

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Agenda



9.30 am Monday, 2 July 2018
Committee Room No. 1 Town Hall
Darlington DL1 5QT

Members of the Public are welcome to attend this Meeting.

1. Introductions/ Attendance at Meeting
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To consider times of meetings of this Committee for the Municipal Year 2018/19, on the dates as agreed in the calendar of meetings by Cabinet at Minute C1111/Feb/18
4. Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)
5. Performance Indicators Quarter 4 2017/18 and Proposed Indicators for 2018/19 – Report of the Director of Children and Adult Services (Pages 5 - 60)
6. Early Interventions for Looked After Children Missing From Care – Report of the Director of Children and Adult Services (Pages 61 - 66)
7. Appointment of Co-Opted Members – Report of the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Pages 67 - 68)
8. Childhood Obesity and Dental Health Care - Interim Report of the Joint Review Group (Pages 69 - 74)

9. Work Programme –
Report of the Assistant Director Law and Governance
(Pages 75 - 86)
10. SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM(S) (if any) which in the opinion of the Chair of this
Committee are of an urgent nature and can be discussed at this meeting
11. Questions.



Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance

Friday, 22 June 2018

Town Hall
Darlington.

Membership

Councillors C Taylor, L Hughes, Crudass, Crumbie, Mrs Culley, Curry, Kelly, Lister, Mills, Storr and M Wright

Statutory Co-optees

M Frank and P Rickeard

Non Statutory Co-optees

T Fisher, G Harrison, N Lindsay, J Woodcock, K Chisholm, M Regan and S Miah

If you need this information in a different language or format or you have any other queries on this agenda please contact Allison Hill, Democratic Officer, Resources Group, during normal office hours 8.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays and 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. Fridays email: allison.hill@darlington.gov.uk or telephone 01325 405997

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 April 2018

PRESENT - Councillor C Taylor (in the Chair); Councillors Crudass, Crumbie, Curry, L. Hughes, Mills and Storr. (7)

NON STATUTORY CO-OPTEES – Mrs G Harrison. (1)

APOLOGIES – Councillor Mrs Culley, KE Kelly, Lister and Wright; Jane Kochanowski, Assistant Director of Children’s Services and Tim Fisher. (4)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillor C Hughes, Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio. (1)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Sharon Raine, Head of Performance and Transformation and Yvonne Coates, Head of Early Intervention and First Contact.

CYP77. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

CYP78. MINUTES – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 19 February 2018.

With regard to Minute CYP75/Feb/18, Councillor Crudass questioned if anything further had been done on training for Members on the role of the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO); and the Chair advised Members that work was still on going with the joint review of Childhood Obesity and Dental Health.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

CYP79. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2017/18 QUARTER 3 – The Director of Children and Adult Services submitted a report (previously circulated) to provide an update on performance against key performance indicators for quarter three (October to December) 2017/18.

The submitted report highlighted where Children and Young People were performing well and where there was a need to improve.

The submitted report also contained the Children’s Social Care Monthly Performance and Quality Assurance Report for Quarter three.

The submitted report highlighted that contracts completed within one working day was 97 per cent exceeding the target of 95 per cent and 0.6 per cent of contracts were completed in more than three working days: 97 per cent of referrals during quarter 3 were completed within one working day above the 90 per cent target and

1.5 per cent of referrals taking more than 72 hours to complete which was better than the target of 5 per cent; the percentage of assessments completed within 45 working days was 95 per cent which exceeded the target of 90 per cent and higher than statistical neighbours and the England average; at the end of quarter three 100 per cent of child protection reviews were completed within timescale evidencing that children subject to Child Protection are seen and safeguarded; 94 per cent of statutory visits of Looked After Children were completed in timescale at the end of quarter three which was better than the target of 90 per cent and above 2016/17 year end of 87 per cent; and at the end of quarter three 27.3 per cent of Care Leavers were not in employment, education or training (NEET) which was above the target of 30 per cent and a reduction of 1.9 per cent when compared with quarter two. Of the Care Leavers currently NEET there were 77 per cent not available to work due to illness, pregnancy or parenting.

The submitted report also highlighted areas for improvement which included the number of re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral at 177, which although there was an improving picture still remains higher than the local target and the statistical benchmark; the rate of children in care who have been in their current placement for two years or more was 58 per cent which was an improvement but still below the local target of 65 per cent; and 59 per cent of children in care had an up to date review health check and 51 per cent had an up to date dental check and despite both being higher than at the same point in 2016/17 has been continually monitored by the Head of Service.

Particular reference was made to the Full System Conversion Flow for Quarter two 2017/18 which analysed how children had progressed through the Social Care System over the past 11 months. Members discussed the Flow Chart and raised a question in relation to the procedures in place to support this flow. The Head of Performance and Transformation confirmed that procedure were in place, some statutory and these were reviewed regularly. There is also an Electronic Procedures Library available also for social workers to access at any time.

Members also asked if the views of the social workers were still being taken into account and the Head of Performance and Transformation confirmed that since Liquid Logic went live in 2016 there had been some initial problems in relation to the data but this had now been resolved and now at the performance clinics there is a focus on the reasons behind the data rather than on its accuracy.

A Member referred to a visit by Members of this Scrutiny Committee to the Adoption Team after the introduction of Liquid Logic and the feedback that was received and suggested that Scrutiny Members undertake a similar exercise in another area to gain views now after Liquid Logic has been fully embedded.

Members also made particular reference to the increase in numbers of Looked After Children missing from home and the actions that had been taken to address this. The Head of Early Intervention and First Contact advised Members that this data can vary on a particular cohort at any particular time and the return to home interviews are used to ascertain a number of reasons the young children go missing from home. It was agreed that a report on the interventions in place and the reasons to why these children go missing be presented to the next meeting of this Scrutiny

Committee scheduled for 2 July 2018 and that the Police Liaison Officer also be invited to attend.

RESOLVED – That quarter three performance data be noted.

CYP80. WORK PROGRAMME – The Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) to provide an update on the current work programme for this Scrutiny Committee.

The work programme has been reviewed to link it to the outcomes and conditions in the Sustainable Community Strategy and each topic has been linked to performance indicators from the Performance Management Framework to provide accurate data for Members to use when considering topics and the work they wish to undertake.

Members also gave consideration to two quad of aims that had been received since the last meeting of this Scrutiny and in line with the agreed procedure, agreed how to progress these items.

In relation to School Transport it was agreed to include in the work programme for the next meeting of this Scrutiny Committee on 2 July 2018 the Children's Transport Policy for Members to examine the Council's liabilities and duties in relation to school transport and the cost of fulfilling those duties.

In relation to the Autism Provision at Hurworth School Members of this Scrutiny Committee agreed that as autism was currently an on-going review of the Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee and that the Chair would discuss this item further at the next meeting of the Monitoring and Co-ordination Group.

A Member referred to the Daily Mile Initiative within schools that is being supported by INEOS and as part of the review of Childhood Obesity suggested that Members could look at ways this authority can promote the initiative within the Borough's schools.

The Chair advised Members that he would like to include an item on the work programme on children and young people's mental health and would take a Quad of Aims to the Monitoring and Co-ordination Group for consideration.

RESOLVED – That the current status of the work programme be noted.

CYP81. QUESTIONS

The Chair raised a question in relation to the recent Ofsted re-inspection of Children's Services. The Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio advised Members that the recommendations of the inspection were to be published on 21 May 2018, however the initial feedback was good. She also thanked Members of this Scrutiny Committee for their commitment to undertaking training and gaining a better understanding of Children's Services and to those Members who had spoken with the Ofsted Inspectors.

Councillor Crudass asked a question of the Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio in relation to the Children and Adults Capital Programme and the capital release to schools.

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
2 July 2018**

ITEM NO.5.....

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS Q4 2017/18 AND PROPOSED INDICATORS FOR
2018/19**

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members with outturn performance data against key performance indicators for 2017/18.
2. To provide Members with a proposed basket of performance indicators for 2018/19 and to seek feedback on that proposed basket.
3. To note the proposed schedule for performance reporting set out in para 11.

Summary

4. This report provides quarter 4 (January – March) 2017/18 performance information in relation to an indicator set agreed by Monitoring and Coordination Group on 12 June 2017, and additional indicators of relevance to this scrutiny committee in the course of the year.
5. It is recommended that monitoring focuses on issues and exceptions, and relevant Assistant Directors will be in attendance at the meeting to respond to queries raised by the committee regarding the performance information contained within this report.

Where are we performing well?

6. During 2017/18:
 - a) 96.7% 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.
 - b) 96% of referrals were completed within 1 working day, above the target of 90%, with 1.8% of referrals taking more than 72 hours to complete, which is better than the target of 5%.
 - c) 93.3% 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%).
 - d) 100% of child protection reviews completed within timescale (97% statistical neighbour, 94% England average).

- e) 100% of LAC reviews completed within timescale, an improvement on 2016/17 year end demonstrating that Care Plans for children in care are reviewed regularly, with their needs monitored and addressed in a timely way.
- f) 93.4% of LAC statutory visits were completed in timescale, better than the target of 90%, and the 2016/17 year end (87%).
- g) 100% of all of our Children in Need, Children Protection and Children in Care have an allocated Social Worker, this performance is consistently sustained.
- h) 32.2% of our Care Leavers are not in employment, education or training (NEET), this is better than the target of 33%. Of the 19 Care Leavers who are currently NEET, 12 are not available for work due to illness, pregnancy or parenting.

Where we need to improve

7. During 2017/18:

- a) There were 247 re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral, a rate of 21.9%, which although an improving picture, remains higher than the local target of 20% and the statistical benchmarks (20%). Every case highlighted as a re-referral has been analysed by the Head of Service to ensure they were appropriate.
- b) The percentage of children who had been in their current placement for 2 years or more who had been in care for 2½ years or more positively increased to 65.1% at the end of March 2018. This means the target of 65% that had been set has been reached. However performance remains behind benchmarks and therefore remains an area for improvement. Placement stability is constantly managed to ensure any issues are addressed as they arise to prevent placement breakdown.
- c) The percentage of children placed 20 miles or more away from home has seen an increase to 12% at the end of March, when compared to the 2016/17 year-end performance of 7.8%. This will require rigorous monitoring going forward.
- d) At the end of March, there were 87.5% (140/160) children with an up-to-date dental check in the past 12 months. There were an additional 12 children (7.5%) who refused to have a dental check. This year-end performance is an increase on the previous year-end performance which was 75.9%. However, it is acknowledged this performance must improve further in the next reporting year.

- 8. A performance scorecard is attached at Appendix 1 showing some of the indicators reported to the Committee. A Children's Social Care Monthly Performance and Quality Assurance Report for quarter 4 (year-end) is attached at Appendix 2 providing additional information on indicators reported to the Committee.

Scrutiny indicators 2018/19

9. A review of the indicator set and scrutiny committee allocation is due to ensure the continued relevance of the indicator set to the scrutiny committee's work plan for 2018/19.
10. The 2017/18 baskets of indicators have therefore been reviewed by Directors / Assistant Directors for continued relevance, and on 4 June 2018 Monitoring and Co-ordination Group reviewed and agreed a proposed set of indicators for 2018/19 and their allocation to individual scrutiny committees in accordance with their areas of responsibility and existing allocation.
11. Since Monitoring and Coordination Group met further review suggests the proposed set is increased to include those additional indicators this scrutiny committee received during 2017/18. The total proposed indicator set is therefore attached at Appendix 3.
12. Monitoring and Coordination Group also agreed the quarterly performance reporting schedule set out below:
 - Q1 - October 2018
 - Q2 - December 2018
 - Q3 - March 2019
 - Q4 - June / July 2019

Recommendations

13. It is recommended:
 - a) that performance information provided in this report is reviewed and noted, and relevant queries raised with appropriate assistant directors;
 - b) that the committee reviews the proposed basket of performance indicators for 2018/19 and provides feedback as appropriate;
 - c) that the committee notes the proposed schedule for performance reporting for 2018/19.

Suzanne Joyner
Director of Children and Adult Services

Background papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Barbara Copson Performance Manager: Extension 6054

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report supports the Council's Crime and Disorder responsibilities
Health and Well Being	This report supports performance improvement relating to improving the health and wellbeing of residents
Sustainability	This report supports the Council's sustainability responsibilities
Diversity	This report supports the promotion of diversity
Wards Affected	This report supports performance improvement across all Wards
Groups Affected	This report supports performance improvement which benefits all groups
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework
Key Decision	This is not a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	This report contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) by involving Members in the scrutiny of performance relating to the delivery of key outcomes
Efficiency	Scrutiny of performance is integral to optimising outcomes.



Children and Young People

Performance Data

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2017

2018

27	Total	27	27	27	Total
12	= Better than same period last year (↑) =	9	1	0	Better than target
4	Better from when last reported (↑) =	4	0	0	Achieving target
4	= The same as same period last year (↔) =	4	0	0	Achieving target
8	The same from when last reported (↔) =	10	0	0	Missing target
8	= Not as good as same period last year (↓) =	10	0	0	Missing target
3	Not as good from when last reported (↓) =	4	26	27	No Target
3	Not comparable (blank)	4	26	27	No Target

Indicator Num	Indicator Description	Reported	What is best	Measure of unit	Latest England Av	Latest North East Av	Latest other benchmark Av	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Data at same period last year	Latest data performance from same period last year	June	Sept	Dec	Mar	Mar - Num	Mar - Den	Trend from when last reported	Performance against target	March compare to target	Year End Target	Comments
CSC 001	Number of individual Early Help assessments recorded year to date	Monthly	None	Num	-	-	-	317	608	871	114											-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 022	Monthly % of referrals completed within 24 hours.	Monthly	Bigger	%	-	-	-	-	82	88	88	↑								↑		90	Qtr 4 .
CSC 032	% of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months.	Monthly	Smaller	%	22	20	18	17	26	21	25	↑								↓		20	Qtr 4 .
CSC 033	Total number of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months.	Monthly	Smaller	Num	-	-	-	-	353	314	26	↑										-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 034	Monthly number of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months. Based on distinct count of referral ID and according to start date of current and end dates of previous referral.	Monthly	Smaller	Num	-	-	-	-	33	60	26	↑								↓		-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 036	Number of assessments completed year to date	Monthly	Smaller	Num	-	-	-	-	1,284	1,321	130	↑										-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 038	% of children & families assessments completed within 45 working days	Monthly	Bigger	%	83	82	89	82	77	93	93	↓								↓		90	Qtr 4 .
CSC 165	Number of section 47 enquires started within the year (CPP)	Monthly	Smaller	Num	-	-	-	-	408	432	19	↓										-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 166	% of cases where the initial child protection conference (ICPC) was within 15 days of the initiating strategy discussion / S47 start recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook (CPP). This EXCLUDES transfer-in conferences.	Monthly	Bigger	%	77	82	83	84	92	100	100	↔								↑		100	Qtr 4 .
CSC 178	Monthly % of cases recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook where Child Protection strategy meeting / S47 start to initial child protection conference (ICPC) are within 15 days (CPP). Excludes transfer-in conferences.	Monthly	Bigger	%	-	-	-	-	100	100	100	↓								↓		-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 182	Number of children subject to a child protection plan (CPP)	Monthly	Smaller	Num	-	-	-	124	135	66	78	↓								↑		-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 183	% of child protection cases (CPP) allocated to a qualified social worker	Monthly	Bigger	%	-	-	-	-	100	100	100	↔								↔		100	Qtr 4 .
CSC 186	% of children ceasing to be the subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) during the reporting period who have been subject of a CPP continuously for 2 years or more	Monthly	Smaller	%	3.4	3.8	5.9	0.6	3.3	0.0	0.0	↔								↔		5.0	Qtr 4 .
CSC 188	% of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) for a 2nd or subsequent time in the reporting period (within 2 yrs of previous CPP ceasing)	Monthly	Smaller	%	-	-	-	2.4	6.0	1.9	5.3	↑								↑		-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 201	Total number of looked after children (LAC) at the end of the reporting period	Monthly	Smaller	Num	-	-	-	200	205	219	216	↓								↓		-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 218	Timeliness (LAC) - % of looked after children (LAC) at the end of the month whose reviews had been completed within the required time limits of 20 working days for initial review and 91 and 183 days for statutory review (excludes children placed for Adoption and children LAC for <20 working days)	Monthly	Bigger	%	-	-	-	92	93	88	100	↔								↔		100	Qtr 4 .

Indicator Num	Indicator Description	Reported	What is best	Measure of unit	Latest England Av	Latest North East Av	Latest other benchmark Av	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Data at same period last year	Latest data performance from same period last year	June	Sept	Dec	Mar	Mar - Num	Mar - Den	Trend from when last reported	Performance against target	March compare to target	Year End Target	Comments
CSC 228	Stability of placements of looked after children (LAC) - placement moves - the percentage of children looked after at the reporting date with 3 or more placement moves during the last 12 months	Monthly	Smaller	%	10.0	9.0	9.5	12	12	14	14	↑							↑			10.0	Qtr 4 .
CSC 229	Stability of placements of looked after children (LAC) - length of placement - the percentage of children aged under 16 and looked after who have been looked after for at least 2.5 years and have been in their current placement continuously for at least 2 years	Monthly	Bigger	%	70	72	72	70	58	52	52	↑							↑			65	Qtr 4 .
CSC 230	% of total looked after children (LAC) placed more than 20 miles away from home, inside or outside the boundary, as at the end of each reporting period (excludes children placed for adoption or where home address is "of no fixed abode")	Monthly	Smaller	%	14	9.0	8.5	7.0	13	7.8	7.5	↓							↔			10.0	Qtr 4 .
CSC 246	Number incidents of looked after children (LAC) recorded as within the month	Monthly	Smaller	Num	-	-	-	-	-	24	45	↑							↓			-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 247	% of newly looked after children (LAC) in the period, who were looked after for at least 20 working days, for whom an initial health assessment has been completed within 20 working days (reported 1 month behind)	Quarterly	Bigger	%	-	-	-	-	44	53	53	↑							↑	↑		90	Qtr 4 .
CSC 250	% of looked after children (LAC) with up to date Health Checks (CLA 1 yr +) during reporting year.	Monthly	Bigger	%	90	95	97	93	58	72	1.4	↑							↓			-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 251	% of looked after children (LAC) with up to date Dental Checks (CLA 1 yr +) during reporting year.	Monthly	Bigger	%	86	88	98	93	90	76	0.7	↑							↓			-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 252a	Percentage of Child Protection statutory visits completed within timescales within the month	Monthly	Bigger	%	-	-	-	-	-	91	91	↓							↑			-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 260b	Percentage of LAC statutory visits completed within timescales cumulative	Monthly	Bigger	%	-	-	-	-	-	87	95	↓							↓			-	Qtr 4 .
CSC 285	% of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation (combined for 19, 20 and 21 year olds - former relevant) *NOTE this refers to the Birthday Contact included in the CLA Statutory Return.	Monthly	Bigger	%	84	82	89	70	100	96									↑			100	Qtr 4 .
CSC 290	% of Care Leavers not in education, employment or training (combined for 19, 20 and 21 year olds former relevant) *NOTE this refers to the Birthday Contact included in the CLA Statutory Return.	Monthly	Smaller	%	50	40	46	31	31	32									↓			33	Qtr 4 .



Children's Social Care Performance & Quality Assurance Report

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Year end report 17/18

Scrutiny Report

Key Performance Indicators

Quarter 4/ Year End Performance Summary

Where we are performing well

During 2017/18:

96.7% 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.

96% of referrals were completed within 1 working day, above the target of 90%, with 1.8% of referrals taking more than 72 hours to complete, which is better than the target of 5%.

93.3% 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 completed within timescale (97% statistical neighbour, 94% England average).

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

93.4% 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 consistently sustained.

32.2% of our Care Leavers are not in employment, education or training (NEET), this is better than the target of 33%. Of the 19 Care Leavers who are currently NEET, 12 are not available for work due to illness, pregnancy or parenting.

The average time in days between a child entering care and moving in with his or her adoptive family was 419.1, an increase on the Quarter 3 figure of 377.3. However, we continue to perform better than most recent regional (562) and statistical (589.8) benchmarks and recent national benchmark (558).

The average time in days between the Local Authority receiving court authority to place a child and deciding on a match to an adoptive family for all children adopted within the period was 141.9, which is considerably better than most recent regional (212), statistical neighbours (265.90) and National (226) benchmarks.

Where we need to improve

There were 247 re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral, a rate of 21.9%, which although an improving picture, remains higher than the local target of 20% and the statistical benchmarks (20%). Every case highlighted as a re-referral has been analysed by the Head of Service to ensure they were appropriate.

The percentage of children who had been in their current placement for 2 years or more who had been in care for 2½ years or more positively increased to 65.1% at the end of March 2018. This means the target of 65% that had been set has been reached. However performance remains behind benchmarks and therefore remains an area for improvement. Placement stability is constantly managed to ensure any issues are addressed as they arise to prevent placement breakdown.

The percentage of children placed 20 miles or more away from home has seen an increase to 12% at the end of March, when compared to the 2016/17 year-end performance of 7.8%. This will require rigorous monitoring going forward.

At the end of March, there were 87.5% (140/160) children with an up-to-date dental check in the past 12 months. There were an additional 12 children (7.5%) who refused to have a dental check. This year-end performance is an increase on the previous year-end performance which was 75.9%. However, it is acknowledged this performance must improve further in the next reporting year.

Priorities for 2018/19

Priority	Deadline	Update
Assess the impact of early help interventions on outcomes for children and families.	October 18	
Ensure placement stability for children and young people, delivering the Placement Strategy by targeting support for those placements at risk of	Full Year measure – March 19	

breakdown and improvements in planning of necessary placement moves.		
LAC commissioning strategy and LAC Sufficiency statement	Early July 18	
Replace Fostering manual records with electronic recording.	May 18	
Develop Fostering reporting within Liquid Logic	October 18	
Explore social worker changes on cases.	July 18	
Develop Edge of Care	July 18	

Contacts and Referrals

Quarter 4/Year end Performance Summary

Throughout 2017/2018 the number of contacts into the department was 5,044. Considerable work has been done with partners and in particular the police to ensure contacts are more appropriate during this year. There has also been a change in the way contacts are recorded from Care First to Liquid Logic, this will not be factor in 2018/2019 so the comparisons made can be more robust.

There is little variation in ages across the year with those between the ages of 5-15 being more prevalent.

As the Children's Access Point (CAP) receives all contacts, it is noted that 55% of these receive information and advice, 13.3% are referred to Early Help for assistance, 14% are referred for Social Care intervention, 8.7 % are related to school attendance and 8.9% are related to already open Early Help workers. There is no comparison for the previous year as this is data has only been collected this year. It is of note that the outcomes to be of equal quantity Social Care and Early Help. This demonstrates that Early Help is becoming more embedded.

Police continue to be the agency that contact us most frequently regarding young people at a yearly average of 32.2% of all contacts, followed by education at 26.6%. Health (including midwifery, GP, Hospital and Health Visitors) have only referred 8.4% of the contacts into the department. It is of particular note that Health Visitors make the least number of contacts. During 2018/2019 this will need further exploration with our health visiting service to understand the low number of contacts.

The timeliness of decision making on contacts remains high with all but one month during the year achieving above 95% completion within 24 working hours, with a year-end out turn of 96.7% within 24 hours and 0.6% within 72 hours at year end. This ensures that that children and young people receive services quickly and the work flow through the system is efficient. Dip and auditing activity continues to verify the effectiveness of the front door.

The conversion of contacts to referral is 497.6 per 10,000 which is a reduction on last year, however this figure is much more in line with statistical neighbours 519.7 per 10,000, yet below most recent national (548.2 per 10,000) and regional (599.6 per 10,000) . The total number of referrals to Social Care during the year were 1,126 which is a reduction on previous years, this will continue to be monitored through 2018/2019 to ensure we remain within statistical neighbour range.

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. The total number of contacts received by CAP shows how busy CAP are within each month; the number of new contacts shows how many contacts are 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) 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 not matter how many contacts were received) allows us to look at the demography.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	5,044 contacts were received during 2017/18, an hypothesis that will be tested as we gather data for the following year will be that contacts decrease when Schools are on holiday, as this appears to have been the trend for 2017/18 .
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	CSC 004	CSC 004i	CSC 004k
	Number of communications received within the month	Number of children contacts were received on (monthly)	Individual number of children contacts were received on (monthly)

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	510	871	655
	Dec-17	371	688	531
	Jan-18	460	840	640
	Feb-18	444	735	599
	Mar-18	432	764	607

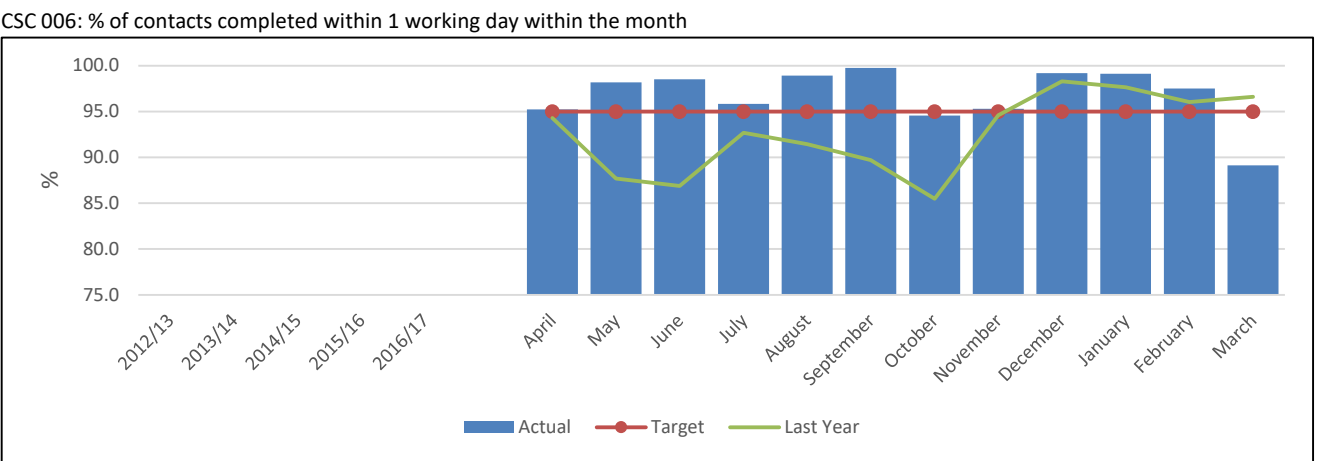
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			
	2015/16			
	2016/17			
	2017/18 YTD	5044	8744	

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 quick and cases are escalated effectively and efficiently without delay and drift.

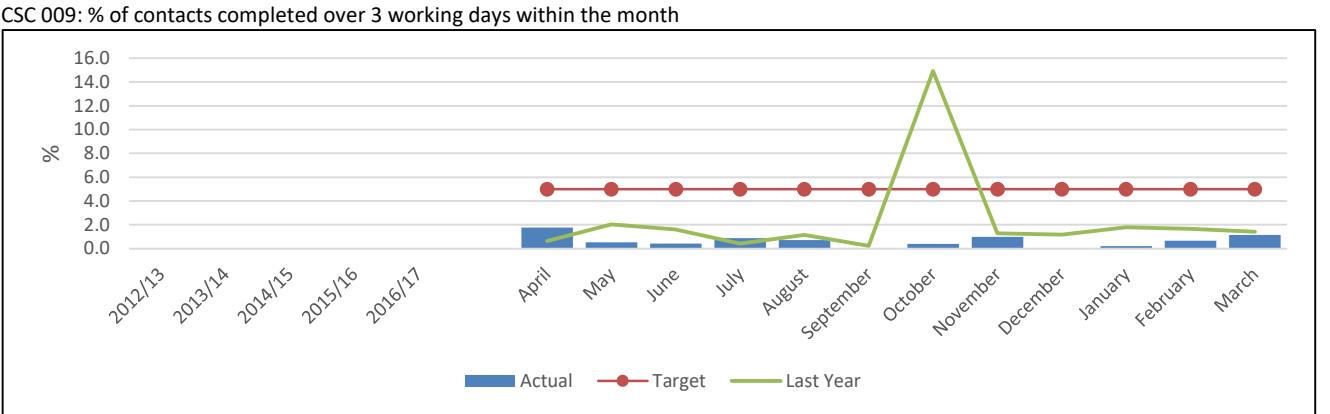
Performance Analysis
 96.7% of contacts were completed within 1 working day, within 2017/18.
 0.6% of contacts had taken more than 3 working days to be completed, within 2017/18. This is better than the 2016/17 year end (2.4%) and better than the target of 5%.

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



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE

Target	CSC 006	CSC 009
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	0.4
Nov-17	95.3	1.0
Dec-17	99.2	0.0
Jan-18	99.1	0.2
Feb-18	97.5	0.7
Mar-18	89.1	1.2



Annual Trend

Year	CSC 006	CSC 009
2014/15		
2015/16	84.0	8.2
2016/17	96.6	1.4
2017/18 YTD	96.7	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.

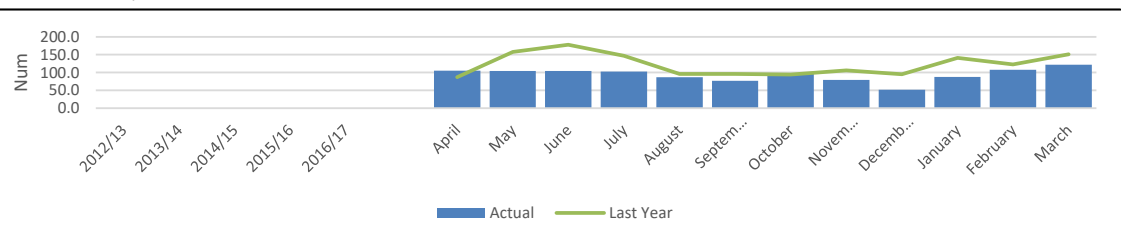
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

1126 referrals were made to Children's Social Care during 2017/18. This is a reduction of 346 (23%) when compared with 2016/17 year end.

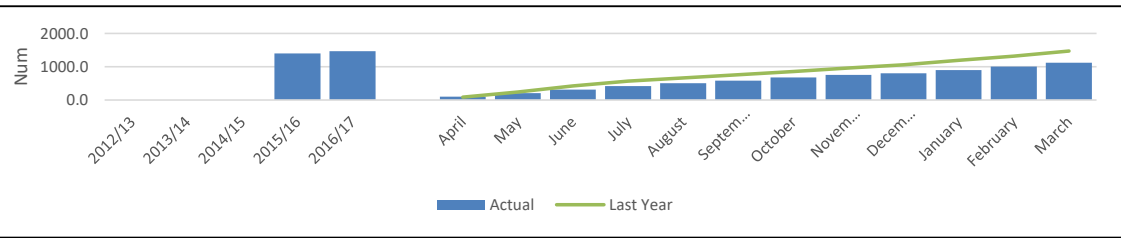
The rate of referrals was 497.6 per 10,000, this is lower than the most recent national (548.2 per 10,000), regional (599.6 per 10,000) and statistical (518.7 per 10,000) benchmarks.

CSC 013	CSC 012	CSC 014
Monthly number of referrals STARTED.	Number of children's referrals STARTED year to date.	Rate of referrals per 10,000 population.

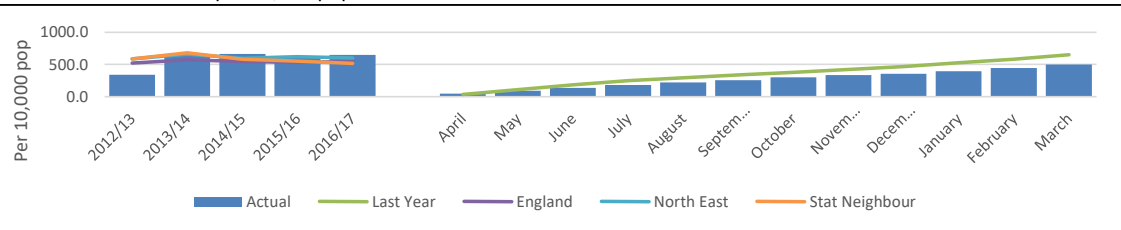
CSC 013: Monthly number of referrals STARTED.



CSC 012: Number of children's referrals STARTED year to date.



CSC 014: Rate of referrals per 10,000 population.



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)	(blank)
	Apr-17	105	105	46.4
	May-17	104	209	92.4
	Jun-17	104	313	138.3
	Jul-17	103	416	183.9
	Aug-17	87	503	222.3
	Sep-17	77	580	256.3
	Oct-17	97	677	299.2
	Nov-17	79	756	334.1
	Dec-17	52	808	357.1
	Jan-18	88	896	396.0
	Feb-18	108	1004	443.7
Mar-18	122	1126	497.6	

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			664.3
	2015/16	1398	1398	615.9
	2016/17	1472	1472	650.6
	2017/18 YTD	1126	1126	497.6

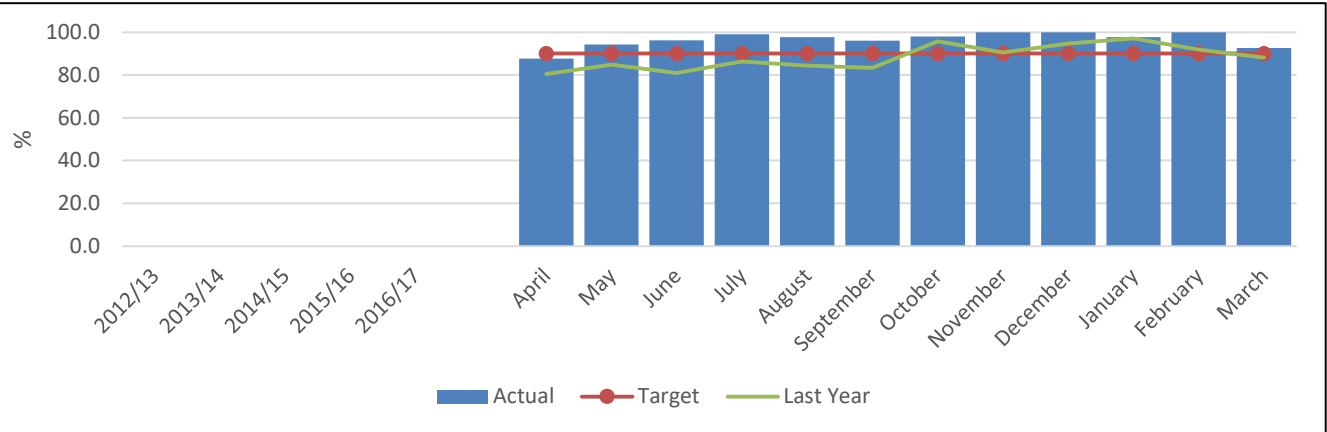
REFERRALS - TIMELINESS

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.

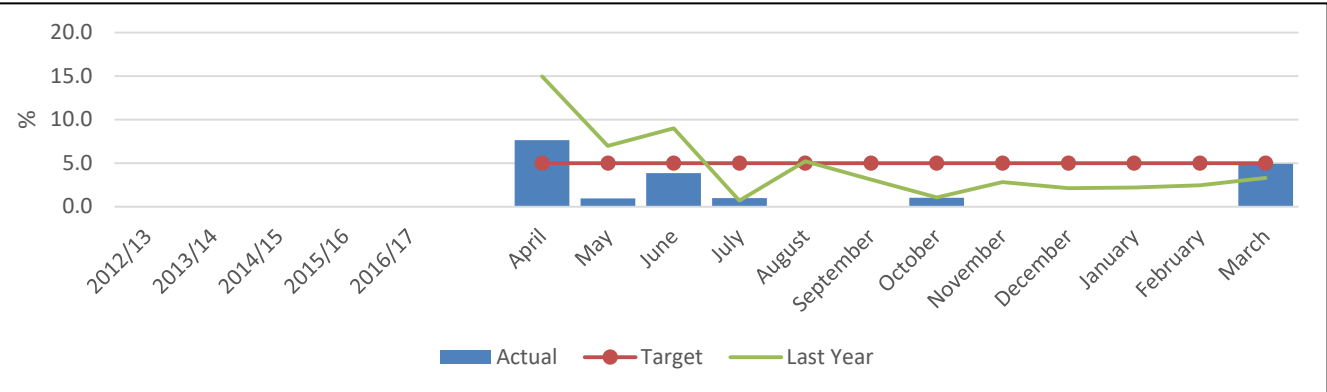
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS 96% (Target 90%) of referrals were completed within 24 hours during 2017/18, which is a year on year increase from 88% in 2016/17 and 85.2% in 2015/16. In terms of referrals taking more than 72 hours to complete, 1.8% of referrals were completed in over 72 hours in which is better than the target of 5%.

CSC 022	CSC 026
Monthly % of referrals completed within 24 hours.	Monthly % of referrals completed in over 72 hours.

CSC 022: Monthly % of referrals completed within 24 hours.



CSC 026: Monthly % of referrals completed in over 72 hours.



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90.0	5.0
	Apr-17	87.6	7.6
	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	100.0	0.0
	Dec-17	100.0	0.0
	Jan-18	97.7	0.0
	Feb-18	100.0	0.0
Mar-18	92.6	4.9	
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		
	2015/16	85.2	
	2016/17	88.0	4.8
	2017/18 YTD	96.0	1.8

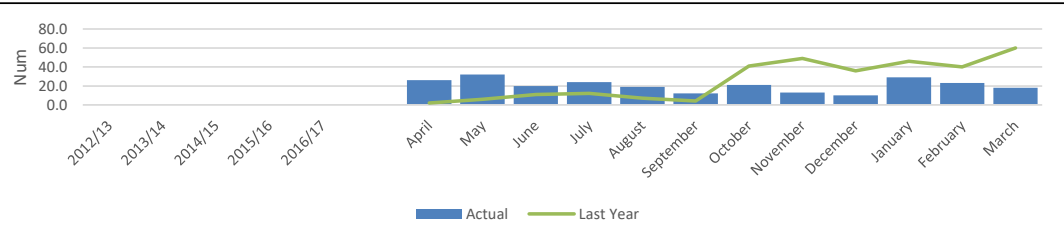
REFERRALS - RE-REFERRALS

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 down without addressing the initial concerns or issues.

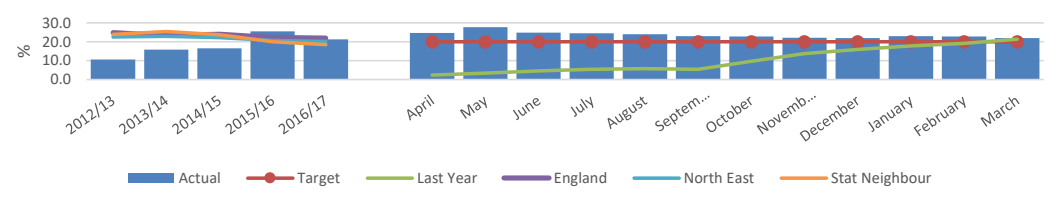
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS
 247 referrals that were received within 12 months of a previous referral during 2017/18, a reduction of 67 (27%) when compared with 2016/17.
 Darlington's current rate of re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral (21.9%) is slightly higher than the target of 20%, and is slightly higher than the most recent regional (20.1%) and statistical (18.5%) benchmarks, but is the same as 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)	% re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months (monthly)

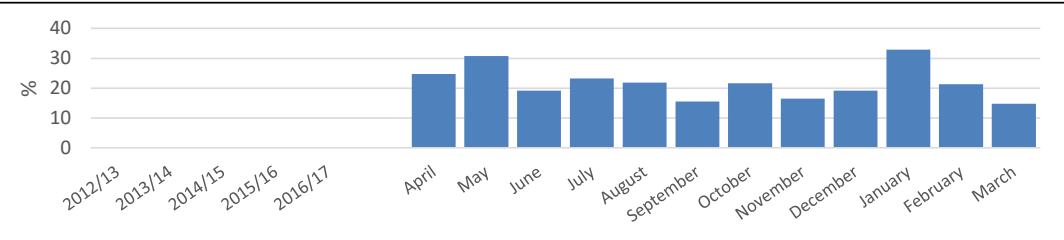
CSC 034: Monthly number of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months



CSC 032: % re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months (cumulative)



% re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months (monthly)



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	20.0		
	Apr-17	26	24.8	24.8	
	May-17	32	27.8	30.8	
	Jun-17	20	24.9	19.2	
	Jul-17	24	24.5	23.3	
	Aug-17	19	24.1	21.8	
	Sep-17	12	22.9	15.6	
	Oct-17	21	22.8	21.6	
	Nov-17	13	22.1	16.5	
	Dec-17	10	21.9	19.2	
	Jan-18	29	23.0	33.0	
	Feb-18	23	22.8	21.3	
Mar-18	18	21.9	14.8		
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		16.5		
	2015/16	353	25.6		
	2016/17	314	21.4		
	2017/18 YTD	247	21.90	21.90	

Early Help

Quarter 4/Year-end Performance Summary

Missing

The total number of missing episodes for 2017/18 has reduced each quarter with 158 missing episodes in Quarter one to 83 in quarter 4 (a reduction of almost 50%). Additionally, there was a decrease in the numbers of children from 62 to 40 (36%).

The missing episodes for the Darlington Looked After population has reduced since the last quarter to 46 missing episodes in quarter 4. However the numbers of young people involved remained at an average of 17 young people. Eight young people contributed to over 54% of these missing episodes with one young person having 12.5% of the total missing episodes. This young person is 17 years old lives in a children's home. Planning meetings are regularly held to put strategies in place to keep her safe and the Social Worker has a pathway plan in place to prepare her for leaving care.

There have been no significant differences between numbers of males / females who are reported missing.

The numbers of looked after children with missing episodes have remained stable throughout the year.

Over the year the missing episodes reduced considerably after the first 2 quarters.

The reasons why the 1st quarter had high missing episodes was due to high numbers of missing episodes which involved other authorities children placed in Darlington. The missing episodes for other authorities children placed in Darlington has remained consistently low in the last 3 quarters 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 appropriately placed to meet their needs.

Missing from Home interviews have been completed in 100% of the cases, with 94% of these being completed in under 72 hours. There was a slight dip in those completed in 72 hours over the Christmas period 2017. Where the coordinator cannot engage the young person she explores the issues with parents, carers, teachers 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.

Areas for Development	Suggested lead
The Family Placement Team / Therapeutic Social Workers to offer support to the Children’s Home staff to explore reasons why significant increase in missing episodes and put strategies in place.	Service Manager LATC and Family placement Timescales: by 31/5/18
Recognise the link between Missing and CSE and use the expertise of the Barnardo’s workers/the multi-agency partners at the Missing and Exploited Group to explore strategies.	Members of the MEG Consider at every MEG meeting
Training to be provide by the Barnardo’s worker and LSCB training officer for Darlington Social Workers and Early Help workers.	LSCB training Programme is in place
To discuss with Social Workers the importance of ensuring missing action plans are completed in a timely manner.	Service Managers. To be explored at the MOP up CSE sessions on22/5/18

Early Help

The Early Help data collection for quality and impact remains a work in progress and is a key priority for 2018/2019. The recording and reporting on Early Help Assessments is much more robust than previous years and is therefore not appropriate to compare numbers. The current outturn is 877 assessments being active during the year. The priority for next year is to develop key reportable data and the final development of the Early Help scorecard. This will allow much deeper analysis than merely reporting on numbers. The number of assessments by external agencies is 206 which is a 23.5% of the total number of assessments. Further examination will be required and training to social care staff to ensure they are correctly outcoming assessments. It is difficult to predict the outturn for this given the unreliability of the data and this needs to be a key priority for the following year.

Children's Centres

Darlington Children's Centres remodelled in 2017 from 5 standalone sites to a hub and spoke model of delivery. The hub and spoke model consists of one main hub at McNay Street and 3 spoke sites at Mount Pleasant, Dodmire and Skerne Park with reduced delivery. Outreach is also provided at Northwood School, Maidendale and Red Hall Community Centres. The hub and spoke model activity program was operational from October 2017.

The data throughout the year has been positive; one may have anticipated a dramatic reduction in attendance within the new model. Attendance has reduced universally however what has been positive is that those families who are in need of support, for example families living within 30% area of deprivation, who have attended the centres has not reduced significantly. McNay Street has 86.2% of attendees that live within 30% area of deprivation. This indicates that the main hub is positioned within the correct area.

Haughton area has only 26%, however we are aware that these are from the Red Hall Community which is a delivery point.

During 2018 the centres have introduced a number of targeted groups, for example Your Baby and You (a group to support new parents in need of additional help and guidance), Treasure Seekers (a group for children with additional needs), and Bump and Baby (a group for young parents). All of these groups have been well attended with positive outcomes.

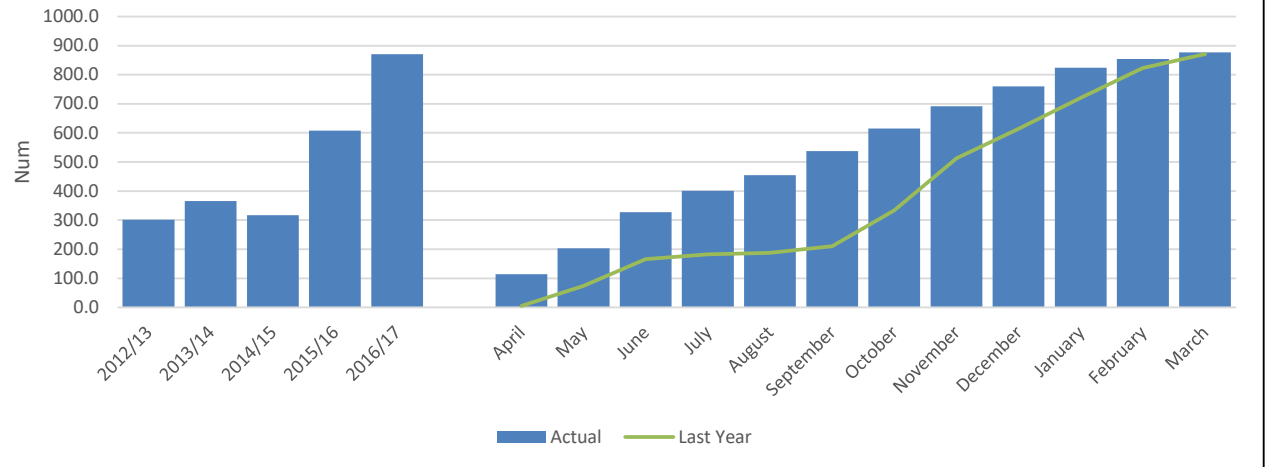
EARLY HELP ASSESSMENTS

DEFINITION	Number of individual Early Help Assessments recorded year to date
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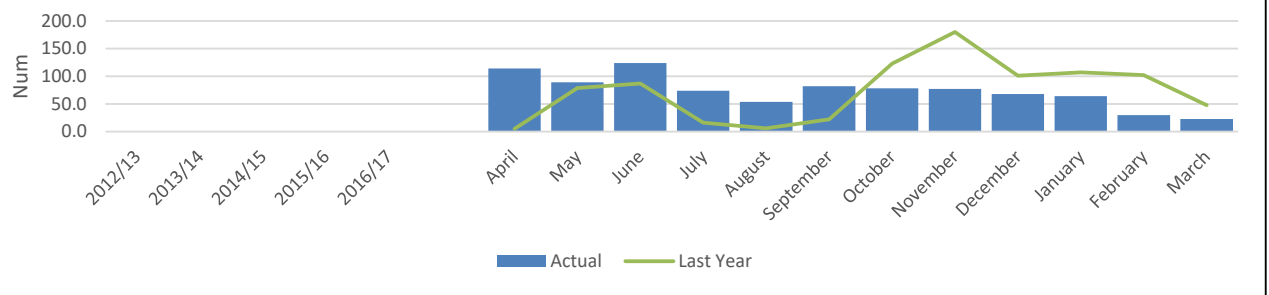
Performance Analysis	877 Early help Assessment were completed during 2017/18 of these 206 (23.5%) were completed by External partners.
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	CSC 001	CSC 002
	Number of individual Early Help assessments recorded year to date	Number of individual Early Help assessments recorded per month

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



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



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)
	Apr-17	114	114
	May-17	203	89
	Jun-17	327	124
	Jul-17	401	74
	Aug-17	455	54
	Sep-17	537	82
	Oct-17	615	78
	Nov-17	692	77
	Dec-17	760	68
	Jan-18	824	64
	Feb-18	854	30
Mar-18	877	23	
Annual Trend	2014/15	317	317
	2015/16	608	608
	2016/17	871	871
	2017/18 YTD	877	877

MISSING EPISODES

DEFINITION The number of episodes of children going missing in Darlington, including Looked After Children, Children Looked After 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
 The total number of missing episodes has reduced each quarter with 158 missing episodes in Quarter one to 83 in quarter 4 (a reduction of almost 50%). Additionally, there was a decrease in the numbers of children from 62 to 40 (36%).
 Missing from Home interviews have been completed in 100% of the cases, with 94% of these being completed in under 72 hours. There was a slight dip in those completed in 72 hours over the Christmas period 2017. Where the coordinator cannot engage the young person she explores the issues with parents, carers, teachers or social workers.

		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)
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-17	73 (25)	44 (10)	<5	18 (8)	<5	89% (47/53)	100%	
	May-17	39 (22)	23 (9)	5	14 (9)	<5	94% (29/31)	100%	
	Jun-17	32 (20)	16 (9)	<5	<5)	<5	88% (21/24)	100%	91.5%
	Jul-17	53 (23)	46 (16)	<5	<5)	<5	98% (50/51)	100%	
	Aug-17	57 (15)	44 (7)	<5	<5)	<5	96% (55/57)	100%	
	Sep-17	56 (22)	44 (12)	<5	<5	<5	98% (49/50)	100%	81.9%
	Oct-17	35 (21)	24 (10)	<5	<5)	<5	85% (28/33)	100%	
	Nov-17	39 (22)	<5	<5	9 (6)	<5	90% (26/29)	100%	
	Dec-17	39 (22)	22 (8)	<5	8 (5)	<5	64% (20/31)	100%	88.2%
	Jan-18	34 (22)	18 (10)	<5	0 (0)	<5)	100% (34/34)	100%	
	Feb-18	14 (12)	<5	<5	0 (0)	0 (0)	93% (13/14)	100%	
Mar-18	35 (22)	19 (10)	<5	<5)	<5)	94% (31/33)	100%	93.8%	
Annual Trend	2014/15								
	2015/16								
	2016/17								
	2017/18 YTD	502 (120)	315 (60)	34 (12)	67 (28)	36 (32)	92% (400/435)	100%	90.60%

Assessments

Quarter 4/ Year-end Performance Summary

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

Throughout 2017/18, 999 assessments were completed across all Social Work teams apart from the Looked After Through Care team:

- First Response team – 48%
- Assessment and Safeguarding teams – 42.7%
- Life Stages 0 – 25 team – 7.3%

The rate of assessment is 441 per 10,000 population, this is 138.3 per 10,000 population lower than 2016/17 year end (579.8 per 10,000).

Timely completion of assessments continues to be high, with 93.3% 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 delay. Performance is better than national (89%), regional (82%) and statistical neighbours (89%).

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 Qtr3 (analysis is in arrears to account for the time it takes to progress from contact to case closure or provision of service) of the 201 assessments completed 89 (44%) were closed with no further action at all, broken down this equates to:

- 65 of these were concluded at assessment without any further intervention (32%)
- 20 were following a strategy discussion (10% of the assessments that progressed to strategy discussion)
- 4 were following further assessment as an outcome of a Section 47 enquiry (2% of the assessments that progressed to a Section 47 enquiry)

The 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 and dip samples, 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, however, this will be a key focus of improvement activity throughout 2018/19.

The audit findings show that within 2017/18 of the 151 audits carried out 0.7% (1) assessment was judged as outstanding, 39.7% (60) assessments were judged as good, with 49.7% (75) requiring improvement to be good and 9.9% (15) inadequate.

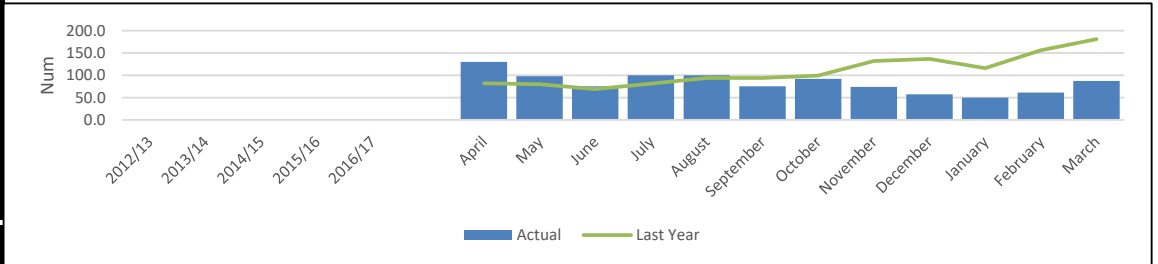
ASSESSMENTS

DEFINITION	Monthly and cumulative number of assessments completed
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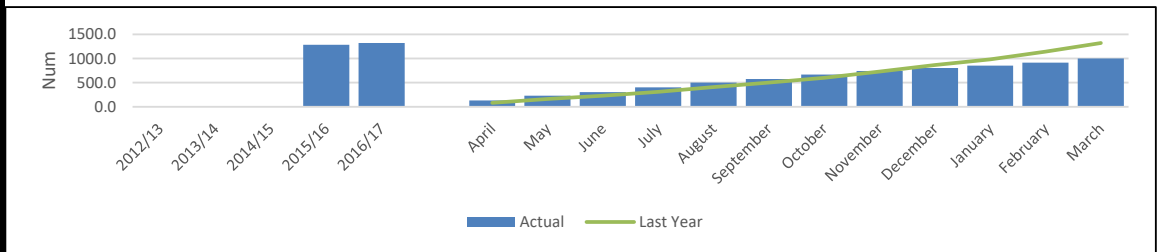
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>999 assessments were completed during 2017/18, this is a reduction of 322 (24%) when compared with the same period in 2016/17.</p> <p>Darlington's rate of assessments completed is 441.5 per 10,000 population, this is 138.3 per 10,000 population lower than the 2016/17 year end (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 Children & Families assessments completed per 10,000 of the 0-17 population.

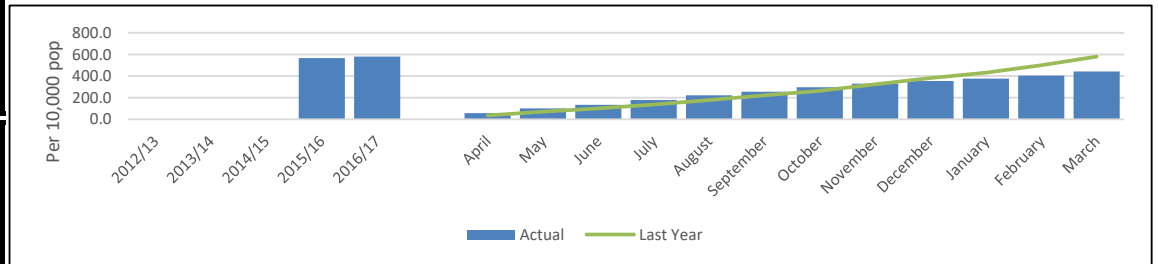
CSC 037: Monthly number of assessments completed



CSC 036: Number of assessments completed year to date



CSC 035: Rate of Children & Families assessments completed per 10,000 of the 0-17 population.



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)	(blank)
	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	74	744	328.8
	Dec-17	57	801	354.0
Jan-18	50	851	376.1	
Feb-18	61	912	403.1	
Mar-18	87	999	441.5	
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			
	2015/16		1284	565.6
	2016/17		1321	579.8
	2017/18 YTD	999	999	441.5

ASSESSMENTS - TIMELINESS

DEFINITION	<p>Of those assessments completed in a period, the percentage completed within 45 working days. Day zero is the first working day on or after the start date of the referral, or strategy discussion decided to initiate S47 enquiries, or where new information indicates that an assessment should be undertaken. End date is the first working day on or after the recorded date the Team Manager closes the single assessment.</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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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>93.3 % of assessments were completed within 45 working days during 2017/18. When compared to benchmarking assessment timeliness is above statistical 86%, regional 83% and national 83% figures.</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

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	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	93.6	74.7	48.0	34.7	24.0
	Oct-17	94.3	98.9	55.4	43.5	22.8
	Nov-17	94.5	96.0	54.1	32.4	21.6
	Dec-17	94.4	93.0	26.3	19.3	8.8
	Jan-18	94.4	94.0	34.0	6.0	0.0
	Feb-18	93.8	85.3	45.9	26.2	23.0
	Mar-18	93.3	88.5	54.0	25.3	14.9

ANNUAL TREND	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	93.3	93.6	0.0	0.0	0.0

Child Protection

Quarter 4/Year End Performance Summary

At the end of 2017/18 there were a total of 520 strategy discussions that had been held which is a reduction on the previous year (605). On average 43 strategy discussions were held each month and involved all Social Work teams. Children's Access Point and First Response team held 55.2% of the strategy discussions throughout 2017/18, the Assessment and Safeguarding teams held 41.8%, the Looked After Through Care team held 1.8% and the Lifestages 0 – 25 team held 1.2%.

The rate of strategy discussions per 10,000 of the 0 – 17 population was 229.8 at the end of this reporting year. This is a reduction on the previous year at 267.4. There is no other benchmarking data available to use as a comparator.

The number of section 47 enquiries started within this reporting year was 399. This is again a reduction on the previous year (432). The rate of section 47 enquiries completed per 10,000 of the 0 – 17 population at the year-end was 173. This is a reduction from the previous year (190.9). This now compares more favourably to the benchmarking available for 2016/17 as follows:

- North East average – 186.6
- Statistical Neighbour average – 164.79
- England average – 157.4

The outcome of Section 47 enquiries that have been started during this reporting year is summarised as follows:

- Continue to single assessment (57.8%)
- Continue to Initial Child Protection Conference (33%)
- No current outcome (3.2%)
- Became Looked After (6%)

At the end of March 2018, 95% of Initial Child Protection Conferences were held within 15 working days from the strategy meeting being held/section 47 being initiated. This performance is lower than the previous year which reached 100%. This performance will be a particular focus throughout 2018/19 given this dip. The rationale for those cases that did not meet timescales has been reported on throughout this year and have been addressed as issues have arisen. However, when comparing against benchmarks from 2016/17 performance was higher:

- North East average – 85.7%
- Statistical Neighbour average – 87.94%
- England average – 77.2%

At the end of the year there were a total of 85 Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) that were held. This figure includes transfer-in Child Protection Conferences from other Local Authorities. This is an increase from the previous year (72). The number of children who were the subject of ICPCs throughout 2017/18 was 157, which is an increase from the previous year (114). The rate of children subject to an ICPC per 10,000 of the 0 – 17 population at the year-end was 69.4. This is higher than the previous year (50.4). The current year-end rate is lower than the North East average (90.3), and the Statistical Neighbour average (83.4) but would be in line with the most recent national benchmark (64.4).

Attendance at ICPCs was high across all agencies at 100% apart from the police (95%) and GPs (6%). This is a significant improvement on the previous year. Attendance at Review Child Protection Conferences saw an improvement on the previous year with 100% attendance apart from education (89%), Health Visitors (96%), GPs (0%), and Police (0%), it is important to note that GP's and Police do not always need to attend review.

At the end of March 2018, there were 115 children who were the subject of a Child Protection Plan compared to only 66 the previous year. This equates to a rate of 50.8 per 10,000 of the 0 – 17 population which is an increase from the previous year (29.2). This brings the figure more in line with comparators from 2016/17:

- North East average – 60.6 per 10,000 of the population
- Statistical Neighbour average – 53.87 per 10,000 of the population
- England average – 43.3 per 10,000 of the population

The year-end figure for children becoming subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 years of the previous plan ending was 6.5%. This is higher than the previous year at 1.9% but is more on a par with the 2015/16 year at 6%.

All children who fall into this category have their cases analysed by a Head of Service to determine if the Local Authority ended the previous plan in a satisfactory manner, and also to determine whether the presenting issues are similar or different when episodes are compared. The vast majority of second or subsequent plans analysed had different presenting issues between the previous and current episode of a Child Protection Plan. Of the small number analysed that had the same presenting issue at both episodes, there had been a long involvement with Children's Social Care and also Early Help services. These cases were discussed reflectively with the relevant managers to ensure learning identified was taken forward where necessary.

All Child Protection cases were allocated to a qualified Social Worker throughout the reporting year. Also, all Child Protection Plans were reviewed within timescales throughout the reporting year.

At the end of March 2018, 88.9% of statutory Child Protection visits had been undertaken within the internally set visiting frequency of 10 working days. This is an improvement on the previous year of 85.6%. All statutory visits that are not undertaken within timescales are analysed by a Head of Service and a rationale provided by the relevant Team Manager. Assurances can be provided that where visits are not completed within timescale, on the whole they are only missed by a matter of a day or two. This level of scrutiny will continue to be provided by a Head of Service.

STRATEGY

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

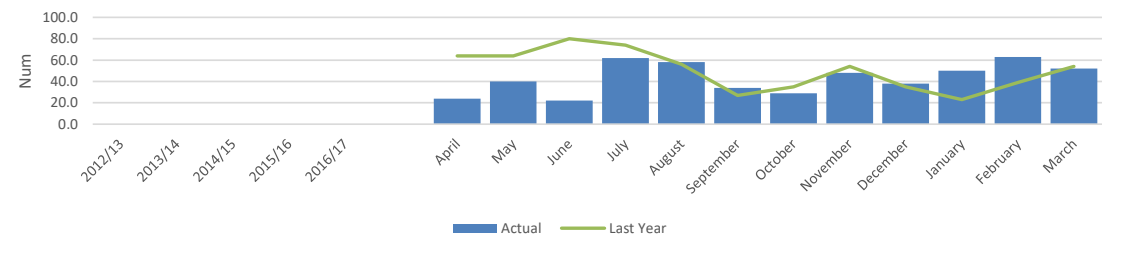
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

520 strategy discussions were started within 2017/18, which is a decrease of 85 (14%) when compared with 2016/17. This decrease is the result of two changes in practice relating to missing episodes and consent. As at year end 2017/18 the rate of strategy discussions was 229.8 per 10,000 population, this is 37.6 per 10,000 lower than the 2016/17 year end.

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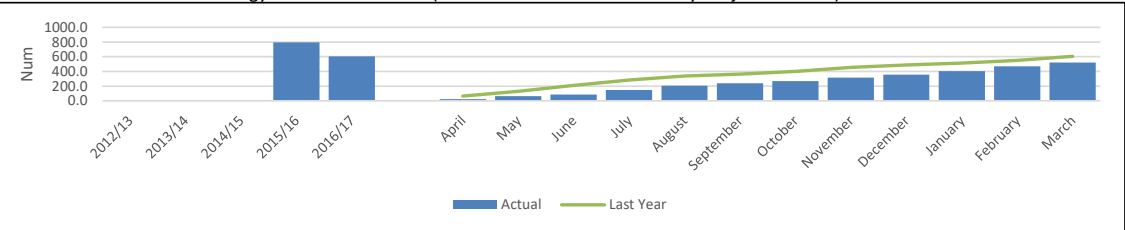
CSC 163	CSC 162	CSC 161
Monthly number of strategy discussions started (where the child was not already subject to a CPP)	Total number of strategy discussions started (where the child was not already subject to a CPP)	Rate of strategy discussions per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (where the child was not already subject to a CPP)

CSC 163: Monthly number of strategy discussions started (where the child was not already subject to a CPP)

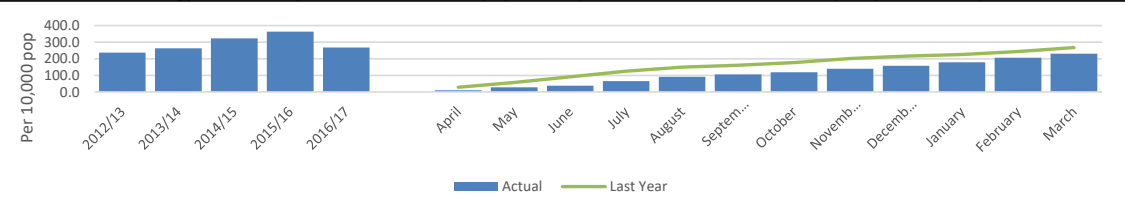


IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)	(blank)
	Apr-17	24	24	10.6
	May-17	40	64	28.3
	Jun-17	22	86	38.0
	Jul-17	62	148	65.4
	Aug-17	58	206	91.0
	Sep-17	34	240	106.1
	Oct-17	29	269	118.9
	Nov-17	48	317	140.1
	Dec-17	38	355	156.9
	Jan-18	50	405	179.0
	Feb-18	63	468	206.8
	Mar-18	52	520	229.8

CSC 162: Total number of strategy discussions started (where the child was not already subject to a CPP)



CSC 161: Rate of strategy discussions per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (where the child was not already subject to a CPP)



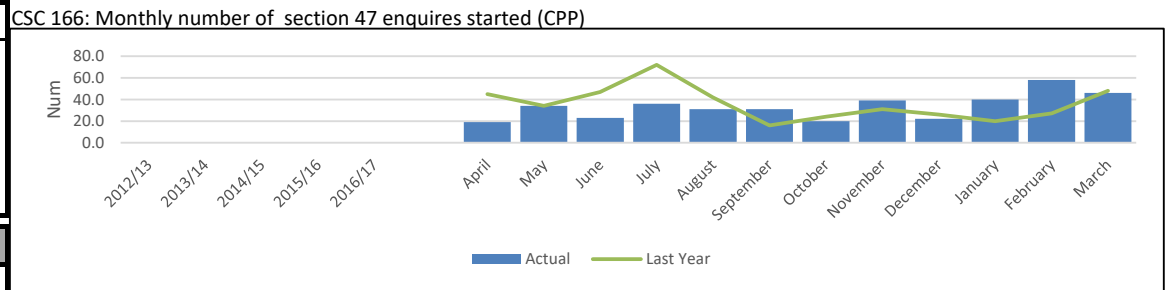
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			322.9
	2015/16	796	796	363.9
	2016/17	605	605	267.4
	2017/18 YTD	520	520	229.8

SECTION 47

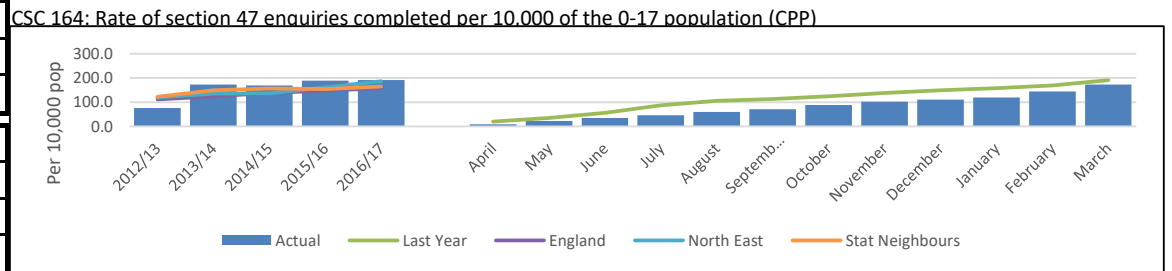
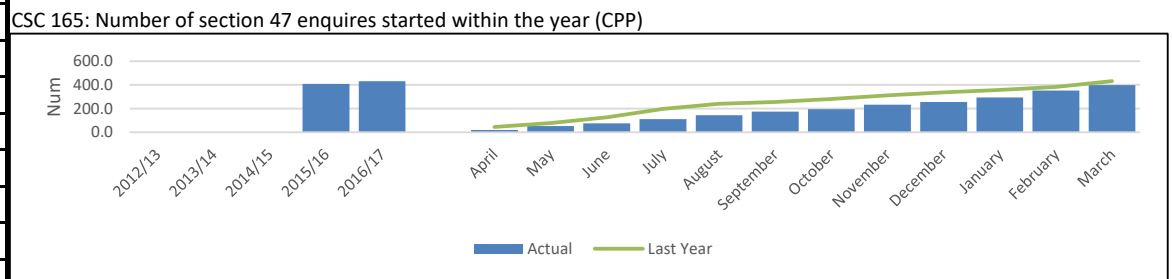
DEFINITION	Number of Section 47 enquiries started monthly and year to date
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>399 Section 47 Enquiries were started within 2017/18, this is a reduction of 33 (8%) when compared with 2016/17.</p> <p>The rate of Section 47 enquiries was 173 per 10,000 population, for 2017/18. This is lower than regional (186.6 per 10,000), higher than with the most recent national benchmark (157.4 per 10,000) but in line with statistical benchmarks (164.8 per 10,000).</p>
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CSC 166	CSC 165	CSC 164
Monthly number of section 47 enquires started (CPP)	Number of section 47 enquires started within the year (CPP)	Rate of section 47 enquiries completed per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (CPP)



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)	(blank)
	Apr-17	19	19	8
	May-17	34	53	23
	Jun-17	23	76	35
	Jul-17	36	112	46
	Aug-17	31	143	60
	Sep-17	31	174	71
	Oct-17	20	194	89
	Nov-17	39	233	102
	Dec-17	22	255	111
	Jan-18	40	295	119
	Feb-18	58	353	144
	Mar-18	46	399	173



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			138.2
	2015/16	408	408	188.6
	2016/17	432	432	190.9
	2017/18 YTD	399	399	172.8

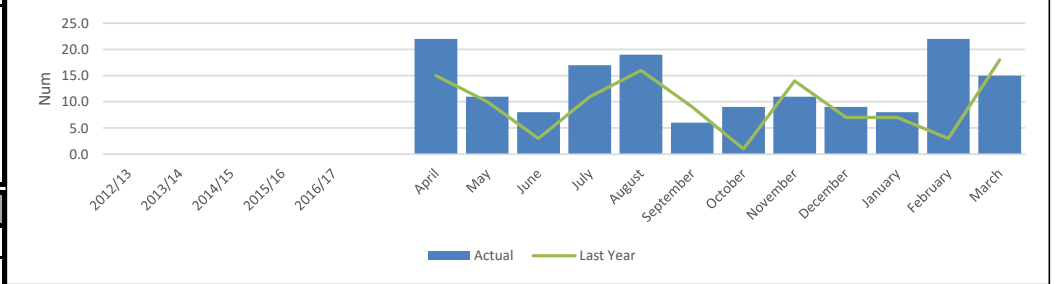
INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - CHILDREN

DEFINITION	Number of children subject to an Initial Child Protection Conference monthly and year to date (including transfer in conferences)
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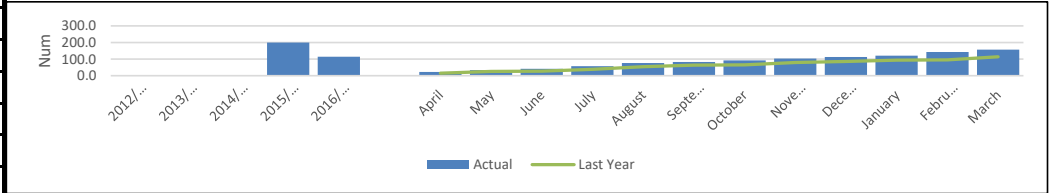
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>157 children were subject to an ICPC during 2017/18, this is an increase of 43 (27%) when compared with the same period in 2016/17. The rate of children subject to an ICPC was 69.4 per 10,000 population, which is higher than the 2016/17 year end (50.4 per 10,000). The year-end rate is 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 of Initial child protection (CPP) conferences (inc. Transfer in Conferences)	Total number of children subject of an initial child protection (CPP) Conferences (inc. Transfer in Conferences)	Rate of initial child protection (CPP) conferences per 10,000 of the 0-17 population.

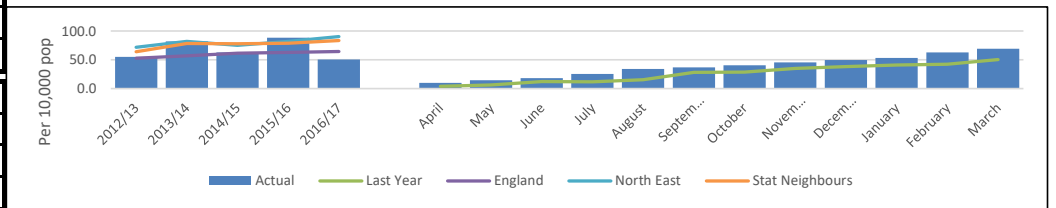
CSC 172: Monthly number of children subject of Initial child protection (CPP) conferences (inc. Transfer in Conferences)



CSC 171: Total number of children subject of an initial child protection (CPP) Conferences (inc. Transfer in Conferences)



CSC 173: Rate of initial child protection (CPP) conferences per 10,000 of the 0-17 population.



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)	(blank)
	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	8	120	53.0
	Feb-18	22	142	62.8
	Mar-18	15	157	69.4

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			62.6
	2015/16	200	200	88.1
	2016/17	114	114	50.4
	2017/18 YTD	157	157	69.4

INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - TIMELINESS

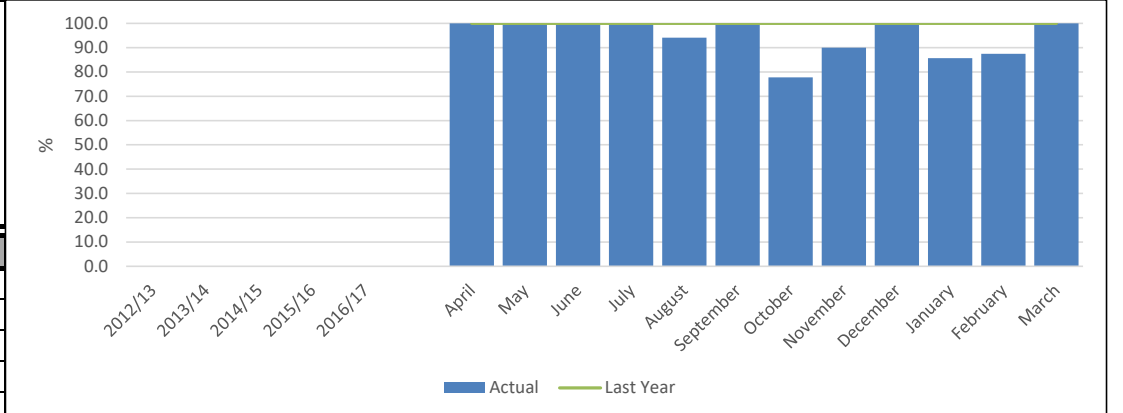
DEFINITION
 Of those ICPCs held within the period (excluding transfer ins), the percentage held within 15 working days of the S47 enquiry.
 Provides an indication of how quickly the safety of children who are judged to be continuing to, or likely to suffer significant harm is being considered by a multi-agency meeting.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS
 95% ICPCs took place within 15 days of the Section 47 enquiry, 134 of 141, within 2017/18. This is lower than the target of 100%.
 95% is higher than all statistical benchmarks, with regional benchmark being 86%, statistical neighbours 88% and national benchmark of 77%.

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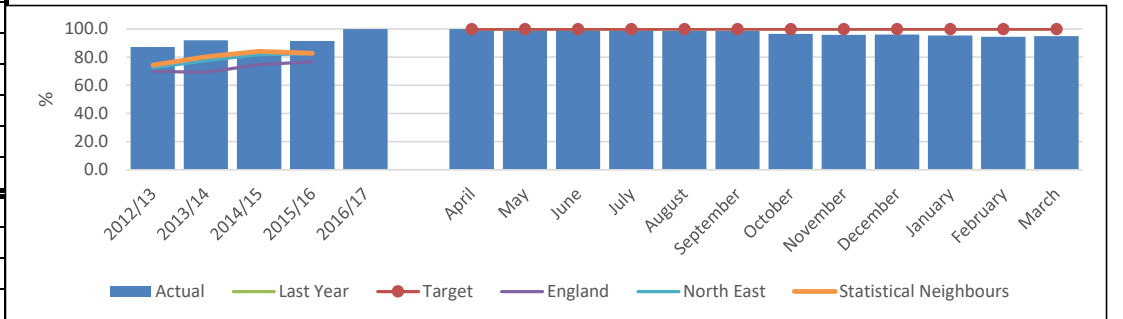
CSC 178	CSC 176
Monthly % of cases recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook where Child Protection strategy meeting / S47 start to initial child protection conference (ICPC) are within 15 days (CPP). Excludes transfer-in conferences.	% of cases where the initial child protection conference (ICPC) was within 15 days of the initiating strategy discussion / S47 start recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook (CPP). This EXCLUDES transfer-in conferences.

CSC 178: Monthly % of cases recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook where Child Protection strategy meeting / S47 start to initial child



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	100.0	
	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	85.7		95.5
	Feb-18	87.5		94.4
	Mar-18	100.0		95.0

CSC 176: % of cases where the initial child protection conference (ICPC) was within 15 days of the initiating strategy discussion / S47 start rec



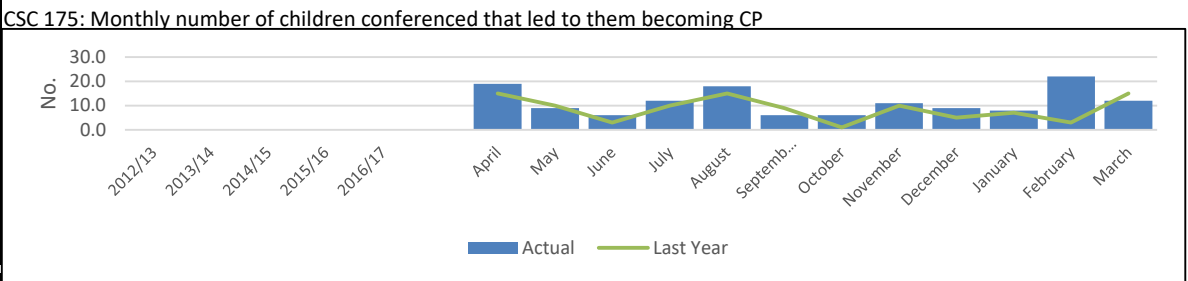
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	83.8	83.8
	2015/16	91.5	91.5
	2016/17	100.0	100.0
	2017/18 YTD	95.0	95.0

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)

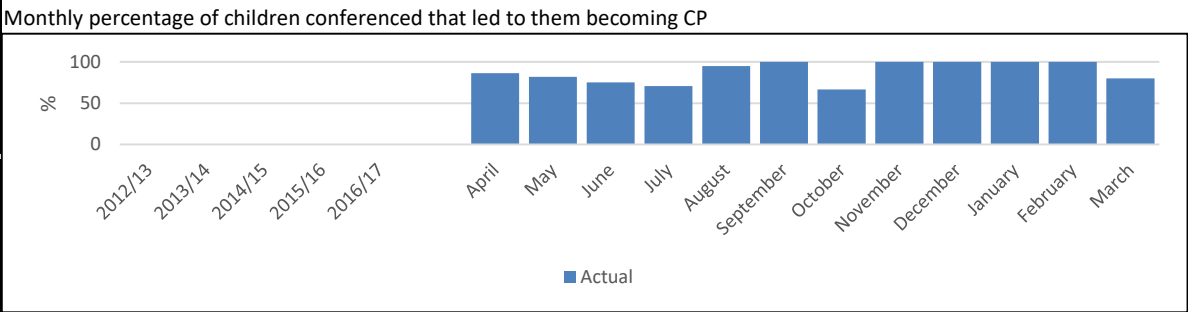
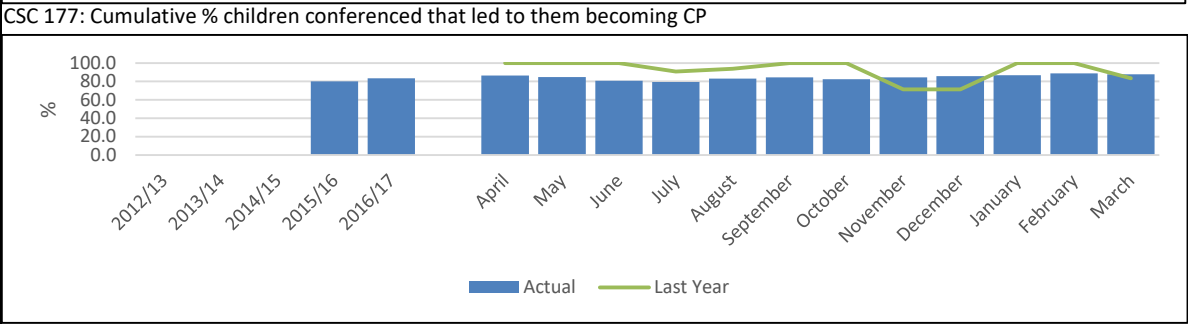
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS In total, 138 children have become subject to a Child Protection Plan during 2017/18 after an ICPC, this is 30 (29%) higher than at the same point in 2016/17, and equates to 87.9% of all children subject to an ICPC.

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	



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE

Month	Target	CSC 175	CSC 177	Monthly percentage of children conferenced that led to them becoming CP
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		8	86.7	100.0
Feb-18		22	88.7	100.0
Mar-18		12	87.9	80.0



ANNUAL TREND

2014/15			
2015/16	170	80.0	
2016/17	103	83.3	
2017/18 YTD	138	87.9	

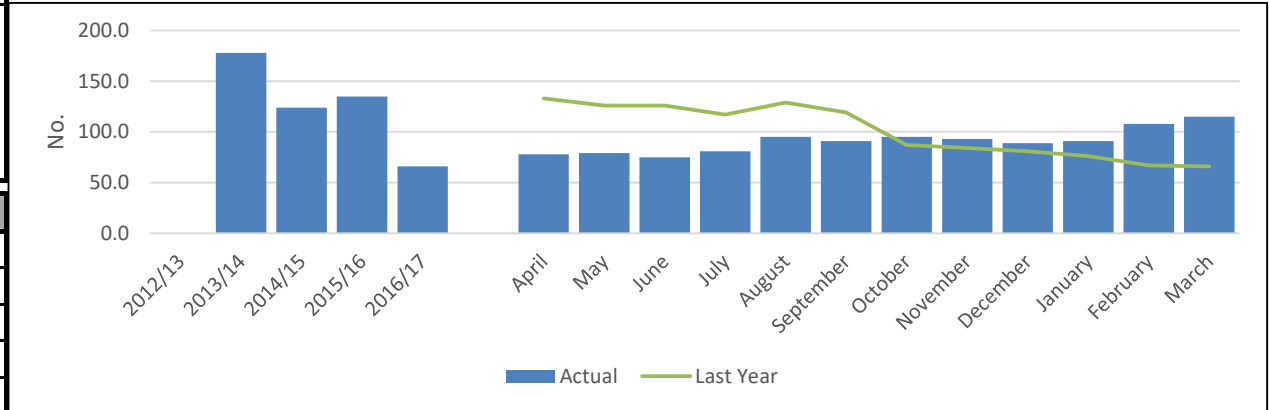
CHILD PROTECTION

DEFINITION	Number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan at the end of the month.
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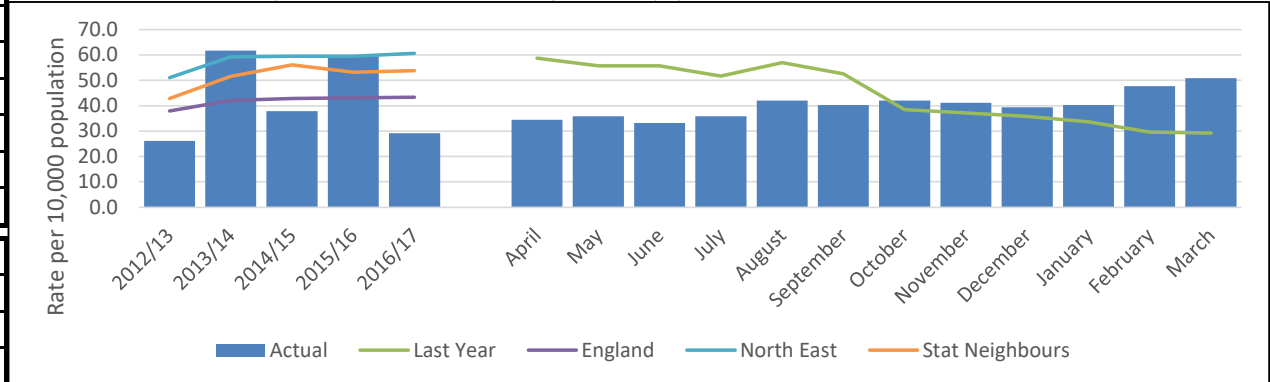
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>115 children were subject to a Child Protection Plan at the end of 2017/18, this is 49 (43%) higher than at the same point in 2016/17.</p> <p>The rate of children subject to a Child Protection Plan is 50.8 per 10,000 population. This is lower than the 2016/17 regional (60.6 per 10,000), higher than national benchmark (43.3 per 10,000), but is similar to the most recent statistical (53.9 per 10,000) benchmarks.</p>
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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 a child protection plan



CSC 181: Rate of children subject to a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population



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	91	40.2
	Feb-18	108	47.7
	Mar-18	115	50.8

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	124	37.9
	2015/16	135	59.5
	2016/17	66	29.2
	2017/18 YTD	115	50.8

CHILD PROTECTION - ALLOCATION & REVIEWS

DEFINITION

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.

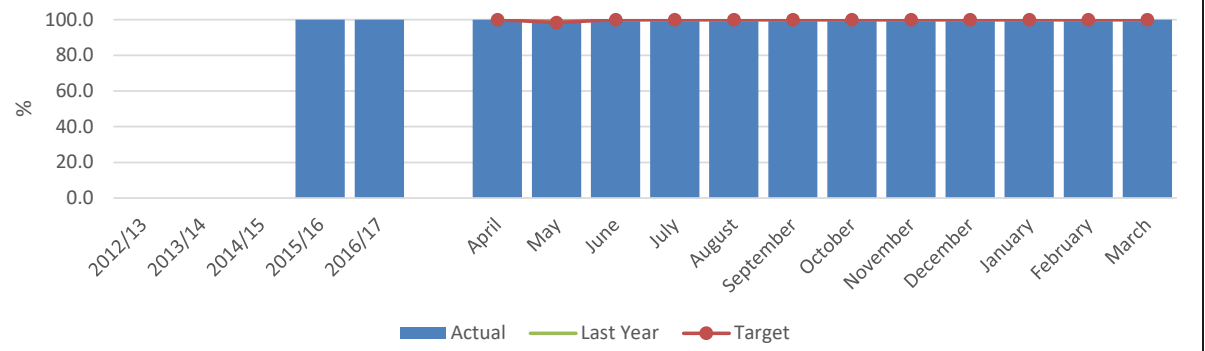
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

100% of Child Protection Cases were allocated to a qualified social worker.

100% Child Protection reviews have been completed within the required timescales during 2017/18. This is higher than regional 95%, national 92% and statistical neighbours 95%.

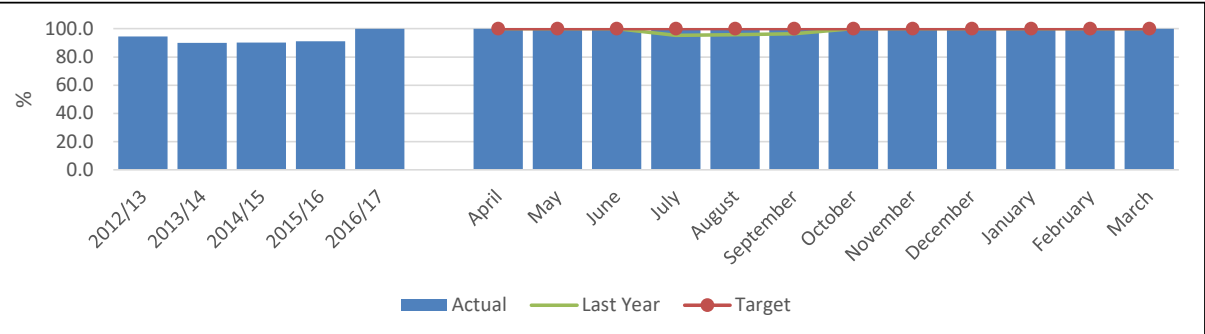
CSC 183	CSC 191
% Child Protection cases allocated to a qualified social worker	% of Children who were subject of a child protection plan whose case was reviewed within the required timescales.

CSC 183: % Child Protection cases allocated to a qualified social worker



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	CSC 183	CSC 191	
	Apr-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	May-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Jun-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Jul-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Aug-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Sep-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Oct-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Nov-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Dec-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Jan-18	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Feb-18	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Mar-18	100.0	100.0	100.0

CSC 191: % of Children who were subject of a child protection plan whose case was reviewed within the required timescales.



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	CSC 183	CSC 191
	2015/16	100.0	91.2
	2016/17	100.0	100.0
	2017/18 YTD	100.0	100.0

CHILD PROTECTION - TIME PERIODS

DEFINITION
 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.
 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.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS
 The year-end figure for children becoming subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 years of the previous plan ending was 6.5%. This is higher than the previous year at 1.9 but is more on a par with the 2015/16 year at 6%. All children who fall into this category have their cases analysed by a Head of Service to determine if the Local Authority ended the previous plan in a satisfactory manner, and also to determine whether the presenting issues are similar or different when episodes are compared. Any themes that arise are used as learning points.

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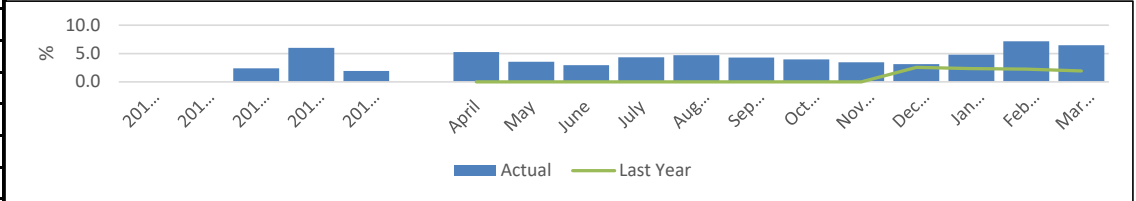
CSC 186	CSC 188	CSC 189
% children ceasing to be subject of a CPP who had been subject to a CPP for 2 or more years	% of children becoming subject to a CPP for a 2nd or subsequent time within 2 years of a previous plan ending	% of children becoming subject to a CPP for a 2nd or subsequent time ever

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

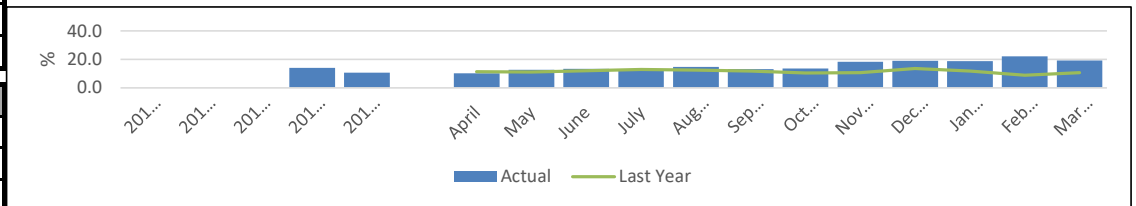


IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	5.0		
	Apr-17	0.0	5.3	10.3
	May-17	0.0	3.6	12.7
	Jun-17	0.0	2.9	13.3
	Jul-17	0.0	4.4	12.4
	Aug-17	0.0	4.7	14.7
	Sep-17	0.0	4.3	13.2
	Oct-17	0.0	4.0	13.7
	Nov-17	0.0	3.5	18.3
	Dec-17	0.0	3.1	19.1
	Jan-18	0.0	4.8	18.7
	Feb-18	0.0	7.1	22.2
	Mar-18	0.0	6.5	19.1

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



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



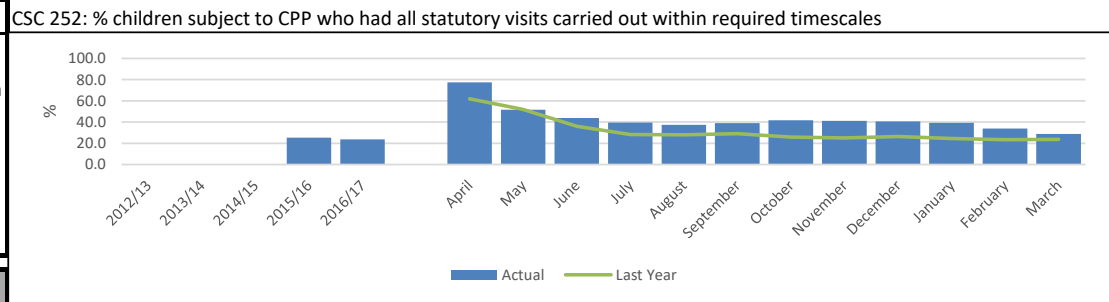
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	0.6	2.4	
	2015/16	3.3	6.0	14.0
	2016/17	0.0	1.9	10.6
	2017/18 YTD	0.0	6.5	19.1

CHILD PROTECTION - STATUTORY VISITS

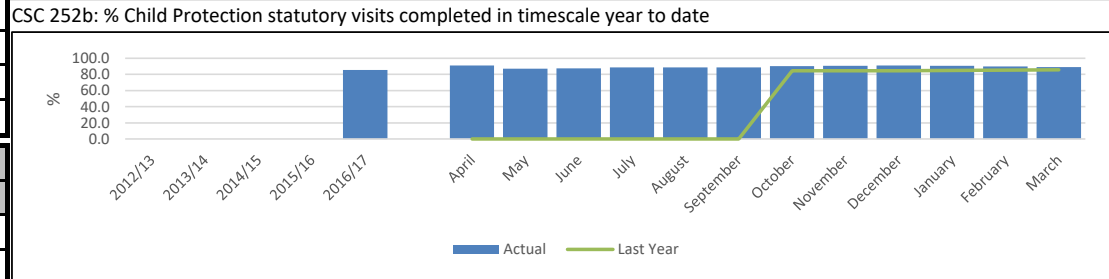
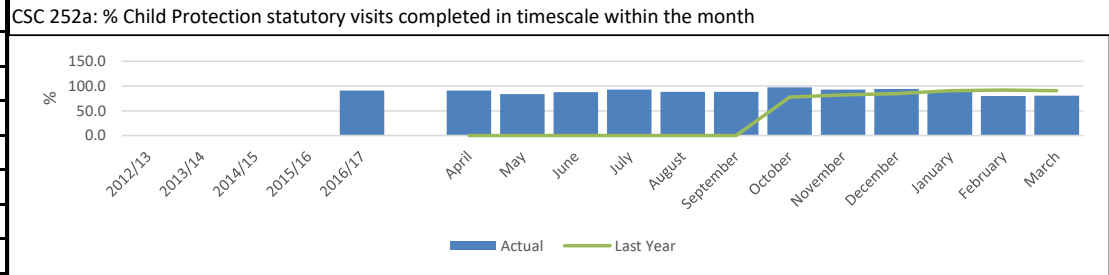
DEFINITION	Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan who had all statutory visits carried out within timescales and percentage of Child Protection statutory visits completed within timescale monthly and year to date.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	89% of statutory Child Protection visits were completed within required timescales, which is 2,326 of 2,617 in 2017/18. This is higher than the 2016/17 year end (86%).
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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



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target			
	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	92.6	88.7
	Aug-17	37.4	88.5	88.7
	Sep-17	38.9	88.6	88.7
	Oct-17	41.6	97.3	90.2
	Nov-17	41.1	93.2	90.6
	Dec-17	40.7	93.9	90.9
	Jan-18	39.4	89.3	90.7
	Feb-18	33.9	80.0	89.7
	Mar-18	28.9	80.8	88.9



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			
	2015/16	25.3		
	2016/17	23.6	85.6	85.6
	2017/18 YTD	28.9	88.9	88.9

Looked After

Quarter 4/Year-end Performance Summary

At the end of March, the number of Children in Care was 215, which is less than the 2016/17 year-end figure of 219. However, this figure is higher than all benchmarks and rigorous analysis of the number of children being brought into care will be required as 2018/19 is entered to ensure this does not continue to remain an outlier.

A total of 79 children became looked after during 2017/18, which is a reduction on the 114 children who became looked after during 2016/17. There were 84 children who were ceased to be looked after in 2017/18 which is lower than the 101 children in 2016/17. This demonstrates that more children left care than entered care in this reporting year.

At the end of March, 100% of Children in Care had an allocated Social Worker which has been consistent throughout the reporting year. This means the target for this performance has been met. This exceeds the year-end performance for 2016/17 as this was 90.1%.

At the end of March, 100% of Children in Care had a Looked After Review completed within timescales, which has been consistent throughout the reporting year. This means the target for this performance has been met. This exceeds the year-end performance for 2016/17 as this was 90.2%.

In July 2017, performance began to be reported on the percentage of Children in Care who had a permanence plan at the second Looked After Review. This performance has consistently been 100%. There is no target set for this reporting year and no previous year to compare performance against. However, going forward the area of permanence plans will be developed in response to feedback received from Ofsted.

In July 2017, performance also began to be reported on the percentage of Children in Care who were subject to a Placement Order but had not yet been adopted to determine if plans were in place to secure their permanence. This performance has consistently been 100%. As above, there is no target set for this reporting year and no previous year to compare against. During this reporting year a tracker was developed to enable more rigorous oversight of plans for children who have a Placement Order but who have not yet been adopted.

A new performance indicator was introduced this year in relation to children's participation in their Looked After Review. At the end of this reporting year, 576 individual Looked After Reviews were held. Of these 576 reviews:

- 128 reviews were held for children aged under 4
- 229 reviews had a child who attended and spoke for themselves
- 1 review had a child attended but alongside their advocate who spoke on their behalf

- 5 reviews were attended by a child who gave their views non-verbally
- 7 reviews were attended by a child who did not contribute
- 13 reviews were not attended by a child but an advocate attended who spoke on their behalf
- 146 reviews were held where the child did not attend but their views had been sent
- 47 reviews were held where the child did not attend and did not send their views

At the end of March, 93.4% of statutory visits to Children in Care had been carried out in timescale. This is a significant improvement on the 2016/17 year end performance of 86.9%. Although this performance is good, there continues to be a focus on analysing the reasons why visits were not carried out in timescales to determine if there are themes arising, and action taken to address these themes if they are apparent.

There has been a concerted effort to ensure placement stability improves for children over this reporting year. At the end of March, the percentage of children with 3 or more placement moves in the last 12 months positively reduced to 9.8%. This is in line with the target set of 10%. Each month has seen a steady decrease in this percentage which demonstrates the rigour that has been applied to improving this performance. The 2017/18 percentage is an improvement on the 2016/17 year-end figure of 11.9%.

The percentage of children who had been in their current placement for 2 years or more who had been in care for 2½ years or more positively increased to 65.1% at the end of March 2018. This means the target of 65% that had been set has been reached. Again, each month has seen a steady increase in this percentage which demonstrates continued rigour. The 2017/18 percentage is an improvement on the 2016/17 year-end figure of 52.4%.

Although placement stability targets have been reached, the targets are still outliers in relation to statistical neighbour benchmarking and work continues to ensure the direction of travel is maintained. A new Placement Stability Strategy was rolled out in 2017 which saw the strengthening of placement stability meetings, and the requirement for a Head of Service to agree any placement move to ensure all avenues had been explored before moving a child. This strategy appears to be effective given the improvements in performance.

The percentage of children placed 20 miles or more away from home has seen an increase to 12% at the end of March, when compared to the 2016/17 year-end performance of 7.8%.

In March 2018 there were 100% of Initial Health Review forms returned to Health within 7 working days. Performance for this indicator across the year averages out at 88.7%. There is no comparator data available for 2016/17.

On average across the reporting year, 87.5% of Initial Health Assessments were completed within 20 working days. The March data for this indicator is not yet available. This is a significant improvement on the year-end average for 2016/17 which was 54%. This improved performance is evidence that rigour has been consistently applied throughout the year regarding this area.

At the end of March, there were 91.3% (146 out of 160) children with an up-to-date Review Health Assessment. This is an improvement on the year-end for 2016/17 which was 71.6%. Of the 12.5% (14) children and young people who do not have an up-to-date Review Health Assessment, 7 (4.4%) had refused. This group were aged 16 and 17 years. Efforts continue to try and encourage this cohort to engage in a health assessment. Of the remaining children, these are placed outside of the area and delays have been encountered as a result. This issue is being addressed. However, this figure is provisional given the statutory return has not yet been submitted and there is a requirement for children aged under 5 years to have a six monthly Review Health Assessment.

At the end of March, there were 87.5% (140/160) children with an up-to-date dental check in the past 12 months. There were an additional 12 children (7.5%) who refused to have a dental check. This year-end performance is an increase on the previous year-end performance which was 75.9%. However, it is acknowledged this performance must improve further in the next reporting year.

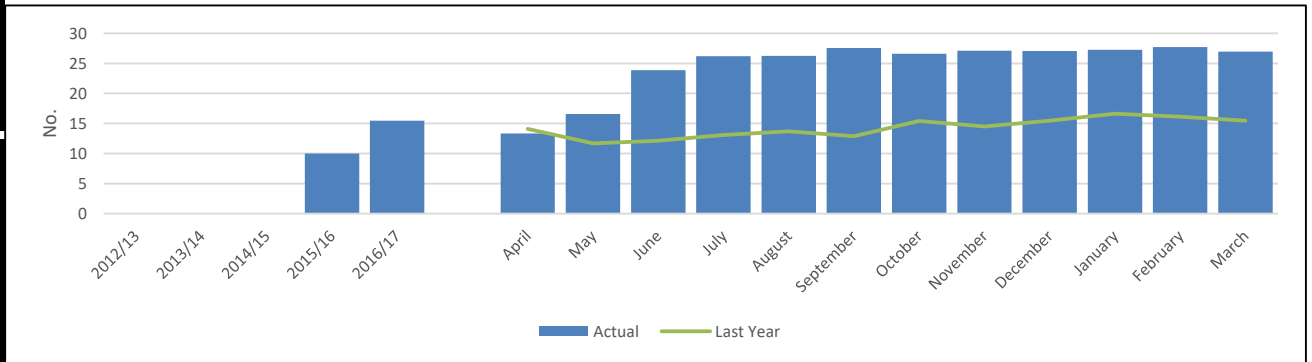
LOOKED AFTER

DEFINITION	Number of Looked After Children at the end of each month.
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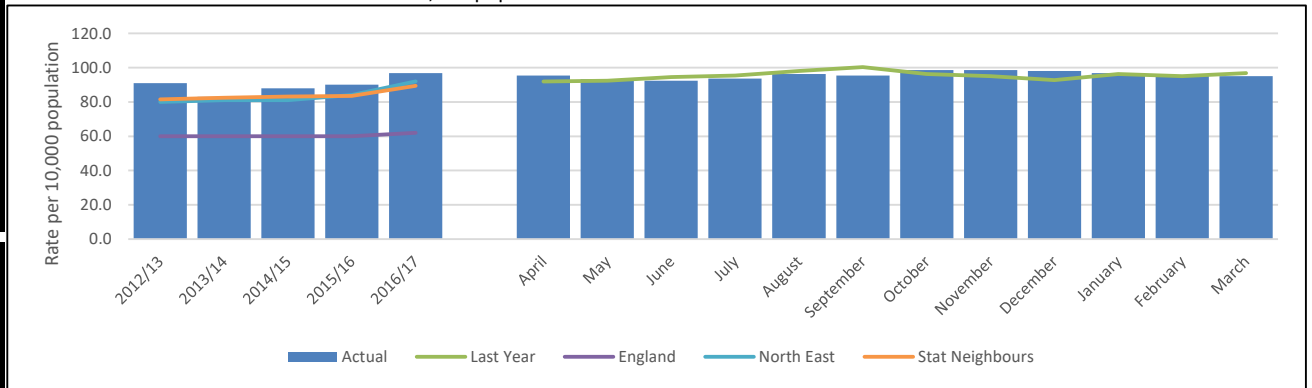
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>215 children were Looked After at the end of 2017/18, this is a reduction of 4 children when compared with 2016/17.</p> <p>The rate of children Looked After is 95 per 10,000 population, this is higher than national (62 per 10,000), regional (92 per 10,000) and statistical (89.4 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: Total number of Looked After Children



CSC 200: Rate of Looked After Children Per 10,000 population



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IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	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	219	96.8
	Feb-18	216	95.5
	Mar-18	215	95.0

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	200	88.0
	2015/16	205	90.0
	2016/17	219	96.8
	2017/18 YTD	215	95.0

LOOKED AFTER - ALLOCATION & REVIEWS

DEFINITION

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.

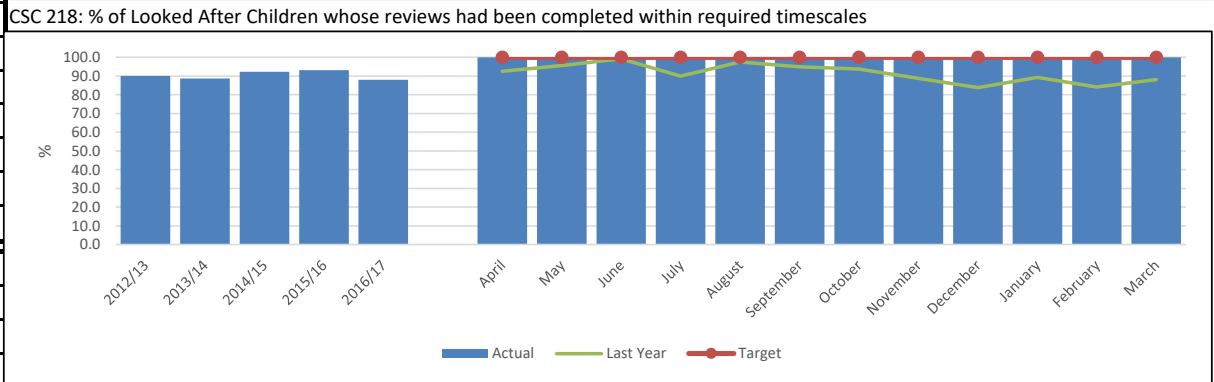
To improve compliance with local authorities' legal requirements under the Review of Children's cases Regulations 1991. The purpose of the review is to consider the plan for the child's welfare, to monitor the progress of the plan and amend it as necessary in light of changed information and circumstances. 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 during 2017/18.
 100% of Looked After reviews had been completed within required timescales up to the end of during 2017/18.

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		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
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	100.0	100.0
	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	100.0	100.0
	Feb-18	100.0	100.0
	Mar-18	100.0	100.0
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		92.3
	2015/16	98.1	93.1
	2016/17	100.0	88.0
	2017/18 YTD	100.0	100.0



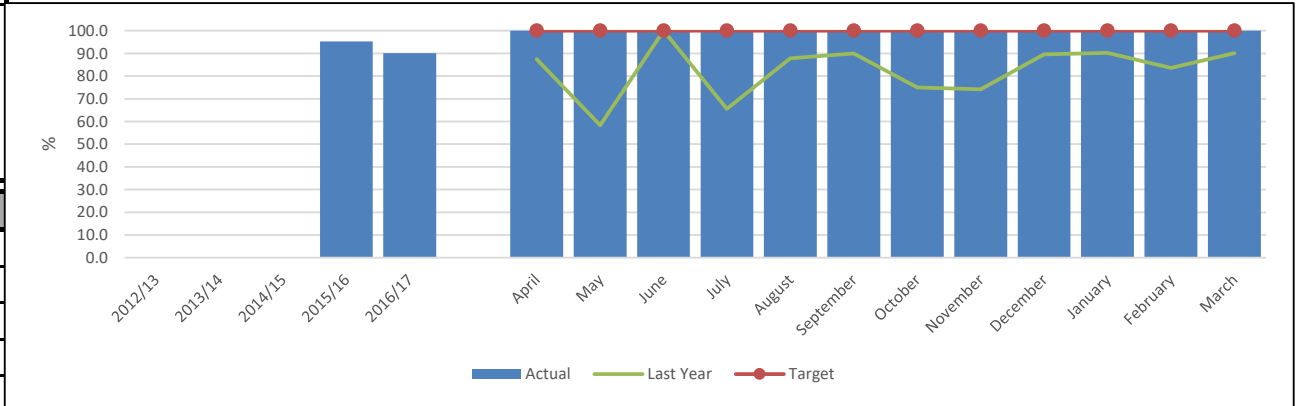
LOOKED AFTER - REVIEWS

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.

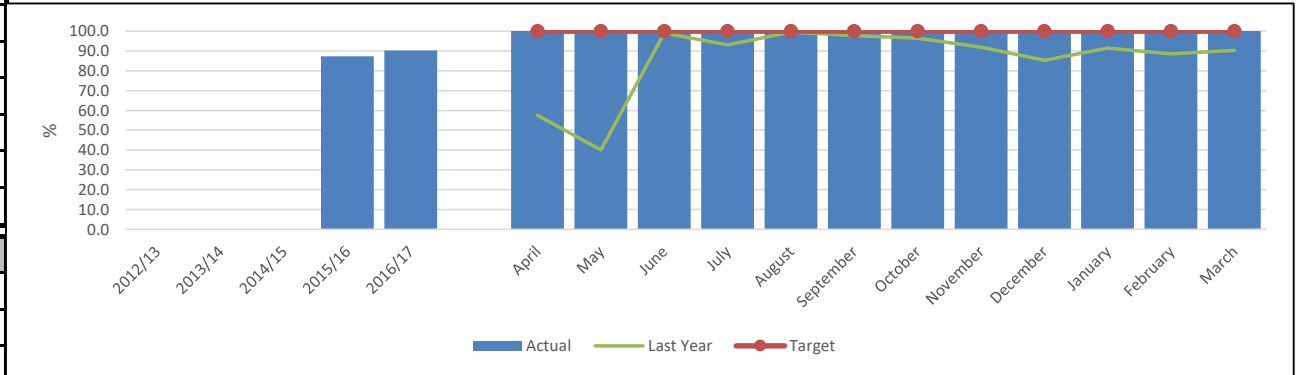
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS 100% of Looked After reviews had been completed within required timescales up to the end of during 2017/18.

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

CSC 219: % Looked After Children initial reviews completed within timescales



CSC 220: % Looked After Children subsequent reviews completed within timescales



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

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

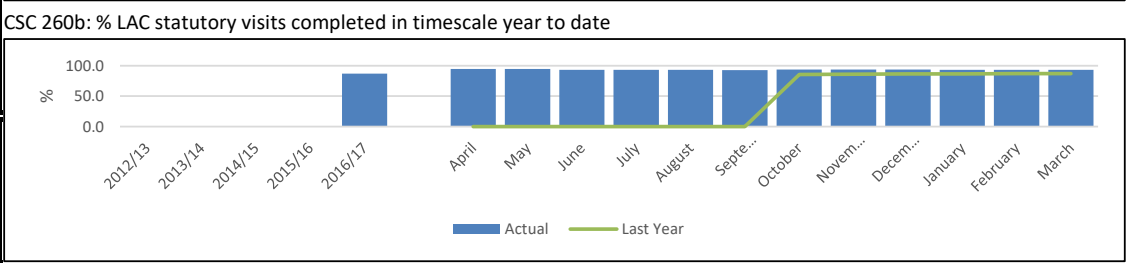
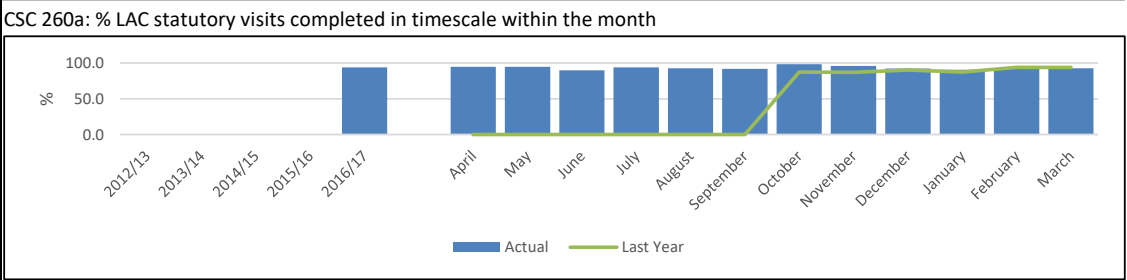
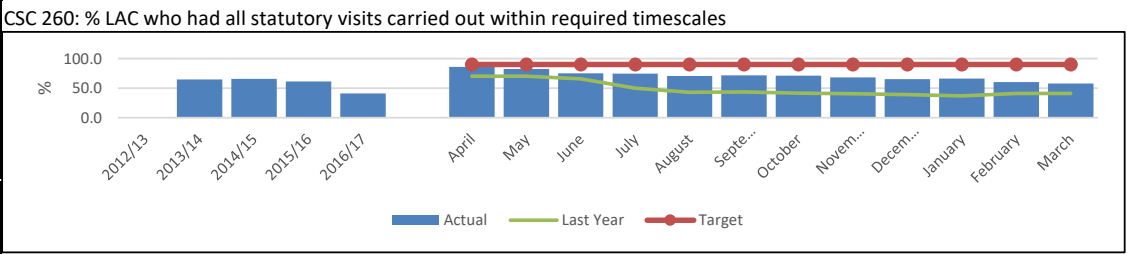
LOOKED AFTER - STATUTORY VISITS

DEFINITION	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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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	93.4% of statutory Child Protection visits were completed within required timescales, which is 2,511 of 2,689 during 2017/18. This is higher than the 2016/17 year end (87%).
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	Target	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
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE		90.0		
	Apr-17	86.0	94.9	94.9
	May-17	82.4	94.7	94.8
	Jun-17	75.2	89.8	93.1
	Jul-17	74.7	94.0	93.3
	Aug-17	70.8	92.6	93.2
	Sep-17	71.6	91.9	93.0
	Oct-17	71.4	98.3	93.7
	Nov-17	68.3	95.9	94.0
	Dec-17	65.3	92.3	93.8
	Jan-18	66.2	90.5	93.5
	Feb-18	60.3	93.2	93.4
	Mar-18	57.8	92.6	93.4
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	65.9		
	2015/16	61.3		
	2016/17	41.0	86.9	86.9
	2017/18 YTD	57.8	93.4	93.4



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 looked after for more than 2.5 years and in their current placement for 2 or more years (includes those aged under 16 only), 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

9.8% of children in care had had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months, which equates to 21 children at the end of 2017/18. This is in line with Benchmark data for 16/17 which was 9.5% for statistical neighbours and 10% national average.

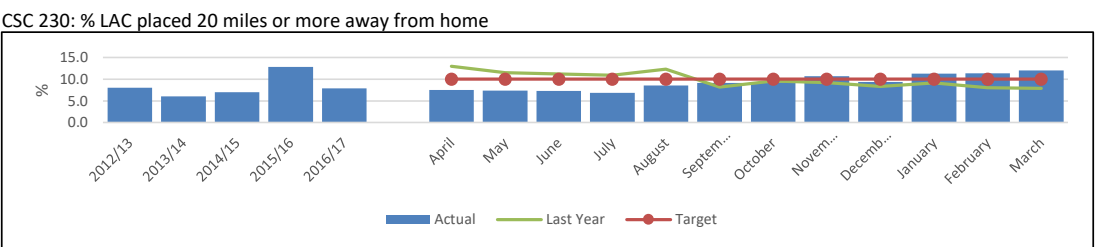
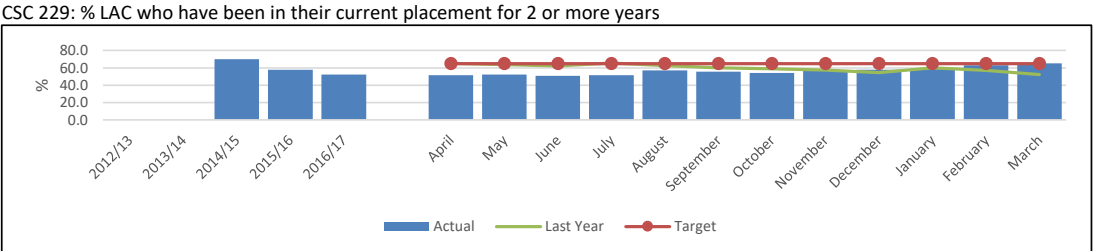
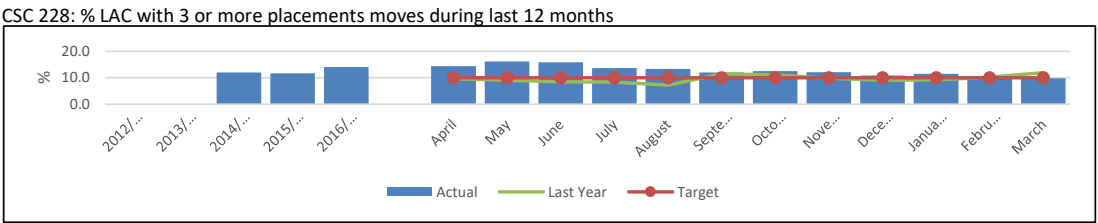
65.1% of children in care had been in their placement for 2 or more years at the end of December. This is an improvement of 12.7% when compared with 2016/17. Benchmarking data for 16/17 for statistical neighbours is 72% and nationally 68%. Therefore this remains a focus for improvement.

12% of children in care are placed 20 miles or more away from home. Of the children placed 20 miles or more away from home, 8 (32%) were placed with connected carers or parents and 12 (48%) 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	65	10.00
	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	11.4	58.5	11.3
	Feb-18	10.2	63.1	11.4
	Mar-18	9.8	65.1	12.0

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	12.0	70.0	7.0
	2015/16	11.7	57.8	12.8
	2016/17	14.1	52.4	7.8
	2017/18 YTD	9.8	65.1	12.0



LOOKED AFTER - INITIAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

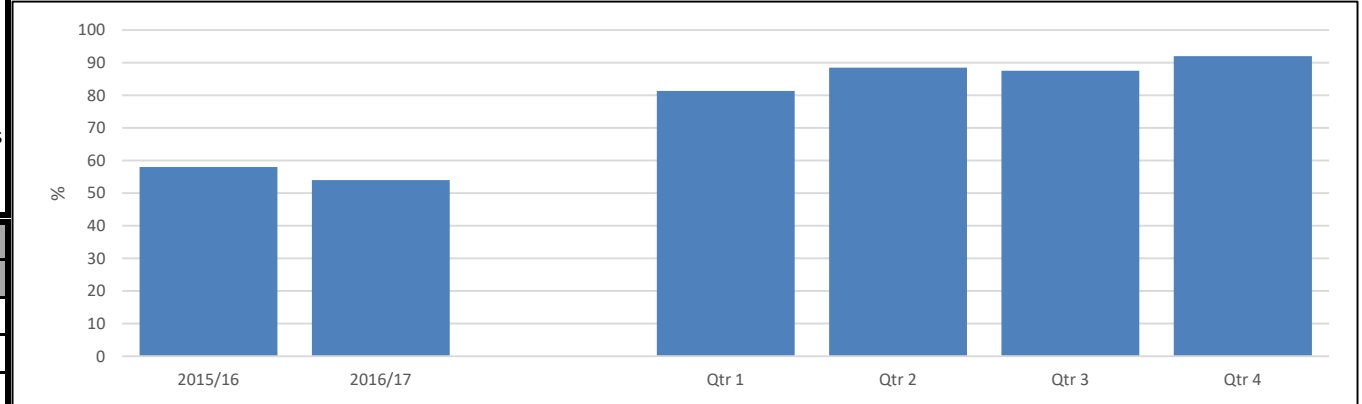
DEFINITION Percentage of Initial Health Assessments completed within 20 working days of a child becoming Looked After year to date, and percentage of IHA forms returned to Health within 7 working days.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS There has been a steady improvement in the percentage of Initial Health Assessments for Looked After Children completed within timescales through the reporting year. The overall average for 2017-18 is just over 87.5% which is a marked improvement on previous years. A total of 8 were held out of timescale in the year.

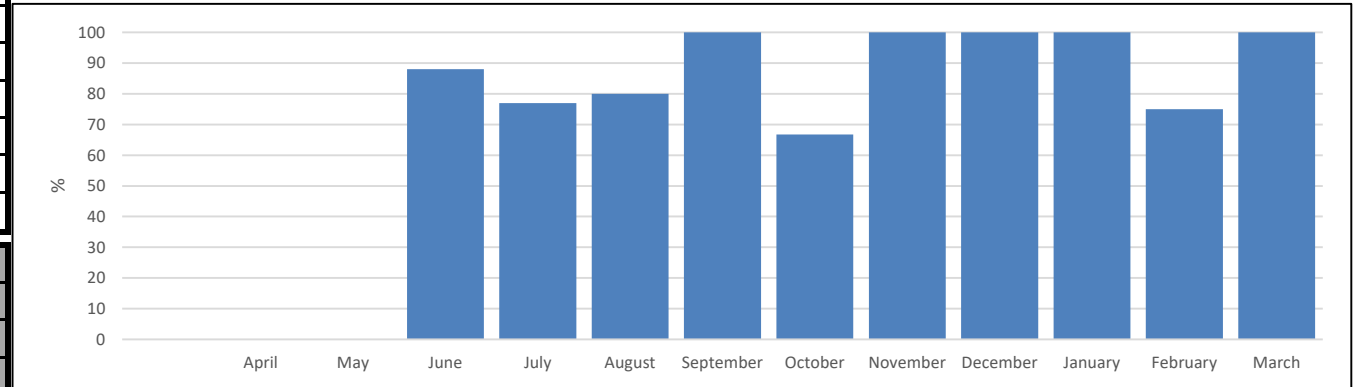
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		CSC 247 % newly LAC with a completed Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days	% IHA forms returned to Health within 7 working days
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-17		
	May-17		
	Jun-17	81.3	88.00
	Jul-17		77.00
	Aug-17		80.00
	Sep-17	88.5	100.00
	Oct-17		66.70
	Nov-17		100.00
	Dec-17	87.5	100.00
	Jan-18		100.00
	Feb-18		75.00
	Mar-18	92.0	100.00
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		
	2015/16	58.0	
	2016/17	54.0	
	2017/18 YTD	87.5	

CSC 247: % newly LAC with a completed Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days



% IHA forms returned to Health within 7 working days



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 had their teeth checked by a dentist during the previous 12 months, and the percentage who had had an annual health check 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

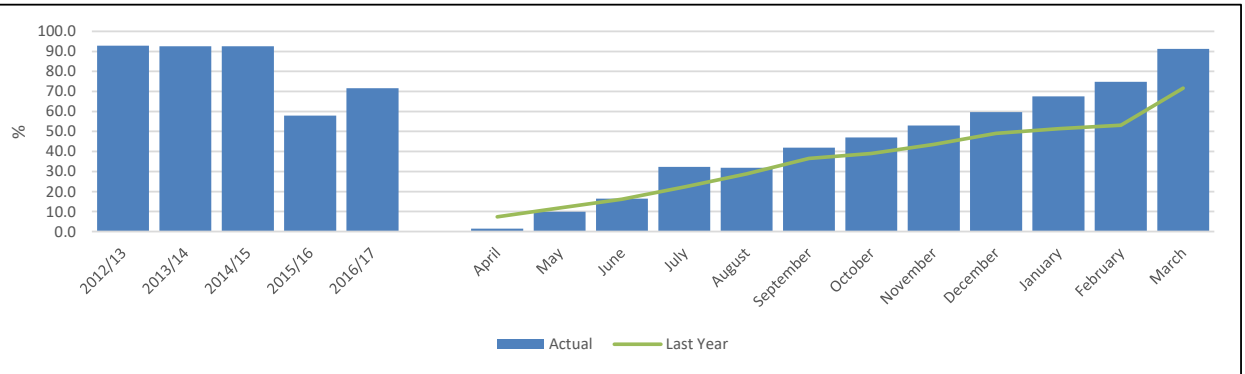
91.3% of relevant Children in care had an up to date health check, which is 146 of 160 in 2017/18. This is 20.3% higher than at the same point in 2016/17. Of those children without an up to date health check, 7 had refused their health check.

87.5% of relevant children in care had an up to date dental check, which is 140 of the 160 in 2017/18. This is 11.6% higher than at the same point in 2016/17. Of the children without an up to date dental check at the end of December, 12 had refused their dental check. This is in line with National benchmarking data for 2016/2017 which was 83%, slightly lower than statistical neighbours with 89%.

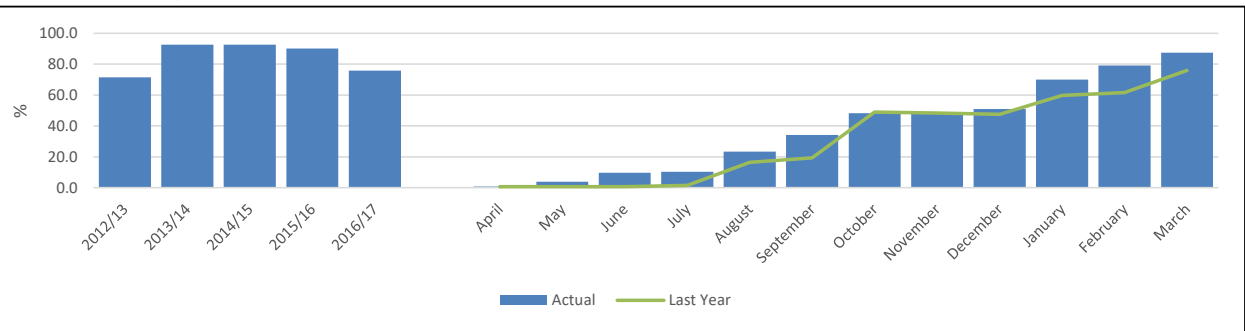
A Health and Dental check tracker has been introduced to monitor those who are required to complete a Health and Dental check, monthly reporting is completed to identify those in need of assessment and those who assessment are out of timescale.

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

CSC 250: % LAC with up to date health checks



CSC 251: % LAC with up to date dental checks



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	CSC 250	CSC 251	
	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	67.5	70.0	
	Feb-18	74.8	79.3	
Mar-18	91.3	87.5		
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	92.6	92.6	
	2015/16	57.9	90.2	
	2016/17	71.6	75.9	
	2017/18 YTD	91.3	87.5	

Care Leavers

Quarter 4/Year-end Performance Summary

At the end of March, the percentage of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation was 94.9%. Although this percentage is below the 100% target that had been set for 2017/18, the percentage across the year has fluctuated from a low of 93.0% in January 2018 to a high of 98.0% in November 2017. On average, this percentage has been 96.0% across this reporting year. The year-end figure of 94.9% is slightly lower than the year end figure for 2016/17 which was 96.4%, but an average percentage across 2017/18 does show a figure of 96.0% which is almost identical to the year-end figure for 2016/17.

At the end of March, the percentage of Care Leavers who were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) was 32.2% (19 Care Leavers aged 19, 20 and 21 out of 59). This positively exceeds the target set at 33.0%. Although this percentage is slightly higher than the year-end for 2016/17 which was 30.6%, the percentage across 2017/18 has fluctuated from a low of 18.2% in October 2017 to a high of 39.4% in April 2017. On average, this percentage has been 30.7% across this reporting year which is almost identical to the year-end figure for 2016/17. The lowest figure of 18.2% was achieved as there were a small group of Care Leavers who had been engaged in an Arts Award which subsequently ended meaning the percentage inevitably increased following the end of that programme.

Of the 19 Care Leavers who are not in education, employment or training:

- 9 were NEET because of illness or disability
- 10 were NEET because of other circumstances

Focus continues to be maintained on decreasing the percentage of Care Leavers who are NEET. There is a monthly NEET Reduction Group where each young person who falls in this cohort are discussed and plans developed in an effort to re-engage them in education, employment or training. There is also a NEET tracker that is maintained to support this performance.

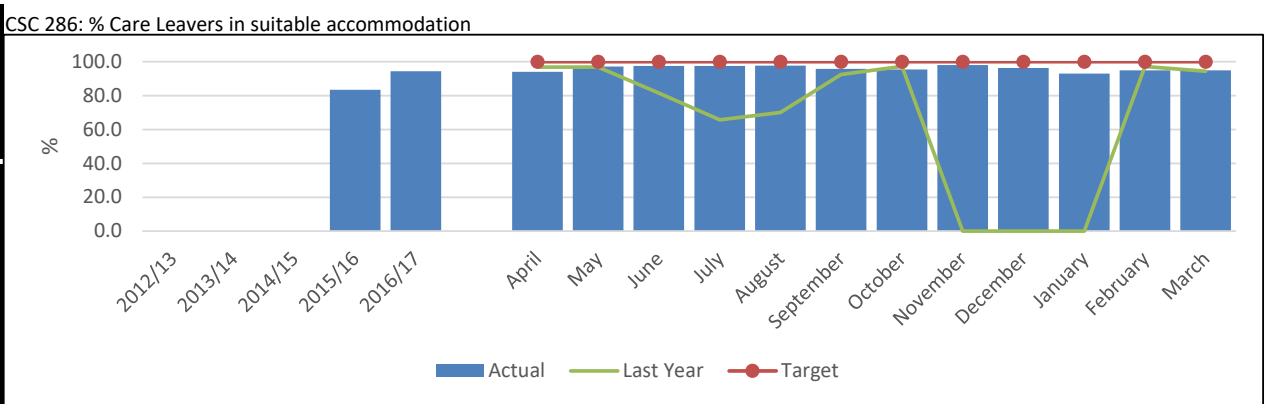
In addition to the monthly NEET Reduction Group, a weekly Job Club is being started in May 2018 in conjunction with the Morrison's Trust. The focus of the Job Club will be to further engage the NEET population in an effort to re-engage them with education, employment or training.

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, and 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.

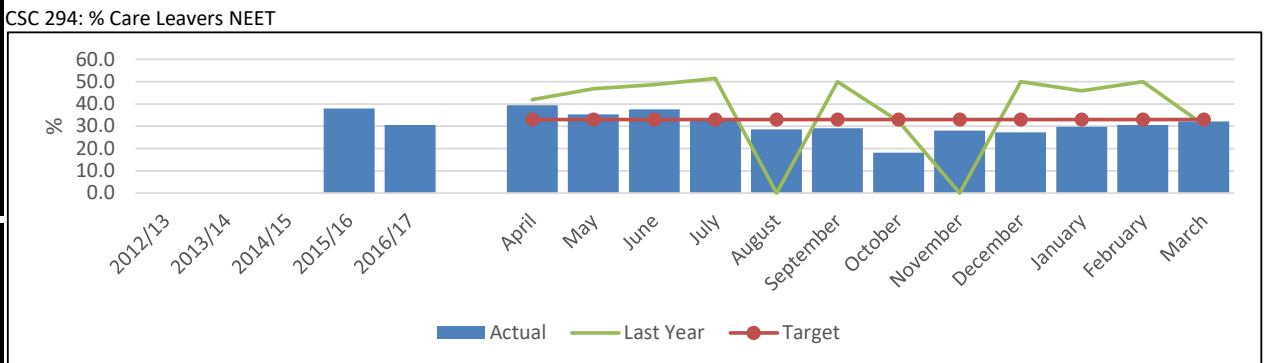
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS
 At the end of 2017/18, 94.9% of relevant care leavers were in suitable accommodation which is 56 of 59. The three young people who were in unsuitable accommodation were in Police custody.
 At the end of 2017/18, 32.2% of relevant care leavers were not in employment, education or training, which is 19 of the 59. Of the 19 young people who were NEET, 9 were NEET due to illness or disability and 3 were NEET due to pregnancy or parenting, meaning that 7 of the young people were available for employment or education.

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



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE

Month	Target	CSC 286	CSC 294
Target	100.0	100.0	33.0
Apr-17	93.9	93.9	39.4
May-17	97.1	97.1	35.3
Jun-17	97.5	97.5	37.5
Jul-17	97.5	97.5	32.5
Aug-17	97.6	97.6	28.6
Sep-17	95.8	95.8	29.2
Oct-17	95.5	95.5	18.2
Nov-17	98.0	98.0	28.0
Dec-17	96.4	96.4	27.3
Jan-18	93.0	93.0	29.8
Feb-18	94.9	94.9	30.5
Mar-18	94.9	94.9	32.2



ANNUAL TREND

Year	CSC 286	CSC 294
2014/15	-	-
2015/16	100.0	37.9
2016/17	96.4	30.6
2017/18 YTD	94.9	32.2

Audits

Performance Summary

During 2017/18, of the 151 audits carried out 0.7% (1) were judged as Outstanding, 39.7% (60) were good, 49.7% (75) requiring improvement and 9.9% (15) inadequate.

In Quarter 4, 2.8% (1) of the audits carried out were judged as Outstanding, 38.9% (14) were Good, 52.8% (19) were Requires Improvement and 5.6% (2) as Inadequate.

Since October 2016 the focus of the audit programme has continued 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 Team Manager and Independent Reviewing Officers, and are randomly sampled. Moderation is currently undertaken by the Assistant Director, Heads of Service and Service Managers.

Over the year the audit programme has shown progress in relation to the quality of assessments for audits undertaken with 95% judged either Requires Improvement or better.

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.

Following feedback during the Ofsted re-inspection in March 2018, consideration is now being given to the audit programme and how this can be extended to include a range of quality assurance methods capturing a wider overview of the quality of work undertaken with children, young people and their families.

Work has also been underway to produce a bespoke Audit for the Family Support Team.

AUDITS

DEFINITION	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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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>In Quarter 4, 2.8% of the audits carried out were judged as Outstanding, 38.9% were Good, 52.8% were Requires Improvement and 5.6% as Inadequate.</p> <p>Since October 2016 the focus of the audit programme has continued 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 Team Manager and Independent Reviewing Officers, and are randomly sampled. Moderation is currently undertaken by the Assistant Director, Heads of Service and Service Managers.</p> <p>Over the year the audit programme has shown progress in relation to the quality of assessments for audits undertaken with 95% judged either Requires Improvement or better.</p>
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Audits Completed	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target									
	Q4 2016/17	22	0	0.0%	7	31.8%	13	59.1%	2	9.1%
	Q1 2017/18	27	0	0.0%	7	25.9%	12	44.4%	8	29.6%
	Q2 2017/18	44	0	0.0%	18	40.9%	23	52.3%	3	6.8%
	Q3 2017/18	44	0	0.0%	21	47.7%	21	47.7%	2	4.5%
	Q4 2017/18	36	1	2.8%	14	38.9%	19	52.8%	2	5.6%

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15									
	2015/16									
	2016/17									
	2017/18 YTD	151	1	0.7%	60	39.7%	75	49.7%	15	9.9%

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Proposed C&YP SC indicator set 2018/19

1	CSC 32	Total number of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months.
2	CSC 034	Monthly number of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months. Based on distinct count of referral ID and according to start date of current and end dates of previous referral.
3	CSC 036	Number of assessments completed year to date
4	CSC 165	Number of section 47 enquires started within the year
5	CSC 178	Monthly % of cases recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook where Child Protection strategy meeting to initial child protection conference (ICPC) are within 15 days (CP)
6	CSC 252a	of children who were the subject of a child protection plan (CPP) during the reporting period who had all Statutory Visits carried out within required timescale (every 10 working days)
7	CSC 218	Timeliness (LAC) - % of looked after children (LAC) at the end of the month whose reviews had been completed within the required time limits of 20 working days for initial review and 91 and 183 days for statutory review (excludes children placed for Adoption and children LAC for <20 working days)
8	CSC 260b	Percentage of CLA stat visits completed within timescales cum
9	CSC 246	Number incidents of looked after children (LAC) recorded as missing to the Police within the month
10	csc 001	Number of individual Early Help / CAF assessments recorded year to date
11	CSC 022	Monthly % of referrals completed within 24 hours
12	CSC 038	% of children & families assessments completed within 45 working days
13	CSC 176	% of cases where the initial child protection conference (ICPC) was within 15 days of the initiating strategy discussion recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook
14	CSC 182	Number of children subject to a child protection plan (CPP)
15	CSC 183	% of child protection cases (CPP) and LAC allocated to a qualified social worker
16	CSC 186	% of children ceasing to be the subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) during the reporting period who have been subject of a CPP continuously for 2 years or more
17	CSC 188	% of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) for a 2nd or subsequent time in the reporting period (within 2 yrs. of previous CPP ceasing)
18	CSC 201	Total number of looked after children (LAC) at the end of the reporting period
19	CSC 228	Stability of placements of looked after children (LAC) - placement moves - the percentage of children looked after at the reporting date with 3 or more placement moves during the last 12 months
20	CSC 229	Stability of placements of looked after children (LAC) - length of placement - the percentage of children aged under 16 and looked after who have been looked after for at least 2.5 years and have been in their current placement continuously for at least 2 years

21	CSC 230	% of total looked after children (LAC) placed more than 20 miles away from home, inside or outside the boundary, as at the end of each reporting period (excludes children placed for adoption)
22	CSC 247	% of newly looked after children (LAC) in the period for whom an initial health assessment has been completed within 20 working days - note this is updated retrospectively each month due to the 20 working days allowed meaning that some eligible children would not have been due an assessment by the reporting date
23	CSC 250	% of looked after children (LAC) with up to date Health Checks (CLA 1 yr. +)
24	CSC 251	% of looked after children (LAC) with up to date Dental Checks (CLA 1 yr. +)
25	CSC 286	% of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation (combined for 18, 19, 20 and 21 year olds - former relevant)
26	CSC 294	% of Care Leavers not in education, employment or training (combined for 18, 19, 20 and 21 year olds)
27	CSC 004	No. New Contacts
28	CSC 004i	Number of Contacts (each child can be included more than once)
29	CSC 004k	Individual Number of Children Contacts were received on (child will only appear once per month)
30	CSC 006	% contacts completed within 1 working day within the month
31	CSC 009	% contacts completed in over 3 working days within the month
32	CSC 013	Monthly number of referrals
33	CSC 012	Number of referrals started year to date
34	CSC 014	Rate of Referrals per 10,000 Population
35	CSC 026	Monthly % referrals completed in over 72 hours
36	CSC 002	EHA's Per Month
37	CSC 037	Monthly number of assessments completed
38	CSC 035	Rate of Assessments per 10,000 population
39	CSC 040	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 45 working days
40	CSC 060	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 25 working days
41	CSC 080	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 15 working days
42	CSC 100	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 10 working days
43	CSC 163	Number of strategy discussions started within the month
44	CSC 162	Total number of strategy discussions started
45	CSC 161	Rate of strategy discussions per 10,000 population
46	CSC 166	Monthly number of Section 47 enquiries started
47	CSC 164	Rate of Section 47 Enquiries per 10,000 population
48	CSC 172	Monthly number of children subject to an ICPC

49	CSC 171	Number of children subject to an ICPC year to date
50	CSC 173	Rate of children subject to an ICPC per 10,000 population
51	CSC 175	Monthly number of children conferenced that led to them becoming CP
52	CSC 177	Cumulative % children conferenced that led to them becoming CP
53	CSC 181	Rate of children subject to a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population
54	CSC 189	% of children with a Child Protection Plan (CPP) for 2nd or subsequent time with no time restriction
55	CSC 191	% of Children who were subject of a child protection plan whose case was reviewed within the required timescales.
56	CSC 200	Rate of Looked After Children Per 10,000 population
57	CSC 227	% Looked After Children allocated to a qualified Social Worker
58	CSC 219	% Looked After Children initial reviews completed within timescales
59	CSC 220	% Looked After Children subsequent reviews completed within timescales
60	CSC 260	% LAC who had all statutory visits carried out within required timescales
61	CSC 260a	% LAC statutory visits completed in timescale within the month
62	CSC 252	% of children who were the subject of a child protection plan (CPP) during the reporting period who had all Statutory Visits carried out within required timescale (every 10 working days).
63	CSC 252b	Percentage of CP statutory visits completed within timescales cumulative

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EARLY INTERVENTIONS FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN MISSING FROM CARE

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members with information regarding children who are Looked After and who experience missing from home episodes.

Summary

2. At the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee held on 16 April 2018, Members requested a report be submitted to the Committee being held on 2 July 2018 which addressed the interventions in place for children who are looked after and who experience missing episodes, and the reasons why these children go missing.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that :-
 - (a) Members acknowledge and note the contents of this report.

**Suzanne Joyner
Director of Children and Adults Services**

Background Papers

There were no background papers used in relation to this report.

Author: Joanne Stoddart – Head of Assessment, Care Planning & LATC
Extension: x 6286

S17 Crime and Disorder	Nil impact
Health and Well Being	Nil impact
Carbon Impact	Nil impact
Diversity	Nil impact
Wards Affected	Nil impact
Groups Affected	Nil impact
Budget and Policy Framework	Nil impact
Key Decision	No
Urgent Decision	No
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	Nil impact
Efficiency	Nil impact
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	Whilst this report is in relation to Looked After Children, it is for information only and therefore there is no impact on this group or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

4. BACKGROUND

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is a key duty on local authorities and requires effective joint working between agencies and professionals. When a child or young person goes missing they are at risk. Safeguarding children and young people therefore includes protecting them from this risk. Local authorities are responsible for protecting children whether they go missing from their family home or from local authority care.

5. REASONS WHY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE GO MISSING

It is known that children and young people who go missing from home or care may:

- Run away from a problem, such as abuse or neglect at home
- Or return to somewhere they want to be
- They may also have been coerced to run away by someone else

6. THE LINK BETWEEN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO GO MISSING AND EXPLOITATION

It is thought that approximately 25% of children and young people that go missing are at risk of serious harm (“Still Running 3: Early Findings from the Thirds National Survey of Young Runaways;” The Children’s Society: 2011). There are particular concerns about the links between children and young people running away, and the risk of sexual exploitation. Missing children and young people may also be vulnerable to other forms of exploitation such as violent crime, gang exploitation, or to drug and alcohol misuse.

7. CHILDREN AND YOUNG WHO ARE LOOKED AFTER AND GO MISSING

Children who are looked after and who are missing from their placements are particularly vulnerable. Although Looked After Children are particularly vulnerable when they go missing, the majority of children who go missing are not looked after, and go missing from their family home. They can face the same risks as a child missing from local authority care. The same measures are often required to protect both groups of children and young people.

8. OFSTED FEEDBACK REGARDING MANAGEMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO GO MISSING FROM HOME AND CARE

In the Ofsted inspection held in 2018 for services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers, the following positive feedback was received regarding the local authority's arrangements for managing children and young people who go missing from home and care:

"The response to children who go missing from home, care...and those who have been, or are at risk of being, sexually exploited is prompt, effective and well-coordinated. Timely return home interviews are undertaken by a dedicated missing from home family worker...Information is shared effectively and data is carefully analysed to identify trends, patterns, hotspots and risky individuals or groups and to inform appropriate protective action. Levels of risk are regularly reviewed for individual children, and all of this ensures that children are safeguarded and protected." (Ofsted: 21 May 2018).

9. INTERVENTIONS IN PLACE TO ADDRESS AND REDUCE MISSING EPISODES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Darlington Borough Council's procedures for managing children and young people who go missing

The procedures that are in place for responding to and managing children and young people who go missing are the same for children living at home and children in the care of the local authority. The process follows:

- If a young person is reported to the Police because they are missing from home or placement, the Social Worker and Missing from Home Coordinator will receive an e-mail from the Children's Access Point detailing the time the episode started and concluded.
- The Missing from Home Coordinator will complete a missing from home interview with the child or young person within 72 hours of them returning.
- The Missing from Home Coordinator and the Social Worker will develop a missing from home action plan which considers the recommendations and information gathered in the return home interview.

- If the child or young person has 3 or more missing episodes in a rolling 90 day period, the Social Worker and Team Manager will review the case to determine if it is appropriate to hold a multi-agency meeting to include the Police, education, health and any other partners involved with the child or young person. This meeting would discuss the issues that are known about and also further develop the missing from home plan in an effort to keep the child or young person safe and reduce the number of missing episodes.
- If the child or young person has multiple missing episodes the Social Worker will complete an ERASE intelligence form and attend the multi-agency Missing and Exploited Group to share the known risks in relation to the child or young person, including the reasons for going missing, localities visited, the other young people they are known to be associating with during these episodes, any links to child sexual exploitation, crime or anti-social behaviour, mental health or substance misuse.
- If the Social Worker has concerns that a child or young person may be at risk of child sexual exploitation (CSE), they will arrange a multi-agency meeting to ensure that an appropriate plan is put in place to reduce the risk of CSE. This meeting will be chaired by the Team Manager. During this meeting a CSE risk matrix will be completed to determine the level of risk.
- If the level of risk for CSE is medium or high, the Social Worker will forward the matrix to the ERASE team, make a referral to Barnardos for inclusion of the young person on the CSE awareness programme, and attend the Missing and Exploited Group to discuss the child or young person.
- If the level of risk is low, and the child or young person is looked after, it is an expectation that the foster-carers/residential workers will complete the CSE awareness raising work with the child or young person.

Placement suitability

A number of children and young people have been accommodated into local authority care directly because of their level of missing episodes and concerns regarding child sexual exploitation in an effort to safeguard them. In these cases, family have either not acknowledged the significant risk to their child or do not have the ability to protect their child and agree to the child being accommodated for their own safety.

As a local authority, we have a duty to place a Looked After Child in the most appropriate placement available. Placing a child or young person in an appropriate placement should support in minimising the risk of them going missing. In the majority of cases this is successful.

Every individual child or young person has a care plan which includes details of the arrangements and strategies that need to be put in place to keep the child or young person safe, and minimise the risk of the child or young person going missing from their placement.

The type of placement identified for each child or young person is based on an assessment of their needs. Some young people are accommodated into specialised residential provision who have expertise in working with this cohort, others are placed into mainstream residential homes and foster homes.

Placing children and young people away from the Darlington area is also an option that has to be considered. This option is considered if a child or young person continues to experience high levels of coercion from the same individuals who had encouraged them to abscond when living at home following their accommodation. Therefore, in some cases where young people continue to experience high levels of missing episodes whilst in care, options such as placing a young person further away are considered. This option does work in the majority of cases as reductions in episodes are experienced. However, this decision has to be carefully balanced between the need to safeguard and the need for the young person to maintain relationships with their family, and maintain links with their education.

Secure Order

In the event that all available options and strategies have been exhausted, and a young person routinely goes missing and continues to place themselves at significant risk despite all strategies being implemented, the local authority can consider legal proceedings to obtain a Secure Order. This is very much a last resort but is necessary with some young people. At the present time there are no young people in Darlington subject to a Secure Order.

A Secure Order (section 25 of the Children Act 1989 and the Children (Secure Accommodation) Regulations 1991) can be obtained by a local authority from Court if:

- The child has a history of running away and is likely to run away from accommodation which is not secure
- If the child runs away, they are likely to suffer significant harm, or
- If the child is not in secure accommodation they are likely to injure themselves or someone else

In order to have a Secure Order agreed, all options for the child or young person must have been exhausted as this means depriving a child of their liberty for a period of weeks or months, and as aforementioned is very much a last resort. During their time in secure accommodation, the young person will be encouraged to engage in assessment work and therapy in order to begin to address the complex presentation of the child or young person.

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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
2 JULY 2018**

ITEM NO. 7

APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Matter for Consideration

1. To advise Members of an appointment of a co-opted representative on this Scrutiny Committee.

Background

2. It was suggested by the Chair of this Scrutiny Committee and the Director of Children and Adult Services to seek representatives from the Primary School Forum and the 11-19 Partnership to sit on the Scrutiny Committee as non-voting Co-optees.
3. Both bodies were contacted and Kate Chisholm, Chair of the Primary School Forum and Head Teacher of Skerne Park Academy has volunteered to attend future meetings of this Scrutiny Committee from the commencement of the Municipal Year 2018/19.
4. Regarding a representative from the 11-19 Partnerships, Nick Lindsay, Head Teacher of Longfield Academy has also volunteered to attend future meetings of this Scrutiny Committee from the commencement of the Municipal Year 2018/19.

Recommendation

5. Members are requested to note the appointment of Kate Chisholm and Nick Lindsay as Non-Voting Co-opted Members of this Scrutiny Committee representing the Primary School Forum and the 11-19 Partnership.

**Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance**

Background Papers

No Background papers were used in the compilation of this report.
Allison Hill : Extension 5997

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2 JULY 2018

ITEM NO.8.....

CHILDHOOD OBESITY AND DENTAL HEALTH CARE

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider an interim recommendation from the Joint Review Group, established by this Scrutiny Committee, to examine Childhood Obesity and Dental Health Care and any associated Mental Health links.

Summary

2. At a meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee held on 30 October 2017 it was agreed to establish a Joint Review Group with the Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to investigate the high incidence of childhood obesity in Darlington and the associated links with the low take up of dental services and poor dental health; and to investigate whether the desire to achieve a specific 'body image' promoted in the media had an impact on mental health issues in young people in Darlington.
3. The Group is continuing to meet, however, in view of a series of briefings and information provided by dental health and public health professionals the Group has agreed to make an interim recommendation in relation to fluoridation.
4. According to the HM Government Childhood Obesity: A Plan for Action, childhood obesity and poor dental health outcomes are deteriorating in Darlington with strong links between the highest obesity rates and the poorest dental health being most prevalent in the most deprived areas of the Borough.
5. Dental decay is a significant public health problem in the North East and Darlington has levels of decay in children significantly higher than the average for England.

Recommendation

6. That this Scrutiny Committee supports the joint work underway to gather information required for consideration about any prospective water fluoridation scheme in Darlington and recommends to Cabinet that it agrees to carry out a technical appraisal for consideration of a water fluoridation scheme in Darlington and/or the Tees Valley.

Review Group Members of the Children and Young People and Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committees

Background Papers

Public Health England (PHE) Dental Health Profile in Darlington (July 2017)
 Briefing note of the Director of Public Health (April 2018)
 HM Government Childhood Obesity: A Plan for Action (August 2016)
 NHS England Dental Statistics (September 2017)

Author: Allison Hill Ext 5997

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
Health and Well Being	This report has implications on the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington.
Carbon Impact	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Diversity	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
Groups Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the eight outcomes.
Efficiency	The Work Programmes are integral to scrutinising and monitoring services efficiently (and effectively), however this report does not identify specific efficiency savings.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

7. There is evidence from NHS England to show that those areas which are fully fluoridated either naturally or by artificial schemes have much lower levels of dental disease compared to un-fluoridated areas despite having similar or worse socio-economic challenges in their communities.
8. Water fluoridation is a well established public health measure used to address dental health in England including different localities in the North East since the late 1960's and has a strong evidence base to demonstrate that it is highly effective and safe and contributes to reducing health inequalities.
9. Under the current legislation the local authority would be responsible for the revenue costs of any water fluoridation programmes and it has been calculated that the current costs of existing fluoridation schemes across the North East are approximately £300,000 per annum.
10. The initial step before any consideration about fluoridated water would be to carry out a desktop exercise to determine the technical aspects in relation to the existing water distribution network being able to support any potential fluoridation scheme and the potential impact on neighbouring localities. This desktop exercise costs approximately £5,000, with local authorities funding this with a contribution from NHS England.
11. If an initial desktop technical appraisal exercise is favourable then a more detailed technical feasibility study would need to be undertaken to establish the viability of any proposed scheme, both in terms of cost and geography.
12. Members received a briefing note on Community Water Fluoridation from the Director of Public Health and were advised that this authority was working with neighbouring authorities and taking part in a desktop technical appraisal with Northumbria Water. This technical feasibility study does not however initiate the formal legal processes set out in legislation necessary to introduce a scheme.
13. During the course of the Review an article on water fluoridation appeared in the Northern Echo following the meeting of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 16 April 2018 and a number of emails were received from members of the public regarding water fluoridation.
14. The emails have been acknowledged and considered by this Review Group and have also been forwarded to the Director of Public Health to retain as part of any further public consultation.
15. There are other evidence based interventions available to encourage and improve dental health particularly in children. These include Supervised Tooth Brushing

Schemes and the Fluoride Varnish Programmes. These can be provided in early years settings and schools and these will be investigated further as part of the ongoing Review.

16. According to data published by NHS England in relation to access to dentistry (September 2017) 67 per cent of Darlington resident population of approximately 105,000 accessed NHS dental care within the previous 24 months period. This is higher when benchmarked locally, regionally and nationally and indicates that people in Darlington have relatively good access to dentistry services
17. Other data published by Public Health England shows that by the time children start school in Darlington, more than a third of them will have several decayed teeth. Oral disease is an important public health issue because of its impact on the individual in terms of pain and suffering the impact on society in terms of the cost of treatment and that dental decay in children is largely preventable.
18. Public Health England released a Dental Health Profile in July 2017 detailing the oral health of five year old children in the Darlington local authority area. This showed that more than a third of them will have children in Darlington have several decayed teeth by the time they start school. It also showed that there were higher levels of decay concentrated in those wards in the East of Darlington.
19. The Dental Health Profile also showed that about 22 per cent (4,400) children live in low income families and of children aged 10-11 years (Year 6) 21 per cent were classified as obese.

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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
2 JULY 2018**

ITEM NO.9.....

WORK PROGRAMME

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the draft work programme for this Scrutiny Committee for the Municipal Year 2018/19.

Summary

2. The proposed work programme has been reviewed and revised for the Municipal Year 2018/19 and Members are requested to consider the attached draft programme.

Recommendation

3. Members' views are requested.

**Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance**

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Author: Allison Hill Extension 5997

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
Health and Well Being	This report has no direct implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington.
Carbon Impact	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Diversity	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
Groups Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the eight outcomes.
Efficiency	The Work Programmes are integral to scrutinising and monitoring services efficiently (and effectively), however this report does not identify specific efficiency savings.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

1. The format of the proposed work programme has been reviewed to enable Members of this Scrutiny Committee to provide a rigorous and informed challenge to the areas for discussion. **Appendix 1**
2. Each topic has been reviewed to link it to the outcomes and the conditions in the Sustainable Community Strategy – One Darlington Perfectly Placed:-

SCS Outcomes:

- a) Children with the best start in life
- b) More businesses more jobs
- c) A safe and caring community
- d) More people caring for our environment
- e) More people active and involved
- f) Enough support for people when needed
- g) More people healthy and independent
- h) A place designed to thrive

Three Conditions:

- a) Build strong communities
- b) Grow the economy
- c) Spend every pound wisely

3. In addition, each topic has been linked to performance indicators from the Performance Management Framework (PMF) to provide robust and accurate data for Members to use when considering topics and the work they wish to undertake. There are some topics where appropriate PMF indicators have not yet been identified however; these can be added as the work programme for each topic is developed.
4. The topics have been grouped into two sections as follows:
 - a) Overarching e.g. Performance Management
 - b) Children and Young People

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Performance Management and Regulation	Q1 4 September 2017	Sharon Raine	Children with the best start in life	Build strong communities	Agreed set of indicators	To receive quarterly monitoring reports and undertake any further detailed work into particular outcomes if necessary
	Q2 18 December 2017		A safe and caring community	Spend every pound wisely		
	Q3 16 April 2018		Enough support for people when needed			
	Q4 2 July 2018		More people healthy and independent			
	Q1 10 September 2018					
Public Health Children and Young People Overview	30 October 2017	Rachel Osbaldeston	Children with the best start in life A safe and caring community Enough support for people when needed More people healthy and independent	Build strong communities	PBH 009 PBH 013c PBH 016 PBH 018 PBH 020 PBH 021 PBH 054	Combined health update of Children and Young People in Darlington (incorporating Healthy Lifestyles Survey 2016/17/Darlington Child Health Profiles 2017/Health Visitors Service and Healthy Weight Action Plan

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Healthy Lifestyles Survey 2017/18	10 September 2018	Ken Ross/Rachel Osbaldeston				
Recording practices for statutory visits for Child Protection Cases	27 June 2016 Continual monitoring	Jane Kochanowski	Children with the best start in life A safe and caring community Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities	CSC 252a	To examine recording practices
Extension of Funding to 21 for Children in Foster Care	9 January 2017 19 February 2018 11 March 2019	Jane Kochanowski	Children with the best start in life A safe and caring community Enough support for people when needed More people healthy and independent	Build strong communities		Annual monitoring – a duty on Local Authorities to facilitate, monitor and support staying put arrangements
2016 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan	7 November 2016 30 October 2017	Christine Shields	Children with the best start in life A safe and caring community	Build strong communities		To provide an annual report to elected Members on how the authority meets its

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
2017 Childcare Sufficiency Review 2018/19 Childcare Sufficiency Review	10 December 2018	Nicola Davies	Enough support for people when needed			duty to secure sufficient childcare places.
Stability of Places for Looked After Children	27 June 2016 (deferred)	Bronwen Smith	Children with the best start in life	Build strong communities	CSC 228 CSC 229	To monitor annually the stability of places for Looked After Children.
	18 December 2017	Joanne Stoddart	Enough support for people when needed			
	10 December 2018					
School Improvement and Educational Performance in Darlington	10 April 2017	Steve Nyakatawa	Children with the best start in life	Build strong communities	CSC 044 Basket of LAIT KS1, KS2, GCSE & A Level indicators. Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT) academic year 2014/15/ Ofsted Sept 2014/ Department for Education (DFE) performance data.	To examine school improvement including the decline in performance for maths and English and what action is being taking to address this.
	10 Sept 2018	Tony Murphy				
Services for Families with children with disabilities 0-3 years Review Group	Meetings of review group held between 2	Kevin Kelly/Yvonne Coates	Children with the best start in life	Build strong communities		Scrutiny Members to report back on the 'Deep dive' examination of the

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
	<p>November and 27 February 2017.</p> <p>Final Report to Scrutiny 10 Apr 2017.</p> <p>Review of the service after six months (30 October 2017)</p>		Enough support for people when needed			<p>service for families with children with disabilities 0-3 years old to test the effectiveness of the service and consult with stakeholders.</p> <p>Following the recommendation of the Review Group to review the service after 6 months and meet again with professionals, families and stakeholders.</p>
Annual Report of the Local Safeguarding Children Board	<p>7 November 2016</p> <p>19 February 2018</p> <p>29 October 2018</p>	<p>Emma Chawner</p> <p>Amanda Hugill/ Simon Hart, Independent Chair</p>		Build strong communities	LSB Annual Report	
IRO Annual Report	<p>4 September 2017</p> <p>10 September 2018</p>	Jane Kochanowski	Children with the best start in life		CSC201	To examine the Annual Report of the Independent Reviewing Officer for Looked After Children

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
LAC Missing from Care – Reasons and Interventions	2 July 2018	Yvonne Coates	Children with the best start in life Enough support for people when needed		CSC246	To examine the reasons why children in care go missing and the interventions in place to avoid. To invite the Police Liaison Officer to attend Scrutiny to discuss
Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Annual Report	10 September 2018	Marian Garland				To examine the Annual Report and assure Members that allegations made against staff who work with children are reported and how they are actioned
Children and Young People Plan 2017-22	29 October 2018	Christine Shields	Children with the best start in life			Half yearly update to Members

JOINT REVIEW WITH HEALTH AND PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY:

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
<p>Childhood Obesity/ Oral Health/Mental Health Links</p>	<p>November 2017 – February 2018</p> <p>Scoping meeting held on 27 November 2017</p> <p>2nd Meeting held on 31 January 2018</p>		<p>Children with the best start in life</p> <p>Enough support for people when needed</p> <p>More People Healthy and Independent</p>	<p>Build strong communities</p>		<p>To investigate the high incidence of childhood obesity in Darlington and the associated links to poor dental health; and whether the desire to promote good 'self image' has an impact on mental health issues in young people.</p>

ARCHIVED ITEMS

Early Help Service	7 November 2016 9 January 2017 19 June 2017	Jane Kochanowski	Children with the best start in life Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities	CSC001 CSC022 CSC038	To receive regular reports on the progress towards aligning all Early Help Services into one single service in line with MTFP target.
Youth Unemployment	30 October 2017	Paul Richardson	Enough support for people when needed			To examine youth unemployment in Darlington
SEND Inclusion Strategy	4 September 2017 30 October 2017	Christine Shields/ Helen Ellison	Children with the best start in life More people healthy and independent Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities		To consult with Scrutiny on the draft Strategy prior to Cabinet approval
Workforce Sufficiency, Skills, Recruitment and Retention	12 September 2016	Yvonne Coates/Paige Thomason/Corina Dias)	Children with the best start in life A safe and caring community	Build strong communities		To examine social work caseloads, workforce recruitment and retention and

	30 October 2017		Enough support for people when needed			pressures on social workers
Children and Young People's Plan 2017/22	10 April 2017 (draft plan) 4 September 2017	Christine Shields/Rosie Banks	Children with the best start in life Enough support for people when needed			To consult with Scrutiny prior to consideration by Cabinet
Sustainability and Transformation Plan (Maternity Services)	19 June 2017	CCG	Children with the best start in life More people healthy and independent			To challenge the CCG on the impact to children and young people in Darlington of the STP (maternity services and services for forces families)