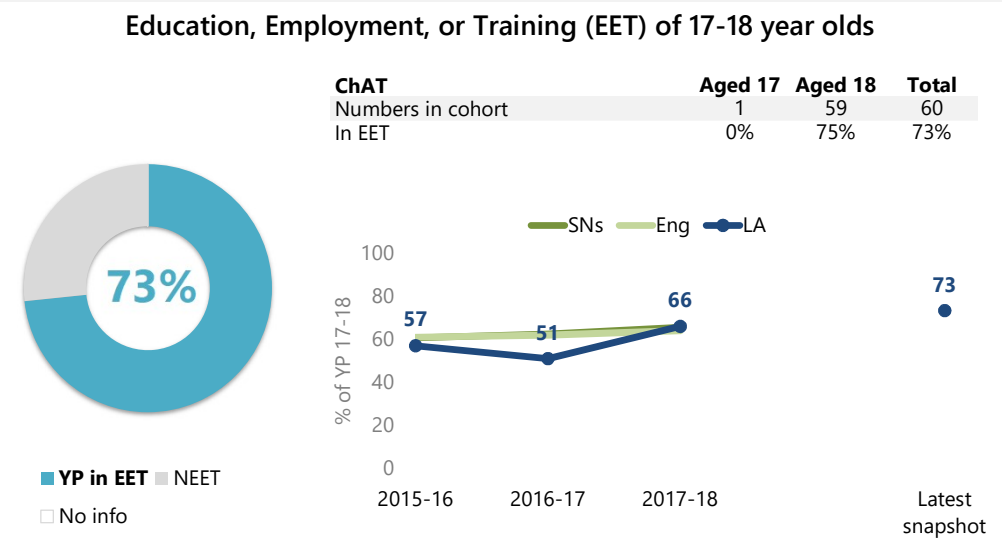


Accommodation types of 19-21 year olds



Care leavers activity (Education, Employment, or Training)

Snapshot 31/05/2019



Children adopted, waiting to be adopted, or had an adoption decision reversed in the last 12 months from 01/06/2018 to 31/05/2019

43 children

12 Child/ren adopted last 12 months

23 Child/ren waiting to be adopted

(17 Child/ren waiting with placement order)

3 Child/ren with decision reversed

Ethnic background

White	37%
Mixed	28%
Asian or Asian British	0%
Black or black British	35%
Other ethnic group	0%
Not stated	0%
Not recorded	0%

See page 20 for comparisons

Age and gender

23 Males (53%) 20 Females (47%)

1 children (2%) with a disability

Of the 36 children who ceased to be looked after in the last 2 months, 0 was/were adopted (0%)

Children ceased who were adopted

SNs Eng LA

Period	SNs	Eng	LA
'13-14	15	15	15
'14-15	10	10	10
'15-16	11	11	11
'16-17	6	6	6
'17-18	5	5	5
'18-19	6	6	6
Last 2ms	0	0	0

Children aged 5-plus who were adopted

0 of the 30 children aged 5-plus who ceased to be looked after in the last 2 months were adopted

0%

Comparing 5-plus adoptions

LA last 2 months	0.0%
LA 2013-16 (3 yr average)	4.0%
SNs 2013-16 (3 yr average)	5.0%
Eng 2013-16 (3 yr average)	2.3%

Timeliness of each stage of the adoption process

Average duration of each stage (number of days)

Stage	Children	Average days
Stage 1 to 2	43 children	168
Stage 2 to 3	37 children	59
Stage 3 to 4	21 children	263
Stage 4 to 5	21 children	52
Stage 5 to 6	15 children	257
Stage 1 to 5	22 children	503

Range in days between shortest and longest cases at each stage

Stage	Children	Shortest case	Longest case
Stage 1 to 2	43 children	40	369
Stage 2 to 3	37 children	7	239
Stage 3 to 4	21 children	28	544
Stage 4 to 5	21 children	0	430
Stage 5 to 6	15 children	166	539
Stage 1 to 5	22 children	232	913

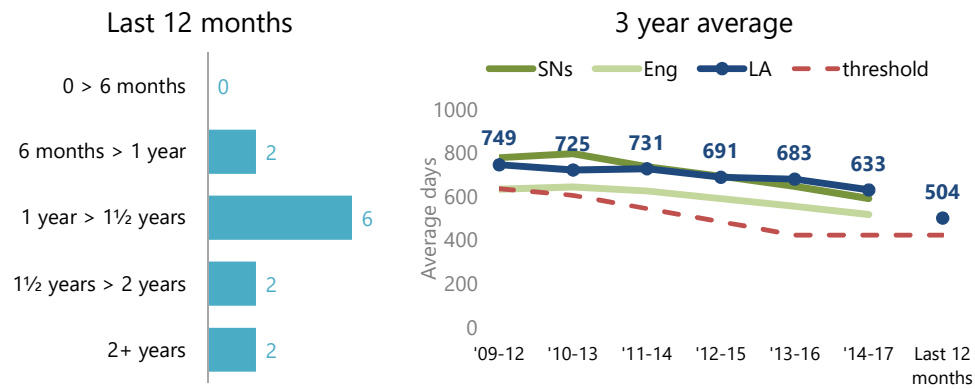
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Adoption benchmarking

from 01/06/2018
to 31/05/2019

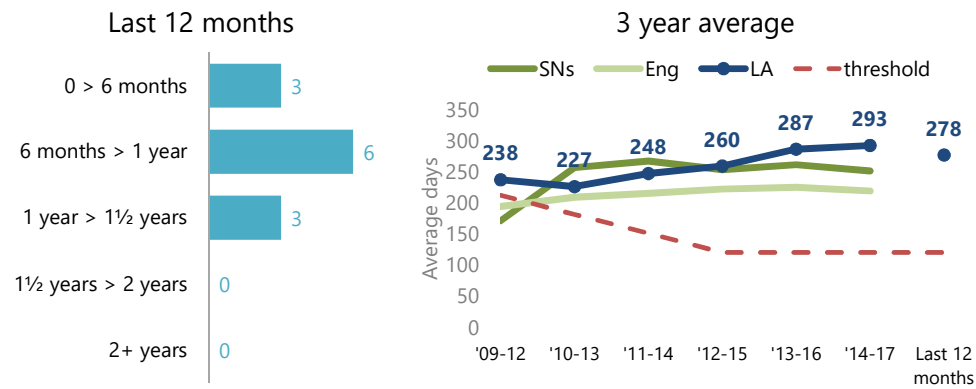
(A1) Time between entering care and placed with family for adopted children

504 days The average number of days from the date the child entered care to the date the child moved in with their adoptive family for adopted children
12 children



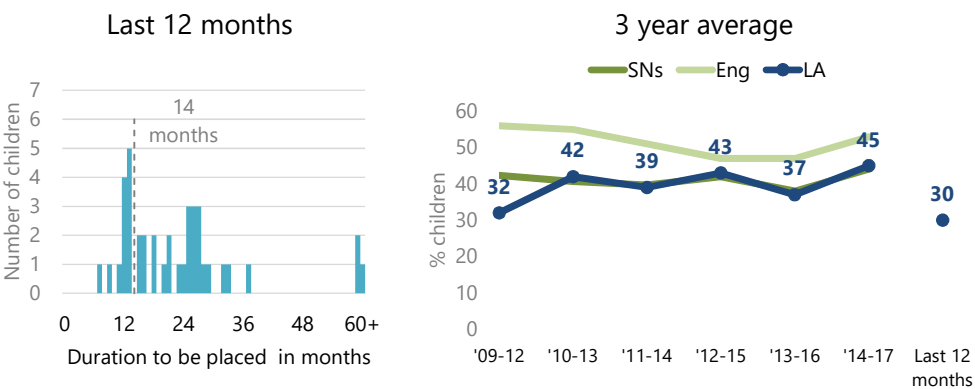
(A2) Time between placement order and deciding on a match

278 days The average number of days from the date of the placement order to the date the child was matched to prospective adopters
12 children



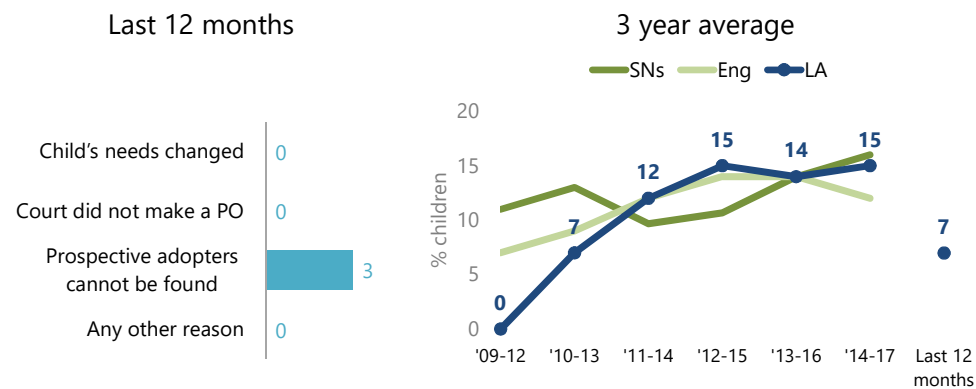
(A3) Time between entering care and placed for adoption

30% Children placed who waited less than the threshold between entering care and being placed for adoption (threshold: 14 months for 2013-16)
12/40 children



(A5) Permanence decision changed away from adoption

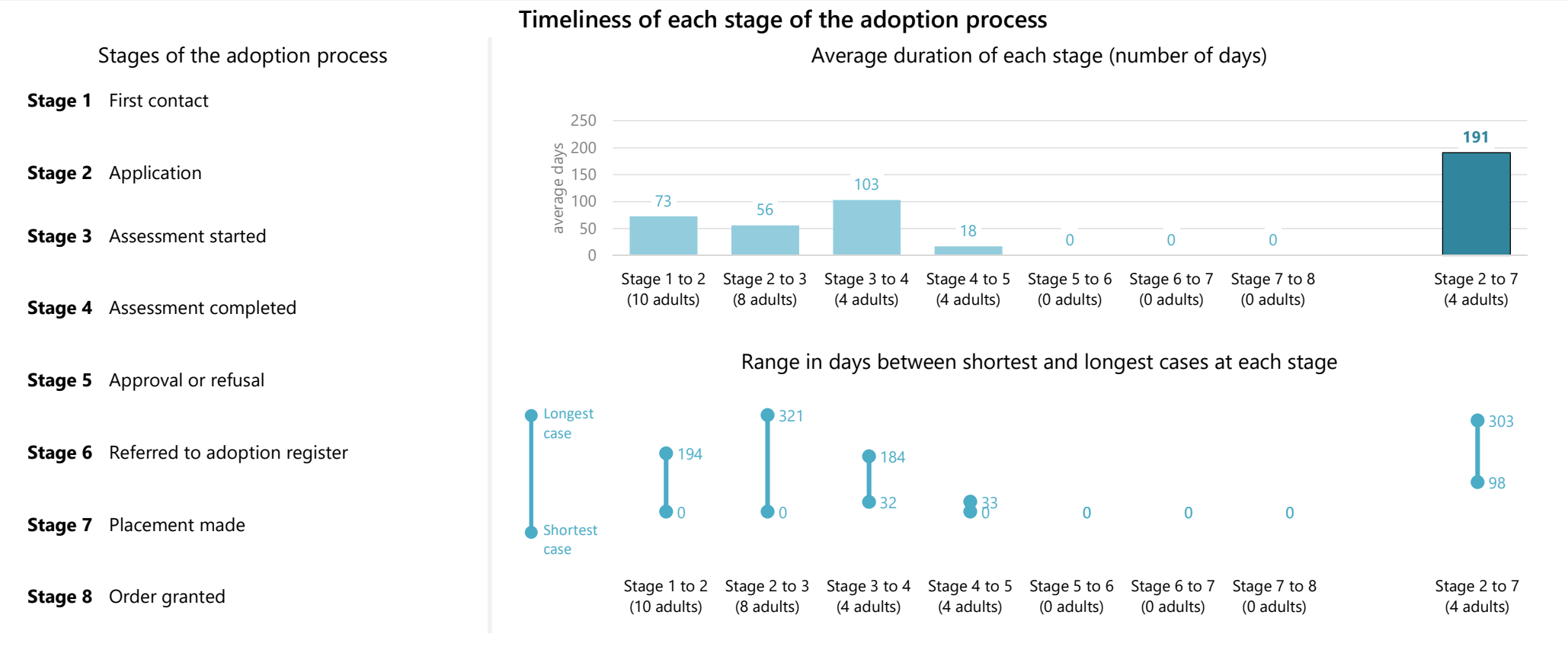
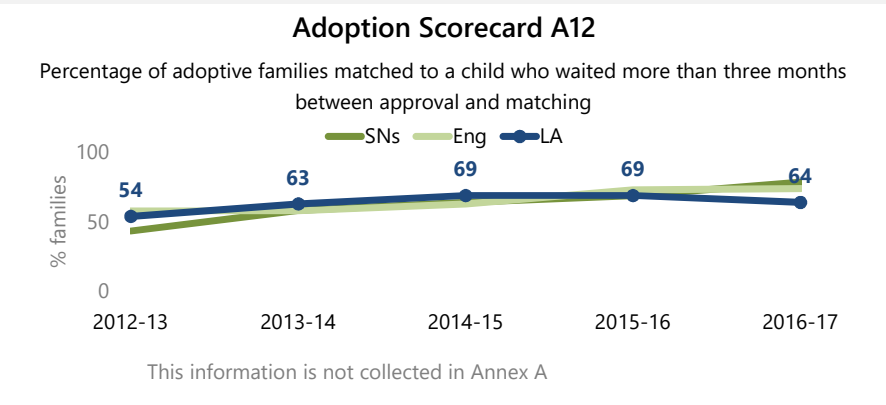
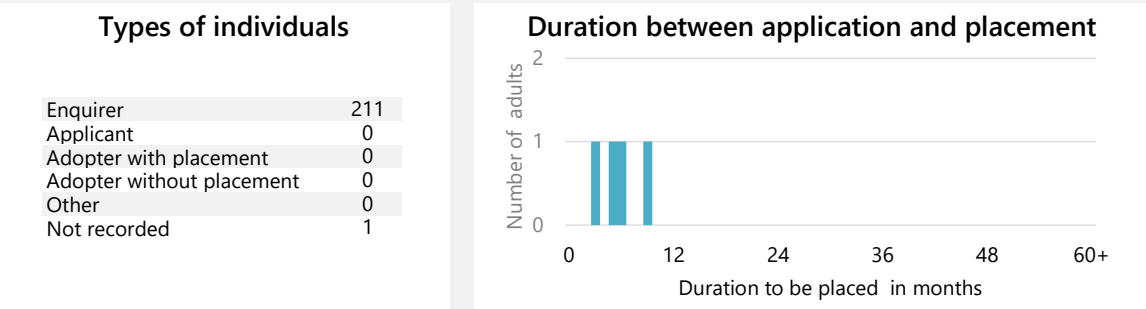
7% Children where there was a decision that the child should no longer be placed for adoption
3/43 children



Adults who enquired or applied for adoption, or have had a child placed with them for adoption in the last 12 months

from 01/06/2018
to 31/05/2019

212 total individuals





This briefing gives a broad overview of the ways that EU law can affect children. The report is presented in 2 sections. Section one focuses on (i) child protection and safety; (ii) children's health and well-being; (iii) child immigration; and (iv) family laws. Section two highlights the immediate issues for children and young people currently supported as children in care and care leavers and EU national with safeguarding concerns.

1. Section 1 – Wider context

It is important to recognise the range of EU law and the impact on children and young people. The majority of EU law, once implemented in the UK, affected all UK residents, whether they are adults or children. This may make it difficult to pinpoint clearly which EU legislative acts establish “child specific” issues.

a) Child Protection and Safety

EU law provides a host of legislation which protects children from abuse and neglect and helps to ensure their safety. There are specific EU Directives which have been implemented by the UK, aimed at combating harm to children and which create legally enforceable entitlements for children. These include the EU Directive on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, (transposed in part by The Special Measures for Child Witnesses (Sexual Offences) Regulations 2013³¹ and The Working with Children (Exchange of Criminal Convictions) (England and Wales and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2013), which acts to protect children against the serious violations to their fundamental rights that these crimes can have, as well as addressing wider issues such as immigration, asylum and free movement.

There are a range of legislative protections which indirectly protect children and keep them safe. The European Toy Safety Directive as implemented by The Toys (Safety) Regulations 2011³⁵ include protections pertaining to toy safety. The safe research and roll-out of medicines to be used in a paediatric context across the EEA have been ensured by the EU Regulation on medicinal products

While, harmful media in the form of any programmes which may “seriously impair the physical, mental or moral development of minors” were addressed through the Audio- Visual Media Services Directive (as amended). This Directive (and its successors) have been implemented through a range of primary & secondary legislation, and through Government policies and regulatory codes.

This broad-based approach to implementation - and how embedded they are in the domestic regulatory framework - suggests that the core protections for children will persist beyond the UK's withdrawal from the UK.

Furthermore, the EU legislates on wider issues which inevitably influence the protection of children, such as human trafficking. The Human Trafficking Directive encourages global action against trafficking of human beings, reducing vulnerability, supporting and assisting victims and fighting the root causes of human trafficking, part of the response of which has been to introduce UK based legislation such as the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Various policies and extra-legislative organisations are also involved in the protection of children. The European Strategy for Better Internet aims to give children the 'skills and tools for using the internet safely and responsibly'. The European Commission Recommendation and Preventative Strategy titled 'Investing in Children: Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage' represents a comprehensive attempt to tackle child poverty and promote well-being by 2020.

European co-operation has also resulted in EU wide watchdogs and assistance services, such as the Missing Children Hotline which allows parents and children alike, whether at home or in another European country, to get free emotional, psychological, social, legal and administrative support.

Perhaps the most effective way in which the EU protects children is through cross-border co-operation by law enforcement agencies. EUROJUST, is an EU agency that facilitates judicial co-operation in criminal matters, including child trafficking. EUROPOL is the EU law enforcement agency that includes the European Cybercrime Centre, an organisation which directly tackles internet child pornography as a priority.

An EU criminal record system ensures that those with convictions for offences against children in one Member State will be prevented from working with children in other EU countries. Meanwhile, the European Arrest Warrant requires another Member State to arrest and transfer a criminal suspect or sentenced person to the issuing State so that the person can be put on trial or complete a detention period, holding criminals, including those who have commissioned crimes against children across the EU, to account.

The EU not only creates the legislative framework and policies which act as a protection for children, but the CJEU is able to provide decisive rulings and sanctions through its supra national status. For example, it hands down decisions on the interpretation of EU law which national governments must follow or face sanctions, providing protection for citizens whose governments may be acting politically and therefore not in their best interests by elucidating the correct application of EU law.

b) Children's Health and Wellbeing

A number of EU legislative provisions have been passed to protect the health and wellbeing of EU national children. For example, the Audio-visual Media Services Directive noted above forbids direct targeting of minors in commercials for alcoholic beverages. The EU Council Recommendation on the prevention of smoking recommends that EU Member States "adopt appropriate legislative and/or administrative measures to prevent tobacco sales to children and adolescents".

A number of policies and initiatives have also been enacted at EU level protecting the health of children. The EU Action Plan on Childhood Obesity 2014-2020 is an action plan developing policy on tackling childhood obesity, with EU Health Ministers declaring their commitment after a broad consensus that obesity in children and young people should be prioritised in health agendas triggered the health drive in the UK.

The EU has also contributed monetary assistance to Member States where children are most at risk, for example in the most deprived areas. The 'Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived', has assisted in providing breakfast clubs and programmes in order to tackle poverty and child nutrition. Assistance from the fund to the UK for the purpose of the provision of breakfast clubs between 2014- 2020 was pledged as €3.9 million.

c) Child Immigration

In addition to the protections afforded by EU legislative acts, children in the UK also benefit from the protections concomitant with being resident in an EEA country. Thus, not only are children who are EEA nationals offered extensive free movement rights with a mutual right between Member States to live and work in other EEA member countries, but those outside EEA countries

who are forced migrants, whether that be by reason of trafficking or from seeking asylum, are also afforded extensive rights through the EU's wide recognition of human rights. Consequently, children from EEA countries moving to the UK under these provisions are able to exercise the same work rights as UK nationals, without discrimination on the grounds of their nationality, and thus may, upon reaching school leaving age, enter employment on the same terms as their UK national counterparts (however, it is worth noting that if they have moved to the UK with their parents there is no obligation for them to work until the age of 21, as they qualify as dependents upon their parents until that point, so long as they are not proving to be a burden on the social security system).

As a result of the EU's commitment to universal human rights, forced migrants who do not hold EU citizenship, such as asylum seekers, refugees or trafficked persons, are afforded stronger protections. For example, the Human Trafficking Directive, which was implemented in part in the UK via the Modern Slavery Act 2015 seeks stronger sanctions where an offence has been committed against a particularly 'vulnerable victim', which, the legislation notes, includes 'at least children'. While the EU does not determine the content of national immigration laws entirely, it does impose standards relating to entry, residence and the treatment of forced migrants, offering special protection to children, particularly unaccompanied children. These include the right to legal representation, appropriate care and accommodation, and access to education and health services.

d) Family Law

EU law directly influences jurisdictional issues in family law disputes (where there is a cross-border element to the separation, and subsequent conflicts of law), and hence the way children are affected by this. As a result, any changes are likely to be felt most by families who have an international element, whether that be because the parents have different nationalities or for example, two parents live in separate jurisdictions following separation. Currently, the jurisdiction in which such cases are settled in the event of a conflict of law between the two differing countries (and subsequent recognition and enforcement of judgments made under this Regulation) is dealt with by EC Regulation 2201/2003 ("Brussels II bis") which has simplified jurisdictional issues on divorces, made exercising access rights far simpler and protected children against abduction within the EU.

While the impact of EU law on UK family law has been limited to jurisdictional and conflict of law disputes, there are also international treaties separate to EU Law, to which all EU Member States are party, such as the 1980 Luxembourg Convention, and the 1996 Hague Convention, dealing with broader matters such as representation and the protection of children's property. This was then supplemented by EU Legislation, namely Brussels II bis, which concerns jurisdictional matters for parental responsibility, including child access for the other parent, as well as specifying procedures regarding international child abduction. The UK based Family Law Act 1986 has been interpreted and amended on the basis of this. Should Brussels II bis no longer apply in the future, the Hague and Luxembourg Conventions would continue to be applicable.

EU regulations also ensure equal treatment of court orders across Member States and enable family law proceedings to be carried out more effectively, thus protecting children, especially those of a migrant background, from being adversely affected by familial break ups. Namely, Regulation 805/2004 creates a European Enforcement Order for uncontested claims, implemented in the UK through amendments to the Civil Procedure Rules and the addition of a new Section V to Part 74 (and associated addition to Practice Direction 74).

All EU citizens (and their families) in the UK, regardless of when they arrived, will, on the UK's exit, need to obtain an immigration status in UK law. They will need to apply to the Home Office for

permission to stay, which will be evidenced through a residence document. This will be a legal requirement but there is also an important practical reason for this. The residence document will enable EU citizens (and their families) living in the UK to demonstrate to third parties (such as employers or providers of public services) that they have permission to continue to live and work legally in the UK. Following the UK's exit from the EU, the Government may wish to introduce controls which limit the ability of EU citizens (and their families) who arrive in the UK after exit to live and work here. As such, without a residence document, current residents may find it difficult to access the labour market and services. For parents with children who qualify as children in need – S.17 of the 1989 Children's Act applies and this may increase resourcing demands on LA. To date there is no clear indication of the likely impact.

For those EU citizens who became settled in the UK before a specified date, which the Government proposes will be no later than the date of the UK's withdrawal from the EU- they will be provided a new settled status in UK law. Obtaining this settled status will mean that this cohort of EU citizens whose residence started before the specified date will have no immigration conditions placed on their residence in the UK, provided that they remain resident here. They will be able to work or study here freely, live permanently in the UK with a partner who has settled or is a UK national, and have access to benefits and public services in line with UK nationals.

Settled status is not the same as citizenship - for example, holders of this status do not have a UK passport - but those with settled status and at least six years' residence may apply for citizenship. Settled status would generally be lost if a person was absent from the UK for more than two years, unless they have strong ties here. Obtaining settled status will be subject to meeting certain requirements. The eligibility criteria will be set out in UK law, but the essential conditions will be:

- a requirement for the applicant to have been resident in the UK for a set length of time – likely to be 5 years.
- an assessment of conduct and criminality, including not being considered a threat to the UK.

Section 2

Children in Care

Haringey was included in the EU settlement pilot scheme, under the public test phase, commencing from 21 January 2019. Applications for settled status required evidence of residency of an EU state and citizenship (but not a British citizen) with a valid EU passport and/or a biometric residence card. These conditions worked well under the pilot scheme for EU Nationals employed in the UK but presented some challenges for UASC. This was recognised by the Home Office and guidance was provided to ensure that LA's identified which children needed to apply, and that focused work commence to offer support to children and young people secure relevant documentation.

The benefit of being part of the pilot ensured that the service knowledge and early planning has effectively identified the children and young people who are most likely to require enhanced support to achieve settled status and 27 Children in Care to Haringey have been identified as EU Nationals without the required documentation.

A review of the data, establishes:

Country of Origin	Age ranges from 0- 24
-------------------	-----------------------

Bulgarian	3
French	1
Irish	1
Italian	1
Latvian	1
Polish	13
Romanian	3
Slovakian	1
Spanish	1
Greek	2

Of the 27, only 1 young person to date has acquired settled status largely because of the services ability to access the young person's documents. There are a further 11 care leavers who have applications lodged with the Home Office, however the Home Office report challenges with processing the volume of submitted applications leading to delays.

The Local Authorities involved in the pilot report similar challenges to Haringey's experience:

- Difficulties securing appropriate documents.
- Need to train officers to travel to the placement location and support the carers negotiate the application process.
- The focus of the guidance over relies on process and systems rather than leniency regarding the lack of documentation.
- The lack of clarity regarding British citizenship and the cost of securing additional legal advice for children and young people who hold NRPF status and where the home office has only issued Interim leave to remain, (ILR), typically 12 months.
- Children living outside the borough need to travel to be present in person, at the Home Office for the biometrics with sometimes no certainty re the appointment times.

In addition, there are currently 9 court cases which have an EU connection. These children have families who originate from the EU who could act as possible alternative carers. We are not at the stage of proceedings where we can say for certain that all of these children will remain in the UK, potentially 3 could achieve a care plan for the child to be placed abroad after a contested court hearing. There is no published guidance from the court as yet as to the impact of a No Deal Brexit on care proceedings generally or indeed on cases currently before the court with an EU connection. Resolution and the Association of lawyers for Children published a briefing at the end of February 2019 which highlighted some possible impacts of a no deal Brexit on our work, specifically:

- Assessments in EU Member states.
- Placement of children abroad in kinship care and the recognition and enforcement of orders.

Haringey has joined the representations from other LA for the Home Office to appoint a liaison officer able to communicate with other EU states to encourage the production of suitable ID for their citizens to be able to apply for settled status. There is also a need for the Home Office to canvass the views of the Embassy's regarding whether they would accept, the UK courts Full Care Order and judgement to confirm parental responsibility. Practice experience highlights that some Embassy's have already indicated that their courts will not accept the UK Full Care Order and the impact of Brexit may need to examine the need to extend the interpretation of the law to those states.

Next Steps

1. The Commissioning service has successfully supported the Bridge Renewal Trust to secure funding from the Home Office to locally develop a response to support EU Nationals. As part of the programme it is likely that Children in care and Care leavers will be classified as a priority support group to secure settled status. The service will continue efforts to secure citizenship, as appropriate for the children and young people.
2. Co-ordinate work across the partners to focus on meeting the psychosocial needs for children and young people. The MASH data suggests that a number of newly arriving UASC prefer Haringey because of the increase in the Eritrean and Afghanistan community members.
3. Progress the representations via the courts and the Home Office for the need for Children in care and Care Leavers to be given active support and priority to be granted leave to remain.
4. Continue with the efforts through Housing to extend the work to support Care Leavers with accommodation and access to wider community support.