



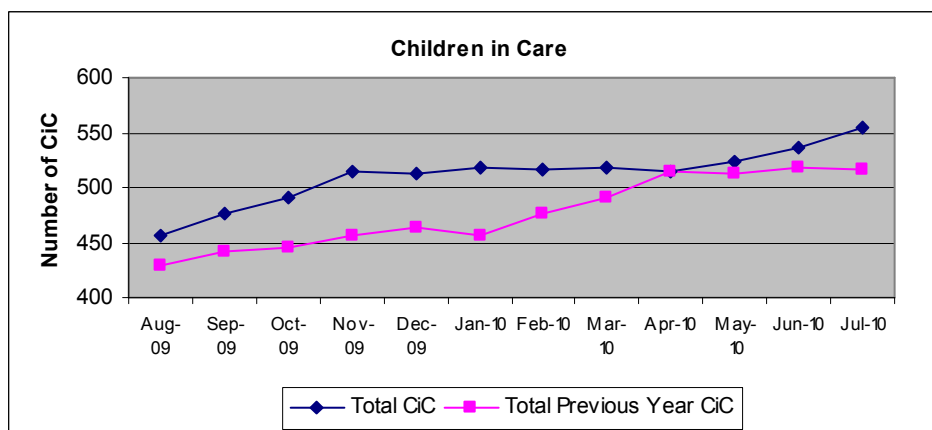
Briefing for:	Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee
Title:	Performance Management Data in Children and Families – July 2010 data
Lead Officer:	Christine Jorge
Date:	13 September 2010

1. Background

This report is an update of Children in Care National Indicators and other key performance information at the end of July 10. In addition it provides details of outturns for 2010 and targets for 2010/11. **Please note that comparative data for 2009/2010 will only be published and available in the autumn of 2010, 2008/09 comparative data has been provided as a benchmark.**

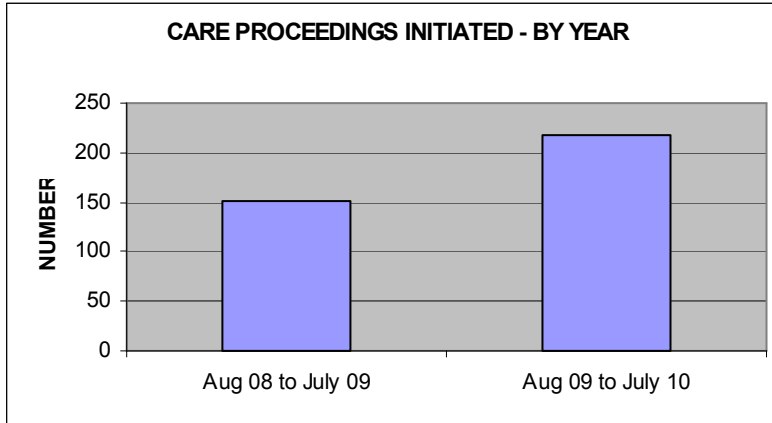
2. Children in Care Performance Data – 31 July 2010

2.1 621 children were in care at 31 July 10 (based on a manual calculation, this equates to an estimated 400 families). 33 children became looked after in the month and 18 children ceased to be looked after in the month. The chart below shows the month by month increase in the numbers of children in care compared with the previous year.

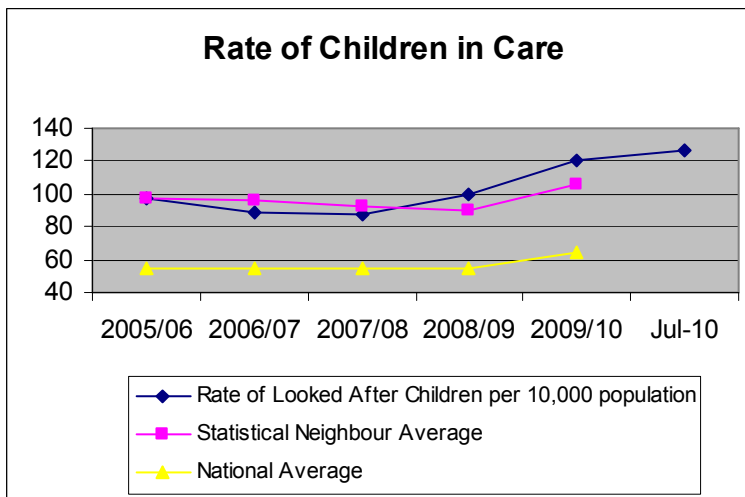




2.2 32 care proceedings were initiated in July. In the year to date (Apr – Jul) 90 care proceedings have been initiated. The graph below shows the increase in the 12 months to the end of July 09 and the 12 months to the end of July 10.



2.3 The total number of children in care is a rate of 127 children per 10,000 population. The graph below shows the estimated National Average uplift for 2009/10 of 17% - official benchmarking data is not yet available. However, an ADCS survey of 75% of all LAs reported an increase in children looked after of 17% across the country. It is clear that our numbers have risen more than those of our statistical neighbours, even allowing for this increase:



- 2.4 Of the 621 children in care:
- 45 are unaccompanied minors or unaccompanied minors leaving care (7%)
 - 24 children are those who have been placed in care as a result of the Southwark Judgement (16/17 year olds presenting as homeless) (4%)
 - 28 are children recorded with a disability and allocated to the children with disabilities team. (4.5%)



- 2.5 The age and ethnic breakdown of children in care at the end of July is as follows (a more detailed breakdown of ethnicity sub categories can be found in appendix 1):

Ethnic Group	% LAC
White	34%
Mixed	16%
Asian/Asian British	7%
Black/Black British	39%
Other Ethnic Groups	4%

Age Group	% LAC
Under 1	5.6%
1-4	16.6%
5-9	15.0%
10-15	36.7%
16-17	26.1%

- 2.6 The snapshot below shows the proportion of children in care the end of June by the borough they have been placed in (in order of the largest number of children placed in each borough):

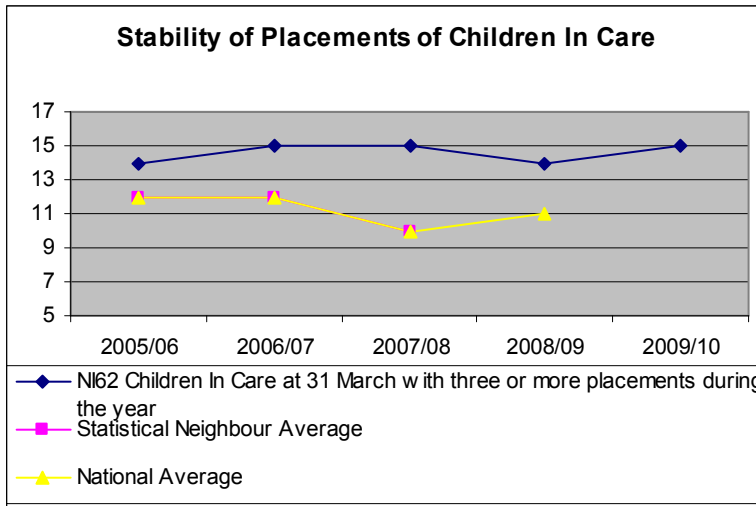
In Haringey	29.5%
Enfield	13.3%
Waltham Forest	10.1%
Barnet	3.8%
Kent	3.6%
Islington	3.3%
Essex	2.8%
Redbridge	2.6%
Hackney	2.3%
Croydon	2.3%
Havering	1.7%
Camden	1.6%
Other out of borough	23.1%

The ADCS have commissioned a London wide comparator survey to look at this data and results will be fed back to CPAC when they become available.

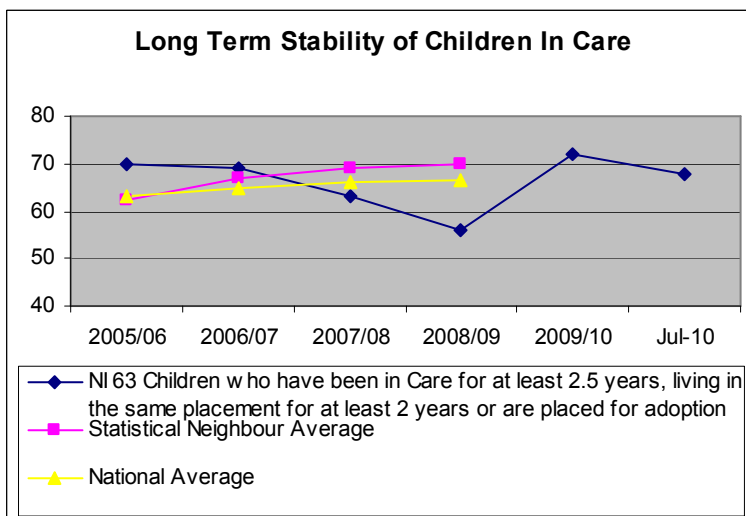
- 2.7 NI66 – Children in care have to have their circumstances and care plan independently reviewed every 6 months. 96% of children in care cases which should have been reviewed during the year to date (Apr – Jul), were reviewed in timescale, this is 21 children who were not reviewed in timescale to date.



2.8 NI 62 – 23 children in care at 31 July 10 have had 3 or more placements in the year to date (Apr – Jul = 3.7%). Good performance in this area is to achieve less than 16% of children in care moving 3 or more times in the whole year. In the previous 12 months 15% of children have had 3 or more placements. The graph below shows comparative data for this indicator.



2.9 NI63 – This is another measure of placement stability. 68% of children in care for 2.5 years or more had been in their placement for at least 2 years at 31 July 10. This is 96 out of 141 children who were looked after for 2.5 years or more and in their placement for 2 years or more. The target for this indicator in 10/11 is 72%. The graph below shows comparative data for this indicator.

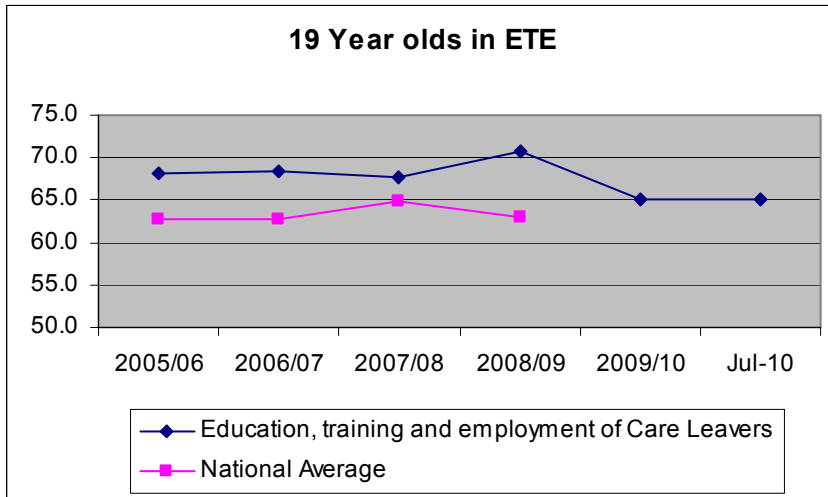


2.10 3 children have been adopted and 4 granted special guardianship orders in the year to date. NI 61 looks at children in care who have been adopted and placed within 12 months of a best interest decision to adopt, 2 out of the 3 children adopted were placed within 12 months (67%).

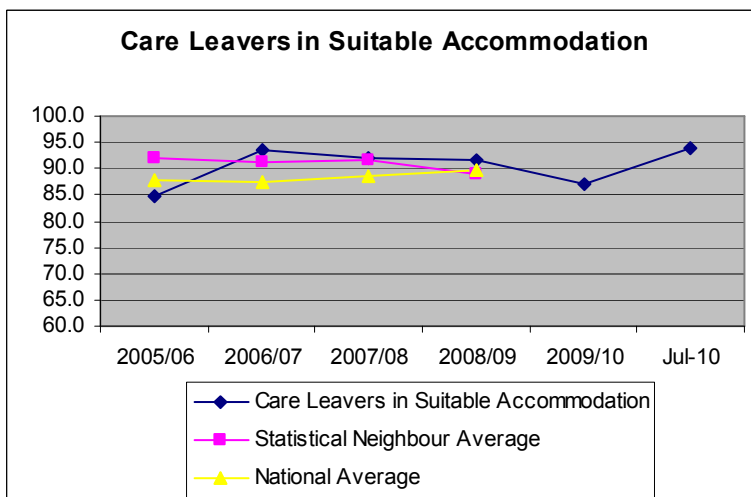


2.11 74% of children in care were placed in foster placements or placed for adoption at 31 July 10 and 25% were placed in residential accommodation.

2.12 We report on two performance indicators in relation to young people leaving our care. One is a sub-set of the overall NEET activity - NI148 – 65% of care leavers who turned 19 in the year to date were in education training or employment on or around their 19th birthday. This is 11 out of 17 young people who turned 19 in the year. The 2010/11 target for this indicator is 75%. The graph below shows movement in this indicator over the last 5 years.



2.13 NI147 - 94% of care leavers turning 19 in the year to date were living in suitable accommodation on their 19th birthday. This is 16 out of 17 young people who turned 19 in the year. The target for 2010/11 is 92%. The graph below shows movement in this indicator over the last 5 years.





3. Foster Carer Recruitment

74% of all our children are placed in foster care. More than half are placed with carers provided by the independent sector. These placements are on average twice the cost of our in-house carers and often at some distance from the borough.

The pressure to increase the numbers of in-house foster carers is therefore significant and a considerable amount of work is underway to increase and improve our performance in this area – including the construction of a more accessible and professional website and improved marketing materials.

In the month of July:

- We have had 59 enquiries
- 28 prospective carers attended information session – following that 8 will attend an initial visit and 9 are to get back to us
- 20 prospective carers attended initial visits (not all from enquiries received in July). From this visit and assuming they are still interested and we believe they are potential carers, they will attend a 2 week training/preparation course and be taken through a lengthy and detailed assessment which is then presented to the Fostering Panel.
- 5 new carers were approved

From start to finish this process can take six months and there is generally a high attrition rate – 10% conversion from initial interest to be coming a carer is considered normal.