

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

**Item number:**

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

**Report**

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**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/**

**Non Key Decision:** Non key

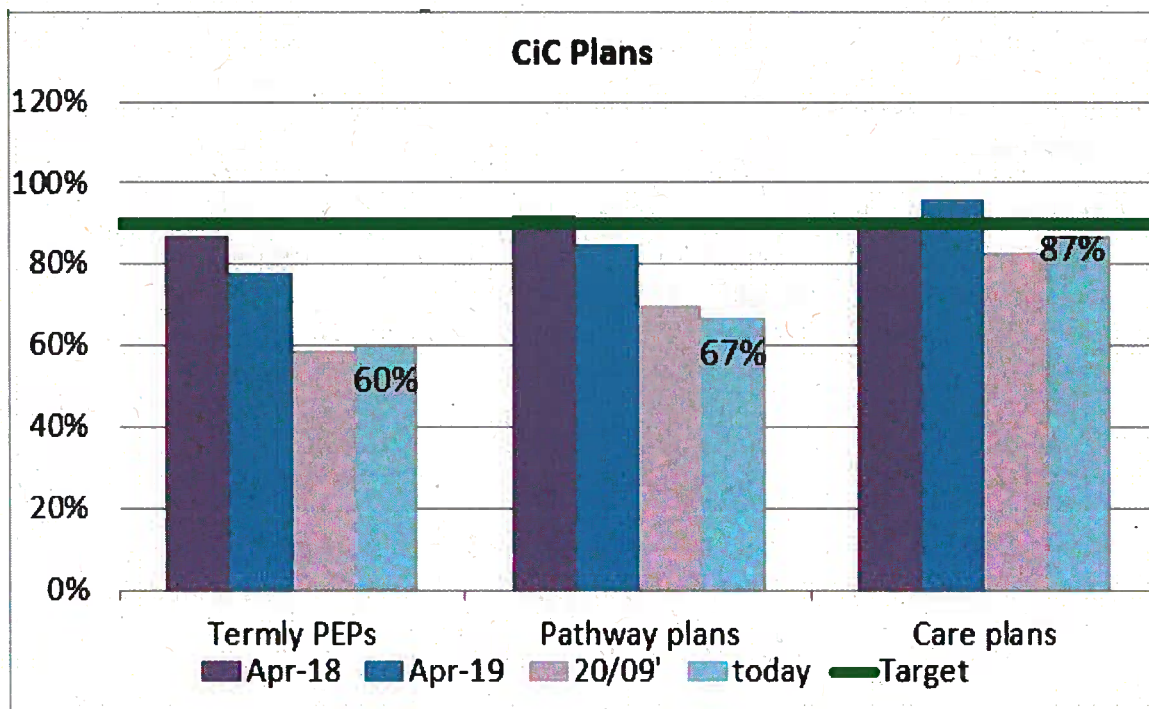
## 1. Introduction

- 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.
- 1.3. To provide some additional detail on the profile of children receiving social care services as well as the pertinent performance measures relating to Looked After children.

## 2. Overall Assessment of Performance

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

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



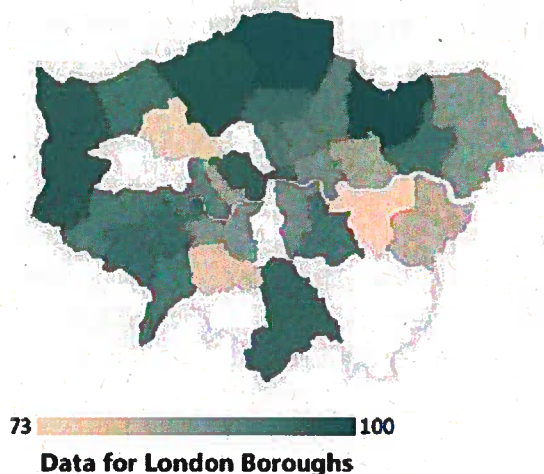
- 2.6. Regular weekly meetings to track activity and performance continue to be held with the Head of Service for Children in Care and team managers. The light blue bar (furthest right bar in each block) shows the position relating to the week ending 27 September 2019.
- 2.7. As shown above 67% of looked after children aged 16-17 had up to date Pathway Plans. This area remains a challenge and continues to be tracked and monitored with fortnightly performance meetings in the Young Adults

service and weekly with the growing number of older children in the Children in Care teams. Focus is also on the quality of the pathway plans and although the 90% target has not been achieved the service are working more collaboratively and innovatively using new techniques to engage the young people concerned.

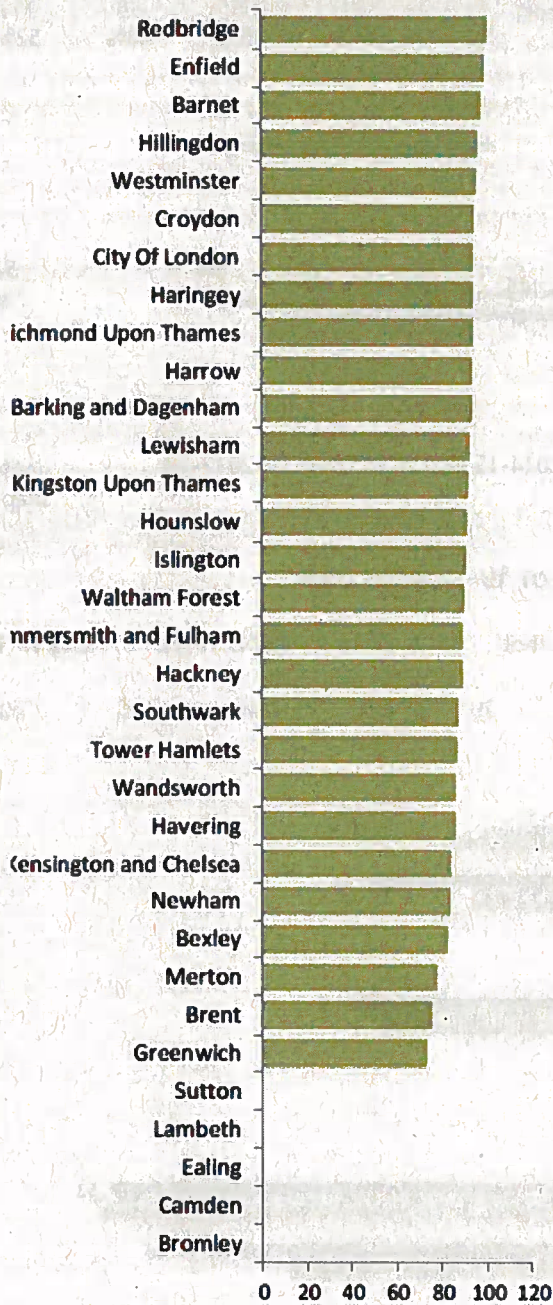
- 2.8. Performance on **Personal Education Plans (PEPs)** stands at the end of the Summer term 2019-20 at 60% for statutory school age children with an up to date PEP. Detailed weekly management information by team is available to show what needs to be done and by which party e.g. social work, school or virtual school. The start of each school term always sees a fall in the percentage as the older PEPs become out of date. PEPs are only counted as in date if they are from the current or previous term.
- 2.9. Guidance and training on the process and use of the new e-form is being embedded to support improvement in this area. Since the introduction of e.PEPs the virtual school has reported a positive impact and has seen real improvements in quality with a much larger proportion of PEPs now meeting the expected standard. A plan to closely track social worker updates on Mosaic and focus on those children who do not have a recorded e.PEP early in the new term is in place so should contribute to improved timely completion of PEPs as well as continued improvements in the overall quality of the PEPs impacting on the outcomes for the young people.
- 2.10. **80% of visits to Children in Care** were recorded as completed in the relevant timescales at the end of September. This remains below the 95% visit target. Teams are working very hard to adhere to this challenging target and performance on visits to looked after children continues to be tracked at performance meetings, held by the Head of Service for Children in Care, and along with supervision meetings continues to be actively monitored.
- 2.11. At the end of September 2019, 10% of children with an open episode of care **had three or more placement moves in the last 12 months**, equating to 40 children. This is slightly higher than the London average figure of 9% at the end of Q1 but still places us in the top quartile across London on this indicator of stability. **Children under 16 who had been in care for at least 2.5 years in the same placement for at least two years** has decreased to 56% from 76%, now below the last published statistical neighbour position (68%) but not out of line with the Quarter 1 London average figure of 58%. These two indicators should be viewed together to gain a view of placement stability for Haringey's children in care. The data confirms the Ofsted finding that the majority of children in care receive good care, support and placement choice in both the short and long term and experience placement stability.
- 2.12. At the end of September children who were looked after for at least 12 months with an **up to date health assessment** was 97%, maintaining excellent performance above statistical neighbour, national levels 88% and our achievement in both 2016/17 (93%) as well as 2017/18.

- 2.13. At the end of September 76% of eligible children had **up to date dental visits**. In order to improve this, a slight system change was proposed to ensure that social workers have this information to hand when they meet the carer/visit the children. This is a focal point of the two weekly Young Adults Service performance meeting. Unfortunately dental checks remain a stubborn and challenging area.
- 2.14. Of the 394 **care leavers** in receipt of leaving care services, 97% of both those aged **19-21** and **17-18 year olds** were considered as **in touch with the local authority** at the end of September, a considerable improvement on the proportions previously reported. 52% of the 19-21 year olds and 73% of the 17-18 year olds were known to be in **Education Employment or Training (EET)** better than statistical neighbour figures. Haringey has higher proportions of young people in Higher Education than our statistical neighbours and compares favourably with the national position - see graphs below detailing activity types for 19-21 year olds.
- 2.15. 95% of **19-21 year old care leavers** were known to be in **suitable accommodation** at the end of September and 90% of 17-18 year olds. Again this area is showing a significant improvement from the 83%(19-21 year olds) in suitable accommodation, returned for 2017/18 and compares favourably to the 17/18 statistical neighbour average of 81%. Again, when we look at the quarterly benchmarking for London, Haringey ranks in the top quartile of London authorities on this measure as shown in the graphics below from the regional Quarter 1 benchmarking report.

**Thematic map of London boroughs referring to Q1 data**



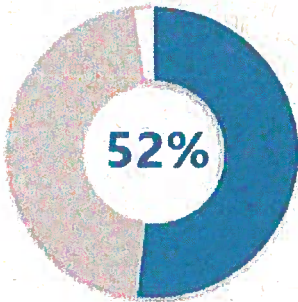
Bar chart below is based on annualised rate or in quarter rate / percentage



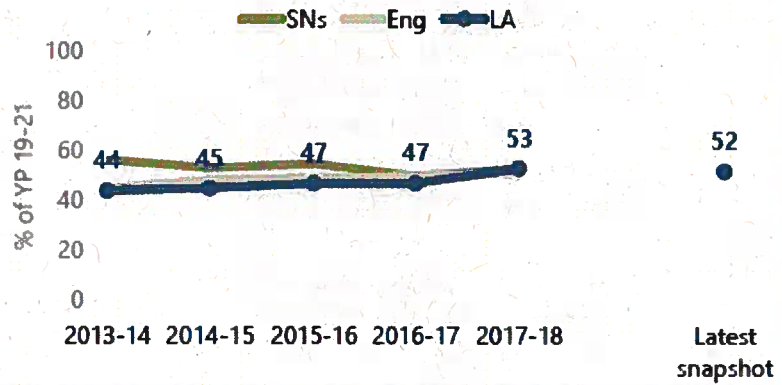
2.16. We are very proud of our robust care leavers reporting system, which we have introduced and use to track improvement continually. We now have a tool to monitor not just how our 17-21 year old care leavers live, but our older care leavers too (more than 200 of them); we use the data to provide them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

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

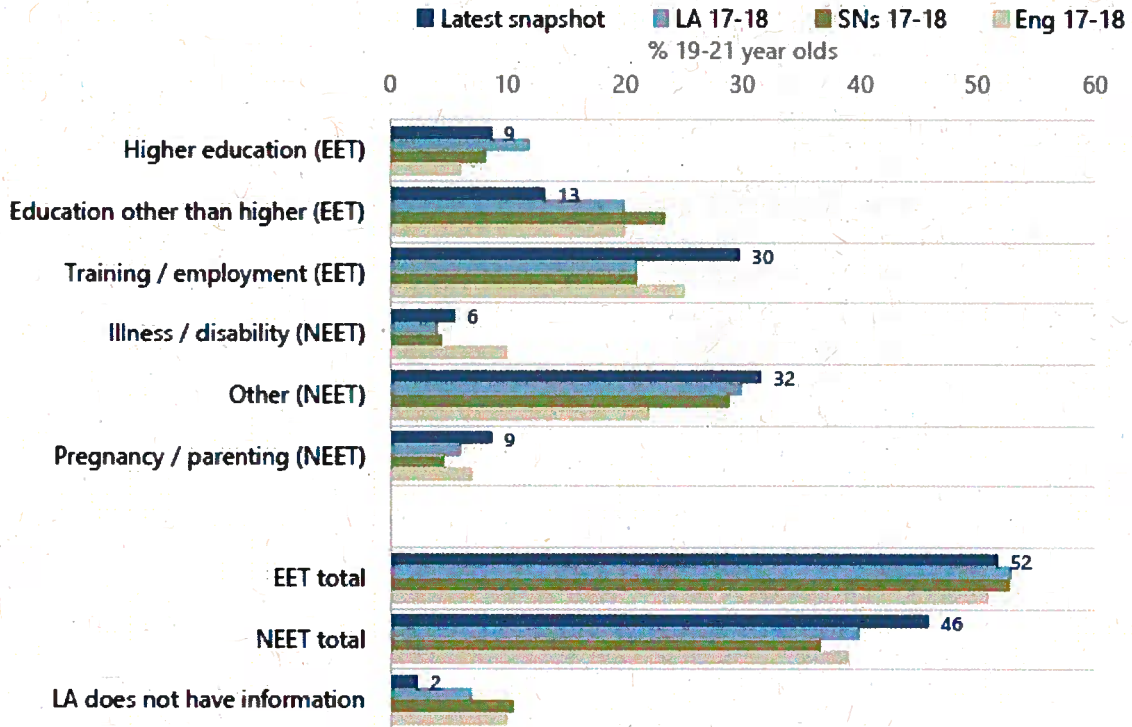
ChAT	Aged 19	Aged 20	Aged 21	Total
Numbers in cohort	84	65	69	218
In EET	61%	45%	48%	52%



■ YP in EET 
 ■ NEET  
□ No info



## Activity types of 19-21 year olds



### **3. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

**3.1. Borough Plan 2019-2022**

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

