

Children's Social Care Performance

Quarter 1 - April - June 2021

Scrutiny

Scrutiny

Q1 2021-22 Performance Summary

Referral: 68.5% of referrals received during Q1 2021/22 were completed within 1 working day and 9.0% took over 3 working days to complete. Extensive work regarding referral enquiries has been required for some cases, resulting in completion taking longer that the statutory timescale. However, the additional work has been to the benefit of the child.

Re-Referrals: 10.1% of the children referred during Q1 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%, our statistical neighbour (20.8%), regional (22.4%) and national average (22.6%) (Source: LAIT 2020).

Early Help: 192 Early Help Assessments have been completed during Q1 2021/22.

Missing: Of the children and young people who are reported missing from home, 84.3% have been offered a return home interview within the 72-hour timescale. 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. Of those who went missing, 26.5% were a Child in Care.

Children & Families Assessments: 130 children had a single assessment carried out during Q1 2021/22.

C&F Timeliness: Social workers completed 90.8% of the C&F assessments within timescale during Q1 2021/22. This is positively above our internal target of 90%, our statistical neighbour (87.7%), regional average (88.8%) and the national average (83.1%) (Source: LAIT 2020).

Section 47 enquiries: 76 section 47 enquires were started during Q1 2021/22 involving 122 children, 4 of which were subject to a Child Protection plan (CP) at the time of the enquiry.

Child Protection Conference Timeliness: 89.7% 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 Q1 2021/22. Darlington's performance remains higher than our statistical neighbour (80.8%), regional (83.1%) and national average (77.6%) (Source: LAIT 2020) but below internal target of 95%.

Child Protection Plans: 75 children were subject to a Child Protection plan (CP) as at the end of June 2021. This is a 21.1% drop compared to the 95 children who were subject to CP at the end of June 2020. Darlington currently has a 33.3 rate per 10,000 population for children subject to a CPP which is lower that the regional average (70.0), statistical neighbour (53.9) and the national average (42.8) (Source: LAIT 2020).

100.0% of CP cases were allocated to a social worker and all the CP reviews were carried out in timescale. During Q1 2021/22 there were no children ceasing

CP who had been subject to the plan for 2 or more years. At the end of June 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 14.3%, above the 6% target and relates to one family.

Child Protection Statutory visits: 87.3% of children received a statutory Child Protection (CP) visit during Q1 2021/22 within 10 working days, this is just below our target of 90%.

Children in Care: 264 children were in care as of June 2021, which is a reduction to the number of children (302) that were in care as of June 2020. During Q1 2021/22 a total of 23 children came into the care of the DBC and a total of 31 children ceased to be in care.

Children in Care Reviews: 100.0% of Children in Care (CiC) were allocated to a qualified social worker. 99.3% of the reviews have been completed within required timescales during Q1 2021/22.

Children in Care Statutory visits: 90.5% of statutory visits for Children in Care (CiC) were completed in timescale during Q1 2021/22. This is in line with our internal target of 90%.

Children in Care Placements: 9.8% of Children in Care (CiC), as of June 2021, have had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months. This is positively below the internal target (10%), national (10%), statistical neighbour (9.9%) and regional averages (10%) (Source: LAIT 2020).
69.1% 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%, regional (69.0%) and national average (68.0%) and in line with our statistical neighbours (69.3%).
8.8% of our Children in Care have been placed 20 or more miles away from home as of June 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: 86.4% of the children, newly into care, were seen by CDDFT within 20 working days for an initial health assessment during Q1 2021/22.

Health and Dental Reviews: 80.0% of children due a review health assessment by June 2021 have had one completed. 55.8% of Children in Care, that were due a dental check assessment by June 2021 have had one completed.

The percentage of children who have refused their medical checks has continued to decrease through the year, with 6.7% refusing their health review and 4.7% 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 June 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 21.7% at the end of June 2021.

REFERRALS - TIMELINESS

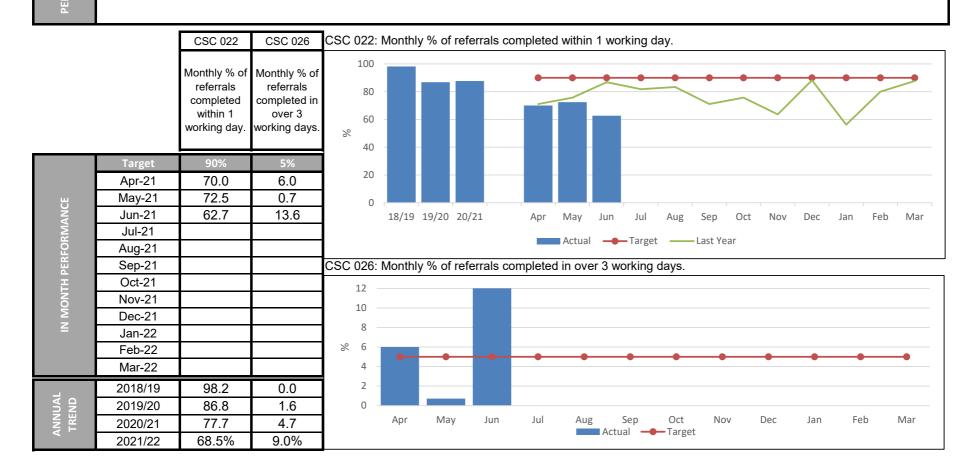
DEFINITION

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.

E ANALYS

68.5% of the referrals completed this year were finalised within 1 working day and 9.0% of the referrals took over 3 working days to complete during Q1 2020/21.

All referrals that are not completed in timescale are reviewed each month by Team Managers. It has been noted that the majority of the delays have been a result of waiting for further information from third parties to make an informed decision or difficulties in contacting the families. All delays were confirmed being required and in the best interest of the family and children.



REFERRALS - RE-REFERRALS

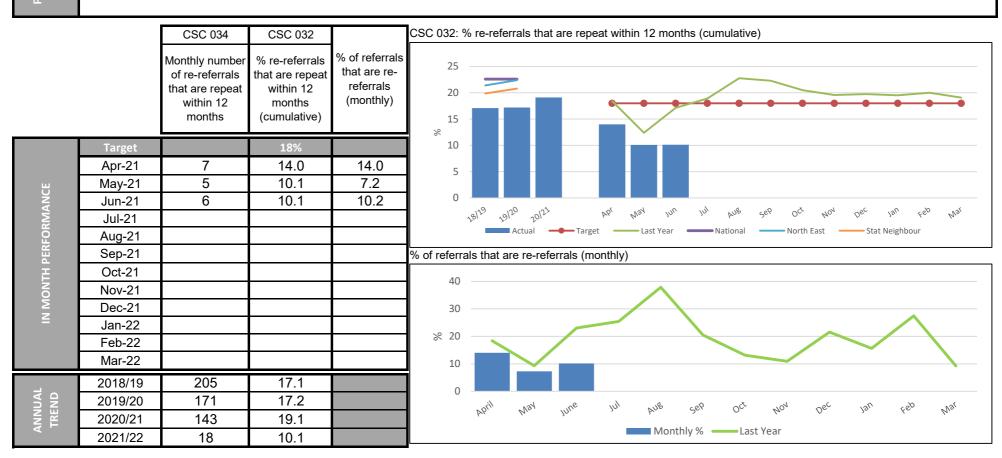
DEFINITION

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 18 children, from 12 families, being re-referred to social care during Q1 2021/22. This equates to 10.1% of our referrals during this period have been repeated within 12 months. This is below the internal target of 18%, our statistical neighbour (20.8%), regional (22.4%) and national average (22.6%) (LAIT 2020).



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.

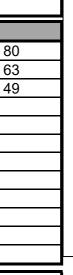
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

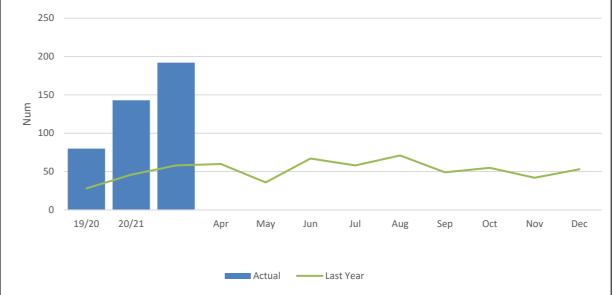
192 Early Help Assessments (EHA) were started during Q1 2021/22.

CSC 002

Total number of individual EHA's started in month (inc. external)

CSC 002: Total number of individual EHA's started in month (inc. external)





Target

Apr-21

May-21

Jun-21

Jul-21 Aug-21

Sep-21 Oct-21 Nov-21

Dec-21 Jan-22 Feb-22

Mar-22

MISSING EPISODES

DEFINITION

The number of episodes of children going missing in Darlington who are a Child in Care (CiC).

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

14 Children in Care (CiC) were reported missing during Q1 2021/22 with a total of 51 episodes. Where children are looked after by other authorities but cared for in Darlington, the ERASE Team have been alerted and provided with relevant information to ensure that the young people have been appropriately placed.

CSC 246

Number of missing relating to Children in Care with DBC

		Ep.	Child.
	Apr-21	8	5
	May-21	15	7
ICE	Jun-21	28	10
1AN	Jul-21		
ORN	Aug-21		
RFC	Sep-21		
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Oct-21		
	Nov-21		
MO	Dec-21		
	Jan-22		·
	Feb-22		
	Mar-22		

hild	2018/19	199	36
UAI cl	2019/20	129	24
ANN :ND	2020/21	107	30
A TRE COU	2021/22	51	14

ASSESSMENTS **DEFINITION** Monthly and cumulative number of Children & Families assessments completed. 130 C&F assessments have been completed in Q1 2021/22, similar to the 142 completed in Q1 2020/21. CSC 036 CSC 036: Number of children & families assessments completed year to date Number of children & families 1200 assessments completed year 1000 to date 800 Apr-21 24 Num 600 73 May-21 Jun-21 130 400 Jul-21 200 Aug-21 Sep-21 Oct-21 17/18 18/19 19/20 20/21 Dec Nov-21 Dec-21 Jan-22 Last Year Actual Feb-22 Mar-22 1,025 2018/19 2019/20 950 2020/21 692 2021/22 130

ASSESSMENTS - TIMELINESS

DEFINITION

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.

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.

FRFORMANC

As at June 2021, 90.8% of our C&F assessments were completed within timescale. This is above our target of 90%, statistical neighbour (87.7%) and regional average (88.8%) and above national average (83.8%) as recorded for 2020 in the LAIT. It is also an increase when compared to the 75.4% in timescale during Q1 2020/21.

CSC 038

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

90.8

	Target	90%
	Apr-21	87.5
ш	May-21	91.8
NC	Jun-21	90.8
M.×	Jul-21	
FOR	Aug-21	
PER	Sep-21	
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Oct-21	
NO	Nov-21	
Σ	Dec-21	
=	Jan-22	
	Feb-22	
	Mar-22	
	0040/40	04.5
	2018/19	81.5
UA	2019/20	88.7
ANNUAL	2020/21	86.4

2021/22

ECTION 47 - STARTED

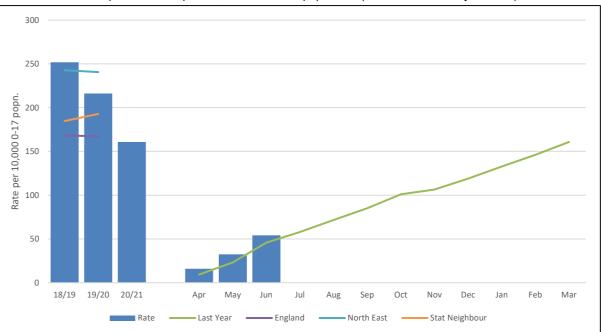
DEFINITION

Number of children who have had a section 47 enquiries started monthly and year to date and the actual number of enquires started.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

76 section 47 enquires were started during Q1 2021/22 involving 122 children. This is a 40.7% increase on the 54 section 47 enquiries started in Q1 2020/21 for 18.4% more children (103), but comparable to Q1 2019/20 which saw 75 enquires started for 138 children.

		CSC 166	CSC 164	Rate of section 47 enquiries started per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inc. children already on CPP)
		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)	
	Apr-21	36	16.0	00-17
ш	May-21	37	32.4	Ö 150 -
N	Jun-21	49	54.2	er 10
Σ	Jul-21			9 100 -
TOR	Aug-21			
ERI	Sep-21			50
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Oct-21			
NO NO	Nov-21			
Ž	Dec-21			0
_ ≤	Jan-22			
	Feb-22			Rate —— Last Year —— England —— North East —— Stat Neighbour
	Mar-22			
	2018/19	426	190.0	
ANNUAL	2019/20	646	251.8	
	2020/21	484	216.2	
	2021/22	122	54.2	



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.

RFORMANC

89.7% 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 Q1 2021/22.

Although the delayed conferences have taken us below our target of 95%, our performance remains higher than our statistical neighbour (80.8%), regional (83.1%) and national average (77.6%) (LAIT 2020).

		CSC 178	CSC 176	CSC 178: Monthly % of cases recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook where Child Protection strategy meeting / S47 start to initial child protection conference (ICPC) are within 15 days (CPP). Excludes transfer-in conferences.
		Monthly % 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	80 - 60 - 60 - 60 - 60 - 60 - 60 - 60 -
	Target	100	95	
MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-21	100.0	100.0	Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar
	May-21	88.9	94.1	Actual —— Last Year
	Jun-21	83.3	89.7	- Actual Edit Follows
₽₩	Jul-21			CSC 176: % of cases where the initial child protection conference (ICPC) was within 15 days of the initiating strategy discussion /
<u> </u>	Aug-21			S47 start recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook (CPP). This EXCLUDES transfer-in conferences. Year to Date
PER	Sep-21			, , ,
픋	Oct-21			100
NO	Nov-21			80
∑ Z	Dec-21			
=	Jan-22			80
	Feb-22			40 - 40 - 40 - 40 - 40 - 40 - 40 - 40 -
	Mar-22			20
	2018/19	95.4	95.4	
ANNUAL	2019/20	89.5	89.5	0 18/19 19/20 20/21
	2020/21	94.4	94.4	Actual — Last Year — Target — England — North East — Stat Neighbour
	2021/22	83.3	89.7	Actual — Last Teal — Ialget — Eligianu North East — Stat Neighbour

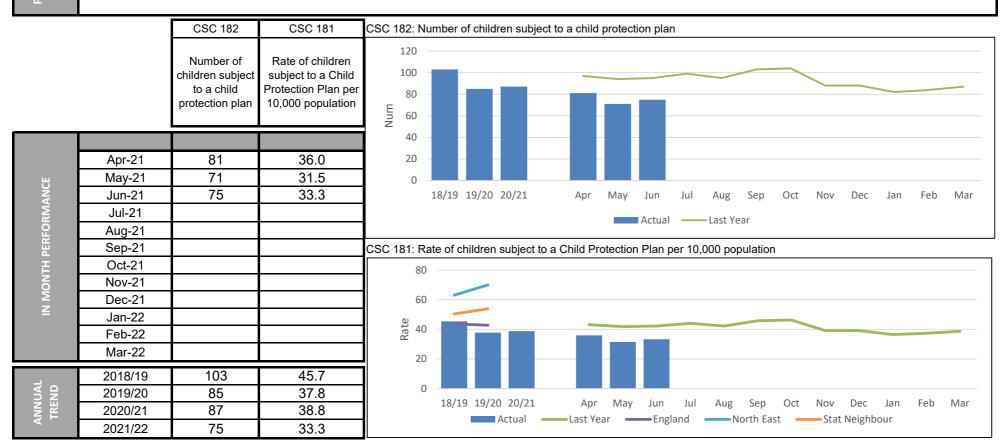
CHILD PROTECTION

DEFINITION

Number of children subject to a Child Protection plan at the end of the month.

ERFORMANG

75 children were subject to a Child Protection plan (CP) as at the end of June 2021. This is a 21.1% drop compared to the 95 children who were subject to CP at the end of June 2020. Darlington currently has a 33.3 rate per 10,000 population for children subject to a CPP which is lower that the regional average (70.0), statistical neighbour (53.9) and the national average (42.8) as reported in the 2020 LAIT.



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.

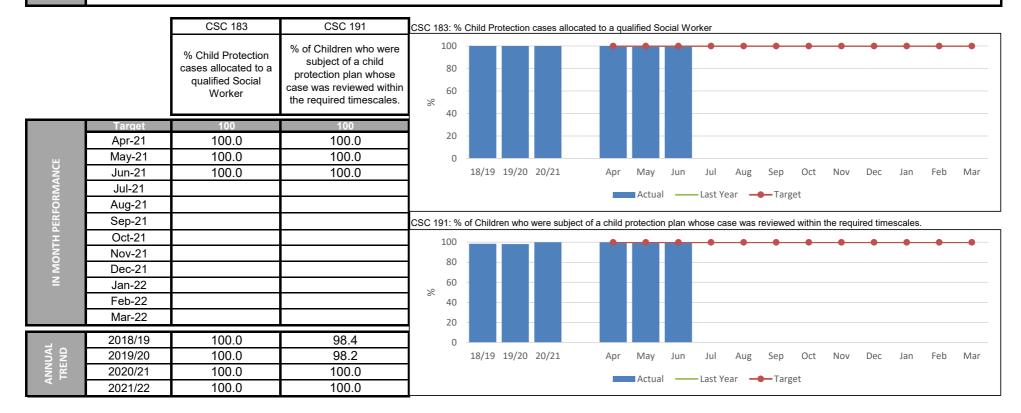
Reviews are a key element in delivering Child Protection Plans and effective reviews should ensure the provision of good quality interventions. This indicator is a proxy for the measurement of effectiveness of the interventions provided to children subject to a Child Protection Plan. "Working Together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

ERFORMANC

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

100% of Child Protection reviews have been completed within the required timescales.

Performance remains higher than statistical neighbours (89.9%), regional (92.9%) and national averages (91.5%) as reported in the 2020 LAIT.



CHILD PROTECTION - TIME PERIODS

DEFINITION

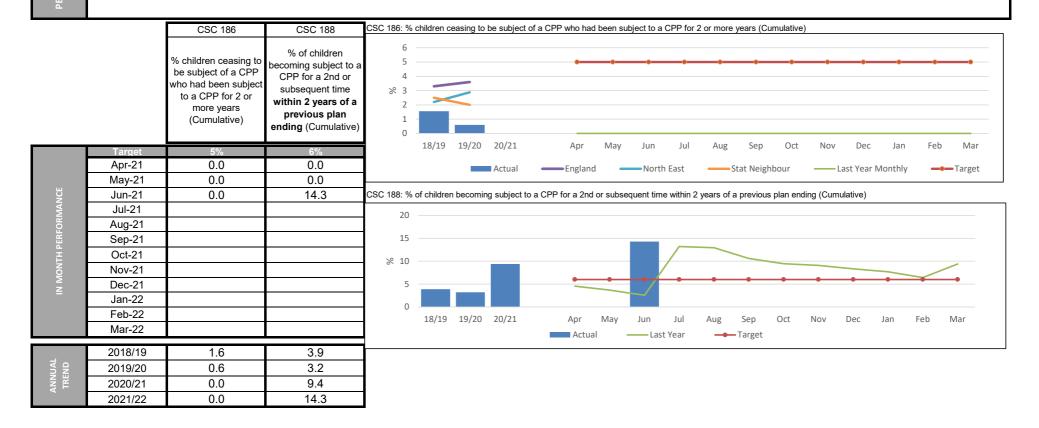
Percentage of children ceasing to be subject to a Child Protection Plan who had been subject to a Plan for 2 or more years, and percentage of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for the 2nd or subsequent time within a) 2 years of a previous plan, and b) with a previous plan at any point.

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 for a second or subsequent time.

RMANCE ANALY

14.3% of the children became subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 years of the previous plan ending. This relates to one family who were closed to the service in June 2020 following a step down to CiN from their CP plan in March 2020. This is above our target of 6% and also when compared to Q1 2020/21 (2.6%, 1 child). Due to the reduced number of children starting a CP plan (21 compared to 39 in Q1 2020/21) this has affected the percentage due to a lower denominator.

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%.



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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.

FRFORMANC

87.3% (493 / 565) of Child Protection statutory visits were completed within 10 working days in Q1 2021/22 and 97.2% (549 / 565) of the visits were completed within 15 working days.

Δ.						
		CSC 252a		CSC 252b		% Child Protection statutory visits completed within the month
		% 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)	100
	Target	90	90	90	90	0
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-21	86.5	97.1	86.5	97.1	Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar
	May-21	89.5	97.9	88.0	97.5	10 working days 15 working days
	Jun-21	85.5	96.4	87.3	97.2	
	Jul-21					% Child Protection statutory visits completed year to date
FOR	Aug-21					100
PERI	Sep-21					
풀	Oct-21					80
NOI	Nov-21					
≥ z	Dec-21					60
	Jan-22					8 40 - 40 -
	Feb-22					40
	Mar-22					20 -
	2018/19	79.3	95.7	79.3	95.7	
ANNUAL	2019/20	79.6	92.0	79.6	93.8	0
	2020/21	89.0	98.4	89.0	98.4	
	2021/22	85.5	96.4	87.3	97.2	10 working days ————————————————————————————————————

CHILDREN IN CARE DEFINITION Number of Children in Care at the end of each month. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS 264 children were in care as at June 2021 which is a 12.6% reduction from the 302 children in care at the end of June 2020. CSC 201: Total number of Children in Care CSC 201 CSC 200 Rate of Children in Care Per Total number of 300 Children in Care 10,000 250 population 돌 ²⁰⁰ 150 **Target** 100 122.1 275 Apr-21 50 May-21 269 119.4 117.2 Jun-21 264 18/19 19/20 20/21 May Jun Jul Aug Sep Feb Jul-21 Actual —— Last Year Aug-21 Sep-21 CSC 200: Rate of Children in Care Per 10,000 population Oct-21 160 140 140 120 Nov-21 Dec-21 Jan-22 000 80 Feb-22 10, 60 Mar-22 per 40 Rate 20 2018/19 264 117.2 ANNUAL TREND 270 120.1 2019/20 18/19 19/20 20/21 Apr May Jun Jul Oct 272 121.1 2020/21 Actual — Last Year — Target — England — North East — Stat Neighbours 264 117.2 2021/22

CHILDREN IN CARE - ALLOCATION & REVIEWS

DEFINITION

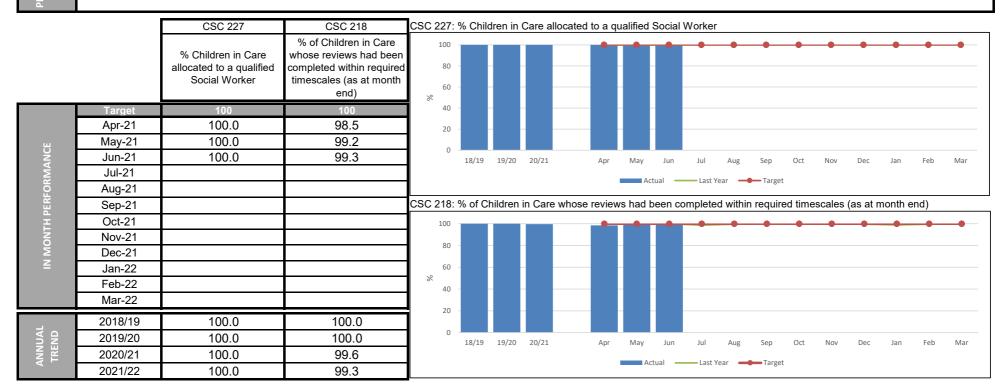
The percentage of Children in Care cases which should have been reviewed during the year ending 31 March that were reviewed on time during the year and the percentage of Children in Care cases that were allocated to a qualified Social Worker at the end of the month.

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.

ERFORMANC

100.0% of Children in Care (CiC) are allocated to a qualified social worker.

99.3% of the reviews have been completed within the required timescales during Q1 2021/22.



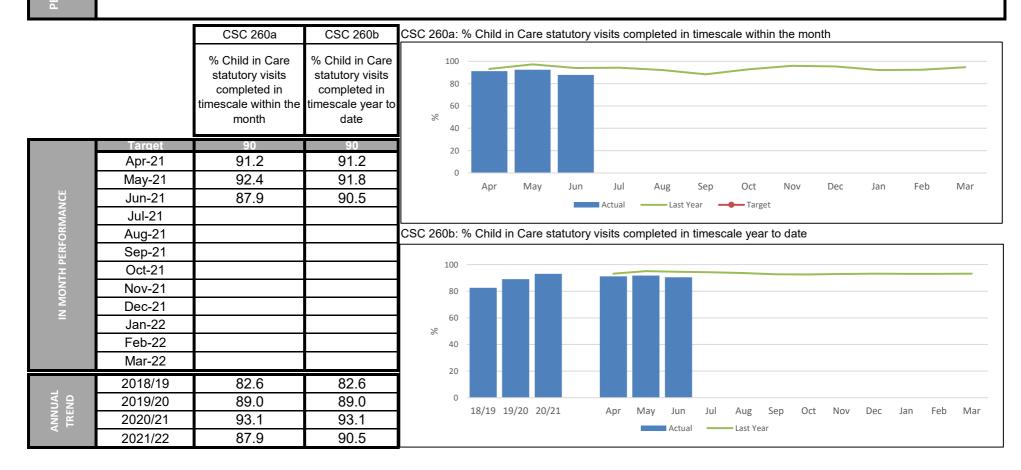
CHILDREN IN CARE - STATUTORY VISITS

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.

ERFORMANCI ANALYSIS

During Q1 2021/22, 90.5% (762 / 842) of statutory visits for Children in Care (CiC) were completed in timescale. This is a small decrease compared to Q1 2020/21 when there were 94.6% of visits completed in timescale.



CHILDREN IN CARE - PLACEMENTS

DEFINITION

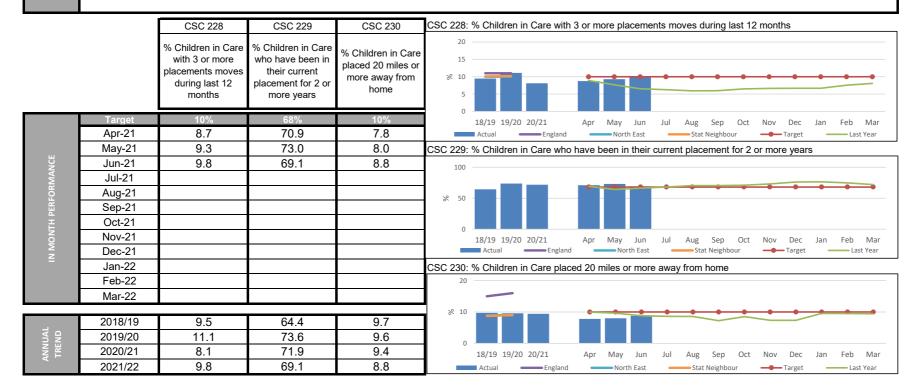
Of those Children in Care at the point in time (excluding series of short-term placements), the percentage that had 3 or more separate placements in the previous 12 months; who had been in their current placement for 2 or more years, and who were placed more than 20 miles away from their home address.

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.

9.8% (26 / 264) of Children in Care, as at June 2021, have had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months. This is below the internal target (10.0%), national (10.0%), statistical neighbour (9.9%) and regional averages (10.0%) as recorded in the LAIT 2020, but above the 6.5% as at June 2020.

Currently, 69.1% (76 / 110) 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 higher percentage compared with June 2020 (66.3%) and is just above the 68% target.

8.8% (22 children) of our Children in Care have been placed 20 or more miles away from home as at June 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.



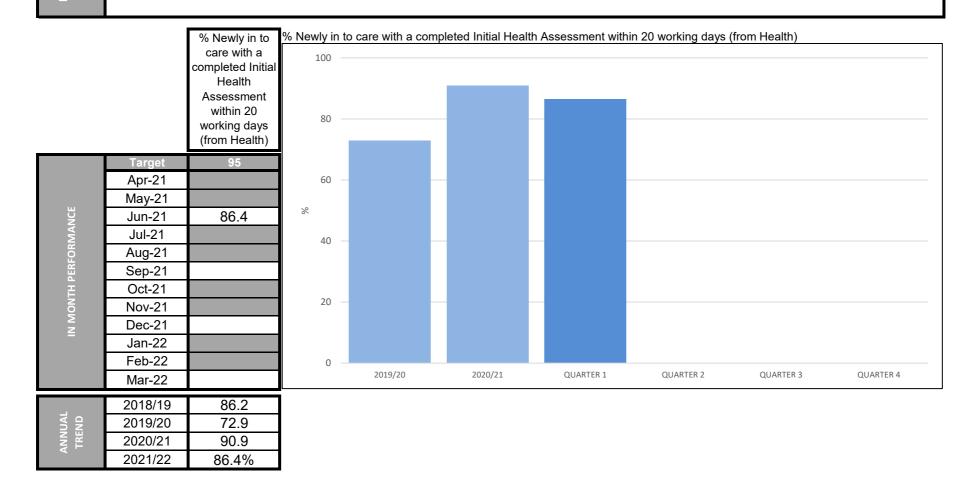
CHILDREN IN CARE - INITIAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

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.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

Health report 86.4% of the children, newly into care, were seen by CDDFT within 20 working days for an initial health assessment during Q1 2021/22.



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.

ERFORMANC ANALYSIS

80.0% (48 / 60) of children due a review health assessment by June 2021 have had one completed. This percentage is above that in June 2020 (69.9%) and June 2019 (50.0%).



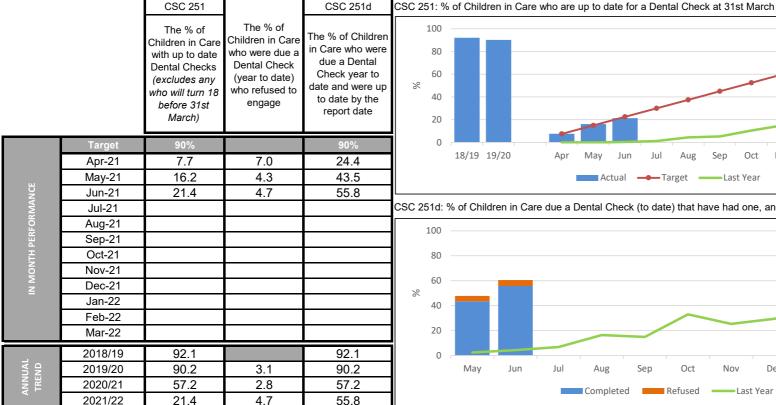
CHILDREN IN CARE - DENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

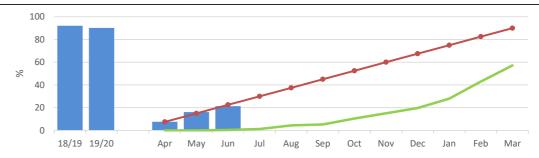
DEFINITION

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.

55.8% (48 / 86) of children due a dental check assessment by June 2021 have had one completed. This percentage is above that in June 2020 (4.4%, when dental practises were closed due to Covid) and June 2019 (53.5%).





Target ——Last Year

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



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.

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

Of the young people (aged 19-21) as at June 2021 who were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET);

- 8.7% NEET because of illness or disability
- 4.3% NEET because of other circumstances
- 8.7% NEET because of pregnancy or parenting.

This equates to 21.7% of our care leavers which is positively below the internal target of 30% NEET.

