

NOTICE OF MEETING

CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 15th October, 2019, 7.15 pm - (or on the rise of the meeting with Aspire) - Civic Centre, High Road, Wood Green, N22 8LE

Members: Councillors Zena Brabazon (Chair), Peray Ahmet, 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 - 4)

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2019.

6. MATTERS ARISING

7. RESPONSE TO CPAC QUESTIONS ON LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND YOUTH JUSTICE SYSTEM (PAGES 5 - 10)

This report provides responses to questions by the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee on Looked After Children and Youth Justice system.

8. OFSTED ACTION PLAN PROGRESS UPDATE (PAGES 11 - 26)

This report aims to update members on the progress made against the identified areas following the quarterly monitoring through the Children's Improvement Board, (CIB), regular one-to-one meetings with the cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education and the Director of Children's Services and the outcome of the Ofsted Annual Engagement meeting with the Director of Children's Services.

9. UNACCOMPANIED ASYLUM-SEEKING CHILDREN - UASC (PAGES 27 - 34)

This report is about Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC).

10. PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR TO SEPTEMBER 2019 (PAGES 35 - 42)

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.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Date of next meeting

16th January 2020

Ajda Ovat, Principal Committee Co-ordinator
Tel – 020 8489 1859
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Bernie Ryan
Assistant Director – Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer
River Park House, 225 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8HQ

Monday, 07 October 2019

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 2ND JULY, 2019,
7.15-8.45pm**

PRESENT:

**Councillors: Peray Ahmet, Zena Brabazon, Erdal Dogan, Justin Hinchcliffe
and Tammy Palmer**

60. 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.

61. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sakina Chenot; Cllr Justin Hinchcliffe substituted.

62. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

64. MINUTES

RESOLVED

The minutes of the 23rd April 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

65. MATTERS ARISING

The Committee queried the attendance of Cllr Mark Blake and requested for further information in relation to the three points mentioned in pages 3-4 of the minutes of 23rd April 2019. Beverley Hendricks, Interim Assistant Director for Children's Social Care, mentioned the report could not be brought to the meeting as the report is scheduled to be prepared by August 2019. It was further mentioned that the Youth Justice Board would be leading the report to ensure all partners were not only part of the remedial measures, but also maintain and monitor practice. The Chair requested that a report be provided to the next meeting, and it was agreed that Cllr Mark Blake will be invited to the next meeting. **(Action: Beverley Hendricks/Ann Graham/Clerk).**

Regarding page 4 of the minutes of 23rd April 2019, the Chair enquired when an update would be provided on the Ofsted action plan. The Director of Children's Services noted that an Ofsted 'Keeping in touch' meeting is due to take place in July 2019. It was requested that an update be provided at the CPAC meeting on 15th October 2019 (**Action: Ann Graham**).

66. PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR TO MAY 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.

Beverley Hendricks took the Committee through the report as set out. In addition, the following was highlighted:

- Regarding children in care, the Committee was assured that their needs are being met. It was acknowledged that there are some challenges with the data, which is continually being worked on. It was noted that at the close of business on 2nd July 2019, there were a total of 427 children in care.
- In relation to unaccompanied asylum seeker children, it was projected that Haringey would have 2 new asylum seeker children per month, but it turned out to be 8 new unaccompanied asylum seeker children at the end of the month. In the last few months, 6 age assessments were undertaken that determined young people as adults. There are currently, 6 age assessments outstanding. The main issues to health for the unaccompanied asylum seeker children include accessing GPs, emergency health and infectious disease. The service were working closely to make sure young people are accessing services as soon as possible and ensuring young people are kept as local as possible.
- The Chair commented positively on the amount of placement orders in relation to the total population of Children in Care (2.4 at page 8). The Chair highlighted that 27 placement orders out of a population of 424 was a great achievement.
- Regarding 2.5 at page 8, it was highlighted that the Care Plan target is being achieved.

Following discussion it was noted that:

- In response to safeguarding concerns, particularly around some secondary age individuals at primary school, Officers mentioned that it could happen, but it was noted that there were certain criteria that need to be followed through casework and legislation, which means that until the age assessment is accepted, the needs of the child have to be responded to.
- In terms of networks and links, it was mentioned that there are plans to create a hub in the service to look at what the Service can do alongside charities.
- Regarding unaccompanied asylum seeker children, The Chair recommended for there to be a more focused report on this area, such as some slides, and have an extensive discussion on the subject matter at the next CPAC meeting on 15th October 2019, including the point raised by the Committee Member on

funding and whether there is a London-wide strategy on funding. Officers agreed **(Action: Beverley Hendricks/Ann Graham)**.

- In regard to FGM, Officers advised that it is not common, but if there is evidence then mandatory reporting is required and it is treated as a crime against the child.
- The Chair enquired the definition of 'suitable' as set out in 2.15 page 10. In response, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care clarified that it around work to identify accommodation to ensure it matches the needs of young people.
- Regarding apprenticeship opportunities, the Director of Children's Services will request the Assistant Director for Economic Development and Growth to include this on the strategy for vulnerable young people. Officers noted that Homes for Haringey have apprenticeship schemes for young people, and there is a strategy being developed around apprenticeships. It was mentioned that there may be a cohort that may not be interested in apprenticeships due to high grades, and it is a matter of encouraging the cohort that have not reached the high grades that may be interested in apprenticeships.
- Regarding the Children Looked After placement table on page 17, the Chair raised concerns on costs considering there are 40 children in Children's Homes and 39 in Residential accommodation. The Director of Children's Services confirmed that that area is being continually monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.
- In relation to the average length of time for children to move to adoption, Officers explained that it can take up to 9 months to a year to place child in adoption. The Director of Children's Services added that there were some challenging cases, for example it could take 14 months for an adoption to go through.
- The Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care confirmed that space within homes is a challenge. Officers noted that one initiative to address this issue is establishing a group of foster carers in house and identifying which homes can be adapted to create extra rooms. It is hoped that by October 2019, 3 households will have extra rooms to take in more children. In addition to extending homes, Officers mentioned that loans are also provided, but there is governance on that.

67. EUROPEAN UNION AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care introduced this briefing document which provided a broad overview of the ways in which EU law affected children and what could happen in the event of a no deal scenario between the United Kingdom and the European Union on the Council's looked after children.

The Chair noted the seriousness of the contents of the briefing note and suggested it be distributed to members of parliament in order that questions could be asked of the civil service regarding the preparations made. Officers agreed on the seriousness of the implications for the Council in the event of a no deal scenario but advised that further research would be carried out before Haringey's members of parliament were consulted on the issue to ensure that all the relevant information was presented.

Members agreed the implications for Haringey's looked after children from European countries was a serious and pressing concern. It was therefore important for the Council to know, in so far as possible, the potential impact on those children and how the Council would be able to assist them.

The Director of Children's Services confirmed that the matter would be raised further at the next one-to-one with the Cabinet Member for Children and Families (**Action: Ann Graham**).

The Chair requested this item be placed on the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee Forward Plan to be considered in greater detail with Members at a future meeting (**Action: Clerk**).

68. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Dates of the next meeting

15th October 2019

16th January 2020

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date

Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee
15th October 2019

Item number:

Title: Response to CPAC questions on Looked After Children and Youth Justice system



Report authorised by : Ann Graham, Director, Children & Young People's Service

Lead Officer: Beverley Hendricks, Interim Assistant Director,
tel. 020 8489 7061; Beverley.hendricks@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 A report by Jennifer Sergeant, Head of Youth Justice and Targeted Response, was submitted to CPAC regarding Haringey Children in Care who were also known to Youth Justice. The initial report was based on live data as at 12 January 2019. Since that date the number of young people on remand has increased.
- 1.2 At the meeting in April, Councillors raised the following questions to which officers undertook to respond through an updated report:
 - 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.
- 1.3 Following this request council officers met to consider the questions in order to review the current arrangements (both strategic and operational) and provide a summary of the current offer from both Youth Justice and Safeguarding service, evaluate the impact of the services provided and considered further recommendations to improve service delivery, systems and outcomes to this cohort. The responses to the specific questions follow below.

Question 1: What strategies the Council had in place to address the disparity between custodial sentences received for looked after children and non-looked after children.

The YJS and Children Services have a joint protocol that sets out partnership arrangements for children on the verge of being remanded into local authority or secure and sentenced to a custodial setting. The protocol relies on research from the youth courts and the Howard Justice League which suggests that young people who are looked after and known to the Youth Justice system appear to attract a higher sentencing tariff and are more vulnerable. The complexity of preventing this is highlighted in the June CPAC report under table three which links to the type of offences committed and custody thresholds being met for public protection purposes.

The Safeguarding Exploitation Prevention Panel is jointly led by Youth Justice and Community Safety to ensure that the risks of criminal exploitation are considered and action plans created to prevent and disrupt criminal behaviour by linking victims and offenders. This further enables stronger links between safeguarding and Youth Justice risk management panel to ensure a holistic approach to the needs of looked after young people is embedded into each aspect of the care plan, for example:

- **Bail:** The YJS court staff will support and recommend intensive bail support programmes with strict conditions at court to prevent LAC being remanded. This includes dialog with the social care Safeguarding team and Placements team for alternative addresses to be sourced often outside of Haringey to keep the child and victim safe.
- **Remand into Local Authority:** The YJS court staff explore and design robust plans alongside safeguarding and placement teams to be presented to the court to ensure that suitable risk assessments and placements are found for a child which prevent children going into a secure custodial setting.
- **Remand into custodial secure setting:** Whilst a young person is on remand, the YJS social worker ensures that monthly remand planning meetings take place with the secure setting, to ensure that the child has access to all the key services within the secure establishment. Escalation processes can be followed up by the YJS and safeguarding team with the custodial establishment if it is felt the young person's needs are not being met.
- **Trial:** During this process the young person's welfare is reviewed, ensuring that any health support is offered during this difficult period either within custodial or community setting. If there are learning needs or mental health capacity concerns an intermediate will be requested to ensure that the young person's needs are adhered to during this process. Escalation processes can be followed up by the YJS and safeguarding team with the custodial establishment if it is felt the young person's needs are not being met.

Haringey YJS along with other Authorities has reviewed its courts processes and procedures to strengthen practices within the court settings.

The current offer to looked after young people at risk of or engaged in criminal activity is split into prevention; informing and advocating for the needs of looked after young

people who enter the criminal justice system; and when looked after young person is placed in custody the specific support offered consists of:

- a) To support escalation of criminal activity for looked after young people there is a weekly out of court disposal panel that enables the youth justice officers to review the charges for looked after young people to ensure they are satisfied that the charge is appropriate and welfare needs are considered. This process is governed by a quarterly scrutiny panel made of a range of members including; safeguarding, magistrates, police, Youth Justice and Early Help workers.
- b) To ensure that the magistrates and judges are aware of the vulnerabilities of our looked after young people with the criminal justice system, there are established links with local courts (magistrates and crown courts) with the Haringey Youth Justice service. This includes attending quarterly meetings with the courts to present key issues which includes that looked after cohort and disproportionality based of local statistics are shared with the court service.
- c) Many of the looked after young people that are charged with a criminal offence are placed outside of Haringey, sometimes for their own safety. Therefore, many of the cases are heard in courts that Haringey do not have established links with, this also includes the higher courts such as the Old Bailey and Crown courts where more serious offences are heard. Haringey's representation has allowed the Judicial system to be more sensitive to the disadvantage faced by young people in these circumstances and whilst there are currently no links with Haringey Youth Justice and the CPS and this is noted as an area to development under the Youth Justice Board to ensure that the CPS is more child centred when reviewing cases.
- d) Following work by the Local Authority and Howard League, the Youth Justice team will assess the need for an intermediary to support the mental capacity and learning needs within the criminal court to ensure young people are effectively supported and the social context in which they live is understood.

Question 1 Recommendations:

- Haringey Gold initiative to be utilised more for looked after young people at risk of or charged with criminal activity when placed out of borough.
- Youth Justice Board to continue establish links with the CPS through the judicial process.
- YJS to ensure that all Pre-sentenced reports and Breach reports have safeguarding teams' view on the sentencing proposal and to ensure that a joint plan is in place prior to sentencing.
- YJS to continue to update CPAC and meet with Safeguarding and Young Adults services to discuss findings.

Question 2 *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.*

The range of vulnerabilities that adolescents experience has changed over time with increasing risk of CSE (child sexual exploitation), CCE (child criminal exploitation) and radicalisation. To ensure that in-house foster carers have the necessary knowledge and skill set, CSE training was offered from the CSE Safer London commissioned service and the gangs unit offered bespoke training to carers around gangs and violence. All in-house foster carers are also offered PREVENT training. The forward plan to support foster carers will be offered via LEAP to upskill carers in conflict resolution, to support looked after young people and their carers to be targeted specifically to address areas of risk. This is captured in the looked after plans.

Commissioned foster carers also require the same level of training and skill set as in-house foster carers. Therefore, commissioning needs to ensure that commissioned foster carers meet the same standards for training and skill set as in-house carers.

Currently there is no training for carers to understand the link between safeguarding and youth justice. Foster carers need to understand the youth justice landscape if they are effectively to support the young people in their care. Therefore a programme of joint training by Youth Justice Service Offending teams and Safeguarding teams should be developed and delivered.

Looked after young people who are placed out of borough but have been convicted of an offence should continue to get a local support from the area in which they are living. Haringey provides oversight for the Looked After young person's care planning, with their placement provider. Haringey Youth Justice teams will have regular contact with the local youth provision and the frequency of this is determined by need.

The offer could be strengthened by offering looked after young people who are either at risk or charged with a criminal offence an independent visitor who has the knowledge and skills to work with this cohort.

Question 2 Recommendations :

- Joint training by Safeguarding and Youth Justice for foster carers and preferred residential providers by December 2019, and then offered through the Haringey Academy.
- Placement contingency planning to ensure that the looked after young person is linked to local provision within 72 hours of placement – measures to be in place by January 2019.
- Commissioning to ensure that external fostering contracts are monitored and measured in relation to the offer to support the young person by providing specific youth justice support and ensure that carers meet the required standard of knowledge and skill set.
- Where required, joint visiting by youth justice workers and social workers for high risk young people, to ensure collaborative working and that plans are holistic to address the young person's needs and prevention work is central to the care planning.
- Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) to be offered specialist training to advocate for looked after young people placed out of borough by December 2019.

Question 3 Regarding page 30 and “range of interventions” offered to young people, what specifically was offered to looked after children to support them.

Each young person has a young person’s care plan that is tailored to their individual needs, and the Youth Justice Service has a range of interventions that all young people within the service can access. There is no specific programme of interventions for looked after young people which is one of the challenges to the service given its limited resources.

YJS submitted, jointly with Islington YJS, through the Youth Justice Board, a proposal to tackle serious youth violence with a view of improving outcomes for BAME (Black and Minority Ethnic) young people and families. We were successful in the bid and joint commissioning arrangements have been successful. This project started in September 2019 and will also be rolled out to Haringey Targeted Response Team and Early Help and LAC whom are BAME will be a focus. This will allow us to capture the views of the children whom are BAME and LAC involved in the criminal justice system and a final report will be produced to support with the findings of this project and recommendations for future service delivery.

Question 3 Recommendations:

- YJS and Safeguarding to explore any commissioning opportunities for programme/interventions for looked after young people whom are placed in and out of Haringey by November 2019.
- YJS to creatively think about a specific looked after young people programme by November 2019.

2. Contribution to strategic outcomes

The issues within this paper will be absorbed into the annual action plan of Haringey Youth Justice Board to ensure that the required changes are delivered.

3. Use of Appendices

N/A

4. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Report to CPAC dated 23 April 2019
Haringey Youth Justice Service - Looked After Children

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Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee
15th October 2019

Item number:

Title: Ofsted action plan progress update

Report

authorised by :



Ann Graham, Director, Children and Young People's Service

Lead Officer:

Beverley Hendricks, Interim Assistant Director

beverley.hendricks@haringey.gov.uk

Tel: 020 8489 7061

Ward(s) affected: N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

The Ofsted inspection of Children's Social Care Services completed on 9th November 2018 and the report of the findings of the inspection was published on 14th December 2018. The inspection judged all areas inspected as 'requires improvement to be good' and listed nine areas for improvement.

This report aims to update members on the progress made against the identified areas following the quarterly monitoring through the Children's Improvement Board, (CIB), regular one-to-one meetings with the cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education and the Director of Children's Services and the outcome of the Ofsted Annual Engagement meeting with the Director of Children's Services.

2. Recommendations

Children's Young People Scrutiny Panel continues to receive annual updates on the progress of the Ofsted Improvement Plan.

3. Background information

Ofsted is the independent statutory regulator of Children's Services and the improvement plan endorsed by Ofsted will be considered in future inspection activity. The related action plan identified how the Ofsted report published on the 14th December 2018 and the recommendations have been implemented across Children's Services to further support children, young people and their families in Haringey to achieve positive life outcomes. The Director of Children's Social Care aim is to ensure that good outcomes are embedded across the directorate and that future activity is focussed on achieving an outstanding service.

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

Our vision is a Haringey where strong families, strong networks and strong communities nurture all residents to live well and achieve their potential. This improvement plan contributes to the delivery of this strategic objective.

5. Use of Appendices

Updated Ofsted Action Plan

6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A

Haringey Children's Service Ofsted Action Plan March 2019



The Ofsted inspection of Children’s Social Care Services completed on 9th November 2018 and the report of the findings of the inspection was published on 14th December 2018. The inspection judged all areas inspected as ‘requires improvement to be good’ and listed nine areas for improvement.

This report aims to update members on the progress made against the identified areas following the quarterly monitoring through the Children’s Improvement Board, (CIB), regular one-to-one meetings with the cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education and the Director of Children’s Services and the outcome of the Ofsted Annual Engagement meeting with the Director of Children’s Services.

RAG RATING

All actions are RAG rated regarding progress using the following coding: -

RED – R	Not on track - exceptional reporting required
AMBER – A	Concern in progressing actions taking action to resolve and get back on track
GREEN- G	Online to be completed within agreed timescales
BLUE - B	Achieved/completed. *Includes actions that are completed and will be ongoing for future

Acronyms used:

IRO – independent reviewing officer
CPA- Child Protection Advisers
QA – Quality Assurance
HoS – Head of Service
DCS- Director of Children’s Services
AD – Assistant Director
CiC – Children in Care
QPN – Quality Performance Network meeting
LSCB – Local Safeguarding Children Board
MASH – Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

1. Assessments of children's needs when their circumstances change, in order to inform plans

Outcome

- The assessments of children's needs are of the highest quality and are updated when there is a change in the child and family circumstance as appropriate
- That plans reflect the findings of assessments and that they are updated in accordance with changes to assessments
- Practitioners are supported to deliver the highest quality practice and that this is reflected in assessments and audits findings

Impact of actions	Original Target / Timescales	Progress
1.1 All managers as part of management oversight and IRO/CPA chairs at reviews to ensure that the child's plan is current and evaluated as relevant, dynamic (SMART) and is reviewed as appropriate, at least annually.	On-going and in line with the child's requirements.	This remains on track and is evidenced through the monthly audits
1.2 Practice standards are reviewed and updated on Tri.x (the online policy and procedures tool).	Completed.	Reviewed and monitored every 6 months by the Director of Children's Services and AD's
1.3 Case file audit tool rolled out and implemented. Audit tool used routinely by all staff.	Completed.	Quality of the audit reviewed and monitored every 6 months by the Director of Children's Services and AD's
1.4 85% of assessments meet required case standards and are up-dated to reflect the child's current circumstances. The baseline for audits reaching the standard of at least 'good' has been reduced to 35% (Jan 2019) from 47% at Oct. 2018. This is an outcome of the more rigorous audit process.	At least 60% by Sept 2019. 85% by Dec 2019 and then working towards 100%.	Audit findings indicate that a) Timeliness of assessment improved 95% b) Quality of assessment improved with 87% classified as good
1.5 Assessment tools in place and used consistently by staff for the improvement of assessments.	April 2019.	Suite of assessment tools designed and available to practitioners.
1.6 Staff are aware of and are trained on the use of	April 2019.	This will be further embedded

Impact of actions	Original Target / Timescales	Progress
assessment tools as appropriate.		through the launch of Children Social Care's Academy in November 2019
1.7 An enhanced programme of training is available to staff to support the development of skills and knowledge required to achieve a consistently high quality of practice.	Sept 2019.	This will be further embedded through the launch of Children Social Care's Academy in November 2019 and the appointment of the PSW in October 2019.
1.8 Thematic audits demonstrate consistently improving practice and targets achieved.	April 2019, 60% of audits demonstrate good assessment and 85% by December 2019. 85% of cases audited will include evaluation and feedback from children, their families and trusted professionals.	Target achieved as evidenced through audits Evaluation, Service user and professional feedback forms now developed and will be encapsulated as part of BAU operations.
1.9 There is a shared understanding amongst staff and managers of what 'good' social work practice looks like. Feedback from staff. Communications and engagement events.	By March 2019.	Completed Staff feedback forms and Senior management engagement meetings scheduled as part of BAU measures in 2019/20.
1.10 Refocused business support/administrative capacity. Reducing administration frees up social workers to spend more time on purposeful direct work with children and families.	By June 2019.	On target to be delivered by December 2019.

2. Child focussed plans, particularly in the disabled children's team, where the understanding of thresholds when risk escalates also needs to improve

Outcome

- That all plans are focused on the needs of the child within the context of their family
- That the Disabled Children's Team (DCT) practices a child focused approach to its work at all times and this is reflected in case recordings, assessments and plans, while at the same time working with parents for the best outcomes for children and young people
- That DCT understands thresholds when risk escalates and that this is reflected in the work of the team, case recordings, assessments and plans

Impact of actions	Original Target / Timescales	Progress
<p>2.1 All practitioners in the DCT have undertaken mandatory training and development on achieving and implementing a child centred practice.</p> <p>All DCT practitioners have a minimum of Child Protection Level 3 Safeguarding Training. A programme of learning to include mentoring and shadowing between DCT, Assessment and MASH teams is in place.</p> <p>All audits of DCT cases are child focused and evidence clear decision making against thresholds.</p> <p>85% of audits will include feedback from children and young people and trusted professionals.</p>	<p>Inhouse briefing sessions through to June 2019.</p> <p>Externally commissioned sessions by July 2019.</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Final training to be delivered in September 2019</p> <p>Audit indicate quality and timeliness of assessment improved 87%</p>
<p>2.2 All children's service staff have access to training on working with disabled children.</p>	<p>Externally commissioned sessions by June 2019.</p>	<p>Completed internally and will be part of the Haringey Children's Social Care Academy</p>

Impact of actions	Original Target / Timescales	Progress
2.3 All staff aware of practice standards and tools.	Completed.	This remains on track and evidence of use gathered as part of the monthly Quality Assurance Management meetings.
2.4 Findings of audits show continuing evidence of improvement.	Dec 2018 completed and quarterly from April 2019.	This remains on track and evidence of use gathered as part of the monthly Quality Assurance Management meetings.
2.5 The application of threshold for DCT cases is consistent with practice guidance and this is evidenced through case file reviews.	Completed. A review planned for end of March 2019.	Review evidenced the need for the development of DCT Eligibility Criteria document protocol to be launched on the 4 th November 2019.
2.6 Experienced Child Protection Advisers linked to the DCT team and working alongside the Service Manager and the Team Managers to build their knowledge and skills to support the consistent application of thresholds.	Completed.	Absorbed as part of BAU and governance from AD Safeguarding.

3. The quality and timeliness of case recording including the recording of management decision making

Outcome

- The case recording is consistently of the highest standard
- That case recording takes place in a timely manner
- Management decision making is clearly recorded on case files
- The quality of case recording is monitored through supervision and audits

Impact of actions	Original Target / Timescales	Progress
3.1 The supervision takes place in line with policy and procedure.	New supervision policy implemented October 2018. 95% of cases to receive management oversight/supervision by April 2019.	Target achieved and monitored as part of BAU processes.
3.2 Audits show a consistently high rate of management oversight and decision making on all cases in accordance with policy and procedure.	New supervision policy implemented October 2018. Managers are increasing the rate of supervision and management oversight. 95% of cases to receive management oversight/supervision by April 2019.	Target achieved and monitored as part of BAU processes.
3.3 Weekly performance reports evidence the consistent recording of management oversight on children and young people records.	By April 2019. Baseline 38% of audits had good quality of supervision in February 2019 Targets 50% by April 2019 and 80% by Sept 2019.	Target achieved and monitored as part of BAU processes.

4. Timely and effective permanence planning for all children in care, including effective challenge brought by independent reviewing officers (IRO)

Outcome

- That there are timely permanence decisions made for all children in care and that these decisions are recorded on Mosaic
- That permanence decisions are reviewed regularly through child in care reviews to prevent drift
- That the use of a tracker is an effective tool in ensuring that all children's permanence plans do not drift
- That IROs use challenge appropriately to escalate concerns related to practice to further support best care planning and outcomes for children and young people

Impact of actions	Original Targets/ Timescales	Progress
4.1 Performance reports demonstrate that all children in care have a permanence decision recorded.	Ongoing.	Completed and monitored through CIC reviews.
4.2 Where a child is in care their care plan is tracked on a monthly basis to ensure there is no drift or delay.	Ongoing.	Reinforced through Case Management and Resource Panel and IRO's reviews.
4.3 All children in care have a permanence decision that, where appropriate, is regularly reviewed through the CiC review process and the plans are presented twice a year to the Case Management and Resources Panel for senior leadership oversight.	All cases that require a decision through panel – target is 100% by June 2019.	On track and embedded as part of BAU processes.
4.4 Care plans are amended in a timely manner and that there is no delay.	By June 2019.	Review identified need for more detailed partnership building work with agencies outside of Haringey.
4.5 A peer review by Islington, as part of our partners in practice, leads to further practice improvements and highlights good practice by the IRO's.	Terms of reference to be agreed by April 2019.	Peer Review completed July 2019 summary

Impact of actions	Original Targets/ Timescales	Progress
		report on schedule for October 2019
4.6 Challenge by IROs is routine and escalation process is used appropriately.	Quarterly report to QPN in Dec 2018; will be quarterly thereafter.	Completed and embedded as part of BAU.

5. Placement sufficiency for vulnerable adolescents

Outcome

- That all children and young people are in placements that meet their needs
- That placement stability increases following a short dip
- That arrangements are in place across London for the commissioning of placements for young people who are currently difficult to find placements for near their homes and in a timely manner

Impact of actions	Original Targets/ Timescales	Progress
5.1 The CiC and Care Leavers strategy delivers sufficient placements for all children and young people.	In line with targets set in the strategy.	Service review identifies challenges and the urgency to adopt Pan London approach
5.2 Haringey supports plans in place across London for the development of placements to meet the needs of all adolescents, include for the cohort that are difficult to place.	In accordance with plans for development across London – aim is currently 2021 for agreements to be in place.	Service review identifies challenges and the urgency to adopt Pan London approach
5.3 Care planning is undertaken early and provides best outcomes for young people.	Ongoing and in line with each young person's needs.	Completed

6. The quality of audits to inform practice and drive practice improvements

Outcome

- That the quality of audits is of the highest standard and informs actions that lead to improvements to practice
- That audits take place in sufficient numbers and at a frequency that drives practice improvements

Impact of actions	Original Target/Timescales	Progress
6.1 The relaunched QA framework is implemented and driving practice outcomes.	Quality Assurance Practice Framework and Guidance completed and launched in December 2018.	Completed and tested as part of the Islington PIP Review
6.2 That all audit reports are of a consistently high standard and lead practice improvement.	Ongoing.	Recruitment of experienced auditors completed, and benchmarking exercise completed to determine Haringey's standards
6.3 Increased audit capacity and thematic audits lead to improved practice	Ongoing.	Recruitment completed and officers established within the Quality assurance team
6.4 The quality of practice is improved through regular lengthy audits undertaken through the process of practice weeks.	Practice weeks completed September 2018 and February 2019. Continue in line with practice week schedules.	Annual multi agency practice weeks scheduled for 2019/20 and 2020/21

7. The strategic partnership response to criminally exploited children

Outcome

- Local strategic multi-agency arrangements to manage and keep abreast of the complex risks of gangs, violence and criminal exploitation of children are well developed
- Governance arrangements to oversee criminally exploited children are clear and aligned
- Analysis informs planning to minimise the risks that these children face

Impact of actions	Original Target/ Timescales	
<p>7.1 There will be a shared approach to minimising the risks to criminally exploited children.</p> <p>There will be clear governance arrangements and protocols to support effective oversight and decision making so that key services/partners (Community Safety, the Youth Offending Service and the Safeguarding and Quality Assurance/Multi Agency Child Exploitation Panel - MACE) understand where responsibility and accountability for actions sits and what the shared actions are.</p>	By April 2019.	Multi agency Task and Finish group – review completed – changes will be embedded as part of BAU and reviewed annually through the MASA and Exploitation Prevention Panel
7.2 A joint quarterly report will be produced, which sets out a shared view of the local profile of children at risk of gangs, violence and criminal exploitation, which informs strategic planning and operational decisions.	By May 2019.	First monitoring report to be shared with the new MASA <u>December 2019</u>

8. The offer and take up of return home interviews (RHIs) and subsequent use of intelligence to inform individual children's plans

and wider partnership activity

Outcome

- That all children and young people who go missing are offered a return home interview
- That the take up and outcome of RHIs is monitored and reported to through governance arrangements in place
- That children and young people are safer as a result of receiving RHIs

Impact of actions	Original Target/ Timescales	Progress
<p>8.1 Social workers refer all children for a return home interview when they have gone missing</p> <p>There is increased take up of return home interviews from the baseline of 47% in quarter 3, 2018.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>	<p>Service review resulted in the RHI being delivered internally.</p>
<p>8.2 Quarterly report analyses the key themes and issues in relation to children who go missing and this informs the wider understanding of child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation.</p>	<p>First report in new format produced in March 19 for the period October 18 to December 2018, and then quarterly.</p>	<p>Quarterly reports monitored through Director Children's Services – management group.</p>

9. Pathways to private fostering

Outcome

- That all children and young people who are privately fostered have an assessment that includes all members of their household
- That social workers are supported to understand all pathways to private fostering and the regulations
- That all children and young people who are privately fostered have an identified person discharging parental responsibility
- That through the LSCB all agencies work to raise the awareness of private fostering

Impact of actions	Original Target/Timescales	Progress
9.1 All children and young people privately fostered have a robust assessment and that they are supported in their placement.	Ongoing.	Completed for identified cases
9.2 Social workers are fully aware of the pathways to private fostering and the regulations	June 2019	Training delivered and will be annually repeated through the Haringey's Academy
9.3 Increasing number of private fostering arrangements identified. Increase in contacts from Admissions service to MASH	By March 2019.	Multi agency awareness campaign to be launched on the 4 th November 2019
9.3 An increased awareness of private fostering across all agencies and increased reporting as a result.	By March 2019.	Multi agency awareness campaign to be launched on the 4 th November 2019

Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee : 15 October 2019

Item number: To be added by the Committee Section

Title: Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children – UASC



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

Lead Officer: Beverley Hendricks, Interim Assistant Director,
tel. 020 8489 7061; Beverley.hendricks@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: NA

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) are children and young people who are seeking asylum in the UK but who have been separated from their parents or carers. While their claim is processed, they are cared for by a local authority usually under s.20 of the 1989 Children's Act.
- 1.2 London boroughs make a huge contribution in taking care of UASC. As of 31 March 2018, London boroughs were looking after 1,500 UASC – a third of unaccompanied children seeking asylum in England – see Appendix.

2. Background information

2.1 Entry into the UK

2.1.1 UASC typically arrive in the UK:

- as Spontaneous Arrivals – most UASC arrive in the UK by their own means and are encountered at their port of entry, at the Asylum Intake Unit in Croydon, or are otherwise encountered by police/social services. The local authority in which the child first presents is normally responsible for their care. This has put disproportionate pressure on some local authorities such as Kent and Hillingdon who have significant ports of entry, and Croydon where the Asylum Intake Unit is based.
- through the Dubs amendment – resettlement of UASC already in France, Greece or Italy. The scheme prioritises children aged 12 and under, at high risk of sexual exploitation, and children of Sudanese or Syrian nationality. Transfer to the UK must be determined to be in the best interest of the child.

- through Dublin III Regulation – children/close family/dependants reuniting to have their asylum claim dealt with together. The local authority is responsible for undertaking family assessments to ensure the placement is suitable. Government guidance is currently ambiguous, but we are expecting a revision to make clear that if a parent or sibling is the connection in question, and if they are not able or willing to take care of the child, then the local authority will have a duty to take them into care.

2.1.2 Refugee children, who do not have to go through the asylum process, also arrive in the UK from the Middle East and North Africa Region under the Vulnerable Children Resettlement Scheme (VCRS) and will be supported for the first year to resettle in the UK. 300 vulnerable children and family members were supported through the programme in 2018, led by Hertfordshire and Sheffield.

2.2 The Pan London Rota and the National Transfer Scheme (NTS)

2.2.1 The Pan London Rota is an agreement by Directors of Children Services to support equal distribution of UASC 16/17 years old in London. The Rota is a voluntary arrangement and all London local authorities have positively contributed to receiving rota referrals, with exception of those recognised as significant entry points in London or over the NTS threshold. The Pan London Rota is managed by Croydon Council's Permanence 1 Team. Emergency Accommodation is managed by the London Asylum Seekers Consortium, (LASC). The LASC commission and monitor the accommodation and arrange safe transfer and access to emergency medical care if required. They additionally resolve any difficulties and liaise with participating Local authorities as required. Haringey has a relationship with the LASC but like many other Local Authority manages the needs of UASC locally without the need to refer to LASC.

2.2.2 Building on the success of the Pan London Rota model, and in response to growing pressures in London and Kent, the Government introduced the National Transfer Scheme (NTS) on 1st July 2016. The scheme was designed to ensure an even distribution of UASC across LAs nationally. Under the NTS, where an unaccompanied child first presents in a Local Authority which already has over 0.07% UASC to child population, the Local Authority is able to arrange for the transfer of the child. Unlike the Pan London Rota, a child need not be 16/17 years of age. However, the pressures of the demand compounded by logistical and operational challenges meant that the NTS was not as effective and the NTS has not yet provided the national solution to the national challenge of caring for UASC. In recent months, very few children have transferred from London boroughs to other regions through the NTS. A significant proportion of London boroughs are therefore over the 0.07% threshold.

2.2.3 Since 2010, 34,600 UASC have been supported by LAs. There is a substantial shortfall between the funding local government currently receives and the actual cost of caring for UASC. London Councils' research found that, in 2016/17, 19 London boroughs reported a cumulative funding pressure of £11m as a result of having to deliver unfunded responsibilities for UASC. On 8 May 2019 the Immigration Minister announced the intention to increase the funding for UASC to LAs. This change means that local authorities will be paid the same amount

for every UASC that they look after, regardless of the child's age or when they entered the UK. Local authorities will receive £114 for each child every day that they are in their care which equates to over £41,600 per year per child. Based on the number of UASC looked after by local authorities, the increase in funding will total over £30 million per year.

2.2.4 Children's social care is funded through the local government finance settlement and the Home Office contribution is in addition to this funding. The aim of the funding is to:

- simplify the process - and LAs await the outcome of the stakeholder group work to produce a service standard to ensure better prioritisation of cases;
- progress the development of the Safeguarding Strategy.

2.2.5 UASC aged 16 or over currently attract a rate of £71 or £91. According to latest published statistics, over 80% of UASC are aged 16 or over, which in theory means that the vast majority of local authorities will benefit significantly from this uplift.

2.3 New UASC role in London

2.3.1 As part of the above changes a new UASC Strategic Lead for London has been appointed who will operate in all other areas which reflects the fact that London is essentially an exporter and the other regions are importers under the NTS. A central part of this role is to make the NTS work and initial work will focus on the Dubs and VCRS cases and challenges with placements. At present only 20-25 UASC move out of London per quarter and this intensifies the demand in London for placements; only three boroughs are below the 0.07% quota.

2.4 Haringey Picture

This is set out in the attached power point.

3. Contribution to strategic outcomes

People Priority

4. Use of Appendices

Presentation showing data regarding UASC.

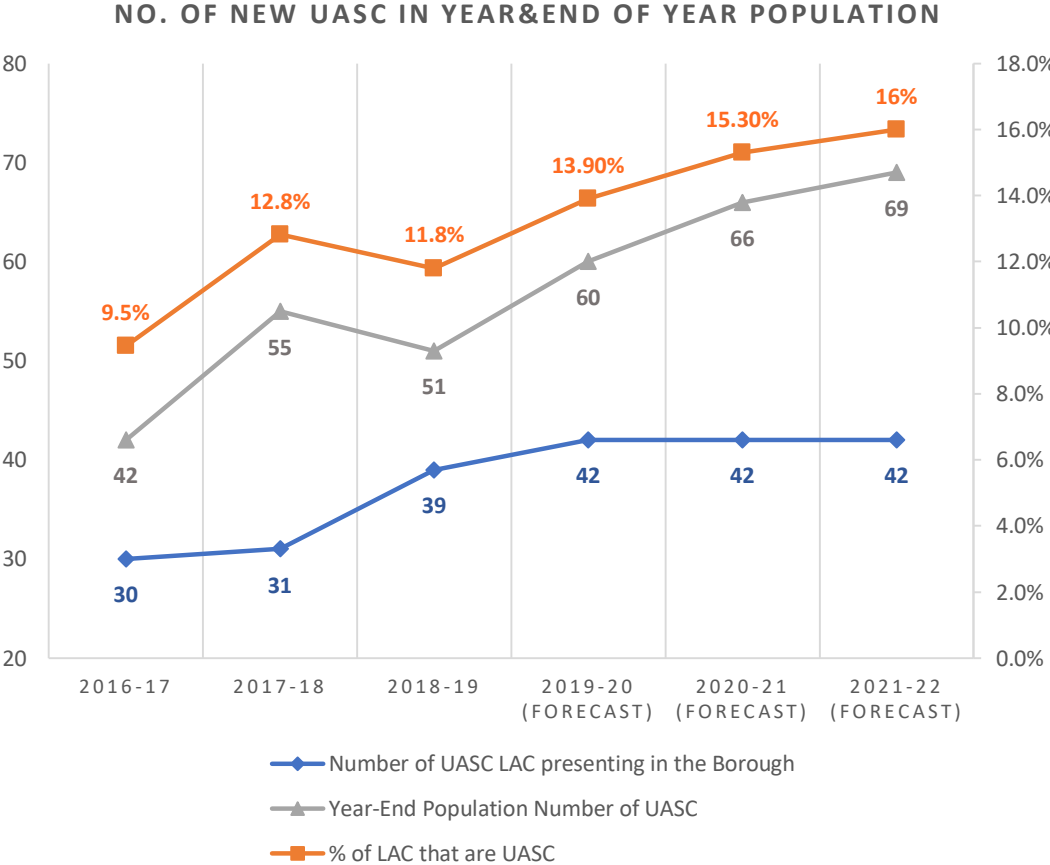
5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

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UASC LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

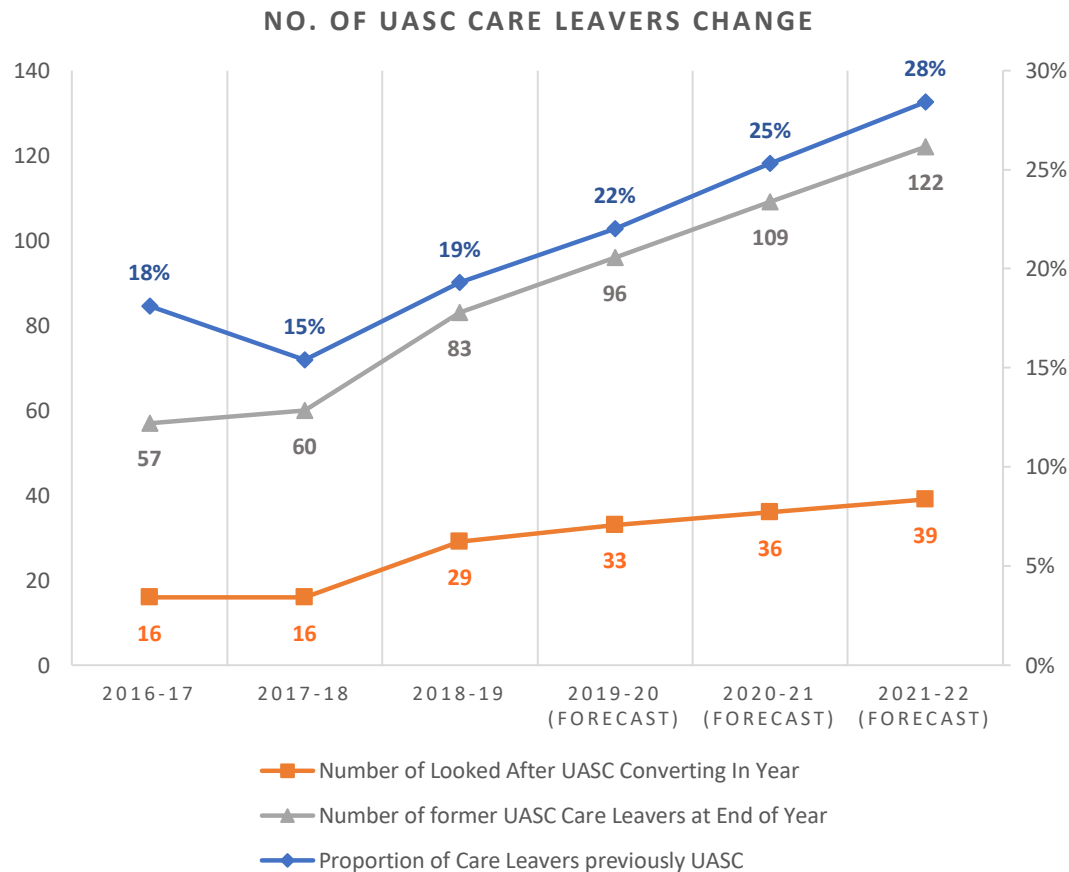
HARINGEY CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE

Looked After UASC



- The number of UASC presenting in Haringey is showing a rising trend;
- During 18-19, 10 cases have been transferred to other areas as we have met our 0.07% quota;
- We are expecting a higher % of our looked after children will be UASC as their numbers are growing with a higher rate than our non UASC children's

Care Leaver UASC



- The total number of UASC care leaver number is predicted to be 28% of the care leaver's cohort by 2021-22;
- 39 looked after children would convert in the same year;

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Report for: Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: 15th October 2019

Item number:

Title: Performance for the year to September 2019

Report

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

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

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: Non key

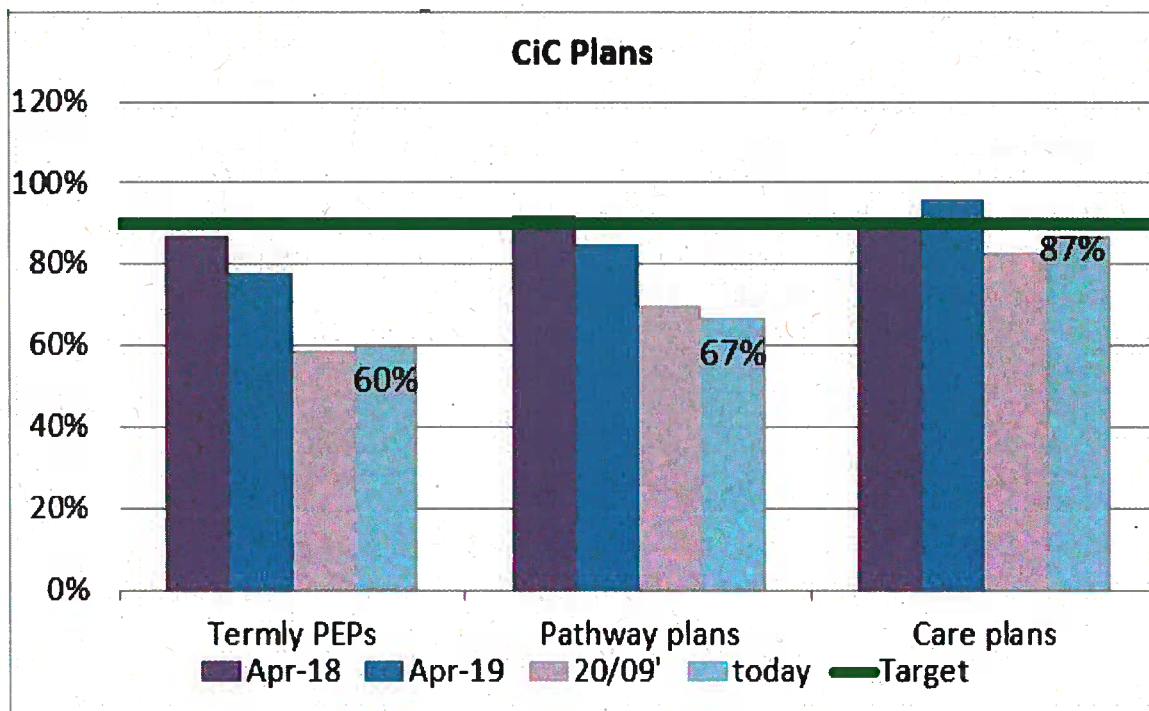
1. Introduction

- 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.

2. Overall Assessment of Performance

- 2.1. 418 children were in care as at the end of September 2019 or 69 per 10,000 population including 58 unaccompanied asylum seeker children or 14% of open children looked after cases, a slight increase from the 13% at the end of 2017/18. The rate of looked after children in Haringey has remained relatively stable but the annualised rate as at the end of quarter 1 was the third highest in London with only Islington and Croydon above. Haringey's rate remains above that of our statistical neighbours (66 per 10,000 population) and the London average (54) and national average (64).

- 2.2. The rate of children becoming looked after (in the last six months) is showing a slight decrease at 29 per 10,000 population compared to 37 at the end of March 2019 and it is broadly in line with statistical neighbour and London rates and similar to the past two years.
- 2.3. In the first six months of 2019/20, 88 children have started to be looked after and 97 children have ceased to be looked after.
- 2.4. There were seven permanency orders during the last six months, five adoptions and two special guardianship orders (SGO) equating to 5% of those that ceased to be looked after in the period who went on to be adopted. Fourteen children have been adopted in the last 12 months and 26 children are waiting to be adopted. One of the 71 children aged 5-plus (1.4%) who ceased to be looked after in the last six months was adopted although this is below the statistical neighbour three year average of 5%. Of the current Children in Care population 22 are placed for adoption.
- 2.5. At the end of September 2019, 87% of looked after children aged under 16 had an up to date Care Plan. The graph below illustrates the trend on this and other areas relating to looked after children overtime.



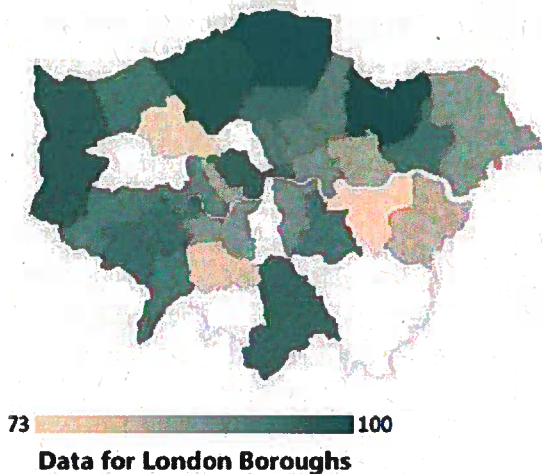
- 2.6. Regular weekly meetings to track activity and performance continue to be held with the Head of Service for Children in Care and team managers. The light blue bar (furthest right bar in each block) shows the position relating to the week ending 27 September 2019.
- 2.7. As shown above 67% of looked 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 in the Young Adults

service and weekly with the growing number of older children in the Children in Care teams. Focus is also 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.

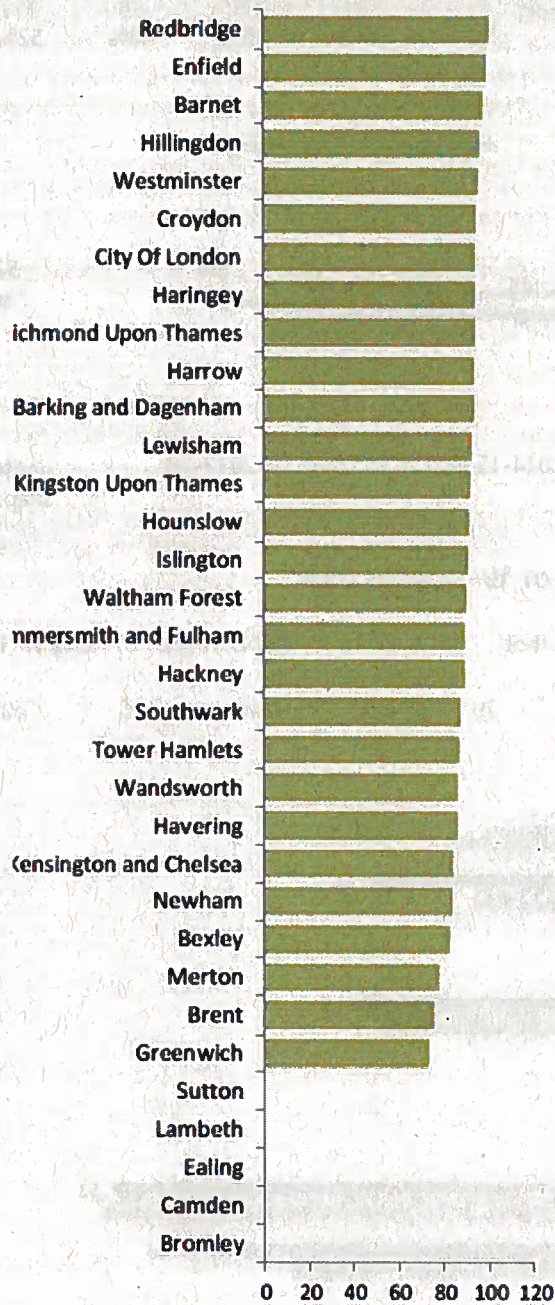
- 2.8. Performance on **Personal Education Plans (PEPs)** stands at the end of the Summer term 2019-20 at 60% for statutory school age children with an up to date PEP. Detailed weekly management information by team is available to show what needs to be done and by which party e.g. social work, school or virtual school. The start of each school term always sees a fall in the percentage as the older PEPs become out of date. PEPs are only counted as in date if they are from 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 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. 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. **80% of visits to Children in Care** were recorded as completed in the relevant timescales at the end of September. This remains below the 95% visit target. Teams are working very hard to adhere to this challenging target and 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 September 2019, **10% of children with an open episode of care had three or more placement moves in the last 12 months**, equating to 40 children. This is slightly higher than the London average figure of 9% at the end of Q1 but still places us in the top quartile across London on this indicator of stability. **Children under 16 who had been in care for at least 2.5 years in the same placement for at least two years** has decreased to 56% from 76%, now below the last published statistical neighbour position (68%) but not out of line with the Quarter 1 London average figure of 58%. 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 September children who were looked after for at least 12 months with an **up to date health assessment** was 97%, maintaining excellent performance above statistical neighbour, national levels 88% and our achievement in both 2016/17 (93%) as well as 2017/18.

- 2.13. At the end of September 76% of eligible children had **up to date dental visits**. In order to improve this, a slight system change was proposed to ensure that social workers have this information to hand when they meet the carer/visit the children. This is a focal point of the two weekly Young Adults Service performance meeting. Unfortunately dental checks remain a stubborn and challenging area.
- 2.14. Of the 394 **care leavers** in receipt of leaving care services, 97% of both those aged **19-21** and **17-18 year olds** were considered as **in touch with the local authority** at the end of September, a considerable improvement on the proportions previously reported. 52% 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.
- 2.15. 95% of **19-21 year old care leavers** were known to be in **suitable accommodation** at the end of September and 90% of 17-18 year olds. Again this area is showing 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%. Again, when we look at the quarterly benchmarking for London, Haringey ranks in the top quartile of London authorities on this measure as shown in the graphics below from the regional Quarter 1 benchmarking report.

Thematic map of London boroughs referring to Q1 data



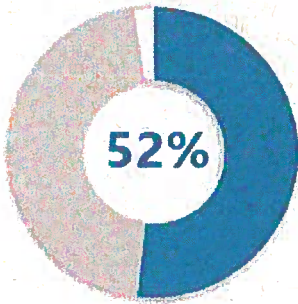
Bar chart below is based on annualised rate or in quarter rate / percentage



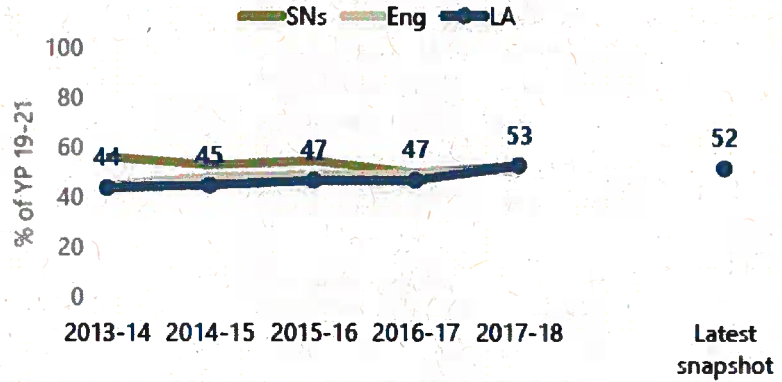
2.16. We are very proud of our robust care leavers reporting system, which we have introduced and use to track improvement continually. We now have a tool to monitor not just how our 17-21 year old care leavers live, but our older care leavers too (more than 200 of them); we use the data to provide them with help strategically, where they really need it most.

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

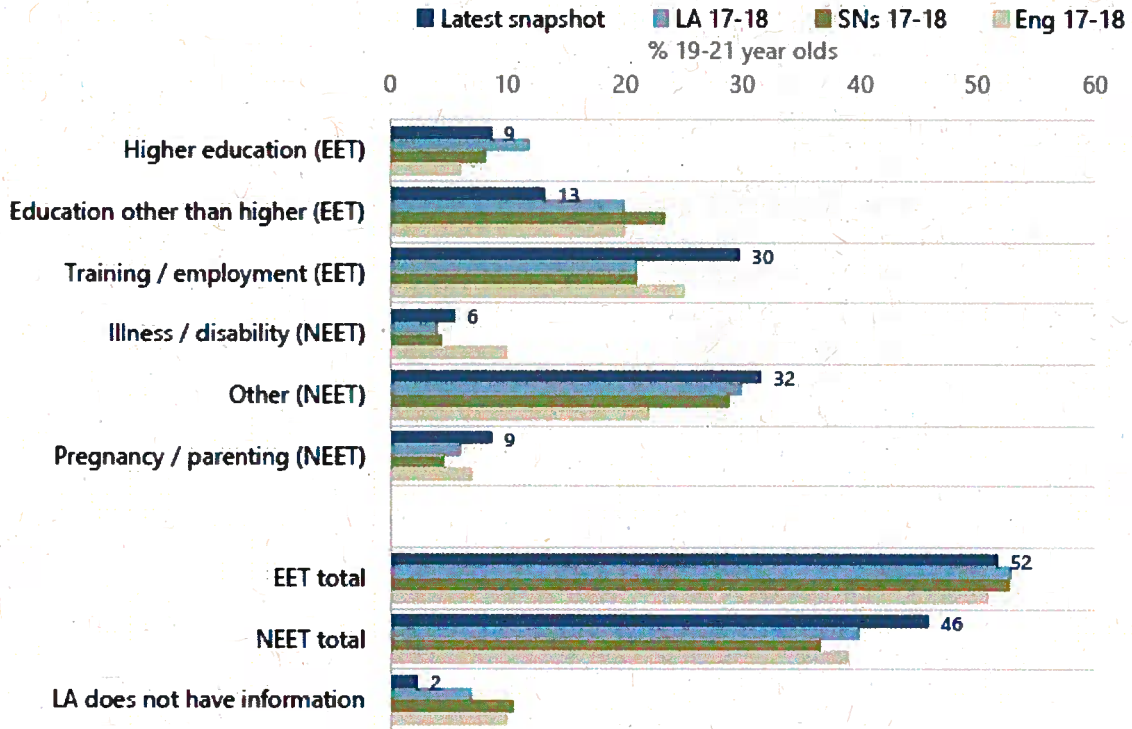
ChAT	Aged 19	Aged 20	Aged 21	Total
Numbers in cohort	84	65	69	218
In EET	61%	45%	48%	52%



■ YP in EET
 ■ NEET
□ No info



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

