



DARLINGTON

Borough Council

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Agenda

9.30 am

Monday, 20 December 2021

Via Microsoft Teams

As a result of concerns around the Omicron variant, this meeting will be held on a virtual basis.

Members of the public can view a live stream of the meeting at:

<https://www.darlington.gov.uk/livemeetings>.

Members of the public wanting to make representations at the meeting can do so by e-mailing Allison.Hill@darlington.gov.uk no later than 9.30 a.m. on Friday 17 December 2021. Members of the public may also approach their Ward Councillors (who can attend this virtual meeting) and request that they put their views to the Committee.

1. Introductions/ Attendance at Meeting
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 25 October 2021 (Pages 3 - 8)
4. Performance Indicators Quarter 2 2021/22 –
Report of the Assistant Director of Children’s Services
(Pages 9 - 38)
5. Update of Developing Darlington Care Collective –
Report of the Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Transformation
(Pages 39 - 42)
6. Children's Centre Services Report –
Report of the Assistant Director of Children’s Services

(Pages 43 - 46)

7. Work Programme –
Report of the Assistant Director Law and Governance
(Pages 47 - 64)
8. 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
9. Questions



Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance

Friday, 10 December 2021

Town Hall
Darlington.

Membership

Councillors Ali, Mrs Culley, Bell, Crudass, C L B Hughes, Lister, Lucas, Renton, Snedker, Sowerby and Willis

Statutory Co-optees

Malcolm Frank and Carly Spence

Non Statutory Co-optees

Maura Regan, Tim Fisher, Nick Lindsay, Janet Woodcock and John Armitage

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, Operations 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, 25 October 2021

PRESENT – Councillors Crudass (Chair), Mrs Culley, C L B Hughes, Lucas, Snedker, Sowerby and Willis

STATUTORY CO-OPTees – None

NON-STATUTORY CO-OPTees – None

APOLOGIES – Councillors Ali, Lister and Renton; Carly Spence, Tim Fisher, Nick Lindsay and John Armitage

ABSENT – Councillor Bell, Malcolm Frank, Maura Regan and Janet Woodcock

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Ann Baxter (Darlington Safeguarding Partnership) and Vicky Davidson-Boyd (Adoption Tees Valley)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Chris Bell, Allison Hill (Democratic Officer), Martin Graham (Head of Quality Assurance and Practice Improvement) and Paul Richardson (Head of Skills and Employability)

CYP17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported at this meeting.

CYP18 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THIS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 23 AUGUST 2021

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 23 August 2021.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 23 23 August 2021 be approved as a correct record.

CYP19 ADOPTION TEES VALLEY ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

Vicky Davidson-Boyd, Service Manager, Adoption Tees Valley presented Adoption Tees Valley (ATV) Annual Report 2020/21 and outlined the work that had been undertaken across the Tees Valley during 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021.

It was reported that this was the third annual report of Adoption Tees Valley which was the Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) for the five local authorities Councils of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton.

The Service Manager advised Members that this period had been impacted by the National Covid 19 pandemic and characterised by adoption activity conducted within the amended regulations and restrictions imposed because of the public health emergency. This brought

both challenge and opportunity to work differently across Children's Services; and the service had trialled new ways of working and implemented practices which had been underpinned by nationally developing adoption practice, and research.

The submitted report highlighted The Adoption and Children (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations (2020) which permitted adoption services a range of flexibilities which were outlined in the report; outlined the governance arrangements by a Board comprised of five Directors for Children's Services of the five Local Authorities within the partnership; set out the National Context of Adoption; gave details of the Early Permanence Strategy which had been collaborative, and had involved key stakeholders with a role in care planning and the placement of children for adoption; outlined the three year review of Adoption Tees Valley which will conclude its findings in September 2021; and provided individual authority performance benchmarking data and analysis of performance.

The submitted report also provided details of marketing and recruitment activities; various data in relation to adopter journey, referrals and placement, characteristics of children placed, adopted support; and the new initiative to support pathway for prospective adopters.

The submitted report also detailed the Quality Assurance mechanisms in place for managing and monitoring the work of the agency, and the quality of work; provided details of the joint budget and support funding available to the ATV; and outlined key development areas for the ATV within the 2021 Service Plan.

Particular reference was made to this local authority performance which had seen fewer children adopted than previous years; the Moving on To Adoption Model adopted by the ATV as a best practice model in some targeted cases; the challenges with managing the volume of Life Story books for children who are placed for adoption and how the ATV can address this issues; the continued employment of an Education Support Worker co-funded by the five local authority Virtual Schools via Department for Education grant funding for children previously in the care of the local authority and 59 families and children had been supported during this year.

Members expressed concern at the delays reported in progressing plans and were advised that Panel Chairs produce a six monthly report for each local authority and were given reassurance that this was not a particular concern in Darlington; discussed the increase in Stage 1 adopters which did not progress to Stage 2 and how this may have been affected by the Covid pandemic; discussed the investment in marketing to attract the correct adopters for the children in Darlington; and the resource and demand issues related to non-agency, step parent adoptions.

RESOLVED – That the Adoption Tees Valley Annual Report for 2020/21 be noted.

CYP20 DARLINGTON SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT

The Group Director of People submitted a report (previously circulated) to enable Members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny to receive and comment upon the Annual Report of the Darlington Safeguarding Partnership (DSP) for the period 2020/21.

It was reported that the Local Safeguarding Partnerships were required to produce an Annual Report to account for the Partnerships achievements over the previous year and make an assessment of the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements within the local area.

The Annual Report outlined what the Partnership had done over the period 2020/21, drawing upon a range of data and information to outline the progress made and illustrated the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding partnership arrangements.

Ann Baxter, Independent Chair of the Darlington Safeguarding Partnership attended the meeting to outline the Annual Report and answer Members questions thereon.

It was also highlighted that the Covid-19 Pandemic and the challenges posed to ensure children, young people and vulnerable adults were safeguarded had been the main focus throughout the year.

Particular reference was made to the multi-agency Critical Safeguarding Partnership Group which was established in response to the Government's emergency procedures and met weekly for the management and oversight of vulnerable children; and the sharing and learning between partners working closely and adapting ways of working to ensure that the most vulnerable were supported and safeguarded.

Members referred to domestic violence and the services provided, working closely with the police to understand the situation in Darlington and Anne assured Members that this was a priority area of the Partnership; discussed the increase in the number of children looked after in Darlington; and questioned the current position regarding Home Elective Education and if systems were in place to re-introduce those families who have elected to home educate back into schools if they so wished.

Members also discussed the safeguarding partners and the challenges of ensuring that all groups other than health, police and the local authority are represented and their voices heard. Ann acknowledged the work of this Scrutiny on the 'voice of the child' during the pandemic and confirmed that the final report of Members had been noted by the Partnership.

RESOLVED – That the Darlington Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report for 2020/21 be noted.

CYP21 INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

The Group Director of People submitted a report (previously circulated) to provide Members with an overview of the work by the Independent Reviewing Officer Service; and to consider the Annual Reports of the Independent Reviewing Officer for 2020/21 and the Child Protection Conference Chair for 2020/21.

It was highlighted that for the the whole of the period April 2020 – March 2021 the work undertaken by the Children's Safeguarding Unit had been under Covid-19 arrangements and in line with guidance, all formal meetings, which in previous years had been face to face, had

been conducted using virtual platforms.

The submitted report provided Members with an overview of the work of the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) service in relation to Looked After Children, including the Dispute Resolution Process and an overview of the performance of the unit in a range of responsibilities.

The submitted report also provided information on the role of the IRO's and statutory and non-statutory functions that the service is responsible for; the number of children subject to Child Protection Plans at 31 March; Child Protection Demographics; Timeliness of Initial Child Protection Conferences and Children Protection Review Conferences; the percentage of subsequent plans; and highlighted the actions scheduled for 2021/22.

Members questions were in relation to the rising caseloads as a result of the increase in the number of Looked After Children; the welfare of the workforce; and the impact of home working on the workforce.

RESOLVED – That the annual reports of the Independent Reviewing Officer and Child Protection Conference Chair for 2020/21 be noted.

CYP22 LEARNING AND SKILLS ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

The Group Director of People submitted a report (previously circulated) to provide Members with an update on the performance of the Learning and Skills Service for academic year 2020/21; and to allow Scrutiny members an opportunity to challenge the performance of this externally funded service.

It was highlighted that the pandemic had impacted on the Learning and Skills service and delivery in a number of ways over the last two academic years; however staff had responded magnificently and continued to deliver throughout that time, making a very successful transition to online teaching and learning.

It was reported that the service's aim was to grow provision whilst continuing to respond to employer and community need; and outlined the challenges ahead.

Members discussed in particular the low take up of apprenticeships and the possible reasons for this; how the Service had been affected by the pandemic and the challenges faced; and Members expressed their concerns for the Learning and Skills service with the impact of the pandemic and the potential uncertainties of the Tees Valley Combined Authority devolved funding model diverging from what the rules and requirements were under the Education and Skills Funding Agency. It was also suggested that Cabinet be made aware of this Scrutiny Committee's concerns about the financial impact on learning and skills.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

CYP23 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS QUARTER 1 2021/22

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 1 (April 2021 to June 2021) 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 outlined that where indicators are reported annually, quarterly updates will not be available.

It was highlighted that 10.1 per cent of the children referred during Q1 had been re-referred to Children's Social Care within 12 months of a previous referral below the internal target of 18 per cent; Social workers completed 90.8 per cent of the Childrens and Families assessments within timescale, which remains higher than statistical neighbours, regional and national average benchmarks; 89.7 per cent of Initial Child Protection Conferences were held within 15 working days from the strategy meeting / section 47 being initiated, excluding transfer-in conferences which was below internal target however remained higher than our statistical neighbour, regional and national average benchmarks; 100 per cent of children with a Child Protection (CP) plan and 100 per cent of Children in Care (CiC) have an allocated social worker; during Q1 no child had ceased to be subject to a CP plan who had been subject to the plan for two or more years and continue to positively perform below the target of 5 per cent; the number of Children in Care (CiC) has decreased to 264 by the end of June 2021 (end of June 2020 (302)) and work continues to safely reduce the number of children coming into care; 90.5 per cent of statutory CiC visits were completed within timescale in line with the target of 90 per cent; 9.8 per cent of our Children in Care, as of June 2021, had three or more placements within the previous 12 months below internal target, our statistical neighbour, regional and national average benchmarks; 69.1 per cent of our Children in Care aged under 16 (who have been looked after for at least 2.5 years) have been in their current placement continuously for at least two years; 8.8 per cent of our Children in Care have been placed 20 or more miles away from home as of June 2021 below the target of 10 per cent; 86.4 per cent of the children, newly into care, were seen by CDDFT within 20 working days for an initial health assessment; 86.4 per cent of children due a review health assessment year to date had one completed; 21.7 per cent of Care Leavers were not in employment, education or training (NEET) which was positivity below target of 30 per; and 100.0 per cent were in suitable accommodation.

The areas highlighted for focus were in respect of referrals were screened and completed within 1 day during Q1 2021/22 were below the target of 90 per cent at 68.5 per cent and 9 per cent of the referrals took over three days to complete; at the end of June 2021, the percentage of children becoming subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within two years of the previous plan ending was 14.3 per cent above the 6 per cent target, however, related to one family; 87.3 per cent of children received a statutory CP visit within 10 working days during Q1 below the target of 90 per cent; and 55.8 per cent of children due a dental check assessment year to date had one completed

RESOLVED – That the performance information reported for Quarter 1 2021/22 be noted.

CYP24 WORK PROGRAMME

The Group Director of Operations submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Scrutiny Committee's work programme and to consider any additional areas which Members would like to suggest should be included in the previously approved work programme.

The Chair advised Members that he, along with Councillor Renton, Chair of Economy and Resources had met with Paul Richardson, Head of Skills and Employability to discuss the position regarding youth unemployment in Darlington and were advised that a piece of work had already been commissioned by the Chief Executive which Seth Pearson, Chief Executive of Darlington Partnership was leading on.

RESOLVED – That the work programme be noted.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 20 December 2021

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS QUARTER 2 2021/22

Purpose of the Report

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

Summary

2. This report provides mid-year performance information (July 2021 – September 2021) 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 attend 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. 10.7% of the children referred during Q2 2021/22 have been re-referred to Children's Social Care within 12 months of a previous referral. This is positively below the internal target of 18%.
6. 100% of children with a Child Protection (CP) plan, and 100% of Children in Care (CiC) have an allocated social worker.
7. During Q2 2021/22 no child has ceased to be subject to a CP plan who had been subject to the plan for 2 or more years, we continue to positively perform below our target of 5%.
8. The number of Children in Care (CiC) was 266 by the end of September 2021, which was a large reduction of 11.9% when compared with the number of children at the end of September 2020 (302). Work continues to safely reduce the number of children coming into care.
9. 92.9% of statutory CiC visits were completed within timescale during Q2 2021/22. This is above the target of 90%.
10. 9.8% of our Children in Care, as of September 2021, have had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months. This performance is positively below our internal target of 10%.

11. 69.8% of our Children in Care 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 performance is in line with our internal target of 68%.
12. 8.3% of our Children in Care have been placed 20 or more miles away from home as of September 2021. This is a positive performance and below target of 10%.
13. 93.7% of children due a review health assessment year to date had one completed, which is above our target of 90%.
14. 21.3% of Care Leavers were not in employment, education or training (NEET) at the end of September 2021, which is positively below target of 30% and 100.0% were in suitable accommodation.

Where do we need to improve?

15. Social workers completed 87.3% of the C&F assessments within timescale during Q2 2021/22, which falls below our target of 90%, although is higher than the 80.4% for the same period last year.
16. 78.8% of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) were held within 15 working days from the strategy meeting / section 47 being initiated, excluding transfer-in conferences, by the end of Q2 2021/22.
17. 68.2% of referrals were screened and completed within 1 day by the end of Q2 2021/22, below the target of 90% and 7.6% of the referrals took over 3 days to complete. The additional time taken to carry out contact enquiries is ensuring that all information is complete and that children and families are being offered the right service at the right time.
18. At the end of September 2021, the percentage of children becoming subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 years of the previous plan ending was 9.8%, above the 6% target, however this is a reduction from 14.3% as at the end of Q1 2021/22.
19. 87.1% of children received a statutory CP visit within 10 working days during Q2 2021/22. This is below the target of 90%.
20. 75.7% of children due a dental check assessment year to date had one completed, and whilst this is below the target of 90% it is a significant improvement from the 55.8% as at the end of Q1 2021/22.

Recommendation

21. It is recommended that performance information provided in this report is reviewed and noted, and relevant queries raised with the appropriate Assistant Director.

Chris Bell

Assistant Director of Childrens 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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Scrutiny

Q1 2021-22 Performance Summary

Referral: 68.2% of referrals received during Q2 2021/22 were completed within 1 working day and 6.2% took over 3 working days to complete. Extensive work regarding referral enquiries has been required for some cases, resulting in completion taking longer than the statutory timescale. However, the additional work has been to the benefit of the child.

Re-Referrals: Re-referrals continue to remain low with 26 children, from 14 families, being re-referred to social care during Q2 2021/22. This equates to 10.7% of our referrals during this period having been repeated within 12 months. This is below the internal target of 18%.

Building Stronger Families: 162 Early Help Assessments have been completed during Q2 2021/22.

Missing: By the end of Q2 2021/22, Return Home Interviews (RHI) (excluding children from other authorities) have been offered in 98.9% of the cases, 86.2% of which were offered within 72 hours and 48.9% of the children engaged in their RHI. Where the co-ordinator cannot engage the child or young person, discussion takes place with parents, carers, teachers or social workers to offer insight around reducing the missing episodes.

Children & Families Assessments: 157 children had a single assessment carried out during Q2 2021/22.

C&F Timeliness: Social workers completed 87.3% of the C&F assessments within timescale during Q2 2021/22. This is below our target of 90%, and gives a year to date figure of 88.4% which is higher than the 80.4% for the same period last year.

Section 47 enquiries: 60 section 47 enquiries were started during Q2 2021/22 involving 128 children, 4 of which were subject to a Child Protection plan (CP) at the time of the enquiry.

Child Protection Conference Timeliness: 70.3% of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) were held within 15 working days from the strategy meeting / section 47 being initiated, excluding transfer-in conferences, during Q2 2021/22. Darlington's performance remains below the internal target of 95%.

Child Protection Plans: 79 children were subject to a Child Protection plan (CP) as at the end of September 2021. This is a 23.3% drop compared to the 103 children who were subject to CP at the end of September 2020. Darlington currently has a 35.1 rate per 10,000 population for children subject to a CPP.

100.0% of CP cases were allocated to a social worker and all the CP reviews were carried out in timescale. During Q2 2021/22 there were no children ceasing

CP who had been subject to the plan for 2 or more years. At the end of September 2021, the percentage of children becoming subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 years of the previous plan ending was 9.8%, above the 6% target although this is down on the 14.3% by the end of Q1 2021/22.

Child Protection Statutory visits: 87.1% of children received a statutory Child Protection (CP) visit during Q2 2021/22 within 10 working days, this is just below our target of 90%.

Children in Care: 266 children were in care as of September 2021, which is a reduction to the number of children (302) that were in care as of September 2020. During Q2 2021/22 a total of 21 children came into the care of the DBC and a total of 19 children ceased to be in care.

Children in Care Reviews: 100.0% of Children in Care (CiC) were allocated to a qualified social worker. 98.4% of the reviews have been completed within required timescales by the end of Q2 2021/22.

Children in Care Statutory visits: 92.9% of statutory visits for Children in Care (CiC) were completed in timescale during Q2 2021/22. This is above our internal target of 90%.

Children in Care Placements: 9.8% of Children in Care (CiC), as at September 2021, have had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months. This is positively below the internal target of 10%. 69.8% of our Children in Care 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 positively above our target of 68.0%. 8.3% of our Children in Care have been placed 20 or more miles away from home as at September 2021, which is positively below our target of 10.0%. This relates to young people who have been placed in residential care due to their disability / placed with family / or placed for adoption, and this provision was not available within 20 miles.

Initial Health Assessments: We are awaiting the Q2 figures from CDDFT regarding the percentage of children they saw within their timescale of 20 days.

Health and Dental Reviews: 93.7% of children due a review health assessment by September 2021 have had one completed. 75.7% of Children in Care, that were due a dental check assessment by September 2021 have had one completed. The percentage of children who have refused their medical checks has continued to decrease through the year, with 4.2% refusing their health review and 2.6% refusing their dental review. Although they are refusing, they are continually reminded of the benefits of having a check-up and encouraged to take part.

Care Leavers: 100.0% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation at the end of September 2021. The percentage of care leavers who were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) continues to be positively below the target set of 30% at 21.3% at the end of September 2021.



DARLINGTON
Borough Council

Children's Social Care Performance & Quality Assurance Report

Page 15

Quarter 2 (July - September) 2021/22

Scrutiny

REFERRALS - TIMELINESS	
DEFINITION	Percentage of referrals completed within 1 working day and over 3 working days. Referrals completed within 1 working day 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.
ANALYSIS	68.2% (165 / 242) of the referrals completed this year were finalised within 1 working day. This is below the 90% target and similar to the 68.5% completed during Q2 2020/21.
PERFORMANCE	<p>We have experienced a rise in referrals taking longer than 3 working days to complete, currently above the 5% target with 6.2% but a reduction on those in Q2 2020/21 that took over 3 days (9.0%). These relate to 7 families with a total of 15 children.</p> <p>All referrals that are completed out of timescale are reviewed by the service manager to ensure delay was unavoidable. A summary of the reasons are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complexity of the case and chronologies and as such requiring further work. • Awaiting outcome of a connected court matter • Difficulties in contacting the family for further information • Awaiting further information from a 3rd party. <p>No negative impacts on the families have been highlighted because of these delays.</p>

		CSC 022	CSC 026	
		Monthly % of referrals completed within 1 working day.	Monthly % of referrals completed in over 3 working days.	CSC 022: Monthly % of referrals completed within 1 working day.
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90%	5%	
	Apr-21	70.0	6.0	
	May-21	72.5	0.7	
	Jun-21	61.7	15.0	
	Jul-21	77.6	0.0	
	Aug-21	63.3	6.3	
	Sep-21	66.7	9.5	
	Oct-21			
	Nov-21			
	Dec-21			
	Jan-22			
	Feb-22			
	Mar-22			
ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	98.2	0.0	
	2019/20	86.8	1.6	
	2020/21	77.7	4.7	
	2021/22	68.2%	7.6%	

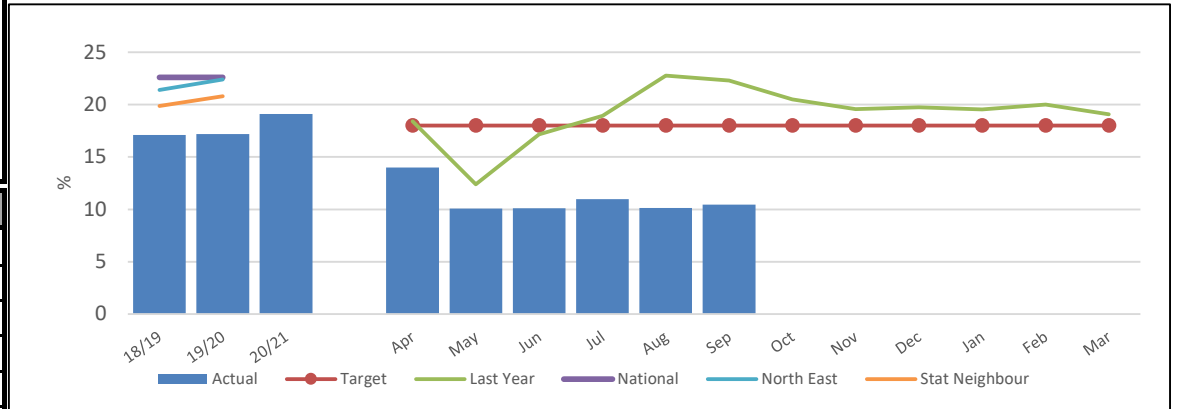
REFERRALS - RE-REFERRALS

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
 Re-referrals continue to remain low with 26 children, from 14 families, being re-referred to social care during Q2 2021/22. This equates to 10.7% of our referrals during this period having been repeated within 12 months. This is below the internal target of 18%.
 5 of the 14 families that were re-referrals went straight to Strategy whilst the remaining progressed to a C&F assessment.

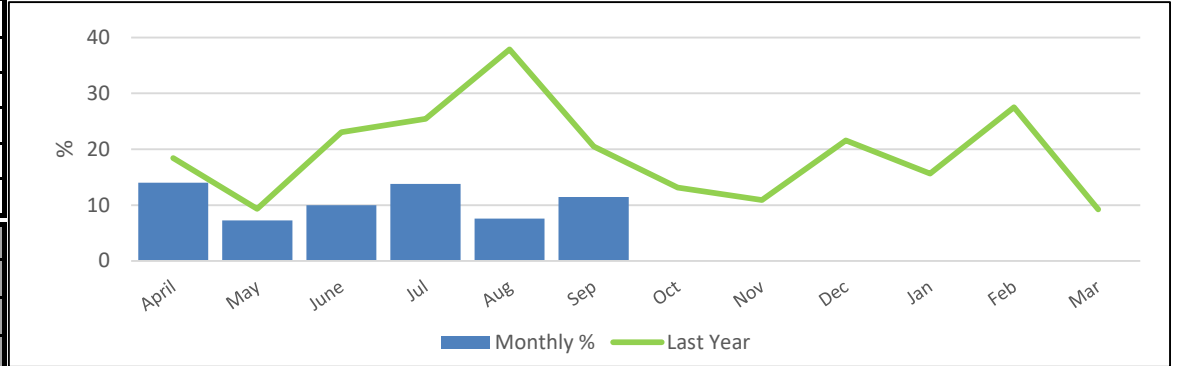
CSC 034	CSC 032	
Monthly number of re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months	% re-referrals that are repeat within 12 months (cumulative)	% of referrals that are re-referrals (monthly)

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



Target		18%	
Apr-21	7	14.0	14.0
May-21	5	10.1	7.2
Jun-21	6	10.1	10.0
Jul-21	8	11.0	13.8
Aug-21	6	10.1	7.6
Sep-21	12	10.5	11.4
Oct-21			
Nov-21			
Dec-21			
Jan-22			
Feb-22			
Mar-22			

% of referrals that are re-referrals (monthly)



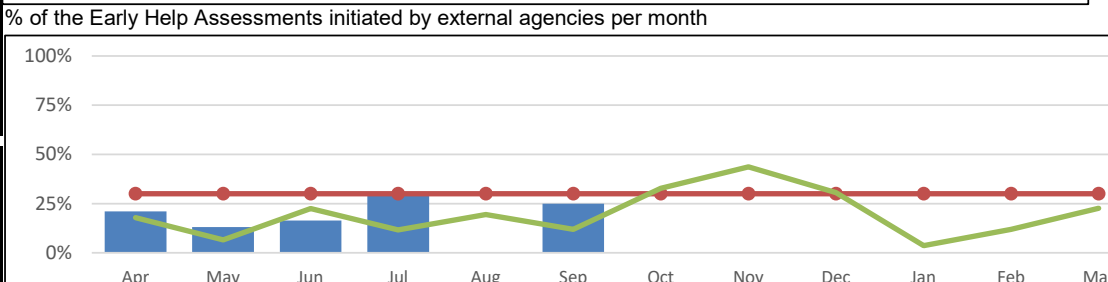
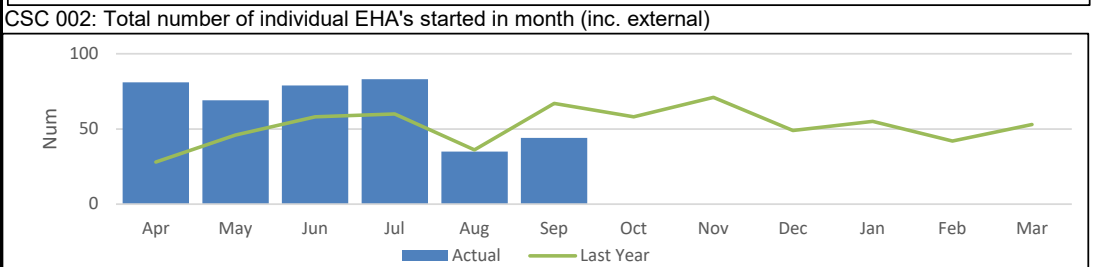
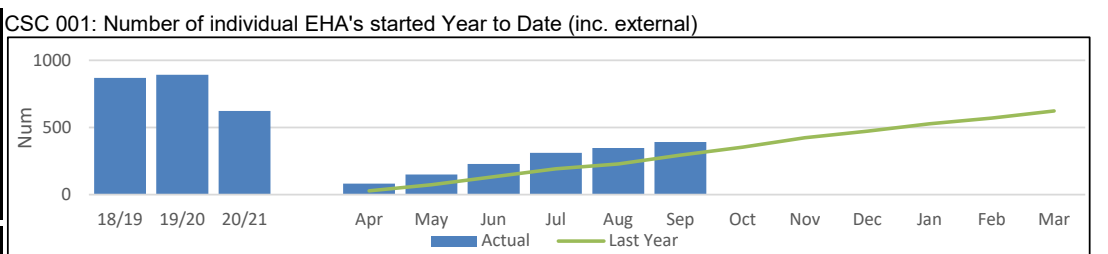
2018/19	205	17.1	
2019/20	171	17.2	
2020/21	143	19.1	
2021/22	44	10.5	

EARLY HELP ASSESSMENTS - STARTED

DEFINITION The number of individual Early Help Assessments (EHA) started in month and year to date, including those initiated by external agencies. The start date of the EHA is taken from the form created date in Liquid Logic and the start date of the external EHA is taken from the contact date when the agency informed us of the EHA.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS 162 Early Help Assessments (EHA) were started during Q2 2021/22 (35 of which were initiated by external agencies). This is below target of 30% with 21.6% of EHA's initiated by external agencies but is above Q2 2019/20 at 19.4% and Q2 2020/21 at 13.5%.

	CSC 002	Number and percentage of the EHA's initiated by external agencies per month		CSC 001
		Total number of individual EHA's started in month (inc. external)		
			30%	
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target			
	Apr-21	81	21.0%	81
	May-21	69	13.0%	150
	Jun-21	79	16.5%	229
	Jul-21	83	28.9%	312
	Aug-21	35		347
	Sep-21	44	25.0%	391
	Oct-21			
	Nov-21			
	Dec-21			
	Jan-22			
	Feb-22			
	Mar-22			
ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	869	33.1%	869
	2019/20	893	29.7%	893
	2020/21	623	20.4%	623
	2021/22	391	18.9%	391



MISSING EPISODES	
DEFINITION	The number of episodes of children going missing in Darlington, including Children in Care, Children in Care with another authority and children who are not currently open to Social Care. The percentage of Return Home Interviews (RHI) completed within 72 hours and the level of engagement by the child.
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>The total number of missing episodes in Q2 2021/22 was 147 involving 55 children.</p> <p>85.5% (47) of the children during Q2 2021/22 have had 3 or less missing episodes and 4 had 10 or more. Of the 55 children who went missing during Q2; 9 are open to either Early Help (4) or social care (5), 16 were open to other local authorities with 53 episodes and 15 were Children in Care (CiC) with 64 episodes, 18 children were not open to social care when they were reported missing (with 19 episodes).</p> <p>61.9% (91 / 147) of the missing episodes were less than 12 hours between the child being reported missing and reported home and safe.</p> <p>By the end of Q2 2021/22, Return Home Interviews (RHI) (excluding children from other authorities) have been offered in 98.9% of the cases, 86.2% of which were offered within 72 hours and 48.9% of the children engaged in their RHI.</p> <p>6 of the children reported missing in Q2 2021/22 were open to CSE services with 37 missing episodes. 9 of the 35 episodes saw the young person engage in their RHI (2 episodes related to the young person being OLA and not being offered a RHI).</p>

CSC 246
Number of missing relating to Children in Care with DBC

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Ep.	Child.
	Apr-21	8
May-21	15	7
Jun-21	28	10
Jul-21	15	6
Aug-21	25	6
Sep-21	24	10
Oct-21		
Nov-21		
Dec-21		
Jan-22		
Feb-22		
Mar-22		

ANNUAL TREND once child counted	2018/19	199	36
	2019/20	129	24
	2020/21	107	30
	2021/22	115	24

ASSESSMENTS

DEFINITION Monthly and cumulative number of Children & Families assessments completed.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

157 C&F assessments have been completed in Q1 2021/22, compared with 189 completed in Q2 2020/21.

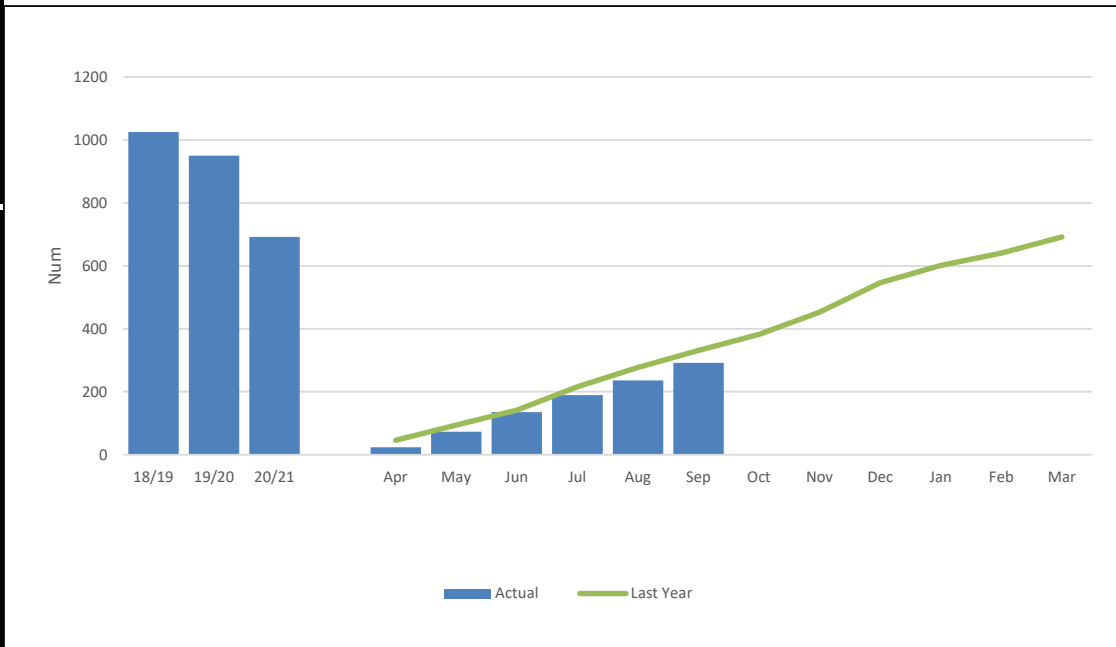
42.7% (67 / 157) of the C&F assessments required no further action and 37.6% (59 / 157) were outcomed for a CiN plan. Only 5.1% (8 / 157) saw an outcome for a strategy, which is low compared to previous years.

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

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

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-21	24
	May-21	73
	Jun-21	135
	Jul-21	189
	Aug-21	236
	Sep-21	292
	Oct-21	
	Nov-21	
	Dec-21	
	Jan-22	
	Feb-22	
	Mar-22	

ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	1,025
	2019/20	950
	2020/21	692
	2021/22	292



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>
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>During Q2 2021, 87.3% (137 / 157) of our C&F assessments were completed within timescale. This is below our target of 90%, and gives a year to date figure of 88.4% which is higher than the 80.4% for the same period last year.</p>
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CSC 038
% C&F Assessments completed within 45 working days (Year to date)

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90%
	Apr-21	87.5
	May-21	91.8
	Jun-21	90.4
	Jul-21	87.8
	Aug-21	87.7
	Sep-21	88.4
	Oct-21	
	Nov-21	
	Dec-21	
	Jan-22	
	Feb-22	
Mar-22		

ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	81.5
	2019/20	88.7
	2020/21	86.4
	2021/22	88.4

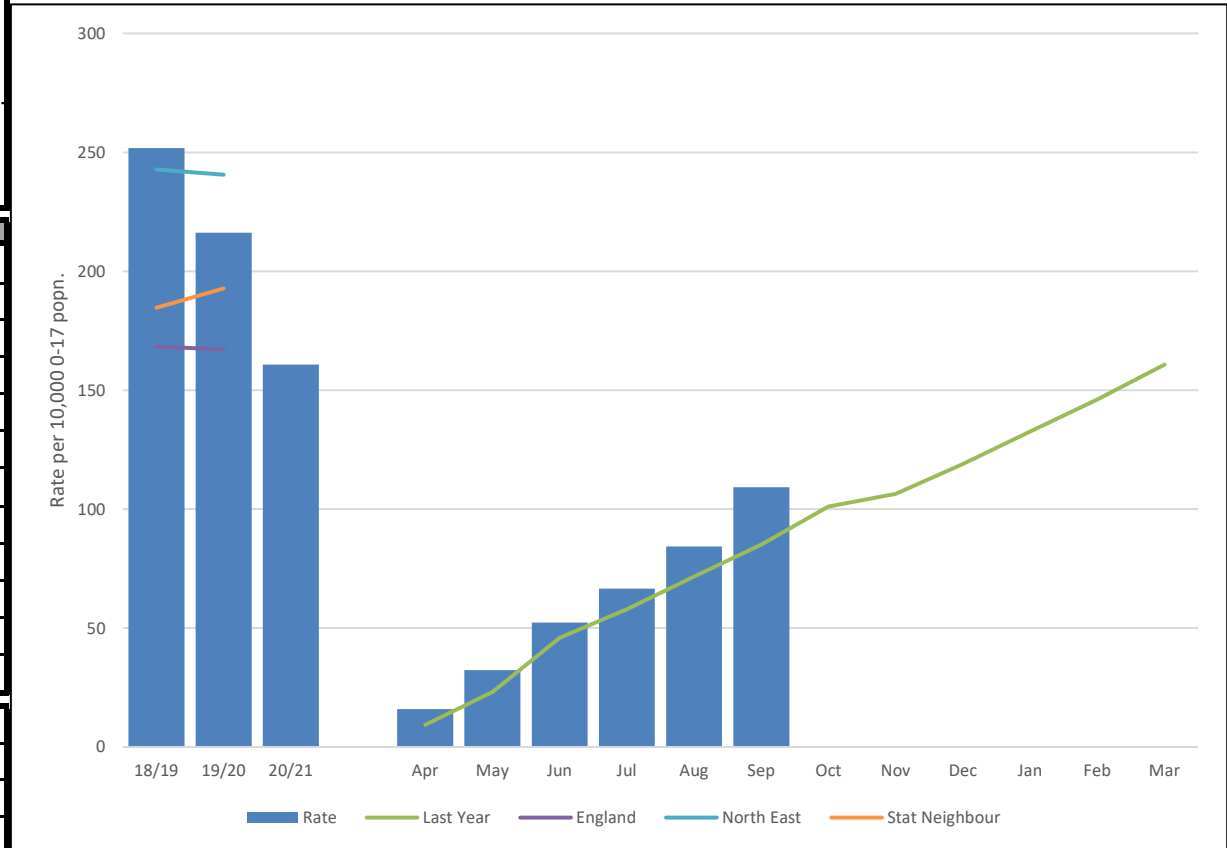
SECTION 47 - STARTED

DEFINITION	Number of children who have had a section 47 enquiries started monthly and year to date and the actual number of enquires started.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	60 section 47 enquires were started during Q2 2021/22 involving 128 children, 4 of which were subject to a Child Protection plan (CP) at the time of the enquiry. This is a 30.4% increase on the 46 section 47 enquiries started in Q2 2020/21, for 45.5% more children (88).
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	CSC 166	CSC 164
	All children who had a section 47 enquires started in the month	Rate of section 47 enquiries started per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (Cumulative)

Rate of section 47 enquiries started per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inc. children already on CPP)



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-21	36	16.0
	May-21	37	32.4
	Jun-21	45	52.4
	Jul-21	32	66.6
	Aug-21	40	84.3
	Sep-21	56	109.2
	Oct-21		
	Nov-21		
	Dec-21		
	Jan-22		
Feb-22			
Mar-22			
ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	426	190.0
	2019/20	646	251.8
	2020/21	484	216.2
	2021/22	246	109.2

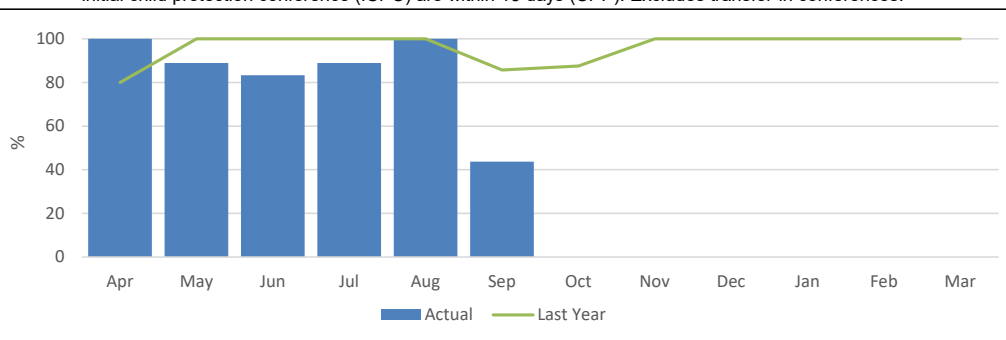
INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - TIMELINESS

DEFINITION Of those ICPC's 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 Of the 37 children (who were not transferred in), 26 had their Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) within timescale (70.3%) during Q2 2021/22. 9 of these children who did not receive their conference in timescale were in September and include a sibling group of 7, and the ICPC was initially booked in time but then cancelled as it was deemed not required, although on further consideration a decision was made to go ahead with a conference, by which time it was out of timescale. Late notification of a conference being required affected the remaining 4 children.

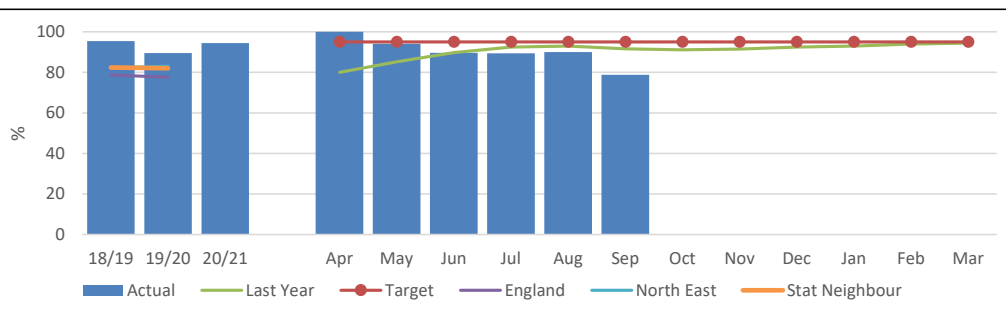
	CSC 178	CSC 176
	Monthly % of cases recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook where Child Protection strategy meeting / S47 start to initial child protection conference (ICPC) are within 15 days (CPP). Excludes transfer-in conferences.	% of cases where the initial child protection conference (ICPC)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

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.



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	CSC 178	CSC 176
	Apr-21	100	100.0
May-21		88.9	94.1
Jun-21		83.3	89.7
Jul-21		88.9	89.4
Aug-21		100.0	90.0
Sep-21		43.8	78.8
Oct-21			
Nov-21			
Dec-21			
Jan-22			
Feb-22			
Mar-22			

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



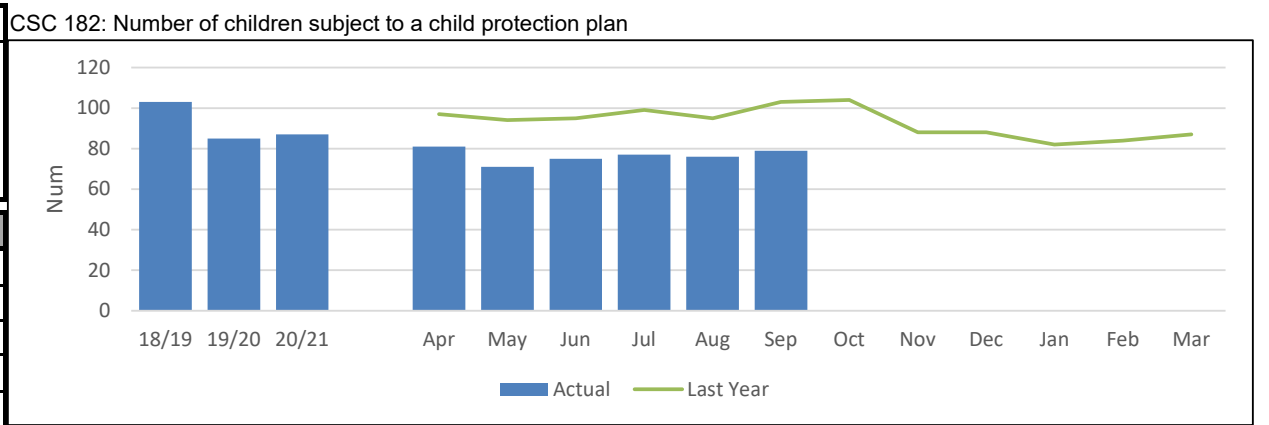
ANNUAL TREND	Year	CSC 178	CSC 176
	2018/19	95.4	95.4
	2019/20	89.5	89.5
	2020/21	94.4	94.4
	2021/22	43.8	78.8

CHILD PROTECTION

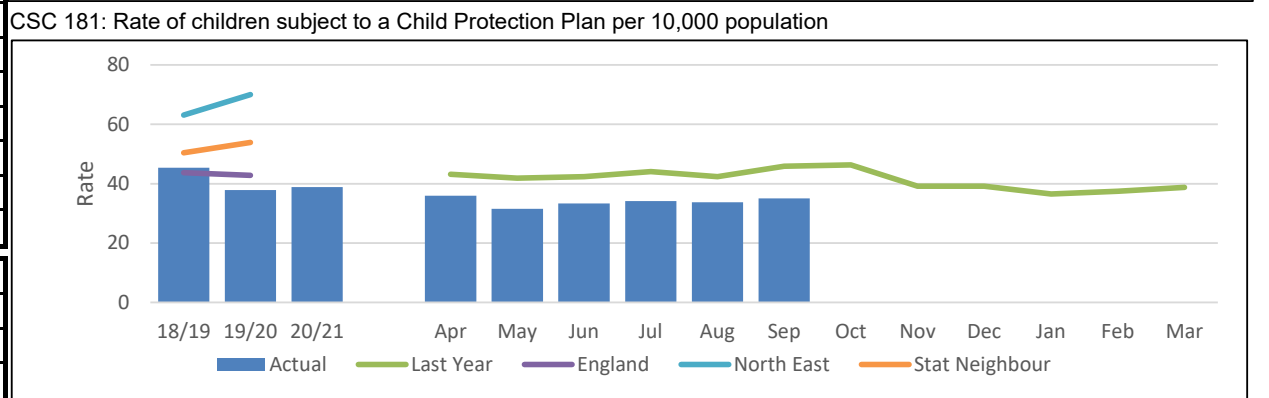
DEFINITION	Number of children subject to a Child Protection plan at the end of the month.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	79 children were subject to a Child Protection plan (CP) as at the end of September 2021. This is a 23.3% drop compared to the 103 children who were subject to CP at the end of September 2020. Darlington currently has a 35.1 rate per 10,000 population for children subject to a CPP.
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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



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE			
	Apr-21	81	36.0
	May-21	71	31.5
	Jun-21	75	33.3
	Jul-21	77	34.2
	Aug-21	76	33.7
	Sep-21	79	35.1
	Oct-21		
	Nov-21		
	Dec-21		
	Jan-22		
	Feb-22		
	Mar-22		



ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	103	45.7
	2019/20	85	37.8
	2020/21	87	38.8
	2021/22	79	35.1

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.

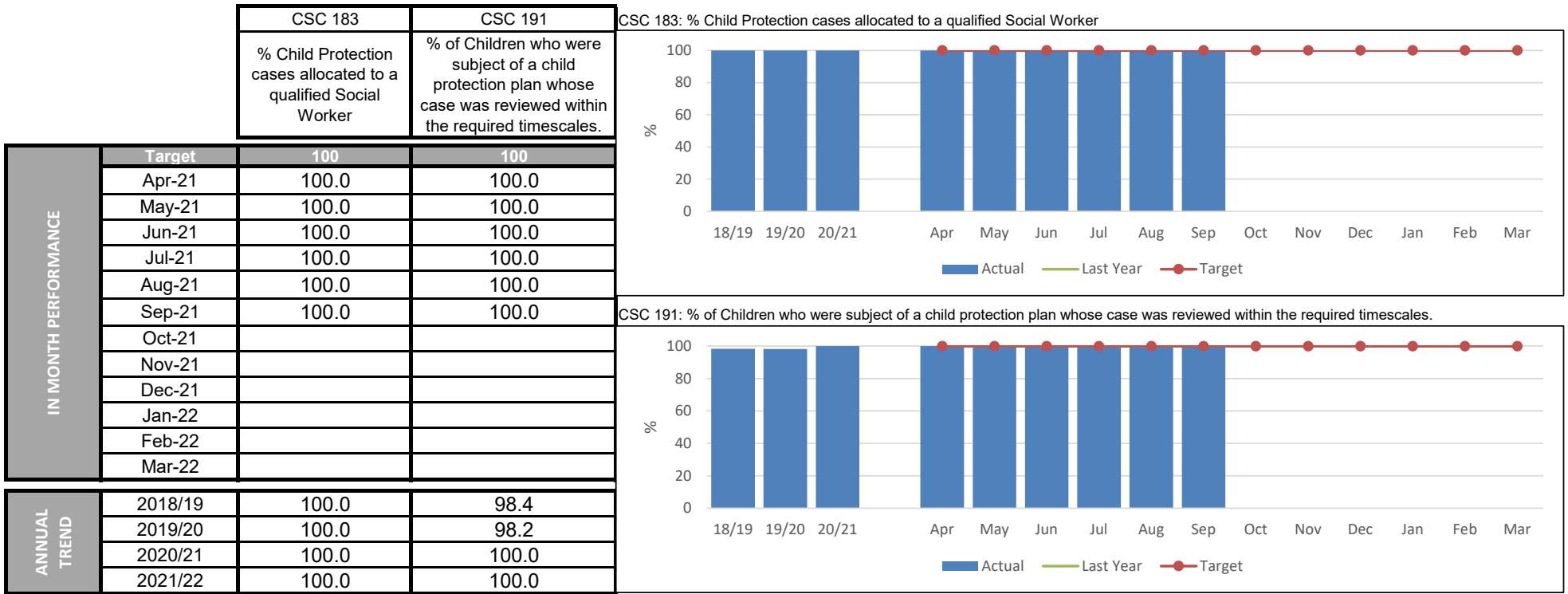
Reviews are a key element in delivering Child Protection Plans and effective reviews should ensure the provision of good quality interventions. This indicator is a proxy for the measurement of effectiveness of the interventions provided to children subject to a Child Protection Plan. "Working Together 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% of Child Protection reviews have been completed within the required timescales.

Page 25



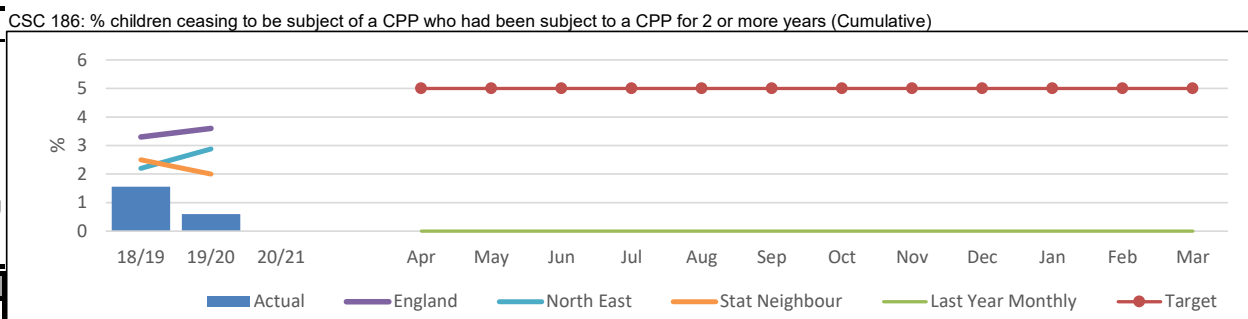
CHILD PROTECTION - TIME PERIODS

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 within a) 2 years of a previous plan, and b) with a previous plan at any point.
 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
 Of the 51 children who became subject to a CP plan by the end of Q2 2021/22, 9.8% (5 children) became subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 years of the previous plan ending.
 14 children (27.5%) from 7 families had been subject to a CP plan for a second time ever.
 Year to date no child has ceased to be subject to a CP plan who had been subject to the plan for 2 or more years and we continue to remain below our target of 5%.

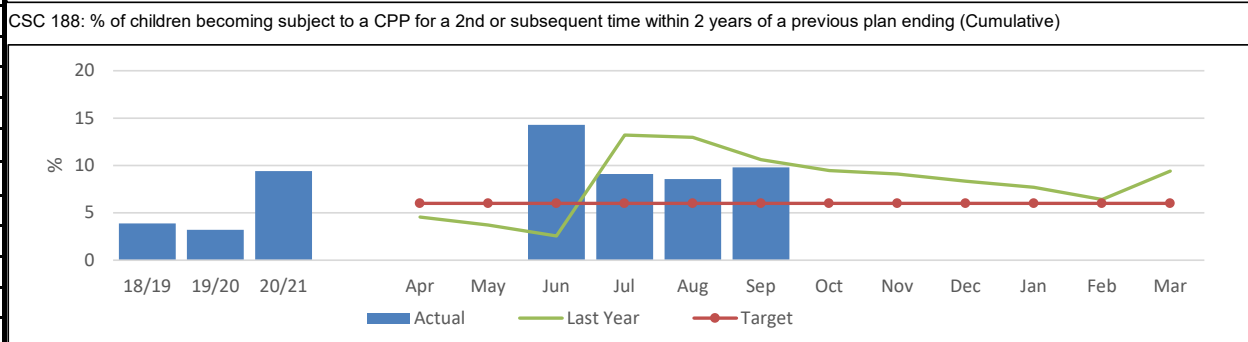
Page 26

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 (Cumulative)



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE

Target	5%	6%
Apr-21	0.0	0.0
May-21	0.0	0.0
Jun-21	0.0	14.3
Jul-21	0.0	9.1
Aug-21	0.0	8.6
Sep-21	0.0	9.8
Oct-21		
Nov-21		
Dec-21		
Jan-22		
Feb-22		
Mar-22		



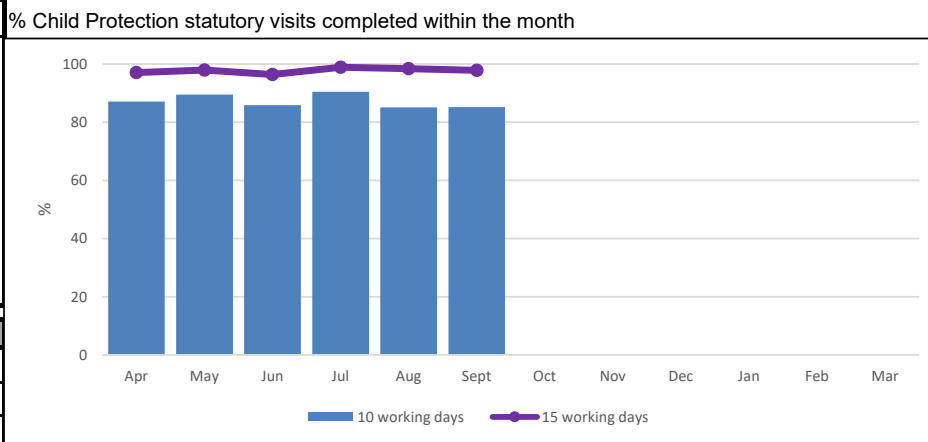
ANNUAL TREND

2018/19	1.6	3.9
2019/20	0.6	3.2
2020/21	0.0	9.4
2021/22	0.0	9.8

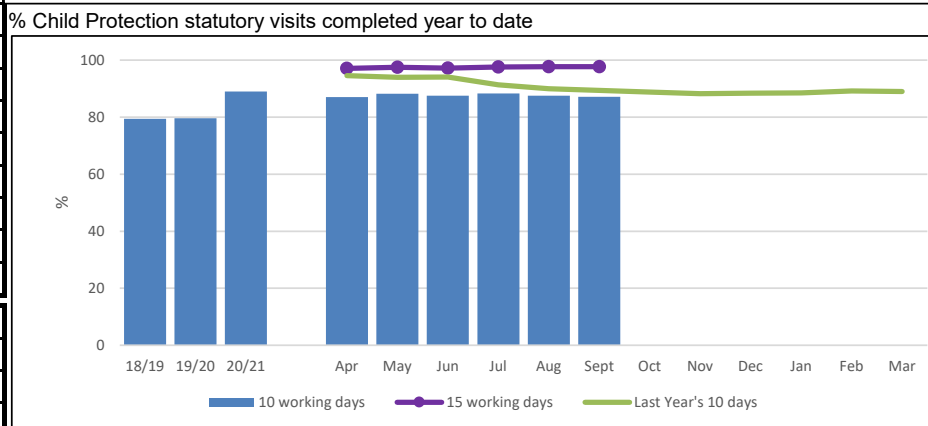
CHILD PROTECTION - STATUTORY VISITS

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	87.1% (1,042 / 1,196) of Child Protection statutory visits were completed within 10 working days by end of Q2 2021/22 and 97.7% (1,169 / 1,196) of the visits were completed within 15 working days.

CSC 252a		CSC 252b	
% Child Protection statutory visits completed within 10 working days within the month	% Child Protection statutory visits completed within 15 working days within the month	% Child Protection statutory visits completed within 10 working days year to date (cumulative)	% Child Protection statutory visits completed within 15 working days year to date (cumulative)



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90	90	90	90
	Apr-21	87.1	97.1	87.1	97.1
	May-21	89.5	97.9	88.3	97.5
	Jun-21	85.9	96.4	87.5	97.2
	Jul-21	90.4	98.9	88.3	97.6
	Aug-21	85.1	98.4	87.6	97.7
	Sep-21	85.2	97.8	87.1	97.7
	Oct-21				
	Nov-21				
	Dec-21				
	Jan-22				
	Feb-22				
Mar-22					



ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	79.3	95.7	79.3	95.7
	2019/20	79.6	92.0	79.6	93.8
	2020/21	89.0	98.4	89.0	98.4
	2021/22	85.2	97.8	87.1	97.7

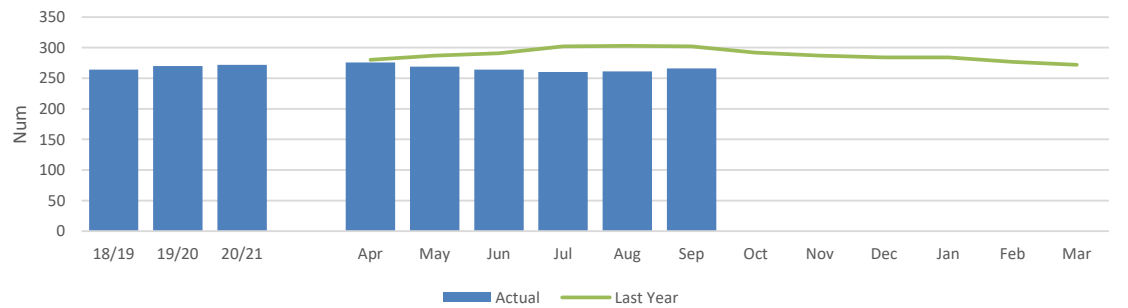
CHILDREN IN CARE

DEFINITION	Number of Children in Care at the end of each month.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	266 children were in care as at September 2021 which is a 11.9% reduction from the 302 children in care at the end of September 2020.
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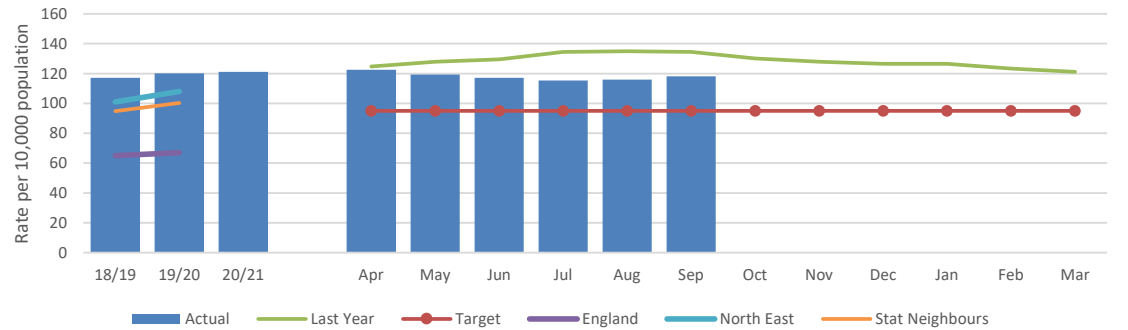
	CSC 201	CSC 200
	Total number of Children in Care	Rate of Children in Care Per 10,000 population

CSC 201: Total number of Children in Care



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target		95
	Apr-21	276	122.5
	May-21	269	119.4
	Jun-21	264	117.2
	Jul-21	260	115.4
	Aug-21	261	115.9
	Sep-21	266	118.1
	Oct-21		
	Nov-21		
	Dec-21		
Jan-22			
Feb-22			
Mar-22			

CSC 200: Rate of Children in Care Per 10,000 population



ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	264	117.2
	2019/20	270	120.1
	2020/21	272	121.1
	2021/22	266	118.1

CHILDREN IN CARE - COMING INTO CARE

DEFINITION	Number of children coming into the care of the local authority during the month and year to date and their first placement type.
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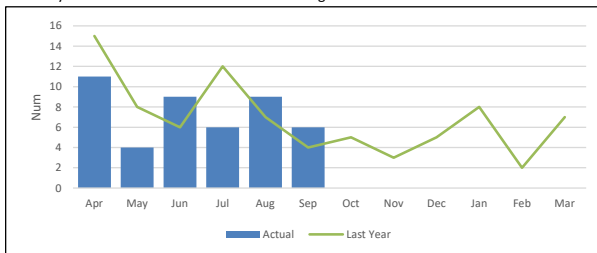
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>21 children came into care in Q2 2021/22, which is a 8.7% decrease when compared with the 23 children coming into care in Q2 2020/21 and a 34.4% decrease compared to 32 children in Q2 2019/20.</p> <p>During Q2 2021/22:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 children became CiC due to interim care orders issued by the court • 3 children became CiC as removed under police protection • 5 children became CiC under Section 20 accommodation. <p>The primary presenting issues for the children coming into care are predominantly due to physical abuse (28.6%, 6 / 21) and mental health concerns of the parent (23.8%, 5 / 21). It is of note that a high proportion of secondary contributing factors for the children coming into care was parent's alcohol / substance misuse or emotional abuse.</p> <p>During Q2, 3 of the 21 children coming into care were placed with their parent, 1 placed with connected carer's, 13 placed with an internal foster carer, 1 with homes and hostels and 2 children from 1 family in other type of placement.</p>
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CSC 209	CSC 208	First placement type in care									
		Placed with parent (P1)	Connected Carer (U1&U3)	Foster care (U5&U6) - Internal	Foster care (U5&U6) - External	NHS/ Medical trust (R2)	Family centre/ Mother & Baby unit (R3)	Homes and Hostels (K2)	Other placement (Z1)	YOI - (R5)	

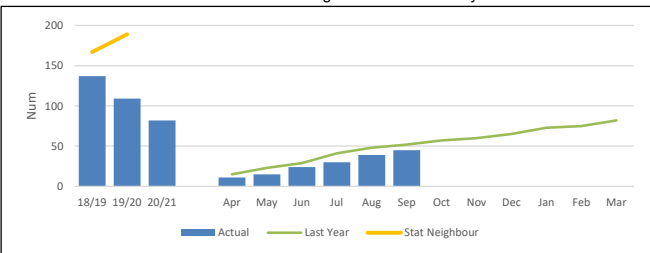
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE												
	Month	CSC 209	CSC 208	Placed with parent (P1)	Connected Carer (U1&U3)	Foster care (U5&U6) - Internal	Foster care (U5&U6) - External	NHS/ Medical trust (R2)	Family centre/ Mother & Baby unit (R3)	Homes and Hostels (K2)	Other placement (Z1)	YOI - (R5)
	Apr-21	11	11	1	2	2	3	3				
	May-21	4	15		2	1	1					
	Jun-21	9	24	3	1	2		2				1
	Jul-21	6	30			6						
	Aug-21	9	39	3		5		1				
	Sep-21	6	45		1	2				1	2	
	Oct-21											
	Nov-21											
	Dec-21											
	Jan-22											
	Feb-22											
Mar-22												

ANNUAL TREND												
	Year	CSC 209	CSC 208	Placed with parent (P1)	Connected Carer (U1&U3)	Foster care (U5&U6) - Internal	Foster care (U5&U6) - External	NHS/ Medical trust (R2)	Family centre/ Mother & Baby unit (R3)	Homes and Hostels (K2)	Other placement (Z1)	YOI - (R5)
	2018/19	136	136	25	43	38	21	3	1	2	1	2
	2019/20	109	109	11	44	23	14	6			6	5
2020/21	82	82	11	18	19	2	11	1	3	16	1	
2021/22	45	45	7	6	18	4	6	0	1	2	1	

Monthly number of new cases of children coming into care



Total number of new cases of children coming into care within the year



CHILDREN IN CARE - CEASING CARE

DEFINITION Number of children ceasing to be a Child in Care during each month and year to date and their destination when they ceased being in care.

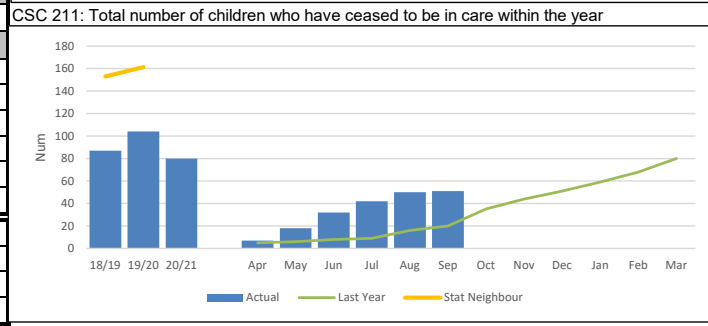
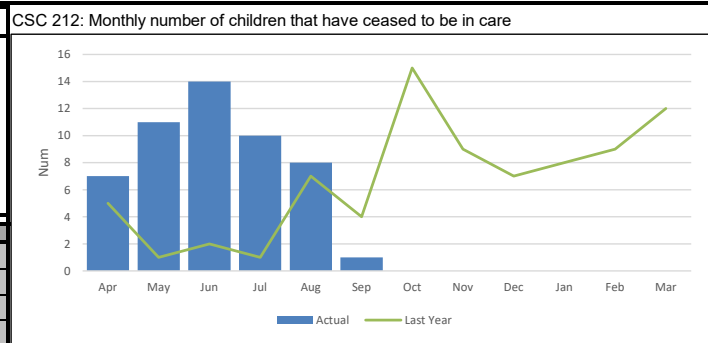
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS 19 children and young people ceased to be in care during Q2 2021/22. This is an increase on the number of children ceasing care in Q2 2020/201 (12) although a decrease from Q2 2019/20 (31).

Of the 19 children who did cease CiC:

- 1 young person ceased as they turned 18 and became a care leaver.
- 3 children were adopted.
- 5 children had a Special Guardianship Order (SGO) granted to a relative.
- 8 children returned home to their parent (6 of which with a CiN plan).
- 2 children aged 16 and 17 moved to YMCA

There are a further 15 children waiting to move into an adoptive placement / order to be granted, and 8 children are waiting for court progression for care order discharge.

	CSC 212	CSC 211	Awaiting to ceased CiC		Destination on ceasing to be a Child in Care						
			Monthly number of children that have ceased to be in care	Total number of children who have ceased to be in care within the year	Children waiting to move into adoptive placement/ order to be granted	Children waiting for progression for care order discharge	Returned home to parent or other person with no PR (planned and unplanned)	Special Guardianship Order (SGO) / Child Arrangement Order (CAO)	Adopted	Turned 18 years old	Other; aged under 18
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE											
Apr-21	7	7	20	21		5			2		
May-21	11	18	19	17	3	4	1		3		
Jun-21	14	32	14	23		6	6		2		
Jul-21	10	42	14	14	6	1	3				
Aug-21	8	50	14	14	2	3		1	2		
Sep-21	1	51	15	8		1					
Oct-21											
Nov-21											
Dec-21											
Jan-22											
Feb-22											
Mar-22											
ANNUAL TREND											
2018/19	87	87			24	16	10		27	10	
2019/20	104	104			30	40	11		17	6	
2020/21	80	80	18	21	22	39	7		9	3	
2021/22	51	51	15	8	11	20	10		8	2	



CHILDREN IN CARE - ALLOCATION & REVIEWS

DEFINITION

The percentage of Children in Care cases which should have been reviewed during the year ending 31 March that were reviewed on time during the year and the percentage of Children in Care cases that were allocated to a qualified Social Worker at the end of the month.

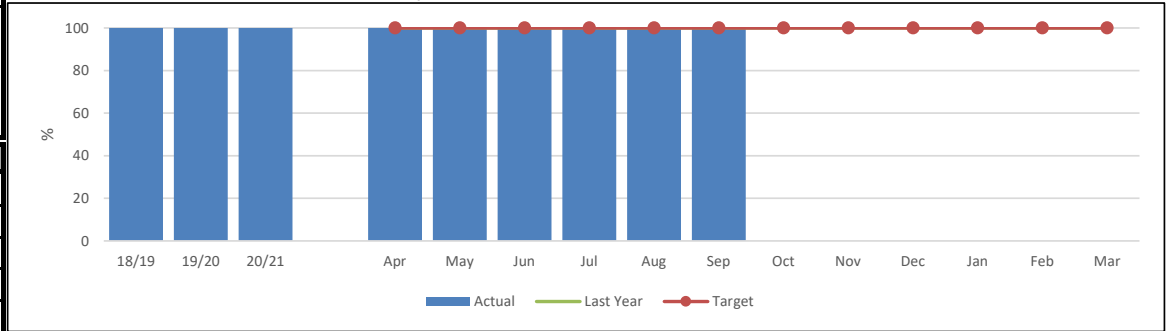
To improve compliance with local authorities' legal requirements under the Review of Children's cases Regulations 1991. The purpose of the review is to consider the plan for the child's welfare, to monitor the progress of the plan and amend it as necessary in light of changed information and circumstances. 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.

CSC 227	CSC 218
% Children in Care allocated to a qualified Social Worker	% of Children in Care whose reviews had been completed within required timescales (as at month end)

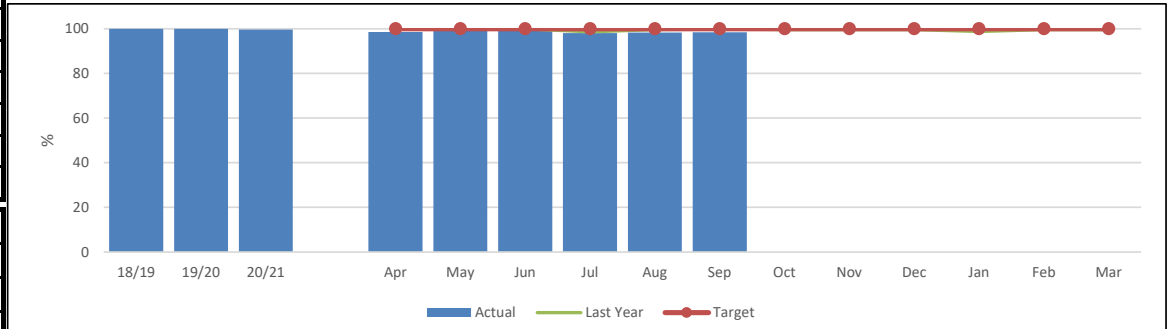
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	100	100
	Apr-21	100.0	98.5
	May-21	100.0	99.2
	Jun-21	100.0	99.3
	Jul-21	100.0	98.1
	Aug-21	100.0	98.3
	Sep-21	100.0	98.4
	Oct-21		
	Nov-21		
	Dec-21		
	Jan-22		
	Feb-22		
	Mar-22		

ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	100.0	100.0
	2019/20	100.0	100.0
	2020/21	100.0	99.6
	2021/22	100.0	98.4

CSC 227: % Children in Care allocated to a qualified Social Worker



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

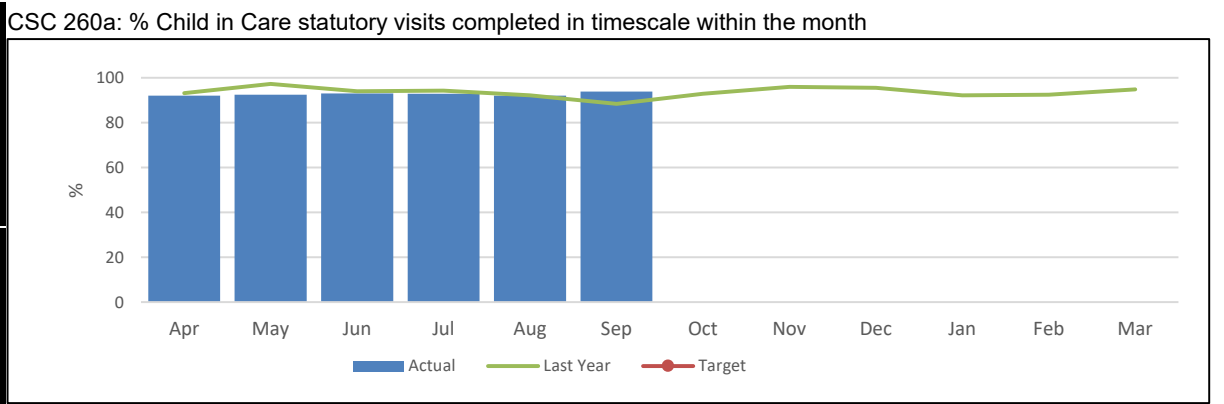


CHILDREN IN CARE - STATUTORY VISITS

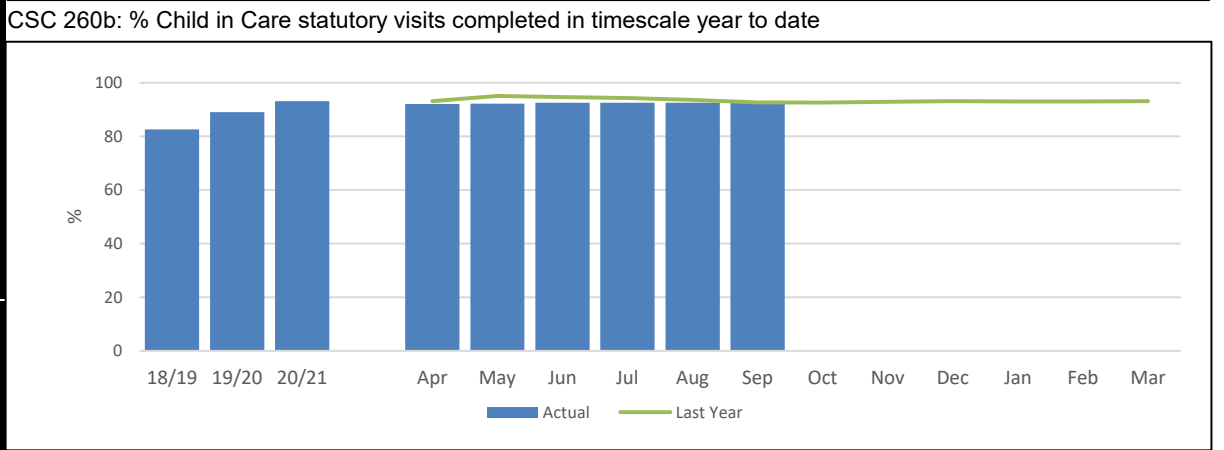
DEFINITION Percentage of Children in Care who had all statutory visits completed within required timescales and percentage of Children in Care's statutory visits completed within timescales each month and year to date.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS During Q2 2021/22, 92.9% (691 / 744) of statutory visits for Children in Care (CiC) were completed in timescale. This is a small decrease compared with Q2 2020/21 when there were 93.2% of visits completed in timescale.

CSC 260a	CSC 260b
% Child in Care statutory visits completed in timescale within the month	% Child in Care statutory visits completed in timescale year to date



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90	90	
	Apr-21	92.1	92.1	90
	May-21	92.4	92.2	90
	Jun-21	93.0	92.5	90
	Jul-21	92.9	92.6	90
	Aug-21	92.1	92.5	90
	Sep-21	93.8	92.7	90
	Oct-21			
	Nov-21			
	Dec-21			
	Jan-22			
	Feb-22			
Mar-22				



ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	82.6	82.6
	2019/20	89.0	89.0
	2020/21	93.1	93.1
	2021/22	93.8	92.7

CHILDREN IN CARE - PLACEMENTS

DEFINITION

Of those Children in Care 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

9.8% (26 / 266) of Children in Care, as at September 2021, have had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months. This is below the internal target (10.0%), but above the 6.0% as at September 2020.

Currently, 69.8% (74 / 106) of our Children in Care 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 a lower percentage compared with September 2020 (70.3%) and is just above the 68% target.

8.3% (21 children) of our Children in Care have been placed 20 or more miles away from home as at September 2021. This is below target of 10%. All these placements have been confirmed by team managers to be appropriate for the child enabling them to have the best support either with family links or specialised care.

Page 33

	CSC 228	CSC 229	CSC 230	
	% Children in Care with 3 or more placements moves during last 12 months	% Children in Care who have been in their current placement for 2 or more years	% Children in Care placed 20 miles or more away from home	
	Target	10%	68%	
	10%	68%	10%	
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-21	8.7	70.9	7.8
	May-21	9.3	73.0	8.0
	Jun-21	9.8	69.1	8.8
	Jul-21	9.6	72.9	9.2
	Aug-21	10.3	73.5	8.9
	Sep-21	9.8	69.8	8.3
	Oct-21			
	Nov-21			
	Dec-21			
	Jan-22			
	Feb-22			
	Mar-22			
ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	9.5	64.4	9.7
	2019/20	11.1	73.6	9.6
	2020/21	8.1	71.9	9.4
	2021/22	9.8	69.8	8.3

CSC 228: % Children in Care with 3 or more placements moves during last 12 months

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

CSC 230: % Children in Care placed 20 miles or more away from home

CHILDREN IN CARE - INITIAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

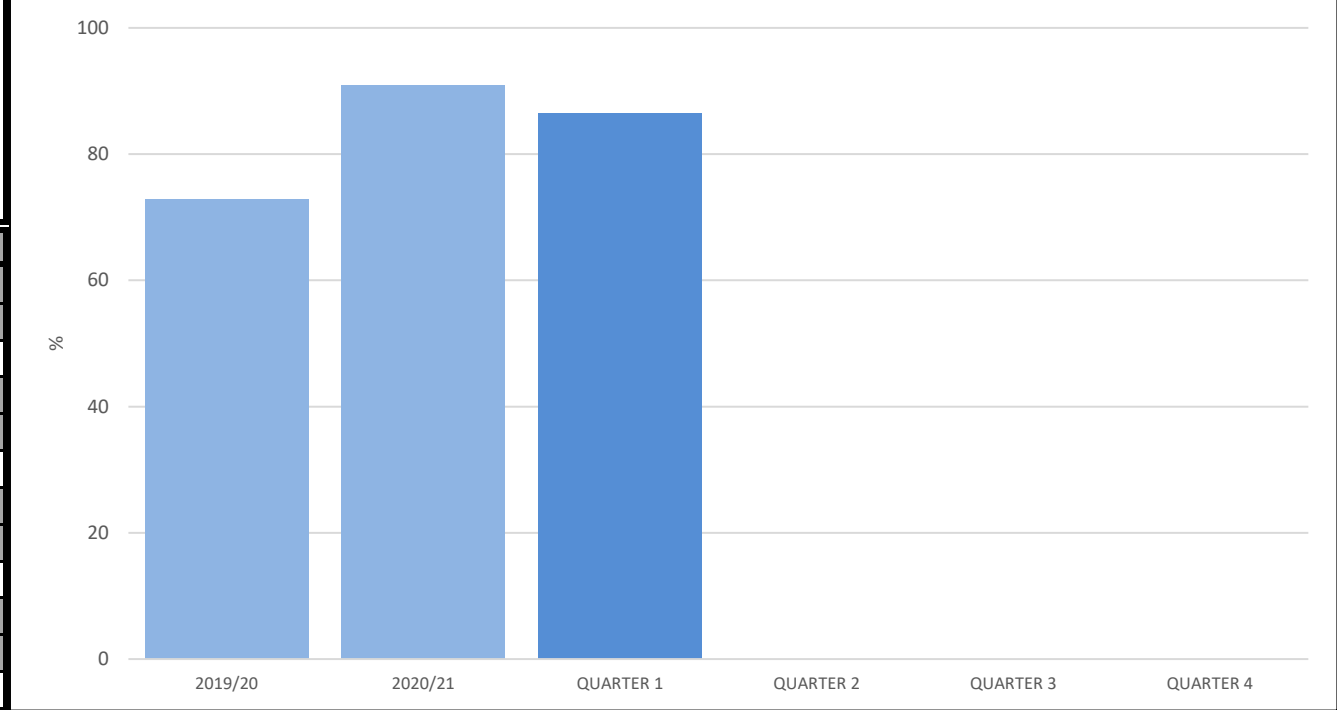
DEFINITION	Percentage of Initial Health Assessments completed within 20 working days of a child coming into our care year to date (data from Health), and percentage of IHA forms returned to Health within 7 working days.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	We are awaiting the Q2 figures from CDDFT regarding the percentage of children they saw within their timescale of 20 days.
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Page 34

% Newly in to care with a completed Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days (from Health)

% Newly in to care with a completed Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days (from Health)



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	95
	Apr-21	
	May-21	
	Jun-21	86.4
	Jul-21	
	Aug-21	
	Sep-21	
	Oct-21	
	Nov-21	
	Dec-21	
	Jan-22	
	Feb-22	
	Mar-22	

ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	86.2
	2019/20	72.9
	2020/21	90.9
	2021/22	86.4%

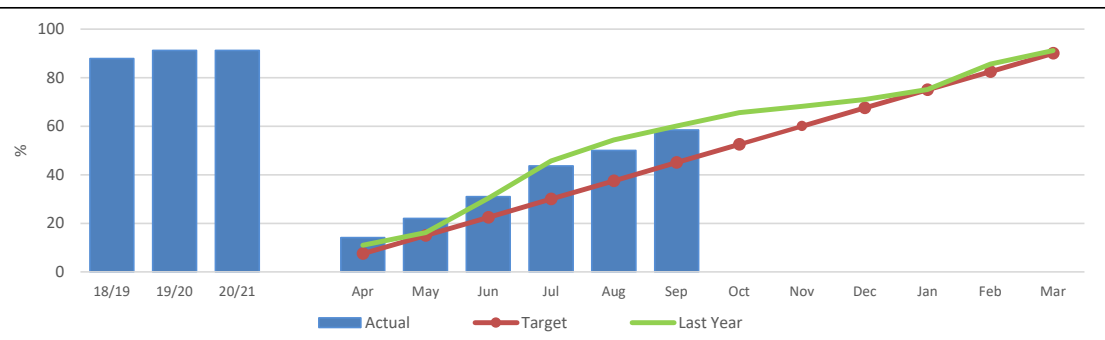
CHILDREN IN CARE - HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

DEFINITION
 Of the Children in Care (CiC) 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.
 Children in Care 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 Children in Care's 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 Children in Care.

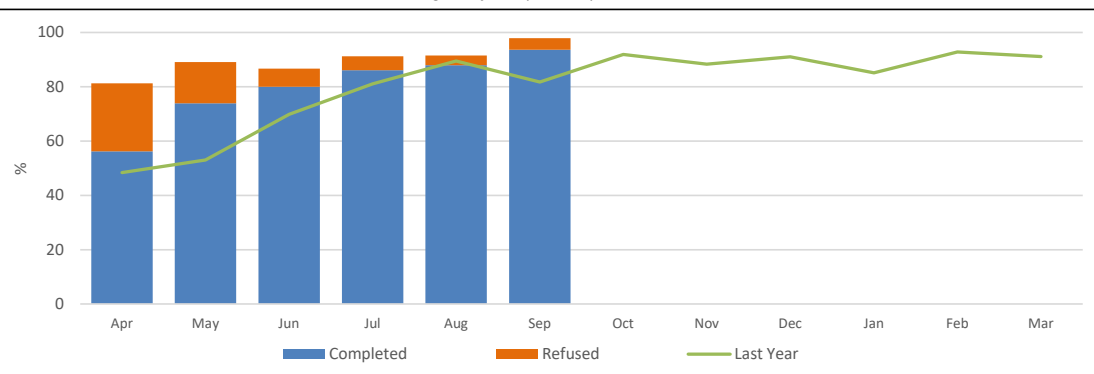
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS
 93.7% (89 / 95) of children due a review health assessment by end of Q2 2021 have had one completed. This percentage is above the 60.1% for the same period last year.
 Of the 6 children who did not have a health review, 4 (4.2% of total cohort) of them are refusing to have one completed at this time. Although they are refusing, they are continually reminded of the benefits of having a check-up and encouraged to take part.

CSC 250		CSC 250b
The % of CiC who have an up to date Health Checks (excludes any who will turn 18 before 31st March)	The % of CiC who were due a Review Health Check (year to date) who refused to engage	The % of Children in Care who were due a Review Health Check year to date and were completed and recorded

CSC 250: % of CiC who are up to date for a Review Health Check at 31st March



CSC 250b: % of CiC due a Review Health Check during the year (to date) that have had one, and % that refused



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90%	90%	
	Apr-21	14.1	25.0	56.3
	May-21	22.0	15.2	73.9
	Jun-21	31.0	6.7	80.0
	Jul-21	43.6	5.1	86.1
	Aug-21	50.0	3.6	88.0
	Sep-21	58.4	4.2	93.7
	Oct-21			
	Nov-21			
	Dec-21			
	Jan-22			
	Feb-22			
Mar-22				

ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	87.9		87.9
	2019/20	91.2	3.1	93.3
	2020/21	91.2	3.7	91.2
	2021/22	58.4	4.2	93.7

CHILDREN IN CARE - DENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

DEFINITION

Of the Children in Care (CiC) 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.
 Children in Care 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 Children in Care with 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 Children in Care.

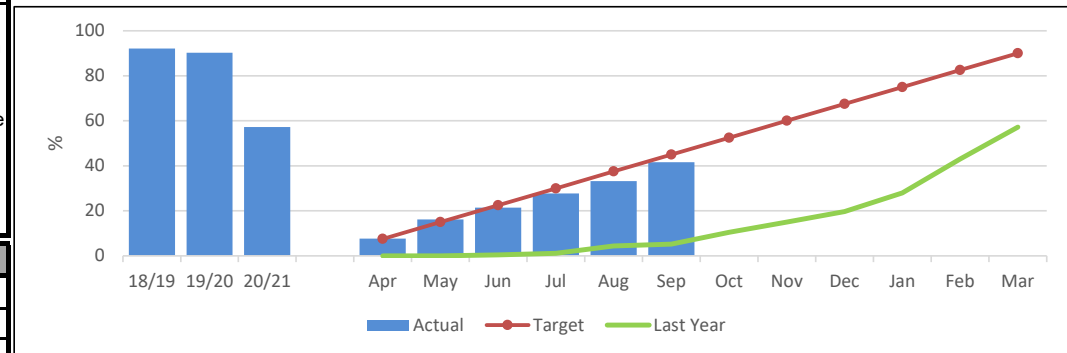
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

75.7% (87 / 115) of children due a dental check assessment by end of Q2 2021 have had one completed, with the recovery continuing from the low levels when dental practices were closed due to Covid-19 lockdown.

Of the 28 children who did not have a dental check, 3 (2.6% of the total cohort) of them are refusing to have one completed at this time. Although they are refusing, they are continually reminded of the benefits of having a check-up and encouraged to take part.

CSC 251		CSC 251d
The % of Children in Care with up to date Dental Checks (excludes any who will turn 18 before 31st March)	The % of Children in Care who were due a Dental Check (year to date) who refused to engage	The % of Children in Care who were due a Dental Check year to date and were up to date by the report date

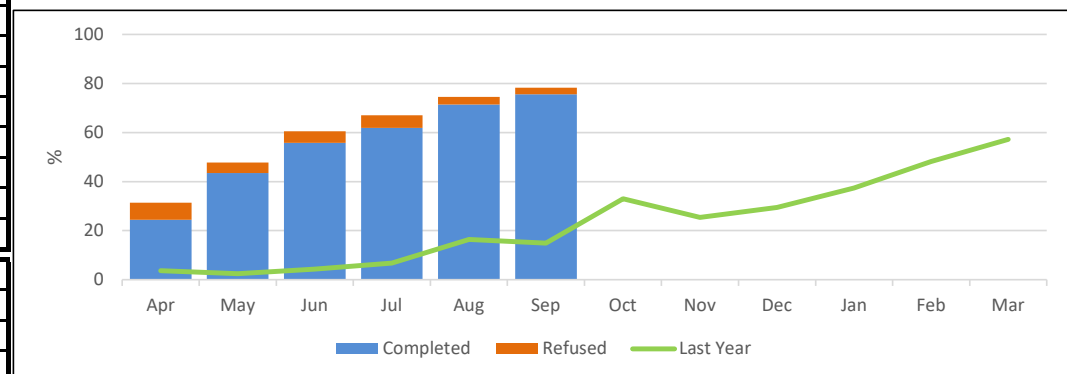
CSC 251: % of Children in Care who are up to date for a Dental Check at 31st March



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE

Target	90%		90%
Apr-21	7.7	7.0	24.4
May-21	16.2	4.3	43.5
Jun-21	21.4	4.7	55.8
Jul-21	27.7	5.2	61.9
Aug-21	33.2	3.1	71.4
Sep-21	41.6	2.6	75.7
Oct-21			
Nov-21			
Dec-21			
Jan-22			
Feb-22			
Mar-22			

CSC 251d: % of Children in Care due a Dental Check (to date) that have had one, and the % that refused



ANNUAL TREND

2018/19	92.1		92.1
2019/20	90.2	3.1	90.2
2020/21	57.2	2.8	57.2
2021/22	41.6	2.6	75.7

CARE LEAVERS

DEFINITION

The percentage of 'former relevant' care leavers aged 19-21 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. Published data is included for comparison however data submitted to DfE by Local Authorities captures the young person's status around their 19th, 20th, or 21st birthday each year rather than the latest available information. 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

100.0% of our care leavers were in suitable accommodation at the end of Q2 2021.

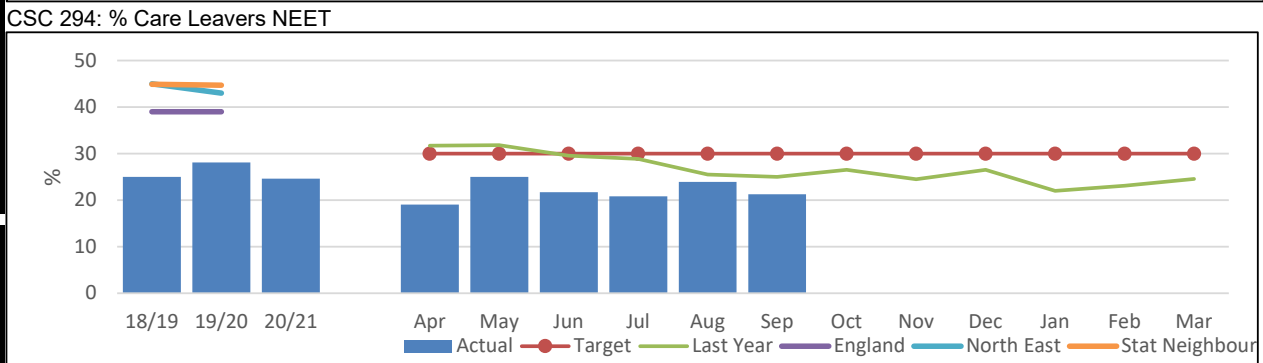
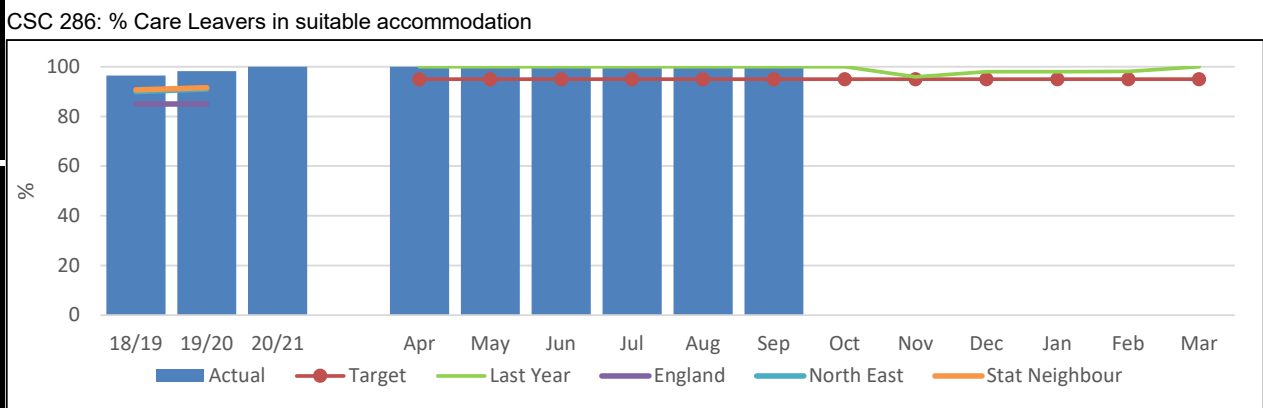
There were 10 young people (aged 19-21) as at 30 September 2021 who were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).

- 6 NEET because of illness or disability
- 1 NEET because of other circumstances
- 3 NEET because of pregnancy or parenting.

This equates to 21.3% of our care leavers which is below the internal target of 30% NEET.

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

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90%	30%	
	Apr-21	100.0	19.1	
	May-21	100.0	25.0	
	Jun-21	100.0	21.7	
	Jul-21	100.0	20.8	
	Aug-21	100.0	23.9	
	Sep-21	100.0	21.3	
	Oct-21			
	Nov-21			
	Dec-21			
Jan-22				
Feb-22				
Mar-22				



ANNUAL TREND	2018/19	96.4	25.0
	2019/20	98.2	28.1
	2020/21	98.1	24.6
	2021/22	100.0	21.3

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CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
20th December 2021

UPDATE OF DEVELOPING DARLINGTON CARE COLLECTIVE

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide an update on progress made with the Developing Darlington Care Collective (DDCC), linking MECC (Making Every Contact Count) brief intervention work.

Summary

2. To outline plans to launch the 'Darlington Xtra' microsite and associated platforms that support the implementation of the DDCC.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that the contents of the update report are considered in terms of collaborative working, recruitment, retention and progression into Social Care workforce in Darlington

Christine Shields, Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance & Transformation

Background Papers

No background papers used

Author: Martin Webster Ext 6457

S17 Crime and Disorder	N/A
Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential impact on progression and employability in the borough - MECC – potential impact on health and wellbeing via conveyance of simple health and wellbeing related messages
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	There are no implications arising from this report
Diversity	There are no implications arising from this report
Wards Affected	Potentially borough wide
Groups Affected	Potentially all groups
Budget and Policy Framework	N/A
Key Decision	This is not a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
Council Plan	Aligned
Efficiency	New ways of delivering support and care - capacity to generate efficiency

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

4. **Developing Darlington Care Collective – recap:**

- Initially created to support potential staffing issues caused by Covid 19 across the Social Care sector
- Redesigned to develop collaborative training and development opportunities

5. **Key Achievements of the DDCC through 2021 - Collaborative working focus:**

- Creating opportunities for shared training and development. Partnership working throughout 2021 to develop shared training and development opportunities across the sector.
- Town Centre – Adult Skills Centre/Youth Employability links. DDCC represented and linked to planning and development of the Adult Skills Centre (to be based in the Town Centre) and linked to the Youth Employment Centre.
- Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP)/Youth Participation – focus on young people and employability.
- Training and development resources – Collaborative and shared training and development created and promoted via LivingWell Darlington – e.g. SEND, MECC, Nutrition.
- Creation of Training and Development YouTube Channel, Podcasts and Vodcasts (designated Spotify Channels in creation).
- Workforce Capacity funding – funding secured to support progression pathway linked to DDCC and Darlington Academy Model (L1, L2, L3 Working with Children and Young People / Working with Adults/Health and Social Care) in round 1 of funding. Care Management qualifications at L4 and 5 in round 2.
- Progression Pathways - Social Work Student / Health Students / Apprenticeship / Step Up to Social Work / University and College links further developed to link the DDCC model.

6. **Key Aims and Plans of DDCC for 2022:**

Darlington Xtra – demonstration and powerpoint presentation

- *Working in Darlington*
- *A great place to live*
- *DDCC*
- *Fostering/Carers*
- *Workforce Toolkit*
- *Darlington Academy*

7. The key priority for the DDCC in 2022 is 'Workforce' - specifically the recruitment, retention, training, development and progression of Darlington 'people' (young people, adults, unemployed, parttime employed, qualified and experienced or unqualified and inexperienced) into the Children and Adults Sector. The aim of 'Darlington Xtra' become a conduit/platform for growing our own and attracting the best to Darlington.

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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
20 DECEMBER 2021**

CHILDREN'S CENTRE SERVICES REPORT

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To update on the position in relation to services offered for young parents during and post Covid-19 lockdown and restrictions.

Summary

2. The Building Stronger Families Service for Darlington Borough Council is based at McNay Street Children's Centre, and prior to the start of the Covid 19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns in March 2020, offered a high level of support by way of targeted delivery through early help assessments and universal groups focusing on parents' mental health, practical skills, and children's development.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that :-
 - (a) Members note the content of the report
 - (b) Visit McNay Street for a walk around of the work taking place

Chris Bell
Assistant Director of Children's Services

Background Papers

None

MAIN REPORT

4. The Building Stronger Families Service for Darlington Borough Council is based at McNay Street Children's Centre, and prior to the start of the Covid 19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns in March 2020, offered a high level of support by way of targeted delivery through early help assessments and universal groups focusing on parents' mental health, practical skills, and children's development.
5. Universally, parents to be and new parents could attend a range of groups across the town, including a pre and post birth group for teenage parents, with midwives working with teenage parents on hand to conduct antenatal checks, and several groups aimed at babies up to 12 months and their parents, focussing on parents' well-being; helping them to promote the development of their babies in all areas.
6. Health colleagues attended McNay Street Centre offering a well-baby clinic, where parents could attend to have their baby weighed, ask any questions of the health visitors in attendance, but also have the chance to meet other parents, reducing their risk of isolation.
7. A parental mental health group, called Baby Steps, led by Talking Changes, ran weekly from one of the outreach centres, and this was well attended. The aim of the group was to support parents with babies up to 12 months who might be struggling with low level mental health issues.
8. There were also targeted programmes available for parents who were open to services or were recommended to come along by midwives and health visitors, for parents who were expecting babies and wanted more advice and guidance on bonding, practical skills and caring for their babies, and those who had just had babies and wanted support around their babies rapidly changing needs.
9. Once the working from home directive came from Government, and the centres were closed, all these group closed as well. Work immediately began to try to get as many of these services online, and the Children's Centre Facebook page became somewhere to access advice and guidance, as well as practitioners delivering live and pre-recorded sessions on child development, behaviour management and other related issues.
10. The Baby Steps mental health support group went online, and after consultation with their clients, they have agreed that this is an effective way for them to deliver their services, so will remain there.
11. Health colleagues resumed their well-child clinic after a period of closure; however, this is now just for targeted parents where health visitors invite those on their radar for some extra support.
12. During lockdown, to meet the need of the increasing number of parents suffering with mental health issues in the community, some early help practitioners completed training in mental health awareness, and in counselling (level 2), forming a Mindfulness group where families met outside McNay Street, and then took part in a walk and talk session, with some meditation halfway through to practice some valuable mindfulness skills.

13. Other outreach centres have been utilised to prioritise covid testing and vaccination, impacting on the level of service provided for new parents on site. Also, a couple of schools who usually have space for children's centre activity groups have utilised the space themselves, due to having to adhere to government guidance on social distancing etc. reducing the number of places available to deliver from across the town.
14. Over the summer of 2021 it was agreed by senior leaders that the groups run from the children's centre could start to re-open with Covid 19 safe measures in place. These started from around July, with the bulk re-opening in September 2021.
15. Initial observations of the children attending the groups has identified that some are lacking key developmental skills relating to age and stage milestones; for example, 2 ½ year olds in a group who showed no signs of interacting with each other, had no single words, were not exploring from their parent/carer base, and no curiosity for the other children within the group. The impact, if nothing changes, could be that children go on to lack empathy for others, and struggle to make and maintain relationships. Communication milestones at this stage are key, and parents within the groups bringing the children were lacking in the skills required to help their children develop these skills. This has been factored into future planning, and within a few weeks of attending the groups, the children are clearly starting to make progress.
16. A group for children to promote speech and language, where the health visitor has identified that there is a delay, is up and running. The leads of the group have identified that all the children referred have other additional needs, including sensory processing issues that are impacting on their development. Again, parents are short of the skills required to help promote these skills and struggling to know where to go to help their children with their additional needs and sensory processing issues. The group leads have again observed significant progress made by those children and parents attending, with parents learning how to engage their children in singing and stories. Some of the parents who have children with additional and complex needs have found coping during the pandemic challenging, and stressful. Parents have presented at the groups without the coping mechanisms in place to deal with the emotional challenges of meeting the needs of children with complex needs on a day-to-day basis, and staff have offered emotional support, advice and guidance to help with this.
17. A local school has asked for support to transition a group of six children from home to nursery, starting in January, and this work has begun, with the children showing delays in their development that ideally would be further on for them to start in the nursery setting. Practitioners are delivering work with parents to show them how to promote their children's development to get them nursery ready as much as possible.
18. Finally, a new group has been developed, based at McNay Street Centre, inviting young parents, new parents and those who are targeted and open for services, to attend pre and post birth, to ensure that they have all the learning opportunities, and chance to mix with other parents and babies, reducing social isolation, and hopefully building a long term relationship with the Building Stronger Families Service so that support, should they need it in the future, can be sustained without the need for statutory services becoming involved.

Jo Benson: Extension 6791

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
20 DECEMBER 2021**

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 2021/22 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 2021/22 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 note the work programme and consider any additional items which they may wish to include.

**Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance**

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.
Council Plan	The report contributes to the Council Plan in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the Plan.
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. The Council Plan sets the vision and strategic direction for the Council through to May 2023, with its overarching focus being 'Delivering Success for Darlington' .
7. In approving the Council Plan, Members have agreed to the vision for Darlington which is a place where people want to live and businesses want to locate, where the economy continues to grow, where people are happy and proud of the borough and where everyone has the opportunity to maximise their potential.
8. The vision for the Children and Young People portfolio is :

'a borough where young people get the best start in life, can maximise their potential and are safe'

to maximise the potential of our young people by working with partners to maximise educational achievement; working to remove barriers to young people reaching their potential and working at a Tees Valley level to match jobs with skills and training.

Forward Plan and Additional Items

9. Any Member seeking to add a new item to the work programme will need to complete a quad of aims.
10. A copy of the Forward Plan has been attached at **Appendix 3** for information.

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Performance Management and Regulation	Q2 20 Dec 2021 Q3 25 April 2022	Sharon Raine	Agreed set of indicators	To receive quarterly monitoring reports and undertake any further detailed work into particular outcomes if necessary
Early Help services available for new mothers	20 December 2021	Joanne Benson		To examine services available
Darlington Care Collective	20 December 2021	Christine Shields		To provide an Update on the Care Collective
Children and Young Peoples Plan	21 February 2022	Christine Shields		Annual Update
2021/22 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment	21 February 2022	Tony Murphy/Nicola Davies		Annual Report
Accessibility Strategy	21 February 2022	Tony Murphy/ Eleanor Marshall		To consult with Scrutiny prior to Cabinet approval
Children's Services Self-Assessment - Overview	August 2022	Chris Bell		To provide Scrutiny with the Annual Self-Assessment for Children's Services so that constructive 'critical friend' challenge takes place to drive improvement in public services

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Children and Young People Public Health Overview and Childhood Healthy Weight Plan	August 2022	Ken Ross	PBH 009 PBH 013c PBH 016 PBH 018 PBH 020 PBH 021 PBH 054	Annual Monitoring
Local Designated Officer Annual Report	August 2022	James Stroyan		To examine the Annual Report and assure Members that allegations made against staff who work with children are reported and how they are actioned
Learning and Skills Service Annual Report	October 2022	Paul Richardson		Annual Report to demonstrate challenge
IRO Annual Report	October 2022	Martin Graham	CSC201	To examine the Annual Report of the Independent Reviewing Officer for Looked After Children
Darlington Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report	October 2022	Ann Baxter, Independent Chair		Annually monitoring
Adoption Tees Valley Annual Report 2020/21	October 2022	Vicky Davidson-Boyd, Service Manager, Adoption Tees Valley		Annual monitoring

REVIEWS PENDING

Youth Unemployment (Joint Review with E&R)	Added to the Work Programme at the Scrutiny Meeting held on 23 August 2021	Paul Richardson	To examine youth unemployment and scale of this in the local area
Autism Provision Review Group	Final Report to Health and Housing on 14 April 2021. Cross Party Joint Working Group to be established – ongoing.	Christine Shields	To review the provisions and services and contractual arrangements between this Council and our providers who provide the Autism provisions, diagnoses and support services for Darlington

ARCHIVED ITEMS

Looked After Children Missing From Care	2 July 2018	Alison Poulter / Chris Bell	Enough support for people when needed			To examine the reasons why children in care go missing and the interventions in place to avoid episodes and examine partnership working and parent engagement
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
Educational Landscape	Archived on 3 Oct 2018	Tony Murphy	Children with the best start in life	Build Strong Communities		To examine school improvement including the decline in performance for maths and English and what action is being taking to address this.
Stability of Places for Looked After Children	10 December 2018	Joanne Stoddart	Children with the best start in life Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities	CSC 228 CSC 229	To be monitored via the regular performance reports in future
Children Services Accessibility Strategy	10 December 2018		Children with the best start in life Enough support for people when needed			To consider the Strategy prior to Cabinet.
SEND High Needs Review: Strategy and Funding Home to School Transport	29 October 2018 10 Dec 2018 29 October 2018	Tony Murphy	Children with the best start in life More People healthy and independent Enough support for people when needed			To consider 3 of the 4 core elements of the Review. Members to carry out a T/F Review on the proposals. Verbal update to Members

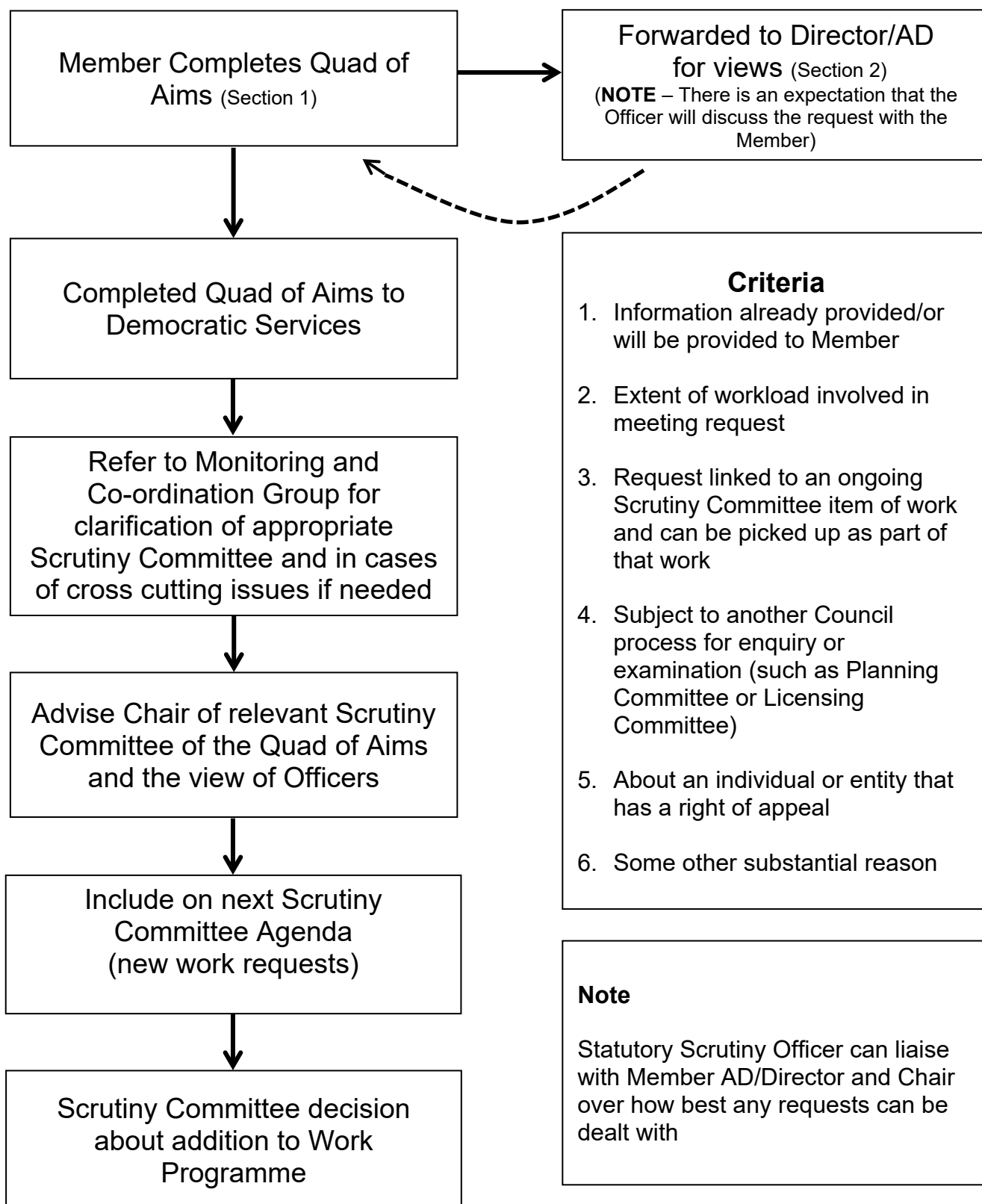
SEND Strategy and Funding Consultation Review Group	10 December 2018		Children with the best start in life			To give a Scrutiny response to the consultation on the SEND Strategy and Funding and SEND Travel Assistance Policy
Childhood Obesity/ Oral Health/Mental Health Links	Review suspended – to continue to monitor the effectiveness of the Childhood Healthy Weight Plan. Update report on the Childhood Healthy Weight Plan to Scrutiny on 3 February 2020.		Children with the best start in life Enough support for people when needed More People Healthy and Independent	Build Strong Communities		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.
Medium Term Financial Plan 2020/21 to 2023/24	Special Meeting 13 January 2020	Elizabeth Davison	One Darlington Perfectly Placed	Spend Every Pound Wisely		To consider the Medium Term Financial Plan in relation to the areas within this Scrutiny’s remit
Council Plan 2020/23	Special Meeting on 13 January 2020	Paul Wildsmith				To consider the Council Plan
Voluntary and Community Sector Funding Update	3 February 2020	Christine Shields				Update report on the community based initiatives funded from Voluntary Sector Development Fund

						monies, piloted during 2019/20.
Home to School Transport	3 February 2020	Tony Murphy/ Graham Easterlow				To update Members on the current position/ changes to regulations which may impact on the MTFP
Extension of Funding to 21 for Children in Foster Care	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. Now monitored by quarterly performance reports.
Academy Trusts	2 November 2020	Presentation by Katherine Cowell, the Interim Regional Schools Commissioner for the North of England	Children with the best start in life			To examine safeguarding measures and health and safety training in place within the boroughs Academies and attainment within Academy Trusts.
SEND - Outcomes for Parents following Covid-19	4 January 2021	Carla Scaith Darlington Parent Carer Forum				To continue to monitor SEND/ EHCPs. To receive the survey results from the Parent

						Carer Forum SEND Survey and to receive information relating to experiences of the Parent Carer Forum.
Trauma and Horizon Scanning	23 August 2021	Paige Thomason/ Martin Webster				To examine how Children’s Services are starting to embed and respond to Trauma.
Looked After Children Off-framework.	23 August 2021	Jane Kochanowski				To examine the current situation with those placed off framework, commissioning of accommodation and costs
Adoptive Services	Approved by Scrutiny at their meeting held on 29 June 2020 – Not progressed	Vicky Davidson-Boyd				To examine how the Regional Adoption Agency is serving Darlington and to examine how the Coronavirus Pandemic has affected adoption

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PROCESS FOR ADDING AN ITEM TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE'S PREVIOUSLY APPROVED WORK PROGRAMME



PLEASE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

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?

Page 60

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)

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

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Signed **Position** **Date**

Page 62

PLEASE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

**DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
FORWARD PLAN**



DARLINGTON

Borough Council

**FORWARD PLAN
FOR THE PERIOD: 3 NOVEMBER 2021 - 31 MARCH 2022**

Title	Decision Maker and Date
Council Tax Support - Scheme Approval 2022/23	Council 25 Nov 2021 Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Development of Eastbourne Sports Complex	Council 25 Nov 2021 Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring - Quarter Two	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Revenue Budget Monitoring - Quarter 2	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Schedule of Transactions - November	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Capital Projects	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Complaints Made to Local Government Ombudsman	Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Feethams House - European Regional Development Fund	Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Housing Revenue Account 2022/23	Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Mid-Year Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management 2020/21	Council 27 Jan 2022 Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26	Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Land at Sparrowhall Drive	Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Proposed Waiting Restrictions on Woodland Road, Outram Street and Duke Street	Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Schedule of Transactions - December	Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Youth Unemployment	Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Council Plan Performance Report 2021/22 – Quarters 1 and 2	Cabinet 11 Jan 2022

**DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
FORWARD PLAN**

Customer Services and Digital Strategy 2021/24	Cabinet 11 Jan 2022
Levelling Up Darlington	Cabinet 11 Jan 2022
Maintained Schools Capital Programme - Summer 2022	Cabinet 11 Jan 2022
Rail Heritage Quarter Update	Council 27 Jan 2022 Cabinet 11 Jan 2022
Tees Valley Energy Recovery Facility	Cabinet 11 Jan 2022
Annual Audit Letter 2020/21	Cabinet 8 Feb 2022
Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings 2022/23	Cabinet 8 Feb 2022
Housing Revenue Account 2022/23	Council 17 Feb 2022 Cabinet 8 Feb 2022
Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26	Council 17 Feb 2022 Cabinet 8 Feb 2022
Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring - Quarter 3	Cabinet 8 Feb 2022
Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy	Council 17 Feb 2022 Cabinet 8 Feb 2022
Revenue Budget Monitoring - Quarter 3	Cabinet 8 Feb 2022
Local Transport Plan	Cabinet 8 Mar 2022
Regulatory Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)	Cabinet 8 Mar 2022
Restoration of Locomotion No 1 Replica	Cabinet 8 Mar 2022