

Report for: Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: 20 March 2018

Item number:

Title: Performance for the year to February 2018

Report

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Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: Non key

1. Introduction

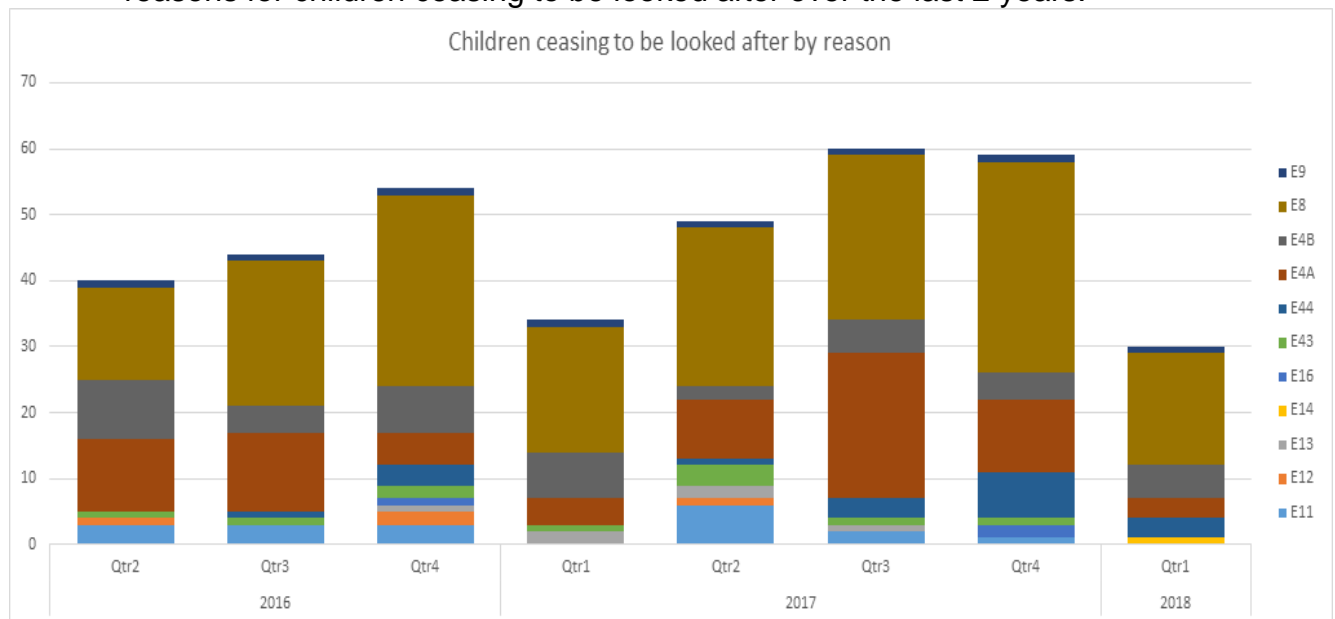
- 1.1. This report provides an analysis of the performance data and trends for an agreed set of measures relating to looked after children on behalf of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee.
- 1.2. Section 2 contains performance highlights and key messages identifying areas of improvement and areas 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. As requested by the Committee, the reasons why children leave care and data on placement stability for looked after children is also referenced.
- 1.3. To provide some additional detail on the demographics and the profile of children receiving social care services as well as the pertinent performance measures relating to Looked After children, an extract from ChAT- Children's Analysis Tool has been included for the Committee's reference.
- 1.4. Section 3 provides an update on caseloads, staff turnover and recruitment for the teams working with Children in Care as requested by the Committee.

2. Overall Assessment of Performance

- 2.1. 432 **children were in care** at the end of February 2018 or 70 per 10,000 population including 52 unaccompanied asylum seeker children. There has been a small decrease in the number of children in care compared to the position at the end of March 2017 when the rate was 72. Our current rate is slightly above that of our statistical neighbours (65 per 10,000 population) as well as being higher than the London (50) and national average (62) rates but factoring in the relationship between deprivation and need and based on data

from comparator boroughs, it is considered that Haringey's LAC population is within the appropriate range.

- 2.2. In the 11 months from April, 192 children have started to be looked after and 198 children have ceased to be looked after. The ChAT shows the profile, age and gender of these children. The committee requested an update on the reasons for children ceasing to be looked after. The graph below illustrates the reasons for children ceasing to be looked after over the last 2 years.



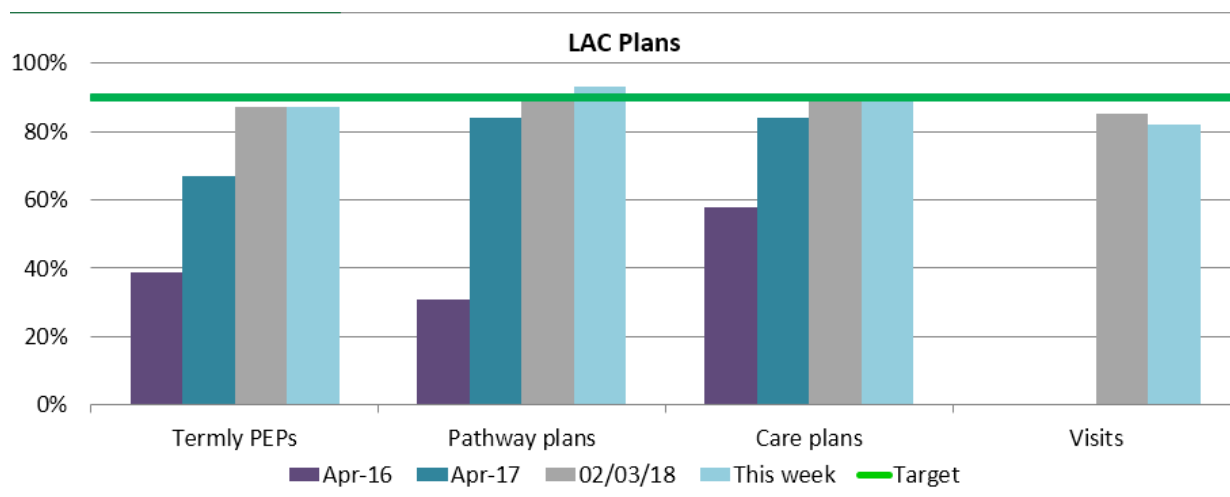
Key:

- E11 Adopted - application for an adoption order unopposed
- E12 Adopted – consent dispensed with by court
- E4A Return home to live with parents, relatives, or other person with parental responsibility as part of the care planning process (not under a special guardianship order or residence order or (from 22 April 2014) a child arrangements order).
- E4B Return home to live with parents, relatives, or other person with parental responsibility which was not part of the current care planning process (not under a special guardianship order or residence order or (from 22 April 2014) a child arrangements order).
- E13 Left care to live with parents, relatives, or other person with no parental responsibility.
- E41 Residence order (or, from 22 April 2014, a child arrangements order which sets out with whom the child is to live) granted.
- E43 Special guardianship made to former foster carers
- E44 Special guardianship made to carers other than former foster carers
- E7 Transferred to residential care funded by Adult Social Services
- E9 Sentenced to custody
- E14 Accommodation on remand ended

- 2.3. The most common reason for children ceasing to be looked after is E8 which means that the children returned home for any other reason including turning 18. The next most common reasons are E4A & E4B which relate to the child

returning home to live with relatives or parents which can be as part of the care planning process or not.

- 2.4. At the end of February 2017, 90% of looked after children had an **up to date Care Plan** continuing the positive trend and very close to target but this performance has further improved to 92% in the week ending 9th March. The graph below illustrates the positive trend on this and other areas relating to looked after children overtime. 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 showing the position this week relates to the week ending 9th March 2018.
- 2.5. 90% of looked after children aged 16-17 had **up to date Pathway Plans** at the end of February 2018. In the week ending 9th March this performance has further improved to 93% and the 90% target has now been exceeded.
- 2.6. Performance on **Personal Education Plans** has improved in recent months with current data showing that 87% of PEPs for statutory school age children have an up to date PEP within the last term.
- 2.7. 82% of **visits to Children in Care** were recorded as completed in the relevant timescales in the week ending 8th March 2018, positioning performance just below expected standards although data is on an improving trajectory. 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 continue to be actively addressed.
- 2.8. A new visit step on Mosaic to more accurately capture timely visits according to statutory requirements has been implemented in January 2018. This is now starting to yield improved recording and should present a more accurate reflection of when children are seen and whether this is in accordance with the timescales set out in their care plan.



- 2.9. At the end of February 2018, 9% of **children had three or more placement moves** , just above the last published statistical neighbour average (7%) but in line with the last published national position (10%). This equates to 41 children with 3 or more placement moves but this number has remained relatively

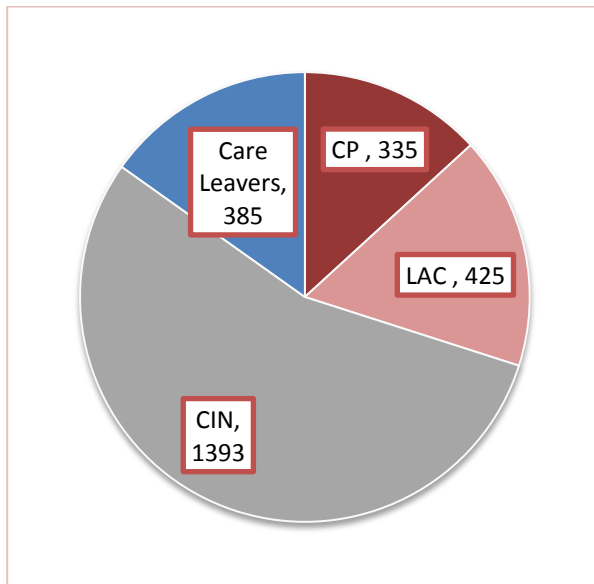
unchanged over recent years (45 in 2016/17 and 35 in 2015/16). 74% of children **under 16 who had been in care for at least 2.5 years** had been in **the same placement for at least 2 years**, higher than the national average (68%) and indicating positive placement stability overall for Haringey's children in care.

- 2.10. At the end of February, 302 children were looked after for at least 12 months of which 92% had an **up to date health assessment**, close to the target and continuing on a positive trend. This remains in line with statistical neighbour performance and is just marginally below our achievement in 2016/17 (93%).
- 2.11. 77% of the current LAC cohort (age 2 and over and in care for at least 12 months) had an **up to date dental visit** as at February 2018. Although this is on an improving trajectory, it is still below levels achieved last year. Data on this indicator is returned as part of the CLA 903 Government submission. We may need a final push to ensure the majority of those children due a dental visit receive one before the end of the financial year.
- 2.12. 17% of Looked After Children at the end of February 2017 were **placed 20 miles or more from Haringey** compared to a 16% target and 19% amongst our statistical neighbours. Fewer children are being placed 20 miles+ and there are good reasons for these placements outside the borough; many linked to complex care requirements or long term foster care arrangements. Although higher than national levels this proportion remains just slightly above the London average.
- 2.13. To date, 19 **special guardianship orders** (SGOs) have been achieved and 11 **adoptions** secured. There are an additional 5 children who have been placed for adoption so it is likely that court proceedings permitting, we will achieve at least 15 adoptions in 2017/18 compared to just 11 in 2016/17. With SGOs included, this equates to 30 permanency orders achieved – 9 more compared to February 2017. We have around 39 children waiting to be adopted and 32 with a placement order so there is potential to convert some of these into agreed permanency orders before the financial year end.
- 2.14. In the financial year to February 2018, **children waited an average of 417 days from becoming looked after to being placed for adoption**. This relates to the 11 adoptions this year so caution must be exercised when averaging on relatively small numbers. Adoptions after a long period in care even in complex cases for just 1 or 2 young people can skew the average on this national indicator of timeliness. This is below (better than) the national threshold and even when all children placed for adoption are included in the count, the average days for those at stage 5 increases to just 428 days, 2 days above the national threshold. The graph on page 17 of the ChAT shows the average duration (in days) of each stage of the adoption process.
- 2.15. Of the 217 **care leavers aged 19-21** in receipt of leaving care services, 86% were in touch with the local authority at the end of February 2017. Of these, 52% were in **Education Employment or Training (EET)** and 83% were in suitable accommodation.

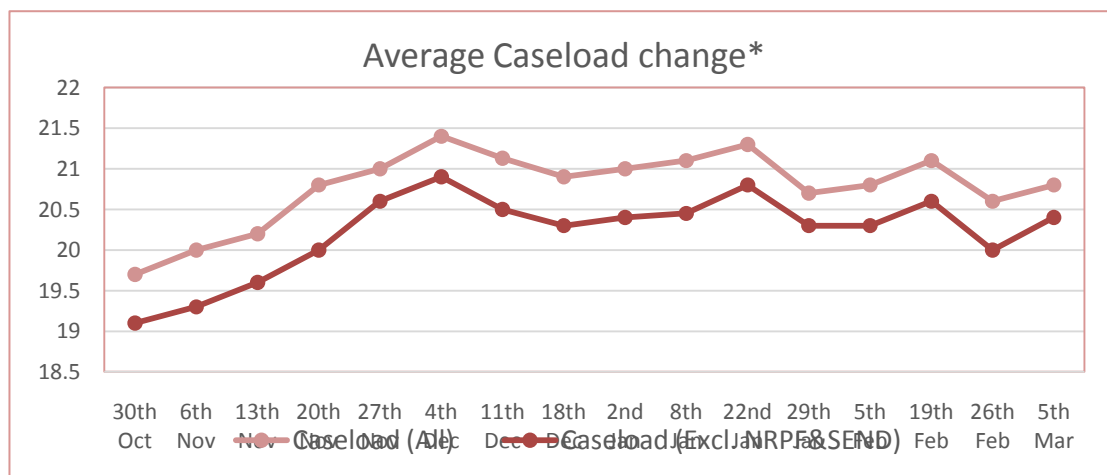
- 2.16. Latest performance figures show we have a higher proportion of **care leavers in EET** in comparison to last published data for our statistical neighbours and national average. The percentage of **care leavers in suitable accommodation** has improved and is now slightly above the statistical neighbour (81%) position and close to the national average (84%).

3. Children in Care staffing, caseloads including Recruitment and Turnover

- 3.1. Caseloads are monitored across all social care teams and a weekly report is produced to show allocation of the different types of cases across the service. The pie chart below shows the make up of social care clients as at the 5th March 2018.



- 3.2. Caseload monitoring has shown pressure in some areas of the service but this has mostly been in the assessment and safeguarding teams. The graph below shows the change overtime on caseloads across the CYPS social care service.



- 3.3. Specifically in relation to looked after children, the average caseloads for the teams where the majority of these children sit were as follows as at 5th March

- Young Adults Service 18.4 average caseload
- Court Service 13.6 average caseload
- Young People in Care Teams 15.8 average caseload

- 3.4. The looked after childrens service frontline workforce is includes 28% agency staff.

Court & Young People in Care teams	Establishment	Agency	Perm	Percentage Agency
	35	8	27	22%

Fostering & Adoption	Establishment	Agency	Perm	Percentage Agency
	23.5	3.5	20	15%

Young Adults Service	Est.	Total in Service	Agency	Perm	Percentage Agency
	28	33	12	21	36%

Total CIC	Total Est	Total Agency	Perm	Percentage of Agency CIC
	92.5	21.5	59	28%

3.5. CIC Starters Leavers Data of Perm Staff Since 1st April 2017 – 02/March 2018

- Total starters 14
- Qualified starters 12
- Total Leavers 9
- Qualified leavers 6

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

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

Appendix 1

Looked after children pages from February 2018 ChAT