

**Report for:** Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

**Item number:**

**Title:** Performance for the year to May 2019

**Report**

**Authorised by:**



Director Children's Services Ann Graham

**Lead Officer:**

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**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/**

**Non Key Decision:** Non key

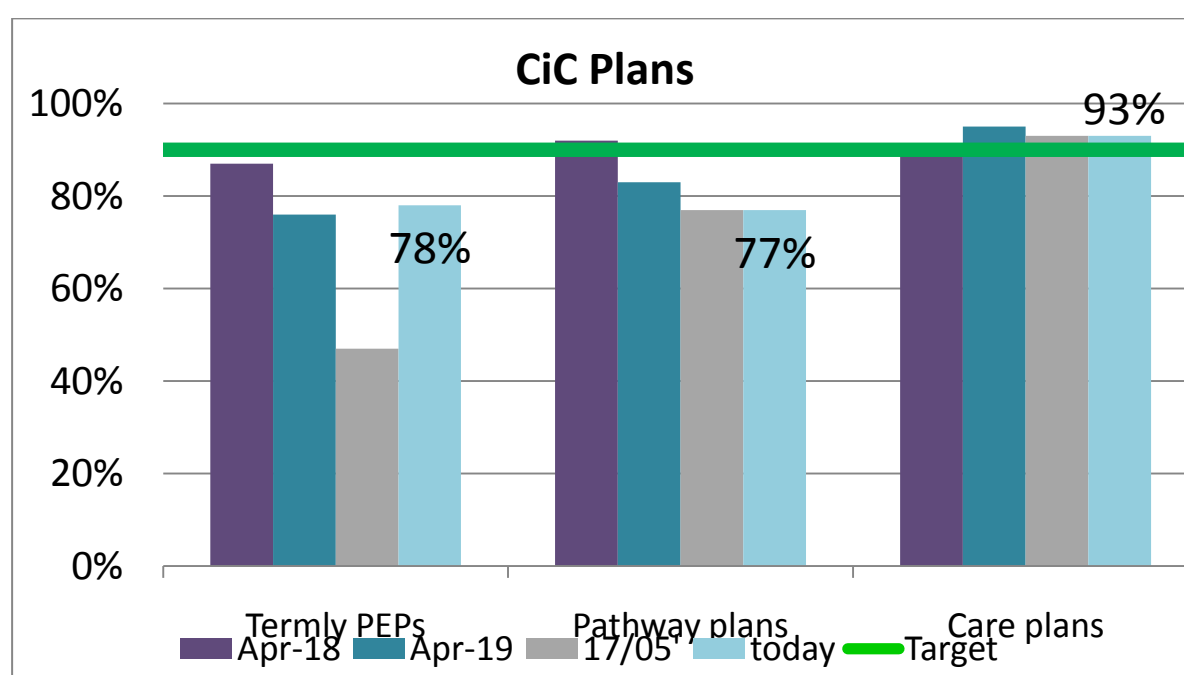
## **1. Introduction**

- 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.
- 1.3. To provide some additional detail on the profile of children receiving social care services as well as the pertinent performance measures relating to Looked After children, an extract from May ChAT- Children's Analysis Tool has been included for the Committee's reference. (Appendix 1)

## **2. Overall Assessment of Performance**

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

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

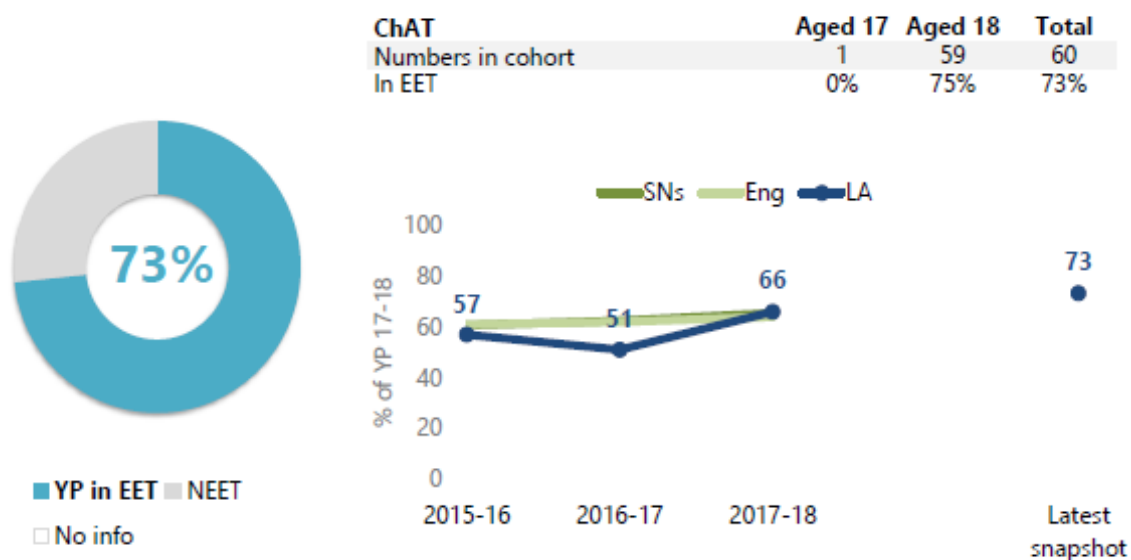


- 2.6. Regular weekly meetings to track activity and performance continue to be held with the Head of Service for Children in Care and team managers. The light blue bar (93% - furthest right bar in each block) shows the position relating to the week ending 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019.
- 2.7. As shown above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

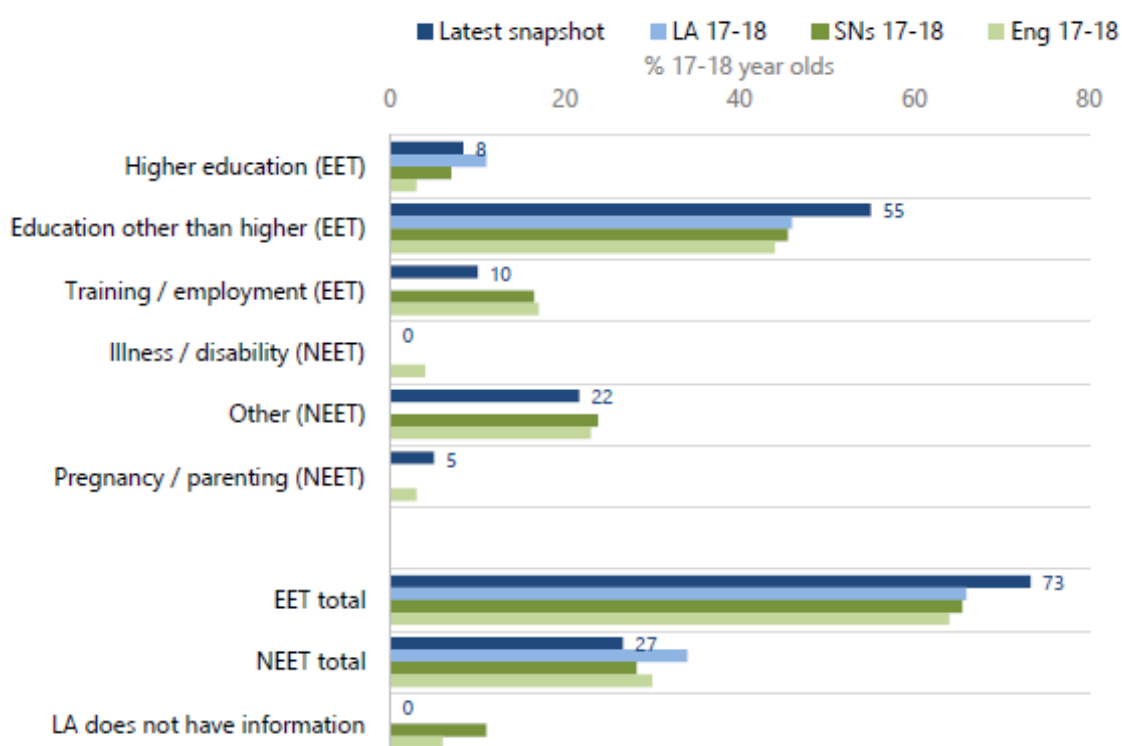
- 2.8. Performance on **Personal Education Plans (PEPs)** stands at the end of the Spring term 2019-20 at 78% for statutory school age children with an up to date PEP. The focus needs to be on drawing up plans for the 22% of children without an up to date PEP and for information to be gathered in a more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

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

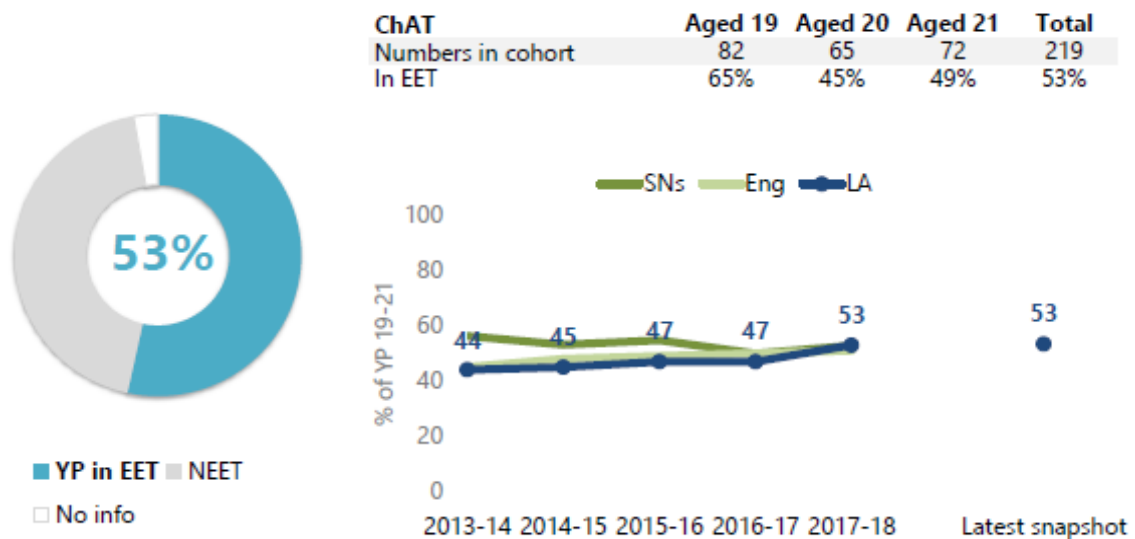
## Education, Employment, or Training (EET) of 17-18 year olds



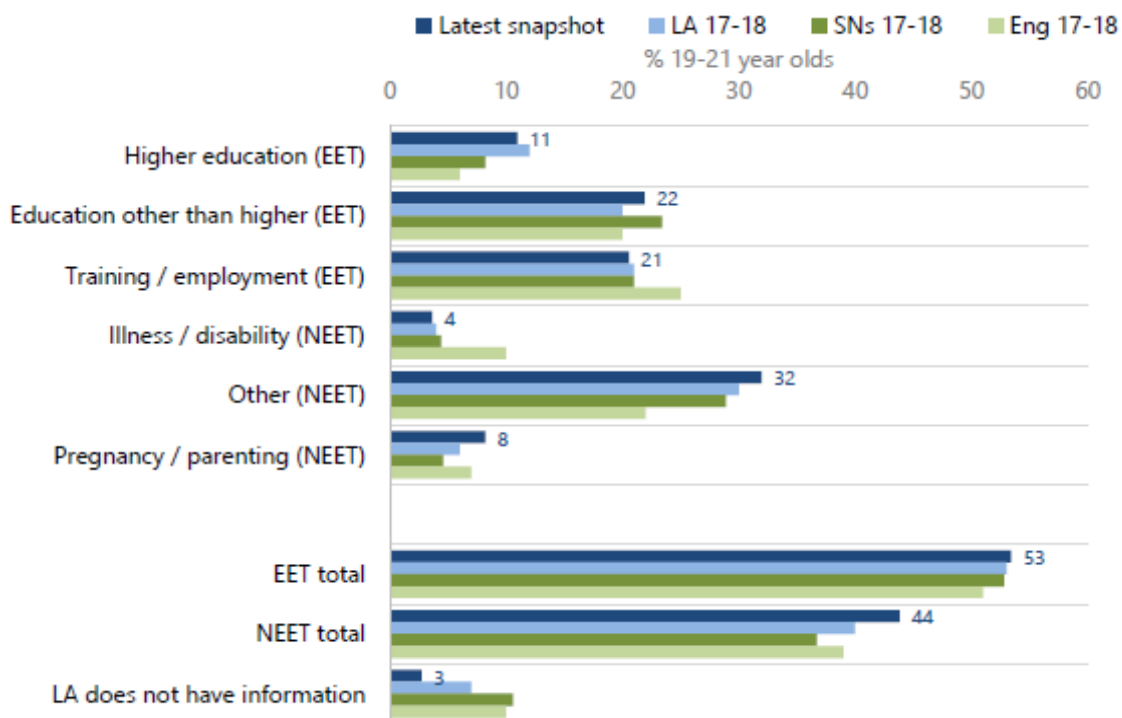
## Activity types of 17-18 year olds



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



## Activity types of 19-21 year olds



### 3. Contribution to strategic outcomes

3.1. Borough Plan 2019-2022

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

#### Appendices

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