



Children's Social Care Performance & Quality Assurance Report

Year end report 17/18

Scrutiny Report

Key Performance Indicators

Quarter 4/ Year End Performance Summary

Where we are performing well

During 2017/18:

96.7% of Contacts were completed within 1 working day which exceeds the target of 95% with only 0.6% of contacts completed in more than 3 working days.

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

93.3% of assessments were completed within 45 working days, which has been consistently better than the target of 90%, and higher than statistical neighbours (89%) and England average (83%).

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

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

93.4% of LAC statutory visits were completed in timescale, better than the target of 90%, and the 2016/17 year end (87%).

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

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

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

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

Where we need to improve

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

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

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

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

Priorities for 2018/19

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

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

Contacts and Referrals

Quarter 4/Year end Performance Summary

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

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

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

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

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

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

CONTACTS				
DEFINITION		<p>Contacts are received through the Children's Access Point (CAP) and are screened against an agreed multi-agency threshold criteria for Social Care. The total number of contacts received by CAP shows how busy CAP are within each month; the number of new contacts shows how many contacts are made on cases which are not currently open to Social Care (a contact can include multiple children); the total number of children in the month (each child can appear more than once) allows us to demonstrate outcomes, as each child may appear more than once they will have different outcomes and different sources, and the distinct number of children (each child is counted only once not matter how many contacts were received) allows us to look at the demography.</p>		
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS		<p>5,044 contacts were received during 2017/18, an hypothesis that will be tested as we gather data for the following year will be that contacts decrease when Schools are on holiday, as this appears to have been the trend for 2017/18 .</p>		
		CSC 004	CSC 004i	CSC 004k
		Number of communications received within the month	Number of children contacts were received on (monthly)	Individual number of children contacts were received on (monthly)
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-17	337	595	517
	May-17	387	657	533
	Jun-17	471	811	668
	Jul-17	457	705	626
	Aug-17	280	478	405
	Sep-17	397	657	568
	Oct-17	498	943	721
	Nov-17	510	871	655
	Dec-17	371	688	531
	Jan-18	460	840	640
	Feb-18	444	735	599
	Mar-18	432	764	607
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			
	2015/16			
	2016/17			
	2017/18 YTD	5044	8744	

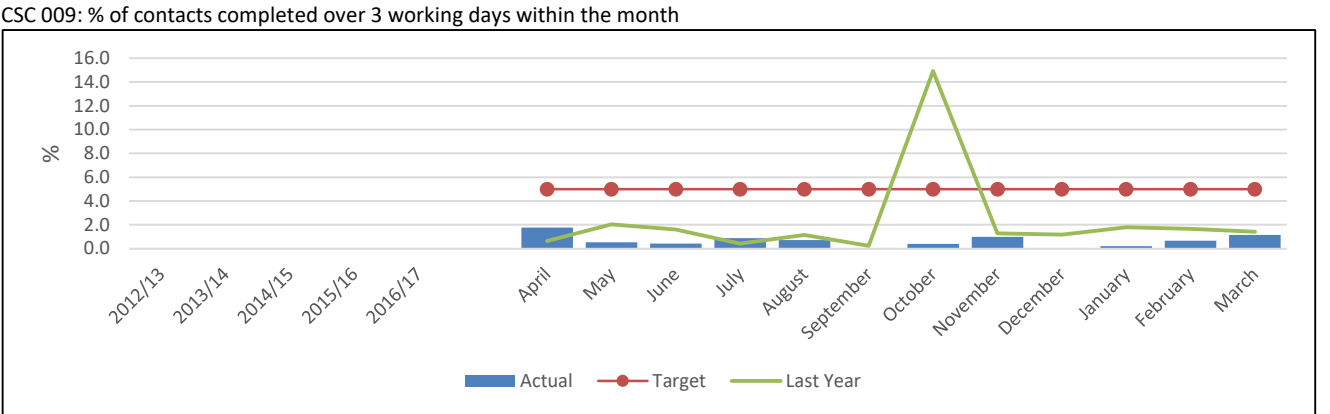
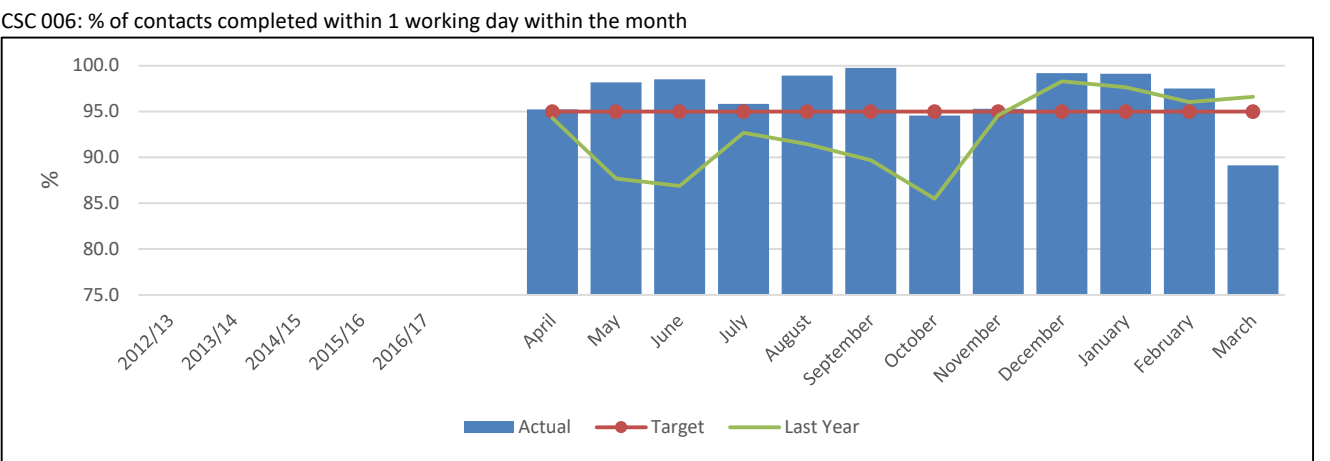
CONTACTS: TIMELINESS

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

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

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

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	95.0	5.0
	Apr-17	95.3	1.8
	May-17	98.2	0.5
	Jun-17	98.5	0.4
	Jul-17	95.8	0.9
	Aug-17	98.9	0.7
	Sep-17	99.8	0.0
	Oct-17	94.6	0.4
	Nov-17	95.3	1.0
	Dec-17	99.2	0.0
	Jan-18	99.1	0.2
	Feb-18	97.5	0.7
	Mar-18	89.1	1.2



Annual Trend	2014/15		
	2015/16	84.0	8.2
	2016/17	96.6	1.4
	2017/18 YTD	96.7	0.6

REFERRALS

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

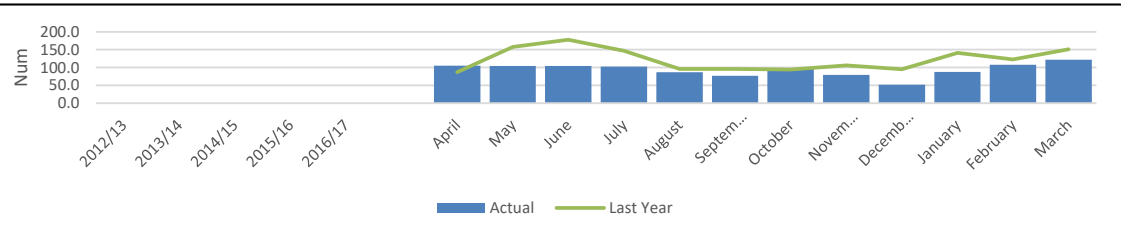
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

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

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

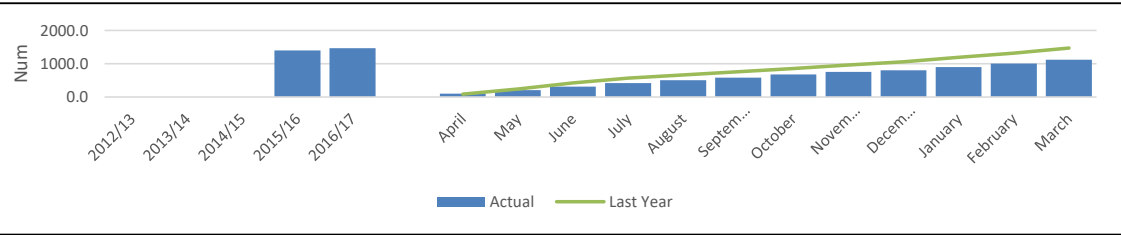
CSC 013	CSC 012	CSC 014
Monthly number of referrals STARTED.	Number of children's referrals STARTED year to date.	Rate of referrals per 10,000 population.

CSC 013: Monthly number of referrals STARTED.

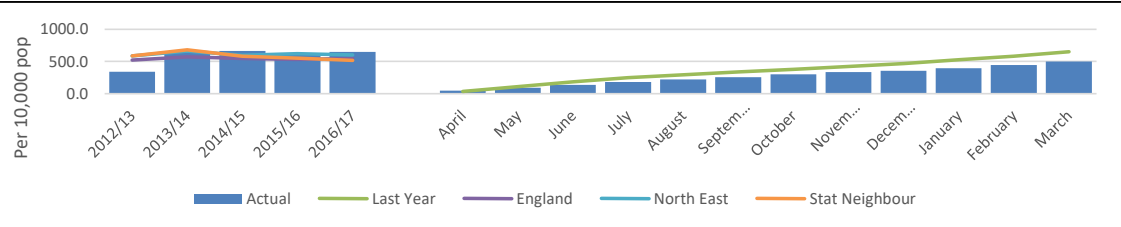


IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)	(blank)
	Apr-17	105	105	46.4
	May-17	104	209	92.4
	Jun-17	104	313	138.3
	Jul-17	103	416	183.9
	Aug-17	87	503	222.3
	Sep-17	77	580	256.3
	Oct-17	97	677	299.2
	Nov-17	79	756	334.1
	Dec-17	52	808	357.1
	Jan-18	88	896	396.0
	Feb-18	108	1004	443.7
	Mar-18	122	1126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

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



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



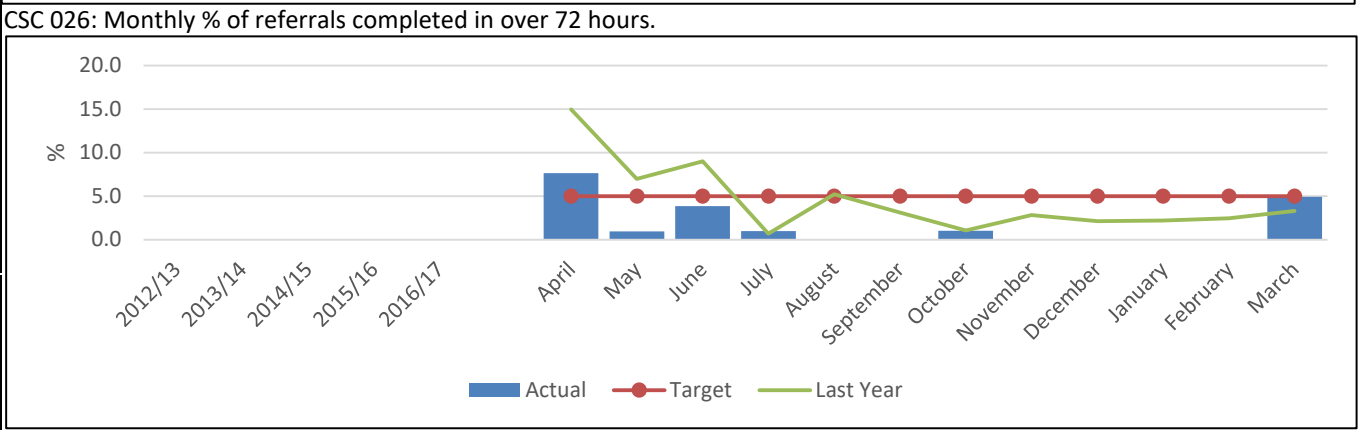
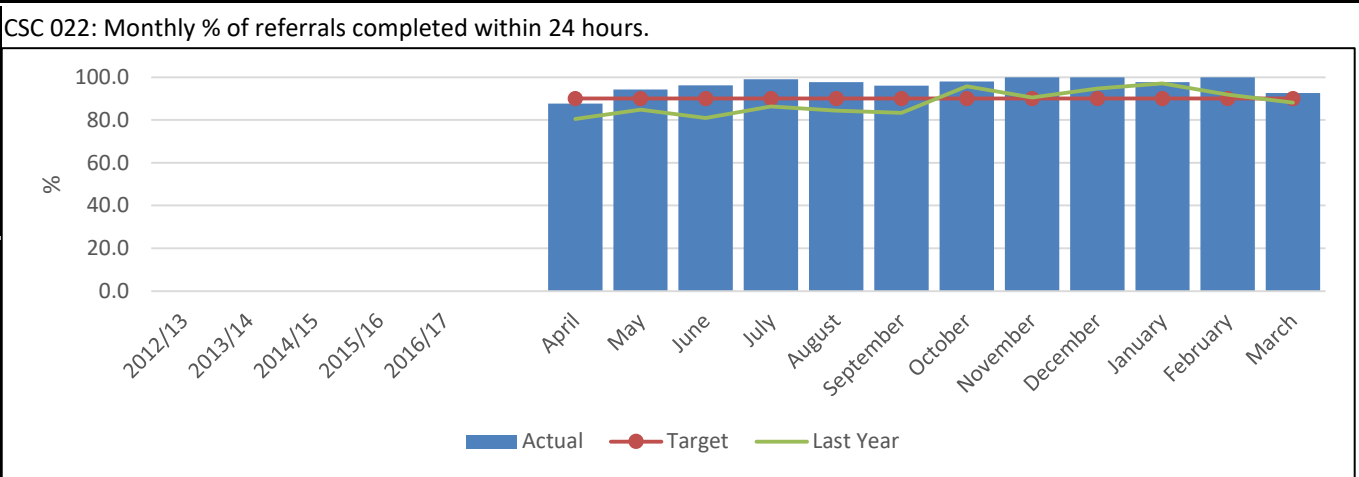
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			664.3
	2015/16	1398	1398	615.9
	2016/17	1472	1472	650.6
	2017/18 YTD	1126	1126	497.6

REFERRALS - TIMELINESS

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

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

	CSC 022	CSC 026
	Monthly % of referrals completed within 24 hours.	Monthly % of referrals completed in over 72 hours.
Target	90.0	5.0
Apr-17	87.6	7.6
May-17	94.2	1.0
Jun-17	96.2	3.9
Jul-17	99.0	1.0
Aug-17	97.7	0.0
Sep-17	96.1	0.0
Oct-17	97.9	1.0
Nov-17	100.0	0.0
Dec-17	100.0	0.0
Jan-18	97.7	0.0
Feb-18	100.0	0.0
Mar-18	92.6	4.9
ANNUAL TREND		
2014/15		
2015/16	85.2	
2016/17	88.0	4.8
2017/18 YTD	96.0	1.8



REFERRALS - RE-REFERRALS

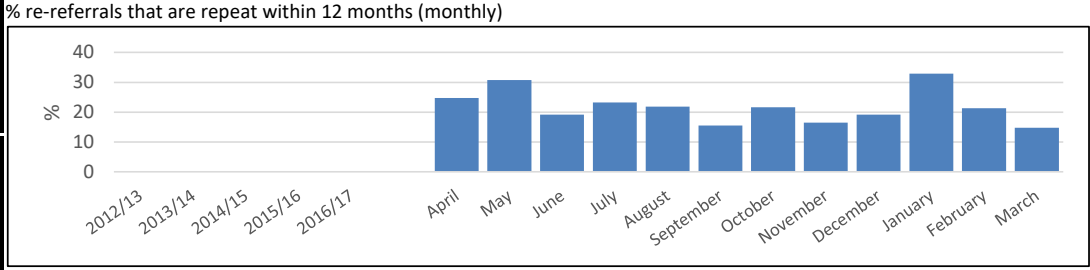
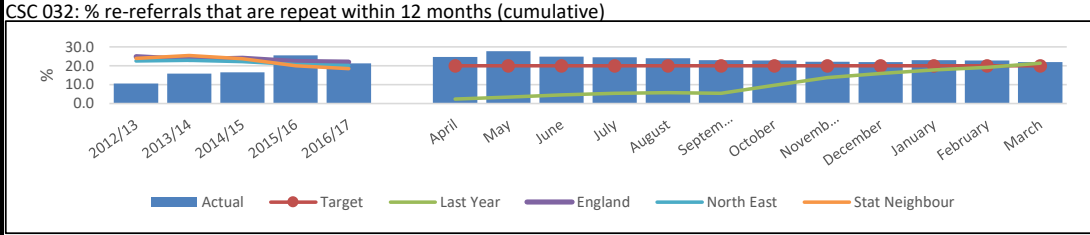
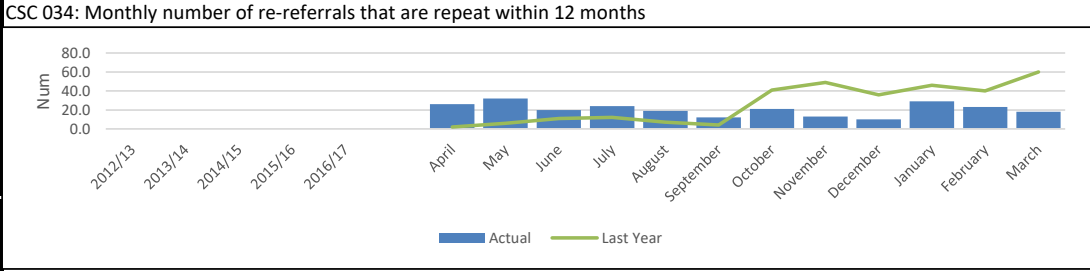
DEFINITION
 Percentage of re-referrals that are a repeat referral within 12 months of a previous referral.
 A re-referral to Children's Social Care could be an indication that the previous referral was inappropriately closed down without addressing the initial concerns or issues.

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

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

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	20.0		
	Apr-17	26	24.8	24.8	
	May-17	32	27.8	30.8	
	Jun-17	20	24.9	19.2	
	Jul-17	24	24.5	23.3	
	Aug-17	19	24.1	21.8	
	Sep-17	12	22.9	15.6	
	Oct-17	21	22.8	21.6	
	Nov-17	13	22.1	16.5	
	Dec-17	10	21.9	19.2	
	Jan-18	29	23.0	33.0	
	Feb-18	23	22.8	21.3	
	Mar-18	18	21.9	14.8	

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		16.5	
	2015/16	353	25.6	
	2016/17	314	21.4	
	2017/18 YTD	247	21.90	21.90



Early Help

Quarter 4/Year-end Performance Summary

Missing

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

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

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

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

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

The reasons why the 1st quarter had high missing episodes was due to high numbers of missing episodes which involved other authorities children placed in Darlington. The missing episodes for other authorities children placed in Darlington has remained consistently low in the last 3 quarters following the ERASE team, Barnardo's and the local PCSO's working closely with the Children's Homes Managers and the Senior Managers in the placing authorities to put strategies in place and ensure young people placed in Darlington are appropriately placed to meet their needs.

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

From January 2018 the action plans to reduce missing episodes are completed by the Missing Coordinator and tasks forwarded to the Social Worker to consider.

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

Early Help

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

Children's Centres

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

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

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

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

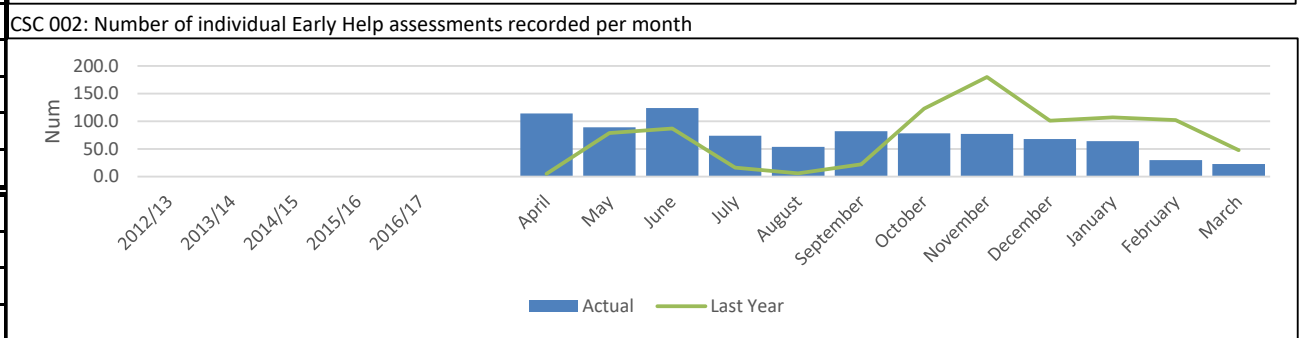
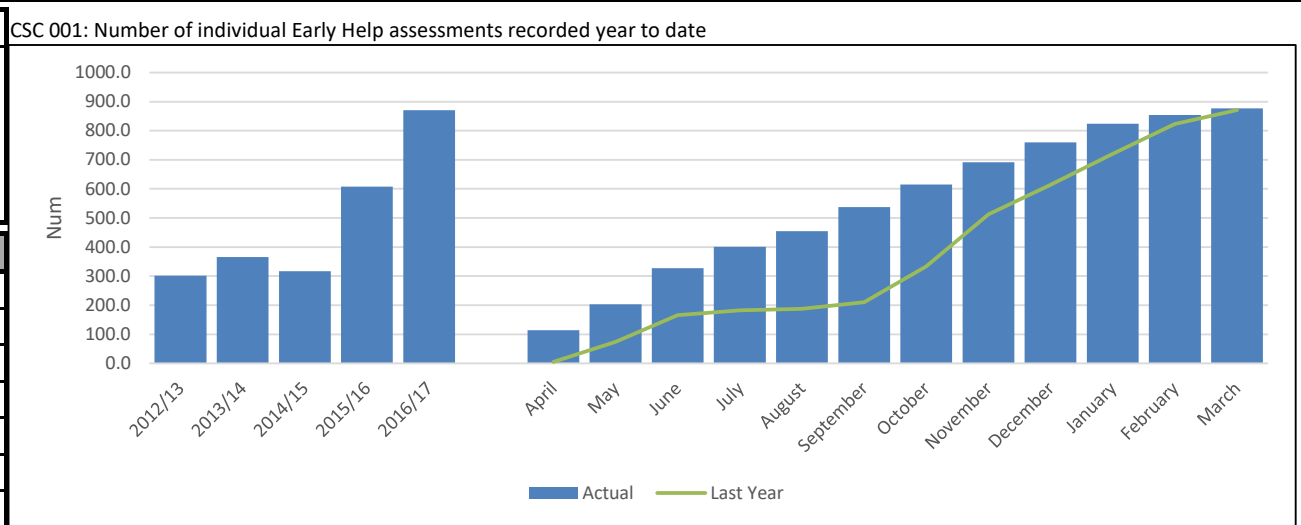
EARLY HELP ASSESSMENTS

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

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)
	Apr-17	114	114
	May-17	203	89
	Jun-17	327	124
	Jul-17	401	74
	Aug-17	455	54
	Sep-17	537	82
	Oct-17	615	78
	Nov-17	692	77
	Dec-17	760	68
	Jan-18	824	64
	Feb-18	854	30
Mar-18	877	23	



Annual Trend	2014/15	317	317
	2015/16	608	608
	2016/17	871	871
	2017/18 YTD	877	877

MISSING EPISODES									
DEFINITION		The number of episodes of children going missing in Darlington, including Looked After Children, Children Looked After by another authority and children who are not currently open to Social Care. The percentage of return home interviews completed within 72 hours.							
Performance Analysis	<p>The total number of missing episodes has reduced each quarter with 158 missing episodes in Quarter one to 83 in quarter 4 (a reduction of almost 50%). Additionally, there was a decrease in the numbers of children from 62 to 40 (36%).</p> <p>Missing from Home interviews have been completed in 100% of the cases, with 94% of these being completed in under 72 hours. There was a slight dip in those completed in 72 hours over the Christmas period 2017. Where the coordinator cannot engage the young person she explores the issues with parents, carers, teachers or social workers.</p>								
		Number of Missing Episodes (children)	Number of missing episodes relating to Children Looked After by Darlington Borough Council (children)	<i>Number of missing episodes relating to Children Looked After by Darlington Borough Council placed more than 20 miles from home (children)</i>	Missing Episodes for Children of Other Authorities (children)	Missing Episodes for Children Not Currently Open to Social Care (children)	% of Return Home interviews completed within 72 hours (excluding CLA OLA)	Missing episodes where a Return Home interview was completed	% Action Plans Completed (cumulative for Quarter)
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Apr-17	73 (25)	44 (10)	<5	18 (8)	<5	89% (47/53)	100%	
	May-17	39 (22)	23 (9)	5	14 (9)	<5	94% (29/31)	100%	
	Jun-17	32 (20)	16 (9)	<5	<5)	<5	88% (21/24)	100%	91.5%
	Jul-17	53 (23)	46 (16)	<5	<5)	<5	98% (50/51)	100%	
	Aug-17	57 (15)	44 (7)	<5	<5)	<5	96% (55/57)	100%	
	Sep-17	56 (22)	44 (12)	<5	<5	<5	98% (49/50)	100%	81.9%
	Oct-17	35 (21)	24 (10)	<5	<5)	<5	85% (28/33)	100%	
	Nov-17	39 (22)	<5	<5	9 (6)	<5	90% (26/29)	100%	
	Dec-17	39 (22)	22 (8)	<5	8 (5)	<5	64% (20/31)	100%	88.2%
	Jan-18	34 (22)	18 (10)	<5	0 (0)	<5)	100% (34/34)	100%	
Feb-18	14 (12)	<5	<5	0 (0)	0 (0)	93% (13/14)	100%		
Mar-18	35 (22)	19 (10)	<5	<5)	<5)	94% (31/33)	100%	93.8%	
Annual Trend	2014/15								
	2015/16								
	2016/17								
	2017/18 YTD	502 (120)	315 (60)	34 (12)	67 (28)	36 (32)	92% (400/435)	100%	90.60%

Assessments

Quarter 4/ Year-end Performance Summary

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

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

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

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

Timely completion of assessments continues to be high, with 93.3% within 45 working days, consistently above target of 90%. This evidences no delay in assessing family situations and children's needs, ensuring that cases are escalated in a timely manner to prevent delay. Performance is better than national (89%), regional (82%) and statistical neighbours (89%).

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

As detailed earlier in this report, an analysis of the outcomes for Children and Families at each stage of the journey from contact to the provision of services is provided through the flow charts. During Qtr3 (analysis is in arrears to account for the time it takes to progress from contact to case closure or provision of service) of the 201 assessments completed 89 (44%) were closed with no further action at all, broken down this equates to:

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

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

The quality of assessments is monitored through case audits and dip samples, which assess the overall quality of social work practice, including during the assessment stage. Ongoing monitoring is showing that improvements in the quality of assessments are evident, however, this will be a key focus of improvement activity throughout 2018/19.

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

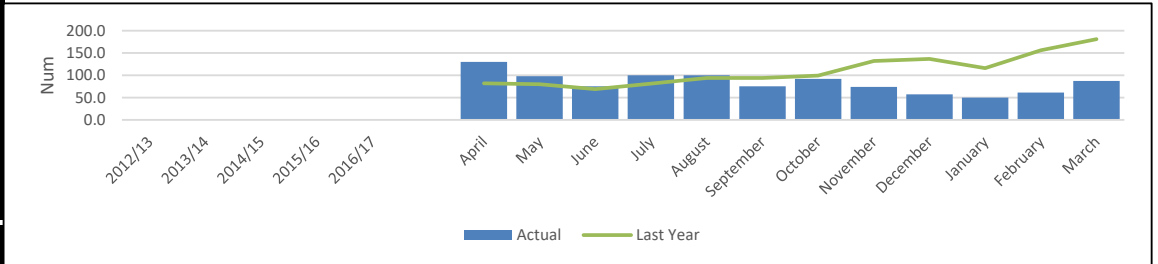
ASSESSMENTS

DEFINITION	Monthly and cumulative number of assessments completed
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>999 assessments were completed during 2017/18, this is a reduction of 322 (24%) when compared with the same period in 2016/17.</p> <p>Darlington's rate of assessments completed is 441.5 per 10,000 population, this is 138.3 per 10,000 population lower than the 2016/17 year end (579.8 per 10,000).</p>
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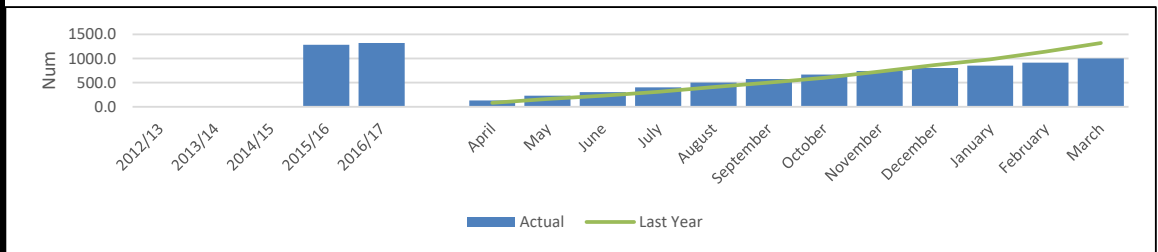
CSC 037	CSC 036	CSC 035
Monthly number of assessments completed	Number of assessments completed year to date	Rate of Children & Families assessments completed per 10,000 of the 0-17 population.

CSC 037: Monthly number of assessments completed

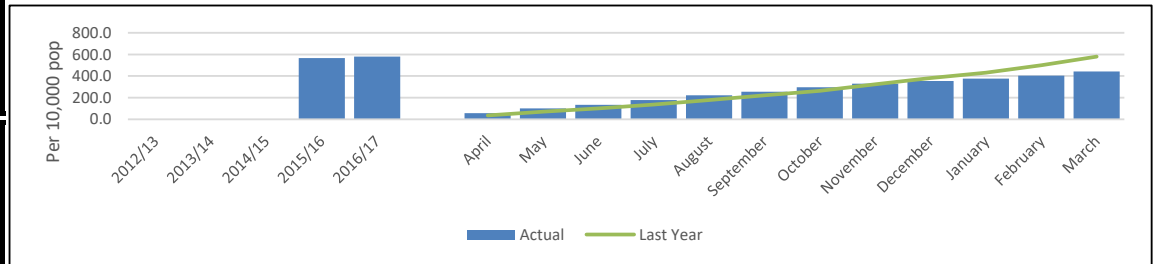


IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)	(blank)
	Apr-17	130	130	57.5
	May-17	98	228	100.8
	Jun-17	75	303	133.9
	Jul-17	100	403	178.1
	Aug-17	100	503	222.3
	Sep-17	75	578	255.5
	Oct-17	92	670	296.1
	Nov-17	74	744	328.8
	Dec-17	57	801	354.0
	Jan-18	50	851	376.1
	Feb-18	61	912	403.1
	Mar-18	87	999	441.5

CSC 036: Number of assessments completed year to date



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



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		
	2015/16		565.6
	2016/17	1284	579.8
	2017/18 YTD	999	441.5

ASSESSMENTS - TIMELINESS

DEFINITION	<p>Of those assessments completed in a period, the percentage completed within 45 working days. Day zero is the first working day on or after the start date of the referral, or strategy discussion decided to initiate S47 enquiries, or where new information indicates that an assessment should be undertaken. End date is the first working day on or after the recorded date the Team Manager closes the single assessment.</p> <p>A process indicator as a proxy measure for improved child safety and how quickly services can respond when a child is thought to be at risk of serious harm. Local authorities should investigate and address concerns in a timely and efficient way.</p>
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>93.3 % of assessments were completed within 45 working days during 2017/18. When compared to benchmarking assessment timeliness is above statistical 86%, regional 83% and national 83% figures.</p>
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CSC 038	CSC 040	CSC 060	CSC 080	CSC 100
% C&F Assessments completed within 45 working days	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 45 working days	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 25 working days	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 15 working days	Monthly % C&F Assessments completed within 10 working days

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90%	90%	60%	40%	25%
	Apr-17	93.1	93.1	81.5	53.9	46.2
	May-17	95.2	98.0	61.2	46.9	41.8
	Jun-17	95.4	96.0	56.0	32.0	17.3
	Jul-17	96.0	98.0	64.0	41.0	32.0
	Aug-17	96.4	98.0	62.0	42.0	23.0
	Sep-17	93.6	74.7	48.0	34.7	24.0
	Oct-17	94.3	98.9	55.4	43.5	22.8
	Nov-17	94.5	96.0	54.1	32.4	21.6
	Dec-17	94.4	93.0	26.3	19.3	8.8
	Jan-18	94.4	94.0	34.0	6.0	0.0
	Feb-18	93.8	85.3	45.9	26.2	23.0
	Mar-18	93.3	88.5	54.0	25.3	14.9

ANNUAL TREND	2014/15					
	2015/16	77.0	77.0	43.0	27.0	21.0
	2016/17	93.0	93.0	58.0	40.0	33.0
	2017/18 YTD	93.3	93.6	0.0	0.0	0.0

Child Protection

Quarter 4/Year End Performance Summary

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

STRATEGY

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

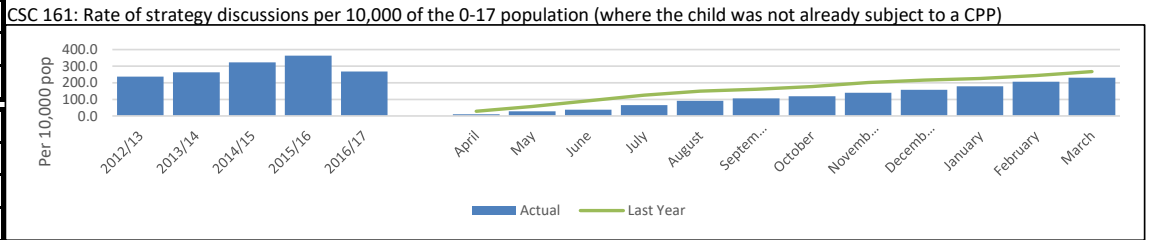
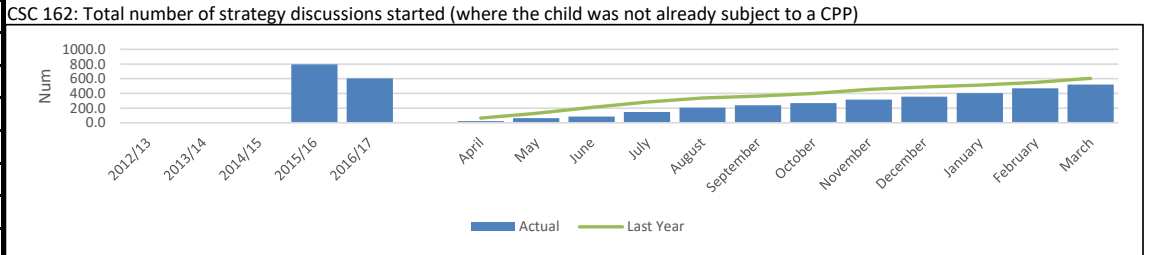
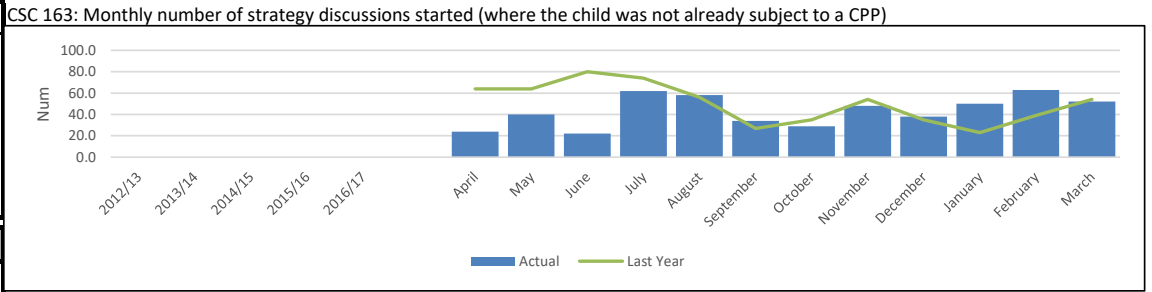
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

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

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

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

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

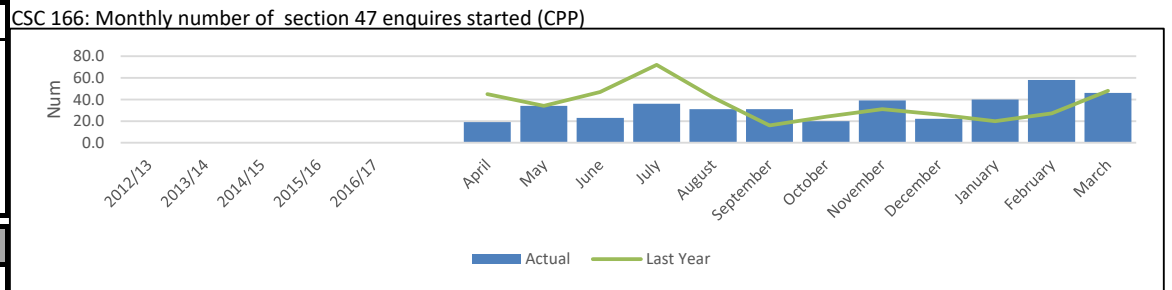


SECTION 47

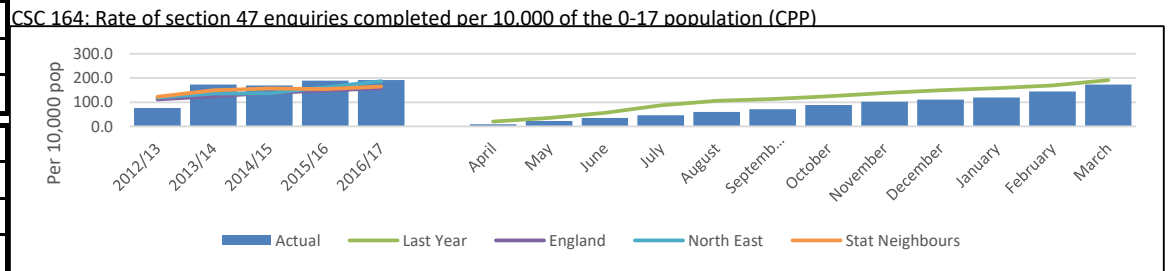
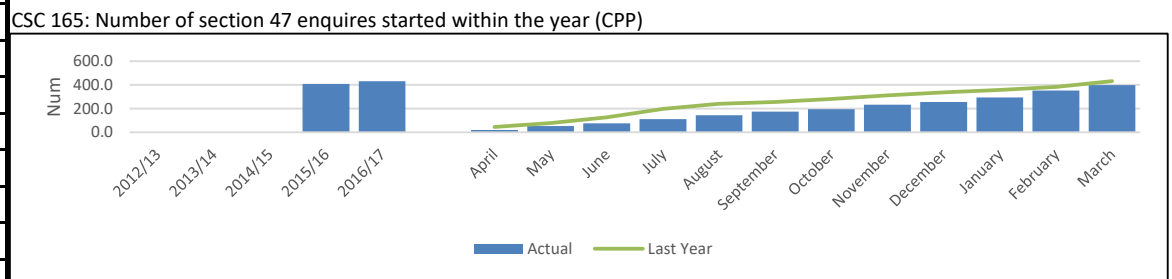
DEFINITION	Number of Section 47 enquiries started monthly and year to date
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>399 Section 47 Enquiries were started within 2017/18, this is a reduction of 33 (8%) when compared with 2016/17.</p> <p>The rate of Section 47 enquiries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



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



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

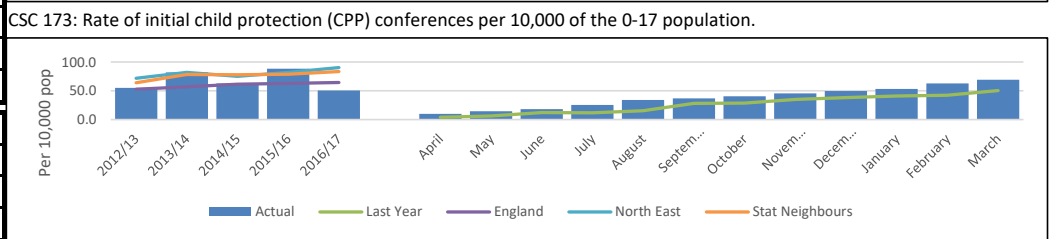
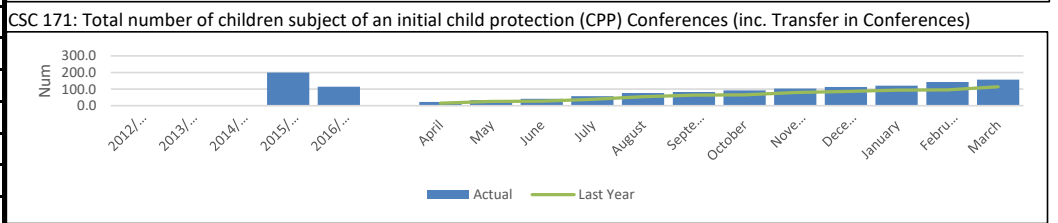
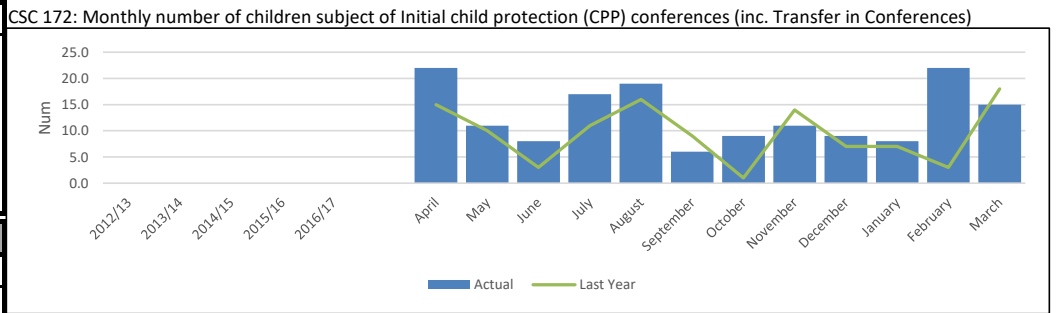
INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - CHILDREN

DEFINITION	Number of children subject to an Initial Child Protection Conference monthly and year to date (including transfer in conferences)
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>157 children were subject to an ICPC during 2017/18, this is an increase of 43 (27%) when compared with the same period in 2016/17. The rate of children subject to an ICPC was 69.4 per 10,000 population, which is higher than the 2016/17 year end (50.4 per 10,000). The year-end rate is lower than regional (90.3 per 10,000) and statistical (83.4 per 10,000) benchmarks, but would be in line with the most recent national benchmark (64.4 per 10,000).</p>
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CSC 172	CSC 171	CSC 173
Monthly number of children subject of Initial child protection (CPP) conferences (inc. Transfer in Conferences)	Total number of children subject of an initial child protection (CPP) Conferences (inc. Transfer in Conferences)	Rate of initial child protection (CPP) conferences per 10,000 of the 0-17 population.

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	(blank)	(blank)
	Apr-17	22	22	9.7
	May-17	11	33	14.6
	Jun-17	8	41	18.1
	Jul-17	17	58	25.6
	Aug-17	19	77	34.0
	Sep-17	6	83	36.7
	Oct-17	9	92	40.7
	Nov-17	11	103	45.5
	Dec-17	9	112	49.5
	Jan-18	8	120	53.0
	Feb-18	22	142	62.8
	Mar-18	15	157	69.4



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

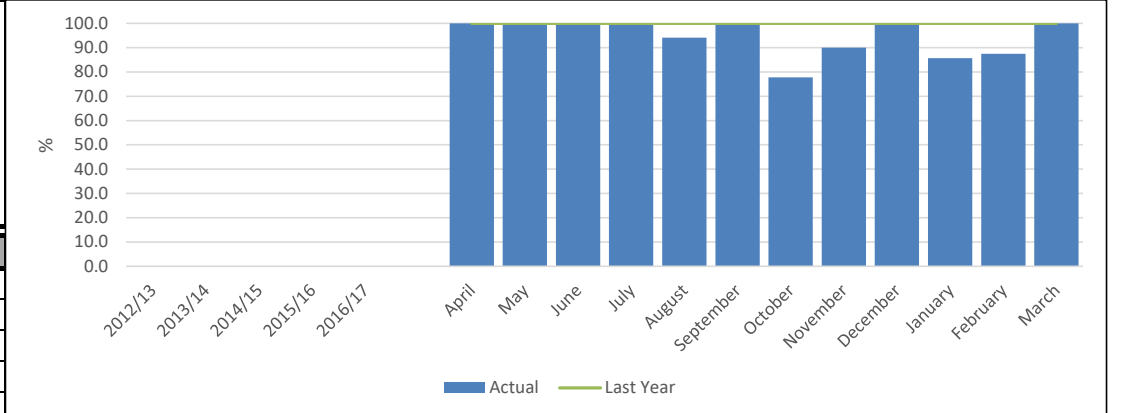
INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - TIMELINESS

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

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

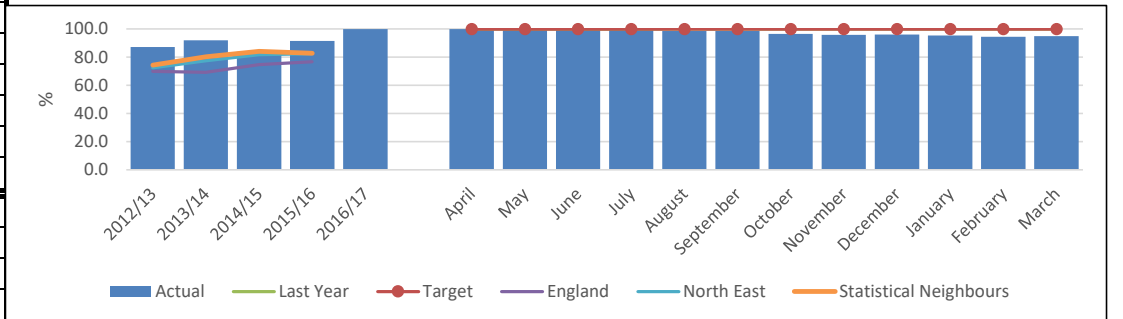
CSC 178	CSC 176
Monthly % of cases recorded in the Safeguarding Unit workbook where Child Protection strategy meeting / S47 start to initial child protection conference (ICPC) are within 15 days (CPP). Excludes transfer-in conferences.	% of cases where the initial child protection conference (ICPC) was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

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



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	(blank)	100.0	
	Apr-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	May-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Jun-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Jul-17	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Aug-17	94.1	98.6	98.6
	Sep-17	100.0	98.7	98.7
	Oct-17	77.8	96.4	96.4
	Nov-17	90.0	95.7	95.7
	Dec-17	100.0	96.1	96.1
	Jan-18	85.7	95.5	95.5
	Feb-18	87.5	94.4	94.4
	Mar-18	100.0	95.0	95.0

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



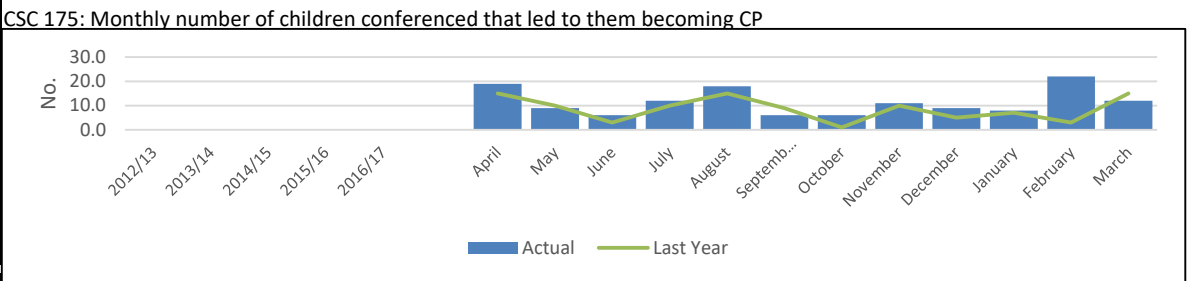
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	83.8	83.8
	2015/16	91.5	91.5
	2016/17	100.0	100.0
	2017/18 YTD	95.0	95.0

INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES - CONVERSION TO CHILD PROTECTION PLAN

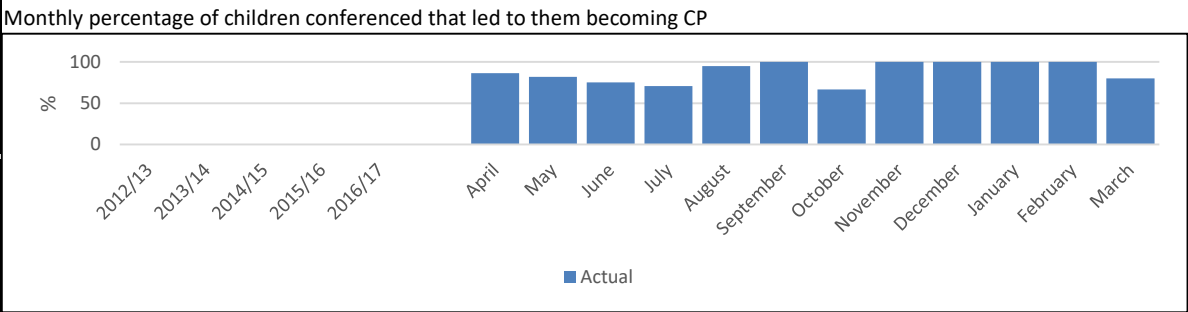
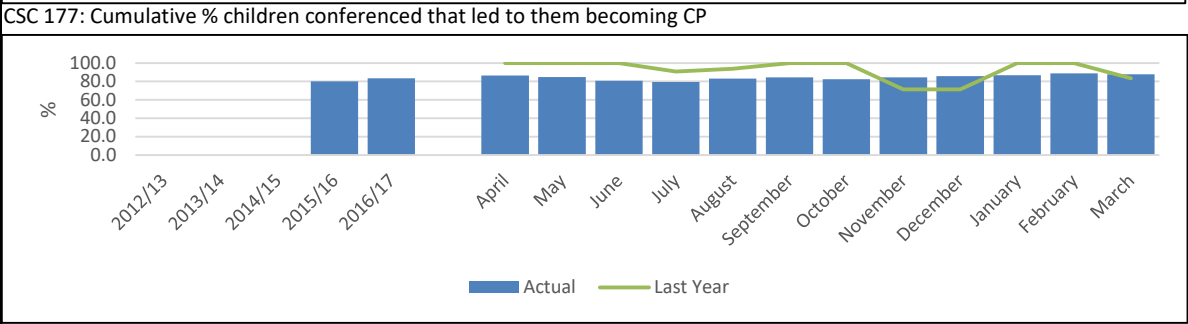
DEFINITION	Number and percentage of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan following an Initial Child Protection Conference (including transfer ins)
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	In total, 138 children have become subject to a Child Protection Plan during 2017/18 after an ICPC, this is 30 (29%) higher than at the same point in 2016/17, and equates to 87.9% of all children subject to an ICPC.
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	CSC 175	CSC 177	
	Monthly number of children conferenced that led to them becoming CP	Cumulative % children conferenced that led to them becoming CP	Monthly percentage of children conferenced that led to them becoming CP



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target			
	Apr-17	19	86.4	86.4
	May-17	9	84.9	81.8
	Jun-17	6	81.0	75.0
	Jul-17	12	79.3	70.6
	Aug-17	18	83.1	94.7
	Sep-17	6	84.3	100.0
	Oct-17	6	82.6	66.7
	Nov-17	11	84.5	100.0
	Dec-17	9	85.7	100.0
	Jan-18	8	86.7	100.0
	Feb-18	22	88.7	100.0
Mar-18	12	87.9	80.0	



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

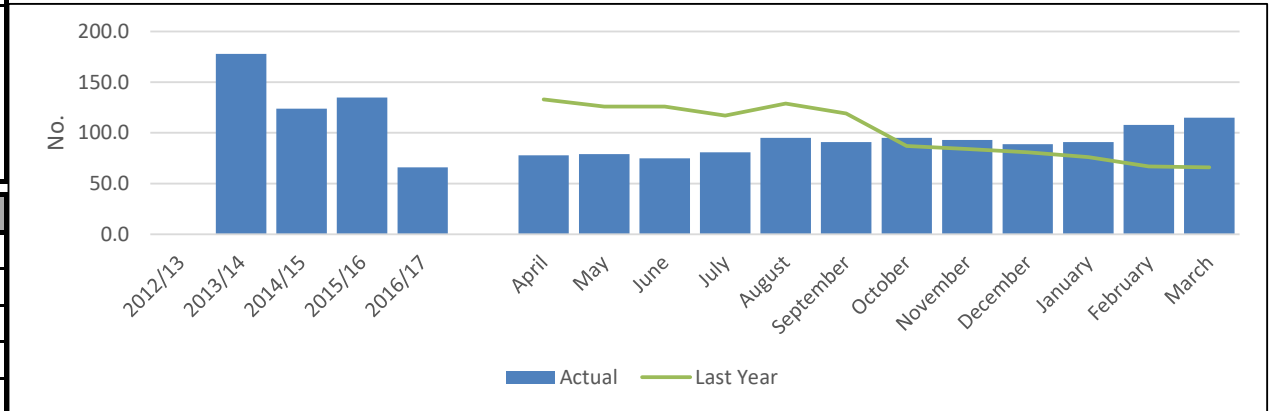
CHILD PROTECTION

DEFINITION	Number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan at the end of the month.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>115 children were subject to a Child Protection Plan at the end of 2017/18, this is 49 (43%) higher than at the same point in 2016/17.</p> <p>The rate of children subject to a Child Protection Plan is 50.8 per 10,000 population. This is lower than the 2016/17 regional (60.6 per 10,000), higher than national benchmark (43.3 per 10,000), but is similar to the most recent statistical (53.9 per 10,000) benchmarks.</p>
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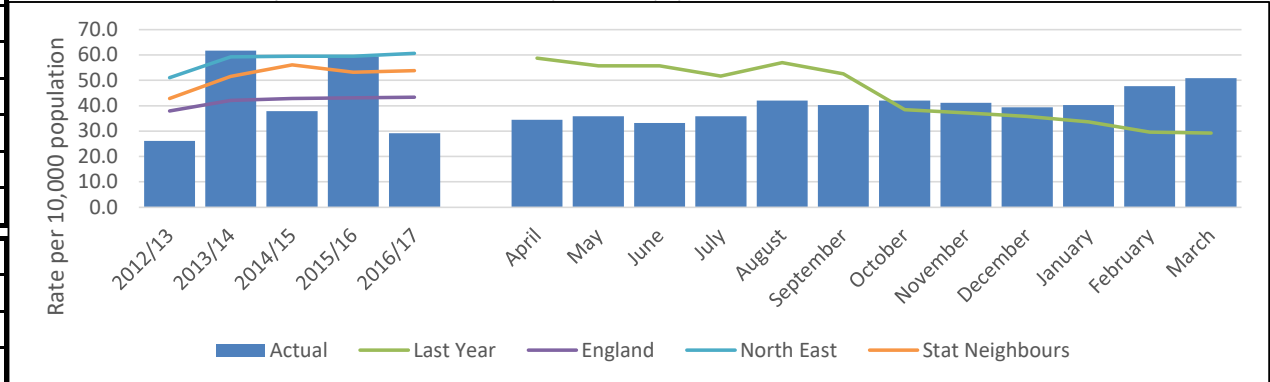
CSC 182	CSC 181
Number of children subject to a child protection plan	Rate of children subject to a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population

CSC 182: Number of children subject to a child protection plan



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	CSC 182	CSC 181
	Apr-17	78	34.5
	May-17	79	35.8
	Jun-17	75	33.2
	Jul-17	81	35.8
	Aug-17	95	42.0
	Sep-17	91	40.2
	Oct-17	95	42.0
	Nov-17	93	41.1
	Dec-17	89	39.3
	Jan-18	91	40.2
	Feb-18	108	47.7
	Mar-18	115	50.8

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



ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	CSC 182	CSC 181
	2015/16	135	59.5
	2016/17	66	29.2
	2017/18 YTD	115	50.8

CHILD PROTECTION - ALLOCATION & REVIEWS

DEFINITION

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

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

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

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

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

		CSC 183	CSC 191
		% Child Protection cases allocated to a qualified social worker	% of Children who were subject of a child protection plan whose case was reviewed within the required timescales.
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	100.0	100.0
	Apr-17	100.0	100.0
	May-17	100.0	100.0
	Jun-17	100.0	100.0
	Jul-17	100.0	100.0
	Aug-17	100.0	100.0
	Sep-17	100.0	100.0
	Oct-17	100.0	100.0
	Nov-17	100.0	100.0
	Dec-17	100.0	100.0
	Jan-18	100.0	100.0
	Feb-18	100.0	100.0
	Mar-18	100.0	100.0
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		90.3
	2015/16	100.0	91.2
	2016/17	100.0	100.0
	2017/18 YTD	100.0	100.0

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

Year/Period	Actual (%)	Last Year (%)	Target (%)
2012/13	100	100	100
2013/14	100	100	100
2014/15	100	100	100
2015/16	100	100	100
2016/17	100	100	100
April	100	100	100
May	100	100	100
June	100	100	100
July	100	100	100
August	100	100	100
September	100	100	100
October	100	100	100
November	100	100	100
December	100	100	100
January	100	100	100
February	100	100	100
March	100	100	100

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

Year/Period	Actual (%)	Last Year (%)	Target (%)
2012/13	90.3	90.3	100
2013/14	91.2	91.2	100
2014/15	91.2	91.2	100
2015/16	91.2	91.2	100
2016/17	100	100	100
April	100	100	100
May	100	100	100
June	100	100	100
July	100	100	100
August	100	100	100
September	100	100	100
October	100	100	100
November	100	100	100
December	100	100	100
January	100	100	100
February	100	100	100
March	100	100	100

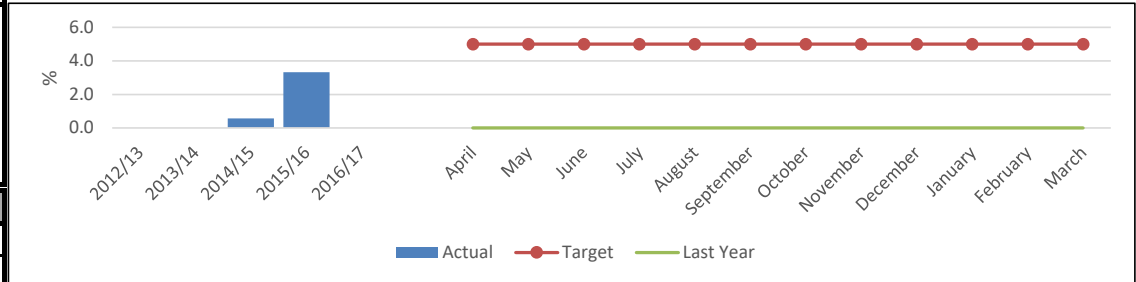
CHILD PROTECTION - TIME PERIODS

DEFINITION	<p>Percentage of children ceasing to be subject to a Child Protection Plan who had been subject to a Plan for 2 or more years and percentage of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for the 2nd or subsequent time.</p> <p>These indicators reflect the underlying principle that professionals should be working towards specified outcomes which, if implemented effectively, should lead to all children not needing to be the subject of a Child Protection Plan within a maximum of two years, or becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.</p>
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>The year-end figure for children becoming subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 years of the previous plan ending was 6.5%. This is higher than the previous year at 1.9 but is more on a par with the 2015/16 year at 6%. All children who fall into this category have their cases analysed by a Head of Service to determine if the Local Authority ended the previous plan in a satisfactory manner, and also to determine whether the presenting issues are similar or different when episodes are compared. Any themes that arise are used as learning points.</p>
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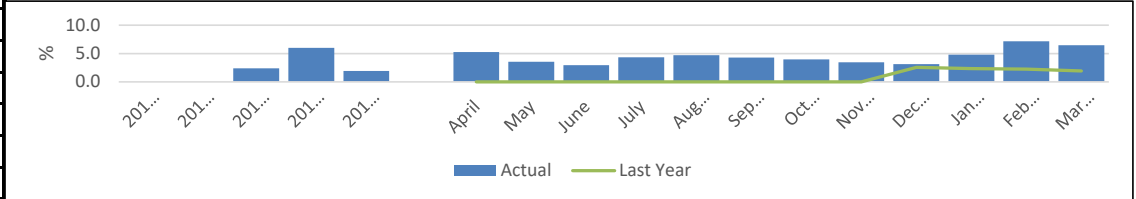
CSC 186	CSC 188	CSC 189
% children ceasing to be subject of a CPP who had been subject to a CPP for 2 or more years	% of children becoming subject to a CPP for a 2nd or subsequent time within 2 years of a previous plan ending	% of children becoming subject to a CPP for a 2nd or subsequent time ever

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



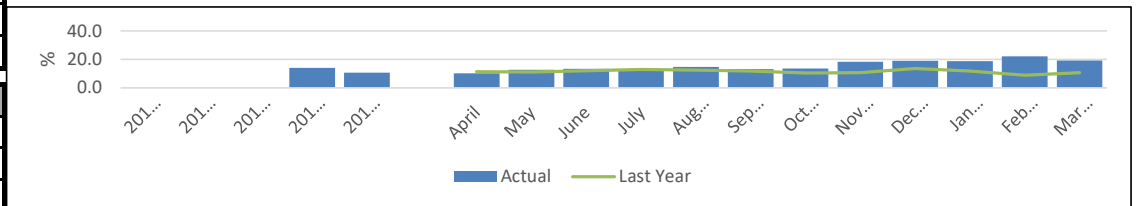
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	5.0		
	Apr-17	0.0	5.3	10.3
	May-17	0.0	3.6	12.7
	Jun-17	0.0	2.9	13.3
	Jul-17	0.0	4.4	12.4
	Aug-17	0.0	4.7	14.7
	Sep-17	0.0	4.3	13.2
	Oct-17	0.0	4.0	13.7
	Nov-17	0.0	3.5	18.3
	Dec-17	0.0	3.1	19.1
	Jan-18	0.0	4.8	18.7
	Feb-18	0.0	7.1	22.2
	Mar-18	0.0	6.5	19.1

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



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

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

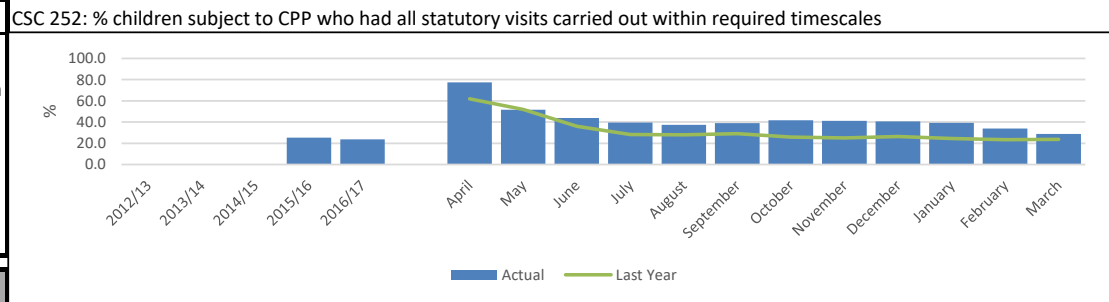


CHILD PROTECTION - STATUTORY VISITS

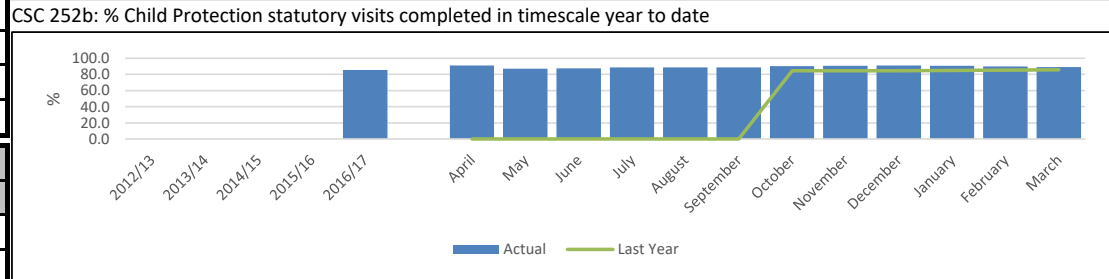
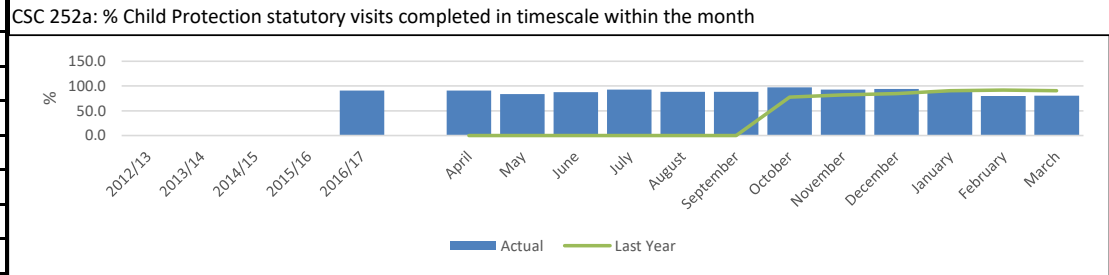
DEFINITION	Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan who had all statutory visits carried out within timescales and percentage of Child Protection statutory visits completed within timescale monthly and year to date.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	89% of statutory Child Protection visits were completed within required timescales, which is 2,326 of 2,617 in 2017/18. This is higher than the 2016/17 year end (86%).
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CSC 252	CSC 252a	CSC 252b
% children subject to CPP who had all statutory visits carried out within required timescales	% Child Protection statutory visits completed in timescale within the month	% Child Protection statutory visits completed in timescale year to date



IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target			
	Apr-17	77.4	90.9	90.9
	May-17	51.8	83.9	87.1
	Jun-17	43.8	88.0	87.5
	Jul-17	39.6	92.6	88.7
	Aug-17	37.4	88.5	88.7
	Sep-17	38.9	88.6	88.7
	Oct-17	41.6	97.3	90.2
	Nov-17	41.1	93.2	90.6
	Dec-17	40.7	93.9	90.9
	Jan-18	39.4	89.3	90.7
	Feb-18	33.9	80.0	89.7
	Mar-18	28.9	80.8	88.9



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

Looked After

Quarter 4/Year-end Performance Summary

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LOOKED AFTER

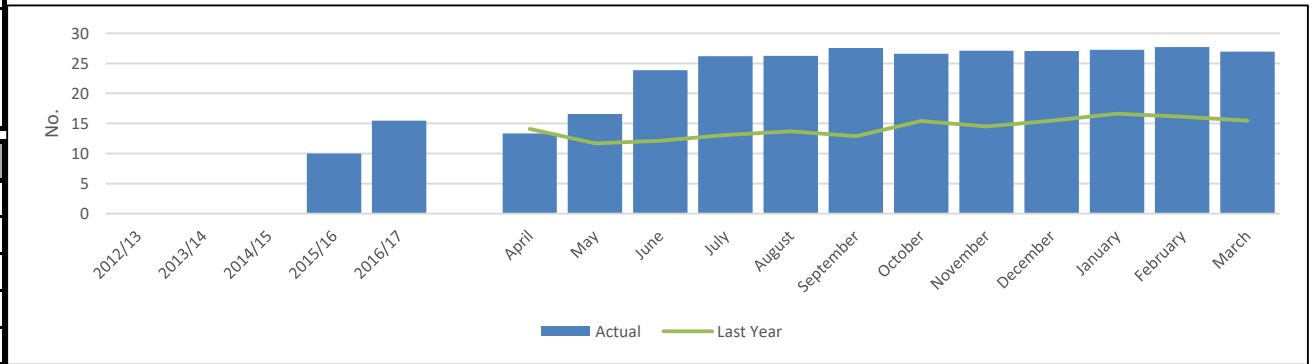
DEFINITION	Number of Looked After Children at the end of each month.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>215 children were Looked After at the end of 2017/18, this is a reduction of 4 children when compared with 2016/17.</p> <p>The rate of children Looked After is 95 per 10,000 population, this is higher than national (62 per 10,000), regional (92 per 10,000) and statistical (89.4 per 10,000) benchmarks.</p>
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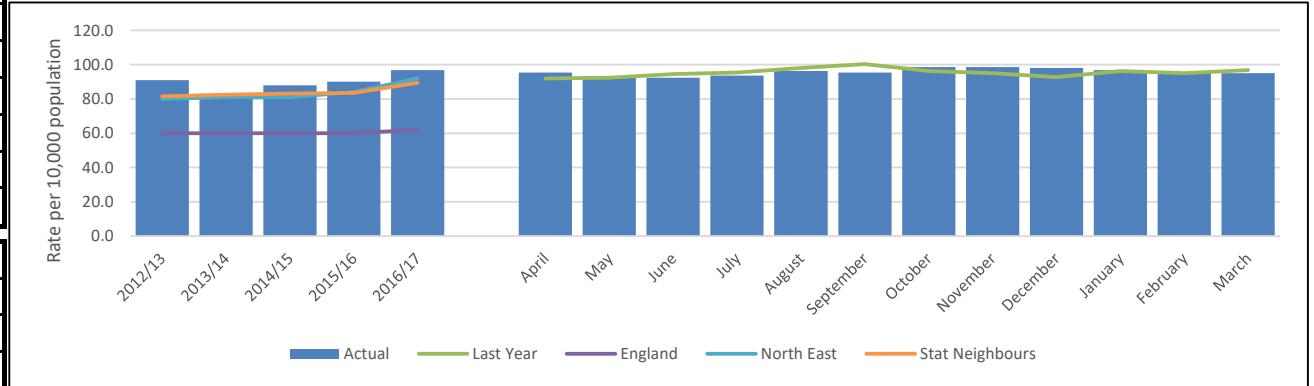
CSC 201	CSC 200
Total number of Looked After Children	Rate of Looked After Children Per 10,000 population

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target		
	Apr-17	216	95.5
	May-17	211	93.3
	Jun-17	209	92.4
	Jul-17	212	93.7
	Aug-17	218	96.4
	Sep-17	216	95.5
	Oct-17	223	98.6
	Nov-17	223	98.6
	Dec-17	222	98.1
	Jan-18	219	96.8
	Feb-18	216	95.5
	Mar-18	215	95.0

CSC 201: Total number of Looked After Children



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



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

LOOKED AFTER - ALLOCATION & REVIEWS

DEFINITION

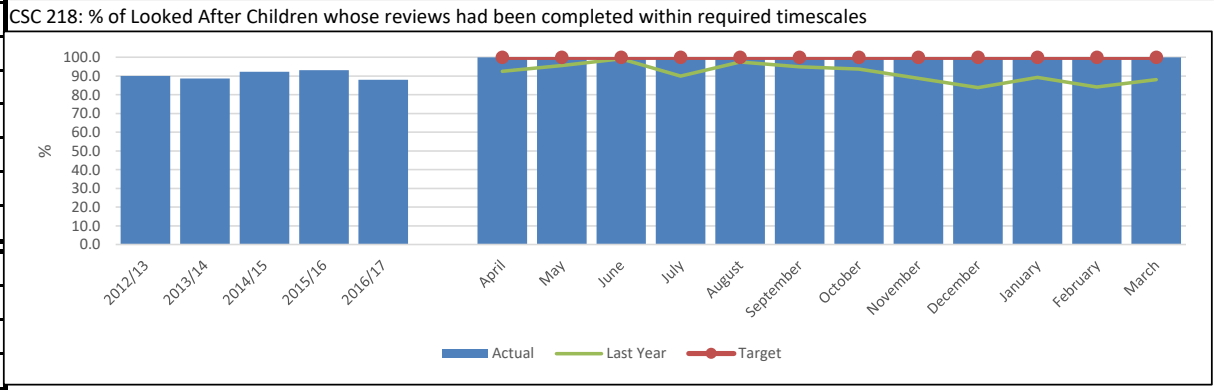
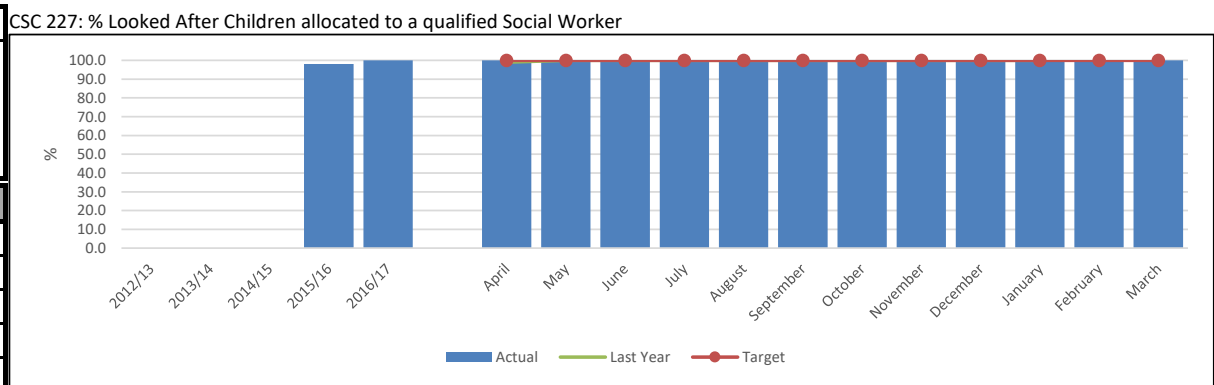
The percentage of Looked After Children cases which should have been reviewed during the year ending 31 March that were reviewed on time during the year and the percentage of Looked After Children cases that were allocated to a qualified social worker at the end of the month.

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

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

100% of Looked After Children were allocated to a qualified Social worker during 2017/18.
 100% of Looked After reviews had been completed within required timescales up to the end of during 2017/18.

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



LOOKED AFTER - REVIEWS

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

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

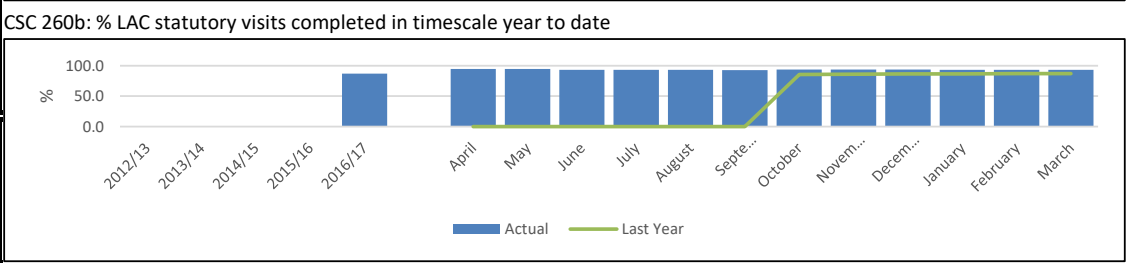
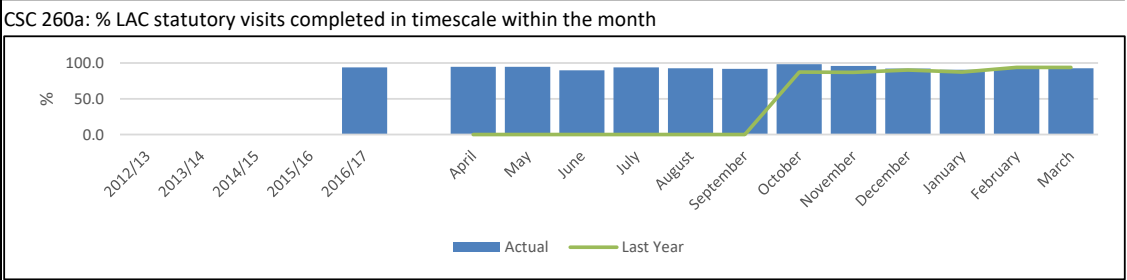
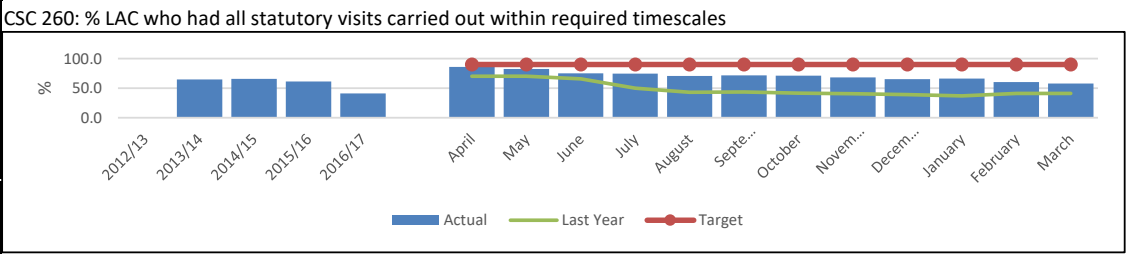
		CSC 219	CSC 220	
		% Looked After Children initial reviews completed within timescales	% Looked After Children subsequent reviews completed within timescales	
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	100.0	100.0	<p>CSC 219: % Looked After Children initial reviews completed within timescales</p> <p>CSC 220: % Looked After Children subsequent reviews completed within timescales</p>
	Apr-17	100.0	100.0	
	May-17	100.0	100.0	
	Jun-17	100.0	100.0	
	Jul-17	100.0	100.0	
	Aug-17	100.0	100.0	
	Sep-17	100.0	100.0	
	Oct-17	100.0	100.0	
	Nov-17	100.0	100.0	
	Dec-17	100.0	100.0	
	Jan-18	100.0	100.0	
	Feb-18	100.0	100.0	
	Mar-18	100.0	100.0	
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15			
	2015/16	95.2	87.3	
	2016/17	90.1	90.2	
	2017/18 YTD	100.0	100.0	

LOOKED AFTER - STATUTORY VISITS

DEFINITION	Percentage of Looked After Children who had all statutory visits completed within required timescales and percentage of Looked After statutory visits completed within timescales each month and year to date.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	93.4% of statutory Child Protection visits were completed within required timescales, which is 2,511 of 2,689 during 2017/18. This is higher than the 2016/17 year end (87%).
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		CSC 260	CSC 260a	CSC 260b
		% LAC who had all statutory visits carried out within required timescales	% LAC statutory visits completed in timescale within the month	% LAC statutory visits completed in timescale year to date
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	90.0		
	Apr-17	86.0	94.9	94.9
	May-17	82.4	94.7	94.8
	Jun-17	75.2	89.8	93.1
	Jul-17	74.7	94.0	93.3
	Aug-17	70.8	92.6	93.2
	Sep-17	71.6	91.9	93.0
	Oct-17	71.4	98.3	93.7
	Nov-17	68.3	95.9	94.0
	Dec-17	65.3	92.3	93.8
	Jan-18	66.2	90.5	93.5
	Feb-18	60.3	93.2	93.4
	Mar-18	57.8	92.6	93.4
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15	65.9		
	2015/16	61.3		
	2016/17	41.0	86.9	86.9
	2017/18 YTD	57.8	93.4	93.4



LOOKED AFTER - PLACEMENTS

DEFINITION

Of those Looked After Children at the point in time (excluding series of short-term placements), the percentage that had 3 or more separate placement in the previous 12 months; who had been looked after for more than 2.5 years and in their current placement for 2 or more years (includes those aged under 16 only), and who were placed more than 20 miles away from their home address.

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

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

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

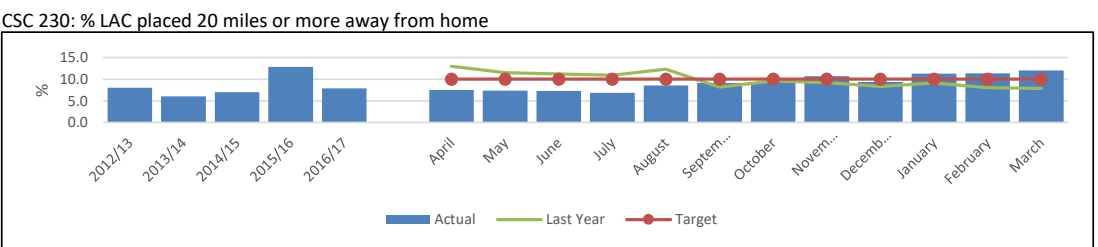
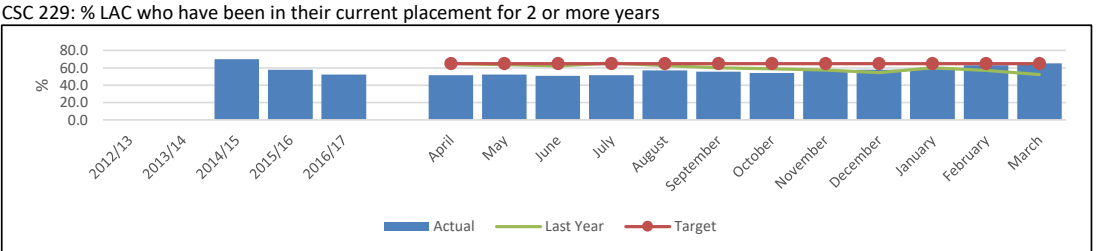
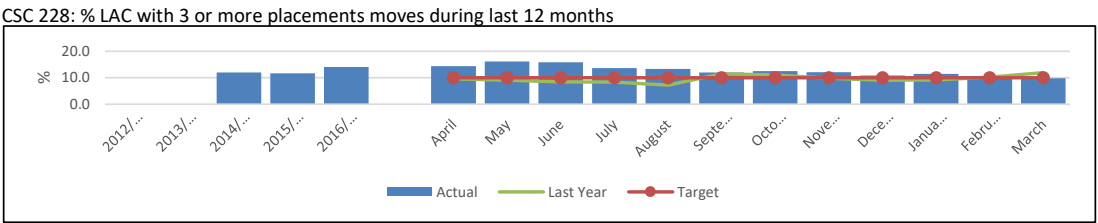
65.1% of children in care had been in their placement for 2 or more years at the end of December. This is an improvement of 12.7% when compared with 2016/17. Benchmarking data for 16/17 for statistical neighbours is 72% and nationally 68%. Therefore this remains a focus for improvement.

12% of children in care are placed 20 miles or more away from home. Of the children placed 20 miles or more away from home, 8 (32%) were placed with connected carers or parents and 12 (48%) were placed due to a need that could not be met in Darlington.

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

IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	10	65	10.00
	Apr-17	14.4	51.6	7.5
	May-17	16.1	52.5	7.4
	Jun-17	15.8	50.8	7.3
	Jul-17	13.7	51.6	6.8
	Aug-17	13.3	57.1	8.6
	Sep-17	12.0	55.7	9.1
	Oct-17	12.6	54.1	9.3
	Nov-17	12.1	57.1	10.7
	Dec-17	10.8	57.8	9.4
	Jan-18	11.4	58.5	11.3
	Feb-18	10.2	63.1	11.4
	Mar-18	9.8	65.1	12.0

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

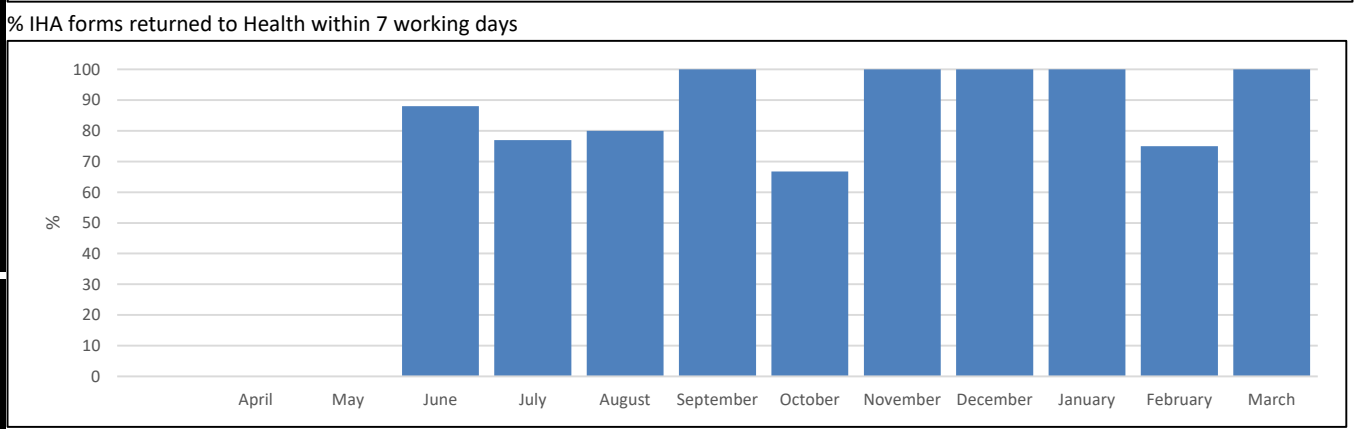
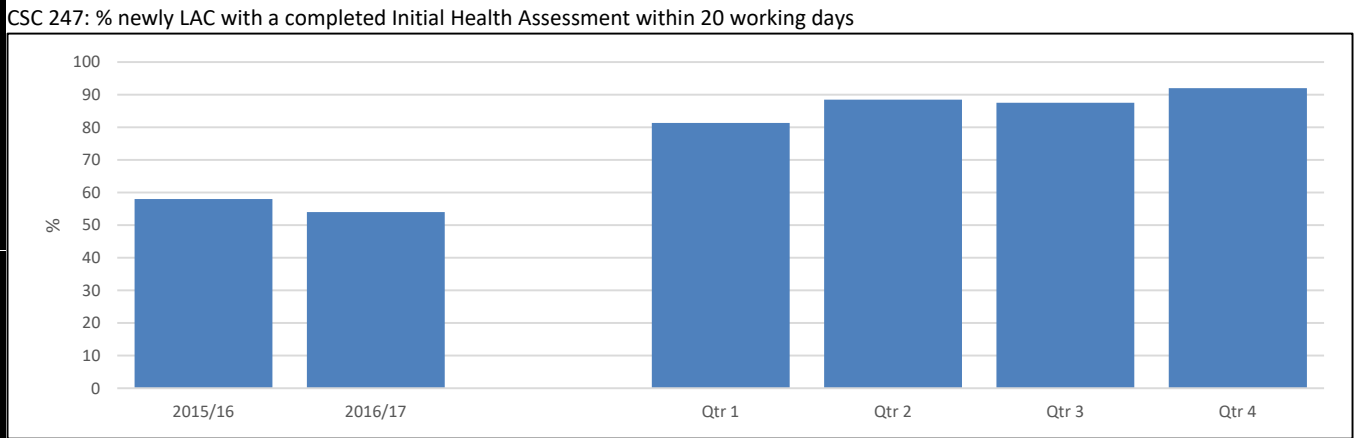


LOOKED AFTER - INITIAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

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

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

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



LOOKED AFTER - HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

DEFINITION

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

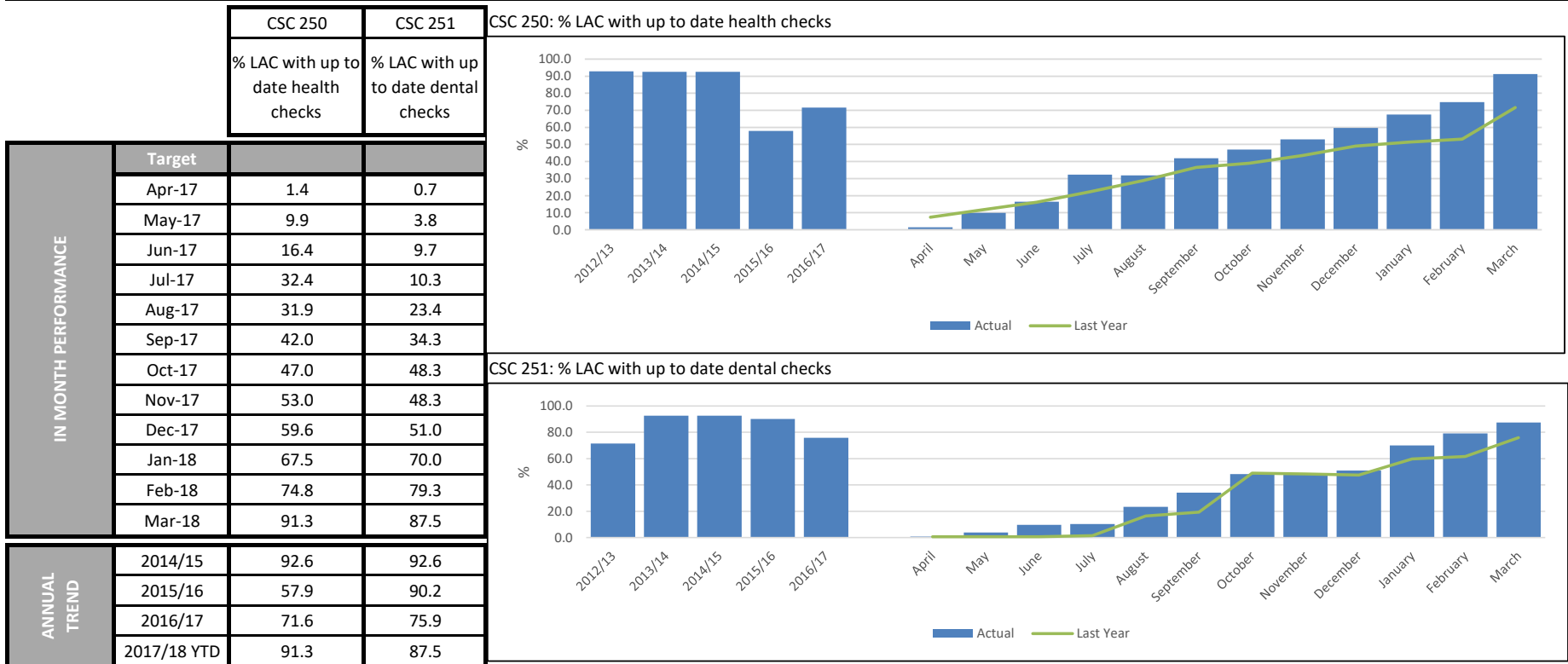
Looked After Children share many of the same health risks and problems as their peers, but often to a greater degree. These indicators track the participation of our LAC in health and dental checks as a proxy for monitoring the general health and wellbeing of the children, as well as providing a check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

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

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

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

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



Care Leavers

Quarter 4/Year-end Performance Summary

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

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

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

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

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

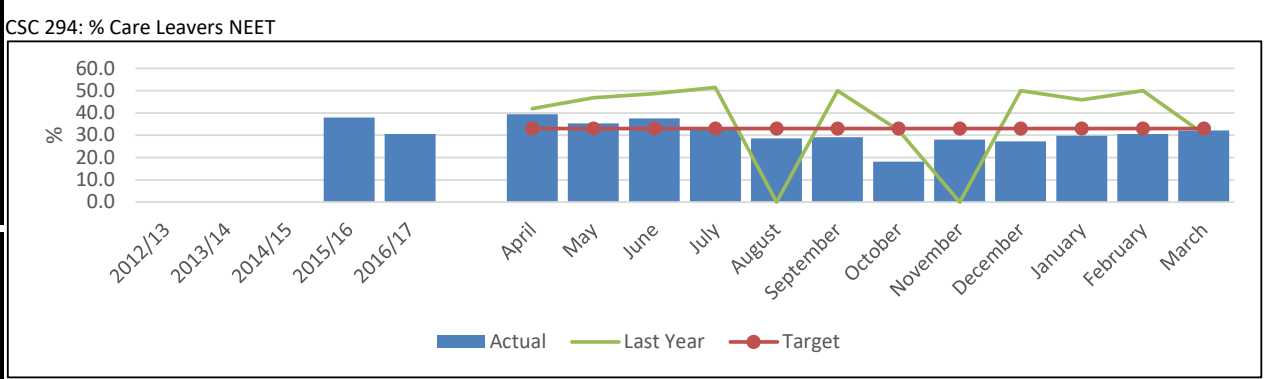
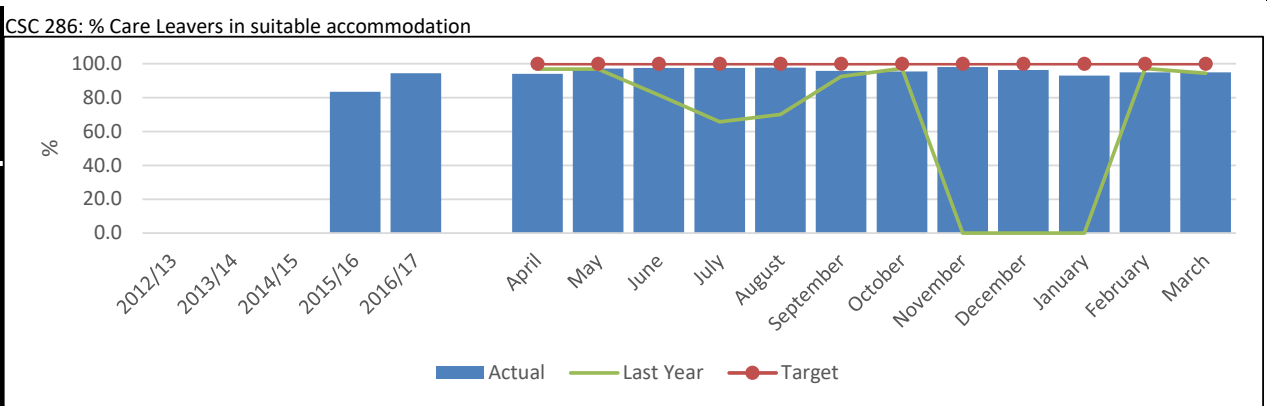
In addition to the monthly NEET Reduction Group, a weekly Job Club is being started in May 2018 in conjunction with the Morrison's Trust. The focus of the Job Club will be to further engage the NEET population in an effort to re-engage them with education, employment or training.

CARE LEAVERS

DEFINITION
 The percentage of former care leavers who are eligible for care leavers support who are under the age of 21 who were in suitable accommodation at their most recent contact, and the percentage who were not in employment, education or training at their most recent contact.
 This measures accommodation and employment outcomes for young people formerly in care - a key group at risk of social exclusion. It is intended to increase the proportion of former care leavers who are in suitable accommodation and employment, education or training.

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

		CSC 286	CSC 294
		% Care Leavers in suitable accommodation	% Care Leavers NEET
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target	100.0	33.0
	Apr-17	93.9	39.4
	May-17	97.1	35.3
	Jun-17	97.5	37.5
	Jul-17	97.5	32.5
	Aug-17	97.6	28.6
	Sep-17	95.8	29.2
	Oct-17	95.5	18.2
	Nov-17	98.0	28.0
	Dec-17	96.4	27.3
	Jan-18	93.0	29.8
	Feb-18	94.9	30.5
	Mar-18	94.9	32.2
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15		
	2015/16	100.0	37.9
	2016/17	96.4	30.6
	2017/18 YTD	94.9	32.2



Audits

Performance Summary

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

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

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

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

Audit moderation had previously highlighted that there was a need for a greater consistency in approach from auditors. Those completing audits needed to ensure that they provided an explanation for their judgement when completing their audits. This was addressed at the Children's Social Work Managers' Meeting in January 2018.

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

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

AUDITS

DEFINITION	Percentage of audits judged as Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement, and Inadequate. Audits are undertaken to assess the quality of Social Work and to highlight areas for improvement.
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PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	<p>In Quarter 4, 2.8% of the audits carried out were judged as Outstanding, 38.9% were Good, 52.8% were Requires Improvement and 5.6% as Inadequate.</p> <p>Since October 2016 the focus of the audit programme has continued to include Children subject to Child Protection, Children Looked After, Children in Need in addition to the previous areas of the quality of Social Work assessments and Children with Disabilities. Audits are allocated to Team Manager and Independent Reviewing Officers, and are randomly sampled. Moderation is currently undertaken by the Assistant Director, Heads of Service and Service Managers.</p> <p>Over the year the audit programme has shown progress in relation to the quality of assessments for audits undertaken with 95% judged either Requires Improvement or better.</p>
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	Audits Completed	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate		
		Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Target									
	Q4 2016/17	22	0	0.0%	7	31.8%	13	59.1%	2	9.1%
	Q1 2017/18	27	0	0.0%	7	25.9%	12	44.4%	8	29.6%
	Q2 2017/18	44	0	0.0%	18	40.9%	23	52.3%	3	6.8%
	Q3 2017/18	44	0	0.0%	21	47.7%	21	47.7%	2	4.5%
	Q4 2017/18	36	1	2.8%	14	38.9%	19	52.8%	2	5.6%
ANNUAL TREND	2014/15									
	2015/16									
	2016/17									
	2017/18 YTD	151	1	0.7%	60	39.7%	75	49.7%	15	9.9%