

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Agenda



9.30 am Monday, 1 July 2019
Committee Room No. 1, Town Hall,
Darlington. DL1 5QT

Members of the Public are welcome to attend this Meeting.

1. Appointment of Chair for the Municipal Year 2019/20
2. Appointment of Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year 2019/20
3. Introductions/ Attendance at Meeting
4. Declarations of Interest
5. To consider the times of meetings of this Committee for the Municipal Year 2019/20 on the dates as agreed in the Calendar of meetings by Cabinet at Minute C110/Feb/19.
6. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 11 March 2019 (Pages 1 - 4)
7. Performance Indicators Quarter 4 2018/19 –
Director of Children and Adult Services
(Pages 5 - 34)
8. Learning and Skills Annual Report 2017/18 –
Report of the Director of Children and Adult Services
(Pages 35 - 42)
9. Work Programme –
Report of the Managing Director

(Pages 43 - 60)

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, 21 June 2019

Town Hall
Darlington.

Membership

Councillors Ali, Bartch, Bell, Mrs Culley, C L B Hughes, L Hughes, Lister, Lucas, Preston, Renton and Snedker

Statutory Co-optees

Malcolm Frank and Carly Spence

Non Statutory Co-optees

Maura Regan, Tim Fisher, Nick Lindsay, Glenis Harrison, Sajna Miah, Janet Woodcock, John Armitage and Helen Tarokh

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

Monday, 11 March 2019

PRESENT – Councillors C Taylor (Chair), Curry, L Hughes, Kelly, Lister and Mills

STATUTORY CO-OPTES – Carly Spence

NON-STATUTORY CO-OPTES – Glenis Harrison and John Armitage

APOLOGIES – Councillors Storr and Mrs Culley, ,

ABSENT – Councillors Crudass, Wright, Malcolm Frank, Maura Regan, Tim Fisher, Nick Lindsay, Sajna Miah and Janet Woodcock

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillors Vicky Davidson-Boyd (Adoption Tees Valley)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Jane Kochanowski (Assistant Director of Children's Services), Sharon Raine (Head of Performance and Transformation), Allison Hill (Democratic Officer) and Dave Coates (Head of Planning, Development and Environmental Health)

CYP33 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

CYP34 MINUTES

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meetings of this Scrutiny Committee held on 10 December 2018 and 21 January 2019.

With regard to Minute CYP28/Dec/18, the Head of Planning Development, Management and Environmental Health attended the meeting and responded to Members' questions in relation to planning conditions around the setup up of private residential children's homes and the differences between C2 (residential institutions) and C3 (dwelling houses) use classification.

Following discussion thereon Members were aware that it is the responsibility of the provider to request a change of use from a C3, private dwelling to C2 and were assured that the classification of children's homes within this local authority is determined as C2 ensuring planning permission in consultation with Children's Services in all cases.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meetings held on 10 December 2018 and 21 January 2019 be approved as a correct record.

CYP35 QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2018/19

The Director of Children and Adults Services submitted a report (previously circulated) to provide Members with an update on performance against key

performance indicators.

The submitted report provided Quarter 3 (October to December 2018) 2018/19 performance information in line with an indicator set agreed by the Monitoring and Co-ordination Group and subsequently by each individual Scrutiny Committee.

The submitted report highlighted where Children and Young People were performing well and where there was a need to improve. It was also highlighted that where indicators are reported annually quarterly updates will not be available.

It was highlighted that 98.1 per cent of contacts had been completed within 24 working hours; 97.3 per cent of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) had been held within 15 working days from the Strategy meeting held/Section 47 being initiated; 100 per cent Child Protection reviews had been completed within the required timescales; 100 per cent of children with a Child Protection Plan and 100 per cent of Children Looked After had an allocated social worker; 99.2 per cent of Looked After Reviews had been completed within timescale; 89.6 per cent of statutory visits to Looked After Children had been completed in timescale; 93.8 per cent who had a review health assessment due had received their assessment within the required timescale; and 19.3 per cent of Care Leavers were not in employment, education or training (NEET).

The areas highlighted for improvement in Quarter 3 was the timeliness of assessments which was slightly below the target of 90 per cent; 94.2 per cent statutory child protection visits were completed within 15 working days with 77.8 completed within 10 working days, slightly behind Quarters 1 and 2; missing from home interviews had been offered within 72 hours in 91.3 per cent of the cases; and the rate of Looked After Children was 111.6 per 10,000 population which was above statistical regional and national benchmarks.

Members discussed in particular the increase in Section 47 enquiries and increase in the number of Looked After Children and the Assistant Director of Children's Services advised Members of the rationale for this increase, inclusive of regional and national changes in legislation and gave assurance of the continual monitoring of the situation.

Members also discussed the numbers of young people coming into care and those leaving care and the processes involved for those young people leaving care.

RESOLVED – That the performance information provided for Quarter 3 2018/19 be noted.

CYP36 UPDATE REGARDING 'STAYING PUT' ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE PREVIOUSLY IN FOSTER CARER PLACEMENTS

The Director of Children and Adults Services submitted a report (previously circulated) to provide update information regarding the cost of funding to age 21 for young people in previous foster care placements.

The submitted report detailed the legal framework which provides that Local Authorities provide Staying Put arrangements and the number of current Staying Put Arrangements; and gave details of the costs from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

together with projected expenditure for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

It was reported that as of 21 January 2019 there were 10 Staying Put arrangements in place and the cost of internal provision ranged from £160.00 to £350.00 per week dependent upon age and individual circumstances. The cost of Independent Fostering Agency provision agreed as part of the Tees Valley Framework was £340.00 per week.

The submitted report also outlined the monitoring and evaluation of Staying Put arrangements via regular support meetings following the young person reaching the age of 18 years; the benefits of 'Staying Put' for young people and the Service; and the priorities for 2019/20 to promote the importance of Staying Put.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

CYP37 ADOPTION TEES VALLEY BI-ANNUAL SUMMARY REPORT 2018

Vicky Davidson-Boyd, Service Manager, Adoption Tees Valley presented Adoption Tees Valley Bi Annual Summary Report 1 May 2018 to 30 September 2018 and outlined the work that had been undertaken across the Tees Valley during 1 May 2018 and 30 September 2018.

Adoption Tees Valley commenced operating as a Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) on the 1 May 2018 bringing together the former Local Authority adoption agency services of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton.

The submitted report reviewed the adoption activity, as defined by the Adoption Leadership Scorecard (ALB) measures for the first 5 months of operation; outlined the key aim of the RAA on the impact of timeliness of children waiting for adoption and on the time that adopters wait for a match; and detailed the support offered for adopted children and their families and adopters.

The Service Manager also highlighted the future challenges faced by the RAA including sufficiency of adopters, completion of Life Story Books, continuing to develop links with health and schools and data transfer.

Members questioned the working relationship between Darlington and Teesside and the Service Manager advised that there were no reported issues and good cohesive regional working was in place; how Members scrutinise timeliness; the average age of children being adopted; support available for children into early adulthood, especially if they decide to seek their birth parents; and adoption within the black and minority ethnic community.

The Head of Transformation and Performance advised Members that adoption performance data was currently reported and Tees Valley data will also feed into this authority's reporting mechanism.

The Service Manager advised Members that the average age was 7 to 9 years of age; a Young Persons Forum was due to commence in April to shape and understand services and offer support to these young people; adopters are

encouraged to keep in contact with birth families; and there was only a small number of black and minority ethnic children coming through the system for adoption and these children are racially matched.

RESOLVED – That the Adoption Tees Valley Bi-annual Summary Report 2018 be noted.

CYP38 WORK PROGRAMME

The Managing Director submitted a report (previously circulated) to provide an update on the current work programme for this Scrutiny Committee.

The work programme has been reviewed and revised for the Municipal Year 2018/19 and has been linked to performance indicators from the Performance Management Framework to provide robust and accurate data for Members to use when considering topics and the work they wish to undertake.

Following discussion and questions raised at the meeting with the Head of Planning Development, Management and Environmental Health in relation to residential children's homes Members agreed to include in the work programme for 2019/20 an item to monitor the number of private children's homes in the borough.

With regard to the Review Group on Childhood Obesity it was acknowledged that the work on dental health care had been completed and that Members will progress childhood obesity and mental health links by monitoring the effectiveness of the Childhood Healthy Weight Plan and the item to remain on the work programme.

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

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **1 July 2019**

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS Q4 2018/19

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members with an update on performance against key performance indicators.

Summary

2. This report provides Quarter 4 (January – March) 2018/19 performance information in line with an indicator set agreed by Monitoring and Coordination Group on 2 July 2018, and subsequently by Scrutiny Committee Chairs.
3. It is suggested 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.
4. Where indicators are reported annually, quarterly updates will not be available.

Where are we performing well?

5. 98.2% of referrals are screened and completed within 1 day, above target of 90%.
6. 17.4% of re-referrals were repeated within 12 months, better than target of 18%.
7. 95.4% of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) were held within 15 working days from the Strategy meeting being held/Section 47 being initiated.
8. 100% of children with a Child Protection Plan and 100% of Children Looked After have an allocated social worker.
9. 92.1% who had a dental health assessment due, received their assessment within the required timescale.
10. 25% of Care Leavers were not in employment, education or training (NEET).

Where do we need to improve?

11. Timeliness of assessments is below the target of 90%, reasons for this are analysed and monitored by the Head of Service.
12. 95.7% statutory child protection visits were completed within 15 working days, with 79.4% completed within 10 working days. Performance against this indicator will therefore continue to be closely managed.

13. 82.6% statutory looked after children visits were completed within the timeline, performance against this indicator is being closely managed.
14. The rate of looked after children has increased and is currently 110.6 per 10,000 population.

Recommendation

15. It is recommended:

- a) That performance information provided in this report is reviewed and noted, and relevant queries raised with the appropriate Assistant Director.

Suzanne Joyner
Director of Children and Adult Services

Background papers

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

Sharon Raine Head of Performance and Transformation: Extension 6091

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.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report may have an impact on their emotional and physical health, social development, education and future employment.

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Children's Social Care Performance & Quality Assurance Report

Quarter 4 - 2018/19

Scrutiny



Quarter 4/Year end Performance Summary

Referrals

98.2% of referrals are completed within 24 hours, remaining above our target of 90%.

Re-Referrals:

The re-referral rate at the end of 2018/19 is 17.4%, better than the target of 18%. This remains below statistical numbers, national and north east benchmarks. The reasons for re-referral continue to relate to Mental Health, Domestic Abuse and Neglect.

Early Help:

869 Early help assessments were started at the end of 2018/19, which is a small decrease on the 877 in 2017/18. 196 Early Help Assessments were started during Quarter 4 (2018/19), of which, those completed by external agencies equated to 68 (34.7%). This exceeds our target of 30%. External audits have been subject to increased scrutiny in Quarter 4 and a training programme of support for 2019/20 has been implemented.

Despite the positive implementation of the training programme, Health Services continue to be a low completer. This is despite champions being identified in the health visitor/school nursing service in Quarter 3. Colleagues are aware of the data and are working to improve their completion rate.

Missing:

Missing from Home interviews (MFHI) have been offered in 100% of the cases with the children engaging in 73.6% of the cases. Where the coordinator cannot engage the young person, she explores the issues with parents, carers, teachers or social workers. There has been a slight decrease in those interviews taking place in 72 hours. This is due to not receiving the report from the police in a timely manner or the children and their parents avoiding any contact with the Missing from Home worker (MFHW).

The missing episodes for the 36 Looked After Children (LAC) during Quarter 4 equates to 47.3%, (44/93) which is a slight increase from the last quarter (38.7% 36/93). However, there is no significant difference in other local authorities'. In these cases, the ERASE team have been alerted, and are working with the local authority and the placing authorities to ensure the young people in these placements are appropriately placed and have their needs met.

All cases where children have had regular missing episodes or where significant concerns are raised are discussed at the Missing and Exploited Group (MEG) and measures explored in a multi-agency forum to reduce missing episodes.

The number of children who are looked after by ourselves has decreased from 39 in 2017/18 to 36 in 2018/19 and the episodes also from 310 episodes in 2017/18 (61.5% of the total episodes) to 199 episodes in 2018/19 (47.2% of the total episodes).

Individual action plans are put in place to reduce missing episodes for each child and tasks are forwarded to the social worker to consider/action.

Children & Families Assessments:

269 Children & Families (C&F) assessments were completed during Quarter 4 2018/19, across all Social Work teams. This is a 39.4% increase from the 193 assessments completed in Quarter 4 2017/18. Throughout 2018/19, 1,025 assessments were completed across all Social Work teams. This is an increase on the previous reporting year as the total completed had been 1,002.

The rate of assessment is 455.2 per 10,000 of the population. This is higher than the figure at the end of 2017/18 at 441.5 but significantly lower than 2016/17 (579.8) and 2015/16 (565.6).

Timeliness:

There has been a reduction in the timely completion of assessments throughout 2018/19 (81.5%) when compared to the previous reporting year (93.3%). Each assessment that has not been completed within 45 working days has been scrutinised by Heads of Service to determine the reasons behind the drop in performance. The findings for these are reported each month and action taken where possible. Action plans are developed by all managers in an effort to improve this performance going into the next reporting year. The North East average for completion of assessments is 81.9%, the England average is 82.7% and our statistical neighbour average is 87.3%.

Section 47 enquiries

The number of Section 47 enquiries started within this year was 600. Which is a significant increase from the previous year (399). The rate of section 47 enquiries completed per 10,000 of the population at the year-end was 251.8, which is an increase from the previous year (172.8).

During Quarter 4 2018/19, 181 Section 47 enquires were started which is a 25.7% increase on the 144 started during Quarter 4 2017/18.

Child Protection Conferences:

Performance remains higher than benchmarks; NE (82.9%), Statistical Neighbour (85.9%), England (76.9%).

Throughout Quarter 4, 49 children were discussed at ICPC, and over the full year 220 children have been considered. This is higher than last year 2017/18 (157).

At the end of Quarter 4, the cumulative figure for Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) being held within 15 working days from the strategy meeting/ Section 47 being initiated was 95.4%. The rationale for missed timescales is analysed each month.

Child Protection Plans:

At the end of March 2019, 103 children were subject to a Child Protection Plan, a small increase from the end of last quarter (101) and lower position than the year end figure for 2017/18 of 115. This equates to a rate of 45.7 per 10,000 of the 0 – 17 population, which is lower than the latest published figures for the Regional average (65.7%) and in line with our statistical neighbour (47.4%), and the National average (45.3%).

At the end of Quarter 4, the figure for children becoming subject to a CP Plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 or more years of a previous plan was 3.9%. This compares favourably with last year's position of 6.5%.

Child Protection Statutory visits

At the end of March 2019, 79.4% of statutory Child Protection visits had been undertaken within the internally set visiting frequency of 10 working days. However, a number of Local Authorities have a 15 working day timescale and when this is applied to performance, the percentage completed significantly rises to 95.7%. All those statutory visits that do not take place within 10 working days are scrutinised each month by the Head of Assessment, Care Planning and LATC. Assurances can be provided that where visits are not taking place within 10 working days they are generally missed only by a day or two, and those which are longer are generally missed due to non-engagement of families and escalated accordingly. This level of scrutiny will continue to be provided by the Head of Service.

Looked after Children

At the end of March, the number of Children in Care had reached 264, which is a significant increase from the previous reporting year of 215 children. The rate of Children in Care per 10,000 of the population is currently at 117.2 which is higher than previous years. This increase in the number of Children in Care is currently being scrutinised to determine if there are any areas that could be strengthened to safely reduce this number.

Statutory visits Looked after Children

At the end of March, 82.6% of statutory visits to Children in Care had been carried out in timescale. This represents a dip in performance against the previous year at 93.4%. This performance represents 2,389 visits being completed within timescales out of 2,893. This drop in performance continues to be monitored by Heads of Service and reasons for each visit missed are provided and analysed each month. Action plans have been put in place by all managers to ensure this performance improves through 2019/20.

Placements

The robust management oversight of placement stability for Children in Care has continued throughout this reporting year. At the end of March the figure for children who had moved placement 3 or more times had positively exceeded the target of 10% and reached 9.5%. This demonstrates that placement stability has been grasped for this indicator but oversight needs to continue as it is accepted this performance should be further improved to ensure children do not move unnecessarily.

The percentage of children who had been in their current placement for 2 years or more who had been in care for 2 ½ years or more reached 64.4% at the end of March. Whilst this performance has not reached the target of 68% at the end of the year, it has been reached and also positively exceeded for 4 consecutive months prior to this. However, given how this percentage is calculated, the actual number of children in this cohort (numerator) has been 45 or 46 for the past 6 months, but the percentage has reduced due to the increasing number of children included in the denominator. Therefore, although the percentage has decreased overall at the end of March, the actual number of children in the numerator has been consistent. However, it is again accepted this performance should be further improved to ensure children do not move unnecessarily.

The percentage of children placed 20 miles or more away from home has seen an improvement from this year (9.7%) to the previous year (12%). This is a significant improvement from the previous year and demonstrates the efforts that have been made to ensure children and young people remain close to home whenever it is safe to do so.

Dental and Health Review

At the end of March, there were 87.9% (145 out of 165) children and young people with an up-to-date health review. Of those 20 children and young people who did not have an up-to-date health review, 7 young people had refused to engage despite efforts to engage them in a health review. This performance continues to be scrutinised by the Head of Assessment, Care Planning and LATC as despite concerted effort to improve this performance it has dipped from the previous year (91.3%). All relevant managers have developed action plans to ensure performance improves through 2019/20.

At the end of March, there were 92.1% (152 out of 165) children and young people with an up-to-date dental check. Of the 13 children and young people who do not have an up-to-date dental check, 8 of these had refused to engage and all were older. This positively exceeds the target set of 90% and is an improvement on the previous year (87.5%).

Trackers for both review health assessments and dental checks remain in place as a tool to support all managers to ensure performance improves further throughout 2019/20.

Care Leavers

At the end of March, the percentage of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation was 96.4%. The 3.6% of Care Leavers in unsuitable accommodation equates to young people who are currently in custody. Although this percentage is below the 100% target that had been set for 2018/19, the percentage across the year has fluctuated from a low of 94.0% in May 2018 to its highest for the reporting year at 96.4% in March 2019. On average, this percentage has been 95.6% across this reporting year. The year-end figure of 96.4% is 1.5% higher than the year end figure for 2017/18.

At the end of March, the percentage of Care Leavers who were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) was 25% (15 Care Leavers aged 19, 20 and 21 out of a possible 55). This positively exceeds the target set at 33.0%. This percentage is a 7.2% improvement from the 2017/2018 year- end figure of 32.2% to 25% at end of 2018/19.

Of the 15 Care Leavers who are not in education, employment or training:

- were NEET because of illness or disability
- were NEET because of other circumstances
- were NEET because of pregnancy or parenting

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 commenced in May 2018 in conjunction with the Morrison's Trust. The focus of the Job Club over the past 12 months has been to engage the NEET population in an effort to re-engage them with education, employment or training opportunities.

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

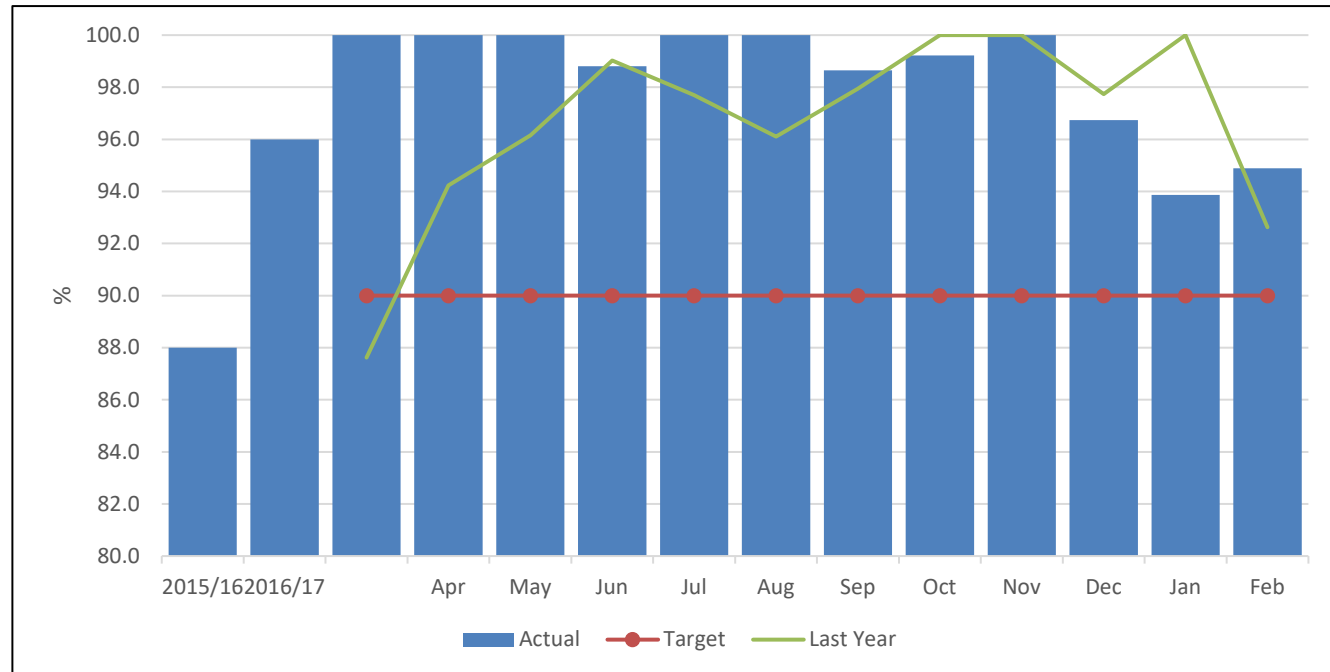
2017/18 and 2018/19 had similar percentage completed within 24 hours (95.9% (1086) and 98.2% (1160)), and remained above our target of 90%, however it is noted that 2018/19 maintained this performance with a larger number of referrals.

CSC 022

Monthly % of referrals completed within 24 hours.

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

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90
	Apr-18	100
	May-18	100
	Jun-18	100
	Jul-18	98.8
	Aug-18	100
	Sep-18	100
	Oct-18	98.7
	Nov-18	99.2
	Dec-18	100
	Jan-19	96.7
	Feb-19	93.9
	Mar-19	94.9
ANNUAL TREND	2015/16	85.2
	2016/17	88.0
	2017/18	96.0
	2018/19	98.2%



REFERRALS - RE-REFERRALS

DEFINITION

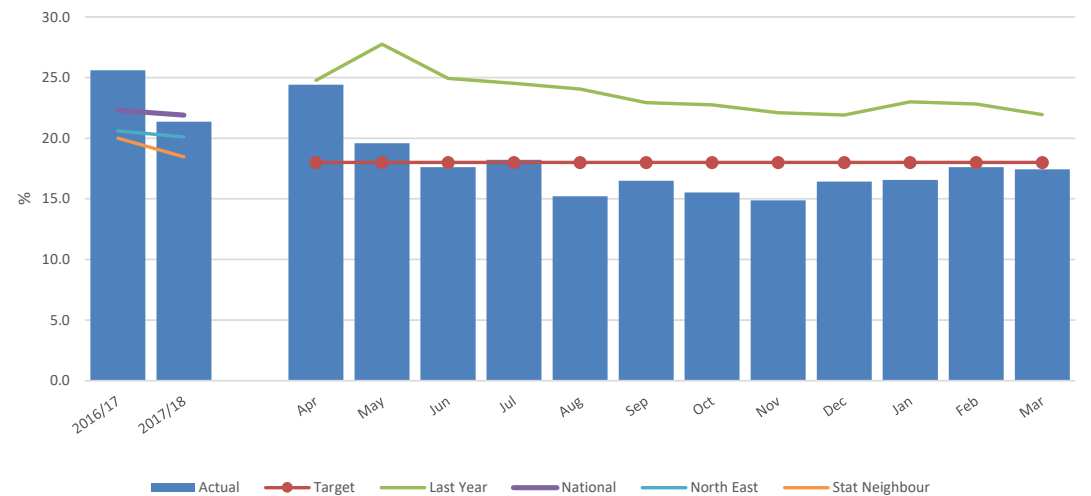
Percentage of re-referrals that are received within 12 months of a previous referral (based on referral start dates)
A re-referral to Children's Social Care could be an indication that the previous referral was inappropriately closed down without addressing the initial concerns or issues.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

205 re-referrals have been made during 2018/19 period equating to 17.4% of our referrals being repeated within 12 months. This is a reduction on the re-referrals we had in 2107/18 period (247) but it is noted that 44% of the North East Local Authorities saw an increase in re-referrals during 2017/18 (source ADCS data 17/18). Currently we are below our internal target of 18% of children re-referred and in line with our statistical neighbour (17.7) and below Regional (18.2) and National average (21.9).

		CSC 034	CSC 032	CSC 033
		Monthly number of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months	% re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months (cumulative)	Total number of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months.
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target		18	
	Apr-18	21	24.4	21
	May-18	17	19.6	38
	Jun-18	14	18.3	52
	Jul-18	15	18.2	67
	Aug-18	8	15.2	75
	Sep-18	19	16.5	94
	Oct-18	6	15.5	100
	Nov-18	15	14.9	115
	Dec-18	22	16.4	137
	Jan-19	16	16.6	153
	Feb-19	30	17.6	183
	Mar-19	22	17.4	205
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		16.5	
	2015/16	353	25.6	
	2016/17	314	21.4	
	2017/18	247	21.9	
	2018/19	205	17.4	

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



EARLY HELP ASSESSMENTS - STARTED

DEFINITION

Number of individual Early Help Assessments recorded year to date.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

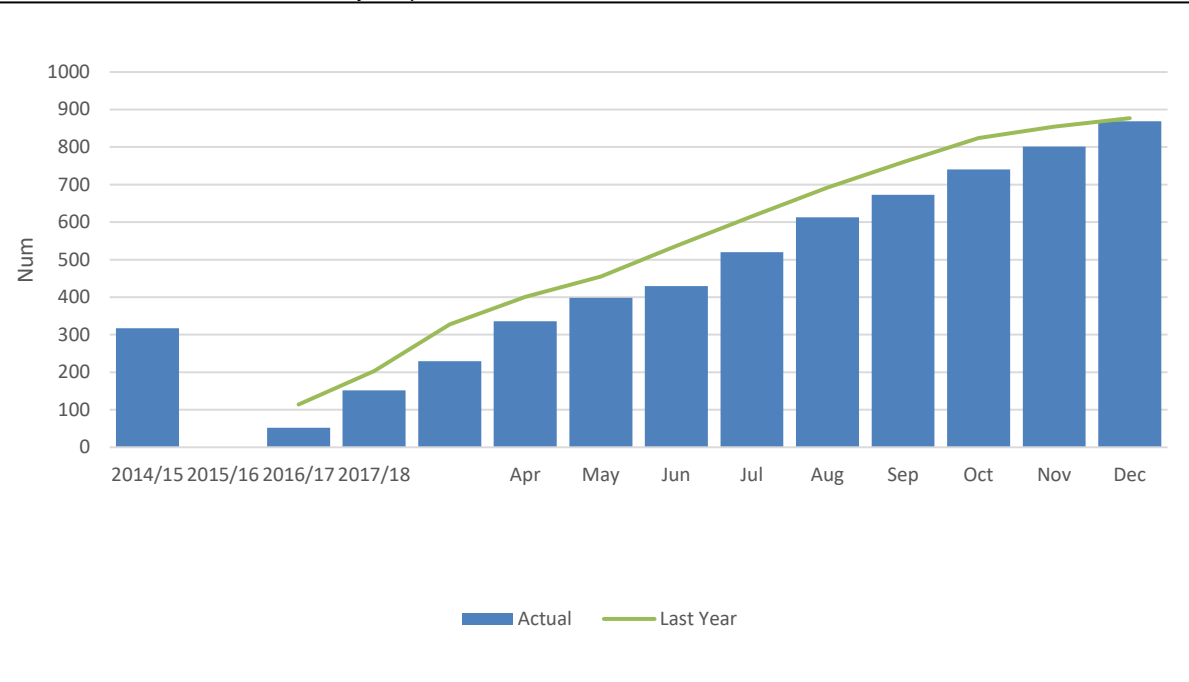
196 Early Help Assessments (EHA) were started during Quarter 4 2018/19,

869 EHA's were started during 2018/19 period which is a small decrease on the 877 completed in 2017/18.

CSC 001

Number of individual Early Help Assessments started Year to Date

CSC 001: Number of individual Early Help Assessments started Year to Date



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE

Target

Apr-18	52
May-18	152
Jun-18	210
Jul-18	317
Aug-18	381
Sep-18	412
Oct-18	502
Nov-18	583
Dec-18	626
Jan-19	740
Feb-19	801
Mar-19	869

ANNUAL TREND

2014/15	317
2015/16	608
2016/17	871
2017/18	877
2018/19	869

MISSING EPISODES		
DEFINITION		The number of episodes of children going missing in Darlington, including Looked After Children,
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	The missing episodes for the 36 Looked After Children (LAC) during 2018/19 is 199 times equating to 47.2%, which is a significant decrease from 2017/18 which saw 39 children who are looked after being reported missing 310 time (61.5%).	
	<div>CSC 246</div> <div>Number of missing episodes relating to Children Looked After by DBC (children)</div>	
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-18	27 (9)
	May-18	23(10)
	Jun-18	25 (12)
	Jul-18	26 (9)
	Aug-18	8 (5)
	Sep-18	10 (7)
	Oct-18	18 (10)
	Nov-18	6 (4)
	Dec-18	12 (7)
	Jan-19	16 (8)
	Feb-19	15 (7)
	Mar-19	13 (7)
ANNUAL TREND	2016/17	
	2017/18	
	2018/19	199 (36)
	Child counted once	

ASSESSMENTS

DEFINITION

Monthly and cumulative number of assessments completed.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

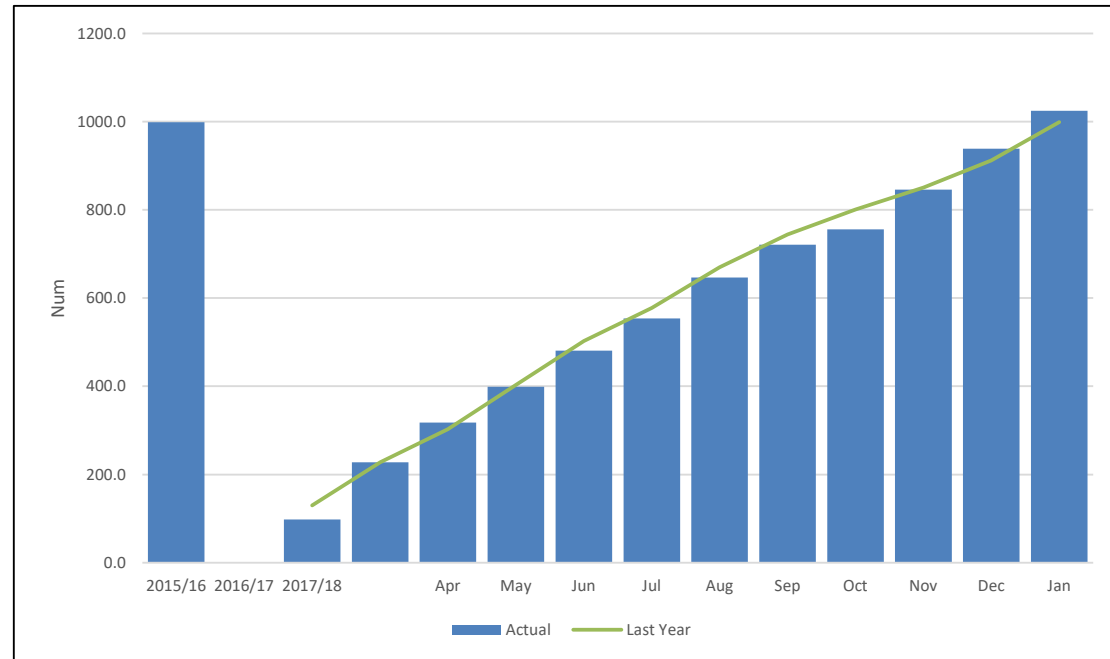
269 Children & Families (C&F) assessments were completed during Quarter 4 2018/19, across all Social Work teams.
1,025 C&F assessments have been completed in total throughout the 2018/19 period.

CSC 036

CSC 036: Number of children & families assessments completed year to date

Number of children & families assessments completed year to date

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE		
	Apr-18	98
	May-18	228
	Jun-18	318
	Jul-18	399
	Aug-18	481
	Sep-18	554
	Oct-18	647
	Nov-18	721
	Dec-18	756
	Jan-19	846
	Feb-19	939
	Mar-19	1025
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	
	2015/16	1284
	2016/17	1312
	2017/18	1002
	2018/19	1025



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. The 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>
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	81.5% of C&F assessments were completed within timescale, which is below statistical neighbour (87.3%) and National (82.7%) average but are slightly behind the Regional average (81.9%).

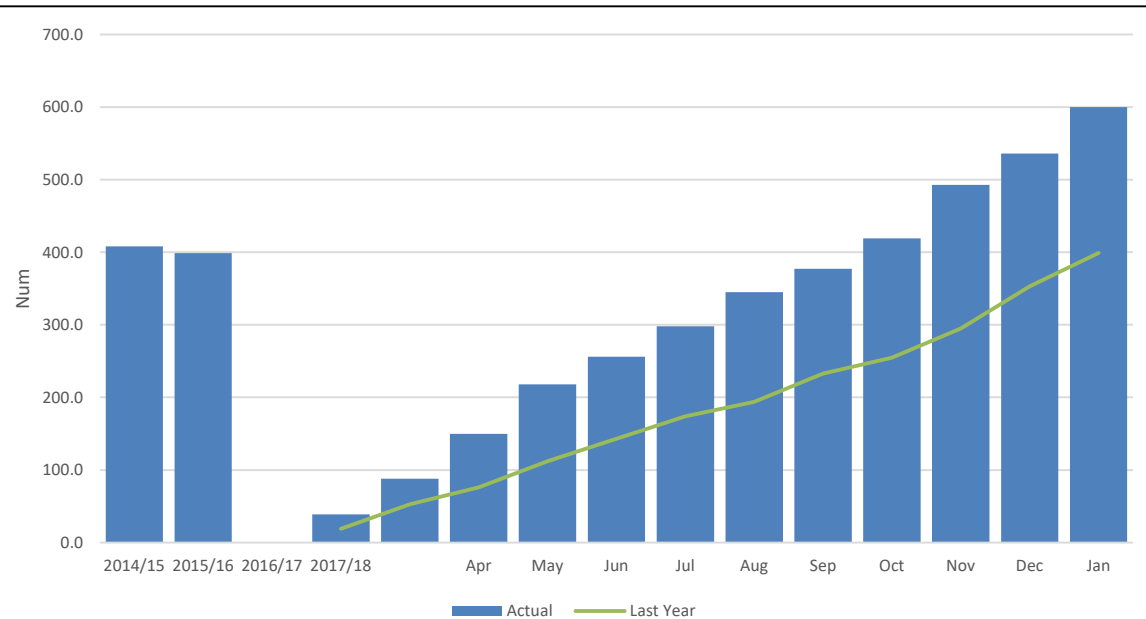
CSC 038
% C&F Assessments completed within 45 working days (Year to date)

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90%
	Apr-18	89.3
	May-18	85.1
	Jun-18	83.0
	Jul-18	83.2
	Aug-18	85.5
	Sep-18	87.0
	Oct-18	87.6
	Nov-18	87.7
	Dec-18	86.9
	Jan-19	83.8
	Feb-19	82.8
	Mar-19	81.5
ANNUAL TREND	2015/16	77.0
	2016/17	93.0
	2017/18	93.3
	2018/19	81.5

SECTION 47	
DEFINITION	Number of Section 47 enquiries started monthly and year to date.
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	600 Section 47 enquires were started during the 2018/19 period . This has affected our rate of Section 47 enquires per 10,000 which is now 251.8 and above our statistical neighbour (168.5) and National average (166.9) but more comparable with the Regional average (224.5).

CSC 165	CSC 165: Number of section 47 enquires started within the year (CPP)
Number of section 47 enquires started within the year (CPP)	

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	
	Apr-18	39
	May-18	88
	Jun-18	150
	Jul-18	218
	Aug-18	256
	Sep-18	298
	Oct-18	345
	Nov-18	377
	Dec-18	419
	Jan-19	493
	Feb-19	536
	Mar-19	600
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	
	2015/16	408
	2016/17	432
	2017/18	399
	2018/19	600



INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - TIMELINESS

DEFINITION

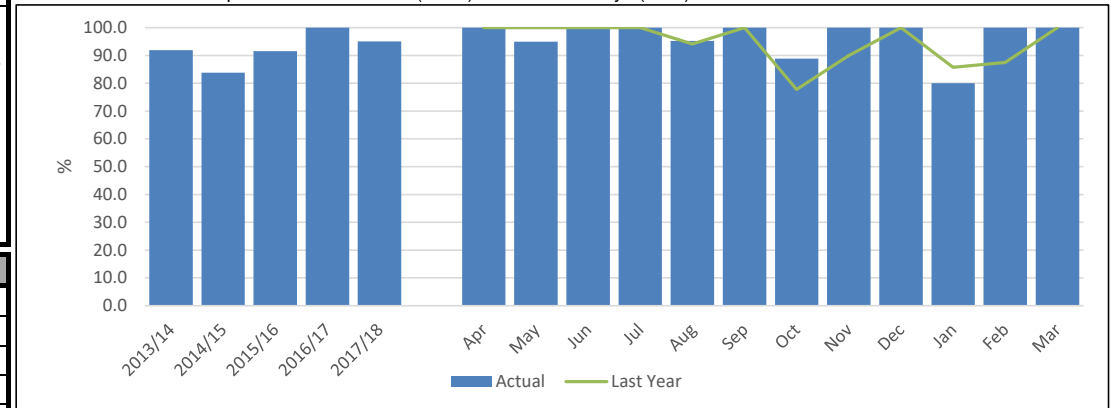
Of those ICPCs held within the period (excluding transfer ins), the percentage held within 15 working days of the S47 enquiry. Provides an indication of how quickly the safety of children who are judged to be continuing to, or likely to suffer significant harm is being considered by a multi-agency meeting.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

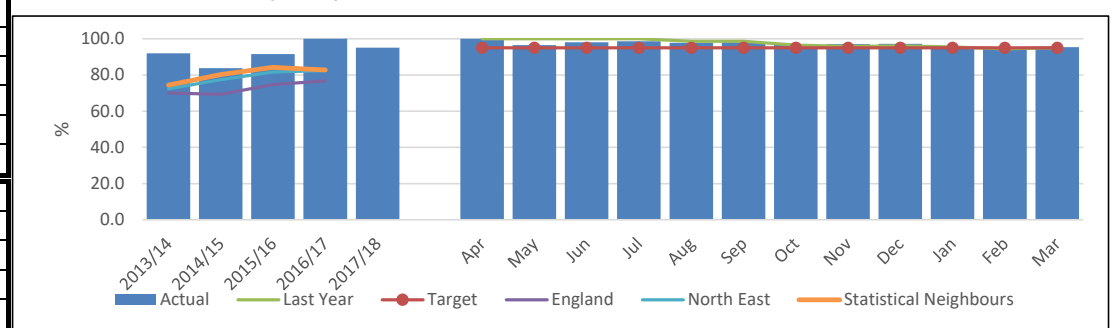
At the end of March 2019, the cumulative figure for Initial Child Protection Conferences being held within 15 working days from the strategy meeting/section 47 being initiated was 95.4%. Performance remains higher than our statistical neighbour (85.9%), Regional (82.9%) and National (76.9%) average and in line with our internal target.

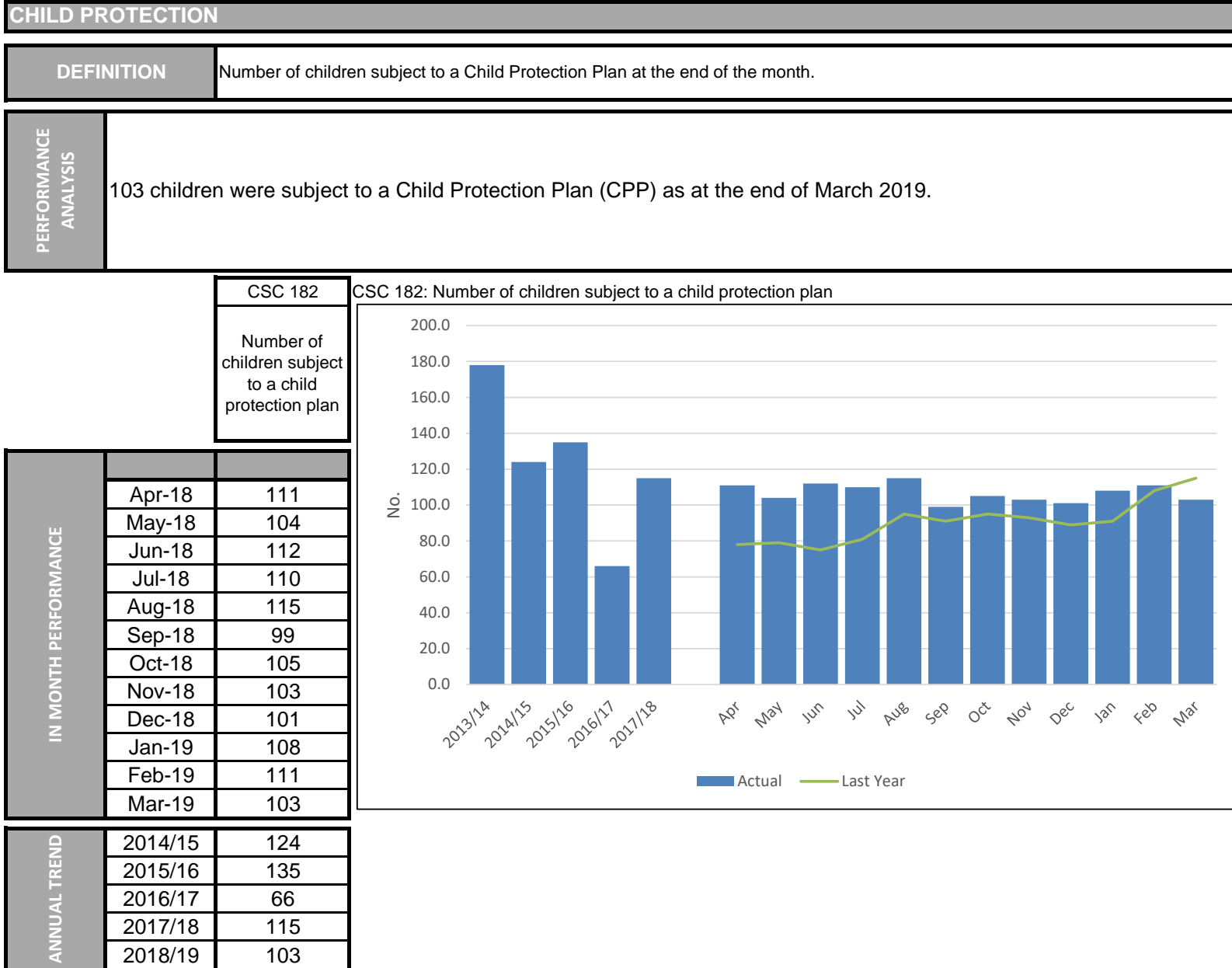
		CSC 178	CSC 176
		Monthly % of cases recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook where Child Protection strategy meeting / S47 start to initial child protection conference (ICPC) are within 15 days (CPP). Excludes transfer-in conferences.	% of cases where the initial child protection conference (ICPC) was within 15 days of the initiating strategy discussion / S47 start recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook (CPP). This EXCLUDES transfer-in conferences. Year to Date
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	100	95
	Apr-18	100	100
	May-18	95.0	96.4
	Jun-18	100	98.0
	Jul-18	100	98.6
	Aug-18	95.2	97.8
	Sep-18	100	98.0
	Oct-18	88.9	96.6
	Nov-18	100	97.1
	Dec-18	100	97.3
	Jan-19	80.0	94.7
	Feb-19	100	95.2
	Mar-19	100	95.4
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	83.8	83.8
	2015/16	91.5	91.5
	2016/17	100	100
	2017/18	95.0	95.0
	2018/19	95.4	95.4

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.



CSC 176: % 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. Year to Date





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.	
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	100% of children with a Child Protection Cases were allocated to a Qualified Social Worker within the required timescales.	
	CSC 183	
	% Child Protection cases allocated to a qualified Social Worker	
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	100
	Apr-18	100
	May-18	100
	Jun-18	100
	Jul-18	100
	Aug-18	100
	Sep-18	100
	Oct-18	100
	Nov-18	100
	Dec-18	100
	Jan-19	100
	Feb-19	100
	Mar-19	100
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	
	2015/16	100
	2016/17	100
	2017/18	100
	2018/19	100

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

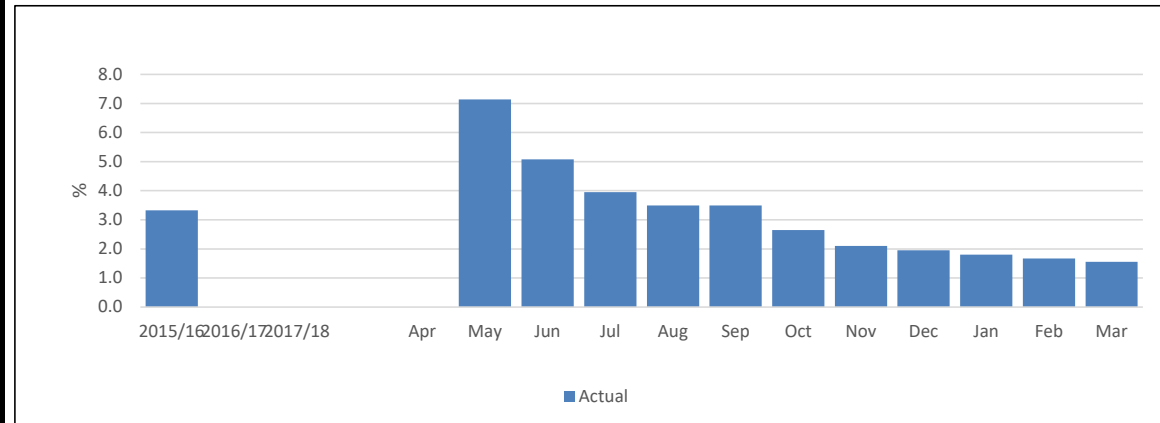
At the end of March 2019 the figure for children becoming subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 years of the previous plan ending was 3.9%.

Year to date, 1.6% of the children have ceased to be subject to a CPP who had been subject to the plan for 2 or more years. They ceased to be subject to a CPP as they became looked after.

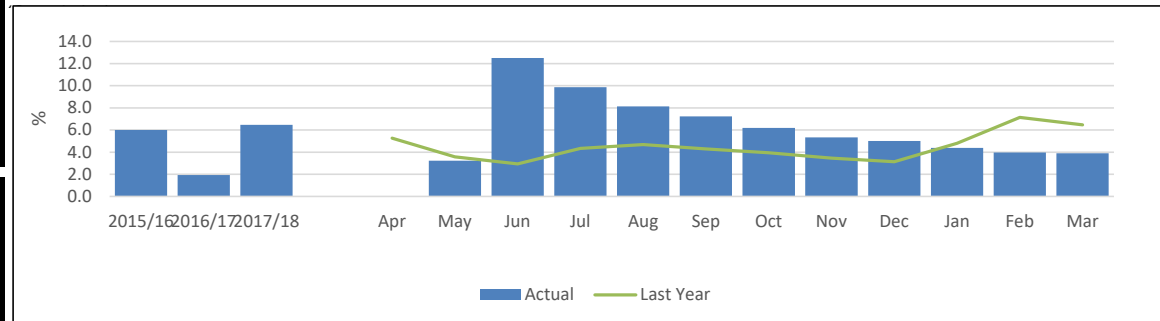
We continue to remain below our targets of 5% and 6%.

		CSC 186	CSC 188
		% children ceasing to be subject of a CPP who had been subject to a CPP for 2 or more years (Cumulative)	% of children becoming subject to a CPP for a 2nd or subsequent time within 2 years of a previous plan ending in the month (Cumulative)
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	5%	6%
	Apr-18	0.0	0.0
	May-18	7.1	3.2
	Jun-18	5.1	12.5
	Jul-18	4.0	9.9
	Aug-18	3.5	8.1
	Sep-18	3.5	7.2
	Oct-18	2.7	6.2
	Nov-18	2.1	5.3
	Dec-18	2.0	5.0
	Jan-19	1.8	4.4
	Feb-19	1.7	4.0
	Mar-19	1.6	3.9
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	0.6	2.4
	2015/16	3.3	6.0
	2016/17	0.0	1.9
	2017/18	0.0	6.5
	2018/19	1.6	3.9

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



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



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.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

79.4% (2,407/3,037) of Child Protection statutory visits were completed within 10 working days during the 2018/19 period.

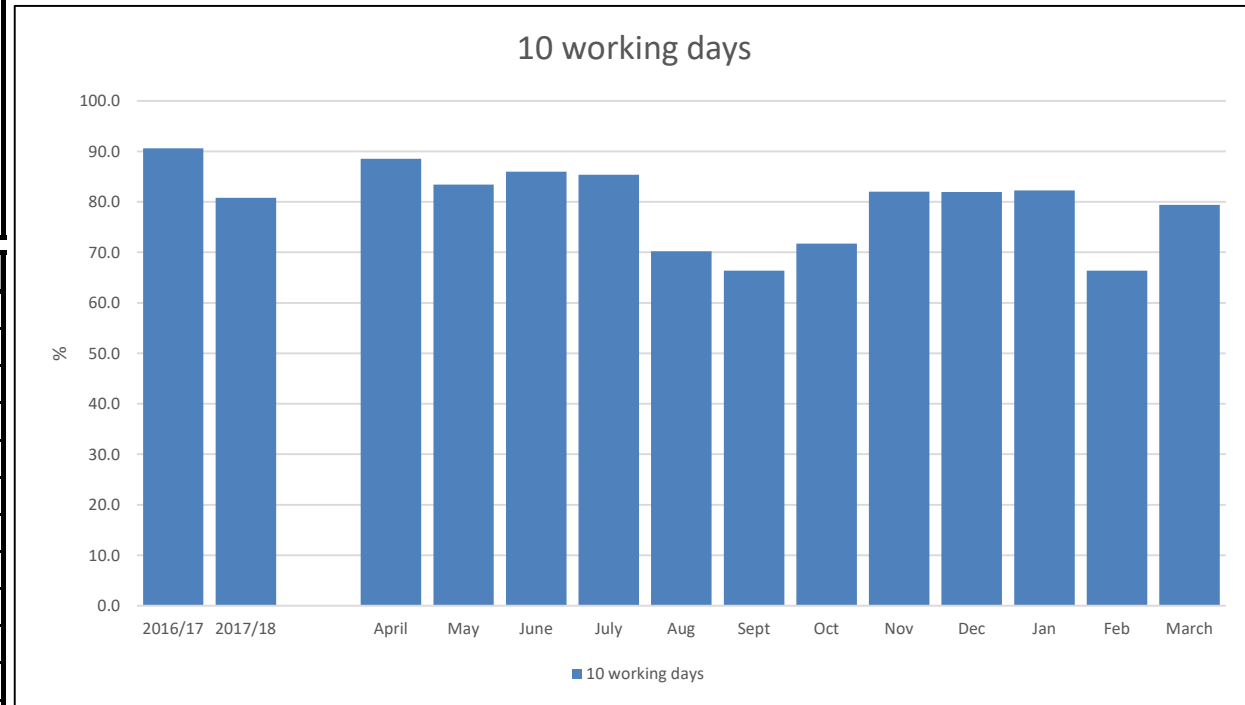
CSC 252a

% Child Protection statutory visits completed within 10 working days within the month

% Child Protection statutory visits completed within the month

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90
	Apr-18	88.6
	May-18	83.4
	Jun-18	86.0
	Jul-18	85.4
	Aug-18	70.2
	Sep-18	66.4
	Oct-18	71.8
	Nov-18	82.0
	Dec-18	82.0
	Jan-19	82.3
	Feb-19	66.4
	Mar-19	79.4
ANNUAL TREND	2015/16	
	2016/17	85.6
	2017/18	80.8
	2018/19	79.4

10 working days



LOOKED AFTER

DEFINITION

Number of Looked After Children at the end of each month.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

264 children are currently being looked after as at March 2019.

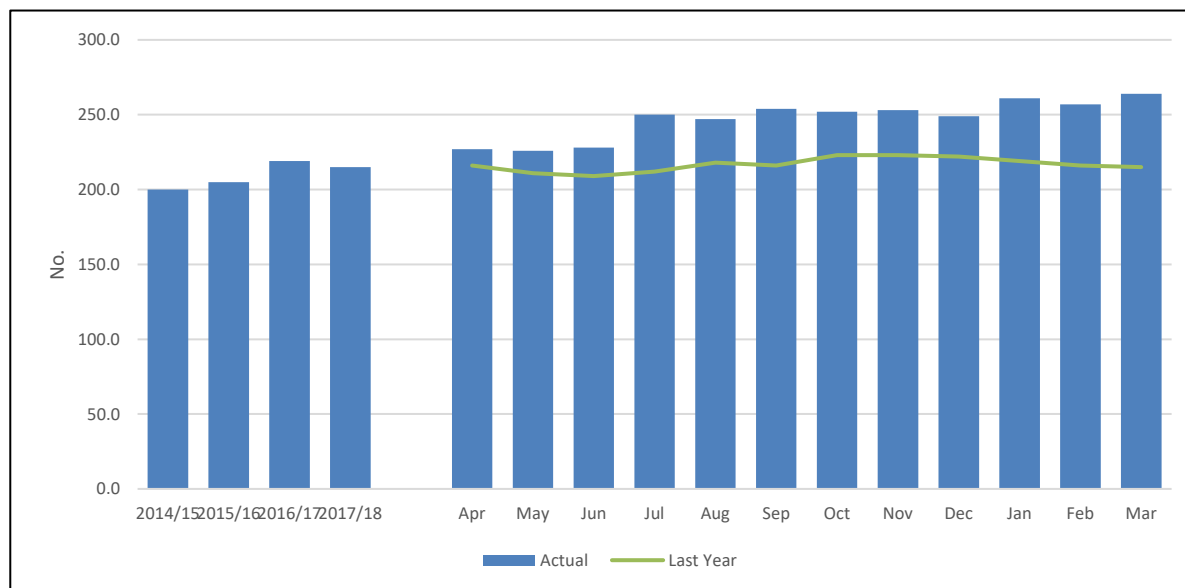
CSC 201

Total number of
Looked After
Children

CSC 201: Total number of Looked After Children

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	
	Apr-18	227
	May-18	226
	Jun-18	228
	Jul-18	250
	Aug-18	247
	Sep-18	254
	Oct-18	252
	Nov-18	253
	Dec-18	249
	Jan-19	261
	Feb-19	257
	Mar-19	264

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	200
	2015/16	205
	2016/17	219
	2017/18	215
	2018/19	264



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

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

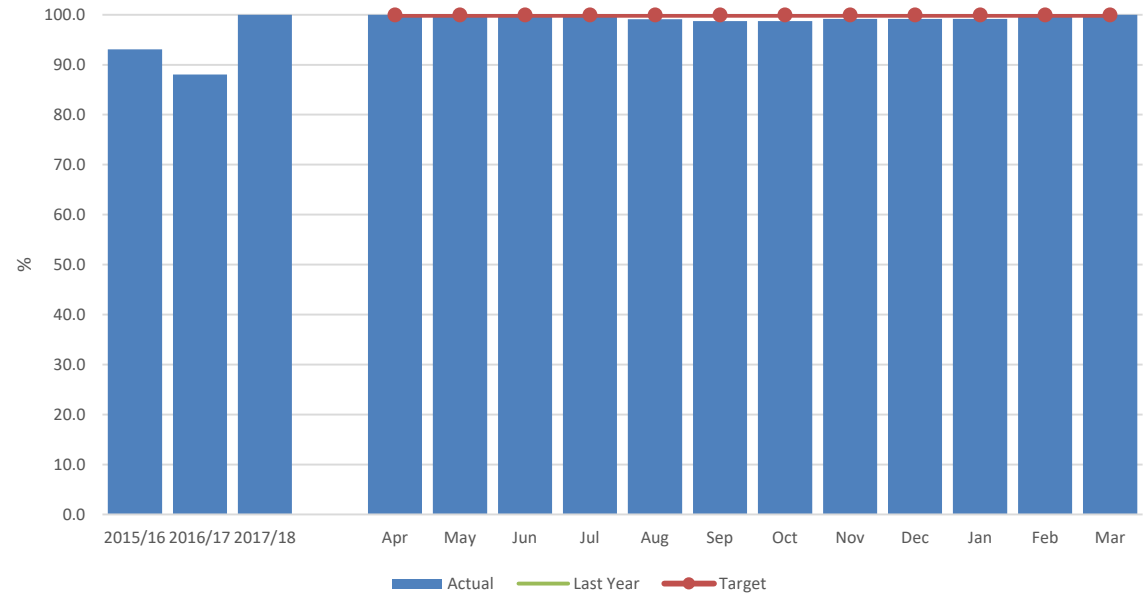
100% of our currently Looked After Children have had been completed within required timescales.

CSC 218

% of Looked After Children whose reviews had been completed within required timescales (as at month end)

CSC 218: % of Looked After Children whose reviews had been completed within required timescales (as at month end)

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	100
	Apr-18	100
	May-18	100
	Jun-18	100
	Jul-18	100
	Aug-18	99.1
	Sep-18	98.7
	Oct-18	98.8
	Nov-18	99.2
	Dec-18	99.2
	Jan-19	99.2
	Feb-19	100
	Mar-19	100
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	92.3
	2015/16	93.1
	2016/17	88.0
	2017/18	100
	2018/19	100



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.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

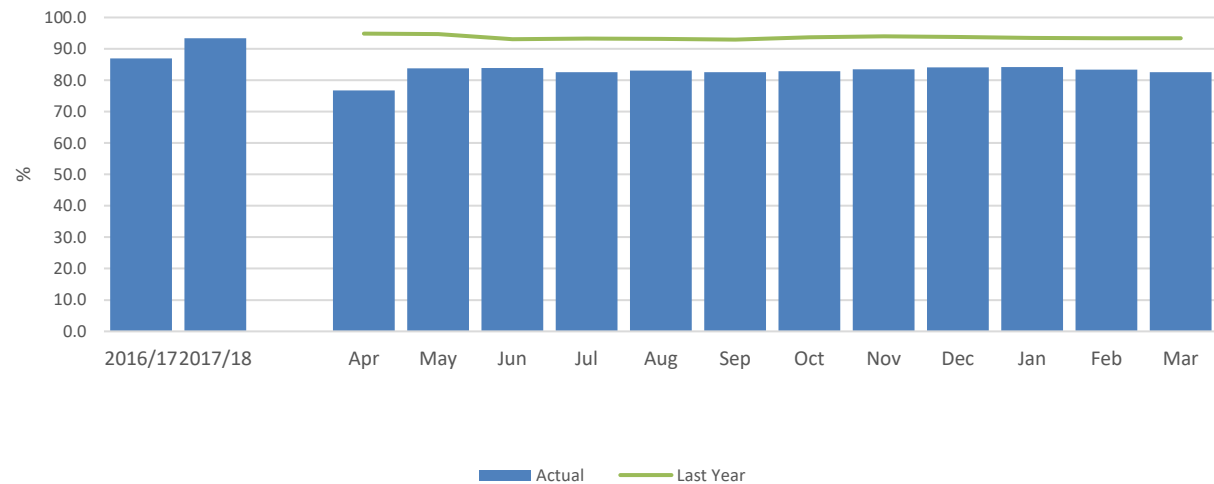
82.6% (2,389/2,893) of Looked After Children's (LAC) statutory visits have been completed in timescale during the 2018/19 period.

CSC 260b

% LAC statutory visits completed in timescale year to date

CSC 260b: % LAC statutory visits completed in timescale year to date

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90
	Apr-18	76.7
	May-18	83.8
	Jun-18	83.9
	Jul-18	82.6
	Aug-18	83.1
	Sep-18	82.6
	Oct-18	82.9
	Nov-18	83.5
	Dec-18	84.2
	Jan-19	84.2
	Feb-19	83.3
	Mar-19	82.6
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	
	2015/16	
	2016/17	86.9
	2017/18	93.4
	2018/19	82.6



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 placements in the previous 12 months; who had been in their current placement for 2 or more years. and who were placed more than 20 miles away from their home address.

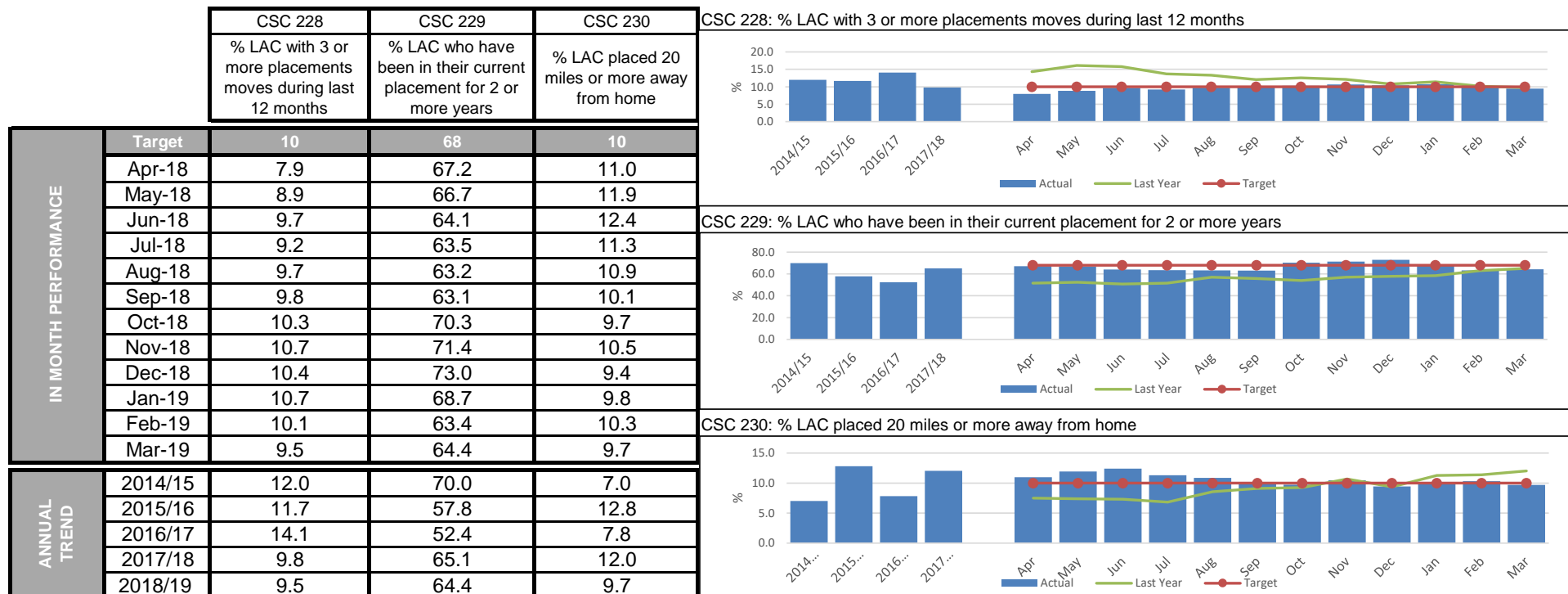
On the whole stability is associated with better outcomes; placement instability has been highlighted as a key barrier to improving educational outcomes. Proper assessment and an adequate choice of placements to meet the varied needs of different children are essential if appropriate stable placements 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

9.5% (25/264) of children in care as at March 2019 have had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months. This is below our internal target of 10% and that National average (10) and in line with our statistical neighbours (9.2) and Regional average (9).

As at March 2019, 64.4% (47/73) of our looked after children aged under 16 (who have been looked after for at least 2.5 years) have been in their current placement continuously for at least 2 years. This is below our internal target of 68%, the National average (70), our statistical neighbours (70) and Regional average (73). This is similar when compared to March 2018 which saw 65.1% of Looked After Children having been in their current placement continuously for at least 2 years.

9.7% of our looked after children have been placed 20 or more miles away from home as at March 2019.



LOOKED AFTER - INITIAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

DEFINITION

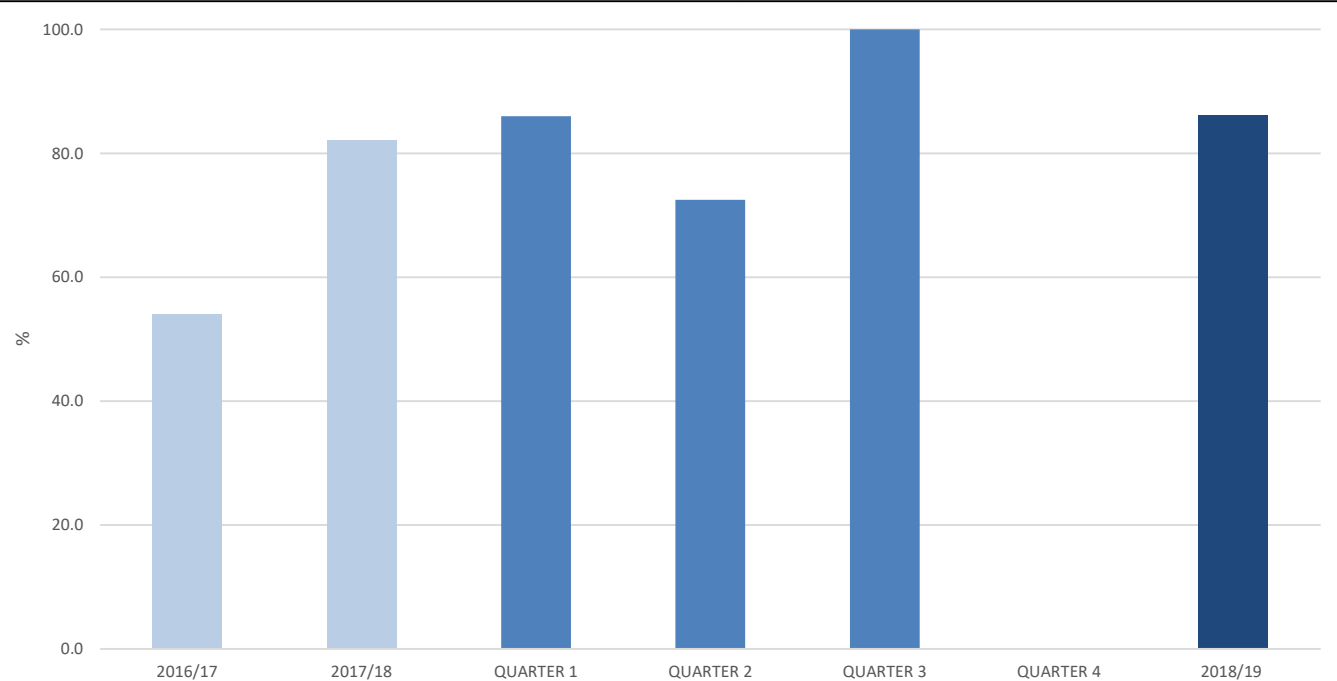
Percentage of Initial Health Assessments completed within 20 working days of a child becoming Looked After year to date (data from Health),

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

As an Average over Quarter 1-3, 86% of Initial Health Assessments have been completed within 20 working days of a child becoming looked after.

% Newly LAC with a completed Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days (from Health)

% Newly LAC with a completed Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days (from Health)



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE

Target	95
Apr-18	
May-18	
Jun-18	86
Jul-18	
Aug-18	
Sep-18	72.5
Oct-18	
Nov-18	
Dec-18	100
Jan-19	
Feb-19	
Mar-19	TBC

ANNUAL TREND - AVERAGE

2014/15	
2015/16	58
2016/17	54
2017/18	82
2018/19	86

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 have had their Review Health Assessment (RHA) completed and the percentage who have an up to date Health Check.

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 Looked After Children in health 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 Looked After Children.

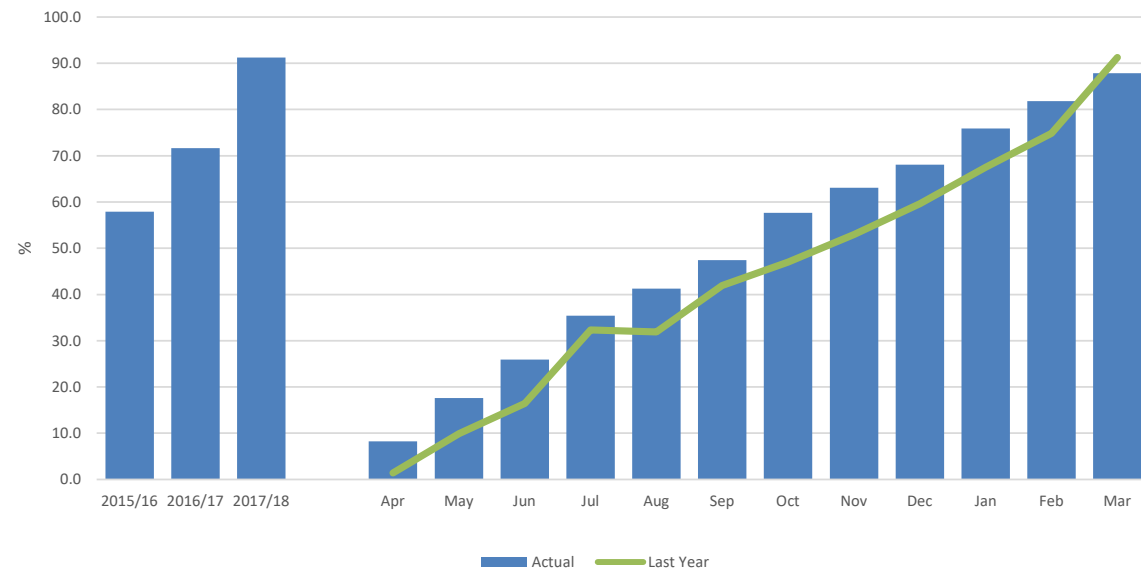
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

87.9% (145/165) of children due a Review Health Assessment during the 2018/19 period had one completed.

CSC 250

% of Looked After Children (LAC) with up to date Health Checks (CLA 1 yr. +)

CSC 250: % of Looked After Children (LAC) with up to date Health Checks (CLA 1 yr +)



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE

Target	90
Apr-18	8.2
May-18	17.6
Jun-18	26.0
Jul-18	35.4
Aug-18	41.3
Sep-18	47.4
Oct-18	57.7
Nov-18	63.1
Dec-18	68.1
Jan-19	75.9
Feb-19	81.8
Mar-19	87.9

ANNUAL TREND

2015/16	57.9
2016/17	71.6
2017/18	91.3
2018/19	87.9

LOOKED AFTER - DENTAL 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 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 Looked After Children.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

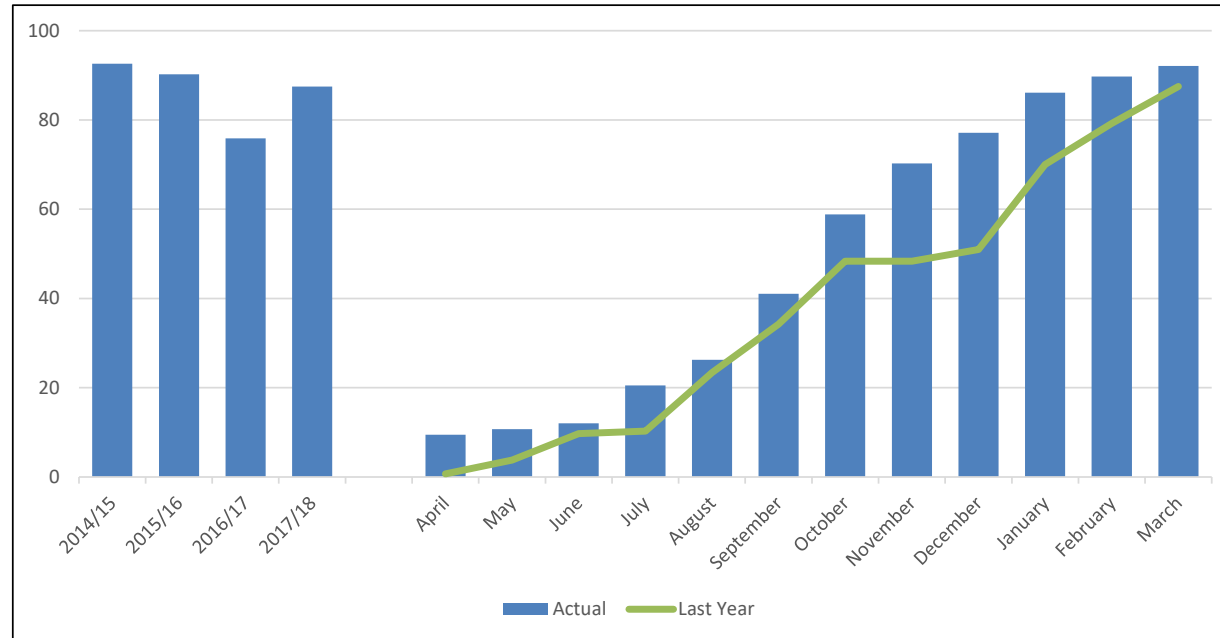
92.1% (152/165) of children due a dental check assessment had one completed.

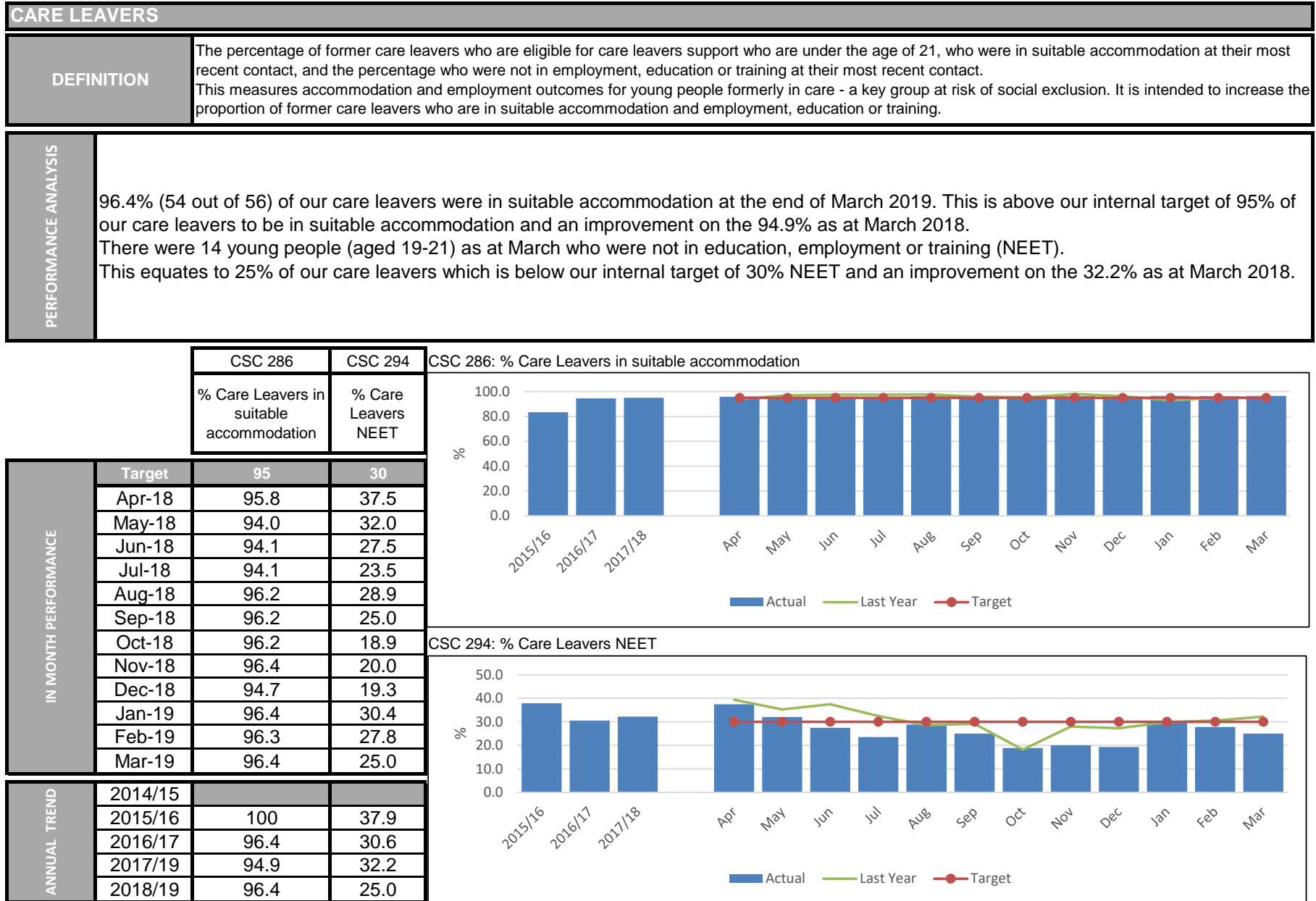
CSC 251

The % of Looked After Children (LAC) with up to date Dental Checks (LAC 1yr +) during reporting year.

CSC 251: The % of Looked After Children (LAC) with up to date Dental Checks (LAC 1yr +) during reporting year.

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90
	Apr-18	9.5
	May-18	10.7
	Jun-18	12.0
	Jul-18	20.5
	Aug-18	26.3
	Sep-18	41.0
	Oct-18	58.8
	Nov-18	70.2
	Dec-18	77.1
	Jan-19	86.1
	Feb-19	89.7
	Mar-19	92.1
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	92.6
	2015/16	90.2
	2016/17	75.9
	2017/18	87.5
	2018/19	92.1





CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **1 July 2019**

LEARNING & SKILLS ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members with an update on the performance of the Learning & Skills Service for academic year 2017/18.

Summary

2. The Learning & Skills service continues to perform well with a 'Good' Ofsted grade whilst supporting some of the most vulnerable adults, young people and families in Darlington.
3. The shift of provision to better align with local priorities has impacted on the performance of the service due to the change in demographic of the learners. The service has recognised this and is putting in place further checks and controls to ensure that the service continues to perform at a high level.
4. There will be some challenges in 2019/20 as we move to the devolution of the Adult Education Budget and the ongoing challenges of apprenticeship funding.

Recommendation

5. It is recommended that Members note the contents of the report

Reasons

6. To give Scrutiny Members oversight and knowledge of this externally funded service.

Suzanne Joyner
Director of Children and Adult Services

Background papers

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

Paul Richardson, Head of Skills and Employability - Extension 6015

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report supports the Council's Crime and Disorder responsibilities, young people engaged in learning are less likely to engage in anti-social behaviour
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.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report may have an impact on their education and future employment.

MAIN REPORT

The Learning & Skills Service

The Learning & Skills Service is the external training arm of the Council and is funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to provide learning and skills provision for the local community. The service has been an Ofsted 'Good' provider since 2004.

The service provides a range of training from Pre-Entry Level to Level 5, including:

- 16-18 study programme and diploma courses
- Adult education, including Functional Skills such as English, maths and ICT
- Community Learning
- Family Learning and Intensive Support
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Apprenticeships
- Access to HE
- 14-16 alternative education

Learning & Skills supports some of the most disadvantaged young people and adults in Darlington and contributes to the priorities of both the Children and Young People's Plan and the sustainable community strategy; One Darlington: Perfectly Placed. Often the provision delivered provides a stepping stone to those taking their first steps back into learning and a number of past learners have moved on to higher level learning at Darlington College or other providers.

Teaching takes places across three main sites; the Coleridge Centre, Tubwell Row and the units at Lingfield Way, as well as in a number of school and community settings.

Apprenticeship provision includes Health and Social Care, Business Administration, Motor Vehicle, Site Joinery and Leadership and Management.

Learner Numbers - In 2017/18 the service supported 1,268 learners across a wide range of programmes, including:

- 39 16-18 year olds
- 1,143 people on adult and community learning
- 61 apprentices
- 25 14-16 year olds on alternative provision

Funding - The overall funding allocation from the ESFA for the Learning & Skills Service in 2017 - 18 was £907,345. This was split as follows:

- 16-18 Study Programme: £260,480
- ASB Classroom: £182,626
- 19+ Apprenticeships: £40,359
- 16 – 18 Apprenticeships: £149,525
- Community Learning £273,637
- ALL Bursary £718

In addition the service drew down funding for delivering apprenticeships through the levy. In 2017/18 this amounted to £122,723.

Adult Education Devolution – From the start of academic year 2019/20 the Adult Education Budget will be devolved to the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA), this funding is to support the adult learning provision for Tees Valley residents. The service's allocation for 2019/20 is similar to what it received previously from the ESFA, the service has also received a small allocation from the ESFA to support non Tees Valley learners.

Apprenticeship Levy – The Learning & Skills service supports the Council to deliver the apprenticeship levy and offers a range of apprenticeship provision to meet the training needs of Council staff and other large employers.

Non-Levy Apprenticeship provision – The service also delivers apprenticeship training to SMEs who are not subject to the apprenticeship levy. This is delivered through a sub-contract on behalf of Middlesbrough Council who are the prime provider. The service aims to bid for it's own non-levy allocation at the next opportunity.

Qualification Levels in Darlington - It should be noted that national data from NOMIS shows that whilst Darlington residents are better qualified than the North East average, Darlington remains below the national average at almost every level. In particular the percentage of residents with no qualifications (9.0%) is 1.2% above the national average (7.8%). This means that the first steps and basic skills provision provided by the service is as equally important as the higher level skills.

Qualifications (Jan 2018-Dec 2018)

	Darlington	North East	Great Britain
	(%)	(%)	(%)
NVQ4 And Above	33.0	31.1	39.3
NVQ3 And Above	55.9	51.9	57.8
NVQ2 And Above	73.7	73.0	74.9
NVQ1 And Above	83.9	84.7	85.4
Other Qualifications	7.1	5.8	6.8
No Qualifications	9.0	9.5	7.8

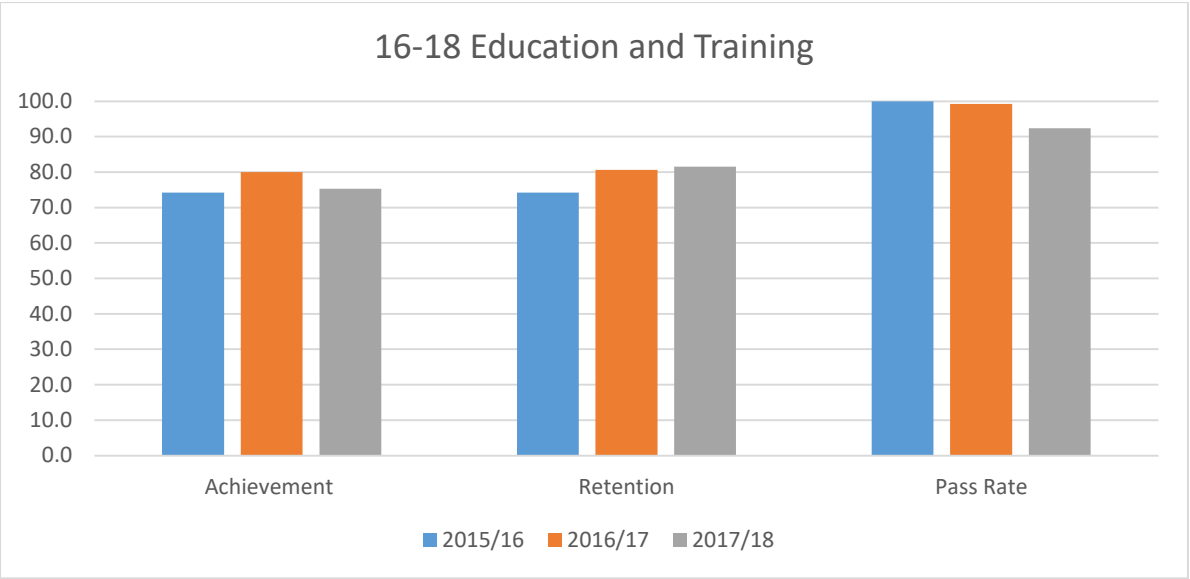
Performance

2017/18 Achievement Rates - The table below shows the 2017/18 achievement rate by provision type compared with the national benchmark. A further breakdown is given in the tables below.

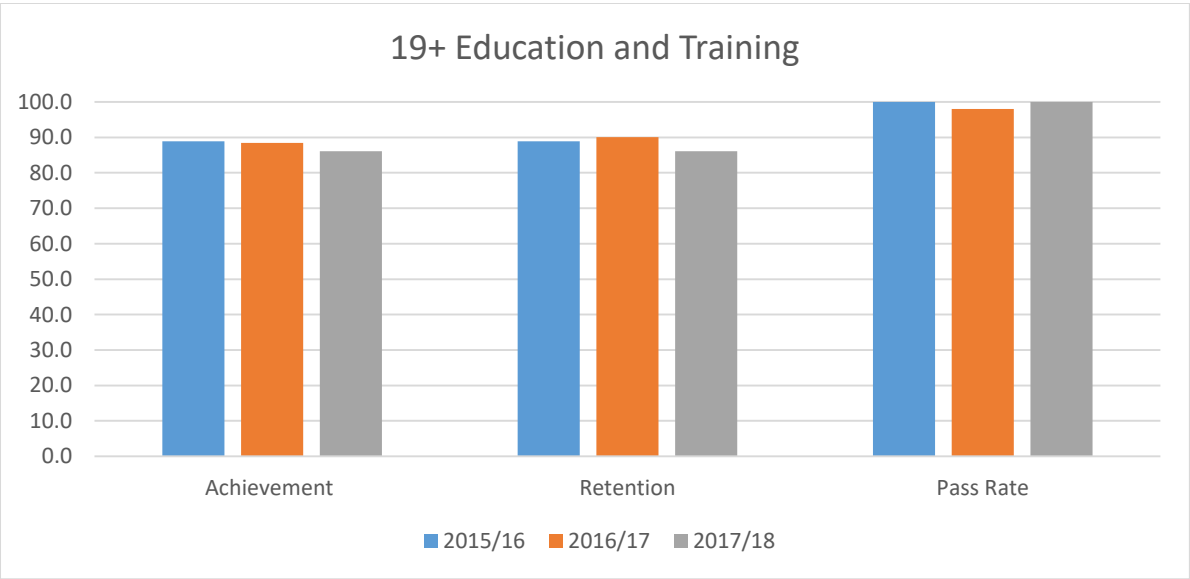
Provision Type	Learning & Skills Overall Achievement Rate	National Provider Type Overall Achievement Rate
16-18	75.3%	82.0%
Adult Education	86.1%	86.2%
Community Learning	97.8%	No comparator
Apprenticeships	82.4%	75.5%

The achievement rate percentage is calculated by multiplying the retention rate (the percentage of learners who completed their course) by the pass rate (the percentage of learners who completed the course and passed).

The 16-18 achievement rate dropped between 2016/17 and 2017/18 this was due to a continued push on retaining the most vulnerable young people to prevent them going NEET (not in education, employment or training), unfortunately this resulted in a drop in the pass rates for that group. Please note that due to the decline in the number of providers in Darlington supporting the vulnerable 16-18 year olds there are now only two main providers Darlington Borough Council and Darlington College. The service often enrolls young people who have left Darlington College, for whatever reason, or do not feel able to cope in a large college setting.



The pass rate for 19+ education and training continues to remain high, however as the service increases delivery of Functional Skills provision (English, maths and ICT) and ESOL in line with TVCA priorities this is having an impact on retention, as this cohort often have other social issues they are dealing with, however where the service does retain these learners they are very good at getting the learners through the qualification with a 100% pass rate in 2017/18.



Apprenticeship achievement rates at 82.4% remain well above the national average of 75.5% and the service continues to have a good reputation with employers.







Learner Satisfaction - All learners are encouraged to complete a learner satisfaction and in 2017/18 91.62% rated the service as 'Good' or above

Learner Progression - Learners are well prepared for the next stage of their education, training or employment and have attained relevant qualifications. A high proportion of learners progress to further/higher education, employment or training at a level suitable to meet appropriate career plans. In 2017/18:

- 73% of Apprenticeship leavers progressed to FE, employment, Advanced Apprenticeships or university
- 74% of Study Programme learners progressed to FE, Apprenticeships or employment
- 77% of Adult Learners sampled progressed to further learning or employment






Overall, the Service delivers considerable added value to both individual learners, the Council and other agencies. The diagram below demonstrates the additional benefits the service brings.

Impact of Learning & Skills

 Improved adult skills, literacy & numeracy	 Greater community engagement	 Enhanced workforce development inc. CPD, bespoke training and Apprenticeships	 Better parenting skills, resilience and independence	 Increased participation of young people and adults	 More volunteering, peer support and community integration
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Learning & Skills Provision

14-16 Alternative Education	16-18 Education & Training	Apprentice- ships	Adult Learning	Community Learning	Family Learning	Intensive Support	Access to HE
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 Fewer skills gaps	 Less isolation of vulnerable groups. e.g. refugees, elderly residents and those with learning difficulties & disabilities	 Lower cost of staff development at a high quality and bespoke to DBC	 Less dependency on services. e.g. domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse and homelessness	 Fewer number of young people and adults who are not economically active. Reduced cost of NEETs. Less anti-social behaviour.
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Future Challenges

The Adult Education makes up a significant percentage of the service's income and devolution of that funding to TVCA will present a new challenge. In the first year (2019/20) we expect to see little change but beyond that the expectation is that the provision will be more aligned with the skills needs of the Tees Valley, this includes first steps provision. The service is already moving in this direction with a shift from leisure type courses to more basic skills provision and will continue to ensure it is responding to TVCA priorities whilst continuing to meet the needs of Darlington residents. This may mean moving some of the learning for leisure type provision to full cost or supporting the establishment of learning groups, as has already happened with what was previously a watercolours class.

The introduction of the Apprenticeship levy has presented some challenges with the money moving from training providers to employers and nationally apprenticeship numbers has fallen as large employers had attempted to manage their levy spend. However, the service continues to work with employers to encourage apprenticeship take up and is looking to further grow the provision.

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 1 July 2019

WORK PROGRAMME

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the work programme items scheduled to be considered by this Scrutiny Committee during the 2019/20 Municipal Year and to consider any additional areas which Members would like to suggest should be included.

Summary

2. Members are requested to consider the attached draft work programme (**Appendix 1**) for the next Municipal Year which has been prepared based on Officers recommendations and recommendations previously agreed by this Scrutiny Committee in the last Municipal Year.
3. Once the work programme has been approved by this Scrutiny Committee, any additional areas of work which Members wish to add to the agreed work programme will require the completion of a quad of aims in accordance with the previously approved procedure (**Appendix 2**).

Recommendations

4. Members are requested to consider and approve the attached draft work programme as the agreed work programme for the Municipal year 2019/20 and consider any additional items which they might wish to include.

Paul Wildsmith
Managing Director

Background Papers

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

Author: Allison Hill

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

5. 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.
6. Each topic links 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

7. In addition, each topic links 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.

Forward Plan and Additional Items

8. Once the Work Programme has been agreed by this Scrutiny Committee, any Member seeking to add a new item to the work programme will need to complete a quad of aims. A revised process for adding an item to a previously approved work programme, has been agreed by the Monitoring and Co-ordination Group.

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APPENDIX**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	Q4/end of Year 1 July 2019 Q1 2 September 2019 Q2 16 December 2019	Sharon Raine	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 Spend every pound wisely	Agreed set of indicators	To receive quarterly monitoring reports and undertake any further detailed work into particular outcomes if necessary
Children and Young People Public Health Overview 2019	2 September 2019	Ken Ross/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	Annual monitoring - Children and Young People's Profile 2018, Healthy Lifestyle Survey 2017, Childhood Healthy Weight Action Plan 2017-2022 and Oral Health Plan 2017-2022

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Extension of Funding to 21 for Children in Foster Care	30 March 2020	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
2019/20 Childcare Sufficiency Review	16 December 2019	Tony Murphy/Nicola Davies	Children with the best start in life A safe and caring community Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities		To provide an annual report to elected Members on how the authority meets its duty to secure sufficient childcare places.
Annual Report of the Local Safeguarding Children Board	28 October 2019	Amanda Hugill/ Simon Hart, Independent Chair		Build strong communities	LSB Annual Report	Annual monitoring
IRO Annual Report	2 September 2019	Martin Graham	Children with the best start in life		CSC201	To examine the Annual Report of

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
						the Independent Reviewing Officer for Looked After Children
Local Designated Officer Annual Report	2 September 2019	Amanda Hugill Carol Glasper				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	2 September 2019	Christine Shields	Children with the best start in life			Annual update to Members.
Learning and Skills Service Annual Report	1 Jul 2019	Paul Richardson	Enough support for people when needed			To demonstrate challenge
Academy Trusts	TBA					To examine safeguarding measures and health and safety training in place within the boroughs Academies
Private Children's Homes and Planning Guidance	TBA					To monitor the number of private children's homes in the borough.

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Autism Provision at Hurworth School Review Group	TBA					To review the arrangements between this Council and Hurworth School in providing the resourced Autism provision and attached Outreach Support Service for Darlington. Quad of aims April 2018
Childhood Healthy Weight Plan	3 February 2020	Miriam Davidson	Children with the best start in life			To examine the effectiveness of the Plan on childhood obesity and mental health issues in children and young people

JOINT REVIEW WITH HEALTH AND PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY:						
Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Childhood Obesity/ Oral Health/Mental Health Links	<p>Review suspended – Members to examine childhood obesity and mental health links by monitoring the effectiveness of the Childhood Healthy Weight Plan at a future date.</p> <p>Interim Report to Cabinet on 11 September 2018 on Oral Health.</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>	Build strong communities		<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	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	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	30 October 2017	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

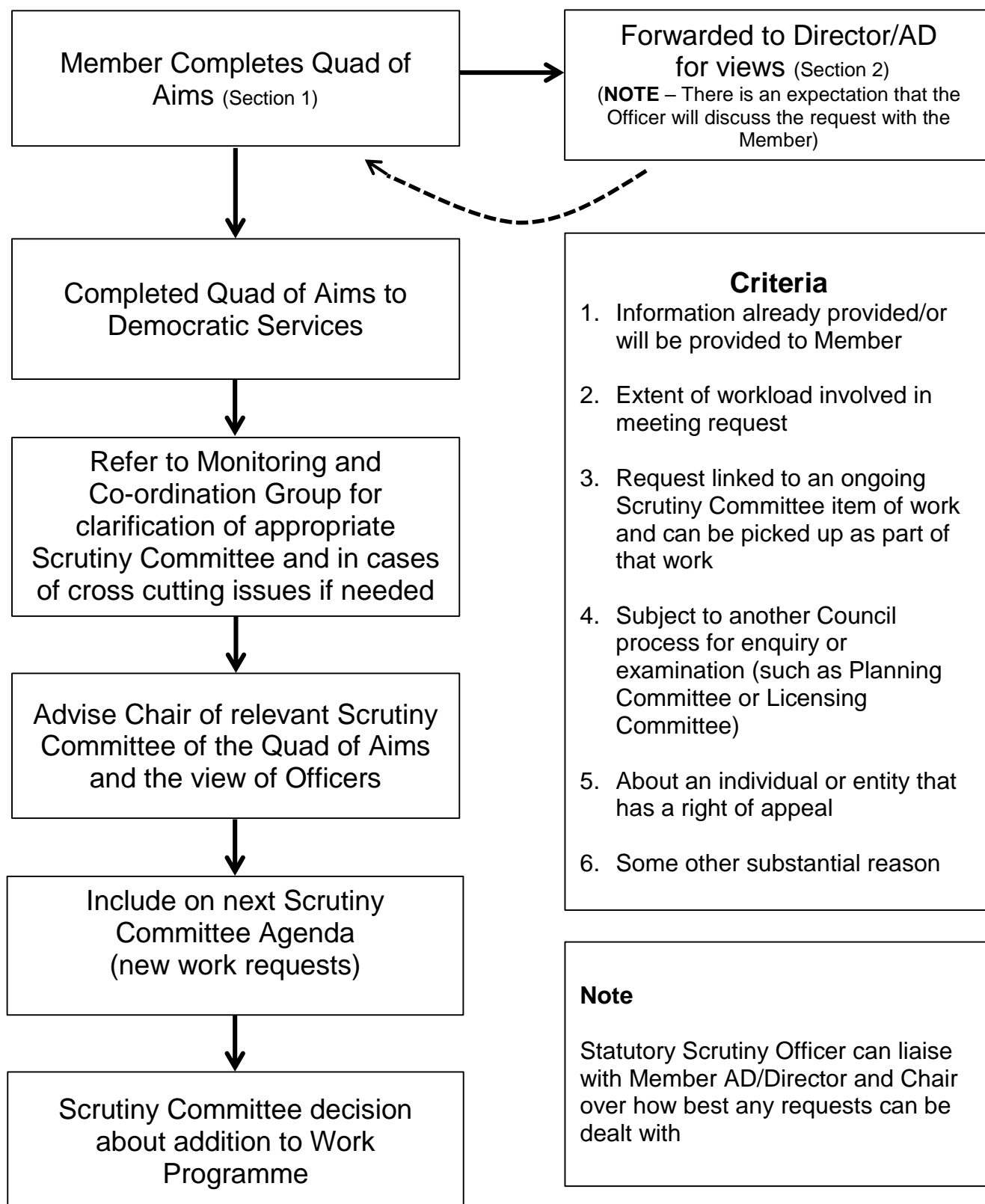
			Enough support for people when needed			pressures on social workers
Children and Young People's Plan 2017/22	4 September 2017	Christine Shields/Rosie Banks	Children with the best start in life Enough support for people when needed			To consult with Scrutiny prior to consideration by Cabinet
Sustainability 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)
LAC Missing from Care – Reasons and Interventions	10 September 2018	Joanne Stoddart	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

						Update information regarding Missing Episodes following the report to the meeting in April
Educational Landscape	Archived on 3 Oct 2018	Tony Murphy	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.
Recording practices for statutory visits for Child Protection Cases	27 June 2016	Jane Kochanowski	Children with the best start in life A safe and caring community Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities	CSC 252	To examine recording practices. To be monitored via the regular performance reports in future
Stability of Places for Looked After Children	10 December 2018	Joanne Stoddart	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.

			Enough support for people when needed			To be monitored via the regular performance reports in future
Children Services Accessibility Strategy	10 December 2018					To give Scrutiny Members the opportunity to consider the Strategy prior to Cabinet.
SEND High Needs Review:		Tony Murphy	Children with the best start in life			To give Scrutiny Members the opportunity to consider 3 of the 4 core elements of the Review. Members to carry out a T/F Review on the proposals.
Strategy and Funding	29 October 2018 10 Dec 2018		More People healthy and independent			
Home to School Transport	29 October 2018		Enough support for people when needed			
SEND Strategy and Funding Consultation Review Group	10 December 2018		Children with the best start in life			To give a Scrutiny response to the consultation on the SEND Strategy and Funding and SEND Travel Assistance Policy

Services for Families with children with disabilities 0-3 years Review Group		Kevin Kelly/Yvonne Coates	Children with the best start in life Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities		Following the recommendation of the Review Group to review the service after 6 months and meet again with professionals, families and stakeholders.
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PROCESS FOR ADDING AN ITEM TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE'S PREVIOUSLY APPROVED WORK PROGRAMME



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QUAD OF AIMS (MEMBERS' REQUEST FOR ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED BY SCRUTINY)

SECTION 1 TO BE COMPLETED BY MEMBERS

NOTE – This document should only be completed if there is a clearly defined and significant outcome from any potential further work. This document should **not** be completed as a request for or understanding of information.

REASON FOR REQUEST?	RESOURCE (WHAT OFFICER SUPPORT WOULD YOU REQUIRE?)
PROCESS (HOW CAN SCRUTINY ACHIEVE THE ANTICIPATED OUTCOME?)	HOW WILL THE OUTCOME MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Signed Councillor

Date

SECTION 2 TO BE COMPLETED BY DIRECTORS/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS
(NOTE – There is an expectation that Officers will discuss the request with the Member)

<p>1. (a) Is the information available elsewhere? Yes No</p> <p>If yes, please indicate where the information can be found (attach if possible and return with this document to Democratic Services)</p> <p>.....</p> <p>(b) Have you already provided the information to the Member or will you shortly be doing so?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>2. If the request is included in the Scrutiny Committee work programme what are the likely workload implications for you/your staff?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>3. Can the request be included in an ongoing Scrutiny Committee item of work and picked up as part of that?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>4. Is there another Council process for enquiry or examination about the matter currently underway?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>5. Has the individual or entity some other right of appeal?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>6. Is there any substantial reason (other than the above) why you feel it should not be included on the work programme?</p> <p>.....</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Criteria</p> <p>1. Information already provided/or will be provided to Member</p> <p>2. Extent of workload involved in meeting request</p> <p>3. Request linked to an ongoing Scrutiny Committee item of work and can be picked up as part of that work</p> <p>4. Subject to another Council process for enquiry or examination (such as Planning Committee or Licensing Committee)</p> <p>5. About an individual or entity that has a right of appeal</p> <p>6. Some other substantial reason</p>
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Signed **Position** **Date**

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