



# Children's Social Care Monthly Performance & Quality Assurance Report

As at Quarter end: Quarter 3

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## Key Performance Indicators

### Quarter 3 Performance Summary

#### **Where we are performing well**

97.1% of Contacts were completed within 1 working day which exceeds the target of 95% with only 0.6% of contacts completed in more than 3 working days.

97% of referrals were completed within 1 working day, above the target of 90%, with 1.5% of referrals taking more than 72 hours to complete, which is better than the target of 5%.

95% of assessments were completed within 45 working days, which has been consistently better than the target of 90%, and higher than statistical neighbours (89%) and England average (83%).

100% of child protection reviews being completed within timescale (97% statistical neighbour, 94% England average).

100% of LAC reviews completed within timescale, an improvement on 2016/17 year end. Demonstrating our children in care are seen regularly, with their needs monitored and addressed in a timely way.

94% of LAC statutory visits were completed in timescale, better than the target of 90%, and the 2016/17 year end (87%).

100% of all of our Children in Need, Children Protection and Children in Care have an allocated Social Worker, this performance is consistent sustained and embedded into practice.

27.3% of our Care Leavers are not in employment, education or training (NEET). This is better than the target of 30% and represents a reduction of 1.9% when compared to Qtr 2. Of the Care Leavers who are currently NEET, 77% are not available for work due to illness, pregnancy or parenting.

### **Where we need to improve**

There were 177 re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral, a rate of 22%, which although an improving picture, remains higher than the local target of 20% and the statistical benchmarks (20%). However, the December in-month rate was 19.2%, which is showing continuous and sustained improvement. Every case highlighted as a re-referral has been analysed by the Head of Service to ensure that they were appropriate.

The rate of children in care who have been in their current placement for 2 or more years was 58%, which is improving but is still below the local target of 65%. Placement stability is managed on a monthly basis to address any issue as they arise to prevent placement breakdown.

59% of children in care had an up to date review health check and 51% had an up to date dental check. Whilst both are higher than at the same point in 2016/17 (49% and 48%) they continue to be monitored closely by the Head of Service.

### **Performance Priorities for 2017/18**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Update</b>
Assess the impact of early help interventions on outcomes for children and families.	The Early Help Scorecard has been created and reports written to gather data from the system. Work is currently ongoing to cleanse the data to ensure accuracy before formally reporting.
Ensure placement stability for children and young people, delivering the Placement Strategy by targeting support for those placements at risk of breakdown and improvements in planning of necessary placement moves.	Placement Strategy has been completed, and this has been supplemented by the use of trackers detailing every placement move. This is circulated to Head of Service, Assistant Director and Director on a monthly basis as part of the Performance Reporting Cycle. Performance demonstrates the embedding of this procedures and strategy.
Analyse the baseline position with regards to no further actions following assessment.	Analysis has continued on a monthly basis, system changes are being implemented to allow more accurate and richer data.
Continue to focus on number of children and young people who receive an Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days, to ensure continued and sustained progress.	Internal and external trackers are being used and robustly managed and monitored performance continues to improve.
Revise the measure for the percentage of health and dental reviews completed within the year to allow more accurate recording and measurement.	Monthly trackers are now in place to monitor health and dental reviews. This runs alongside the current annual measure, and is reported to Head of Service, Assistant Director and Director as part of the Performance Reporting Cycle.

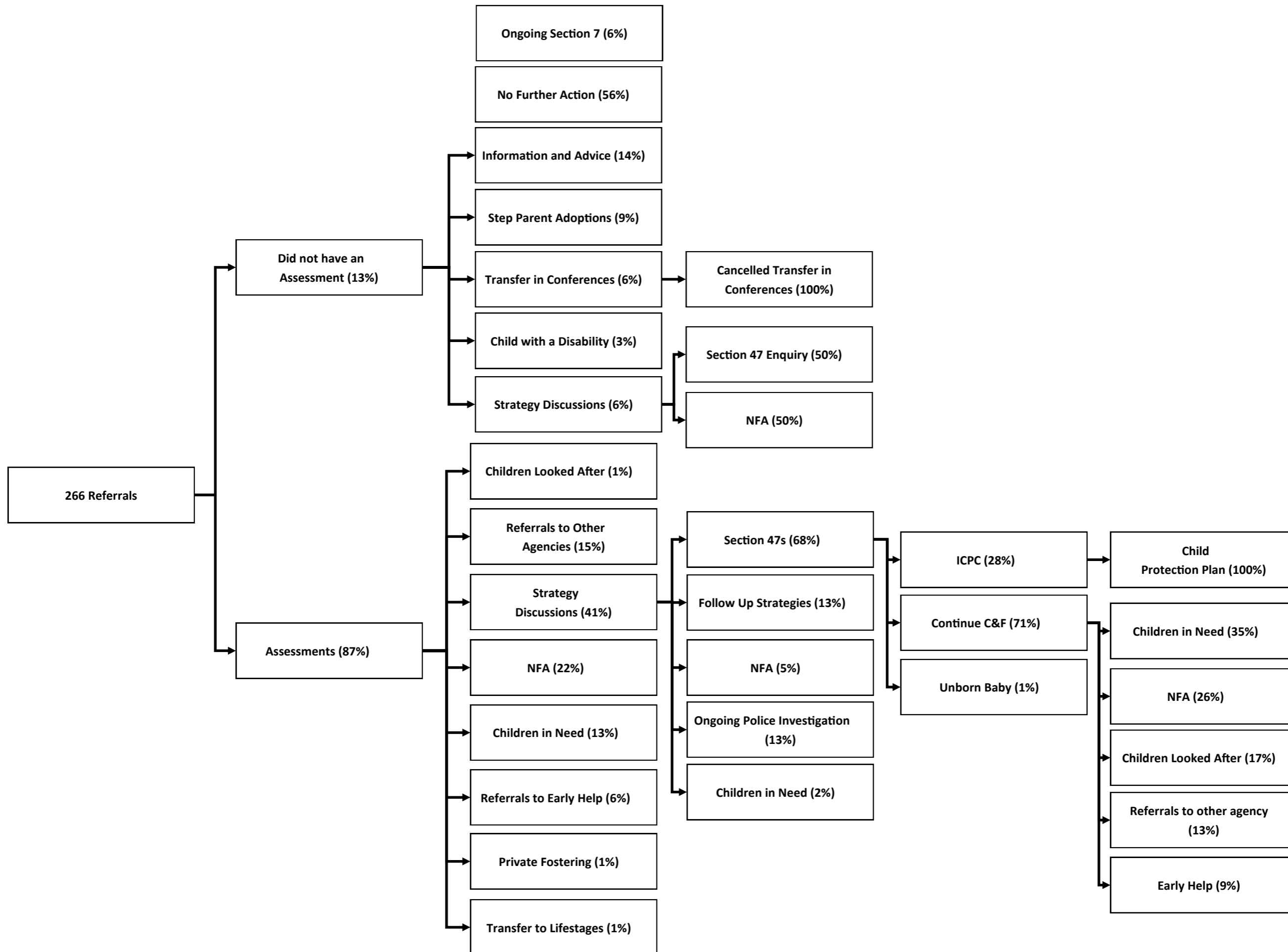
## Quarter 2 Flows

The analysis of how children progress through the Social Care system in Darlington has been reported for 11 months, therefore it is now possible to see emerging trends and patterns:

- On average 92% referrals resulted in an assessment, this is similar to the rate of referrals progressing to assessment in authorities rated by Ofsted as good or outstanding (95%). *[Source: SFR]*
- The rate of assessments which resulted in no further action to Children's Social Care have been decreasing during the last 11 month period, currently the average over the 11 month period is 28.2%. Benchmarking shows statistical neighbours at 21% in 2016/17, nationally 28% and in the North East 29%. *[Source: LAIT]*
- On average 85% of strategy discussions have resulted in an section 47 enquiry, with the exception of July and August (high number of cases due to Police investigation into potential CSE), this has been consistent during the 11 months.
- Conversion from Section 47 to ICPC has been variable throughout the year, between 0% in December 2016 and 68% in May 2017. As a result of this Heads of Service have reviewed these cases to ensure that escalation to Section 47 and the decision not to progress to ICPC was appropriate in every case.

**The full journey of a child through the safeguarding process can take over 9 weeks therefore data is presented based on referrals to the service 3 months prior to the reporting month.**

# Full System Conversion Flow Qtr 2 2017/18



## Contacts and Referrals

### Quarter 3 Performance Summary

All contacts to Children's Services and subsequent referrals are dealt with by the Children's Access Point (CAP) this enables concerns to be screened and referred to the most appropriate service, including Early Help and Children's Social Care.

There were 1380 contacts screened and triaged by the CAP, relating to 2502 children. Performance has remained consistent throughout the year, with 97% of contact beings completed within 24 hours. These led to:

- 256 (10%) Referrals to Children's Social Care
- 275 (11%) Referrals to Early Help
- 1355 (54%) Contacts closed with Information and Advice Given
- 380 (15%) Contacts related to cases that were already open to Early Help
- 235 (10%) requests for school attendance support.

There was a 12% increase in the rate of contacts that were already open to Early Help, due to improved working relations with the Police as they now report additional information on existing Early Help cases. This provides a richer understanding and enables more focused support through Early Help.

#### **Referrals**

96.5% of referrals were completed within 24 hours, a completion rate that has been consistent throughout the year. The rate of referrals per 10,000 population is lower than at the same point last year. There were 85% that resulted in a Child and Family (C&F) assessment this is slightly lower than the first quarter of the year where on average 95% resulted in a C&F. This was due to a Police investigation in to potential CSE during the year that resulted in a higher number of strategy discussions progressing from a referral.

Coupled with an overall reduction in the number of referrals, this high percentage of referrals resulting in an assessment reflects strengthening professional judgement in relation to risk and need.

It was noted in previous performance reports that the percentage of repeat referrals was higher than the target and that this was becoming an outlier when compared to the most recent benchmarking data. Further analysis was undertaken by the Head of Service, which identified some recurring themes, notably:

- Some referrals were being closed and referred again in a short period of time with the same presenting issue
- Some re-referrals were for children who had previously been the subject of a Child Protection Plan that had been in place for no longer than 3 months
- There were some Re-referrals within 12 months with a different presenting issue
- In some cases there was no clear evidence of effective step down to Early Help

As a result, guidance was re-issued to staff confirming that:

- No child protection plans were to be closed within 90 days (without substantial evidence) to ensure sustainable change is in place before closure
- Upon closure to Children's Social Care future support from the multi agency Early help service is considered for all cases

Compliance with this is monitored monthly and as a result the cumulative rate of re-referrals has consistently decreased during the year and is now in line with benchmarks.

Robust management of CAP continues, to ensure good quality, timely and appropriate access to services, with focus also on the:

- number and type of contacts are received on both new and open cases
- age and gender of children on which we receive contacts and referrals and how this compares to the Borough's age profile
- source of contact
- outcome of contacts and referrals
- repeat referrals

**CONTACTS**

**DEFINITION**  
 Contacts are received through the Children's Access Point (CAP) and are screened against an agreed multi-agency threshold criteria for Social Care. Contacts are broken down to; the number of new contacts made on cases which are not currently open to Social Care (a contact can include multiple children); the total number of children in the month (each child can appear more than once) this allows us to demonstrate outcomes, as each child may appear more than once they will have different outcomes and different sources, and the distinct number of children (each child is counted only once no matter how many contacts were received) this allows us to look at the demography.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**  
 During Q3 there were 1,380 contacts received, an increase of 21% (246) compared with Qtr 2, and an increase of 15% (185) compared with Qtr 1. This was due to the increased number received during October and November, following the return to school from summer holidays.

CSC 004	CSC 004i	CSC 004k
No. New Contacts	Number of Contacts (each child can be included more than once)	Individual Number of Children Contacts were received on (child will only appear once per month)

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-17	337	595	517
	May-17	387	657	533
	Jun-17	471	811	668
	Jul-17	457	705	626
	Aug-17	280	478	405
	Sep-17	397	657	568
	Oct-17	498	943	721
	Nov-17	511	871	655
	Dec-17	371	688	531
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			
	2015/16			
	2016/17			
	2017/18 YTD	3709	6405	



**CONTACTS: OUTCOME**

**DEFINITION** The percentage of new contacts resulting in advice/information, a MASH episode, a referral to Early Help and a referral to Social Care. This gives us an idea of how contacts progress through the system. Calculated on the total number of children contacts were received on (each child can be counted more than once).

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

During Qtr 3, 10% of contacts resulted in a referral to Children's Social Care.

There was a 12% increase in the rate of contacts regarding existing Early Help cases. This is due to a improved working with the Police where they now report additional information on existing Early Help cases, which gives us richer information to provide more focused support through Early Help.

		Advice/ Information		Refer to Early Help		Refer to Social Care		Link to Existing Early Help		Refer to school attendance support		
<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Apr-17	306	51.7%	113	19.1%	117	19.8%	34	5.7%	22	3.7%	
	May-17	350	53.3%	100	15.2%	116	17.7%	27	4.1%	64	9.7%	
	Jun-17	413	50.9%	151	18.6%	113	13.9%	29	3.6%	105	12.9%	
	Jul-17	368	52.3%	109	15.5%	110	15.6%	21	3.0%	96	13.6%	
	Aug-17	295	61.7%	80	16.7%	92	19.2%	11	2.3%	0	0.0%	
	Sep-17	379	57.7%	99	15.1%	78	11.9%	27	4.1%	74	11.3%	
	Oct-17	522	55.3%	95	10.1%	109	11.5%	136	14.4%	82	8.7%	
	Nov-17	466	53.6%	85	9.8%	91	10.5%	132	15.2%	95	10.9%	
	Dec-17	367	53.3%	95	13.8%	56	8.1%	112	16.3%	58	8.4%	
	Jan-18											
	Feb-18											
	Mar-18											
<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15											
	2015/16											
	2016/17											
	2017/18 YTD	3466	54.2%	927	14.5%	882	13.8%	529	8.3%	596	9.3%	

**CONTACTS: TIMELINESS**

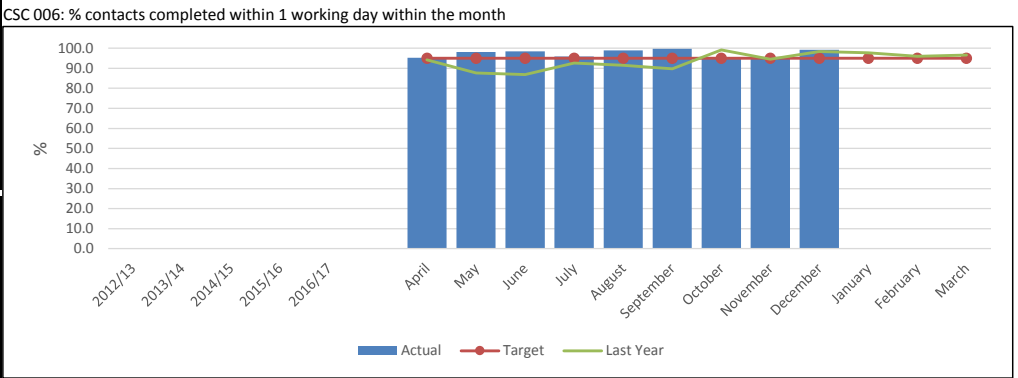
**DEFINITION** Percentage of contacts completed within 1 working day and over 3 working days within the month. A higher rate of contacts completed within 1 day indicates that assessments are timely and cases are escalated without delay and drift.

**Performance Analysis**

At the end of Qtr 3, 97% of contacts were completed within 1 working day (3,602 of 3,709). This is better than the 2016/17 year end (93%), and the target of 95%.

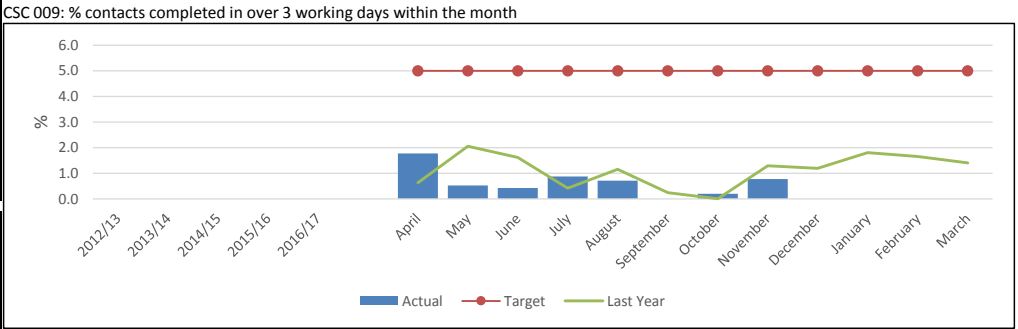
At the end of Qtr 3, 0.6% of contacts had taken more than 3 working days to be completed, 21 contacts. This is better than the 2016/17 year end (2.4%) and better than the target of 5%.

CSC 006	CSC 009
% contacts completed within 1 working day within the month	% contacts completed in over 3 working days within the month



**IN MONTH PERFORMANCE**

Target	95%	5%
Apr-17	95.3	1.8
May-17	98.2	0.5
Jun-17	98.5	0.4
Jul-17	95.8	0.9
Aug-17	98.9	0.7
Sep-17	99.8	0.0
Oct-17	94.6	0.2
Nov-17	95.3	0.8
Dec-17	99.2	0.0
Jan-18		
Feb-18		
Mar-18		



**Annual Trend**

Year	95%	5%
2014/15		
2015/16	84.0	8.2
2016/17	96.6	1.4
2017/18 YTD	97.1	0.6

**REFERRALS**

**DEFINITION** Monthly number of referrals to Children's Social Care and number of referrals started year to date. A contact will be progressed to a referral if it is considered that an assessment and/or service may be required.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

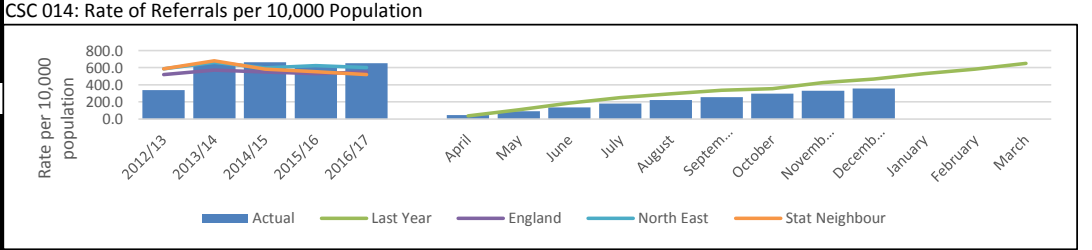
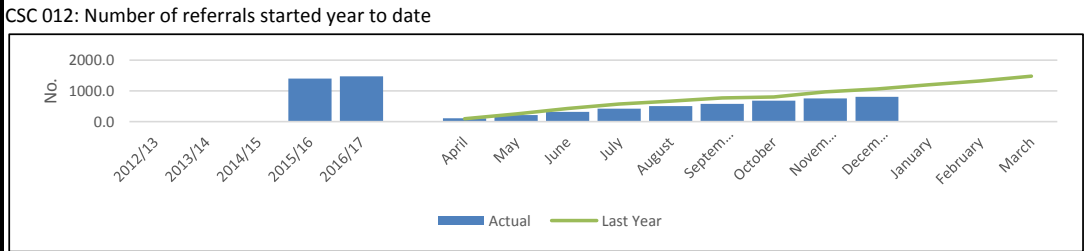
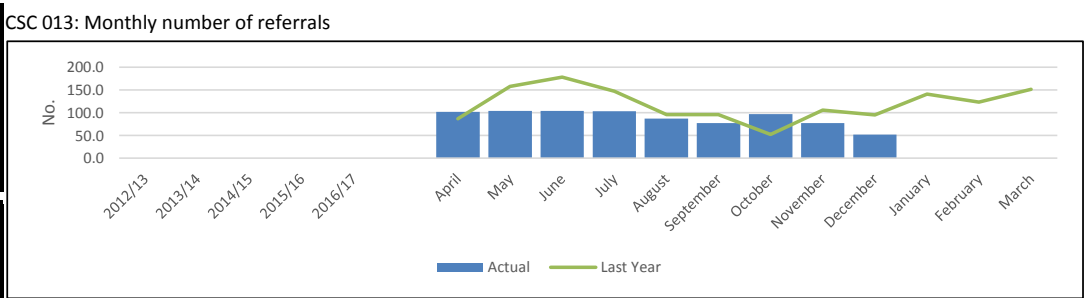
During Qtr 3 there were 226 referrals to Children's Social Care. This is a reduction of 41 (15%) when compared with Qtr 2, and a reduction of 84 (27%) when compared with Qtr 1.

To date there have been 803 referrals to Children's Social Care during 2017/18, which is a reduction of 254 (24%) when compared to the same period in 2016/17.

At the end of Qtr 3 Darlington's rate of referrals was 354.9 per 10,000, which is a reduction of 24% when compared with the same period in 2016/17. If the current rate of referrals was maintained during the rest of 2017/18, Darlington's year end rate of referrals would be 473.2 per 10,000. This would be lower than the most recent national (548.2 per 10,000), regional (599.6 per 10,000) and statistical (518.7 per 10,000) benchmarks.

CSC 013	CSC 012	CSC 014
Monthly number of referrals	Number of referrals started year to date	Rate of Referrals per 10,000 Population

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target			
	Apr-17	102	102	45.1
	May-17	104	206	91.0
	Jun-17	104	310	137.0
	Jul-17	103	413	182.5
	Aug-17	87	500	221.0
	Sep-17	77	577	255.0
	Oct-17	97	674	297.9
	Nov-17	77	751	331.9
	Dec-17	52	803	354.9
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		664.3
	2015/16	1398	615.9
	2016/17	1472	650.6
	2017/18 YTD	803	354.9

**REFERRALS - TIMELINESS**

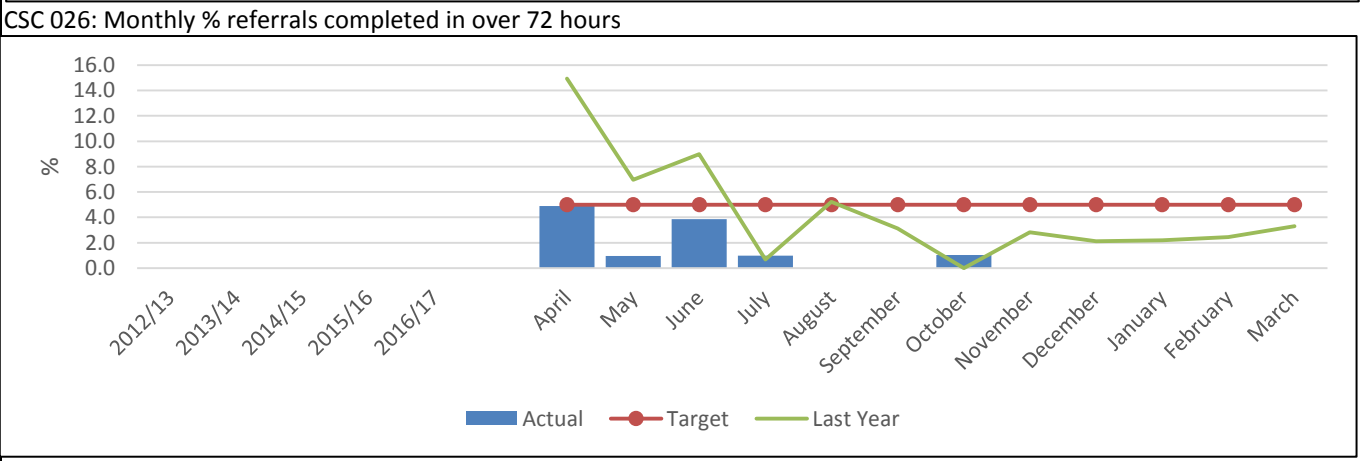
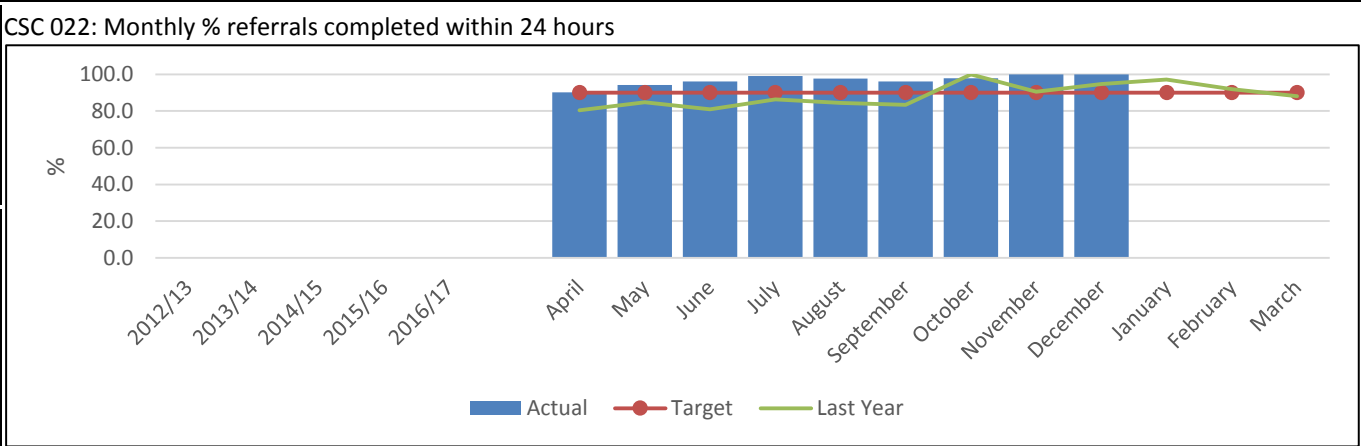
**DEFINITION** Percentage of referrals completed within 24 hours and over 72 hours. Referrals completed within 24 hours indicates that decisions regarding the services required are made in a timely manner to minimise drift and delay and to ensure that children are safe

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

96.5% of referrals were completed within 24 hours, 775 out of 803. Better than the 2016/17 year end (87.8%) and the target of 90%.

1.5% have taken more than 72 hours to complete, 12 referrals during 2017/18. Better than the 2016/17 year end (4.8%) and the target of 5%.

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	CSC 022 Monthly % referrals completed within 24 hours	CSC 026 Monthly % referrals completed in over 72 hours
		90%	5%
	Apr-17	90.2	4.9
	May-17	94.2	1.0
	Jun-17	96.2	3.9
	Jul-17	99.0	1.0
	Aug-17	97.7	0.0
	Sep-17	96.1	0.0
	Oct-17	97.9	1.0
	Nov-17	100.00	0.00
	Dec-17	100.00	0.00
	Jan-18		
Feb-18			
Mar-18			



**ANNUAL TREND**

2014/15		
2015/16	85.2	
2016/17	88.0	4.8
2017/18 YTD	96.5	1.5

**REFERRALS - RE-REFERRALS**

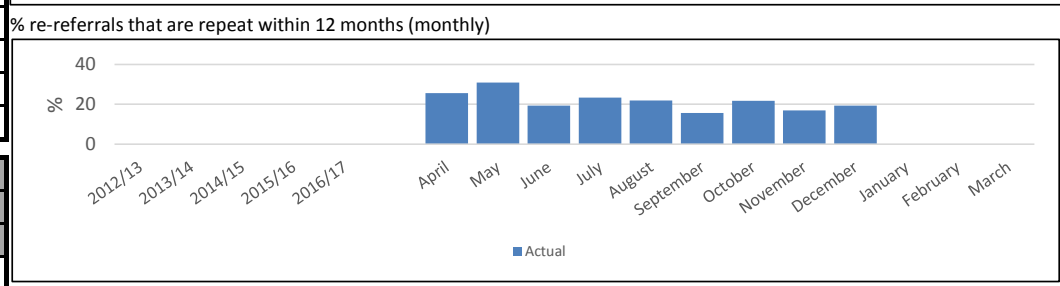
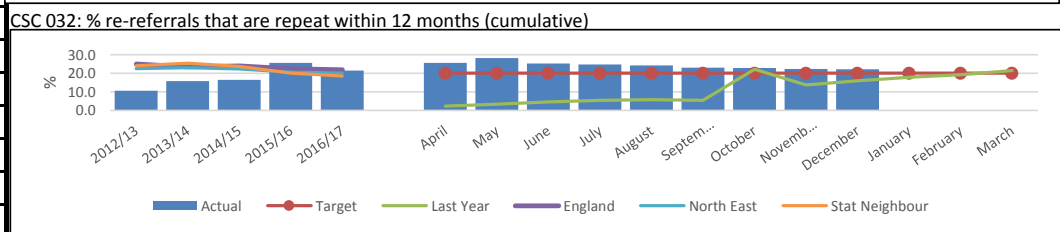
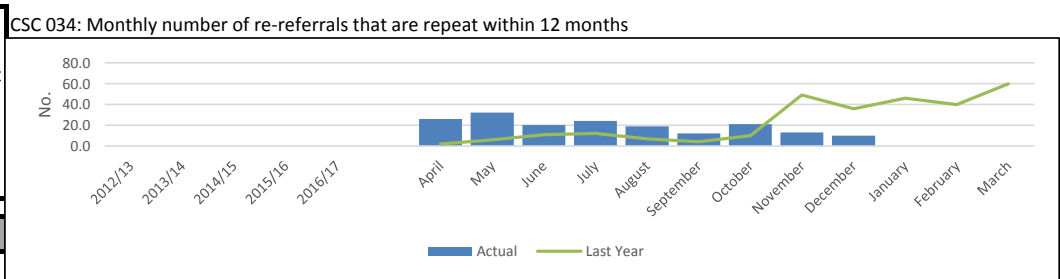
**DEFINITION**  
 Percentage of re-referrals that are a repeat referral within 12 months of a previous referral.  
 A re-referral to Children's Social Care could be an indication that the previous referral was inappropriately closed without addressing the initial concerns or issues.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**  
 During Qtr 3 there were 44 referrals that were received within 12 months of a previous referral, a reduction of 11 (20%) when compared with Qtr 2, and a reduction of 34 (44%) when compared with Qtr 1. The cumulative rate of re-referrals has consistently decreased since May 2017, falling from 28% to 22% as of December 2017.  
 Darlington's current rate of re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral (22%) is slightly higher than the target of 20%, and is slightly higher than the most recent regional (20.1%) and statistical (18.5%) benchmarks, but is similar to the most recent national benchmark (21.9%).

CSC 034	CSC 032	% re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months (monthly)
Monthly number of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months	% re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months (cumulative)	

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target		20%	
	Apr-17	26	25.5	25.5
	May-17	32	28.2	30.8
	Jun-17	20	25.2	19.2
	Jul-17	24	24.7	23.3
	Aug-17	19	24.2	21.8
	Sep-17	12	23.1	15.6
	Oct-17	21	22.9	21.6
	Nov-17	13	22.2	16.9
	Dec-17	10	22.0	19.2
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		16.5%	
	2015/16	353	25.6%	
	2016/17	314	21.4%	
	2017/18 YTD	177	22.0%	22.0%



## Early Help

### Quarter 3 Performance Summary

392 Early Help Assessments (EHA) have commenced which is 24% reduction on Qtr 2 data. We are now starting to see the number of EHA's completed by external agencies being comparable with those completed by internal teams. The audit programme is ongoing on internal EHAs and we are now seeing an improvement in the quality of the practice and management oversight, the use of Signs of Safety is also improving.

The reconfiguration of Children Centre Services has been completed. As a result there has been a natural decrease in Children Centre attendance and direct comparison with previous attendance is therefore not possible. However, Children Centres continue to deliver services to the 30% most deprived areas and representation from this group remains consistent.

The Troubled Families Programme has recently been audited by the DCLG and judged to be good. Our target is to include 670 families in the programme and we are currently at 664. The target for payments by results is 329 and we are currently at 291, this includes both employment and significant and sustained progress claims.

#### **Missing/CSE**

There were 115 missing episodes which is a reduction of 32% since Qtr 2, however, there was a slight increase in the numbers of children this involved.

The missing episodes for our children in care has reduced since the last quarter with the numbers of young people involved remaining stable at 18. Five young people contributed to 44% of these missing episodes

Missing episodes for children placed from other authorities' in Darlington has increased slightly but still remains low. The ERASE team, Barnardo's and PCSO's work closely with Children's Homes Managers and Senior Managers in the placing authorities to put strategies in place to ensure young people placed in Darlington have their needs met.

Missing from Home interviews have been completed on 96% of cases. Despite the slight dip over the Christmas period, missing return interviews were completed for 96.8% of children. Action plans to reduce missing episodes are now completed by the missing coordinator and tasks forwarded to the social worker for consideration and action. An audit of the quality of return home interviews has been completed and a number of actions identified to improve the quality of the return interviews, this will be revisited within 3 months to ensure the necessary improvements have been made.

## EARLY HELP ASSESSMENTS

### DEFINITION

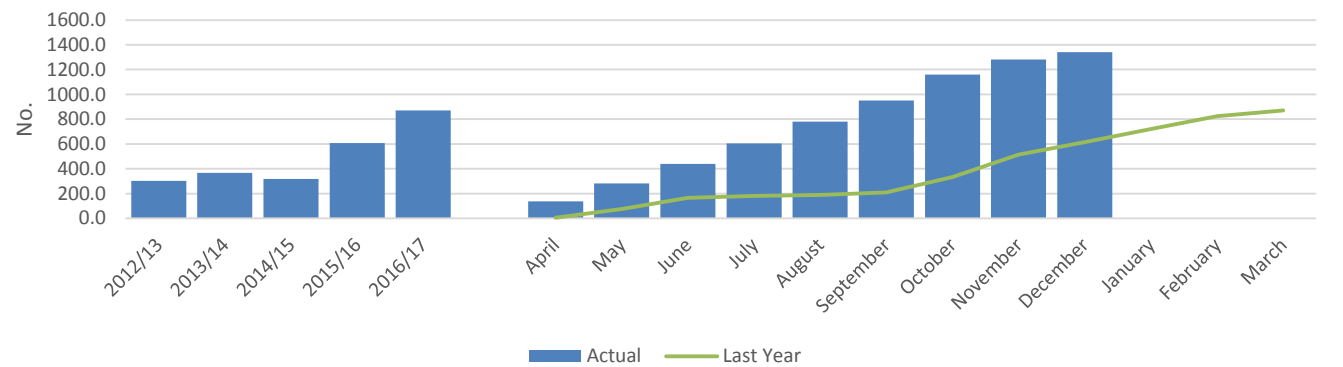
Number of individual Early Help Assessments recorded year to date.

### Performance Analysis

During Qtr 3, 392 Early Help assessments were started this is a 24% reduction against Qtr 2. December is the first time that the number of Early Help assessments completed by external agencies is comparable with those completed by internal teams. In quarter 3, 21% of Early help assessments were completed by External agencies. The audit programme is ongoing on internal EHAs within Qtr 3 identifying improvements in the quality of practice, management oversight and signs of safety were noted.

CSC 001	CSC 002
No. EHAs	EHA's Per Month

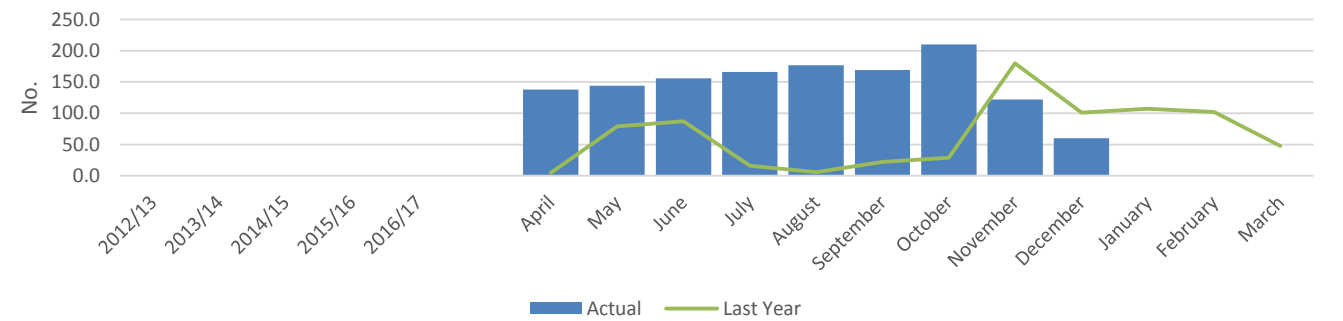
CSC 001: Number of individual Early Help Assessments recorded year to date



### IN MONTH PERFORMANCE

Target	CSC 001	CSC 002
Apr-17	138	138
May-17	282	144
Jun-17	438	156
Jul-17	604	166
Aug-17	781	177
Sep-17	950	169
Oct-17	1160	210
Nov-17	1282	122
Dec-17	1342	60
Jan-18		
Feb-18		
Mar-18		

CSC 002: Number of individual Early Help Assessments recorded per month



### Annual Trend

Year	CSC 001	CSC 002
2014/15	317	317
2015/16	608	608
2016/17	871	871
2017/18 YTD	1342	1342

## CHILDREN'S CENTRES

### DEFINITION

Total number of monthly attendees at Children's Centres in Darlington and percentage of attendees who reside within the 30% most deprived area of Darlington.

### Performance Analysis

The reconfiguration of Children Centres has been completed in this quarter, Haughton is now closed and Dodmire has been closed for a six week refurbishment during this quarter.

The children centres continue to deliver services to the 30% most deprived areas and attendance from this group remains consistent. Overall attendance is lower however, this is a result of the reconfiguration and a reduced timetable for universal attendees, and therefore comparison with previous quarters is not possible.

		Attendees - McNay Street	Attendees - Haughton & Redhall	Attendees - Mount Pleasant	Attendees - Skerne Park	Attendees - Dodmire	% Attendees within 30% areas of deprivation - McNay Street	% Attendees within 30% areas of deprivation - Haughton & Redhall	% Attendees within 30% areas of deprivation - Skerne Park	% Attendees within 30% areas of deprivation - Mount Pleasant	% Attendees within 30% areas of deprivation - Dodmire
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-17	303	415	210	115	184	90.1	29.6	55.7	46.2	59.2
	May-17	452	588	265	247	338	92.3	28.7	59.5	47.5	60.9
	Jun-17	395	577	293	213	315	84.8	22.0	49.8	50.5	55.9
	Jul-17	265	370	298	162	337	79.6	20.5	56.2	43.0	69.1
	Aug-17	618	316	329	37	182	86.2	24.7	70.3	48.3	62.6
	Sep-17	314	382	285	145	510	89.8	35.1	64.8	49.5	68.4
	Oct-17	225	296	150	56	381	87.1	29.4	66.1	42.7	74.8
	Nov-17	253	271	142	85	254	87.4	28.0	64.7	32.4	73.6
	Dec-17	101	158	75	38	141	85.1	27.8	62.8	26.7	68.1
	Jan-18										
	Feb-18										
	Mar-18										
Annual Trend	2014/15										
	2015/16										
	2016/17										
	2017/18 YTD	2926	3373	2047	1098	2642	76.4	26.9	57.7	47.5	64.9



**MISSING EPISODES**

**DEFINITION** The number of missing episodes, including children in care, children in care by another authority and children who are not currently open to Social Care. The percentage of return home interviews completed within 72 hours.

**Performance Analysis**

In Qtr 3 the total number of missing episodes has reduced from the last quarter by 32% but there was a slight increase in the numbers of children this involved.

The missing episodes for children in care population has reduced since the last quarter, although the numbers of young people involved remained at 18. Five young people contributed to 44% of missing episodes action has been taken to address issues. In contrast the missing episodes for other authorities' children placed in Darlington has increased slightly but still remains low following the ERASE team, Barnardo's and the local PCSO's working closely with the Children's Homes Managers and the Senior Managers in the placing authorities to put strategies in place and ensure young people placed in Darlington are supported.

There was a slight dip in Missing from Home interviews completed in 72 hours over the Christmas period 2017, where the coordinator could not engage the young person she explored the issues with parents, carers, teachers and/or social workers. From January 2018 the action plans to reduce missing episodes are completed by the missing coordinator and tasks forwarded to the social worker to consider. An audit of the return home interviews was completed in December 2017 the audit includes recommendations to improve the quality of the interviews.

	Number of Missing Episodes (children)	Number of missing episodes relating to Children Looked After by Darlington Borough Council (children)	Number of missing episodes relating to Children Looked After by Darlington Borough Council placed more than 20 miles from home (children)	Missing Episodes for Children of Other Authorities (children)	Missing Episodes for Children Not Currently Open to Social Care (children)	% of Return Home interviews completed within 72 hours (excluding CLA OLA)	Missing episodes where a Return Home interview was completed	% Action Plans Completed (cumulative for Quarter)	
<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Apr-17	72 (25)	45 (10)	0 (0)	19 (9)	<5	86.8% (46/53)		
	May-17	39 (22)	21 (9)	0 (0)	11 (6)	<5	92.9% (26/28)		
	Jun-17	32 (20)	16 (8)	<5	<5	7 (6)	84% (21/25)		
	Jul-17	53 (23)	44 (18)	<5	<5	<5	98% (49/50)	100.0%	
	Aug-17	56 (15)	42 (9)	<5	<5	<5	98.2% (54/55)	100.0%	
	Sep-17	55 (20)	45 (10)	<5	<5	6 (6)	98.0% (50/51)	100.0%	
	Oct-17	35 (21)	16 (9)	<5	<5	<5	84.3% (27/32)	87.5%	
	Nov-17	41 (23)	14 (5)	<5	11 (7)	<5	86.7% (26/30)	93.3%	
	Dec-17	39 (21)	23 (8)	<5	8 (5)	<5	64.5% (20/31)	96.8%	
	Jan-18								
	Feb-18								
	Mar-18								
<b>Annual Trend</b>	2014/15								
	2015/16								
	2016/17								
	2017/18 YTD	422	266	13	67	38			

## Assessments

### Quarter 3 Performance Summary

As previously detailed, a high percentage of referrals lead to an assessment to determine needs and risks, desired outcomes and support required.

Throughout this period 221 assessments were completed, with the year to date number at 798. There are monthly fluctuations in the number of assessments completed, with December being lower, which correlates with a fewer referrals and the Christmas period. The rate of assessment per 10,000 population is following a similar trajectory to last year.

Timely completion of assessments continues to be high, with 94.5% within 45 working days, consistently above target of 90%. This evidences no delay in assessing family situations and children's needs, ensuring that cases are escalated in a timely manner to prevent further harm. Our performance is better than national (89%), regional (82%) and statistical neighbours (89%).

Timeliness and quality of assessments continues to be a high priority and further analysis to understand the percentage of assessments completed within 25, 15 and 10 working days, this is detailed on page 21.

The percentage of assessments leading to a closed case with no further action from Children's Social Care is an indicator of the effectiveness in identifying those families that need to be brought into statutory services.

As detailed earlier in this report, an analysis of the outcomes for Children and Families at each stage of the journey from contact to the provision of services is provided through the flow charts. During Qtr2 (analysis is in arrears to account for the time it takes to progress from contact to case closure or provision of service) of the 232 assessments completed 78 (33.3%) were closed with no further action at all, broken down this equates to:

- 53 of these were concluded at assessment without any further intervention (22%)
- 5 were following a strategy discussion (5% of the assessments that progressed to strategy discussion)
- 12 were following further assessment as an outcome of a Section 47 enquiry (18% of the assessments that progressed to a Section 47 enquiry)

The Qtr 3 rate of completed assessments resulting in no further action has reduced since Qtr1 (58%), this is indicative of better application of thresholds and screening of cases to ensure that where an assessment is started it is appropriate.

The quality of assessments is monitored through case audits, which assess the overall quality of social work practice, including during the assessment stage. Ongoing monitoring is showing that improvements in the quality of assessments are evident, and this continues to be a key focus of our improvement activity.

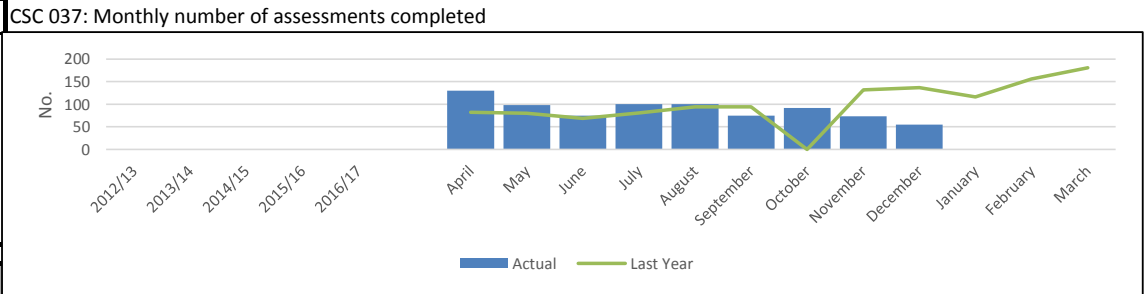
The audit findings detailed on page 50 show that in Qtr3 of the 44 audits carried out, 48% (21) of assessments were judged as good, with 48% (21) requiring improvement to be good and 5% (2) inadequate. This demonstrates improvement from the 44 audited in Qtr2, with 41% (18) of assessments were judged as good, with 52% (23) requiring improvement to be good and 7% (3) inadequate.

**ASSESSMENTS**

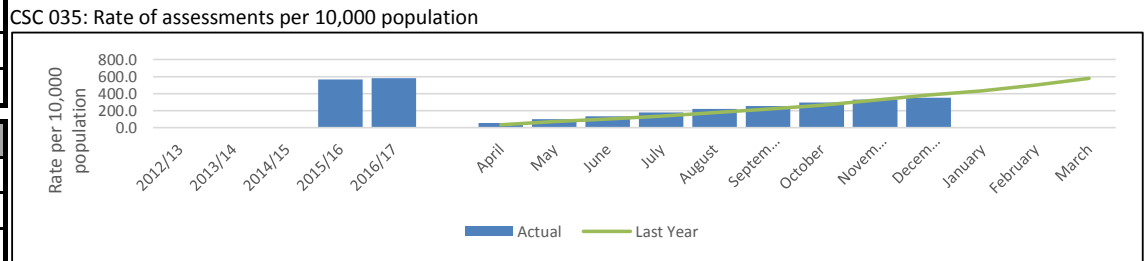
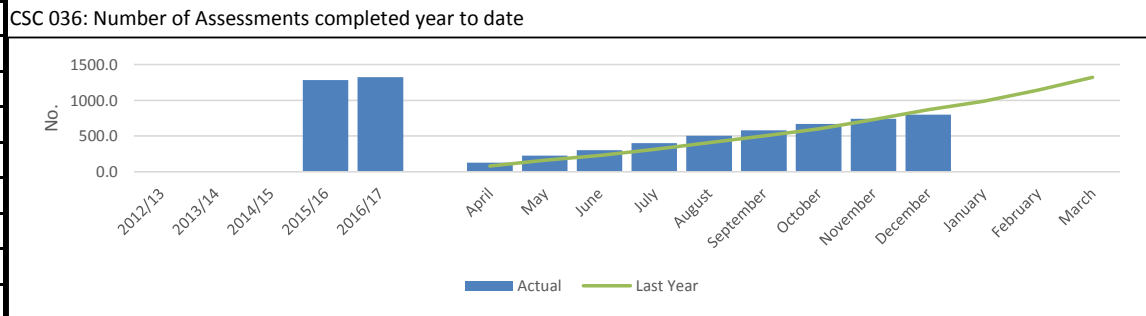
<b>DEFINITION</b>	Monthly and cumulative number of assessments completed
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	<p>During Qtr 3 220 assessments were completed, which is a reduction of 55 assessments (20%) when compared with Qtr 1, and a reduction of 82 assessments (27%) when compared with Qtr 2.</p> <p>In total 798 assessments have been completed in 2017/18. This is a reduction of 70 (8%) when compared with the same period in 2016/17.</p> <p>Darlington's rate of assessments completed is 353.1 per 10,000 population. If the current rate of assessments is maintained for the rest of 2017/18 Darlington's year end rate would be 470.8 per 10,000 population. This would be 109 per 10,000 lower than the 2016/17 year end (579.8 per 10,000).</p>
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	CSC 037	CSC 036	CSC 035
	Monthly number of assessments completed	Number of Assessments completed year to date	Rate of Assessments per 10,000 population



<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>Target</b>			
	Apr-17	130	130	57.5
	May-17	98	228	100.8
	Jun-17	75	303	133.9
	Jul-17	100	403	178.1
	Aug-17	100	503	222.3
	Sep-17	75	578	255.5
	Oct-17	92	670	296.1
	Nov-17	73	743	328.4
	Dec-17	55	798	353.1
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			



<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15		
	2015/16		565.6
	2016/17		579.8
	2017/18 YTD	798	353.1

**ASSESSMENTS - TIMELINESS**

<b>DEFINITION</b>	<p>Of those assessments completed in a period, the percentage completed within 45 working days.</p> <p>A process indicator as a proxy measure for improved child safety and how quickly services can respond when a child is thought to be at risk of serious harm. Local authorities should investigate and address concerns in a timely and efficient way.</p>
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	<p>At the end of Qtr 3, 94.5% of assessments were completed within 45 working days, this is better than the 2016/17 year end of 93% and is better than the target of 90%. When compared to benchmarking assessment timeliness is above statistical 86%, regional 83% and national 83% figures.</p> <p>Within Qtr 3, 96.8 % (213) were completed within timescale. 7 assessments took longer than 45 working days to complete.</p>
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CSC 038	CSC 040	CSC 060	CSC 080	CSC 100
% C&F Assessments completed within 45 working days	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 45 working days	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 25 working days	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 15 working days	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 10 working days

<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Target	90%	90%	60%	40%	25%
	Apr-17	93.1	93.1	81.5	53.9	46.2
	May-17	95.2	98.0	61.2	46.9	41.8
	Jun-17	95.4	96.0	56.0	32.0	17.3
	Jul-17	96.0	98.0	64.0	41.0	32.0
	Aug-17	96.4	98.0	62.0	42.0	23.0
	Sep-17	93.3	74.7	48.0	34.7	24.0
	Oct-17	94.3	98.9	55.4	43.5	22.8
	Nov-17	94.6	97.3	54.8	32.9	21.9
	Dec-17	94.5	92.7	23.6	16.4	5.5
	Jan-18					
	Feb-18					
	Mar-18					

<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15					
	2015/16	77.0	77.0	43.0	27.0	21.0
	2016/17	93.0	93.0	58.0	40.0	33.0
	2017/18 YTD	94.5	93.3	59.3	40.3	28.4

**Quarter 3 Performance Summary**

**Strategy Discussions**

104 strategy discussions were started in Qtr 3, which is lower than in Qtr 2 due to a high number of strategy discussions being undertaken as part of the police operation into CSE (as detailed earlier in the report). The trajectory for the number of strategy discussions to be completed by the end of the year is lower than in previous years. As reported earlier in the year, this is attributable to clarification on the use planning meetings for the management of missing episodes rather than strategy discussions. In addition there were changes in practice with regards to progressing cases without consent through the use of strategy meetings.

**Section 47 Enquiries**

As with strategy discussions the number of Section 47s started was 78, lower than in Qtr 2 (98) and again the overall trajectory is fewer Section 47s will be carried out in 2017/18 compared to 2016/17. This reduction will see Darlington's rate of Section 47s per 10,000 population fall in line with benchmarks. To date 36% of Section 47 enquiries have concluded with the need for an Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC). In addition 7% of Section 47 enquiries progressed to the child becoming Looked After bypassing the need for an ICPC.

As reported management oversight continues to focus on application of thresholds and decision making, therefore where the outcome of a Section 47 enquiry is for there to be no provision of statutory services for the child and family, a Head of Service conducts a review to analyse thresholds and risk management and any learning identified is fed back to Team Managers and Social Workers.

**ICPC**

A key performance measure to ensure there is no unnecessary delay for children and families within the child protection process is the timeliness of ICPCs following Section 47 strategy discussions. During Qtr 3, 89% of ICPCs were held within the required timescale of 15 days from a strategy discussion, bringing the year to date figure to 96%. Strong management oversight remains in place and the reason for any delay in the timeliness of ICPCs is reported through performance clinics, the detail of which is shown on page 29.

The number of ICPCs started year to date and the number of children who have been subject to a conference is slightly higher than last year, when this is considered against the lower number of Section 47s it demonstrates that the overall percentage of Section 47s progressing to ICPC has increased. This is attributed to stronger application of thresholds and appropriate risk management.

### **Children Subject to Child Protection Plan**

89% of children subject to an ICPC progressed to a Child Protection Plan, bringing the year to date figure to 86%. At the end of December 2017 89 children were the subject of a Child Protection Plan, which is slightly higher than at the same point last year. Based on our numbers in comparison to regional and statistical neighbours, a full analysis of the number of children subject to a CPP over the past 10 years has been carried out. This illustrates that the number has varied considerably over the period. There is no single factor that has resulted in the most recent (2016/17) drop in the number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan, but is due to a number of contributing factors. These include:

- The cyclical nature of Child Protection Plans starting and ceasing. The increase in numbers during September – December 2015 resulted in a reciprocal decrease by the end of December 2016
- A 27% drop in the numbers of Child Protection Plans due to children from large sibling groups ceasing to be subject to a Child Protection Plan
- A 13% reduction due to children who had become subject to a Child Protection Plan immediately following the publication of Darlington's most recent Ofsted inspection.

In addition the analysis highlighted that a number of CPP's were being closed at 3 months. Guidance has now been issued which ensures that no CPP's are closed within 90 days (without substantial evidence) and to ensure sustainable change is in place before closure. Analysis continues to be undertaken monthly on the number of children who become the subject of a plan, cease to be the subject of a plan, the reason for this and the duration of plans. Details are included on pages 32-36. Any changes in trends or areas for concern are highlighted to Heads of Service.

### **Statutory Visits and Reviews**

94.2% of children subject to a Child Protection Plan had been seen by a Social Worker within our internal target of a minimum of every 10 working days. For those children seen outside of statutory visiting timescales, explanations have been provided and confirmation received that children had subsequently

been seen within days.



**STRATEGY**

**DEFINITION** The number of strategy discussions started within the month and cumulatively throughout the year.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

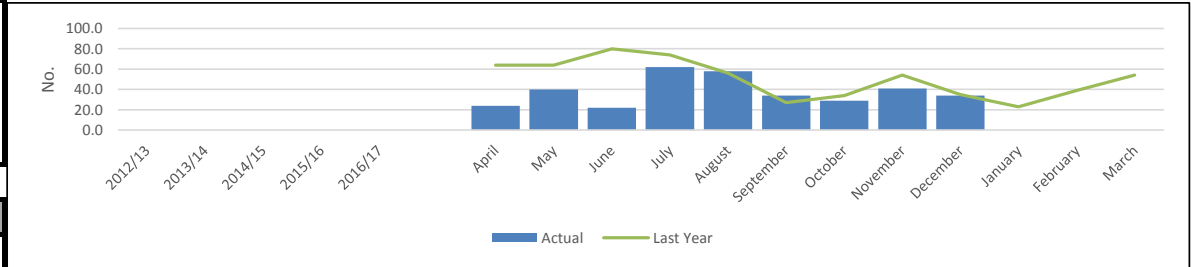
During Qtr 3 104 strategy discussions were started, which is a reduction of 50 (32%) when compared with Qtr 2. However, it is worth noting that during Qtr 2 there was a largescale Police operation into potential CSE, which resulted in more strategy discussions. When compared with Qtr 1, there has been an increase of 18 strategies in Qtr 3 (21%).

In total there have been 344 strategy discussions started in 2017/18, which is a decrease of 145 (30%) when compared with the same period in 2016/17, this decrease is the result of two changes in practice relating to missing episodes and consent.

At the end of Qtr 3 the rate of strategy discussions was 152 per 10,000 population. If the current rate of strategy discussions is maintained for the rest of 2017/18, the year end rate would be 202.7 per 10,000 population. This would be 65 per 10,000 lower than the 2016/17 year end.

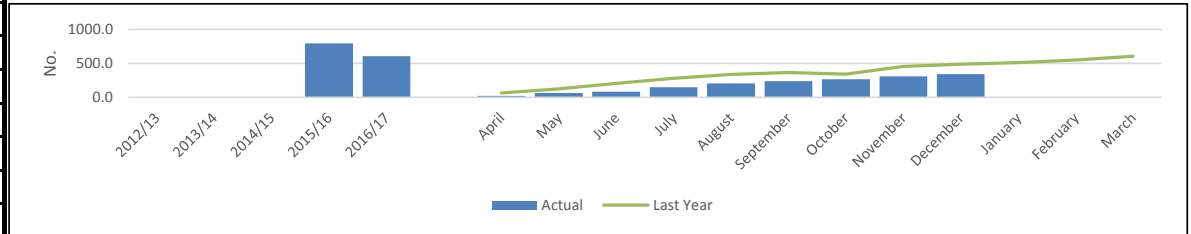
CSC 163	CSC 162	CSC 161
Number of strategy discussions started within the month	Total number of strategy discussions started	Rate of strategy discussions per 10,000 population

CSC 163: Number of strategy discussions started in the month

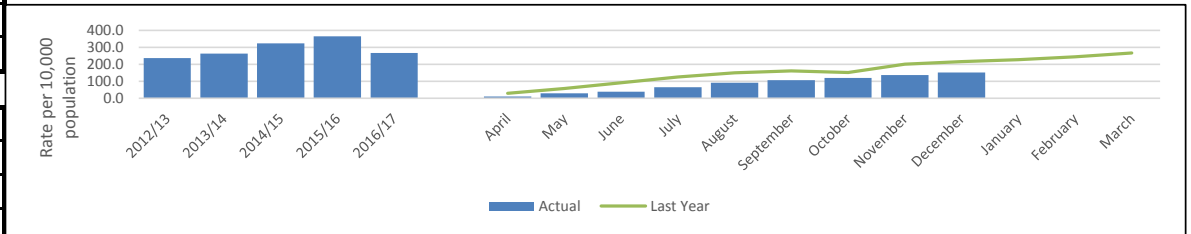


IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target			
	Apr-17	24	24	10.6
	May-17	40	64	28.3
	Jun-17	22	86	38.0
	Jul-17	62	148	65.4
	Aug-17	58	206	91.0
	Sep-17	34	240	106.1
	Oct-17	29	269	118.9
	Nov-17	41	310	137.0
	Dec-17	34	344	152.0
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			

CSC 162: Total number of strategy discussions started



CSC 161: Rate of strategy discussions per 10,000 population



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			322.9
	2015/16	796	796	363.9
	2016/17	605	605	267.4
	2017/18 YTD	344	344	152.0

**SECTION 47**

**DEFINITION**

Number of Section 47 enquiries started monthly and year to date.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

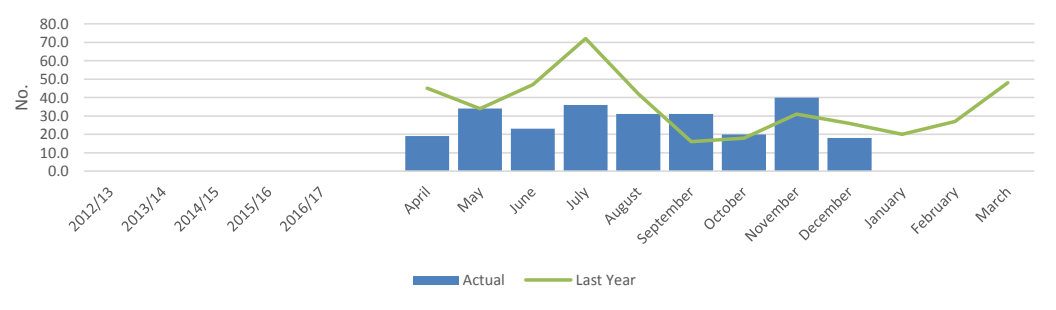
During Qtr 3 there were 78 Section 47 Enquiries started, is a reduction of 20 (20%) when compared with Qtr 2, but similar to the number started in Qtr 1 (76).

In total there have been 252 Section 47 Enquiries started during 2017/18, which is a reduction of 85 (25%) when compared with the same period in 2016/17. As with strategy discussions this is due to changes in practice.

At the end of Qtr 3 the rate of Section 47 enquiries was 112.3 per 10,000, if this is maintained during the rest of 2017/18 the rate will be 149.7 per 10,000 population. This would be lower than regional (186.6 per 10,000) and statistical benchmarks (164.8 per 10,000) benchmarks, but in line with the most recent national benchmark (157.4 per 10,000).

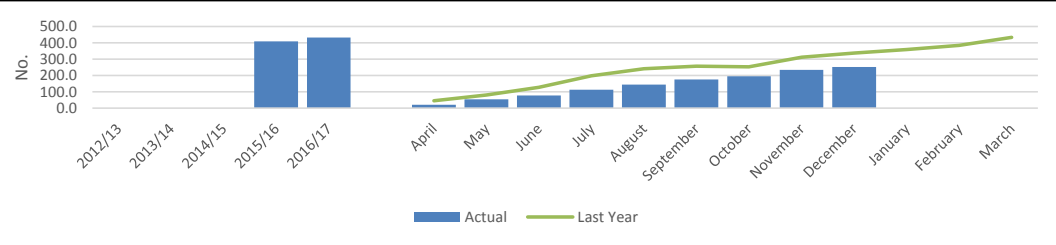
CSC 166	CSC 165	CSC 164
Monthly number of Section 47 enquiries started	Number of Section 47 enquiries started within the year	Rate of Section 47 Enquiries per 10,000 population

CSC 166: Monthly number of Section 47 enquiries started

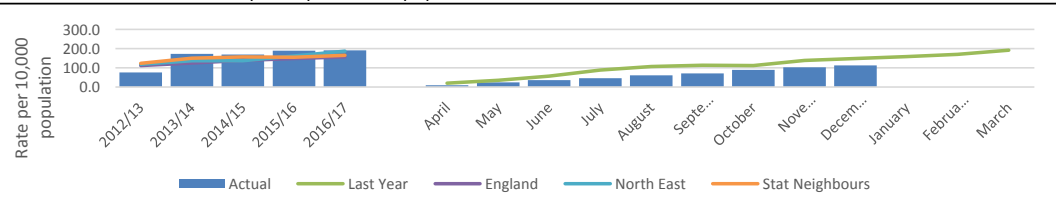


IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target			
	Apr-17	19	19	8.4
	May-17	34	53	23.0
	Jun-17	23	76	35.4
	Jul-17	36	112	46.0
	Aug-17	31	143	60.1
	Sep-17	31	174	71.2
	Oct-17	20	194	88.8
	Nov-17	40	234	102.1
	Dec-17	18	252	112.3
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			

CSC 165: Number of Section 47 enquiries started within the year



CSC 164: Rate of Section 47 Enquiries per 10,000 population



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			138.2
	2015/16	408	408	188.6
	2016/17	432	432	190.9
	2017/18 YTD	252	252	112

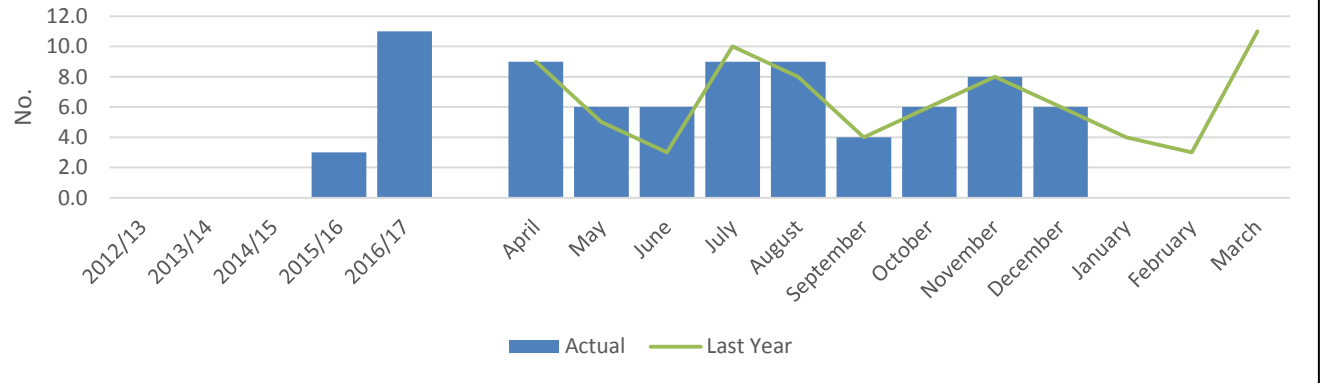
**INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES**

<b>DEFINITION</b>	Number of Initial Child Protection Conferences started monthly and year to date (including transfer in conferences).
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	The number of ICPC's held is broadly consistent with last year, however the lower number of Section 47s carried out demonstrates an increased conversion rate from Section 47 to ICPC.
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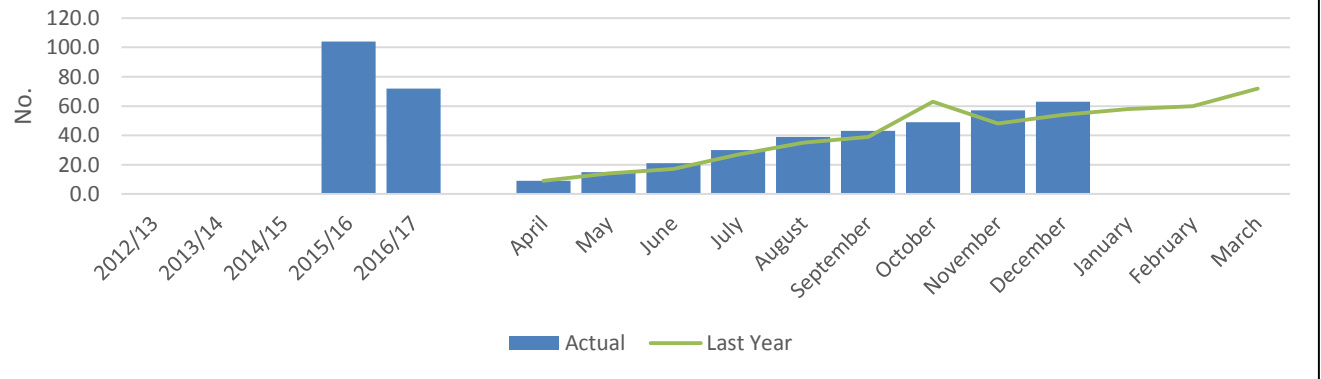
CSC 170	CSC 169
Monthly number of ICPCs	Number of ICPCs year to date

CSC 170: Monthly number of ICPCs



<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>Target</b>		
	Apr-17	9	9
	May-17	6	15
	Jun-17	6	21
	Jul-17	9	30
	Aug-17	9	39
	Sep-17	4	43
	Oct-17	6	49
	Nov-17	8	57
	Dec-17	6	63
	Jan-18		
	Feb-18		
	Mar-18		

CSC 169: Number of ICPCs year to date



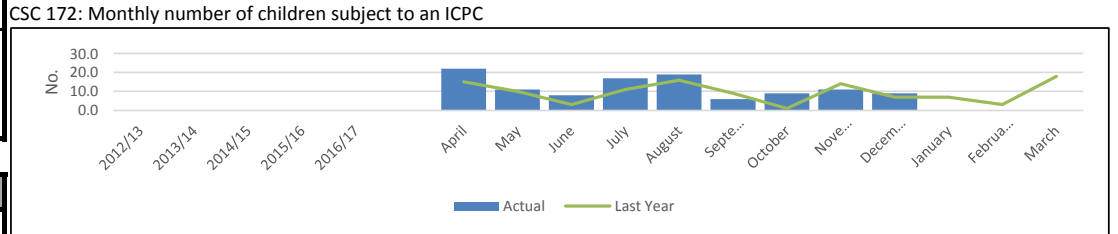
<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15		
	2015/16	104	104
	2016/17	72	72
	2017/18 YTD	63	63

**INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - CHILDREN**

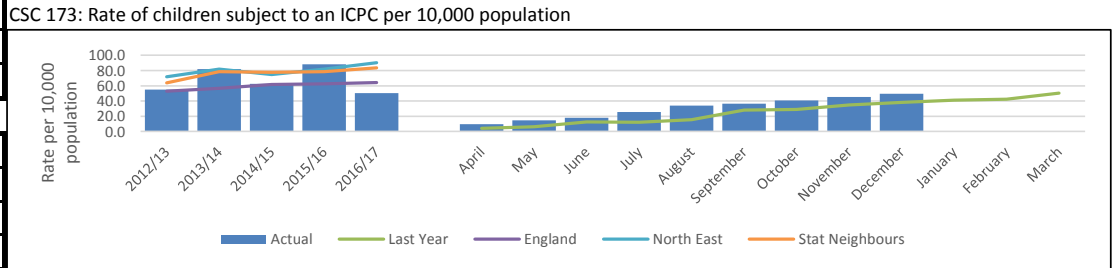
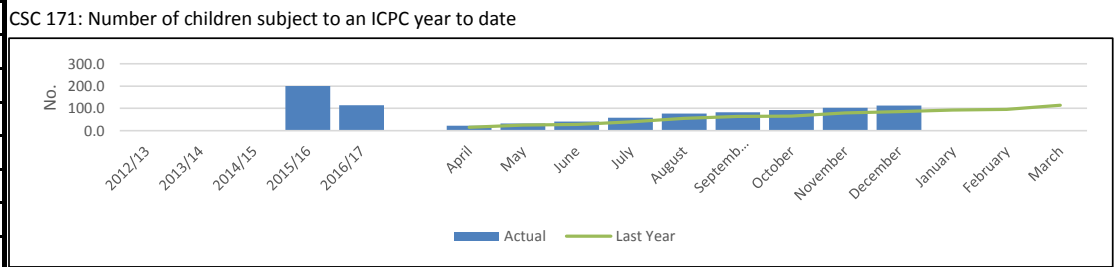
<b>DEFINITION</b>	Number of children subject to an Initial Child Protection Conference monthly and year to date (including transfer in conferences).
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	<p>During Qtr 3, 29 children were subject to an ICPC, this is a reduction of 13 (31%) when compared with Qtr 2.</p> <p>112 children have been subject to an ICPC during 2017/18, this is an increase of 26 (30%) when compared with the same period in 2016/17.</p> <p>At the end of Qtr 3 the rate of children subject to an ICPC was 49.5 per 10,000, if the current rate is maintained during the rest of 2017/18 Darlington's year end rate will be 66 per 10,000. This would be higher than the 2016/17 year end (50.4 per 10,000). The projected year end rate would be lower than regional (90.3 per 10,000) and statistical (83.4 per 10,000) benchmarks, but would be in line with the most recent national benchmark (64.4 per 10,000).</p>
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CSC 172	CSC 171	CSC 173
Monthly number of children subject to an ICPC	Number of children subject to an ICPC year to date	Rate of children subject to an ICPC per 10,000 population



<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Target			
	Apr-17	22	22	9.7
	May-17	11	33	14.6
	Jun-17	8	41	18.1
	Jul-17	17	58	25.6
	Aug-17	19	77	34.0
	Sep-17	6	83	36.7
	Oct-17	9	92	40.7
	Nov-17	11	103	45.5
	Dec-17	9	112	49.5
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			



<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15			62.6
	2015/16	200	200	88.1
	2016/17	114	114	50.4
	2017/18 YTD	112	112	49.5

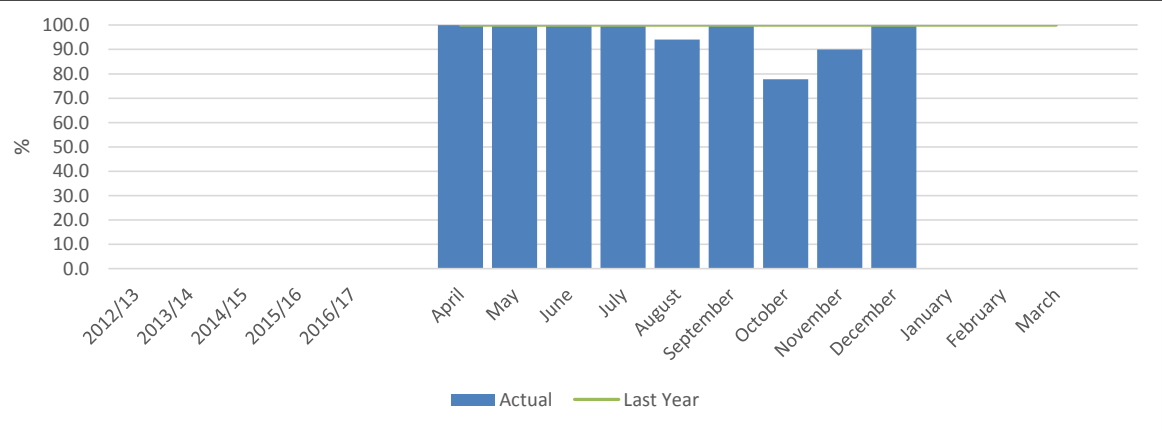
**INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - TIMELINESS**

<b>DEFINITION</b>	Of those ICPCs held within the period (excluding transfer ins), the percentage held within 15 working days of the Section 47 enquiry.
	Provides an indication of how quickly the safety of children who are judged to be continuing to, or likely to suffer significant harm is being considered by a multi-agency meeting.

<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	During Qtr 3, 89% ICPCs took place within 15 days of the Section 47 enquiry, 25 of 28. This is lower than the target of 100%.
	At the end of Qtr 3, 96% of ICPCs completed within 15 days of the Section 47 enquiry.

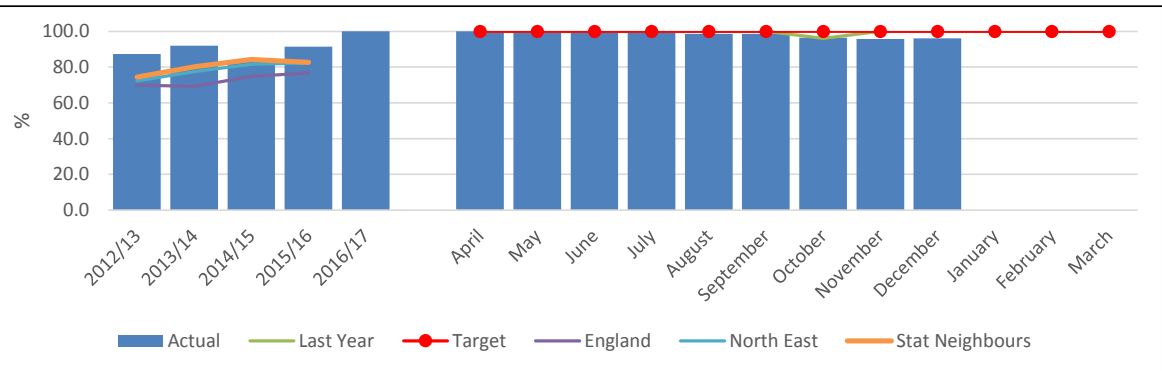
CSC 178	CSC 176
Monthly % cases where ICPC was within 15 days of strategy discussion	Cumulative % cases where ICPC was within 15 days of strategy discussion

CSC 178: Monthly % cases where ICPC was within 15 days of strategy discussion



<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
	Apr-17	100.0	100.0
	May-17	100.0	100.0
	Jun-17	100.0	100.0
	Jul-17	100.0	100.0
	Aug-17	94.1	98.6
	Sep-17	100.0	98.7
	Oct-17	77.8	96.4
	Nov-17	90.0	95.7
	Dec-17	100.0	96.1
	Jan-18		
	Feb-18		
	Mar-18		

CSC 176: Cumulative % cases where ICPC was within 15 days of strategy discussion



<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15	83.8	83.8
	2015/16	91.5	91.5
	2016/17	100.0	100.0
	2017/18 YTD	96.1	96.1

**INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - ATTENDANCE**

<b>DEFINITION</b>	Attendance at Initial Child Protection Conference as a percentage of invitations sent.
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	During Qtr 3 attendance at Initial Child Protection Conferences was high among most attendees. GPs attended no ICPCs that they were invited to (0 of 11), however reports were received on time for 3, reports were late for 3 and 5 reports were not received.
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Education	Health Visitor	School Nurse	GP	CAMHS	Midwives	Police	Probation	Adult Treatment	Social Worker	Adult Mental	Parents	Children (0-5)	Children (6-18)
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<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Apr-17													
	May-17													
	Jun-17	100%	100%	100%	6%		100%	95%	100%	100%	100%	100%		
	Jul-17													
	Aug-17													
	Sep-17	100%	94%	100%	0%	100%	100%	95%		100%	95%	100%	91%	
	Oct-17													
	Nov-17													
	Dec-17	100%	100%	100%	0%	100%	100%	90%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
	Jan-18													
	Feb-18													
	Mar-18													

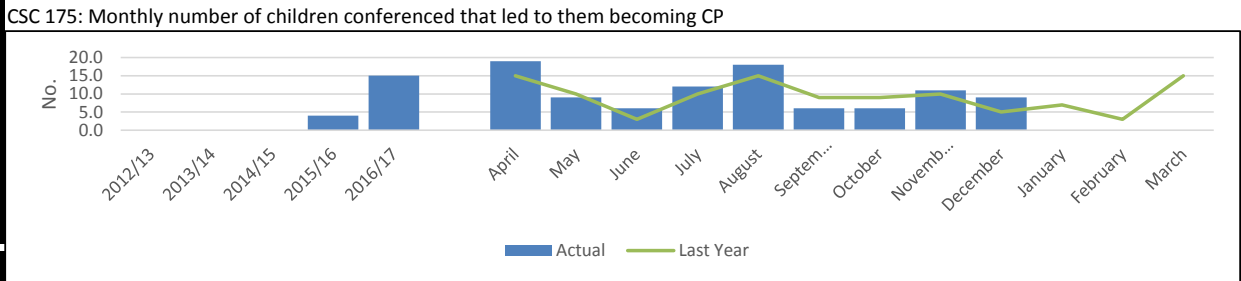
<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15	84%	83%	92%	3%	100%	91%	67%	56%	100%	97%	100%	95%		
	2015/16	88%	91%	95%	0%	86%	88%	90%	73%	81%	96%	60%	97%		
	2016/17	91%	96%	97%	0%	100%	94%	90%	67%	67%	80%	31%	91%		
	2017/18 YTD	100%	98%	100%	2%	100%	100%	94%	100%	100%	100%	98%	100%	97%	

**INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - CONVERSION TO CHILD PROTECTION PLAN**

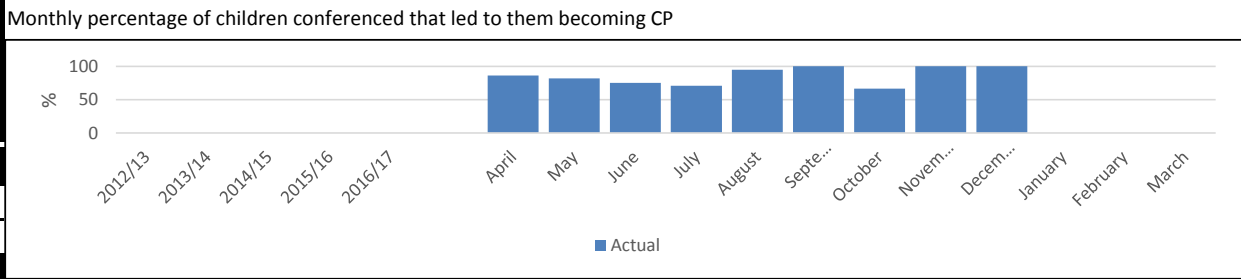
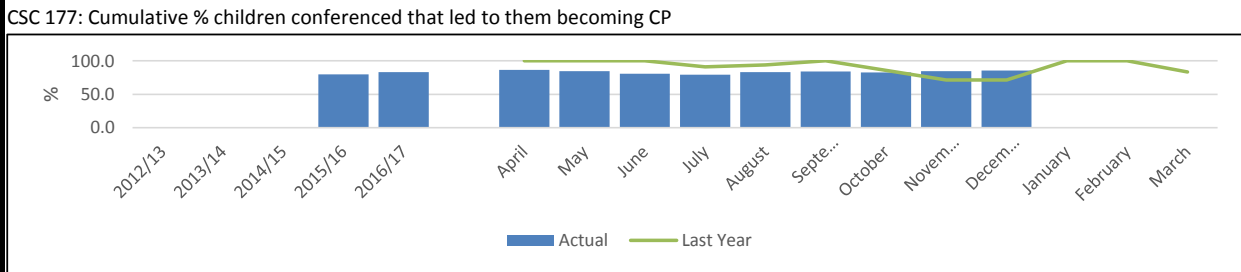
**DEFINITION** Number and percentage of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan following an Initial Child Protection Conference (including transfer ins).

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**  
 During Qtr 3, 26 children became subject to a Child Protection Plan, which equates to 90% of all children who were subject to an ICPC. This is higher than Qtr 1 (83%) and Qtr 2 (86%).  
 In total, 96 children have become subject to a Child Protection Plan during 2017/18, this is 16 (20%) higher than at the same point in 2016/17, and equates to 86% of all children subject to an ICPC.

CSC 175	CSC 177	Monthly percentage of children conferenced that led to them becoming CP
Monthly number of children conferenced that led to them becoming CP	Cumulative % children conferenced that led to them becoming CP	Monthly percentage of children conferenced that led to them becoming CP



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target			
	Apr-17	19	86.4	86.4
	May-17	9	84.9	81.8
	Jun-17	6	81.0	75.0
	Jul-17	12	79.3	70.6
	Aug-17	18	83.1	94.7
	Sep-17	6	84.3	100.0
	Oct-17	6	82.6	66.7
	Nov-17	11	84.5	100.0
	Dec-17	9	85.7	100.0
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			
	2015/16	170	80.0	80.0
	2016/17	103	83.3	83.3
	2017/18 YTD	96	85.7	85.7

**CHILD PROTECTION**

**DEFINITION** Number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan at the end of the month.

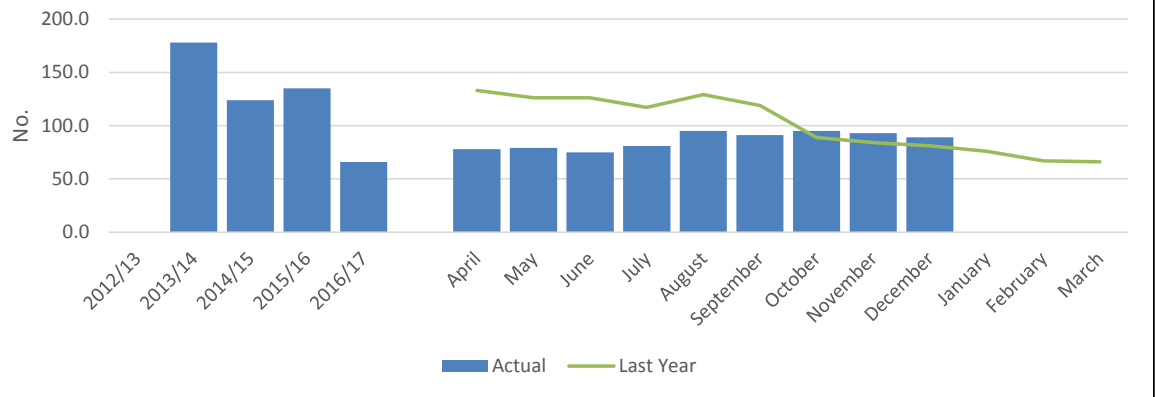
**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

At the end of Qtr 3, 89 children were subject to a Child Protection Plan, this is 8 (10%) higher than at the same point in 2016/17, and is 23 (35%) higher than the 2016/17 year end.

The rate of children subject to a Child Protection Plan is 39.3 per 10,000 population. This is lower than the 2016/17 regional (60.6 per 10,000) and statistical (53.9 per 10,000) benchmarks, but is similar to the most recent national benchmark (43.3 per 10,000).

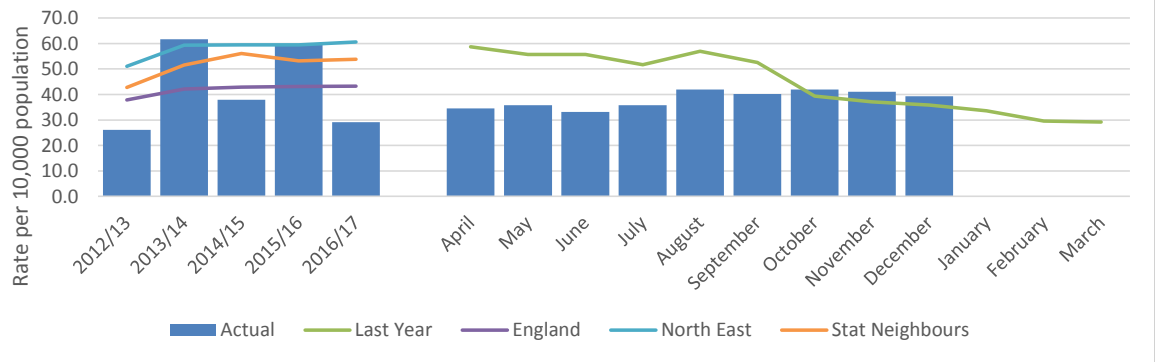
CSC 182	CSC 181
Number of children subject to a child protection plan	Rate of children subject to a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population

CSC 182: Number of children subject to child protection plan



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target			
	Apr-17	78	34.5	
	May-17	79	35.8	
	Jun-17	75	33.2	
	Jul-17	81	35.8	
	Aug-17	95	42.0	
	Sep-17	91	40.2	
	Oct-17	95	42.0	
	Nov-17	93	41.1	
	Dec-17	89	39.3	
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			

Rate of children subject to a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	124	37.9
	2015/16	135	59.5
	2016/17	66	29.2
	2017/18 YTD	89	39.3



**CHILD PROTECTION - ALLOCATION & REVIEWS**

**DEFINITION**

The percentage of Child Protection cases allocated to a qualified Social worker.

The Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan at the end of the month and who at that date had had a Plan continuously for at least the previous 3 months, whose case was reviewed within the required timescales.

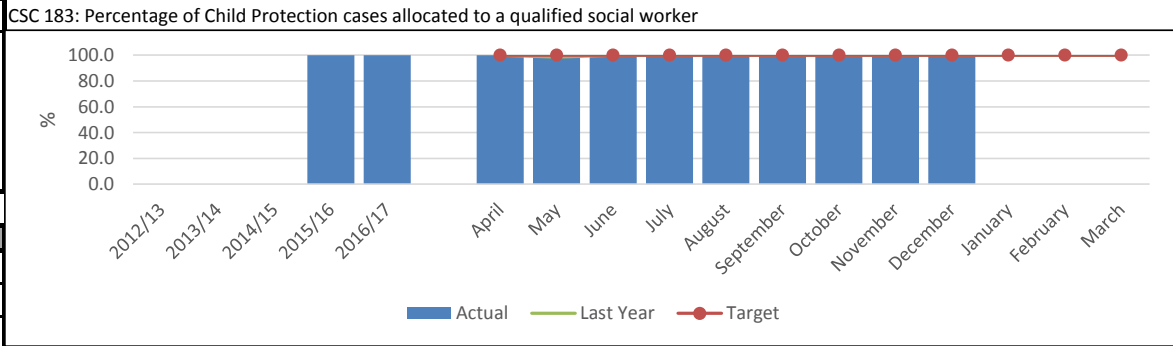
Reviews are a key element in delivering Child Protection Plans and effective reviews should ensure the provision of good quality interventions. This indicator is a proxy for the measurement of effectiveness of the interventions provided to children subject to a Child Protection Plan. "Working Together to Safeguard Children" guidance requires that the first review should be within 3 months of the initial child protection conference and thereafter at intervals of no more than 6 months.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

100% of Child Protection Cases were allocated to a qualified social worker at the end of December.

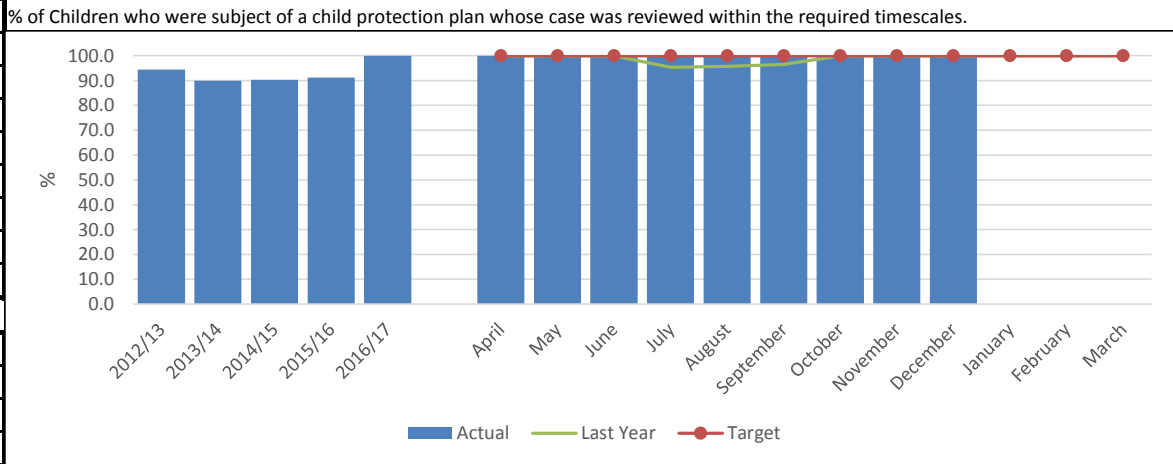
100% Child Protection reviews have been completed within the required timescales during 2017/18.

CSC 183	CSC 191
% Child Protection cases allocated to a qualified social worker	% of Children who were subject of a child protection plan whose case was reviewed within the required timescales.



**IN MONTH PERFORMANCE**

Target	100.00	100.00
Apr-17	100.0	100.0
May-17	100.0	100.0
Jun-17	100.0	100.0
Jul-17	100.0	100.0
Aug-17	100.0	100.0
Sep-17	100.0	100.0
Oct-17	100.0	100.0
Nov-17	100.0	100.0
Dec-17	100.0	100.0
Jan-18		
Feb-18		
Mar-18		



**ANNUAL TREND**

2014/15		90.3
2015/16	100.0	91.2
2016/17	100.0	100.0
2017/18 YTD	100.0	100.0

**REVIEW CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - ATTENDANCE**

<b>DEFINITION</b>	Attendance at Review Child Protection Conferences as a percentage of invitations sent.
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	Attendance at Review Child Protection Conferences was good among most attendees. GPs didn't attend any of the Review Conferences they were invited to (0 of 38), however reports were received to support 30 meetings. Police attended only 5% of the Review Conferences they were invited to (2 of 39), however reports were received for all meetings.
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Education	Health Visitor	School Nurse	GP	CAMHS	Midwives	Police	Probation	Adult Treatment	Social Worker	Adult Mental	Parents	Children (0-5)	Children (6-18)
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<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Apr-17													
	May-17													
	Jun-17	89%	96%	100%	0%	100%	100%	0%	100%	100%	100%	100%	91%	
	Jul-17													
	Aug-17													
	Sep-17	93%	100%	88%	0%		100%	3%	100%	100%	100%	100%	87%	
	Oct-17													
	Nov-17													
	Dec-17	93%	100%	100%	0%		100%	5%	88%	100%	97%	100%	97%	
	Jan-18													
	Feb-18													
	Mar-18													

<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15	89%	97%	95%	0%	68%	75%	4%	63%	93%	100%	80%	91%		
	2015/16	94%	94%	92%	0%	57%	86%	5%	81%	74%	96%	89%	94%		
	2016/17	87%	94%	98%	1%	68%	79%	1%	67%	73%	100%	93%	91%		
	2017/18 YTD	92%	99%	96%	0%	100%	100%	3%	95%	100%	99%	100%	92%		

**CHILD PROTECTION - TIME PERIODS**

<b>DEFINITION</b>	<p>Percentage of children ceasing to be subject to a Child Protection Plan who had been subject to a Plan for 2 or more years and percentage of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for the 2nd or subsequent time.</p> <p>These indicators reflect the underlying principle that professionals should be working towards specified outcomes which, if implemented effectively, should lead to all children not needing to be the subject of a Child Protection Plan within a maximum of two years, or becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.</p>
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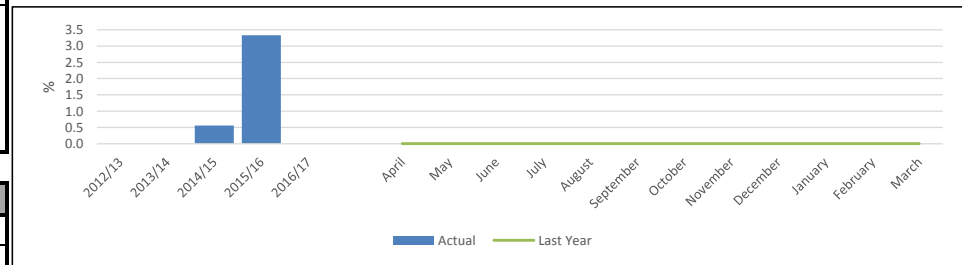
<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	<p>To date no children who have ceased to be subject to a Child Protection Plan had been on a Plan for 2 or more years.</p> <p>During Qtr 3, no children became subject to a Child Protection Plan for a 2nd or subsequent time within two years of a previous plan ending.</p> <p>21% of children currently subject to a CPP were subject to a plan for a second or subsequent time irrespective of how long ago the previous plan had ended, this relates to 17 children. This is higher than the regional (14%) benchmark but in line with the national benchmark (19%) and therefore will continue to be monitored.</p>
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CSC 186	CSC 188	CSC 189
% children ceasing to be subject of a CPP who had been subject to a CPP for 2 or more years	% of children becoming subject to a CPP for a 2nd or subsequent time within 2 years	% of children becoming subject to a CPP for a 2nd or subsequent time (ever)

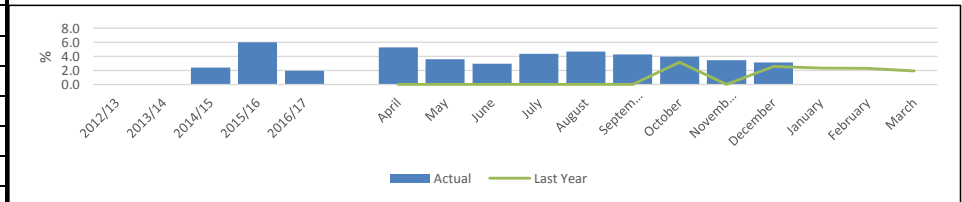
<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Target			
	Apr-17	0.0	5.3	10.3
	May-17	0.0	3.6	12.7
	Jun-17	0.0	2.9	13.3
	Jul-17	0.0	4.4	12.4
	Aug-17	0.0	4.7	14.7
	Sep-17	0.0	4.3	13.2
	Oct-17	0.0	4.0	13.7
	Nov-17	0.0	3.5	18.3
	Dec-17	0.0	3.1	19.1
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			

<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15			
	2015/16	3.3	6.0	14.0
	2016/17	0.0	1.9	10.6
	2017/18 YTD	0.0	3.1	19.1

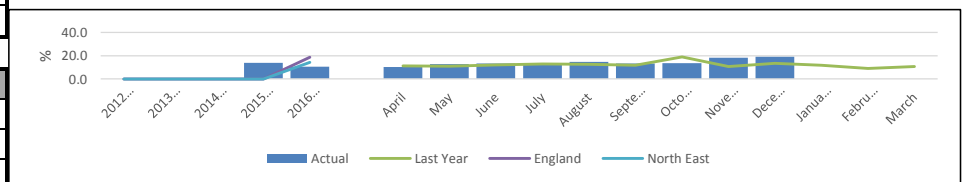
CSC 186: % children ceasing to be subject of a CPP who had been subject to a CPP for 2 or more years



CSC 188: % of children becoming subject to a CPP for a 2nd or subsequent time within 2 years



CSC 189: % of children becoming subject to a CPP for a 2nd or subsequent time (ever)

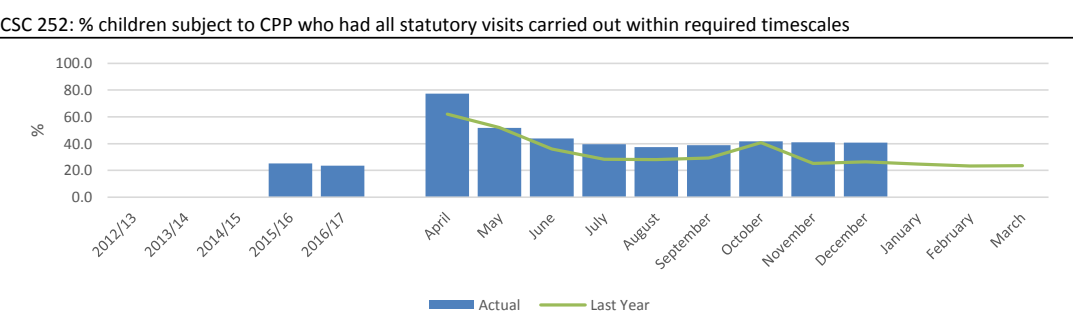


**CHILD PROTECTION - STATUTORY VISITS**

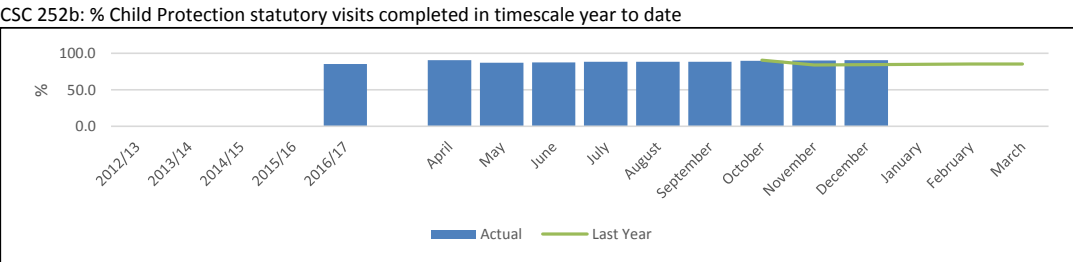
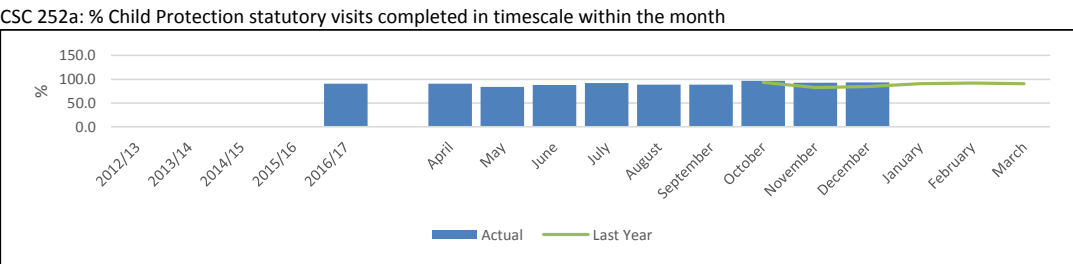
<b>DEFINITION</b>	Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan who had all statutory visits carried out within timescales and percentage of Child Protection statutory visits completed within timescale monthly and year to date.
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	<p>During Qtr 3, 94% of statutory Child Protection visits were completed within required timescales, which is 648 of 687.</p> <p>The cumulative rate of Child Protection statutory visits completed within required timescales was 91% at the end of December. This is higher than the 2016/17 year end (86%).</p>
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CSC 252	CSC 252a	CSC 252b
% children subject to CPP who had all statutory visits carried out within required timescales	% Child Protection statutory visits completed in timescale within the month	% Child Protection statutory visits completed in timescale year to date



<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>Target</b>			
	Apr-17	77.4	90.9	90.9
	May-17	51.8	83.9	87.1
	Jun-17	43.8	88.0	87.5
	Jul-17	39.6	92.1	88.6
	Aug-17	37.4	88.5	88.6
	Sep-17	38.9	88.5	88.6
	Oct-17	41.6	96.5	90.0
	Nov-17	41.1	92.8	90.4
	Dec-17	40.7	93.3	90.7
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			



<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15			
	2015/16	25.3		
	2016/17	23.6	85.6	85.6
	2017/18 YTD	40.7	90.7	90.7

## Looked After

### Quarter 3 Performance Summary

We have 222 children in care, an increase of 6 children compared with the end of Qtr 2. The rate of children in care per 10,000 population under the age of 18 is 98.1. This is higher than the most recent national (62 per 10,000) and regional (92 per 10,000) benchmarks. 17 children came into care this period and 11 ceased to be Looked After. The Heads of Service continue to authorise all new episodes of care and therefore assurance is provided that only the children who need to come in to care are doing so. However work is now underway to focus on safely discharging the care orders for a number of children currently placed at home.

#### **Statutory Visits and Reviews**

100% of our children in care had their Looked After Reviews completed within the required timescales.

96% of statutory visits to children in care are completed in timescale. This is better than the 2016/17 year end performance of 86.9%.

#### **Permanence**

All children who had a second Looked After Review had a plan of permanence in place. In addition, all children who had a Placement Order had a plan in place. Where potential issues are identified with any plans, they are addressed swiftly by the Head of Service, to prevent any delay to a child's plan.

#### **Placements**

24 out of the 222 (10.8%) of children in care experienced 3 or more placements during the last 12 months. This is showing a month on month improvement, with performance at the end of Qtr 2 being 12.0%. However this still remains higher than target, and is higher than our statistical neighbours (8%), the regional average (9%) and the England average (10%). It therefore continues to be a key focus for all managers.

57.8% of the current cohort of children in care have been in the same placement for 2 or more years, and although below the target of 65%, performance is improving and is at its highest since April 2017. This percentage relates to 37 children from a cohort of 64. This continues to be a key focus for all managers. The effectiveness of the Placement Stability Strategy introduced in June 2017, along with strengthened management oversight of placement stability is demonstrating impact, with improvements being seen in both indicators.

We have 9% of children who are placed 20 miles or more away from home, which has consistently improved and is now below the set target of 10%.

All children in this cohort have a valid reason for being placed in their current provision, with regular monitoring being undertaken to identify any potential moves back to Darlington. The number of children who are placed with family is monitored and reported to fully demonstrate the profile of this cohort.

The Commissioning and Contracts Team continue to work with partners and front line staff to ensure there are sufficient placements in the Borough which meet the specific needs of our vulnerable children and young people. Placements are also sourced through collaborative approaches across North East authorities with new regional and sub-regional contracts put in place.

### **Health**

There are 59.6% of children in care with an up-to-date review health check and 51.0% with an up-to-date dental check. Whilst this represents an improvement on last year's performance, work continues to be undertaken to ensure that our children receive appropriate timely checks and reviews. Information is also now being captured on those young people who refuse a health and/or dental check. There were 84% of children in care with a completed Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ). As with health and dental checks, this figure is cumulative, with a target of 100% by the end of the year.

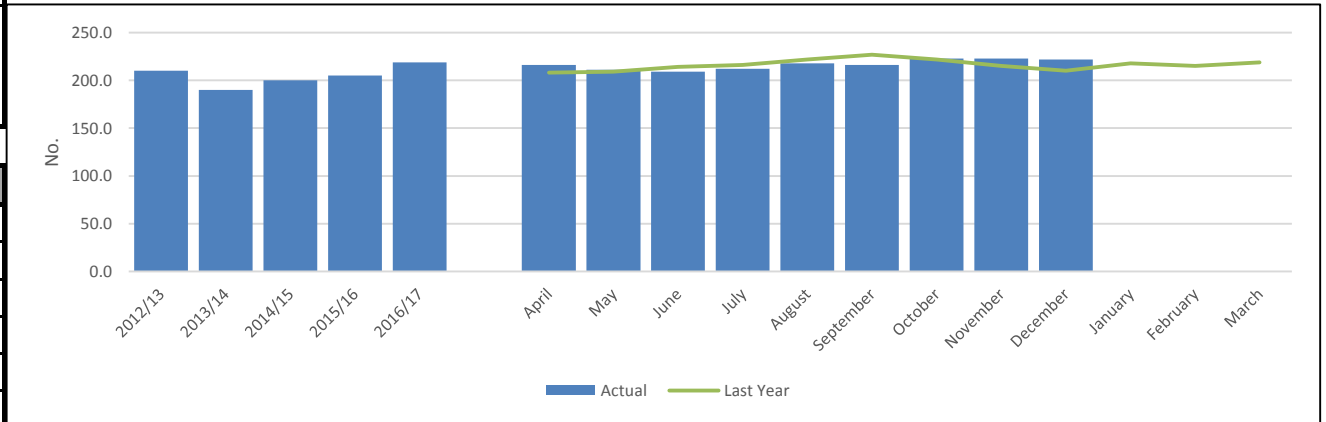
## LOOKED AFTER

<b>DEFINITION</b>	Number of Looked After Children at the end of each month.
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	<p>At the end of December 222 children were Looked After by Darlington Borough Council, this is a reduction of 1 child when compared with November and an increase of 12 (6%) when compared with the same period in 2016/17.</p> <p>The rate of children Looked After is 98.1 per 10,000 population, this is higher than national (62 per 10,000), regional (92 per 10,000) and statistical (89.4 per 10,000) benchmarks.</p>
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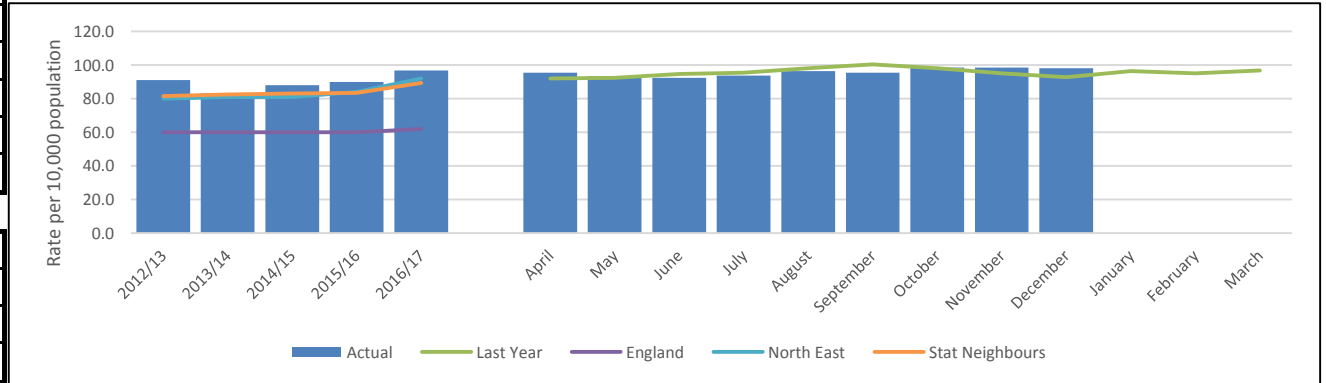
CSC 201	CSC 200
Total number of Looked After Children	Rate of Looked After Children Per 10,000 population

CSC 201: Number of Looked After Children



<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Target		
	Apr-17	216	95.5
	May-17	211	93.3
	Jun-17	209	92.4
	Jul-17	212	93.7
	Aug-17	218	96.4
	Sep-17	216	95.5
	Oct-17	223	98.6
	Nov-17	223	98.6
	Dec-17	222	98.1
	Jan-18		
	Feb-18		
	Mar-18		

CSC 200: Rate of Looked After Children per 10,000 population under 18



<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15	200	88.0
	2015/16	205	90.0
	2016/17	219	96.8
	2017/18 YTD	222	98.1

**LOOKED AFTER - ALLOCATION & REVIEWS**

**DEFINITION**

The percentage of Looked after children with allocated qualified social worker.

The percentage of Looked After Children cases which should have been reviewed during the year ending 31 March that were reviewed on time during the year and the percentage of Looked After Children cases that were allocated to a qualified social worker at the end of the month.

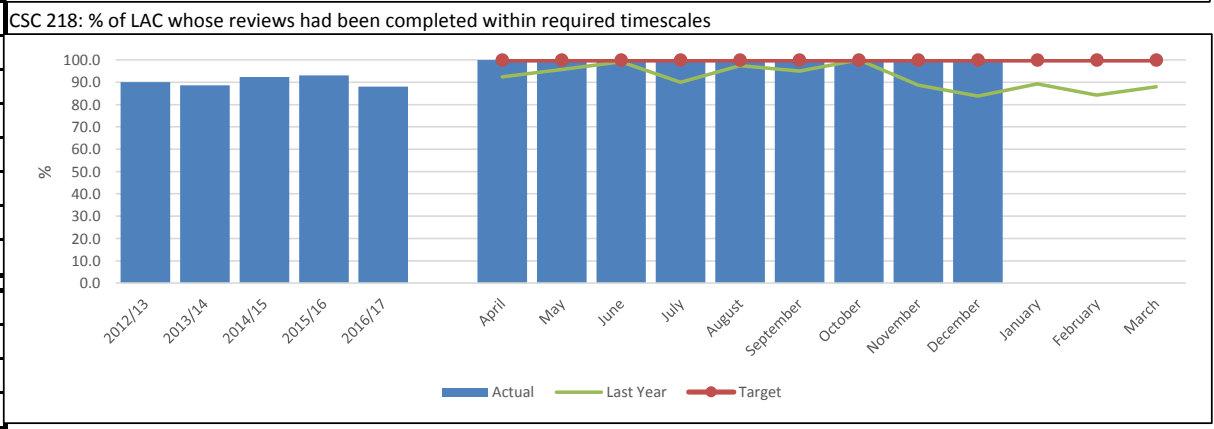
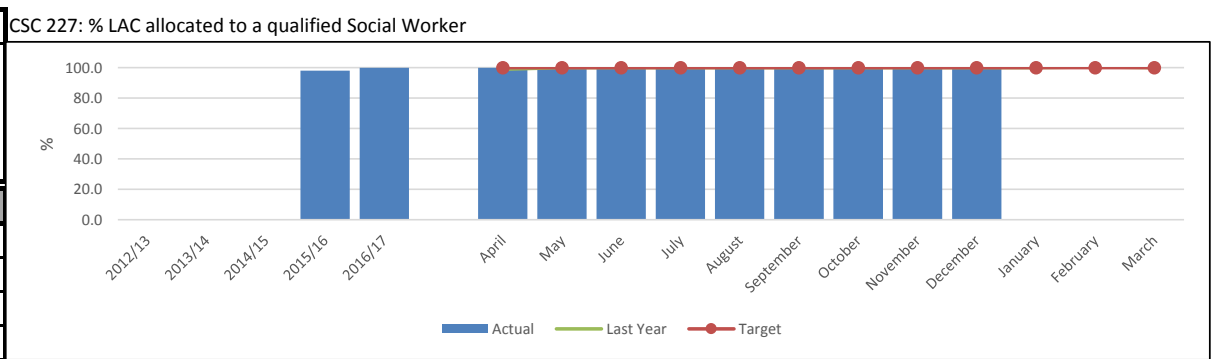
To improve compliance with local authorities' legal requirements under the Review of Children's cases Regulations 1991. The purpose of the review is to consider the plan for the child's welfare, to monitor the progress of the plan and amend it as necessary in light of changed information and circumstances. The statutory intervals are within 20 working days of placement, then within 3 months and 6 monthly thereafter, but reviews may be rescheduled or held inside these intervals if there are significant changes to the child's care plan.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

100% of Looked After Children were allocated to a qualified Social Worker at the end of December 2017.

100% of Looked After reviews had been completed within required timescales up to the end of December 2017.

	CSC 227	CSC 218
	% Looked After Children allocated to a qualified Social Worker	% of Looked After Children whose reviews had been completed within required timescales
<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>		
Target	100.00	100.00
Apr-17	100.0	100.0
May-17	100.0	100.0
Jun-17	100.0	100.0
Jul-17	100.0	100.0
Aug-17	100.0	100.0
Sep-17	100.0	100.0
Oct-17	100.0	100.0
Nov-17	100.0	100.0
Dec-17	100.0	100.0
Jan-18		
Feb-18		
Mar-18		
<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>		
2014/15		92.3
2015/16	98.1	93.1
2016/17	100.0	88.0
2017/18 YTD	100.0	100.0



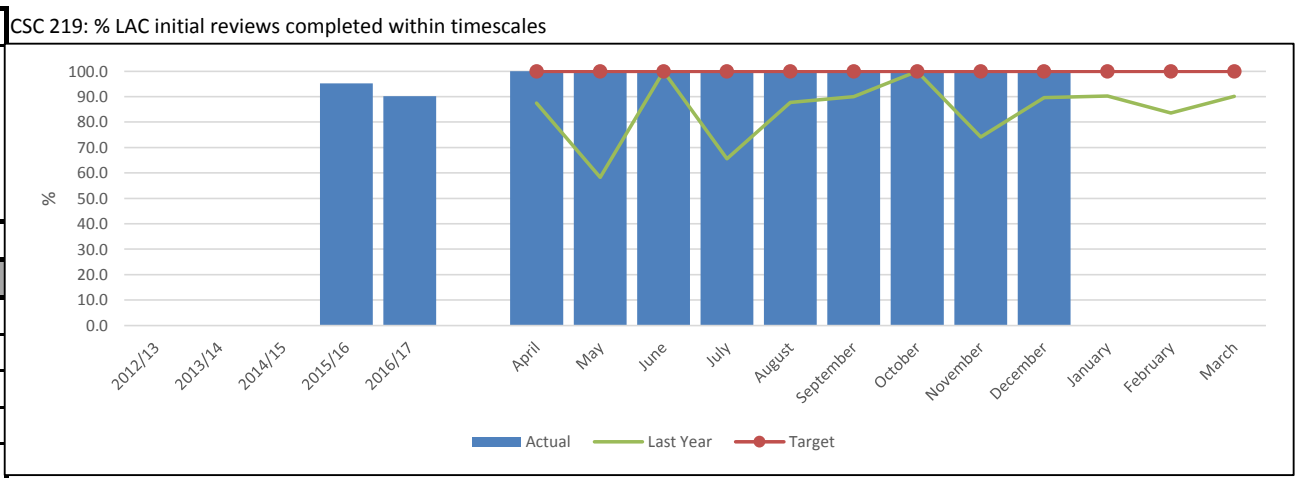


**LOOKED AFTER - REVIEWS**

**DEFINITION** Percentage of the current Looked After Children who had had their initial reviews and all of their subsequent reviews completed within the required timescales.

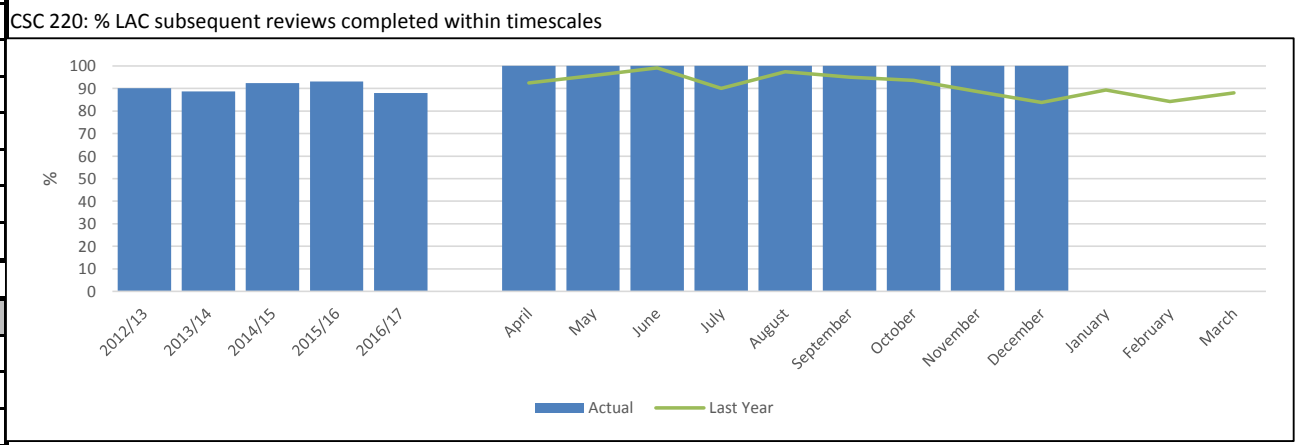
**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**  
 In Qtr 3, 100% of Looked After initial reviews were completed within timescale.  
 In Qtr 3, 100% of subsequent Looked After reviews were also completed within required timescales.

CSC 219	CSC 220
% Looked After Children initial reviews completed within timescales	% Looked After Children subsequent reviews completed within timescales



**IN MONTH PERFORMANCE**

Target	2015/16	2016/17
Apr-17	100.0	100.0
May-17	100.0	100.0
Jun-17	100.0	100.0
Jul-17	100.0	100.0
Aug-17	100.0	100.0
Sep-17	100.0	100.0
Oct-17	100.0	100.0
Nov-17	100.0	100.0
Dec-17	100.0	100.0
Jan-18		
Feb-18		
Mar-18		



**ANNUAL TREND**

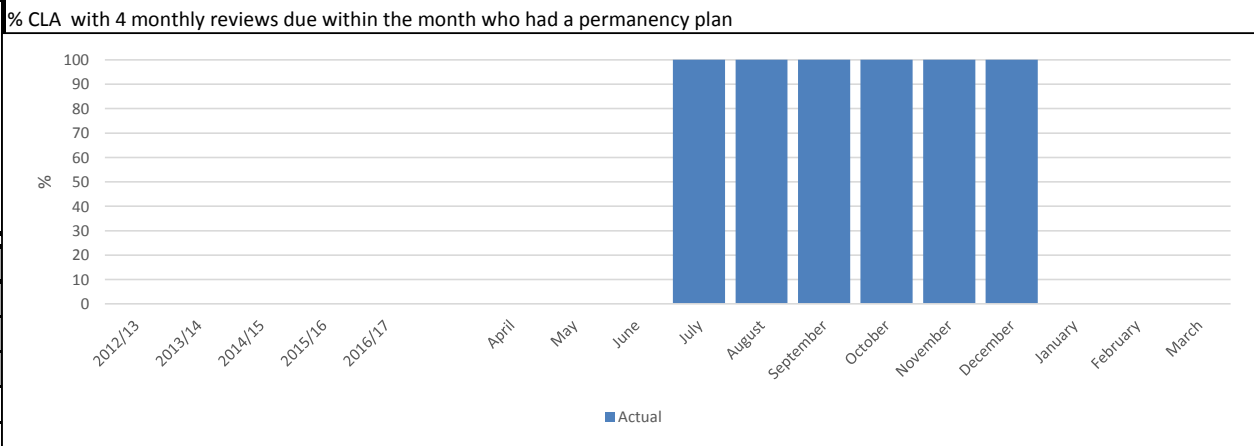
Year	2015/16	2016/17
2014/15		
2015/16	95.2	87.3
2016/17	90.1	90.2
2017/18 YTD	100.0	100.0

**LOOKED AFTER - PERMANENCE PLANNING**

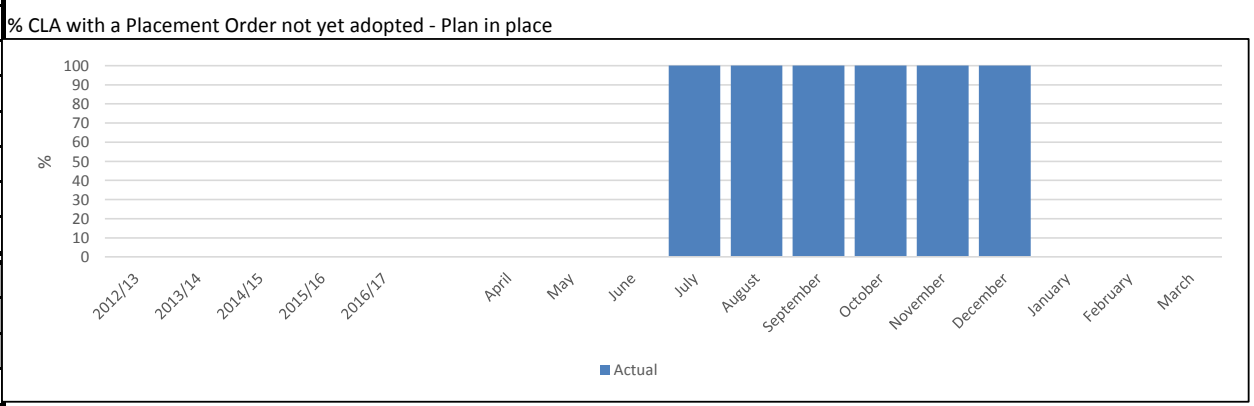
**DEFINITION** The percentage of Looked After Children who had their 4 monthly review during the month who had a permanence plan, and the percentage of Looked After Children with a Placement Order not yet adopted who have a plan in place.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**  
 Within Qtr 3, 100% of children who had their 4 monthly review had a plan for permanency, which is similar to the rate during the rest of 2017/18.  
 Within Qtr 3, 100% of Looked After Children who have a Placement Order who are not yet adopted also have a plan in place, which matches the rate during the rest of 2017/18.

% CLA with 4 monthly reviews due within the month who had a permanency plan	% CLA with a Placement Order not yet adopted - Plan in place
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<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>Target</b>		
	Apr-17		
	May-17		
	Jun-17		
	Jul-17	100.0	100.0
	Aug-17	100.0	100.0
	Sep-17	100.0	100.0
	Oct-17	100.00	100.0
	Nov-17	100.00	100.0
	Dec-17	100.00	100.0
	Jan-18		
	Feb-18		
Mar-18			



<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15		
	2015/16		
	2016/17		
	2017/18 YTD	100.0%	100.0%

**LOOKED AFTER - PARTICIPATION IN REVIEWS**

<b>DEFINITION</b>	<p>Participation applies to children or young people (subject to age and understanding; Care Planning, Placement and Case Review, DCSF March 2010). Participation is based on one of the following methods of participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attending their Review and speaking on their own behalf;</li> <li>• attending their review but having another person speak for them;</li> <li>• not attending the review but providing their views in a written form or through another facilitative medium;</li> <li>• not attending the review but briefing an advocate to represent their views.</li> </ul>
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	<p>Children &amp; Young people’s participation in their Looked After Reviews is positive.</p> <p>For reviews held for children who are over the age of 4 years, 50.6% attended their review and a further 37.9% participated through either sending their views or briefing an advocate. A total of 40 children did not attend or send their views.</p>
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PN0		PN1		PN2		PN3		PN4		PN5		PN6		PN7	
Child Aged Under 4		Child attended & spoke for self		Child attended - advocate spoke		Child attended - gave views non verbally		Child attended without contributing		Child not attended, advocate briefed with views		Child not attended, views sent		Child not attended & did not send views	
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%

<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Target																	
	Apr-17	18	34.6%	20	38.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<5		8	15.4%	5	9.6%	
	May-17	9	18.8%	21	43.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<5		<5		10	20.8%	<5		
	Jun-17	10	21.3%	17	36.2%	0	0.0%	<5		0	0.0%	<5		15	31.9%	<5		
	Jul-17	11	18.6%	28	47.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<5		18	30.5%	<5		
	Aug-17	10	26.3%	14	36.8%	0	0.0%	<5		<5		<5		7	18.4%	<5		
	Sep-17	16	30.8%	11	21.2%	<5		0	0.0%	<5		<5		20	38.5%	<5		
	Oct-17	8	20.0%	21	52.5%	0	0.0%	<5		0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	20.0%	<5		
	Nov-17	12	16.7%	21	29.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<5		26	36.1%	9	12.5%	
	Dec-17	11	25.6%	14	32.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	16.3%	11	25.6%	
	Jan-18																	
	Feb-18																	
	Mar-18																	

<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15																
	2015/16																
	2016/17																
	2017/18 YTD	105	23.3%	167	37.0%	<5		<5		<5		12	2.7%	119	26.4%	40	8.9%

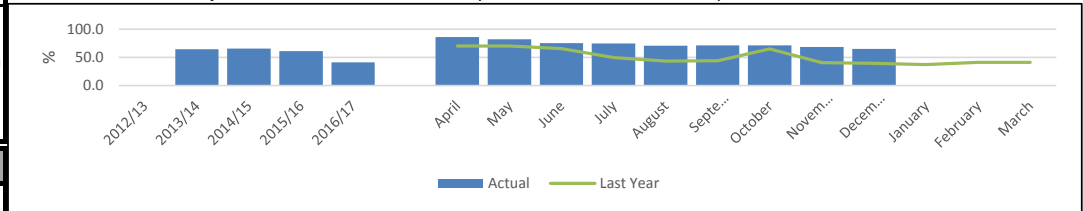
**LOOKED AFTER - STATUTORY VISITS**

<b>DEFINITION</b>	Percentage of Looked After Children who had all statutory visits completed within required timescales and percentage of Looked After statutory visits completed within timescales each month and year to date.
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	<p>During Qtr 3, 96% of Children in care statutory visits took place within the required timescales, 636 of 664.</p> <p>Of those visits that were late 16 were seen within 1 day, 13 within 2 or 3 days and 10 were seen within 10 days.</p> <p>At the end of Qtr 3 the cumulative rate of Looked After statutory visits which were completed within required timescales was 94%. This is better than the 2016/17 year end (87%).</p>
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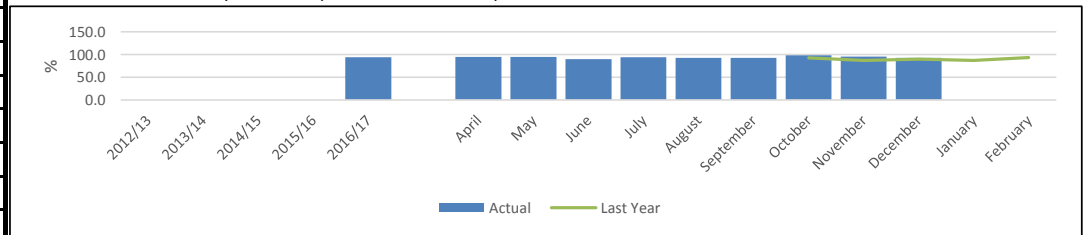
CSC 260	CSC 260a	CSC 260b
% LAC who had all statutory visits carried out within required timescales	% LAC statutory visits completed in timescale within the month	% LAC statutory visits completed in timescale year to date

CSC 260: % children subject to LAC who had all statutory visits carried out within required timescales

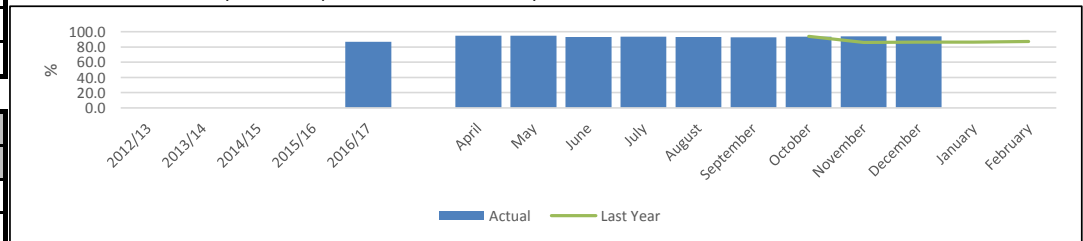


<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>90.00</b>		
	Apr-17	86.0	94.8	94.8
	May-17	82.4	95.1	95.0
	Jun-17	75.2	89.8	93.2
	Jul-17	74.7	94.0	93.4
	Aug-17	70.8	93.0	93.3
	Sep-17	71.6	92.8	93.0
	Oct-17	71.4	98.3	93.7
	Nov-17	68.3	95.7	93.9
	Dec-17	65.3	93.0	94.0
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			

CSC 260a: % LAC statutory visits completed within the required timescales in the month



CSC 260b: % LAC statutory visits completed within timescales year to date



<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15	65.9		
	2015/16	61.3		
	2016/17	41.0	86.9	86.9
	2017/18 YTD	65.3	94.0	94.0

**LOOKED AFTER - PLACEMENTS**

**DEFINITION**

Of those Looked After Children at the point in time (excluding series of short-term placements), the percentage that had 3 or more separate placement in the previous 12 months; who had been in their current placement for 2 or more years. and who were placed more than 20 miles away from their home address.

On the whole stability is associated with better outcomes, placement instability has been highlighted as a key barrier to improving educational outcomes. Proper assessment and an adequate choice of placements to meet the varied needs of different children are essential if appropriate stable placement are to be made. Inappropriate placements often break down and lead to frequent moves. Nevertheless, the circumstances of some individual children will require 3 or more separate placements during a year if they and others are to be kept safe.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

At the end of Qtr 3, 10.8% of children in care had had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months, which equates to 24 children. This is lower than the rate at the end of November (12%). This is due to a reduction of 3 children in care with 3 or more placements during the previous 12 months. Benchmarking data for 16/17 was 9.5% for statistical neighbours and 10% national average.

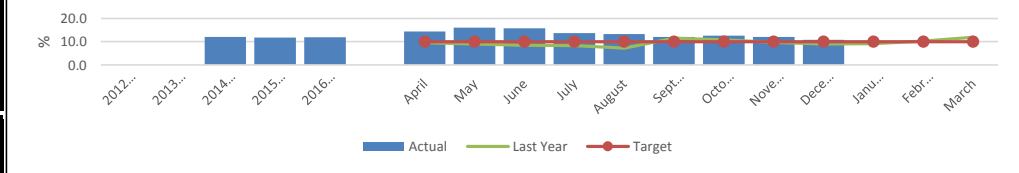
58% of children in care had been in their placement for 2 or more years at the end of December. This is an improvement of 1% when compared with November. Benchmarking data for 16/17 for statistical neighbours is 72% and nationally 68%. Therefore this remains a focus for improvement.

9% of children in care are placed 20 miles or more away from home, better than the target of 10%. Of the children placed 20 miles or more away from home, 7 (35%) were placed with connected carers or parents and 11 (55%) were placed due to a need that could not be met in Darlington.

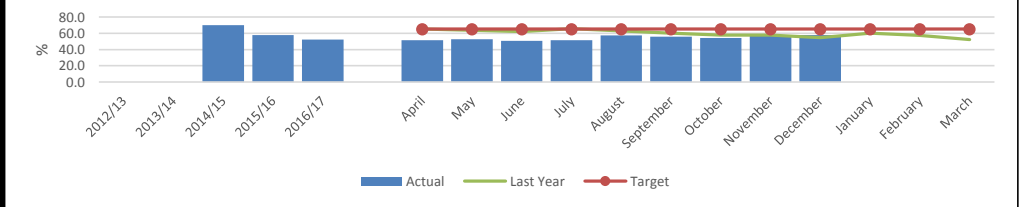
CSC 228	CSC 229	CSC 230
% LAC with 3 or more placements moves during last 12 months	% LAC who have been in their current placement for 2 or more years	% LAC placed 20 miles or more away from home

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	10.0	65.0	10.0
	Apr-17	14.4	51.6	7.5
	May-17	16.1	52.5	7.4
	Jun-17	15.8	50.8	7.3
	Jul-17	13.7	51.6	6.8
	Aug-17	13.3	57.1	8.6
	Sep-17	12.0	55.7	9.1
	Oct-17	12.6	54.1	9.3
	Nov-17	12.1	57.1	10.7
	Dec-17	10.8	57.8	9.4
	Jan-18			
	Feb-18			
	Mar-18			

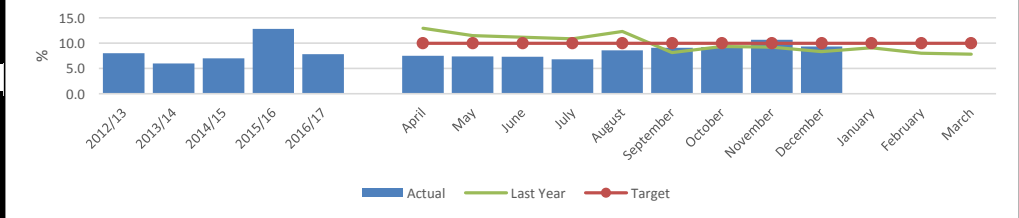
CSC 228: % LAC with 3 or more placements moves during last 12 months



CSC 229: % LAC who have been in their current placement for 2 or more years



CSC 230: % LAC placed 20 miles or more away from home



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	12.0	70.0	7.0
	2015/16	11.7	57.8	12.8
	2016/17	11.9	52.4	7.8
	2017/18 YTD	10.8	57.8	9.4

## LOOKED AFTER - INITIAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

### DEFINITION

Percentage of Initial Health Assessments completed within 20 working days of a child becoming Looked After year to date, and percentage of IHA forms returned to Health within 7 working days.

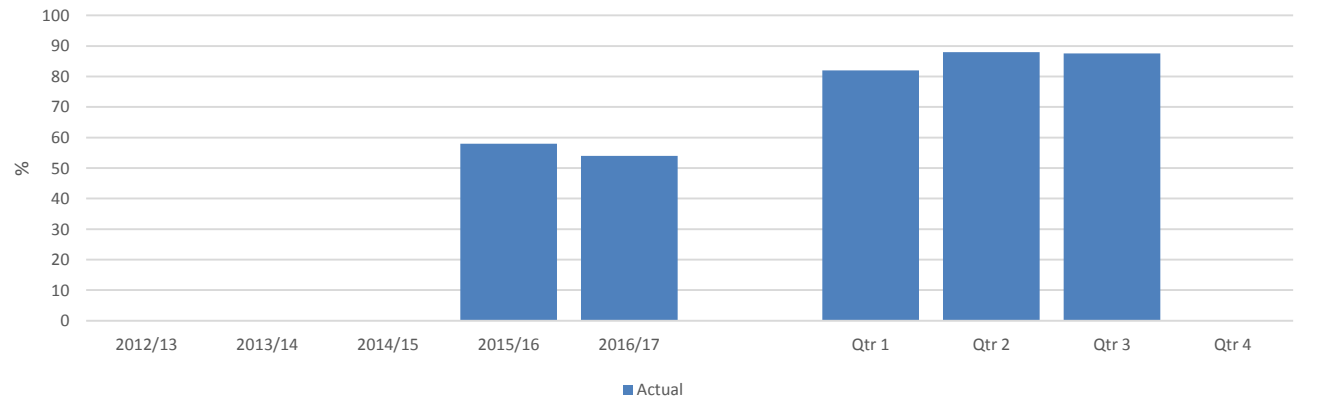
### PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

As at end of Qtr 3 87.5% of Initial Health Assessment were completed within timescale. This data demonstrates the successful implementation of procedures to better manage the IHA process. Control mechanisms have been introduced to ensure IHA forms are completed correctly and in full within 7 days, the Service Manager oversees this work is completed.

The success of this new procedure is evident from our continuing improvement in IHAs being completed within 20 working days.

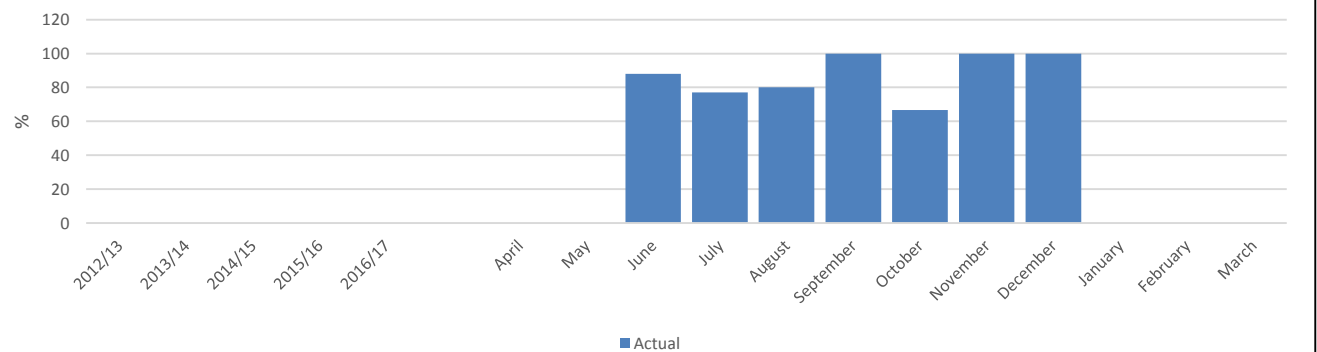
CSC 247	
% newly LAC with a completed Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days	% IHA forms returned to Health within 7 working days

% newly LAC with a completed Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-17		
	May-17		
	Jun-17	82.00	88.0
	Jul-17		77.0
	Aug-17		80.0
	Sep-17	88.00	100.0
	Oct-17		66.7
	Nov-17		100.0
	Dec-17	87.50	100.0
	Jan-18		
	Feb-18		
Mar-18			

% IHA forms returned to health within 7 working days - Monthly



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		
	2015/16	58.0	
	2016/17	54.0	
	2017/18 YTD	86.0	

**LOOKED AFTER - HEALTH ASSESSMENTS**

**DEFINITION**

Of the children in care at 31 March who had been in care continuously for at least 12 months, the percentage who had annual health check during the previous 12 months, and the percentage who had had a dental check by a dentist during the previous 12 months.

Looked After Children share many of the same health risks and problems as their peers, but often to a greater degree. These indicators track the participation of our LAC in health and dental checks as a proxy for monitoring the general health and wellbeing of the children, as well as providing a check on the effectiveness of joint working with Health to secure good health outcomes for LAC.

**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

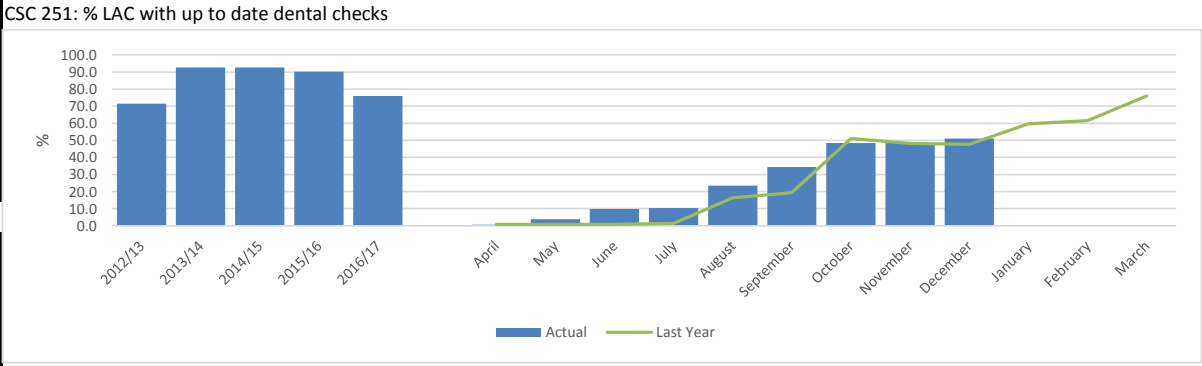
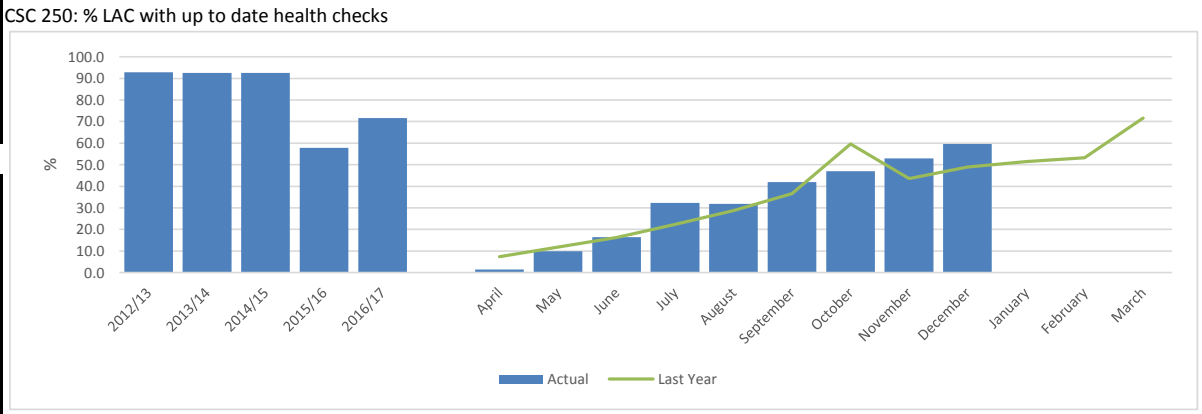
At the end of Qtr 3, 59.6 % of relevant Children in care had an up to date health check, which is 90 of 151. This is 6% (10 children) higher than at the end of November, and 10% higher than at the same point in 2016/17. Of those children without an up to date health check, 5 had refused their health check.

At the end of Qtr 3, 51% of relevant children in care had an up to date dental check, which is 77 of the 151. This is 3% (4 children) higher than in November, and is 2% higher than at the same point in 2016/17. Of the children without an up to date dental check at the end of December, 8 had refused their dental check. National benchmarking data for 2016/2017 was 83%, therefore this remains a focus for improvement.

A Health and Dental check tracker has been introduced to monitor those who are required to complete a Health and Dental check, monthly reporting is completed to identify those in need of assessment and those who assessment are out of timescale.

CSC 250	CSC 251
% LAC with up to date health checks	% LAC with up to date dental checks

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target		
	Apr-17	1.4	0.7
	May-17	9.9	3.8
	Jun-17	16.4	9.7
	Jul-17	32.4	10.3
	Aug-17	31.9	23.4
	Sep-17	42.0	34.3
	Oct-17	47.0	48.3
	Nov-17	53.0	48.3
	Dec-17	59.6	51.0
	Jan-18		
	Feb-18		
Mar-18			



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	92.6	92.6
	2015/16	57.9	90.2
	2016/17	71.6	75.9
	2017/18 YTD	59.6	51.0

## Care Leavers

### Quarter 3 Performance Summary

As at Qtr 3 96.4% of our Care Leavers were living in suitable accommodation. Performance continues to be better than our statistical neighbours (89%).

There continues to be a focus on the cohort of Care Leavers who are currently NEET. 27.3% of Care Leavers were NEET (19 young people) at Qtr 3, which is better than the target of 33%. This figure has steadily improved throughout the year, from 37.5% at the end of Qtr 1 and 29.2% at the end of Qtr 2. A tracker is being used to ensure plans are in place for all of those care leavers that are currently NEET. This identifies their current circumstances and is revised through monthly meetings to identifying opportunities, review plans and monitor progress.

Of this group of Care Leavers, 9 were unavailable for employment, education or training due to illness or parenting.



**CARE LEAVERS**

**DEFINITION**

The percentage of former care leavers who are eligible for care leavers support who are under the age of 21 who were in suitable accommodation at their most recent contact. The percentage who were not in employment, education or training at their most recent contact.

This measures accommodation and employment outcomes for young people formerly in care - a key group at risk of social exclusion. It is intended to increase the proportion of former care leavers who are in suitable accommodation and employment, education or training.

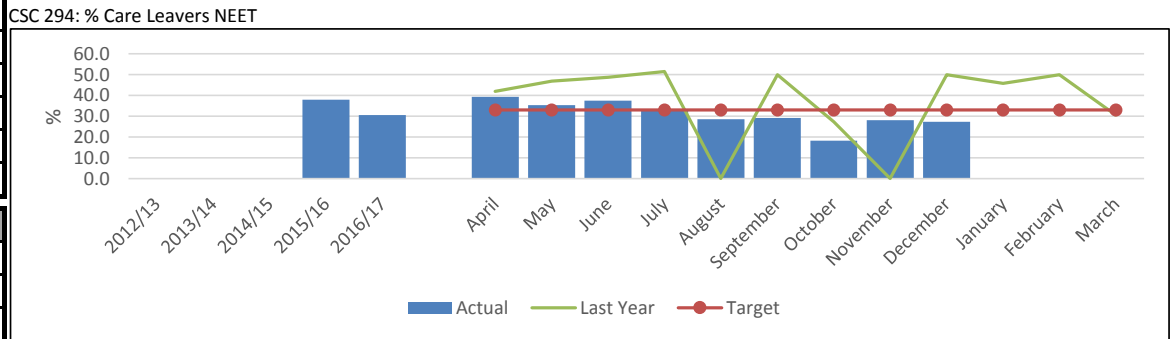
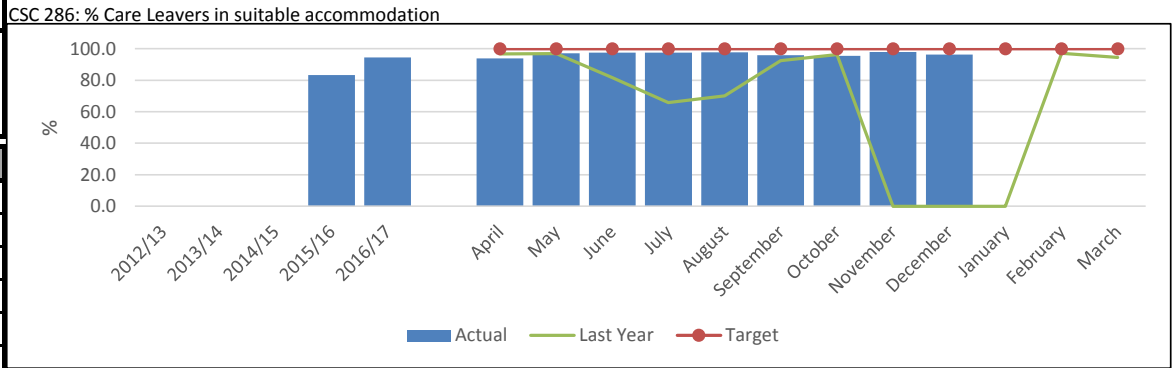
**PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

At the end of Qtr 3, 96% of relevant care leavers were in suitable accommodation which is 53 of 55. The two young people who were in unsuitable accommodation were in Police custody.

At the end of Qtr 3, 27% of relevant care leavers were not in employment, education or training, which is 15 of the 55. This is better than the 2016/17 year end and better than the target of 33%.

CSC 286	CSC 294
% Care Leavers in suitable accommodation	% Care Leavers NEET

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	100.00	33.00
	Apr-17	93.9	39.4
	May-17	97.1	35.3
	Jun-17	97.5	37.5
	Jul-17	97.5	32.5
	Aug-17	97.6	28.6
	Sep-17	95.8	29.2
	Oct-17	95.5	18.2
	Nov-17	98.0	28.0
	Dec-17	96.4	27.3
	Jan-18		
	Feb-18		
	Mar-18		



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		
	2015/16	83.30	37.9
	2016/17	94.40	30.6
	2017/18 YTD	96.4	27.3

## Audits

### Performance Summary

In Qtr 3, 44% of the audits carried out were judged as Good, 49% were Requires Improvement, 7% as Inadequate and none judged as Outstanding.

Since October 2016 the focus of the audit programme has extended to include Children subject to Child Protection, Children Looked After, Children in Need in addition to the previous areas of the quality of Social Work assessments and Children with Disabilities. Audits are allocated to Service Managers, Team Manager and Independent Reviewing Officers, and are randomly sampled. Moderation is undertaken by the Assistant Director, Heads of Service and Service Managers.

In comparison to the previous quarters the audit programme has shown progress in relation to the quality of assessments for audits undertaken with 93% judged either Requires Improvement or better, but with a significantly higher proportion judged as Good.

In relation to the audits undertaken during December 2017 there was a positive shift towards a “Good” judgement for the majority of the audits undertaken.

Audit moderation had previously highlighted that there was a need for a greater consistency in approach from auditors. Those completing audits needed to ensure that they provided an explanation for their judgement when completing their audits. This was addressed at the Children’s Social Work Managers’ Meeting in January 2018 when a briefing on expectations was given to auditors. It is anticipated that progress will be evident in audits completed during Qtr 4.

Work is also underway to produce a bespoke section for Family Support Team.

## AUDITS

<b>DEFINITION</b>	Percentage of audits judged as Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement, and Inadequate. Audits are undertaken to assess the quality of Social Work and to highlight areas for improvement.
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<b>PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS</b>	<p>Since October 2016 the focus of the audit programme has extended to include Children subject to Child Protection, Children Looked After, Children in Need in addition to the previous areas of the quality of Social Work assessments and Children with Disabilities. Audits are allocated to Service Managers, Team Manager and Independent Reviewing Officers, and are randomly sampled. Moderation is undertaken by the Assistant Director, Heads of Service and Service Managers.</p> <p>Of the audits conducted in Qtr 3; 7 % were judged as Inadequate, 49% as Requires Improvement, 44% as Good and none judged as Outstanding.</p> <p>In comparison to the previous quarters the audit programme has shown progress in relation to the quality of assessments for audits undertaken with 93% judged either Requires Improvement or better, but significantly with a higher proportion judged as Good.</p> <p>In relation to the audits undertaken during in December 2017 there was a positive shift towards a "Good" judgement for the majority of the audits undertaken.</p> <p>Audit moderation had previously highlighted that there was a need for a greater consistency in approach from auditors. Those completing audits needed to ensure that they provided an explanation for their judgement when completing their audits. This was addressed at the Children's Social Work Managers Meeting in January 2018 when a briefing on expectations of using the audit tool was given to auditors. It is anticipated that progress will be evident in audits completed during Qtr 4.</p> <p>Work is also underway to produce a bespoke section for Family Support Team</p>
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		Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
<b>IN MONTH PERFORMANCE</b>	Target								
	Q4 2016/17	0/22	0.0%	7/22	31.8%	13/22	59.1%	2/22	9.1%
	Q1 2017/18	0/27	0.0%	7/27	26.0%	12/27	44.0%	8/27	30.0%
	Q2 2017/18	0/44	0.0%	18/44	41.0%	23/44	52.0%	3/44	7.0%
	Q3 2017/18	0/44	0.0%	21/44	47.8%	21/44	47.7%	2/44	5.0%
<b>ANNUAL TREND</b>	2014/15								
	2015/16								
	2016/17								
	2017/18 YTD	0/115	0.0%	46/115	40.0%	56/115	48.7%	13/115	12.1%