

Report for: Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: 5 October 2021

Item number:

Title: Performance for 2020/21

Report

Authorised by: Director Children's Services, Ann Graham

Lead Officer: Richard Hutton, Performance and Business Intelligence
richard.hutton@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: Non key

1. Introduction

1.1. This report provides an analysis of the performance data and trends for an agreed set of measures relating to looked after children on behalf of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee.

1.2. Section 2 contains performance highlights and key messages identifying areas of improvement and areas for focus. It provides an overall assessment relating to Children in Care so that Members can assess progress in key areas within the context of the Local Authority's role as Corporate Parent.

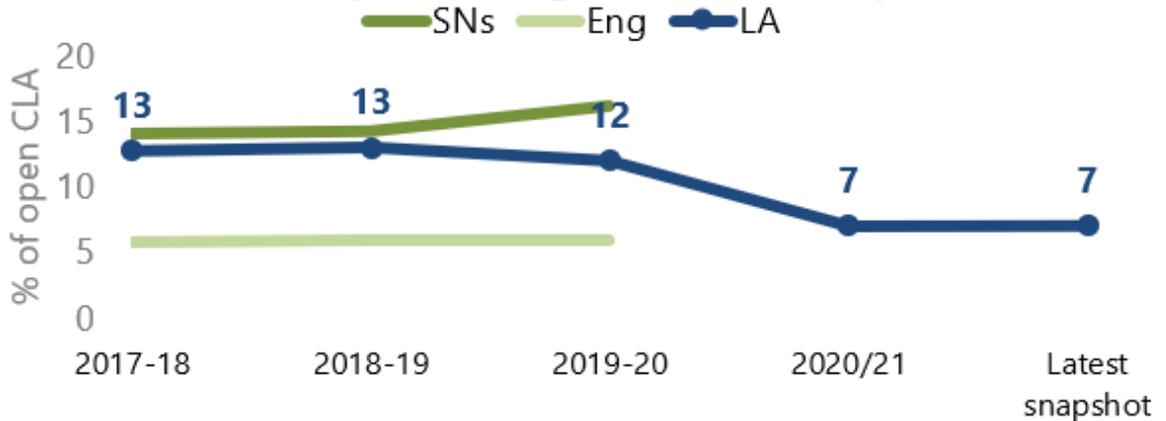
1.3. The report covers the period March to August 2021 with other data and benchmarking where appropriate.

2. Overall Assessment of Performance

2.1. At the end of August 2021 **395 children were in care** (rate of 64 per 10,000). This is 10 more children than was reported at the end March 2021.

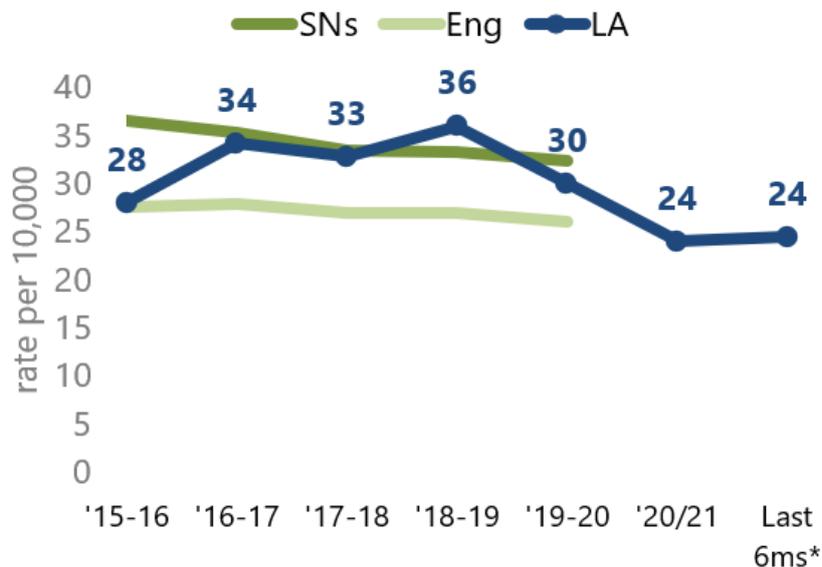
2.2. The number of unaccompanied asylum seeker children (UASC) has remained at 26 which is well below the Haringey quota of 42 (0.07% of the under 18 population) This is mostly due to the impact of lockdown and the travel restrictions in place in 2020. Since that time, most UASC have continued to arrive in Kent or Croydon. These LAs have sought support from other local authorities. We responded and have agreed to accept a small number of their UASC, over and above our continued participation in the National Transfer Scheme (NTS). The NTS is a mechanism for ensuring that UASC are placed in regions across the country equitably when previously there were far greater numbers placed in London compared to other regions.

UASC as a percentage of CLA (snapshot)



- 2.3. In the last six months, 76 children ceased to be looked after which is just below the rate during the 12 months to March 2021. Of these children ceasing to be looked after, 20 children (26%) returned home to live with their parents or relatives. This was 34% in 2020/21.
- 2.4. In the first five months of 2021/22, 73 young people started to be looked after. The same monthly rate as in 2020 /21. Twelve of the 73 starters in 2021/22 are unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) compared to a total 14 for the whole of the previous year, these 12 UASC are 16% of children starting to be looked after, down from 26% in 2019/20 being UASC

Rate of CLA started per 10,000 children



*Annualised rate for comparison purposes

2.5. **Children with a recorded permanency plan.** The top six reasons for permanency plans are set out below along with the percentage of our children in care with that plan.

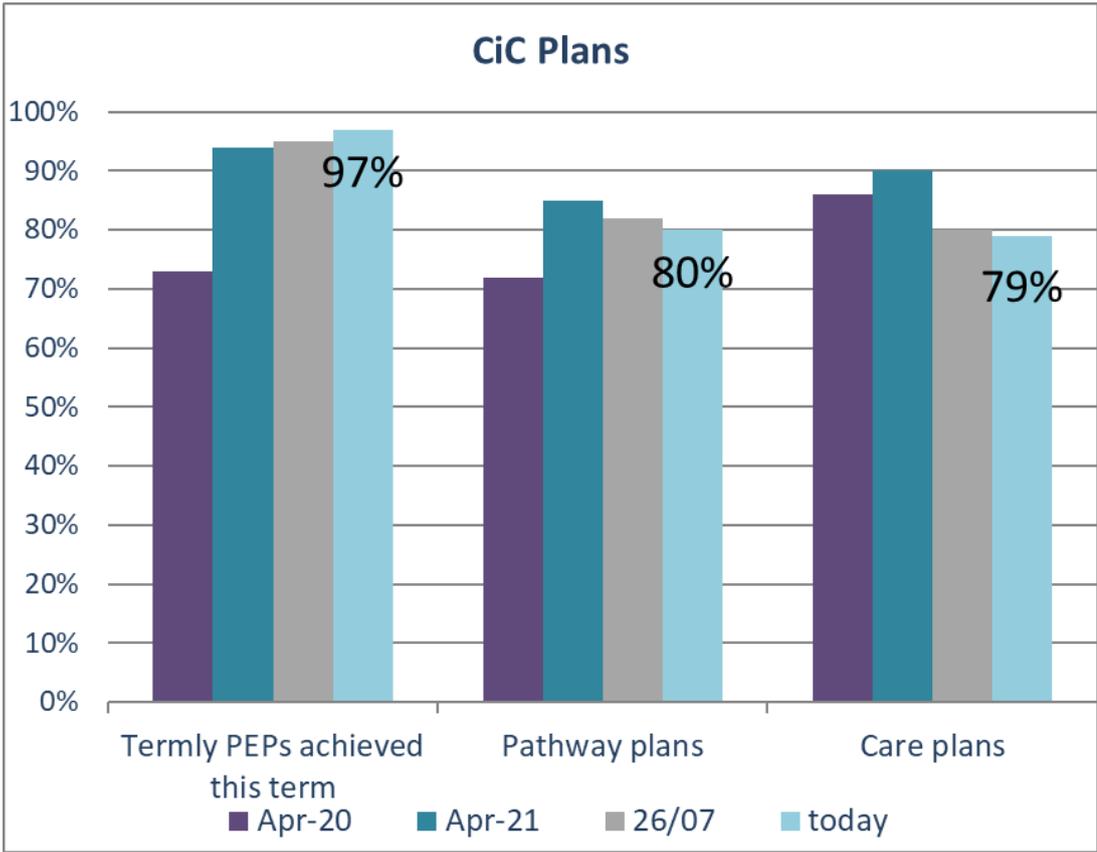
Permanence plan

	Number	%
Return to family	22	6%
Adoption	34	9%
SGO/CAO	4	1%
Supported living	16	4%
L/T residential	29	7%
L/T fostering	167	42%

(SGO – Special Guardianship / CAO – Child Assessment Order / LT – Long Term)

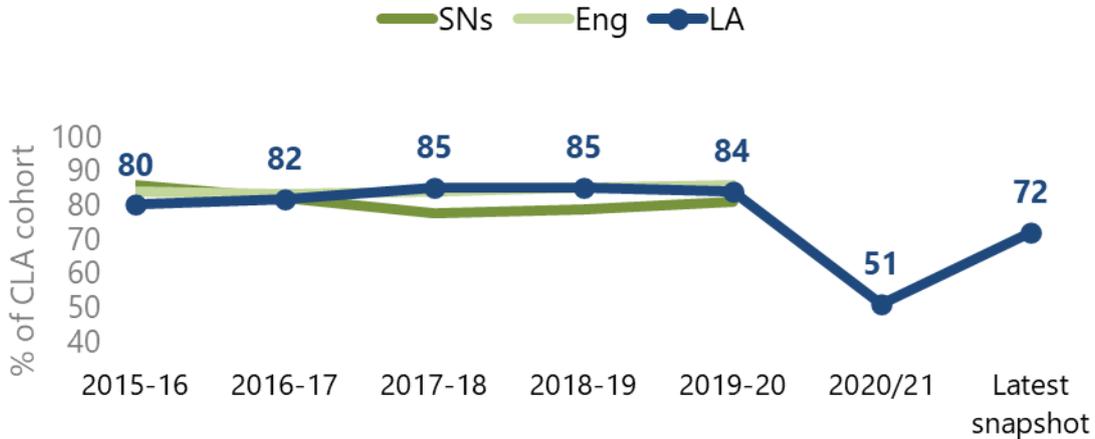
2.6. Four children have been adopted in the last six months; as a proportion of those leaving care this is 5%, higher than in 20/21 at 3.4% but below the statistical neighbours’ average, at 9%. Of the current Children in Care population, 12 are placed for adoption.

2.7. As at end of August 2021, **79%** of looked after children aged under 16 had an **up to date Care Plan**, (88% in March). Despite problems with older children engaging, **80%** of those over 16 had **up to date pathway plans** (down slightly from 84% in March) but meeting the 80% target.



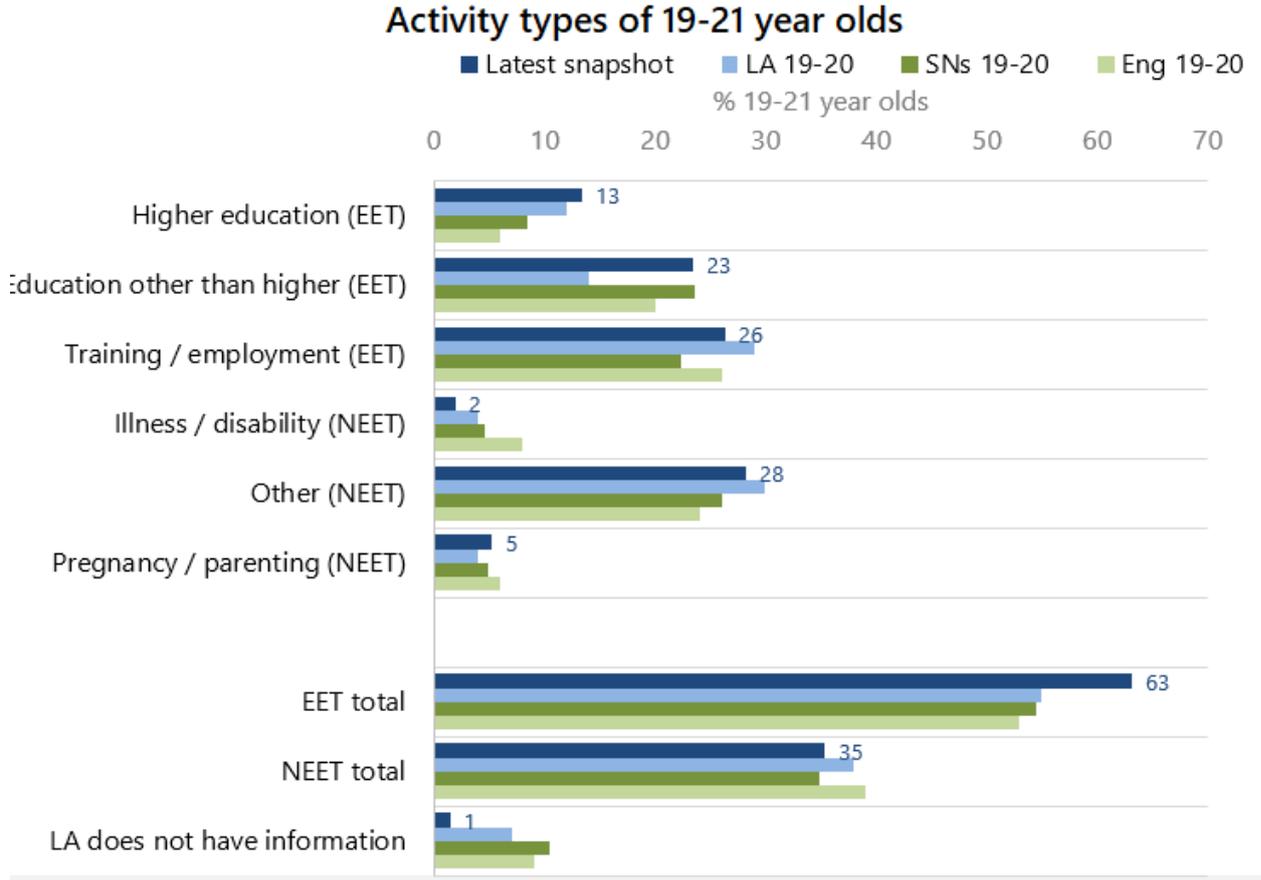
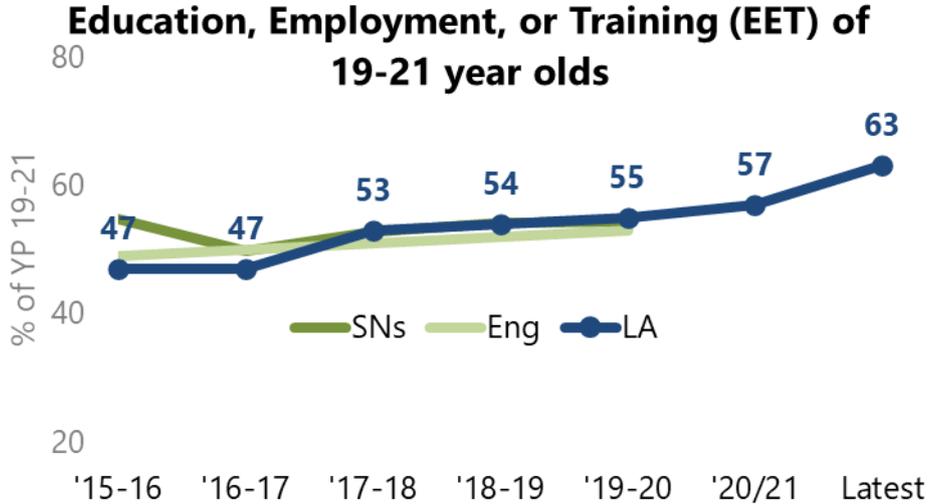
- 2.8. Personal education plans (PEPs) have recovered following a challenging year and now are a new record high level of 97%, besting last year’s summer term (96%)
- 2.9 81% of **Children in Care** were recorded as having up to date visits within the relevant timescales as of the beginning of September. This slightly lower performance is due to children being on holiday as well as staffing pressures in the children in care teams. Many of the children who do not have a recent visit on record have been seen and the visit is awaiting write up and logging on the IT system. Visits to looked after children continue to be tracked at performance meetings, held by the Head of Service for Children in Care, and along with supervision and management direction continue to be actively monitored. Of these up-to-date visits 93% were conducted face to face.
- 2.10 At the end of August 2021, 8% of children with an open episode of care had **had three or more placement moves in the last 12 months**. This is slightly better (lower) than all of the last quarter, last year, the London average and statistical neighbour average.
- 2.11 Children **under 16 who had been in care for at least 2.5 years and in the same placement for at least 2 years**, has improved to 68% (97 children) in line with statistical neighbour average of 70%. These two indicators should be viewed together to gain a view of placement stability for Haringey’s children in care which shows a positive balanced picture.
- 2.12 At the end of March, 98% of children who were looked after for at least 12 months had an up-to-date health assessment, maintaining excellent performance above statistical neighbours’ levels (93%).
- 2.13 At the beginning of September 2020, only 42% of eligible children had **up to date dental visits**. This increased to 63% by the end of June 2021 and **is now 72%**. Unfortunately, dental checks remain a stubborn and challenging area.

Dental Checks

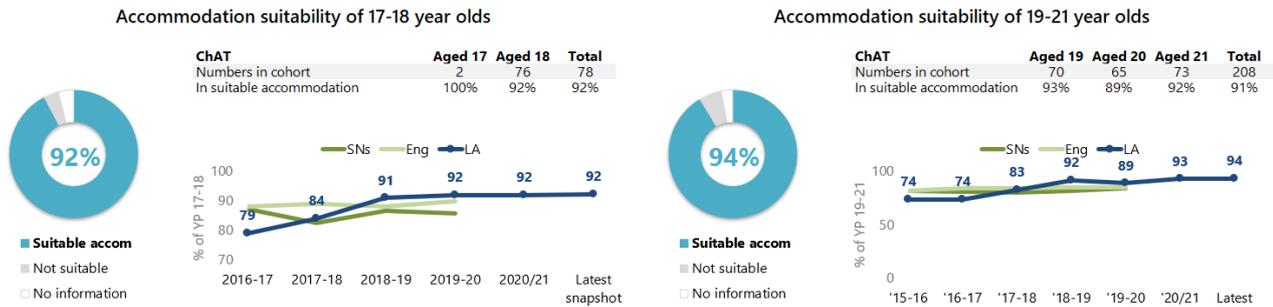


2.14. There are now 418 **care leavers** in receipt of leaving care services, a similar number to the last quarter. 97% of those **aged 19-21** and 96% of **17-18 year olds** were considered as **in touch with the local authority** at the end of November.

2.15. 133 or 57% of the 19-21 year olds and 78% (up 4pp) of the 17-18 year olds were known to be in **Education Employment or Training (EET)**



- 2.16. **94% of 19-21 year old care leavers were known to be in suitable accommodation (89% in 2019/20, 93% last quarter) and 92% of 17-18 year olds (unchanged from 2019/20 & last quarter).**



3. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 3.14. Borough Plan 2019-2022
- 3.15. People Priority: A Haringey where strong families, strong networks and strong communities nurture all residents to live well and achieve their potential