

**Report for:** Corporate Parent Advisory Committee: January 2025

**Item number:**

**Title:** Performance for Quarter 3 2024/25 with updates to including December where available

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

**Lead Officer:** Richard Hutton, Performance and Business Intelligence  
[richard.hutton@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:richard.hutton@haringey.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/ Non Key Decision:** Non key

## 1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 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 4 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 majority first three quarters of the year 2024/25

## 2. Recommendations

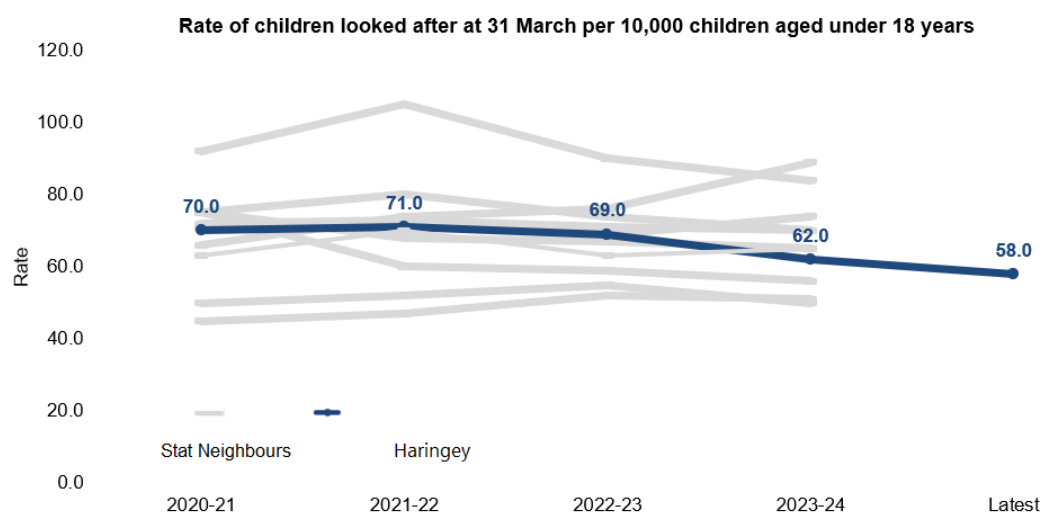
- 2.1. For members to note.

## 3. Reasons for decision

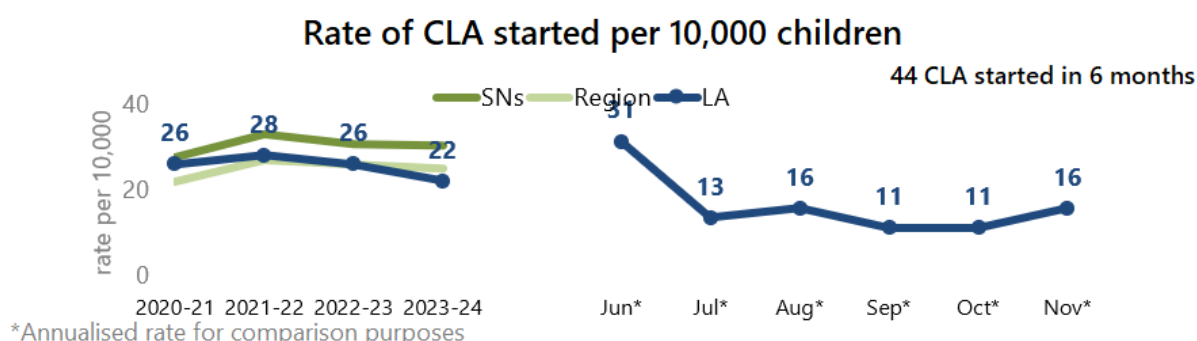
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## 4. Background information

- 4.1. At the start of December 2024, there were 313 **children in care** (rate of 58 per 10,000). This is 21 fewer children than in September but remains within the interquartile range of our statistical neighbours latest published rates. This decline in numbers is a result of a combination of intentional work to the support for children and their families and outside factors such as regional trends. The London rate is 51

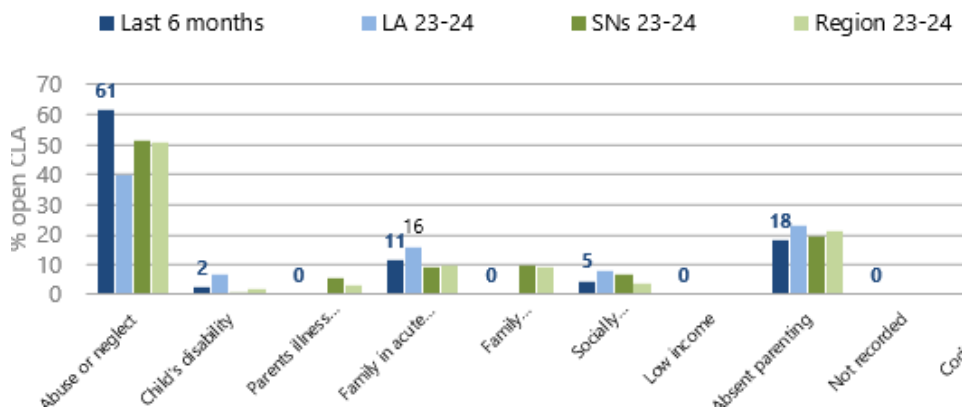


- 4.2. The number of unaccompanied asylum seeker children (**UASC**) has increased since the summer to 26, 0.05% 0-17 population, still some 28 children below the national transfer scheme threshold.
- 4.3. The rate of children **becoming looked after** over the past 6 months (16 per 10,000) equates to 44 children. This is below the rate for the 12 months of 2023/24 with 119 children

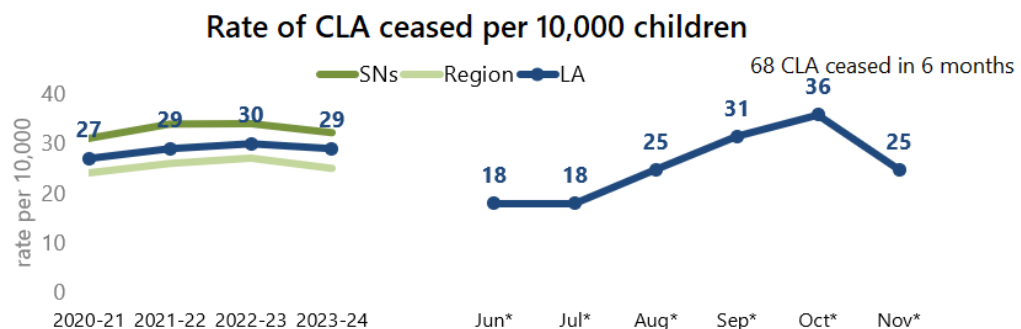


- 4.4. Family in acute stress has fallen as a reason **for starting to be looked after** from an unusually high percentage last year. Over the past 6 months only 11% of new Children Looked After fell into this category down from 16% in 2023/24 and near our statistical neighbours and national rates. Abuse & Neglect and Children with Disabilities are now comparatively overrepresented, but this remains volatile due to the lower number of children entering care as mentioned above.

### Comparing the primary need of CLA starters



- 4.5. 68 children (rate of 25.2) **ceased to be looked after** over the 6 months to September this compares to 50 in the six months to September



- 4.6. Of the 313 children looked after as at the end of November, 38 are **aged 3 or under** (4 fewer than in September). Eleven of these are placed with parents or family & friends and four with planned adoptive parents

CLA aged 3 or under

March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	Sept 2024	Nov 2024
49	67	60	54	40	42	38

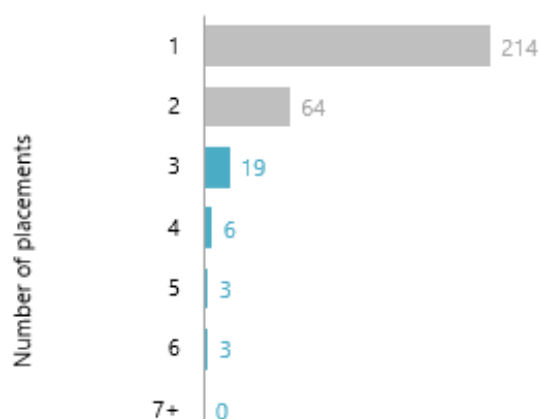
- 4.7. As of November 2024, 84% of 209 looked after children aged under 16 had an **up-to-date Care Plan up from 77% in September.**
- 4.8. Of the 108 children in care aged 16 & 17 who require a **pathway plan**, 79% had up to date plans (up 12% points).

Personal education plans (PEPs) have performed well this year, with 255 up to date reviewed PEPs 92%, towards the end of the autumn term matching the Spring term performance.

- 4.9. At the end of September, 10% (31) of children with an open episode of care had **three or more placement** in the last 12 months. This is higher than the

previously reported figure (8% in September) and close to National and statistical neighbour averages

## Number of placements in the last 12 months

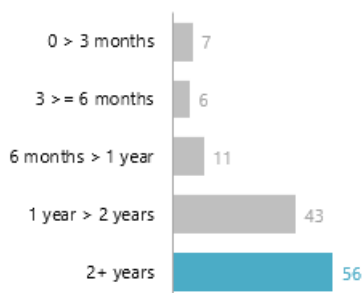


Moves in placements are usually as part of the child's care plan and can be a positive benefit. For example, a baby may move from foster care to a mother and baby assessment unit, and then on to being placed with a permanent arrangement.

Children **under 16 who had been in care for at least 2.5 years in the same placement for at least 2 years**, is now 54% (57% 3 months ago) .

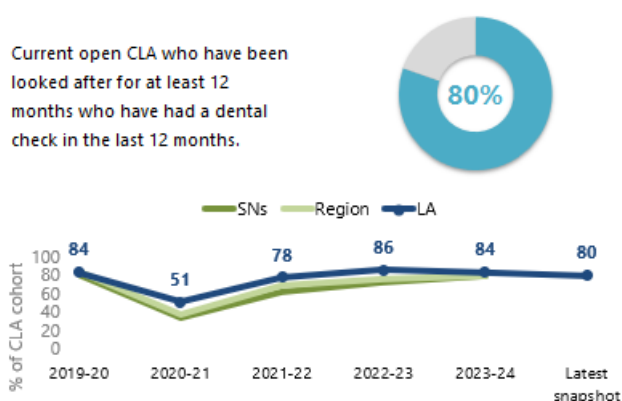
This indicator and the three or more placements indicator, above, should be viewed together to gain a view of placement stability for Haringey's children in care.

## Length of time in current placement



- 4.10. At the end of September, 94% of children who were looked after for at least 12 months had an up-to-date **health assessment**, this is now in line with levels of our statistical neighbours (92%).
- 4.11. **Dental visits** are steady at 80%. Up 1% Point. Unfortunately, dental checks especially for older children has always been a challenging area.

## Dental checks



- 4.12. There are now 477 male and 245 female **care leavers** in receipt of or eligible for leaving care services, in line with the definitions used by Ofsted, the figure includes young people who are:

<b>Eligible</b>	Age 16 or 17 Has been looked after for at least 13 weeks since age 14 (can be multiple periods) Currently looked after
<b>Relevant</b>	Age 16 or 17 Has been looked after for at least 13 weeks since age 14 (can be multiple periods) Looked after on or after their 16th birthday are no longer looked after
<b>Former Relevant</b>	Aged between 18 and 25 Previously an eligible or relevant child
<b>Qualifying</b>	Aged between 16 and 21 (or 25 if in education) Looked after on or after their 16th birthday Not looked after for at least 13 weeks since age 14 or privately fostered after the age of 16 but before the age of 18 or were looked after prior to becoming subject to a SGO.

Our cohort consists of:

- 101 young people under the age of 18 who will be Eligible when they leave care,
  - 36 who are classed as “qualifying” (not counting those already aged over 18)
  - 578 Former relevant
  - 9 Relevant
- 4.13. All of the care leavers aged 21 or under have a currently **allocated Personal Advisor**.
- 4.14. 94% of those aged 19–21 year olds were considered as **in touch with the local authority** up from 92% in April.
- 4.15. 53 % of the 251 19–21 year olds and 59 % of the 86 17 & 18 year olds were known to be in **Education Employment or Training (EET)**. Both figures improved since September . The main reasons recorded for NEET are that the young person is unavailable for EET due to disability, parenthood or prison.

88% of 19 to 21 year old care leavers were known to be **in suitable accommodation** and 91% of 17–18-year-olds (as of October’24).

#### 4.16. **Education Health Care Plans (EHCP)**

Both the overall number of children with an EHCP and the percentage of CLA with a plan has increased steadily over time.

up to end of November, we have received 525 requests for EHCPs in 2024, and issued 354

Excluding exceptional cases 88% of plans this year have been issued with 20 weeks

91 of the 313 current CLA (28%) have active EHCP plans

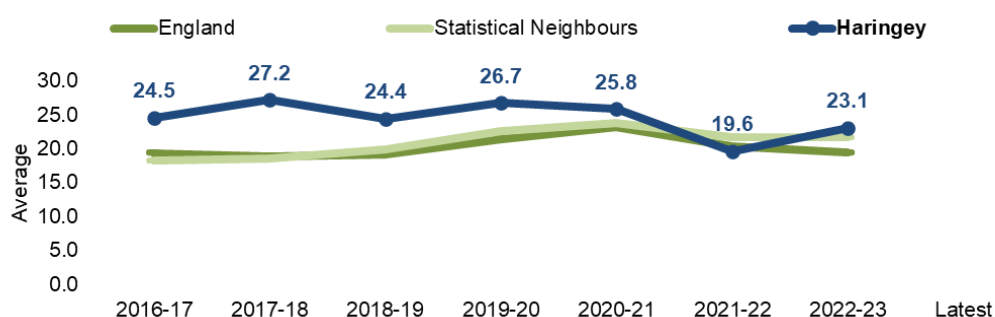
#### 4.17. **Virtual school**

To support the champions model in future this report will include more details on specific issues relating to our CLA's Educational progress.

Outturns for 2024 are expected to be published in spring 2025

### **Attain 8 score for CLA at key stage 4**

Average Attainment 8 score per pupil at Key Stage 4



#### 4.18. **Youth Justice Service**

As of the end of March 2024 there were 68 active young people on the YJS caseload. This has increased to 74 as of The beginning of December 2024. Of the 74:

- 26% of the current cohort are also Children in Care,
- 14% are currently Children in Need and
- 4% have an active Child Protection Plan
- 80% have up to date Asset +

### **5. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

N/A

### **6. Use of Appendices**

## **7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**