

NOTICE OF MEETING

CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 16th January, 2020, 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 - 6)

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2019.

6. MATTERS ARISING

7. WORKING TOGETHER TO TACKLE VULNERABILITY, VIOLENCE & EXPLOITATION (VVE) IN HARINGEY (PAGES 7 - 18)

Briefing on Working Together to tackle Vulnerability, Violence and Exploitation (VVE) in Haringey.

8. ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT OF CHILDREN IN CARE SERVICES - WHITTINGTON HEALTH NHS TRUST (PAGES 19 - 32)

This report is regarding the Haringey's Children in Care (CIC) annual health report. The objective of the CIC health service is to ensure that all Haringey children and young people in care are physically, mentally, emotionally and sexually healthy and that they are able to make health choices that enable them to enjoy healthy life styles.

9. UPDATED ACTION PLAN ON HARINGEY CHILDREN IN CARE WHO ARE ALSO KNOWN TO YOUTH JUSTICE (PAGES 33 - 38)

This report provides an updated Action Plan on Haringey Children in Care who are also known to Youth Justice.

10. ADOPTION UPDATE (PAGES 39 - 44)

This briefing provides an update on the Adopt London Regional Adoption Agency development programme.

11. STATUTORY SCHOOL AGE PEP EXCEPTION REPORT DECEMBER 2019 (PAGES 45 - 50)

This exception report is regarding the Statutory School Age PEP.

12. HARINGEY ACADEMY UPDATE (PAGES 51 - 54)

This briefing provides an update regarding the Haringey Academy.

**13. PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR TO NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019
(PAGES 55 - 60)**

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.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Date of next meeting:

17th March 2020

Ajda Ovat, Principal Committee Co-ordinator

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Bernie Ryan

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Wednesday, 08 January 2020

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MINUTES OF MEETING CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 15TH OCTOBER, 2019, 6.35 – 8.45PM

PRESENT:

Councillors: Zena Brabazon (Chair), Julie Davis, Peray Ahmet, Sakina Chenot, Tammy Palmer and Mark Blake

69. 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.

70. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

Apologies for lateness were received from Cllr Chenot.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Erdal Dogan and Dr Fayrus Abusrewil.

71. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business

72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

73. MINUTES

RESOLVED

The minutes of the 2nd July 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

74. MATTERS ARISING

The following points were noted in discussion regarding the minutes of 2nd July 2019 of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee:

- Regarding page 2 of the minutes which referenced that there were 8 new unaccompanied asylum seeker children (UASC) at the end of the month, the Chair enquired as to whether that increased number of new UASC was still the trend. In response the Deputy Head of Safeguarding and Social Care advised that the numbers varied month to month, but noted that the performance report showed that there was a slight percentage increase from last year.
- Regarding the average length of time for children to move to adoption at page 3 of the minutes, the Chair enquired as to whether an updated report could be

presented at the next CPAC meeting following the recent TUPE transfer of Haringey staff to the North London Regional Adoption Agency. In response the Director of Children's Services advised that it was too soon to provide an updated report as the transfer had only recently occurred on 1st October. The Head of Children in Care & Placements informed the Committee that data was received on a monthly basis. The Chair requested that an update around adoption be placed on the CPAC work programme **(Action: Clerk)**.

- Cllr Ahmet queried as to whether FGM was uncommon as referenced at page 3 of the previous minutes. The Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care clarified that it was not common to receive referrals of FGM, and accordingly it was suggested that the previous minutes be amended to reflect that the data for FGM was based on referrals received **(Action: Clerk)**. *Post meeting note: the previous minutes have been amended to reflect the recommended changes.*

The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm for the Aspire meeting and re-commenced at 7:30pm

75. RESPONSE TO CPAC QUESTIONS ON LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND YOUTH JUSTICE SYSTEM

Beverley Hendricks, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care, introduced this report as set out in pages 5-9 of the agenda pack, which provided a response to the CPAC questions on Looked After Children and the Youth Justice System.

The following was noted in response to the discussion of the report:

- Regarding the disparity between custodial sentences received for looked after children and non-looked after children, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care explained that the disparity was based on the sentencing tariff awarded to looked after children in comparison to the general population. For instance, a looked after child was likely to get a higher sentencing tariff from the Youth Justice court for theft than another child from the general population. The disparity was a result of several factors, such as the presence of biological parents and representation offered on behalf of the child. The Cabinet Member for Communities and Equalities further added that another major factor was how a child's behaviour at home was treated, for example the police were more likely to get involved in a scenario where a child in an institutional setting had broken a window at home in comparison to a non-looked after child in a similar scenario. Cllr Blake mentioned an event he attended at City Hall a few weeks ago, which was based around the criminalisation of care leavers. He informed the Committee that some of the testimonials he heard revealed a negative picture of police interventions for children in care settings. He also found that the children experienced a lot of trauma and they would not talk about their experience. Cllr Blake explained that young people had a perception that counselling was not for them, and he felt that a different approach would be needed to address that issue.

- In relation to concerns about trauma experienced by young people and their mistrust of police, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care informed the Committee that to help reduce the traumatic experience the Haringey Borough Commander had agreed that the police would not wear their uniform on occasions where there would be a planned police intervention involving a child.
- Regarding the summarised recommendations for questions 1-3 as set out in pages 7-9 of the agenda pack, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care explained that the recommendations would be put into an action plan and then fed back to the Committee to demonstrate what had been delivered. The Chair agreed for the recommendations to be put into a planned schedule in order for it to be then presented to the Committee **(Action: Beverley Hendricks)**.

76. OFSTED ACTION PLAN PROGRESS UPDATE

Ann Graham, Director of Children's Services, introduced the report as set out at pages 11-26 of the agenda pack. She was pleased to inform the Committee that the updated report and action plan had been completed, and thanked the service for the positive outcome of the Ofsted inspection. She emphasised that it was important not to be complacent in order to continue the good work and ensure positive progress.

The following was noted in response to the discussion of the report:

- Regarding the joint quarterly report referenced at page 24 point 7.2, the Chair asked whether the report could be presented to the Committee. The Director of Children's Services informed the Committee that a report could be presented to the Committee for a future CPAC meeting, but since the Committee's focus was on Looked after Children, the report could be adapted to concentrate on Looked After Children with a link to the full report **(Action: Ann Graham)**.
- In reference to training delivered for social workers at the Haringey Academy as set out on page 26 of the agenda, the Chair requested that this matter be placed on the CPAC work programme **(Action: Clerk)**.

77. UNACCOMPANIED ASYLUM-SEEKING CHILDREN - UASC

Beverley Hendricks, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care, introduced this report as set out in pages 27-41 of the agenda pack. Beverley Hendricks took the Committee through the report and highlighted the following:

- In reference to the graph on page 32 of the agenda pack, it was noted that the number of Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) presenting in Haringey was showing a rising trend. During 2018-19, 10 cases had been transferred to other areas as Haringey had met its quota level. It was further noted that there was an issue with Haringey's quota level as the quota level across the country was 0.07%; however, for the last year Haringey's quota averaged at 0.09%. The service had raised queries around the National

Transfer Scheme as it was not working effectively, and furthermore, there had been an announcement from the Department for Education around changes to the Scheme; however, Haringey had not seen the benefit of those changes. Additionally, it was predicted that Haringey was likely to have more UASC as looked after children, and in consideration of that forecast, Haringey needed to plan a service response to effectively manage the particular needs of those UASC for future years.

- In reference to the graph page 33 of the agenda pack, it was noted that the total number of UASC care leavers was predicted to be 28% of the care leaver's cohort by 2021-22, and 39 looked after children would convert in the same year. Therefore, Haringey would have more UASC that the services would be responding to, and it was anticipated that those UASC would have a longer relationship with the services, which would have an impact on the service when they would become care leavers. In consideration of this growing trend, the point was reinforced that that services needed to be re-configured to meet the needs of the UASC and to manage the current growing trend.

The following was noted in response to the discussion of the report:

- In response to a question, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care confirmed that the current numbers of UASC were included within the total number of looked after children. There was currently 414 looked after children. The Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care noted that it was important to distinguish between care leavers and children regarded as in care because some of the Council's corporate parent responsibility for care leavers continued up to the age of 25, if they qualified.
- Regarding funding for UASC to local authorities, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care explained that the grant given to local authorities for UASC had been insufficient to the growing needs, which include the living expenses that local authorities cover. Although the government announced a funding increase to local authorities for UASC, the service was conducting an analysis to ascertain sufficiency of the uplift as there was uncertainty as to whether the uplift would cover the costs of the demands on the service.

78. PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR TO SEPTEMBER 2019

The Committee considered this report which provided an analysis of 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, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care, took the Committee through the report as set out in pages 35-41 of the agenda pack. In addition, the following was highlighted:

- It was noted that at the end of September 2019, 418 children were looked after; 69 per 10,000 population. It was stressed that this number was what was

- expected based on Haringey's demographics, and was in line with the looked after population at other local authorities.
- Regarding section 2.3, it was explained that 97 children ceased to be looked after in the first six months of 2019/20 for a range of reasons, such as returning home, being adopted and some turning 18.
 - In relation to Personal Education Plans (PEPs), the Committee were informed that electronic Personal Education Plans (e.PEPs) were introduced approximately a year ago. It was noted that 60% of e.PEPs had been completed. An email would be sent to schools by the Assistant Director of Schools and Learning to remind schools of their statutory duty in getting the PEPs completed. Furthermore, someone would be commissioned to start on Friday 18th November to work two days a week to focus on PEPs to ensure the level of high standards were maintained. Additionally, by April next year there would be an overhaul in the administration of pupil premium to schools for looked after children. This entailed an automatic amount that would be administered to schools at first and then the schools would have to request the remainder from the Virtual School by outlining how they would spend the pupil premium. It was highlighted that there would have to be a high-quality e.PEPs in place for schools to obtain the pupil premium. It was noted that these plans would make a difference in getting the PEPs completed to a high quality. In response to the Director of Children's Service query as to whether a PEP that would be picked in a future term if it had been missed in the previous term, in response the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care explained that there had been a concentrated audit in this area, and it was concluded that the quality of the PEPs had improved and there was evidence that the recommendations were being followed. It was further explained that the issue at hand was that the e.PEPs were not being signed off by schools, and the plans mentioned earlier would incentivise schools to give these PEPs priority. Additionally, it was noted that there was a mosaic working group looking into improve the system to evidence the work going on. In response to the Chair's suggestion of liaising with safeguarding governors to ensure they had an eye on this area, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care informed the Committee that Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) had requested to escalate issues based on this area to the Board of Governors of schools. Therefore, the mechanism would be that the IROs would go through the DMT (Children's Services Senior Leaders), and the DMT would make a decision around escalation to the Board of Governors based on any patterns identified around a cluster of schools. In response to a question around whether the dip in completion of PEPs was due to a system issue, it was explained the reason for the dip was that overall the PEPs were not completed to the standard required, for example not documenting how pupil premiums were spent. The Committee were assured that there would not be a stark drop at the beginning of every term once the PEPs were all caught up and approved.
 - Regarding the pathway plans, the Committee were informed that there was a dip in the pathway plans. The Deputy Head of Safeguarding and Social Care explained that in terms of the Young Adults Service, two weeks ago there were

9 cases in the service that did not have up to date pathway plans; however, currently 8 cases out of the 9 had been updated and the 9th case was due to be updated within the week. The Committee were assured that pathway plans were reviewed every week, and detailed tracking of this area was undertaken on a fortnightly basis at performance meetings to ensure good quality pathways plans.

The following was noted in response to the discussion of the report:

- In response to a query on placement moves referenced at 2.11 of the report, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care noted that there were challenges around children between the ages of 13-15, some of whom were in residential placement. It was highlighted that the Council needed to work on building up relationships with private sector providers to ensure there were no placement disruption for children in those age ranges due to incidents, such as police being called for minor property damage. The Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care suggested a piece of work was needed through the DMT process to find solutions, and further added that a Commission Officer had been brought to the service to address the issues. The Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care suggested that a report could be presented to the Committee at a future date around the impact of the work to address the issues.
- The Director of Children's Services informed the Committee that the service was currently working on an invest to save proposal for Cabinet. The proposal would be for an investment of £100,000 to give the service capacity to undertake managing the market activity, with a view to procuring resources differently.

79. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Date of the next meeting
16th January 2020

CHAIR:

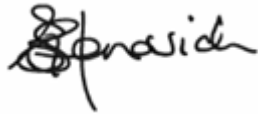
Signed by Chair

Date

Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee – 16 January 2020

Item number: To be added by the Committee Section

Title: **Working Together to tackle Vulnerability, Violence and Exploitation (VVE) in Haringey – Briefing for Members**



Report authorised by : Bev Hendricks, Assistant Director, Children's Services

Lead Officer: Bev Hendricks, Assistant Director,
Safeguarding and Social Care tel 020 8489 7061
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Ward(s) affected: NA

1. Describe the issue under consideration

This briefing has been prepared by Children's Social Care Exploitation Prevention Panel for practitioners and partners.

2. Recommendations

Members to note the briefing.

3. Contribution to strategic outcomes

3.1 Borough Plan 2019-2022

3.2 People Priority

4. Use of Appendices

Briefing for Members on Working Together to tackle Vulnerability, Violence and Exploitation (VVE) in Haringey

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

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Working Together to tackle Vulnerability, Violence & Exploitation (VVE) in Haringey.

This briefing has been prepared by Children's Social Care Exploitation Prevention Panel. The Panel work in partnership with a wide range of organisations, including the Police, Probation, Health and the third sector. The Panel aims to coordinate and support practitioners to protect and promote the welfare of all children and young people and some adults with care and support needs.

In recent months the Panel, along with the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Board, have been reviewing the delivery of services for a particularly vulnerable group of people involved and exposed to the risk from the context in which they live. The Panel in consultation with the AD for Safeguarding consider the levels of vulnerability, violence and exploitation young people face.

What do we mean by Vulnerability, Violence and Exploitation (VVE)?

Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation (**VVE**) describes what happens when **County lines** drug dealers, who are **gangs** involved in **organised crime**, use children and other vulnerable people through **Criminal Exploitation, Sexual Exploitation** and **Cuckooing**. The children or vulnerable adults may be from the same area as the gang, or could be local, and may be exploited to carry out criminal acts to reduce the gang members risk of getting caught (especially '**clean skins**' and '**tinys**'). They are often moved around locally or nationally for this purpose – a form of **Modern Slavery & Trafficking**. The risks to them are significant. **Serious violent crime** is a significant feature of county lines activity. People caught up in county lines may not see the risks of their involvement, or may feel trapped in the situation – scared of being seen as '**Going Ops**' or threatened with being '**Banged**' or experiencing '**DIY Injuries**' if they try and back out, and they can go from uninvolved (and not seen as an at risk child) to being exploited very quickly and without apparent warning.

County Lines, 'going country' and criminal exploitation

County Lines takes the form of urban gangs supplying drugs to suburban areas and market and coastal towns using dedicated mobile phone lines or "deal lines". It involves criminal exploitation as gangs use children and vulnerable people to move drugs (primarily heroin and crack cocaine, although cannabis is also supplied by 'runners'¹ as a secondary drug as an independent side-line to generate extra income) and money. It almost exclusively involves violence, intimidation and the offer of money or drugs. Gangs establish a base in the market location, typically by taking over the homes of local vulnerable adults by force or coercion in a practice referred to as 'cuckooing'.

Areas/towns also have local groups, to whom young people or vulnerable adults both respect and at times fear. These groups will also use vulnerable adults and young people to both run drugs across their area and sell.

Children and young people are also expected to support the recruitment of other young people into the gang/group. These individuals are at serious risk of criminalisation, sexual exploitation and exposure to violence. Criminal exploitation, like other forms of abuse and exploitation, is a safeguarding concern and constitutes abuse even if the person appears to have readily become involved.

¹ Someone that illegally transports drugs around

Gangs / Groups

Groups of children often gather together in public places to socialise, and peer association is an essential feature of most children's transition to adulthood. Groups of children can be disorderly and/or anti-social without engaging in criminal activity.

Professionals are advised to avoid applying definitions of a gang too rigorously; if a child or others think s/he is involved with or affected by 'a gang', then professionals should act accordingly.

Children rarely use the term 'gang', instead they used terms such as 'family', 'breddrin', 'crews', 'cuz' (cousins), 'my boys' or 'the people I grew up with'.

The **statutory definition** of a gang is:

"A relatively durable, predominantly street-based group of young people who:

- See themselves (and are seen by others) as a discernible group, and
- Engage in a range of criminal activity and violence

They may also have any or all of the following factors:

- Identify with or lay claim over territory
- Have some form of identifying structural feature
- Are in conflict with other similar gangs"

HM Government: Ending Gang & Youth Violence Report 2012

Organised Crime

An organised criminal group is a group of individuals normally led by adults for whom involvement in crime is for personal gain (financial or otherwise). This involves serious and organised criminality by a core of violent gang members who exploit vulnerable young people and adults.

Sexual Exploitation

Sexual exploitation is a type of sexual abuse. People in exploitative situations and relationships receive something such as gifts, money or affection as a result of performing sexual activities or others performing sexual activities on them.

People may be tricked into believing they're in a loving, consensual relationship. They might be invited to parties and given drugs and alcohol. They may also be groomed and exploited online.

People can be sexually exploited in many ways. Examples include:

- Rape (which can include rape by a partner)
- Sexual assault
- Being tricked or manipulated into having sex or performing a sexual act
- Being trafficked into, out of, or around the UK for the purpose of sexual exploitation (i.e. prostitution)
- Being forced to take part in or watch pornography
- Being victim to revenge porn (when a previously taken video or photograph, which was taken with or without consent, is shared online)

Girls and women who are exploited along County Lines are particularly at increased risk of sexual exploitation and trafficking.

Cuckooing

This is the process whereby criminal gangs target the homes of vulnerable people to deal drugs from their premises. Many of the victims are particularly vulnerable and may be drug users themselves. They are often approached by dealers offering them free drugs in exchange for use of their home from which to deal drugs, or are sometimes forced by threats and intimidation to deal on their behalf.

Cuckooing means the criminals can operate from a property rather than on the street, making them less easy to identify, and often they move between different properties to cover their activities. The person being cuckooed may be reluctant to raise concerns for fear of repercussions or violence, making the practice even harder to bring to light.

County Lines groups also make use of serviced apartments, holiday lets, budget hotels and caravan parks. County Lines groups prefer to pay cash where possible and often use network associates to arrange these facilities, as a means of distancing themselves from the criminality.

Clean skins'/ 'tinys'

These are young people, usually from middle class backgrounds, who do not have an existing criminal record or have not attracted the attention of police or security forces, but are vulnerable due to bereavement, domestic discord, etc. These young people are groomed with free drugs, then threatened for money and recruited to gangs to repay this 'debt'.

- To transport and sell drugs (children as young as 7 years old who have pedal-bikes)
- To launder money through personal bank accounts
- To be trafficked for sexual exploitation

Children may often be at the periphery of involvement for some time before they become active gang members. Children may also follow older siblings into gang involvement. This may provide opportunities for preventative work to be undertaken with children. 15-16 years is the most common age range.

Modern Slavery & Trafficking

As well as sexual exploitation county lines cuts across a range of threats, including modern slavery and human trafficking. People are being exploited using the county lines model to transport and sell more than drugs. Weapons, sex and money are also being traded in this way. They are victims of trafficking and professional should report concerns to the [National Referral Mechanism \(NRM\)](#) to ensure victims receive the appropriate support.

Serious Violence

Violence is a way for gang/group members to gain recognition and respect by asserting their power and authority. Violence, serious or otherwise, may be a function of gang/group activity.

Police Forces across England and Wales have reported a significant increase in violent crime connected to county lines. The violence includes; murder, rape, stabbings and kidnapping. It is likely that violence is underreported.

Knives, baseball bats, ammonia/corrosives and other weapons are used to enforce threats. There is also notable evidence of firearms being seen or used to threaten in connection to county lines activity.

'Going Ops', 'Banged' & 'DIY injuries'

Due to the fact drug runners are exploited to be both consumer and runner, young people and vulnerable adults may begin to consume the drugs they are asked to run, which they must either pay back by 'working' or else accumulate debt. The more debt the more control the gang/group has. If the young person/ vulnerable adult appears to be 'going ops' (going oppositional to the gang/group) then they are made to evidence that they will correct their behaviour quickly e.g. spend more time with the

gang or not attend school. If the gang/group become concerned that young person / vulnerable adult appears to be 'going ops', then there is an explicit threat of being 'banged'. This can vary from threats to be beaten or in more extreme cases stabbed. There can also be indirect threats to harm family members too.

Knife wounds to the buttocks and 'accidental' puncture wounds with screw-drivers 'DIY Injuries' are becoming recognisable signs of drug debt enforcer retribution. These incidents are more likely to be reported to A&E but not to police due to intimidation and fear.

Scope and Scale

The true scale of County Lines activity is difficult to determine with accuracy as its nature is fluid and the intelligence surrounding the threat is not always clear, nor is it recorded consistently. It is estimated that:

- Over 90 individuals from Haringey have been involved in county lines activity across 20 police force areas.
- Over half (54%) of individuals from Haringey identified as involved in County Lines activity are aged 15-18 and three-quarters (75%) are males

The county police force areas which feature the most number of individuals frequenting are:

- Sussex (15)
- Hampshire (11)
- Norfolk (9)
- Essex (8)
- Kent (8)
- Somerset (8)
- Devon and Cornwall (8)

Of the young people known to the Exploitation Panel, 20 are known to have been involved in County Lines activity

Young people in some schools and living in our community are being slowly introduced to the gang lifestyle by being offered access to **presents/ gifts/ status/ alcohol/ drugs** and **excitement**. There are examples of young girls, over a period of months, becoming transitioned into this lifestyle and slowly becoming isolated from old friends, family and professionals.

What are the risks?

People affected by County Lines activity are at risk of criminal and or sexual exploitation, serious violence as well as risk of significant harm through physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

The specific risks for males and females may be quite different. In some areas and settings, there is a higher risk of sexual abuse for females and they are more likely to have been coerced into involvement with a gang through peer pressure than their male counterparts.

There is national evidence of a high incidence of rape of girls who are involved with gangs. Some senior gang members pass their girlfriends around to lower ranking members and sometimes to the whole group at the same time. Very few rapes by gang members are reported.

Gangs are highly organised and professional; they send members to university to study marketing (as well as to establish new supply lines for drug-trafficking). They also recruit professional producers to make marketing videos for YouTube to attract young recruits.

Practitioners in Haringey have considered the perceived positives of engaging in criminal activity. They suggest that being part of a gang can bring money, status and a sense of safety.

- Some forms of criminal activity can offer a way out of poverty and exclusion by providing opportunities to quickly earn **money**
- It can offer a **collective identity**, expressed through group, gang or brand identity (within the context of exploitation, and alongside belonging, the construction of identity may be a mechanism that can be manipulated as part of a grooming process)
- It may offer a **sense of security** for those young people who feel let down by adults in their life.

Who is vulnerable to exploitation?

Exploitation can:

- Affect any child or young person under the age of 18 years
- Involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and is often accompanied by violence or threats of violence
- Affect any vulnerable adult over the age of 18 years
- Be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and young people or adults and is
- Still be exploitation even if the activity typified by some form of power imbalance appears a consensual favour of those perpetrating the exploitation.

One of the key factors found in most cases of county lines exploitation is the presence of some form of exchange (e.g. carrying drugs in return for something). Where it is the victim who is offered, promised or given something they need or want, the exchange can include both tangible (such as money, drugs or clothes) and intangible rewards (such as status, protection or perceived friendship or affection). The fact that the victim is in receipt of something does not make them any less of a victim.

Certain vulnerabilities may increase the chance that a person will be exploited by others. Whilst these factors do not mean that a person will be exploited it is important to recognise the increased vulnerability that some people face.

An individual's vulnerability may be exacerbated by the following factors:

- Violence in the family
- Involvement of family members or friends in gang related activity
- Poor educational attainment
- Mental health problems
- Dependent drug users
- Having a physical or learning disability
- Homelessness or insecure accommodation
- Social isolation or social difficulties
- The cuckooing of vulnerable adults brings increased risk of exploitation to young people. Young people becoming involved in county lines may be related to adults who had been cuckooed.

The factors which influence a propensity to initiate violence include:

- Parenting, which is uncaring, non-nurturing and neglectful
- Parenting which includes harsh disciplining
- Maltreatment, such as physical or sexual abuse in childhood (abuse by adults and peers within and outside of the family); and/or
- Trauma such as domestic violence or involvement in or witnessing conflict violence

Additional vulnerabilities to exploitation include:



Looked after children Looked after children are particularly vulnerable to being affected by gangs and serious youth violence as they may have low self-esteem, low resilience, attachment issues as well as the fact they are often isolated from family and friends. Young people who have been placed in local authority care out of area are particularly vulnerable.



Girls and young women Girls may be groomed at school using drugs and alcohol, which act as disinhibitors and create dependency, and encourage / coerce them to recruit other girls through school / social networks.



Locations – schools, pupil referral units and residential children's care homes
There is national evidence that residential children's care homes and pupil referral units are targeted. There also known cases where gang members have been waiting outside schools to meet children. The gang members take the child away to participate in criminal activities and return them in time to avoid them being reported missing or raising suspicion.

What signs / indicators should I be looking out for?

- ☐ Person seems to **withdraw** from family life;
- ☐ Sudden **loss of interest in school** or change in behaviour. Decline in attendance or academic achievement (although it should be noted that some young people will maintain a good attendance record to avoid coming to notice);
- ☐ Being **emotionally 'switched off'**, but also containing frustration / rage;
- ☐ Starting to use **new or unknown slang** words;
- ☐ Holding **unexplained money or possessions**;
- ☐ **Staying out unusually late** without reason, or breaking parental rules consistently;
- ☐ Sudden **change in appearance** – dressing in a particular style or 'uniform' similar to that of other young people they hang around with, including a particular colour;
- ☐ **Dropping out** of positive activities;
- ☐ **New nickname**;
- ☐ **Unexplained physical injuries**, and/or refusal to seek / receive medical treatment for injuries;
- ☐ Graffiti style **'tags'** on possessions, school books, walls;
- ☐ Constantly talking about another person who seems to have a lot of **influence over them**;
- ☐ Breaking off with old friends and hanging around with **one group** of people;
- ☐ Associating with known or suspected **gang members**, closeness to siblings or adults in the family who are gang members;
- ☐ Starting to adopt certain **codes of group behaviour** e.g. ways of talking and hand signs;
- ☐ **Going missing** and being found many **miles from home** with no explanation;
- ☐ Expressing **aggressive or intimidating views towards other groups** of young people, some of whom may have been friends in the past;
- ☐ Being **scared** when entering certain areas;
- ☐ Concerned by the presence of **unknown youths** in their neighbourhoods
- ☐ Repeat **sexually-transmitted infections**, pregnancy and terminations
- ☐ **Disclosures made then withdrawn**

□ **Self-harm** or thoughts of/or attempts at suicide

Cuckooing Signs

- It usually takes place in a multi-occupancy or social housing property
- There may be an increase in the number of comings and goings, including people you haven't seen before, throughout the day and night, often visiting for only short periods of time
- There might be new vehicles outside the property, including taxis or hire cars
- There may be bags of clothing or bedding around the property
- There may be a possible increase in crime and anti-social behaviour in and around the property reported to services, including the accumulation and storage of stolen pedal cycles
- There may be evidence of drug use such as deal bags, discarded syringes, weighing scales, foil and cling film, in and around the property.

Victims of cuckooing may disengage with support services and be unwilling to discuss what is happening at their property when the subject is raised with them.

Advice from Children's Exploitation Prevention Panel

Young people wish to have a respectful professional who can listen to them and understand their perspective - it is not about bad choices. The key to building a relationship may therefore be about supporting the young person by listening and going through options together, rather than be another adult who is perceived to reflect similar power dynamics of the gang or their own parents whom tell them what to do.

Some practice tips:

| Some practice tips: | |
|---|--|
| Focus upon supporting families of children and young people to provide a sense of belonging | Practitioners may prioritise signposting young people who are NEET towards education, training and employment opportunities |
| Target families with no father or male present | Recognise that not all employment opportunities offer young people sufficient money, status or sense of belonging – some young people in employment may therefore benefit from signposting to alternative opportunities to gain these benefits |
| Target families of children and young people who go missing | Acknowledge that young people possess agency – the capacity to make choices and act according to self interest |
| Provide interventions to families where | |

| | |
|--|--|
| there is domestic violence | Acknowledge that young people who become involved in exploitation may be seeking friendships, belonging, approval, excitement, money and status, but find legitimate opportunities to achieve these things more limited than others |
| Provide support to parents of adolescents to prevent family breakdown | Practitioners may prioritise signposting young people who are NEET towards education, training and employment opportunities |
| Provide opportunities for young people involved / at risk of exploitation to participate in group activities | Recognise that not all employment opportunities offer young people sufficient money, status or sense of belonging – some young people in employment may therefore benefit from signposting to alternative opportunities to gain these benefits |
| Prioritise and make use of existing youth and community development organisations and initiatives alongside individual and family focussed interventions | Acknowledge that young people possess agency – the capacity to make choices and act according to self interest |

1. What you should do if you are concerned?

If you are worried that someone is at immediate risk of harm contact 999.

If you are worried about a **child** contact MASH

Monday to Thursday 8.45am to 5pm
and

Friday 8.45am to 4.45pm - Tel: **020 8489 4470**

Out of office hours, including weekends –

the Emergency Duty Team

Tel: **020 8489 0000**

If you are worried about an **adult** contact:

The First Response Team (**adult social services**):

Telephone: 020 8489 1400

Email:

firstresponseteam@haringey.gov.uk

You should also refer any young person you suspect of being a potential victim of **trafficking** to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). In the case of children their consent is not required. Adults must sign the permission form (capacity allowing). To download an adult or child referral form go to the gov.uk website.

If you believe a crime is being committed, or planned, or are aware of any **terrorist activity**, you should contact the Police Prevent team without delay on 101 or email the police Prevent officer. Referrals to **Channel** can be made using this form. If you want advice from the Prevent team

regarding concerns about an individual please email Karina.Kaur@haringey.gov.uk.

2. What we will do over the next 12 months

The Exploitation Prevention Panel and senior leaders within Social Care have engaged 2 Missing and Exploitation Co-ordinators. Supported by the multi- agency these officers will work with the Community Safety Partnership to co-ordinate:


- Greater involvement with a range of professionals working with children and young people with Special Needs and to identify those young people who are most vulnerable to exploitation.
- Workshops for parents across schools in Haringey to build the resilience and capability of the community to recognise the levels of vulnerability, violence and exploitation that children and young people may face in the environments that they live and create further opportunities to co design community solutions.
- Develop better working relationships with Adults Social Care
- Structured work with the Police, Community Safety Partnership and the Adults and Children's Safeguarding Board to deliver whole borough learning to:
 - ✓ Semi-independent units and other care homes
 - ✓ Hotels and B&B
 - ✓ Chicken Shops and other food and restaurant venues
 - ✓ Taxi services

Bev Hendricks
Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Social Care

Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee, 16th January 2020

Item number:

Title: **Annual Health Report of Children in Care Services -
Whittington Health NHS Trust**

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

Lead Officer: **Lynn Carrington** Designated Nurse Children in Care
Whittington Health 0203 074 2824 lynn.carrington@nhs.net

Ward(s) affected: N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

The Haringey's Children in Care (CIC) annual health report outlines the work undertaken by the team. The objective of the CIC health service is to ensure that all Haringey children and young people in care are physically, mentally, emotionally and sexually healthy and that they are able to make health choices that enable them to enjoy healthy life styles. The team's focus is working together to enable children and young people to reach their full potential and enjoy the same opportunities in life as their peers.

2. Recommendations

Members to note the report.

3. Background

The report is written in accordance with Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Looked after Children (DCSF 2015). Whittington Health are commissioned to carry out all initial and review health assessments for Haringey's children in care.

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 4.1. Borough Plan 2019-2022
- 4.2. People Priority

5. Use of Appendices

Annual Health Report of Children in Care Services - Whittington Health NHS Trust

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

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/413368/Promoting the health and well-being of looked-after children.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/413368/Promoting_the_health_and_well-being_of_looked-after_children.pdf)

HARINGEY
Children and Young peoples Service

Annual Report
Children in Care Service
April 2018 - March 2019

Authors:

Lynn Carrington, Designated Nurse, Children in Care
Dr Fayrus Abusrewil, Designated Doctor Children in Care
Dr Jyoti Dullabhbbhai, Medical advisor for adoption

Date 26.9.2019

| | |
|---|-------|
| 1 Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 Context | 1 |
| 1.2 Team Values | 1 |
| 1.3 National Statistics | 1 |
| 1.4 London statistics | 1 |
| 1.5 Haringey statistics | 2 |
| 2.1 Organisational structure | 2 |
| 2.2 Service provision | 3 |
| 2.3 Referrals | 3 |
| 2.4 Initial Health Assessments | 3 |
| 2.5 Young People remanded into detention | 4 |
| 2.6 Work of the Medical Advisor to the Adoption Panel | 4-5 |
| 2.7 Review health assessments and follow up. | 6 |
| 3.0 Corporate Parenting pledge: Health & Well Being | 6 |
| 4.0 Supervision | 7 |
| 5.0. Strategic work of the Designated Professionals | 7 |
| 6.0 Training and Seminars | 8 |
| 7.0 Risk management, Incidents and Complaints | 8 |
| 8.0 Summary | 8 |
| 9 Plans for 2018-2019 Key Priorities | 9 |
| Appendix 1 – You said we did Client feedback | 10-11 |

Children in Care Service
Annual Report
2018 - 2019

Introduction

The Haringey's Children in Care (CIC) annual health report outlines the work undertaken by the team. The objective of the CIC health service is to ensure that all Haringey children and young people in care are physically, mentally, emotionally and sexually healthy and that they are able to make health choices that enable them to enjoy healthy life styles. The team's focus is working together to enable children and young people to reach their full potential and enjoy the same opportunities in life as their peers.

1.1 Context

The report is written in accordance with The Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked after Children (DCSF 2015). We are commissioned to carry out all initial and review health assessments for Haringey CIC .

1.2 Team Values

Our team values are:

Always show respect and kindness for all

Always go the extra mile for our clients

Always learning and improving

Always enabling and empowering children and young people to achieve their potential

Always put the child and young person first, challenging where needed and speaking up for children.

1.3 National Statistics

Nationally there were 75,420 looked after children in England at 31 March 2018, an increase of 4% compared to 31 March 2017. (Source: Children looked After in England (including adoption, year ending 31.3.2018 Department of Education).

Haringey ranked 5th highest in London in 2017/2018.

1.4 London Statistics

Table 1

Number of Children in Care in Consecutive years

| | | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|------------------|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| Haringey | | 511 | 453 | 407 | 444 | 429 |
| Islington | | 305 | 350 | 353 | 340 | 339 |
| Greenwich | | 540 | 520 | 520 | 495 | 492 |
| Lewisham | | 505 | 485 | 460 | 455 | 482 |
| Southwark | | 549 | 500 | 477 | 497 | 491 |
| Hackney and City | | 347 | 348 | 339 | 352 | 349 |

Table 1: Children looked after by local authorities, rates per 10,000 children aged under 18 years on 31 March each year.

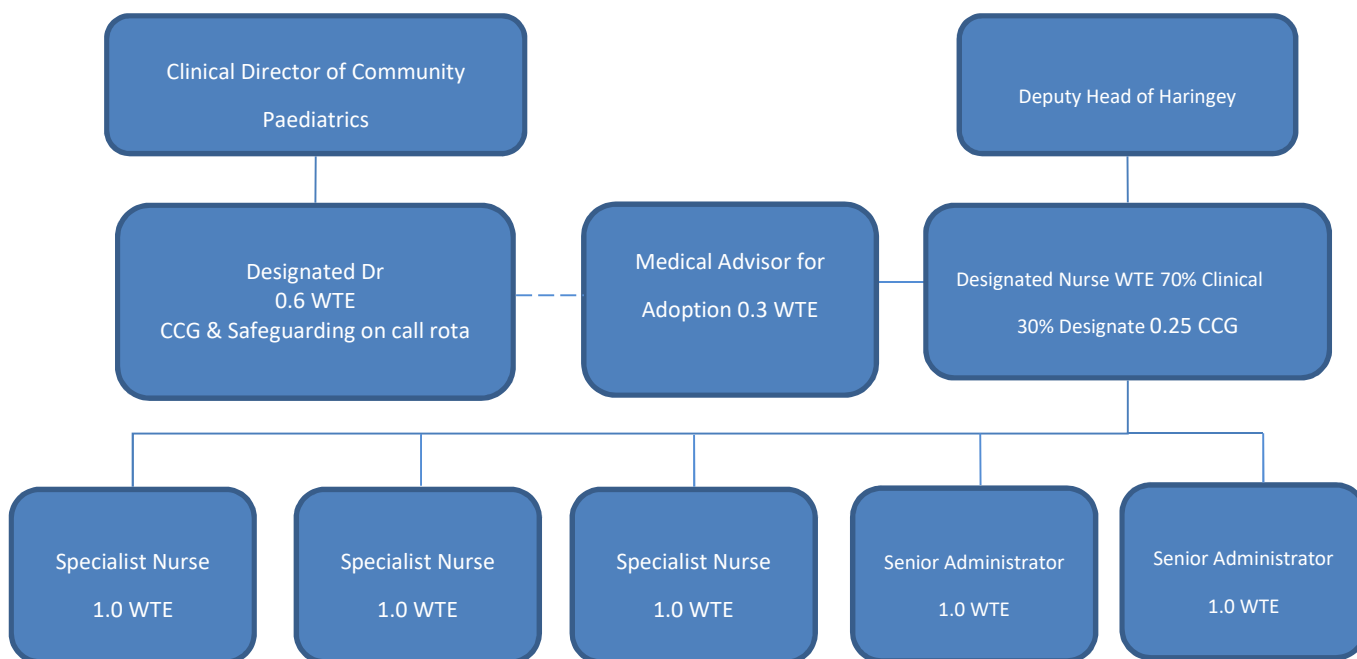
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Haringey | 87 | 76 | 67 | 73 | 71 |
| Islington | 79 | 89 | 88 | 83 | 82 |
| Greenwich | 85 | 80 | 78 | 73 | 72 |
| Lewisham | 77 | 73 | 68 | 67 | 71 |
| Southwark | 90 | 81 | 76 | 78 | 76 |

1.5 Haringey statistics

On 31st March 2019 there were 427 CIC, 70 per 10,000 of the population. This includes 50 unaccompanied asylum seeking children.

2.0

2.1 Organisational structure



2.2 Service provision

The CIC service aims to meet the health needs of children and young people in care aged 0-18 years by:

Promoting and improving the health and well-being of children and young people in care.
 Completing statutory Health Assessments (initial and review), with reports, within the designated timeframe.
 Ensuring all young people leaving care have a Care Leavers Summary
 Advising Social Workers of the health needs of individual children
 Providing health promotion and health interventions
 Representing and contributing to Adoption panels and multiagency assessments and reviews
 Providing Paediatric Adoption Reports for individual children
 Providing medical advice to prospective adopters regarding individual children with whom they have been matched.
 Reviewing and commenting on medical examinations for adults being assessed as carers
 (foster carers, connected persons and adoptive parents)

How we work and performance

2.3 Referrals

We receive a notification from The London Borough of Haringey when a child is taken into care, moves placement or is no longer looked after. The notification should be received within 48 hours of a child becoming looked after. If an Initial Health Assessment is required we then arrange an appointment for the assessment to take place and liaise with Social Workers, foster carers and GP's to obtain a health history and to enquire if they wish to contribute to the report. Consent is received from the Social Worker or parent depending on the legal order and appointment booked for the next available appointment.

We have met with Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) who are responsible for chairing the LAC reviews that occur every 6 months and have received positive feedback with regards to the Drs and Nurses reports and recommendations.

2.4 Initial Health Assessments

Assessments should be completed within 20 days of a child entering care, a report is written and health recommendations should be available for the child's first statutory review. Assessments are completed by members of the Community Paediatric Team supervised by The Designated Dr for Children in Care. When a young person refuses an assessment or is missing, and it is clinically appropriate, then the doctor then completes a desktop report¹ with all the health information available.

The majority of the children are seen for an Initial Health Assessment at Bounds Green health centre (BGHC). Children placed at a distance from Haringey or who have mobility difficulties are referred to local services. Those well-known to another Paediatric team may be seen by their paediatrician. During the year there has been an increase in the number of Haringey children requiring medicals from out of borough teams due to the location of the placement.

The unaccompanied asylum seeking children require Interpreters for their assessments and there is rarely any previous health information available. Following the assessment a referral is made to UCLH for infectious disease screening. A number of children have required further referrals due to unmet health needs. Some require referral for specialist mental health support and have post-traumatic stress disorder.

Quarterly data is illustrated on the graph below showing the number of children seen each quarter. The challenge remains that there can be difficulty in arranging convenient appointments and there has been difficulties obtaining consent for some children to have the medicals and a number had to be rebooked due to interpreters not being booked.

¹ A desktop report is written by the paediatrician or nurse. This takes place if a young person does not wish to attend the assessment and it is clinically appropriate. If possible the Dr speaks to the YP and parent to inform the report. The SW is also contacted and health records read though. This is following a recommendation of an SCR of Child O. The report is forwarded to health professionals including the GP and recommendations will be reviewed by SW and Independent reviewing Officers.

Number of children seen each quarter and timeliness of the medicals
April 2018- March 2019

| | Quarter 1 | Quarter 2 | Quarter 3 | Quarter 4 |
|---|---|---|--|-----------|
| Number of children seen for a medical due to CIC status | 43 (including OOB children) This includes 1 assessment by the Child sexual abuse clinic. | 39 (Including 4 assessments by paediatricians conducting Child protection medicals) | 40 (Including 1 assessment by a paediatrician conducting a Child protection medical) | 44 |
| Percentage completed within 20 days | 65 % | 76% | 69% | 22% |
| Number completed for other CIC teams | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Number completed by other CIC teams | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

167 children had medicals. 9 had desktop reports written.

2.5 Young People remanded into detention

Since May 2013, statutory requirements relating to young people remanded into detention (who weren't previously looked after) changed. These young people no longer require a statutory health assessment (Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013). The young people will be seen by the facility they are remanded to or by the nurse working with the youth offending team.

2.6 Work of the Medical Advisor to the Adoption Panel

Children whose care plan is adoption have a permanency medical and The Medical Advisor meets with prospective adopters when a match is being considered to discuss any health and developmental issues relating to the child. During the year, 11 meetings took place. and 22 children were seen. The average time from placement order to match is 297 days above national average for England which is 201 days. The average time from entering care to moving with adoptive family is 534 days above the average for England which is 486 days. The Adoption panel moving from Haringey across NCL in October 2019 Paediatricians will be sitting on panel and will give advice on cases from other areas. A joint audit will take place in quarter 4 to measure the timeliness of children being adopted. The Medical Advisor also reviews GP medical examinations for adults being assessed as Adopters and comments on all Adult Health Reports relating to Adopters which may sometimes include writing to the Prospective Adopters' Consultant Specialist to clarify plans for certain health conditions that may have an impact on the FOREVER family. The Designated nurse attends the fostering panel where foster carer's are approved.

2.7 Review health assessments and follow up.

Reviews are carried out by the 4 nurses in the CIC team or by a doctor if the care plan is adoption. We recruited a nurse in January 2019 following the retirement of Marian Parks. Each child is allocated a nurse and for continuity the same nurse tries to see the same children each year.

97% of CIC had an up to date review assessment on 31.3.2019. The team continues to work hard to engage with young people. We discuss the children where possible prior to the assessments and inform Social Workers if assessments are late and on occasions joint visits are made.

81% of CIC had attended the dentist within the last 12 months, 86% of CIC for over 12 months were fully immunised. The team completed 19 health assessments for children living in Haringey who are placed by other boroughs and we receive payment for these assessments via service level agreements.

Again this year there has been an increase in young people who are missing, at risk of sexual exploitation and criminal exploitation, with an increase in those involved in gangs and serious youth violence. Liaison continues to take place with the professional network via The Multiagency Exploitation panel. The Designated Nurse attends the panel and advises on the health needs of children and young people discussed.

We have 75 Children of school age with an Education and Health Care Plan with varying degrees of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. 25 young people have a social worker from the disabilities team. The team liaise with health professionals responsible for the children's health care (many are placed out of borough) to ensure the health reports incorporate up to date information from the professionals. This is important when children move placement to ensure professionals involved in the persons care has a comprehensive health history and current Health care plan.

The Designated Dr attends The Complex care panel and advises regarding health needs of Children discussed.

The team continue to run a drop in session at the young adults' service monthly for young people in care over 16. We can offer advice on health including sexual health, healthy eating, independent living skills, smoking cessation, advice on accessing mental health services and advice on substance and alcohol use.

3.0 The Designated Doctor and nurse continue to attend meetings with Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and Aspire (The young people in care's council). The pledge for Children in care for Health and wellbeing was agreed in 2018 and is documented below.

We, the Council as Corporate Parent, pledge: Health & Well Being

- We will make sure that you receive a health assessment once a year (Under 5's will be assessed every six months) and support you in accessing all health services that you need.
- We will help you understand your own health needs, physical, mental and emotional.
- We will help you access leisure and sports activities, school holiday activities and weekend activities and trips.
- We will ensure that you receive regular dentist appointments.
- We will encourage you to access age-appropriate help with your mental and emotional wellbeing, including CAMHS/mental health services and/or counselling.

4.0 Supervision

The nurses discuss cases of concern at team meetings and during 1:1 meetings with the designated nurse. In addition clinical supervision is received from a psychologist from The Parent Infant Psychology Service which is attended by Clinicians in the team and the trainees are invited. Safeguarding supervision is received from the Named Nurse Child protection. The Designated Nurse receives additional supervision with the other named nurses for CIC in Whittington Health. The Designated Dr attends the Trust Designate safeguarding meeting and North London Consortium Designated meeting. The adoption advisor is also invited.

5.0 Strategic work of the Designated Professionals

The Designated Doctor and Nurse represent CIC on the following groups and committees.

| Name of group/committee | Representative | Frequency |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Operational meeting (social care and health partners and commissioning) | Designated Nurse Designated Doctor | Alternate months |
| Whittington Health Safeguarding committee | Designated Doctor Designated Nurse | Quarterly |
| Whittington Health Haringey Quality and Performance meeting | Designated Doctor Designated Nurse | Monthly |
| Haringey Clinical Commissioning Group (HCCG) Safeguarding Assurance meetings | Designated Doctor & Nurse | Quarterly |
| HCCG safeguarding Quality and learning group | Designated Doctor & Nurse | Quarterly |
| Haringey Complex care Panel | Designated Doctor | Monthly |
| Virtual School Management Committee | Designated Nurse | Quarterly |
| Haringey Exploitation Panel | Designated Nurse | Monthly |
| Corporate Parenting Committee Meetings | Designated Nurse Designated Doctor | Quarterly |
| Meeting with Aspire (Children in Care council) | Designated Nurse Designated Doctor | Quarterly |
| London Designate Nurse Meetings | Designated Nurse | Quarterly |
| NCL Meetings | Designated Doctor | Quarterly |

6.0 Training and Seminars

The nurses provide training to foster carers on child development, health needs and minor ailments and treatment.

Training is provided on the health needs of CIC at the Level 3 Safeguarding Training run by Whittington Health.

The paediatric registrars receive training from the team during their placement and Health Visitors and School Nurses visit the service as part of their induction.

7.0 Risk Management, Incidents and Complaints and Compliments

No formal complaints have been received. Datix are completed if there are any reported incidents. Incidents are discussed in team meetings and the team endeavour to learn from the recommendations. Client feedback is collected and changes are made where possible according to the recommendations. Examples can be found at Appendix 1. Several members of staff have received a Greatix award. The Haringey Children and Young People's Community Service learn from excellence and if a member of staff has done something particularly good this is acknowledged via the directorates Greatix system.

8.0 Summary

The CIC Service undertakes a strategic role on behalf of the CCG and continues to advise the CCG on local and national issues that affect children in care. The team have continued to work closely with Social Care, Independent Reviewing Officers, Virtual school and First Step psychological service. The Operational Group meeting and floor walks are used to meet Social Workers to discuss CIC and to ensure information is shared. The Operational meeting provides a safe place to raise systemic challenges and continues to problem solves on specific cases and issues are raised and changes implemented as required to systems/pathways.

There has been a four-fold increase in predicted numbers of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people entering care in Haringey since the beginning of 2019. There is a limited amount of resource available. Consequently, health and social care have undertaken to identify ways of working differently in order to address their needs as fully as possible. Their psychological health has been identified as a priority. A rolling programme of seminars, delivered by all sectors involved with this group of young people, has been launched. This is hoped to address the difficulties they experience commonly and also to provide a nurturing environment for them to meet in and be supported by professionals and support one another.

The voice of the child client feedback is collated following health assessments and we are aiming to collect this electronically this year. Appendix A shows how we acted upon feedback received from Children and Young people, professionals and carers.

Children in Care are considered in the Local CAMHS Transformation Plan. The existing emotional and mental health service for Haringey's looked after population 'First Step' was extended with a further investment to create First Step Plus. This is a service commissioned to stabilize and support Children and Young people in flight through the care system who have had more than 3 placements in the last year. There are transition plans in place for young people transferring into adult mental health services.

8. Plans for 2019-2020 Key Priorities

Consent for Initial and review health assessments are going to be requested by SW when the children enter care. Parents currently consent for emergency medical treatment; so also consenting for the health assessments at this time avoids having to sign two forms and will enable appointments to be booked without delay. This has been discussed and agreed at The Operational Group meeting.

The most common reason children are not seen within 20 days is due to not receiving signed consent or health not being notified by social care that the child has entered care.

An audit of timeliness of the assessments will take place in Quarter 2.

We will continue to develop an integrated multi-agency protocol for unaccompanied asylum seeking children. This will enable professionals to respond in the most thoughtful and helpful way following their arrival in Haringey.

The Designated Dr chairs The Operational Group meeting the group continue to evaluate the CIC pathways and outcomes by strengthening partnership working across social care, health and CAMHS. The team problem solves on specific cases and issues are raised and changes implemented as required to systems/pathways.

We are arranging to have client feedback submitted electronically via Meridian which carers and children will complete electronically.

Appendix 1

**VALUABLE FEEDBACK THE CHILDREN IN CARE SERVICE HAS
TAKEN ON BOARD****YOU SAID**

Some of the information
could be shared prior to
the appointment so
reducing the time of the
assessment for the child

**WE DID**

Nurses gather information from the
Carers over the phone when the
appointment is booked in order to
reduce the time of the assessment

Timing more
flexible around
school



Wherever possible Nurses
are seeing children out of
school hours

Emphasise need
for counselling



We try to encourage
different types
counselling or
therapeutic interventions

Appendix 2

VALUABLE FEEDBACK THE CHILDREN IN CARE SERVICE HAS TAKEN ON BOARD

YOU SAID

Spend a few minutes with the child alone



WE DID

At each visit we ask to see the child alone when we measure his/her weight and height

Use flashcards to show emotional state



We currently use different smiley faces on the 0-10 children's questionnaire, and we are now exploring the introduction of flashcards

I would love it to be the same person the same time

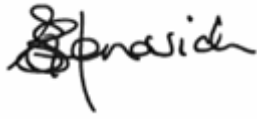


Nurses are providing continuity by seeing the same children

Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee: 16 January 2020

Item number: To be added by the Committee Section

Title: **Updated Action Plan on Haringey Children in Care who are also known to Youth Justice**



Report authorised by : Bev Hendricks, Assistant Director, Children's Services

Lead Officer: Bev Hendricks, Assistant Director,
Safeguarding and Social Care
Beverley.hendricks@haringey.gov.uk tel. 020 8489 7061

Ward(s) affected: NA

1. Describe the issue under consideration

Updated action plan on Haringey children in care who are also known to Youth Justice.

2. Background

- 2.1 At their meeting in April 2019, Members received a report on Haringey children in care who were also known to Youth Justice, based on live data as at 12 January 2019. Since the initial report in April, the number of young people in remand has increased.
- 2.2 Members raised various questions which officers undertook to respond to 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?
- 2.2 Following this request for information, council officers met to review the current arrangements (both strategic and operational), provide a summary of the current offer from both the Youth Justice and Safeguarding Services, evaluate the impact of the services provided and consider further recommendations to improve service delivery, systems and outcomes to this cohort.

- 2.3 The responses to the specific questions were provided to Members in October 2019 and agreed that these should be captured in an Action Plan to build the profile of the interventions for CPAC's consideration going forward.

3. Recommendations

Members to note the action plan.

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

4.1 Borough Plan 2019-2022

4.2 People Priority

5. Use of Appendices

Action Plan

6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- a. Report to CPAC on 23 April 2019: Haringey Youth Justice Service and Looked After Children
- b. Report to CPAC on 15 October 2019: Response to CPAC Questions on Looked After Children and Youth Justice System.

ACTION PLAN: Children in Care and Youth Justice System

| ISSUE | REQUIRED ACTION | LEAD OFFICER | TIMELINE | Outcome Measure |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Monitor the disparity between custodial sentences between CIC and non-CIC. | YJS in the pre - sentence reports will recommend intensive bail support programmes to assure the courts that remanding a CIC is not the only available option for CIC. | Paul Sutton AD – Prevention & YJS | Ongoing Report to be provided to CPAC | 75% of pre - sentence reports to be audited and indicate the number of recommendations accepted by the courts |
| | Brokerage and commissioning to develop suitable alternative accommodation outside of Haringey to keep children who are victims safe. | Dorne Kanareck | By 31 st March 2020 | Arrangements to be made with 2 preferred providers and service monitored quarterly |
| | All CIC held in remand to have monthly remand meetings to ensure their welfare needs and work commence to address repeat offending behaviour and adequate support post release. | HoS for Corporate Parenting – Colette Elliott Cooper and SM for YJS – Matthew Knight | Ongoing as part of BAU | 95% of YP held in remand to have monthly welfare visits |
| | All CIC open to YJS will have access to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Support Services, • Mentoring • Counselling | Paul Sutton / Eubert Malcolm AD's for Prevention and CSP | Ongoing – as part of BAU | 95% of all YP open to YJS to be offered the described services |

| ISSUE | REQUIRED ACTION | LEAD OFFICER | TIMELINE | Outcome Measure |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Misuse Services | | | |
| | Briefing and training for magistrates to raise awareness of the vulnerabilities of CIC and the range of services available for CIC from Haringey. | Youth Justice Board. | 31 st March 2020 and quarterly thereafter. | TBA |
| Support and training to foster carers, residential care homes and semi-independent units to be better informed of the risk children and young people face from the threats of contextual safeguarding. | Under Haringey Children's Academy a programme of learning to be deployed with Rescue and Response, Police and Safer London to increase awareness and disruption skills for young people at risk from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal exploitation Child sexual exploitation Prevent and radicalisation Missing | Exploitation and Prevention Lead – Marisa Douglas Head of Service, Colette Elliott-Cooper Dorne Kanareck - Children services Brokerage | Rolling Programme to commence from February 2020 | 100% of in house foster carers working with adolescents to receive training by July 2020 90% of all preferred residential and semi-independent providers to receive training by September 2020 |
| | All foster carers to have access to LEAP and the foster carers' learning to be considered as part of the CIC reviews. | Colette Elliott Cooper – HOS | Ongoing as part of BAU | 95% of in house foster carers to be offered and to access LEAP. |
| | IFA contracts to be monitored by Brokerage to ensure the agencies deliver the | Dorne Kanareck Verna Miller Brokerage | By 31 March 2020 | 90% of IFA agencies sign up to contextual safeguarding training |

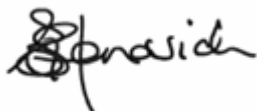
| ISSUE | REQUIRED ACTION | LEAD OFFICER | TIMELINE | Outcome Measure |
|--|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | contextual safeguarding training. | | | |
| | IROs to be offered specialist training to advocate for CIC placed out of borough to ensure better access to : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Health Services including therapeutic and CAMHS. | Pauline Morris – PSW | By 31 st March 2020 | 100% all IRO's to receive contextual safeguarding training |
| A directory of services to be produced setting out the range of services. | Directory to include YJB Commissioning intentions for specific programmes. | AD for Prevention & Safeguarding | TBC | TBC |

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Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee: 16th January 2020

Item number: To be added by the Committee Section

Title: **Adoption Update**



Report authorised by : Bev Hendricks, Assistant Director, Children's Services

Lead Officer: Bev Hendricks, Assistant Director,
Safeguarding and Social Care tel 020 8489 7061
Bev.hendricks@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: NA

1. Describe the issue under consideration

This briefing has been prepared by Adopt London Regional Adoption Agency.

2. Recommendations

Members to note the briefing.

3. Background information

3.1 In March 2016, the government announced changes to the delivery of adoption services proposing that all local authorities' adoption services be delivered on a regionalised basis by 2020. The agreed model for London was to create four Regional Adoption Agencies (RAAs) to cover London, with programme coordination to deliver those functions most effectively carried out once.

3.2 It was agreed that a new regional adoption agency for the North London Region to be known as 'Adopt London North' would consist of the London Boroughs of Haringey, Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney and Islington. The Boroughs working in partnership combine their adoption services for a regional adoption agency for North London hosted and led by the London Borough of Islington

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

4.1 Borough Plan 2019-2022

4.2 People Priority

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Education and Adoption Act 2016

Report to Cabinet on 3 March 2019: Adopt London North: a North London regionalised adoption service



Regional Adoption Agencies (RAAs)

Adopt London Briefing

15th October 2019

This briefing provides an update on the Adopt London RAA development programme.

Introduction/ Background

1. In March 2016, the government announced changes to the delivery of adoption services proposing that all local authorities' adoption services be delivered on a regionalised basis by 2020. This followed a range of national policy changes since 2012, including the 2015 Regionalising Adoption paper by the Department for Education (DfE) that sought improvements in adoption performance.
2. The government has reinforced their policy ambition through provisions in the Education and Adoption Act 2016. The Act also gives the Secretary of State a new power to direct one or more named local authorities to make arrangements for any, or all, of their adoption functions to be carried out on their behalf, by one of the local authorities named, or by another agency.

Delivery Model

3. The agreed model for London was:
 - to create four Regional Adoption Agencies (RAAs) to cover London, with programme coordination to deliver those functions most effectively carried out once.
 - Adopt London has 23 participating Boroughs within the four RAAs.
 - All four RAAs operate on a shared service hosted model.

- The four host Boroughs remain as Islington, Southwark, Havering and Ealing.

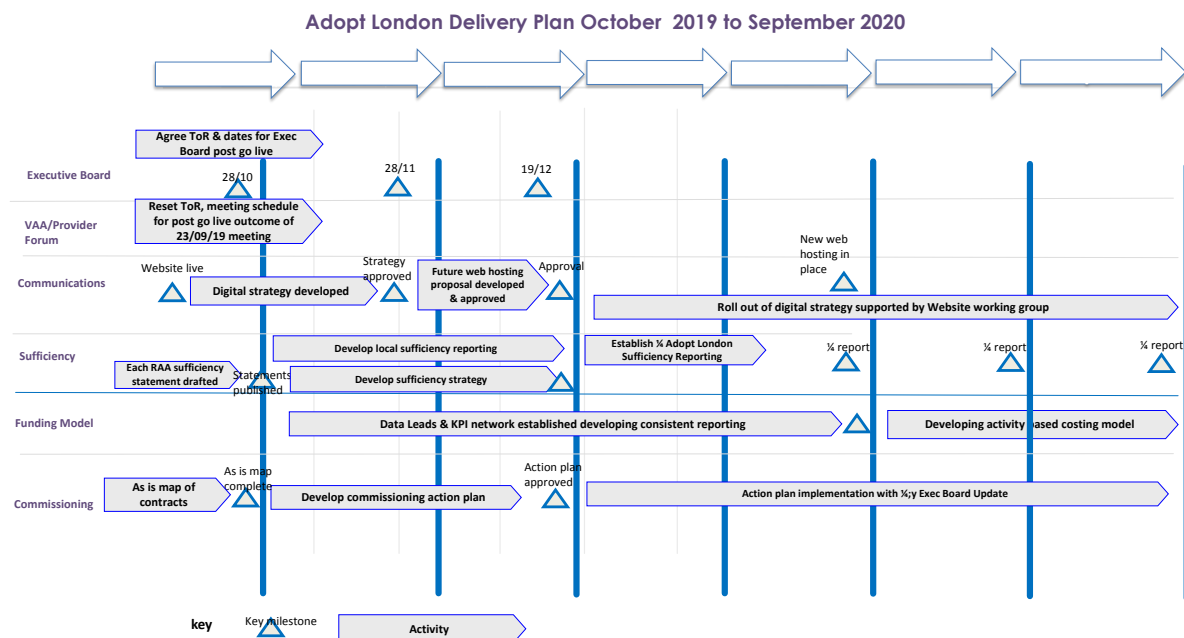
Implementation

4. All four RAAs went 'live' between July and October 2019.
5. Each project and the overall programme management has now closed as all four RAAs are now implemented.
6. There are four Heads of Services appointed to manage the service on behalf of the participating Boroughs.
7. The table below provides a breakdown of the member Boroughs within each of the RAAs that make up Adopt London.

| | North (6) | East (4) | South (9) | West (4) |
|------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Host Boroughs | Islington | Havering | Southwark | Ealing |
| DCS/Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmel Littleton ▪ Lauren Eden | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert South | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Quirke – Thornton • Alasdair Smith | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judith Finlay • Carolyn Fair |
| Membership | Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington | Barking, Havering, Newham, Tower Hamlets | SW – Kingston, Richmond on Thames, Merton, Sutton, Wandsworth SE – Croydon, Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark | Brent, Ealing, Hounslow, Hammersmith & Fulham |
| Head of Service | Lydia Samuel | Sue May | Susanna Daus | Debbie Gabriel |

8. A pan London implementation plan is in place to progress collaborative plans across Adopt London working with VAAs and voluntary sector partners. This also includes working with Ambitious for Adoption (the 5th RAA led by CORAM which includes a number of London Boroughs). This work will be led by the RAA Heads of Service going forward. The primary focus is:

- ⇒ Improving sufficiency of adopters in London
- ⇒ Improved and consistent post adoption support offer
- ⇒ A longer term smarter collaborative commissioning approach



Adopter Recruitment

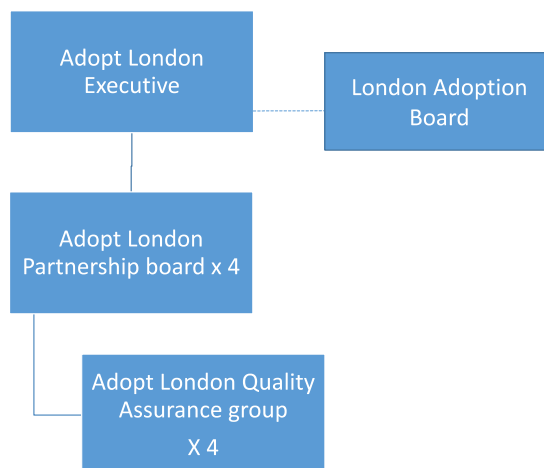
9. Adopt London has developed a set of brand guidelines and has one website for recruitment , training and support of adopters and those affected by Adoption. This will be supported by a digital strategy across the 4 RAAs.

10. DfE have invested £750k in a National Adoption recruitment campaign, that is being launched for an initial 4 week period around Adoption week (14- 20th October) starting with a digital campaign via Society Guardian - #YouCanAdopt. A bigger scale campaign is planned for January 2020 following a marketing agency being commissioned. Mark Owers chairs the steering group with representation from VAAs and RAAs. The Adopt London Heads of Service will be engaged via the leadership programme, they are not represented on the steering group.

Governance

11. Each RAA has a Partnership Board chaired by the host Director with representation from all participating Boroughs. A quality assurance group will feed into the Partnership Board. Annual reports will be provided to each Boroughs Corporate Parenting forums.

Adopt London Governance



12. The Directors of Children's Services (DCS) from each of the four host Boroughs have formed the Executive Board. This is chaired by the Lead DCS for Adoption.
13. The Executive Board provided governance and support to the projects during the development of the RAAS to ensure core principles were adhered too and to oversee pan London developments. The Executive Board will remain in place to monitor and support the implementation of pan London activities.
14. There is on-going engagement and collaboration with the VAAs and the wider voluntary sector on a pan London basis.

Lessons learnt

15. Appendix A provides a summary of the lessons learnt from undertaking this programme which at times has been a drawn-out, complex process , with multiple obstacles to overcome due to the wide range of stakeholders and partners involved.

Maggie McGrath
 Adopt London Programme Manager
Maggie.mcgrath9@me.com

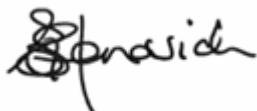
Appendix A - Programme Lessons learnt

| | |
|---|---|
| Stakeholder engagement | <p>Communication and stakeholder engagement at all levels is crucial early on and throughout the process.</p> <p>Staff events, briefings, newsletters , FAQs and individual sessions with teams supports the change management process. HR officers involvement was very beneficial.</p> <p>VAA/Provider forum with Director involvement was positive in building trusting relationships and progressing London wide opportunities.</p> <p>HR cross regional HR meetings supported by London Councils assisted with consistency of approach and knowledge sharing.</p> <p>Trade Unions engagement both locally and on a pan London basis was needed to ensure transparency, reduce resistance and delay.</p> |
| Governance | <p>Political engagement – Pan London member briefing flushed out issues early on. Cabinet decision making processes vary considerably – aligning timelines can be challenging. Early planning is needed.</p> <p>Ongoing and early in principle sign off at each stage is necessary.</p> <p>Governance structures involves all parties and at a range of levels (Directors, Operational Head of Service, Legal, Finance , HR, IT and information governance, Performance, Commissioning and Communications teams etc).</p> <p>Executive Board represented by all hosts and independently chaired was critical in ensuring timely decisions and managing risks.</p> <p>Sponsor/SRO access outside of board meetings ensured drift was minimised.</p> |
| Programme and Project management | <p>Leadership at programme management level and skilled, experienced project managers are required to drive the programme/projects</p> |
| Base line – understanding the current position | <p>Data and financial information was inconsistent – a pragmatic approach to developing a ‘good enough’ shared ‘as is’ position early on requires a range of partner leads to be involved and developing a culture of peer challenge has proved helpful.</p> |
| Finance | <p>Negotiating and agreeing financial contributions in challenging financial times requires robust analysis and challenge to ensure all partners interests are represented and contributions represent actuals, recent trends and future demand projections.</p> <p>Bringing together Heads of Finance at the earliest opportunity is required</p> |
| Service re-design | <p>Re designing the model and undertaking a full restructure to ensure a “Fit for Purpose” organisation , opposed to a ‘lift and shift’ approach provided a higher level of certainty for staff and minimised vacancies and the need to re structure post go live.</p> |
| New model development | <p>Testing new ways of working require financial investment – these are often related to IT, system and process changes and legal advice on proposals.</p> |
| Partnership Agreement | <p>Working off a version developed by other RAAs and waiting for the Pan London version to be reviewed caused initial delays. Multiple comments received on various drafts took a significant amount of time to review and amend, given the number of stakeholders involved. Earlier identification and engagement of LA leads may have simplified the process. Allow sufficient time for reviews in the project plan.</p> |
| IT & FM | <p>Implementation costs and options need to be considered at the onset.</p> |
| Practice | <p>Early appointment of the Head of Service was beneficial in providing leadership, building relationships and developing practice.</p> <p>Practice lead on the project team gave capacity to focus on practice developments, communications and stakeholder engagement. (Staff, adopters, professional partners etc)</p> |

Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee 16th January 2020

Item number: To be added by the Committee Section

Title: **Statutory School Age PEP Exception Report December 2019**

**Report**

authorised by : Bev Hendricks, Assistant Director, Children's Services

Lead Officer: Nicola Morgan, 020 84893163 nicola.morgan@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: All

1. Describe the issue under consideration

The purpose of this exception report is to outline those instances in which actual PEP completion performance has fallen short of the 90% target set, and to focus management attention on just those areas requiring immediate action.

2. Recommendations

Members to note this briefing.

Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee to receive an updated Statutory School Age PEP Exception Report for the Spring term in May 2020.

3. Background information

Haringey's PEP completion performance showed a dip from 87% at the end of July 2016 to 74% at the end of July 2017. This was below the target of 90%. Since July 2017 the percentage of PEPs completed has varied and has never reached the target of 90%. The new Electronic PEP (ePEP) was launched in Summer 2018 and is slowly becoming embedded in practice and being used effectively to improve the achievement of our children. Haringey Virtual School is committed to ensuring that our children and young people have the benefit of a high-quality ePEP. All PEPs are reviewed termly and are quality assured and approved by the Virtual School Education Improvement Consultants. As of 31st December 2019, the percentage of completed PEPs was 88%, which is 2% below the target and the highest the figure has been since the introduction of ePEPs.

During the most recent ILACS Ofsted Inspection in November 2018, inspectors found the quality of PEPs too variable, and that some were not completed fully by the designated teachers in a timely way. They noted that the introduction of the ePEPs system is improving information-sharing, with an increased oversight from the Virtual School, although the impact on improving the quality of PEPs was not yet evident.

The Department for Education statutory guidance, Promoting the education of looked-after children and previously looked-after children, clearly states that all looked-after children must have a care plan, of which the PEP is an integral part and that the quality of the PEP is the joint responsibility of the local authority that looks after the child and the school. The PEP should be reviewed termly.

The Virtual School Management Committee support the areas for development outlined in the report.

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

The educational performance of looked-after children links to Corporate Borough Plan Priority 2 - People. Our vision is to ensure that pupils become successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve; confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives; responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society. The areas for development in this report contribute to the delivery of this strategic objective.

5. Use of Appendices

Statutory School Age PEP Exception Report December 2019

6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Department for Education: Statutory guidance for local authorities, February 2018

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/683556/Promoting the education of looked-after children and previously looked-after children.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/683556/Promoting_the_education_of_looked-after_children_and_previously_looked-after_children.pdf)

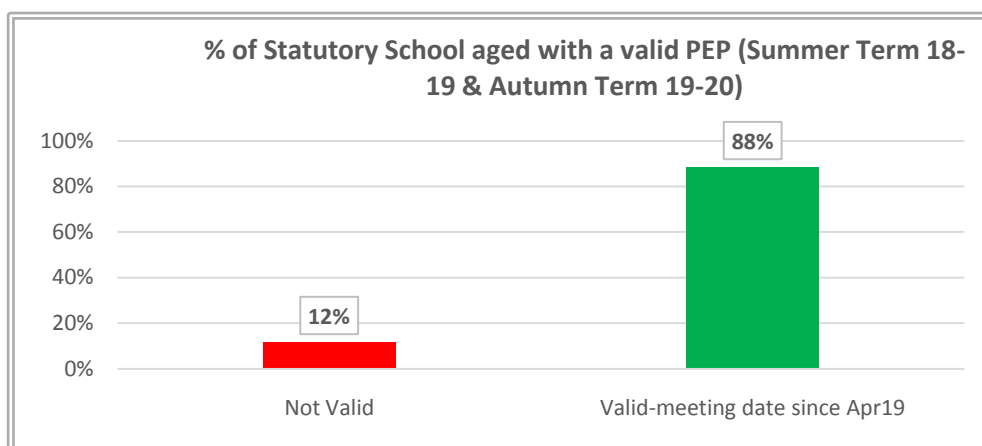
Haringey Council is not responsible for the contents or reliability of linked web sites and does not necessarily endorse any views expressed within them. Listing should not be taken as endorsement of any kind. It is your responsibility to check the terms and conditions of any other web sites you may visit. We cannot guarantee that these links will work all of the time and we have no control over the availability of the linked pages.

Statutory School Age PEP Exception Report December 2019

The purpose of this exception report is to outline those instances in which actual PEP completion performance has fallen short of the 90% target set, and to focus management attention on just those areas requiring immediate action.

The figures and analysis contained in this report are based on PEP completion performance as at 31st December 2019.

Haringey's PEP completion performance showed a dip from 87% at the end of July 2016 to 74% at the end of July 2017. This was below the target of 90%. Since July 2017 the percentage of PEPs completed has varied and has never reached the target of 90%. The new Electronic PEP (ePEP) was launched in Summer 2018 and is slowly becoming embedded in practice and being used effectively to improve the achievement of our children. Haringey Virtual School is committed to ensuring that our children and young people have the benefit of a high-quality ePEP. All PEPs are reviewed termly and are quality assured and approved by the Virtual School Education Improvement Consultants. As of 31st December 2019, the percentage of completed PEPs was 88%, which is 2% below the target and the highest the figure has been since the introduction of ePEPs.



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Initiating, developing and reviewing the PEP

23. Wherever the child is placed, their social worker, supported by the authority's VSH, should take the lead to: initiate a PEP even where a looked-after child is without a school place. This includes meeting with appropriate education providers and the carer;

ensure that where a child is placed in an emergency, the PEP is initiated within 10 working days of their becoming looked-after, wherever they are placed;

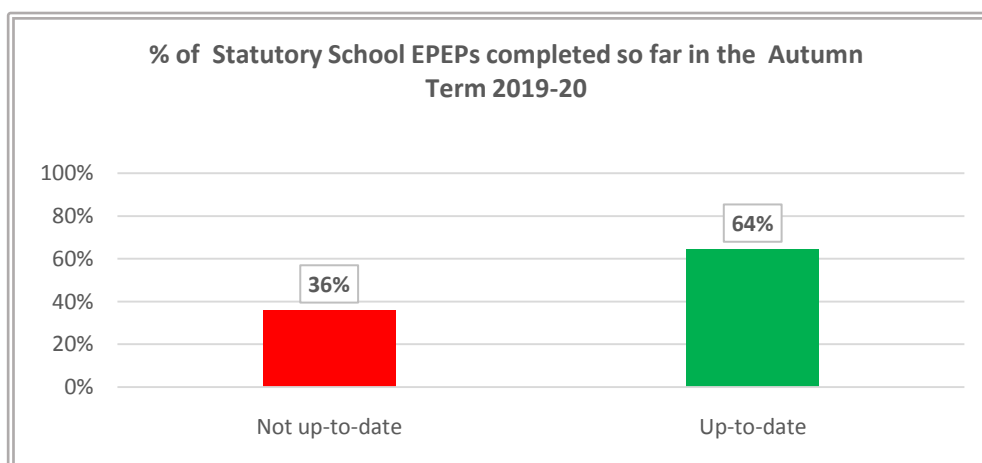
Extract from Promoting the education of looked-after children and previously looked-after children, Statutory guidance for local authorities, February 2018

As at 31st December 2019 there were 28 children (12%) who did not have a valid PEP. A valid PEP is a PEP that took place in either the Summer or the Autumn term 2019.

| Allocated Team | PEP Status | | | | | | Total |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| | No current term ePEP, ePEP booked for next term | No PEP meeting date on Welfare Call | Sch. and SW both to complete | SW only to complete | Sch. Only to complete | Virtual School to approve | |
| Court Team (CiC) 1 | | | 1 | | 2 | | 3 |
| Court Team (CiC) 2 | 1 | | | 1 | 3 | | 5 |
| Court Team (CiC) 3 | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | | 4 |
| Disabled Children's Team 1 | | | 1 | | 2 | | 3 |
| Safeguarding and Support Team 1 | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Safeguarding and Support Team 4 | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Young People in Care Team 1 | 1 | | | | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| Young People in Care Team 2 | | | 2 | | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| Total | 3 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 15 | 2 | 28 |

With the exception of 3 children, the remainder of the 28 have all had a PEP meeting take place in the Autumn term and the ePEP is in various stages of completion. The 2 ePEPs awaiting Virtual School approval have been quality assured and require improvement either by the social worker or by the school. The relevant parties have been notified. A total of 15 ePEPs are awaiting completion by the school, highlighting that the majority of designated teachers are now beginning to complete their ePEPs in a timely way. The Head of the Virtual School has written to all schools to remind them of their statutory responsibilities towards looked-after children and the importance of PEPs.

The social workers and team managers of the 3 children without an Autumn term PEP meeting date have all been sent reminders by Welfare Call and the Virtual School. The PEP register is distributed weekly to all teams and weekly Performance meetings take place to scrutinise out of date and incomplete PEPs. 2 of the 3 children are without a school place and have had changes of care placements that have made convening the PEP meeting more challenging but not impossible. The remaining child is in a Young Offenders Institution and a PEP meeting should have taken place.



The chart above is an indication of what the PEP Performance will be at the beginning of the Spring term when the Summer term ePEPs are no longer valid. This is an improvement from our starting point at the beginning of the Autumn term which was 57%. At the beginning of the Autumn term there were also a significant number of incomplete ePEPs from the two previous terms. This is no longer the case so the

Virtual School Education Improvement Consultants can immediately focus on quality assuring valid ePEPs. 36% represents 84 children who have an ePEP in various stages of completion.

Areas for development

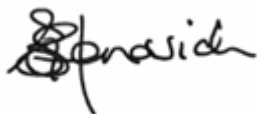
- Increased focus on this area will continue with weekly performance meetings to review out of date and incomplete PEPs and setting targets for completion
- Virtual School to produce exemplars of 'good' ePEPs to be uploaded to Welfare Call and Tri-x
- Escalation protocol for EPEPs to be produced by the Virtual School for social workers and schools, which includes timescales for completing and responding to the Virtual school at each stage of the escalation process
- Virtual School to continue setting aside regular time to quality assure and review PEPs
- Specific training will be offered to Social Workers, Team Managers and IROs: *Promoting the Achievement of Looked-After Children and ePEP Training* - Thursday 16 January 2020 - 9.30pm -12:30pm
- 'Date of next PEP' is now a mandatory field to avoid automatic dates being generated and therefore less likelihood of PEP meeting not taking place
- Pupil voice is recorded in PEPs and is now a mandatory section and will be analysed and used to influence practice and develop Service
- Further mandatory fields to be implemented to assist with timely completion
- Specific training will be delivered to Designated Teachers on the creation of SMART targets and their importance
- As well as improving PEP completion Performance, the focus is now to ensure that they are having a positive impact on educational attainment. This will be done by closer monitoring of the children's progress and challenging any schools where it appears that children are not making adequate progress.
- Termly PEP audits, including those in Year 12 and 13, will be carried out by the Virtual School and the results shared with the relevant parties to support improvement in quality
- Virtual School staffing to be increased to enable increased capacity to review PEPs and attend PEP review meetings when necessary.

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Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee: 16 January 2020

Item number: To be added by the Committee Section

Title: **Haringey Academy Update**



Report authorised by : Bev Hendricks, Assistant Director, Children's Services

Lead Officer: Bev Hendricks, Beverley.hendricks@haringey.gov.uk,
020 8489 7061

Ward(s) affected: NA

1. Describe the issue under consideration

At their meeting on 15 October, CPAC members received an update on the Ofsted action plan. The plan indicated that social workers would receive training through the Haringey Academy. Members requested more information regarding the Haringey Academy.

2. Recommendations

Members to note this briefing and to receive a further report in due course giving more detail of the programme.

3. Background information

3.1 The Haringey Children's Practice Academy will provide a clearly structured way for the Council's:

- Social work managers
- Social Workers
- ASYEs
- Family Intervention Workers
- Family Support Workers
- Foster carers
- Frontline administrators
- Youth Workers
- Young People Advisors

to develop with additional routine and systemized training foster best practice and ensure the best possible outcomes for the families they support.

3.2 The new academy will provide ongoing training and mentoring to social workers and staff of all levels. Holding a focus on representing the stages of career progression, linking to the NASS professional capability framework. The

curriculum's core design will relate to the whole academy as well as a specific curriculum for each faculty that ties into role expectations at each career level.

- 3.3 The Academy is part of the Council's continuing drive to improve services and will also form an important part of the council's improvement journey.
- 3.4 The Academy's structure is modelled on that of a university, with four 'faculties', led by the Assistant Directors of Safeguarding and Education, the Principal Social Worker and the new MASA partners for Health and the Police. The academy will report to the Director of Children's Services and submit annual reports to Haringey's Children's Safeguarding Board.
- 3.5 It will cover the spectrum of experience, with officers grouped into faculties ranging from social work apprentices and youth workers to senior social work leaders.
- 3.6 The existing recruitment and retention programme will be phased into and established into a distinct faculty around recruitment, selection, induction and staff retention approaches with a focus on officers working in early intervention, support services and for managers.
- 3.7 The Academy's work will include developing groups to focus on best practice and relevant research, as well as working to improve specialist knowledge and ensure these skills are embedded within our permanent workforce.
- 3.8 The Academy will aim to promote quality and innovation across children's social care and create more interest and entry routes into the profession. It will introduce a new learning structure offering a more supportive environment for workers. It will offer 'on the job and on the go' educational modules delivered through Research in Practice including e-learning and video resources.
- 3.9 The new Academy will be based around the following key principles:
- Practice excellence - bringing academia and practice together to enhance our Signs of Safety Practice Model.
 - Investment in social work - a three-year investment programme dealing with the recruitment and retention crisis.
 - Quality assurance - with outcomes measured by clients and auditors.
 - Innovation - as the Council through ASPIRE develops, 'young inspectors' putting children at the heart of the social work inspections process.
- 3.10 Haringey's work with Professor David Shemmings to establish an approach which places emphasis on attachment and relationship-based practice, is fundamental to raising awareness of how workers develop an understanding of the attachment relationships in the work that they do and how this evidences and impacts on the decisions taken.
- 3.11 The Academy will be supported by an operational group chaired by the AD for Children's Safeguarding to ensure the practical, weekly delivery and that the social work/care education and learning/development needs are joined up and

aligned to wider services and priorities are integrated into the learning and professional development we provide.

3.12 Key issues for the Academy Launch – not inclusive.

- To develop the faculties within the academy predicated on the structures and developed work that already exist. In this we have student, ASYE (Assessed and Supported Year in Employment) and professional development faculties that are already working in practice and will need to progress our work in the advanced and 'Early Help' faculties.
- Complete the roll out of Research in Practice.
- Commence the recruitment the Practice Assessor
- Consult and then sign off the faculties' core curriculum
- Develop the Terms of Reference for the Operational Board
- Develop the Academy's Operating Model.

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

4.1 Borough Plan 2019-2022

4.2 People Priority

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

None

Report for: Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: 16th January 2020

Item number:

Title: Performance for the year to November/December 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.

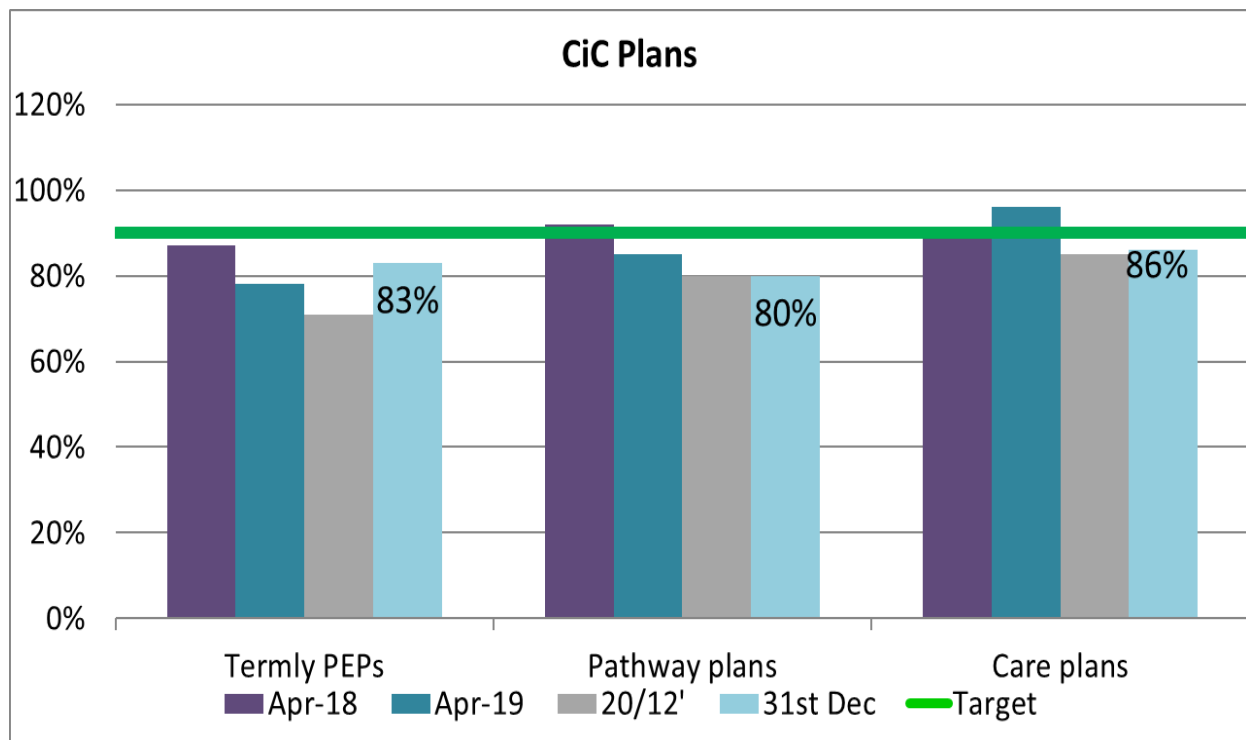
2. Overall Assessment of Performance

At the end of the third quarter of 2019-20 **389 children were in care** (rate of 64 per 10,000). This is 29 children lower than it was reported in the previous quarter. The number of unaccompanied asylum seeker (UASC) children has also decreased significantly (from 58 to 43). In this period there were 41 children who ceased to be looked after and the ceased reason for more than a quarter of these (11 young people) was that an age assessment determined them over 18. At the end 18-19 13% of children in care open cases were UASC, at the end of second quarter it is 11%. Further to this Haringey's Pan London UASC threshold rate is 0.008% equating to 49 young people.

- 2.1. The rate of children becoming looked after (in the 6 months prior to November) is showing a further drop in the rate at 25 per 10,000 population compared to 37 at the end of March 2019. This is lowest rate for the last decade but we are

closer to the average of our Statistical Neighbours and to London, as they both stand at 27.

- 2.2. In the past 6 months to November 2019, 76 children have started to be looked after and 91 children have ceased to be looked after.
- 2.3. There were 14 **permanency orders** during the last 6 months, 9 **special guardianship orders (SGO)** and 5 **adoptions** equating to 5% of those that ceased to be looked after in the period who went on to be adopted. 10 children have been adopted in the last 12 months and 23 children are waiting to be adopted. 1 of the 72 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 3 year average of 5%. Of the current Children in Care population 22 are placed for adoption.
- 2.4. At the end of December 2019, 86% of looked after children aged under 16 had an **up to date Care Plan**. The graph below illustrates this and other areas relating to looked after children over time.

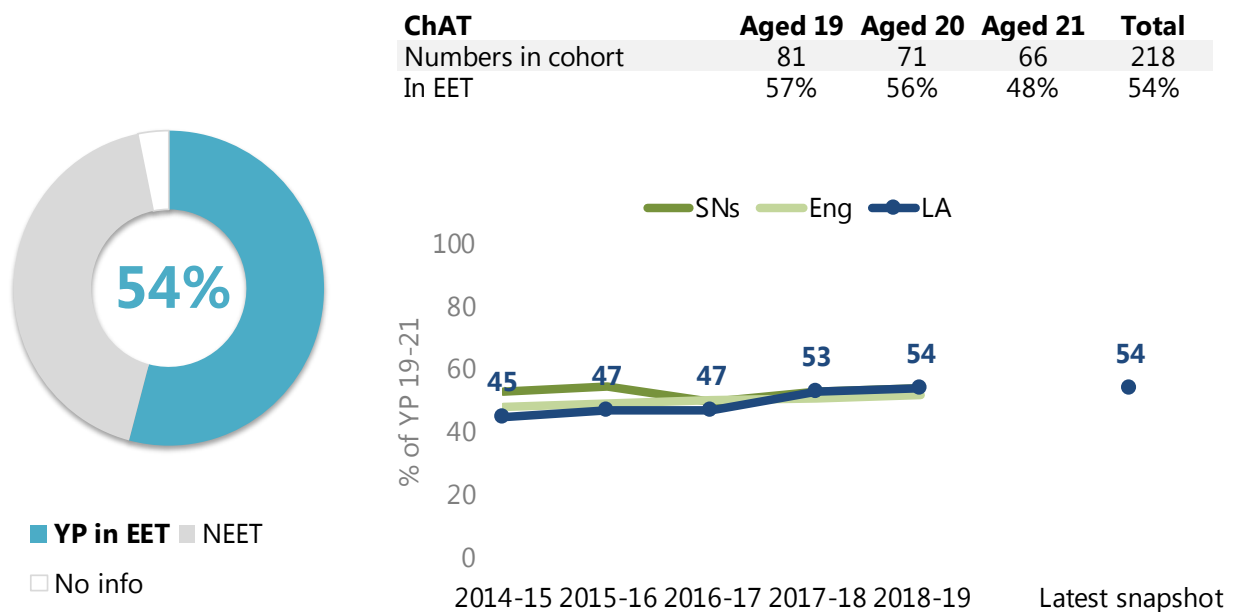


- 2.5. Regular weekly meetings to track activity and performance continue to be held with the Head of Service for Children in Care and team managers. The light blue bar (furthest right bar in each block) shows the position relating to the week ending 31st December 2019.
- 2.6. As shown above 80% of looked after children aged 16-17 had up to date Pathway Plans. This is a promising improvement on the results of the second quarter, but remains a challenging area. The quality of the pathway plans has improved, but the updating of plans needs to be more timely in order to reach the 90% target.

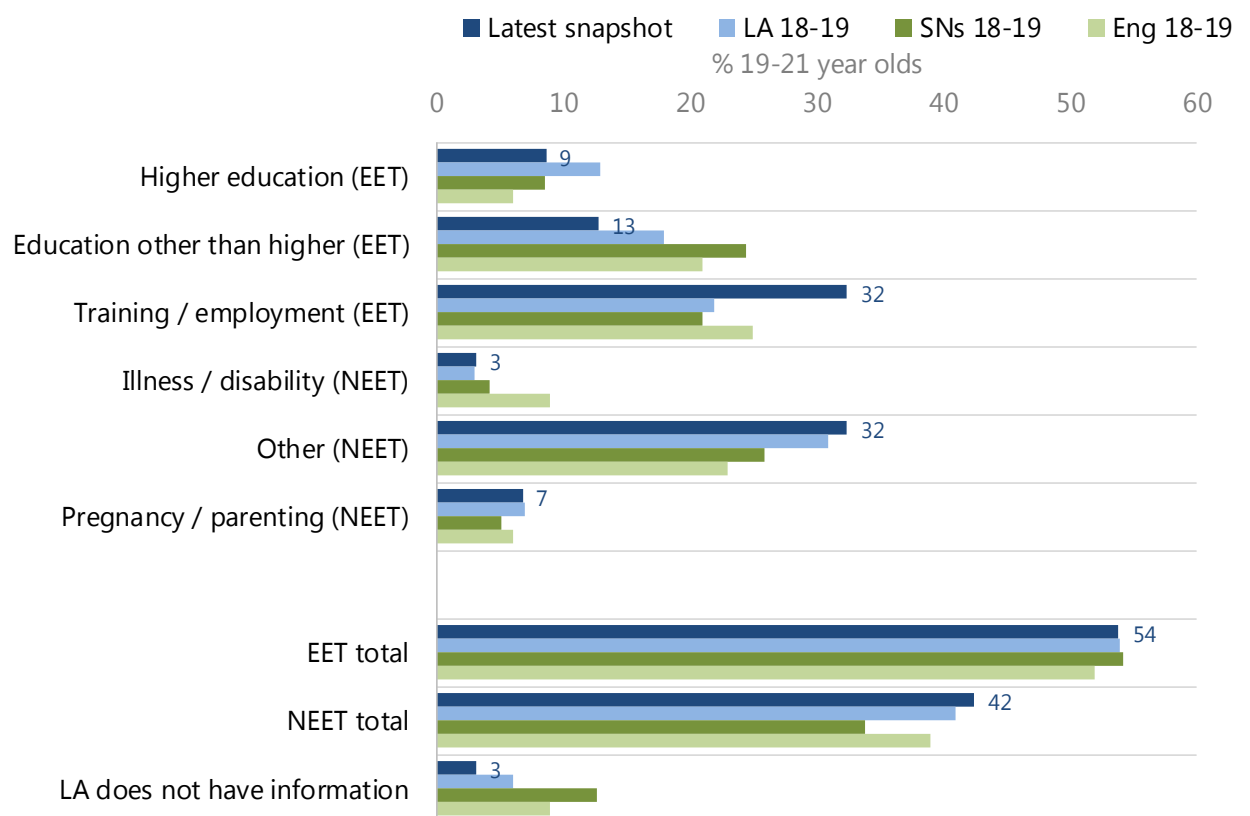
- 2.7. Children in care with a up to date **Personal Education Plans** (PEPs) stands at the end of the Autumn term 2019-20 at 83%, including 63% completed during that term. Detailed weekly management information by team is available to show what needs to be done and by which party e.g. social work, school or virtual school. The start of each school term always sees a fall in the percentage as the older PEPs become out of date, 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.
- 2.8. 81% of **visits to Children in Care** were recorded as completed in the relevant timescales at the end of December. 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.
- 2.9. At the end of November 2019, 9% of children with an open episode of care **had three or more placement moves in the last 12 months**, equating to 36 children. This is slightly better than the London average. Children **under 16 who had been in care for at least 2.5 years in the same placement for at least 2 years**, has improved to 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.
- 2.10. At the end of December children who were looked after for at least 12 months with an **up to date health assessment** was 94%, maintaining excellent performance above statistical neighbours and national levels 88%.
- 2.11. At the end of September 74% of eligible children had **up to date dental visits**. This is a focal point of the two weekly Young Adults Service performance meeting. Unfortunately dental checks remain a stubborn and challenging area and have been difficult to shift performance on.
- 2.12. Of the 408 **care leavers** in receipt of leaving care services, 96% of both those **aged 19-21** and **17-18 year olds** were considered as **in touch with the local authority** at the end of November, a considerable improvement on the proportions previously reported. 54% of the 19-21 year olds and 71% of the 17-18 year olds were known to be in **Education Employment or Training (EET)** better than the London average - 65%. 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.
- 2.13. 93% of **19-21 year old care leavers** were known to be **in suitable accommodation** at the end of November and 89% 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 2018/19.

- 2.14. We are very proud of our robust care levers reporting system, which we have introduced and use to continually track improvement. 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



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

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