CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL



Key Points to Note

Demographics

Demographic data has been updated with the 2016 mid-year population estimates. A considerably lower proportion of LAC are from BME backgrounds compared to the Wolverhampton CYP population. 2017 comparator data has been updated for the number of Looked After Children (LAC). The number of LAC has increased over the past 6 months and now is higher than at any point in the previous year and a half. The rate of LAC starts is not increasing however the rate of LAC ends has slowed down. A reduction is required to bring Wolverhampton in line with comparators.

Placements

Trends for 'In-house' Foster Carers shows that the percentage of children placed with in-house foster carers has increased although progressed has slowed over the past two months with an increase in agency placements. To help create additional places the recruitment team have seen their target for number of days to approve new foster carers cut to 6 months.

The proportion of LAC placed more than 20 miles from home has increased slightly to 16%. The indicators that look at placement stability have remained strong in the month against a backdrop of static LAC numbers and increased adoptions. Stability generally continues to show positive results and demonstrates that Looked After Children in Wolverhampton benefit from stable placements.

Assessments and Reviews

Performance in timeliness of assessments of Looked After Children in Wolverhampton has increased to 81% however this is considerably lower than performance in 2016-17. Reviews completed on time in the year remain high at 92% compared to 82% in 2016-17 year out turn. The percentage of children that participated in their reviews has increased after lower rates of performance in early 2017/18. Performance so far in 2018/19 is very strong with a 99% pass rate.

Education

The 2016 KS2 an KS4 results show that Wolverhampton LAC performed better than LAC nationally, regionally and within statistical neighbours, however, there remains a significant gap between the performance of LAC and all Wolverhampton children.

Small numbers can make these measurements volatile. For further information about the education attainment of LAC in Wolverhampton please refer to the Virtual School Head teacher annual report. Attendance data has been updated for 2016 - attendance of Wolverhampton LAC at school is better than that of comparators. please note there was an error in previous reports where persistent absence was under-reported

Health

The percentage of children with up to date dental checks increased in the month to 83% but is still considerably lower than year out-turn 2016/17. Despite this decrease, the result however remains significantly higher than the 60% of children in the general Wolverhampton population that have seen a dentist in the past 2 years which is falling.

The percentage of health checks that are up to date has increased to 92% and is still favourable against year out-turn 2016/17. Performance in initial checks is lower than those being reviewed however the appointment of a new LAC nurse is expected to help ensure initial checks increase.

PEPs

Performance for PEPs continues to increase after changes in electronic systems caused a reduction in performance earlier in the year. Work continues to identify those children in nursery provision for Early Years PEPs.

Leaving Care

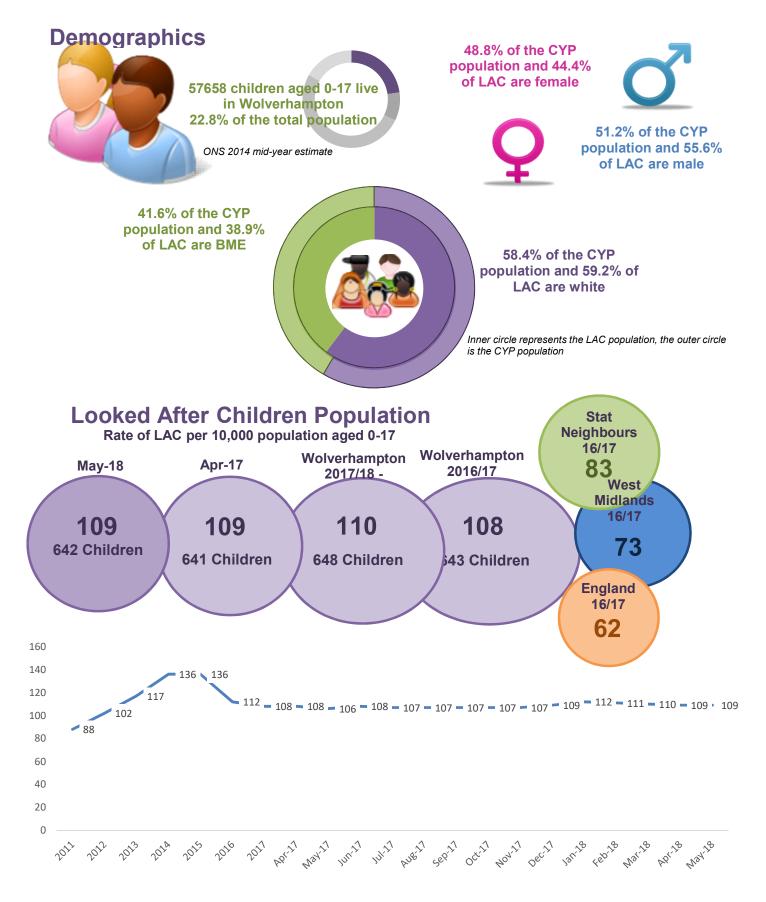
Adoption

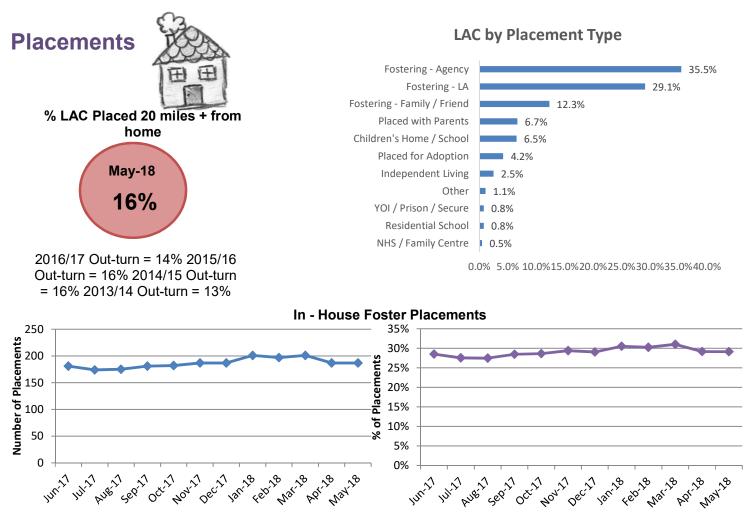
Adoption timeliness improved in the 2017/18 against all three major adoptions indicators. Despite this improvement the average time taken to match and place children for adoption in Wolverhampton is still higher than national targets. In 2018/19 75% of adoptions have been within timescales with low averages for A2 and A10 indicators recorded. This is promising performance especially when considering that Wolverhampton also compares favourably to comparators in regard to the adoption of hard to place children.

Care Leavers

The percentage of Care Leavers in Employment Education and Training cohort has changed to include all children and young adults who turn 17 to 21 in the year. At the end of May 2018 60% of 17-21-year olds were in Education, Employment or Training. NALM (not available for the labour market). 85% of care leavers are available for work with 15% (33 young people) not available due to pregnancy or young motherhood, Illness or disability or because they are in custody.

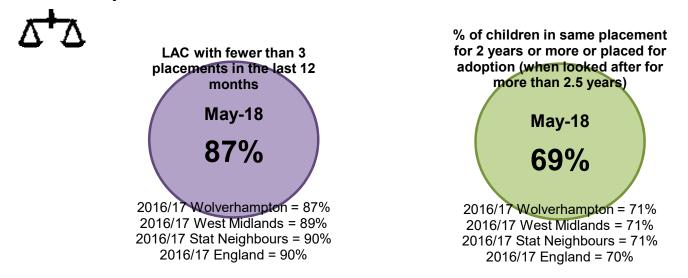
The proportion of care leavers currently deemed to be in suitable accommodation is also included and shows that 88% of the cohort are currently in suitable accommodation.





The proportion of LAC Placed with in-house foster carers is increasing due to decreases in other placements. The number of in-house foster care placements has decreased slightly to 183 in the month.

Placement Stability



Performance shows that Looked After Children in Wolverhampton benefit from largely stable packages and that performance in this area continues to improve.

Assessments & Reviews



Average caseload of LAC children for LAC social workers

20

46% of young people who have been looked after for more than a year and 24% who have been looked after for less than a year have had 3 or more social workers in the past 12 months

This is an improving picture

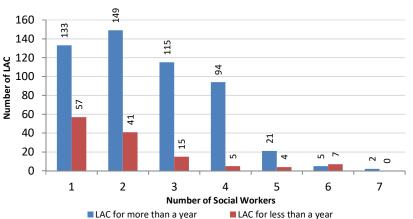
Looked After Children with up to date assessments

An up to date assessments is one that has been authorised within the last 6 months.

Looked After Children whose reviews have been completed on time

First Review is within 20 working days. Second review within 3 months. Third and subsequent reviews every 6 months

Number of Social Workers LAC have had in the past 12 months



May-18 = 81%

2017/18 Out-turn = 80% 2016/17 Out-turn = 98%

May-18 = 92%

2017/18 Out-turn = 92% 2016/17 Out-turn = 82%

97% of LAC had assessments completed on time between 1st April 2015 - 31st March 2016.

Since 1st April 2015, 1501 reviews were completed in the year with only 69 not completed within timescales.

The proportion of LAC reviews where the child was present or contributed by other means since 1st April 2015

99%

May-18

95%

2017/18 Out-

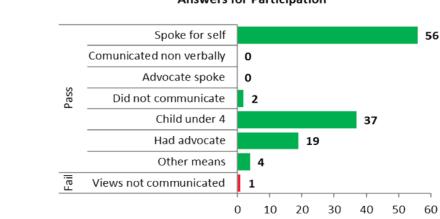
turn

90%

2016/17

Out-turn

There has been a decline in LAC participation in reviews since year out turn 14/15. This is being looked into in order to understand the reason for the drop in performance



Answers for Participation

February 2016

Education

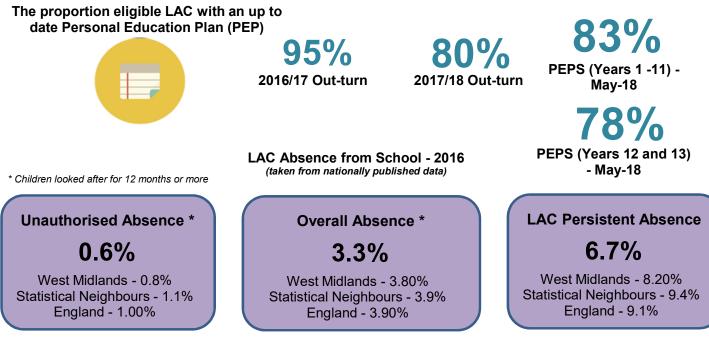


| KS2 Expected Standard | Maths | Reading | Writing | Reading, Writing and Maths |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Wolverhampton LAC 2016 | 51% | 60% | 58% | 37% |
| Wolverhampton 2016 | 70% | 65% | 75% | 53% |
| West Midlands 2016 | 41% | 38% | 43% | 23% |
| Stat Neighbours 2016 | 40% | 35% | 43% | 25% |
| England 2016 | 41% | 41% | 46% | 25% |
| KS4 | GCSE A* - C in Eng & Maths | Attainment 8 | Progess 8 | |
| Wolverhampton LAC 2016 | 20% | 24% | -1% | |
| Wolverhampton 2016 | 59% | 48% | 0% | |
| West Midlands 2016 | 17% | 23% | 1% | |
| Stat Neighbours 2016 | 18% | 22% | 1% | |
| England 2016 | 18% | 23% | 1% | |

PLEASE NOTE: Small numbers in the cohort reaching each key stage can cause results to be volatile making comparison difficult.

National results show that looked after children reaching KS2 level 4 in Maths, Reading and Writing in 2016 performed better than regional, statistical neighbour and national results. Performance in GCSEs is also better. However, there remains a significant gap between the performance of all children and LAC.

Detailed analysis of LAC educational performance was presented to the Panel via the Virtual School Head teacher report. Please note that there is some discrepancies when nationally published data is compared with

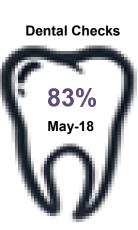


There has been an increase in the number of PEP's in the month and both indicators show a strong result. This is the highest performance since the new E-PEP system went live at the start of November

LAC Health

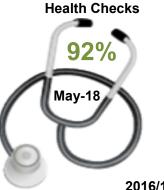


60% of children in the Wolverhampton Local Authority Area have seen a dentist in the last two years



2017/18 Out-turn = 84%

2016/17 Out-turn = 82%

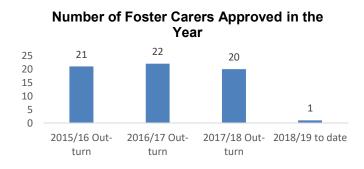


2017/18 Out-turn = 84%

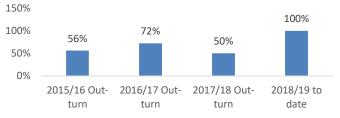
2016/17 Out-turn = 84%

There been a slight decrease in performance over the year in dental checks and results in this area remain strong as a result of improved working with the CCG and RWT. Performance of Health Checks has increased with initial checks particularly low in the year

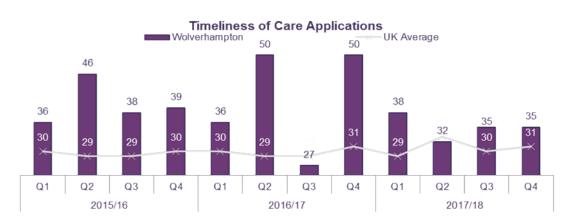
Foster Recruitment

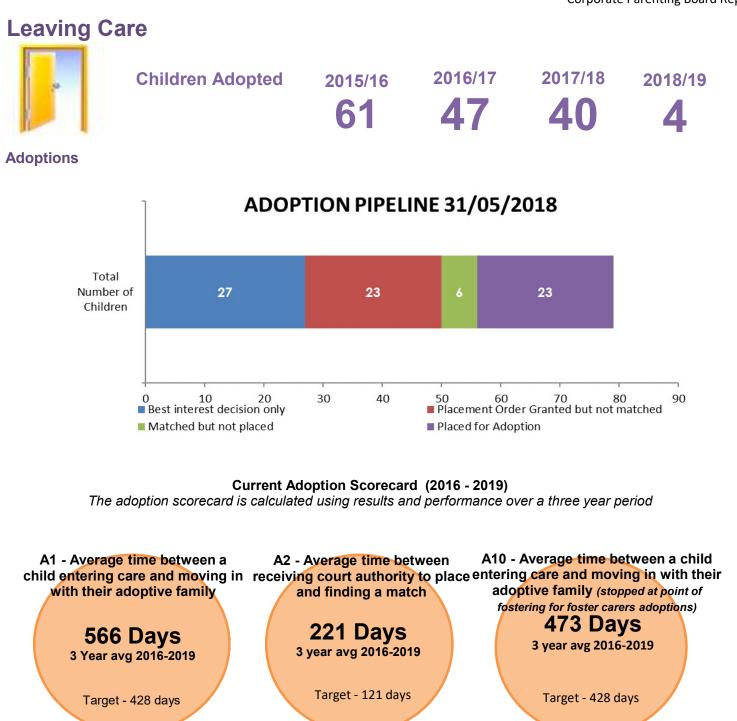


Percentage of Foster Carers Approved in timescale



The number of new foster carers approved in 2017/18 decreased slightly as did the percentage approved within time scale. The target time to approve foster carers decreased in April 2018 to 6 months.

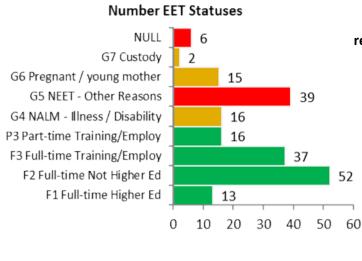




Single year performance (2018/19 to date) A1 - 508 days with 75% of children adopted within timescales A2 - 90 days A10 - 292 days

The adoption scorecards for 2016/17 were published just before Christmas 2017. Wolverhampton were once again rated 'double red' in the two key indicators, however, performance around adopting hard to place children including those over the age of 5 and from BME backgrounds continues to be better than performance nationally. Detailed analysis of the results has been undertaken and is available. Initial indicators for 207/18 show a similar pattern to 2016/17 however an encouraging start has been made in 2018/19 with 75% of adoptions within timescale.

Care Leavers



re Leavers in Education, Employment and Training

Wolverhampton 16/17 - 56% West Mids 16/17 - 46% Statistical Neighbours 16/17 - 47% England 16/17- 50%

> May 2018: 60%

% Care Leavers in Suitable Accomodation

85%

% Care Leavers in Available to work

85%