

Dear Councillor,

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD - THURSDAY, 22ND NOVEMBER, 2018

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next Thursday, 22nd November, 2018 meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No Item

6 **Independent Reviewing Officer Service Annual Report 2017- 2018 (Pages 3 - 18)**

[To receive the annual report on the activity of the Independent Reviewing Officers]

7 **Attainment of Children and Young People in Care 2018 (Pages 19 - 26)**

[To receive an update on the educational outcomes for Children and Young People in Care for 2018]

8 **Outcome of Care Leavers' Annual Survey (Pages 27 - 48)**

[To receive feedback from the Care Leaver's Annual Survey]

10 **Performance Monitoring Information (Pages 49 - 62)**

[To consider and comment on the Performance Monitoring Information Report]

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the democratic support team:

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 22 November 2018
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Report title	Independent Reviewing Officer Service Annual Report 2017 – 2018	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paul Sweet Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Director for Children’s Services	
Originating service	Safeguarding	
Accountable employee(s)	Dawn Williams Tel Email	Head of Service – Safeguarding 01902 550655 Dawn.williams@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Children in Care Council Children and Young People Leadership Team	26 September 2018 11 October 2018

Recommendations for action:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Utilise this report to inform strategic planning for Wolverhampton’s Children and Young People in Care population.
2. Hold the Safeguarding Service to account in their delivery of services to Children and Young People in Care.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 Wolverhampton Safeguarding Service has statutory responsibility for overseeing and ratifying the care plans for Children and Young People in Care via the activity of the Independent Reviewing Officers. As a result, the service is duty bound to provide the Corporate Parenting Board with an annual report that outlines the activity of the service, the impact for children and recommendations for service improvement that will enhance young people's experiences.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Children and Young Persons Act 2008 reinforced and strengthened the role of the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO), enabling more effective independent oversight and scrutiny of the child's case. It has ensured that the child is able to meaningfully participate in planning for their own care and that the care plan that the local authority prepares for them is based on a thorough assessment of the individual child's needs.

2.2 In March 2010 the Government issued statutory guidance, The IRO Handbook, for Local Authorities and IROs on care planning and reviewing arrangements. The IRO Handbook states that the statutory duties of the IRO are to:

- monitor the Local Authority's performance of their functions in relation to the child's case;
- participate in any review of the child's case;
- ensure any ascertained wishes and feelings of the child concerning the case are given due consideration by the appropriate authority;
- perform any other function which is prescribed in regulations.

2.3 All children and young people in care, including children who are in an adoptive placement prior to an Adoption Order, are covered by the legislation. This applies to all children who are the subject of a care order (under section 31 of the Children Act 1989), or who are voluntarily accommodated for a period of more than 24 hours (section 20 of the Children Act 1989), including those described in this report as in Short Break Care, or who are placed for adoption under the Adoption and Children Act 2002. It also covers those who are compulsorily looked after, such as those remanded by the court to local authority accommodation. Since the publication of the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act (LASPO) in December 2012, it has been the responsibility of the Local Authority to look after all young people who are remanded into custody. These young people require an allocated IRO and reviews in their place of custody.

3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

- 3.1 The annual report provides an outline of activity covering the period 2017 - 2018 and determines actions to be progressed in 2018 – 2019.
- 3.2 The IRO service has remained stable, with an experienced and capable staff team. The Ofsted Inspection of 2017 found that ‘Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) are effective in driving improvements in practice and performance, leading to better outcomes for children looked after. A stable and experienced team of IROs has been given additional resources, to ensure that IROs are able to continue to deliver a high-quality service’.
- 3.3 Caseloads for IROs have been manageable, which has enabled the team to be more effective in driving improvements and to spend more time seeing children.
- 3.4 The report shows that, overall, the service has been effective in terms of the timeliness of reviews and the participation of children in reviews, but there is still room for improvement. This is reflected in the plans for 2018 – 2019.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 The total budget for 2018-2019 for the Independent Reviewing Officer Service is £916,000.
- 4.2 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
[NM/07112018/Q]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 The relevant legislation is contained within the body of the report. There are no direct legal implications arising from the report.
[TC/14112018/V]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 The Annual report recognises issues of equality for Children who access the safeguarding service and how equality is represented within the service.

7.0 Environmental implications

- 7.1 None

8.0 Human resources implications

- 8.1 None

9.0 Corporate Landlord implications

9.1 None

10.0 Health and Wellbeing implications

10.1 None

11.0 Schedule of background papers

11.1 The annual report for 2017 - 2018 is attached. The Corporate Parenting Board has received Annual reports in preceding years.

**CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL**

Independent Reviewing Officer Service
Annual Report

2017 – 2018

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The IRO Handbook (2010) is the statutory guidance for Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) and local authorities on their functions in relation to case management and review of children and young people in care. It states that the IRO Manager (known as the Safeguarding Manager – Children, in Wolverhampton) should be responsible for the production of an annual report for the scrutiny of the members of the Corporate Parenting Board. It should also be available to the public on the Council website.
- 1.2 This report covers the period from April 2017 – March 2018 This is the eighth annual report.
- 1.3 The Safeguarding Service is based at the Priory Green Building in Pendeford, Wolverhampton.
- 1.4 Dawn Williams is the Head of Safeguarding (HOS) and has overall responsibility for the IRO functions and ensures independence from the line management of cases and the allocation of resources within Children and Families Services. Mandy Lee is the Safeguarding Manager-Children. The management of the IRO team involves the provision of supervision to the IROs and responsibility for the team including ensuring that reviews are held on time and that they are correctly administered. The Safeguarding Manager also manages an IRO who undertakes foster home reviews.
- 1.5 As prescribed by the National IRO Managers Group, this report will endeavour to ‘highlight areas of good practice and areas which require improvement, identify emerging themes and trends, describe areas of work which the service has prioritised during the year, and will prioritise in the coming year.’
- 1.6 The IROs have a key role in assuring the quality of the case planning for those children and young people in care in Wolverhampton. The purpose of this report is to provide information on the work undertaken by the IROs in 2017 – 2018 and to outline the priorities for the next year.

2.0 Purpose of service and legal context

- 2.1 The arrangements for the statutory reviews of children and young people in care in Wolverhampton, were amended and updated by Section 118 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. Legislation for the reviewing of cases is supported by detailed guidance which has been taken into account in making arrangements in Wolverhampton. The guidance includes Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010 and the IRO Handbook.
- 2.2 The IRO Handbook states that the statutory duties of the IRO are to:
 - monitor the Local Authority’s performance of their functions in relation to the child’s case;
 - participate in any review of the child’s case;
 - ensure any ascertained wishes and feelings of the child concerning the case are given due consideration by the appropriate authority;

- 2.3 The IRO service has an important quality assurance role as outlined in the IRO Handbook: 'As part of the monitoring function, the IRO also has a duty to monitor the performance of the local authority's function as a corporate parent and to identify any areas of poor practice. This should include identifying patterns of concern emerging not just around individual children but also more generally in relation to the collective experience of its looked after children of the services they receive. Where IROs identify more general concerns around the quality of the authority's services to its looked after children, the IRO should immediately alert senior managers about these. Equally important, the IRO should recognise and report on good practice'
- 2.4 All children and young people in care, including children who are in an adoptive placement prior to an adoption order, are covered by the legislation. This applies to all children who are the subject of a Care Order (under section 31 of the Children Act 1989), or who are voluntarily accommodated for a period of more than 24 hours (section 20 of the Children Act 1989), including those described in this report as in Short Break Care, or who are placed for adoption under the Adoption and Children Act 2002. It also covers those who are compulsorily looked after such as those remanded by the court to local authority accommodation. Since the publication of the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act (LASPO) in December 2012, it has been the responsibility of the Local Authority to look after all young people who are remanded into custody. These young people now require an allocated IRO and reviews in their place of custody.

3.0 Quantitative information about the service

- 3.1 The Service has an establishment of 11 FTE IROs. The team has been fully staffed since January 2018. The permanent establishment was extended from nine IROs to 11 FTE in 2017 to reflect the numbers of looked after children. The team was previously supported by additional staff who were seconded or agency staff. The team now has no temporary or agency workers. The Safeguarding Manager-Children is supported by a 0.5 Principal IRO
- 3.2 The team has remained stable, other than the use of agency workers, over the period, and is increasingly experienced. The majority of the team have a mixed caseload of children and young people in care and Child Protection. Three of the IROs only hold children and young people in care cases. The makeup of caseloads is regularly reviewed.
- 3.3 The IRO Handbook recommends IRO caseloads of 50 – 70 children per IRO. The average caseload (including children and young people in care, children on a CP plan, and those receiving care through short breaks (S20) on 31 March 2018 was 92 children. This compares to 81 at March 2017. The difference is due to the increased number of children subject to Child Protection Plans, which has nearly doubled in the last 12 months. Although the caseloads are higher than last year, they are still within reasonable limits.
- 3.4 The team is made up of three men and 10 women. The team is made up of IROs from different ethnic backgrounds. (three black/Asian, one black Afro/Caribbean/mixed heritage and nine white British.) This adequately reflects the children we are serving. The looked after children

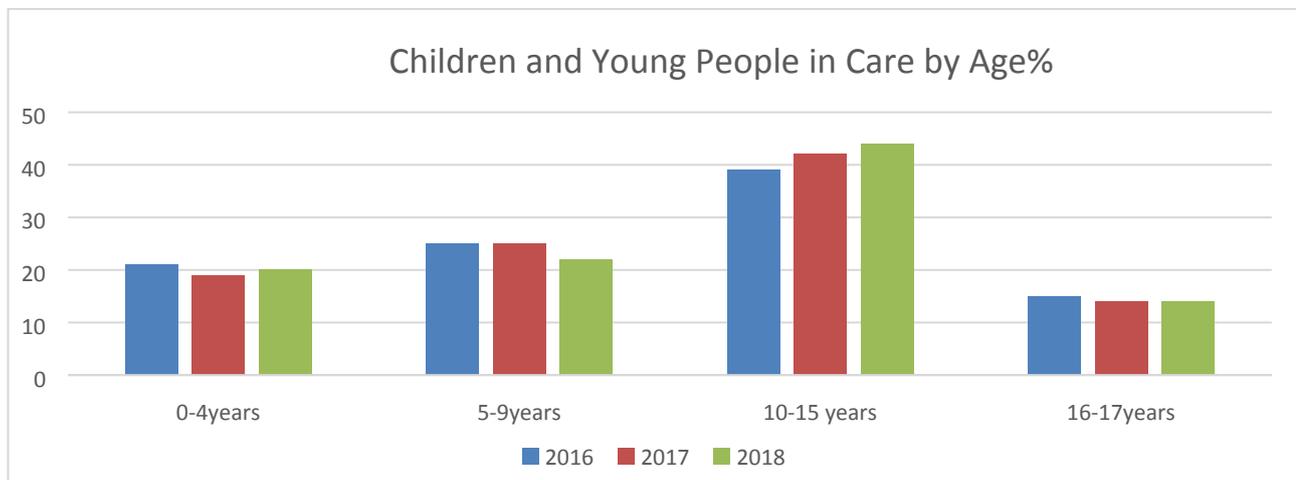
of Wolverhampton were from the following backgrounds on 31.3.18: 60% white British, 5% Asian, 9% black/British/African/Caribbean, 11% mixed white/blackAfrican/Caribbean, 2% mixed white/Asian, 9% other.

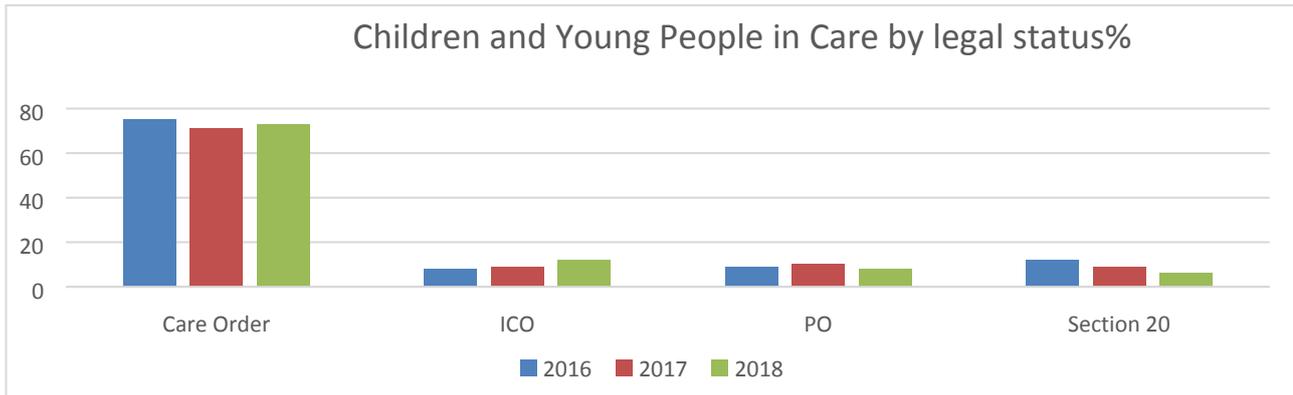
3.5 The service also has one Independent Foster Home Reviewing Officer who is responsible for chairing Foster Home reviews.

4.0 Quantative information regarding the Children and Young People in Care population.

4.1 There were 648 children and young people in care at 31/3/18, compared to 643 in 2017. Of these 287/44% were female (262/41% in 2017) and 361/56% were male (381/59% in 2017). The charts below show the percentage of children in care by age and legal status. The data shows a slight increase in the numbers of young children in care, whilst the proportion of older children has increased. This may be the result of effective plans to move young children on to permanence, whilst there is remaining legacy of older young people who will not leave care until adulthood.

4.2 In relation to legal status, the chart below shows the percentage of all children remaining subject to Care Orders has increased slightly. The proportion currently subject to care proceedings has slightly increased, whilst the percentage subject to section 20 has fallen. This is in line with recent case law which has provided greater clarity about the appropriate use of section 20. The number subject to Placement Orders has reduced slightly.





5.0 Qualitative information about the IRO service

5.1 Under the provisions of the *Review of Children's Cases Regulations (1991)*³ local authorities are required to review the case of any child or young person who is in care or provided with accommodation as follows:

- First review must take place within 28 days of the date upon which the child begins to be looked after or provided with accommodation;
- Second review must be carried out no later than three months after the first review; and
- Subsequent reviews shall be carried out not more than six months after the date of the previous review.

5.2 The date of the next review should be brought forward:

- If there is an unplanned change of placement or other substantial changes to the care plan.
- If the IRO has specific concerns about a child and directs that the review be brought forward.
- Any request from the child or parent(s) for a review to be brought forward should be given serious consideration.

5.3 92% of all children and young people in care in 2017 - 2018 were reviewed in line with statutory timescales (82% in 2016/17). This shows a good improvement on the previous year and demonstrates good performance by the service.

5.4 An IRO is allocated to all children and young people in care within 24 hours of the Safeguarding Service being informed of that child's entry into care. Written information about the IRO and the reviewing service is shared with the child prior to their first review, in the form of child friendly postcard type information booklets. Children can make direct contact with their IRO's mobile phone by calling, by text or by email.

5.5 The majority of sibling groups, whether placed together or not, are allocated to the same IRO. This ensures consistency of information exchange, oversight of care planning and decision-making, including sibling contact, and is particularly of benefit when children have different social workers.

5.6 The involvement of children in their own reviews is regarded as an essential part of the process. *'A key task for the IRO will be to ensure that the review processes, and particularly review meetings, remain child and family centred'* (IRO Guidance, Adoption and Children Act 2002.) The IRO has an important role in ensuring that the child:

- can make a meaningful contribution to their review;
- speaks for themselves if they are able and willing to do so; and where this is not possible that their views are conveyed by someone else on their behalf or by an appropriate medium; and
- has been given the opportunity to make a written contribution to the meeting, particularly if they have chosen not to attend or are unable to attend for some other reason.

5.7 The recorded achievement in this area of activity is also a measure of local authority performance, although no longer a national performance indicator.

At 31 March 2018 95% of children participated in their reviews. This is an increase on 2017 (93%).

Case example: Child P is female, aged 14 and is diagnosed with global developmental delay and learning disability. The IRO has been allocated for over two years since the child became Looked After. Child P resides with Foster Carers and is settled in this arrangement, but has always maintained her wish to return home. Child P disagrees with the Local Authority Plan that she should stay 'looked after' until she is 18, as she thinks she should be able to go home when she is aged 16. Child P has always been responsive to meeting with the IRO outside of the Review meetings and expresses her views. Child P agreed to begin attending her Reviews about 18 months ago, but struggled to concentrate in the meetings, particularly when her Mother was present, as she was naturally excited to see her. In preparation for the last Review, the IRO visited Child P at home and explained the purpose of the Review again. The IRO has some flash cards with the types of agenda items discussed at Reviews. Child P worked through each card and separated them into piles as to the things she wanted to talk about in the meeting and what she wanted to say about each item. At the Review itself, Child P used the cards again, working through each item in her order of preference and everyone joined in with the discussion. Child P was able to say that she feels very sad that she cannot go home; she understands why this is her Care Plan, but she does not agree with it. While we cannot change this situation; it was empowering for Child P to speak her views and have them formally noted in the Review. Child P effectively chaired her own Review using the cards as an aid which is a fantastic achievement for her.

There will always be a proportion of children who do not want to participate or for a variety of reasons, do not make themselves available to the IRO and do not take up other forms of consultation. IRO's make efforts to offer children a number of ways of participating.

Case Example: Child J is female aged nine and has a Care Plan of Long-term Fostering. The IRO has been allocated for over two years and has visited Child J prior to every Review since becoming her IRO. The IRO has tried to encourage Child J to take an active part in her Review meetings; the previous Review was held at the Foster Carers address and was very informal with Child J showing us her certificates and photos of what she had been doing during the Review period. In preparation for the next Review the IRO visited Child J and asked her views about how the Review meeting should work. Child J was very clear that she did not want to be a part of the Review whether it was held at home or at school; she just feels very uncomfortable in these meetings and there was no way she could think of doing it that would change how she felt. The IRO reminded Child J about the Mind of My Own (MOMO) website and she agreed to look at this again together during the visit. Child J entered her views about the good things that have been happening and answered questions about her daily life. While Child J did not express a clear view about her Care Plan, it was clear that she is happy with her care arrangements and there was nothing she wished the IRO to raise at the Review on her behalf. Child J's participation was achieved without her attending the Review meeting; according to her expressed wish.

- 5.8 Children aged seven and over receive a written invitation to their review meeting along with the consultation document inviting their contribution to the review. The IRO is required to speak with the child alone prior to the first review and before every subsequent review (regulation 36). The requirement for direct contact with the child extends to observation of babies and younger children.
- 5.9 The Independent Reviewing Officers Guidance, Adoption and Children Act 2002, states that *'The IRO has an important role in ensuring that all parties to the review are able to make an effective contribution.'* In order to assist in this aim, age appropriate consultation papers continue to be sent to the child/young person, and carers, prior to a review. The child's consultation paper provides the IRO with a picture of the child's feelings about the various aspects of their care and the services he/she is receiving, and assists the IRO in ensuring the child's voice is heard. The service has been aware that many young people would prefer other means to provide their view, and (Mind of My Own) MOMO has been introduced. IRO's are increasingly speaking with parents outside of the review meeting, if their presence is not in the best interests of the child, to ensure they can represent their reviews both in the meeting and in the record of the meeting.
- 5.10 One child was reviewed by an IRO under the Short Break Statutory Guidance (Section 20(4) of the Children Act 1989) in 2017/8 (one in 2016 - 2017).
- 5.11 It should be noted that Ofsted inspection of Wolverhampton in 2017 found that: 'Independent reviewing officers (IROs) are effective in driving improvements in practice and performance, leading to better outcomes for children looked after. A stable and experienced team of IROs

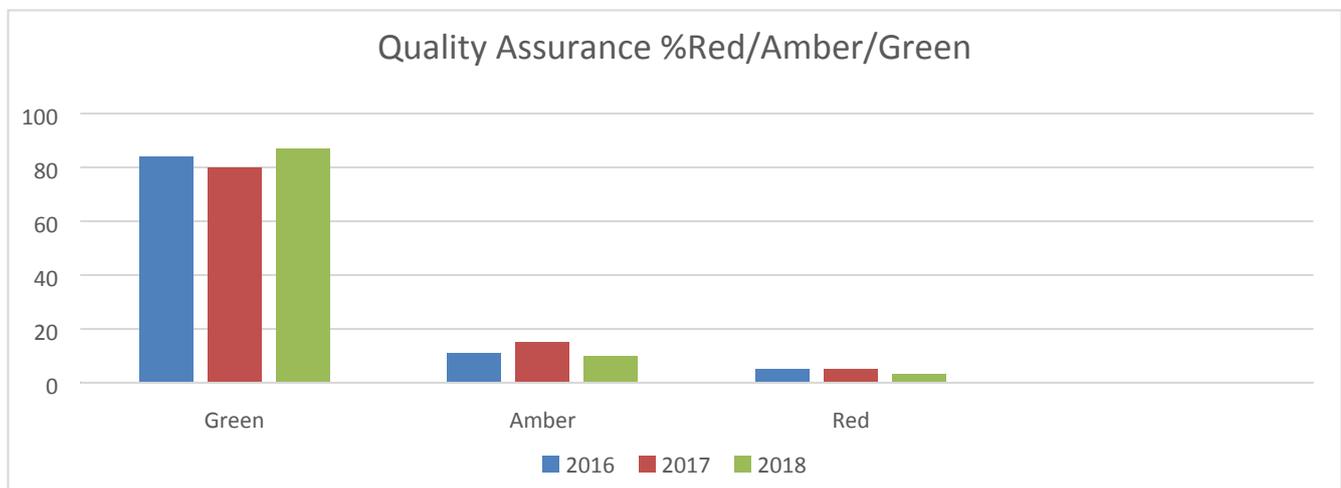
has been given additional resources, to ensure that IROs are able to continue to deliver a high-quality service’.

6.0 Conduct of the organisation in relation to the review

- 6.1 The IROs quality assure each child’s case at every review which include the following:
- Quality of preparation for review by social worker, including report preparation, preparation of the child/young person and sign off by manager,
 - Quality of care planning, including how up to date the care plan is,
 - Quality of contribution by the child/ young person and other attendees, to review,

Detailed reports are now available on the findings of this quality assurance work, which means the service is now able to identify trends and patterns of practice and bring them to the attention of Children’s Social Care. The Safeguarding Manager-Children provides a report to the Children and Young People’s Management Team quarterly, highlighting areas of good practice and areas for concern and action.

- 6.2 The RAG(Red/Amber/Green) quality rating system, in respect of Reviews, including the progress of plans, preparation for the meeting and the quality of reports has been used consistently in Wolverhampton since August 2014. In 2017- 2018, RAG ratings were issued in relation to 1580 Reviews (1615 in 2016-17). The chart below compares ratings over the last three years. This shows an overall improvement in the quality of work, and the percentage where there are serious concerns about drift and delay has reduced.



- 6.3 A notification is automatically sent to the responsible social workers and Social Work Unit manager, and ensures they are alerted to the status (red, amber or green) of the child’s plan. It identifies any concerns the IRO has about a child or their care plan, and should be a clear and valuable part of the quality assurance of the Local Authority’s work which is provided by the IRO. There is an expectation that the responsible Children’s Social Care manager responds to the IRO in all red and amber cases. Where the IRO feels their concern is not being addressed, they would commence the agreed dispute resolution process.

6.4 The IROs complete a Recognition of Excellent or Good Practice notification when there is evidence of high quality practice. 40 notifications were awarded in 2017 - 2018 (17 Excellent, 23 Good). The IROs have recognised the positive impact that recognition of good work has on teams, and therefore actively seeks to improve recognition.

7.0 Conduct of the organisation in relation to Case Management

7.1 During 2017 - 2018 a number of formal dispute resolution protocols were implemented in Wolverhampton. This protocol commences when the IRO identifies serious concerns about drift or delay in a child's case and is unable to resolve the difficulty with the social worker or their manager. There were nine informal stage meetings, five Stage 1 meetings and one Stage 2 meeting.

Case example- Informal stage dispute resolution: Child J is male aged 12 and has a Care Plan of Long-term Fostering. Child J's Foster Placement ended abruptly due to some behaviour exhibited by the child, he then moved to two different temporary Foster Placements. Child J has complex health needs and needed to be settled with Foster Carers who could meet these needs in order that he could access the right treatment in a timely manner. The IRO became concerned about the drift in his care plan and Health Care Plan given the right placement had not been identified. The IRO escalated this to the attention firstly of the Social Work Unit Manager and then the Senior Social Work Manager to express the urgency of the situation. An alternative placement was identified, Child J has moved and he is now accessing the treatment and support he requires.

8.0 Consultation with Young People- Feedback from the Children in Care Council

8.1 The majority of the Children in Care Council when asked about their Independent Reviewing Officer recognised they had one although one or two couldn't recall their name. Following feedback regarding the current "Yellow Booklet" A draft version of the Your Review, Your Views booklet was shared with the group. The Young People welcomed the changes and agreed to be further consulted after the initial pilot

9.0 Review of last year's priority areas for improvement and action

- 9.1 To improve participation of children and young people in their Reviews by further promoting Mind of My Own (MOMO) and through the development of other means of participation, in consultation with the Children in Care Council
Partially completed- use of MOMO is improving and the service is working with CICC and the social work teams on a project to make reviews more child friendly.
- 9.2 To improve the timeliness of Reviews
Completed- performance has improved, though continues to be monitored
- 9.3 To improve parental participation in Reviews and improve performance monitoring in this area.

Partially completed- A new consultation form has been developed and performance monitoring has been implemented, however, further work is need to determine whether parental participation has improved.

10.0 Priorities for 2018 – 2019

- 10.1 To further develop means by which children can participate in reviews, including MOMO and implement new model for reviews which is more child friendly.
- 10.2 To improve participation and consultation arrangements for children and carers where children are placed for adoption.
- 10.3 To demonstrate improved parental participation in Reviews.

11.0 Conclusion

- 11.1 This report has highlighted the work of the IROs in Wolverhampton from April 2017 to March 2018 and is an update on the last annual report.
- 11.2 The service needs to continue working to improve child, parental and carer participation and consultation.
- 11.3 The next report will cover the period from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

Report title	Attainment of Children and Young People in Care 2018	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paul Sweet Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services	
Originating service	Inclusion Support	
Accountable employee(s)	Darren Martindale	Virtual School Head
	Tel	01902 551039
	Email	darren.martindale@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	List any meetings at which the report has been or will be considered	
	Joint Education/CYP Leadership	October 2018

Recommendation for noting:

The Corporate Parenting Board is asked to:

1. Note the report

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To update Corporate Parenting Board on the educational outcomes of Children and Young People in care) in 2018 (results are currently provisional), and how they are informing the priorities of the Virtual School in the 2018 -2019 academic year.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Virtual School Head (VSH) for children and young people in care is responsible for ensuring that the local authority effectively discharges its statutory duty to promote the education of children and young people in care. The attached briefing provides a brief overview of children and young people in care attainment, at all key stages and considering both children educated in Wolverhampton schools and those out-of-city, in 2018. The VSH annual report, which will be presented in January 2019, will provide a much broader and fuller picture of the progress and achievements of the cohort.

3.0 Context

- 3.1 Local authorities have a statutory duty to promote the educational achievement of the children in their care (Children Act 1989), as a response to the significant gap in attainment and achievement that exists, nationally, between children and young people in care and their peers. The Virtual School Head's statutory role is to ensure that this duty is effectively discharged, and in pursuance of that, to report on the achievements and wider progress of the children in the 'virtual school' for children and young people in care.
- 3.2 The data below outlines the academic performance of children and young people in care in 2018, both those educated in Wolverhampton schools and out-of-city children and young people in care in standard assessments.
- 3.3 Only children who have been in care for 12 months+ at 1 April 2018 (or 'eligible' children and young people in care) are included. National averages for children and young people in care in 2017 (currently the most recent available national data) are also included for comparison. All 2018 outcomes are currently provisional.
- 3.4 Further information and analysis on the achievements and wider progress of all cohorts will be reported in the Virtual School Annual Report 2017-2018 which will be completed during the autumn term 2018.

4.0 Overview

4.1 Early Years Foundations Stage (EYFS) attainment – 10 pupils

Subject	Wolverhampton children and young people in care achieving age-related expectation (ARE)	All Wolverhampton pupils 2018
Reading	7 pupils - 70%	74%
Writing	7 pupils - 70%	71%
Maths (Number)	7 pupils - 70%	76%
Good level of development (GLD) in all areas	7 pupils - 70% (38%)	69%

4.2 Year 1 phonics – pupils achieving age-related expectation in tests

Wolverhampton children and young people in care	OOO children and young people in care	All children and young people in care	All Wolverhampton pupils 2018
7/10 pupils - 70%	6/10 pupils – 60%	13/20 – 65%	81%

4.3 KS1 attainment – pupils attaining expected standard

Cohort	Maths	Reading	Writing	math/read/writ
In-city children and young people in care (11 pupils)	6 – 55%	7 – 64%	5 – 45%	4/11 – 36%
OOO children and young people in care (9 pupils)	4 – 44%	3 – 33%	1 – 11%	1 – 11%
All children and young people in care (20 pupils)	10 – 55%	10 – 50%	6 – 30%	5 – 25%
National children and young people in	46%	51%	39%	

care average 2017				
All Wolverhampton pupils	75%	74%	70%	65%

4.4 KS2 attainment – pupils attaining expected standard

Cohort	Maths	Reading	Writing	GPS	math/read/writ
In-city children and young people in care (24 pupils)	9 – 38%	14 – 58%	15 – 63%	12 – 50%	8 – 33%
OOO children and young people in care (17 pupils)	7 – 41%	6 – 35%	4 – 24%	8 – 47%	1 – 6%
All children and young people in care (41 pupils)	16 – 39%	20 – 49%	19 – 46%	20 – 49%	9 – 22%
National children and young people in care average 2017	46%	45%	48%		32%
All Wolverhampton pupils	75%	74%	80%	78%	64%

4.5 KS2 Progress – Wolverhampton Children and Young People in Care

Subject	Average progress score	National children and young people in care average progress 2017	All Wolverhampton pupils progress 2018
Reading	0.164	-0.7	0.9
Writing	0.45	-0.9	1.2
Maths	-4.33	-1.1	0.5

Subject	% making average or better progress	National children and young people in care average % 2017	All Wolverhampton pupils % 2018
Reading	63	46	56.4
Writing	67	50	62.5
Maths	33	47	53
Reading, writing & maths	58		

4.6 KS4 attainment – pupils achieving grade 4+ in maths & English

Cohort	Maths	English	Maths & Eng
In-city children and young people in care (19 pupils)	5- 26%	7 – 37%	5 – 26%
OOO children and young people in care (19 pupils)	4 – 21%	7 – 37%	2 – 11%
All children and young people in care (38 pupils)	9 – 24%	14 – 37%	18.4%
National children and young people in care average 2017			17.5%

- 89% of children and young people in care achieved 1 or more GCSEs at grade 1-9

4.7 KS5 attainment – 26 pupils completing, or expected to complete, an accredited qualification

Entry level	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total achieved qualifications
1 (E2)	3	3	8	3	18 (69%)

- At July 2018, 75% of children and young people in care and care leavers were in education, employment or training (EET) excluding those not available to the labour market (NALM). The figure, including NALM, was 63%
- 12 children and young people in care/care leavers started university courses in 2018.

5.0 Proposal/Options

5.1 The following conclusions can be quickly drawn from the above attainment data:

- a) Outcomes at EYFS have improved in 2018 when compared with all previous years and are in line with the outcomes for Wolverhampton pupils generally. Year 1 phonics results are also positive.
- b) There is a noticeable attainment gap between in-city and out of city (OOC) children and young people in care at KS1-4. This is typically the case, due to the nature of the OOC cohort and the additional challenges they tend to face (KS2 maths is an exception, with OOC children and young people in care performing better than in-city). However, the difference is generally greater than usual this year due to the OOC cohort having particularly high levels of need and low prior attainment (e.g. almost half of the OOC KS2 cohort had an EHCP). It should be noted that the majority of the OOC cohort in year 2/6 were reported as making good progress by their schools (considering their starting points, abilities etc) and received high levels of support throughout the year.
- c) Outcomes for the whole children and young people in care cohort at KS1 – four are broadly in line with national children and young people in care averages, while the in-city results are generally higher than children and young people in care averages.
- d) There are positive outcomes at KS5, with eight students achieving level 3 qualifications and three achieving degrees. One Student achieved an A-grade in A-level maths. Wolverhampton have a comparatively high number of children and young people in care /care leavers in higher education.

5.2 Comparisons between Wolverhampton children and young people in care and all Wolverhampton pupils:

1. Outcomes in year 1 phonics test are strong for children and young people in care and equal to 2017, with a 9% between children and young people in care and all Wolverhampton pupils.
2. Outcomes at KS1 are lower than 2017 (2017 performance was exceptionally high for children and young people in care, with a much smaller cohort). When compared with all Wolverhampton pupils, there is a gap of 10% (approximately one child) in reading and over 20% in writing and maths (equating to approx. two children in each subject) and 30% (approx. three children) when compared with the overall performance in the city
3. Outcomes at KS2 are higher than in 2017 in reading and writing, though lower in maths. Performance in reading, writing and maths (RWM) combined are slightly lower than in 2017 due to the maths percentage. Compared with all Wolverhampton pupils, gaps are over 15% in reading and writing (equating to approx. four pupils) and 37% in maths (equating to approx. 6-7 children). The overall combined RWM gap is approximately 31%, equating to about 6-7 children.¹
4. A high percentage of children and young people in care have made good or better progress in reading and writing – better than both national children and young people in

¹ Counting all children and young people in care in the year group, regardless of time in care (=29 pupils), 41.4% of pupils attained the expected level or above in maths. The % achieving the same benchmark in Eng/writing/maths is also higher counting all pupils – 37.9%.

care averages and all Wolverhampton pupils – though a lower percentage have achieved that benchmark in maths.

5. It should also be noted that the above attainment gaps are smaller than the (2017) national attainment gap between children and young people in care and all pupils:
 - a. at KS1 the gap is 15% narrower in reading, 4% narrower in writing and 9% narrower in maths, than national average
 - b. at KS2 they are 11% narrower in reading, 11% narrower in writing and in line with the national gap in GPS and RWM combined. Maths is the exception with a 9% wider gap for Wolverhampton.

Where national data is available, performance of in-city children and young people in care is, once again, higher than national children and young people in care averages (2017) in most areas.

6. There will inevitably be random fluctuations in attainment, year on year, with small and volatile cohorts. The 2018 Virtual School Head Annual Report will capture a much broader picture of the achievements and progress of children and young people in care, enabling more meaningful patterns, strengths and priorities to be identified.
7. As a starting point, however, this data shows some clear improvements as well as areas for development. Writing at KS1 continues to be a priority and analysis will be done on the maths outcomes at KS2 to ensure that any learning gaps are addressed, while the Virtual School are intensifying monitoring and support for the OOC cohort. These and other priorities will be outlined in the 2018 Annual report and addressed in the 2018-2019 Children and Young People in Care Attainment Improvement Plan.

6.0 Financial implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
[JF/14112018/O]

7.0 Legal implications

- 7.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report
[TC/16112018/N]

8.0 Equalities implications

- 8.1 An equalities analysis will be undertaken if required, in partnership with the Equalities and Diversities Team. As the work that underpins this report is to overcome any inequality, the analysis is aspirational and will need to be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the work.

9.0 Environmental implications

- 9.1 There are no environmental implications

10.0 Human resources implications

- 10.1 There are no human resources

11.0 Corporate Landlord implications

11.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications

12.0 Health and Wellbeing Implications

12.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications

13.0 Schedule of background papers

13.1 None

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 22 November 2018
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Report title	Outcome of Care Leavers' Survey 2018	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paul Sweet Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services	
Originating service	Children and Young People in Care – Transitions Team	
Accountable employee(s)	Caron Kilworth Tel Email	Team Manager 01902 553003 caron.kilworth@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Children and Young People in Care Management Team CYP Leadership Team	17 October 2018

Recommendation for action:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Consider the report and provide feedback on the City of Wolverhampton Council Annual Care Leavers' Survey 2018

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the City of Wolverhampton's Care Leaver Annual Survey Analysis Report 2018:
- To review the impact and achievements of the Children and Young People in Care Transitions service, and how service delivery has improved outcomes for Care Leavers.
 - To present the new action plan which we will continue to drive forward local service provision

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The former New Belongings project which the City of Wolverhampton was a part of was an ambitious initiative aimed at raising the expectations and aspirations of all young people transitioning from care.
- 2.2 The Annual Care Leavers' survey stemmed from this out of a desire to ensure Wolverhampton are providing the best possible service to young people who were transitioning to adulthood. The evaluation and analysis of the survey informs the action plan to ensure that the provision available is progressive and purposeful. The information gathered will inform the priorities of the service and identify actions around any shortfalls.
- 2.3 The annual care leaver survey analysis which is attached details the performance of the City of Wolverhampton Children and Young People in Care Transition service in the year July 2017 – June 2018. The report outlines the progress made and the areas of improvement needed over the next 12 months. The improvements required will be actioned and reviewed regularly via the Children and Young People in Care management meeting and the Care Leavers' Forum.

3.0 Progress

- 3.1 The care leaver survey has assessed the impact of the action plan formulated 2017 - 2018 for Wolverhampton care leavers. 41 young people took part, which was a decrease by - 32 compared to the figure last year which totalled 73. The main cohort that responded to the survey was aged between 17 and 19 years. The participation rate was hugely disappointing and requires far greater effort being made to ensure young people within the service completed the survey.
- 3.2 The survey showed the main strengths were as follows:
- 75.61% of young people knew about the Care Leavers' Forum compared to 64% last year.
 - 95% of care leavers reported that they have a good relationship with their Young Person's Advisor (YPA); an improvement on last year from 78%
 - 97.56% of the young people reported that they are making decisions for themselves regarding their future, an upward trend from last year from 92%

- 96.77% of young people reported that they are getting the right help, an upward trend from last year from 93%
- 93.31% of young people reported that their accommodation is meeting their needs
- 100/% of young people reported that they felt safe in their accommodation. An upward trend from 90% last year
- 90% of young people reported that they feel adequately supported with money and budgeting
- 100% of young people feel supported with health and wellbeing an upward trend from 96% last year
- 83% rated the care leaving service was good
- 72.22% reported that they would wish to remain open to the CAYPIC Transitions Service, post 21. An upward trend from last year from 63%

4.0 Areas for Improvement

4.1 Social workers, Young Person's Advisors, including foster carers and residential staff who need to understand the relevance of Young People participating in the survey to support the continuous efforts to improve service delivery.

- Targeted efforts need to be made to ascertain feedback from young people residing in residential and Host placements which recorded zero response in both these areas
- The question relating to the Leaving Care Forum indicated that a high proportion of young people were unclear about the purpose of the forum. 24.39% did not know about the care leaver forum, and 97.06% of young people who knew about the forum did not attend. Of that number 2.63% stated they were unsure of what the forum was about. 10.53% stated they lived out of city and 10.53% reported other reasons
- The newsletter needs to be improved relaunched and available to all.
- 62.50% of young people do not attend the Drop-In provision at The Way on Friday afternoons.

4.2 The results were collated and analysed; care leavers stated that the following improvements needed to be made during 2018 -2019. Four areas that Children and Young People in Care Transitions Service need to do better:

- Age range of survey needs to be reviewed to reflect care leavers transitioning into adult life. The care leavers survey should be designed to focus entirely on seeking the views of young people who are 16 plus care leavers.
- The care leavers offer should be fully embedded into the Pathway Plan.
- The newsletter needs to be available to all and easily accessible.
- Increase range of activities provided in addition to The Way and Indi Group.

- 4.3 The care leaver survey action plan 2018-2019 has been formulated taking into consideration the results of the care leaver survey and the views taken from the young people at the Care Leavers' Forum.
- 4.4 It is expected that efforts to address the above points will decrease barriers for care leavers in the community.
- 4.5 The high proportion of care leavers who wish to remain open to Children and Young People in Care post 21 is a clear indication that ongoing support is still required. It is essential that in future years social workers and Young People's Advisors work with young people to advise them of the benefits of completing the survey and offer appropriate encouragement to do so.
- 4.6 The survey revealed poor attendance within the Drop-In provision provided at The Way and Indy Group, and could suggest that there needs to be more scope and diverse groups to attract and accommodate the needs of our Care Leavers. The survey has evidenced that there is a need to improve and revisit the service provision currently available. We need to use this opportunity to work collaboratively with Care Leavers to develop and redesign services which are more innovative and exciting. A provision which inspires greater participation and desire to become involved and ultimately for young people to feel a sense of belonging which will go a long way in assisting and supporting our care leavers to make that all important transition into adult life.

5.0 Financial implications

- 5.1 The total approved budget for the Transitions Service for 2018-2019 is £2.4 million.
- 5.2 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.
[NM/15112018/R]

6.0 Legal implications

- 6.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the report.
[TC/13112018/N]

7.0 Equalities implications

- 7.1 The equalities impact assessment has been completed and attached as an appendix

8.0 Environmental implications

- 8.1 There are no environmental implications

9.0 Human resources implications

- 9.1 There are no human resource implications

10.0 Corporate Landlord implications

10.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications

11.0 Health and Wellbeing implications

11.1 There are no Health and Wellbeing implications

12.0 Schedule of background papers

12.1 Equalities Impact Assessment

13.0 Appendices

13.1 Care Leaver Survey Report: Appendix 1

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Care Leaver Annual Survey Analysis Report - A Review of 2017 - 2018

Context

The key purpose of the Children and Young People in Care Transitions Service is to improve the life chances and achieve the best possible outcomes for young people who are aged 14 years and above. The service provides a wide range of services and opportunities to assist young people with their transition into adult life. Young people within the service complete an annual leaving care survey with the aim of evaluating the quality and impact of current service provision. The data was collated using a SurveyMonkey questionnaire Form. The information will feed into a 12-month action plan which will inform the priorities of the service and actions around any short falls.

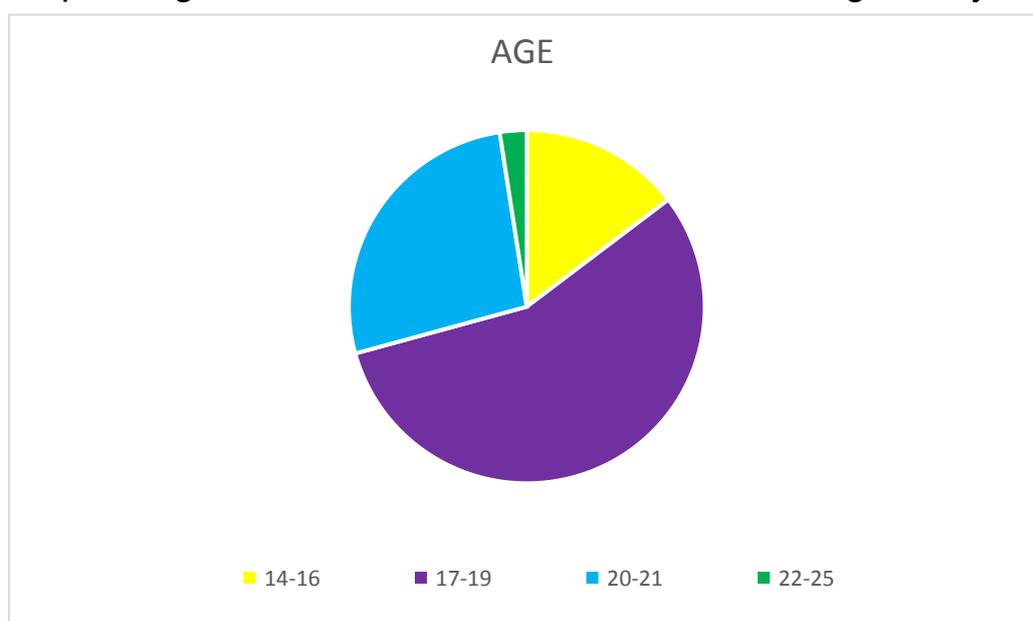
Findings and Summary

The number of young people who completed the survey totalled 41. There was a reduction in number of recipients by 32 compared to the figure last year which totalled 73 young people.

Age

The main cohort that responded to the survey was aged between 17 – 19 years. The same age group recorded last year. Of the 41 recipients 56.10% were in this age range.

14.63% were in the 14 – 16 age group, which equated to six young people responding out of 41. Of this number all six were aged 16 years.



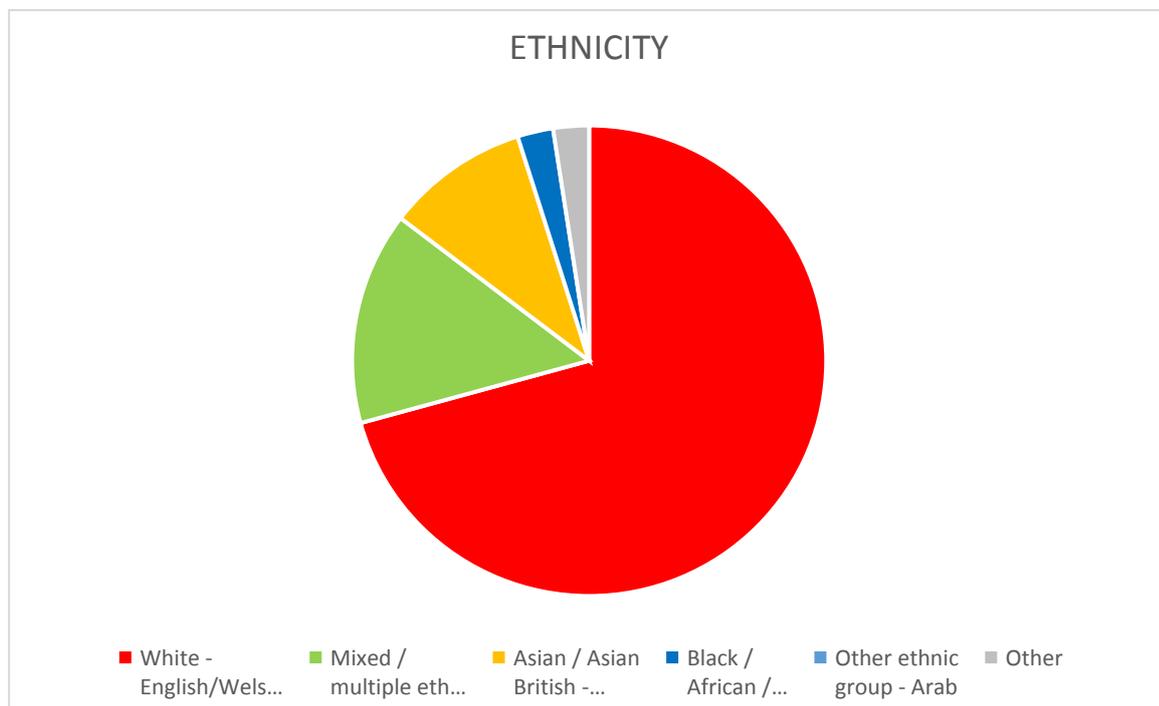
The young people aged between 22-25 only one person responded. It is envisaged that this number will increase next year in line with the age range increasing up to 25 years. The statistics are likely to reflect the reduced contact that our Young Person Advisors have with the upper age range of young people.

Gender

Of the 41 young people who responded, 65.85 % were males and 34.15 % females resulting in almost 50 % difference.

Ethnicity

Of the 41 recipients, 29 were White European which equated to 70.73%.



Of that figure six were White & Black Caribbean/African and four young people were of Asian British ethnicity.

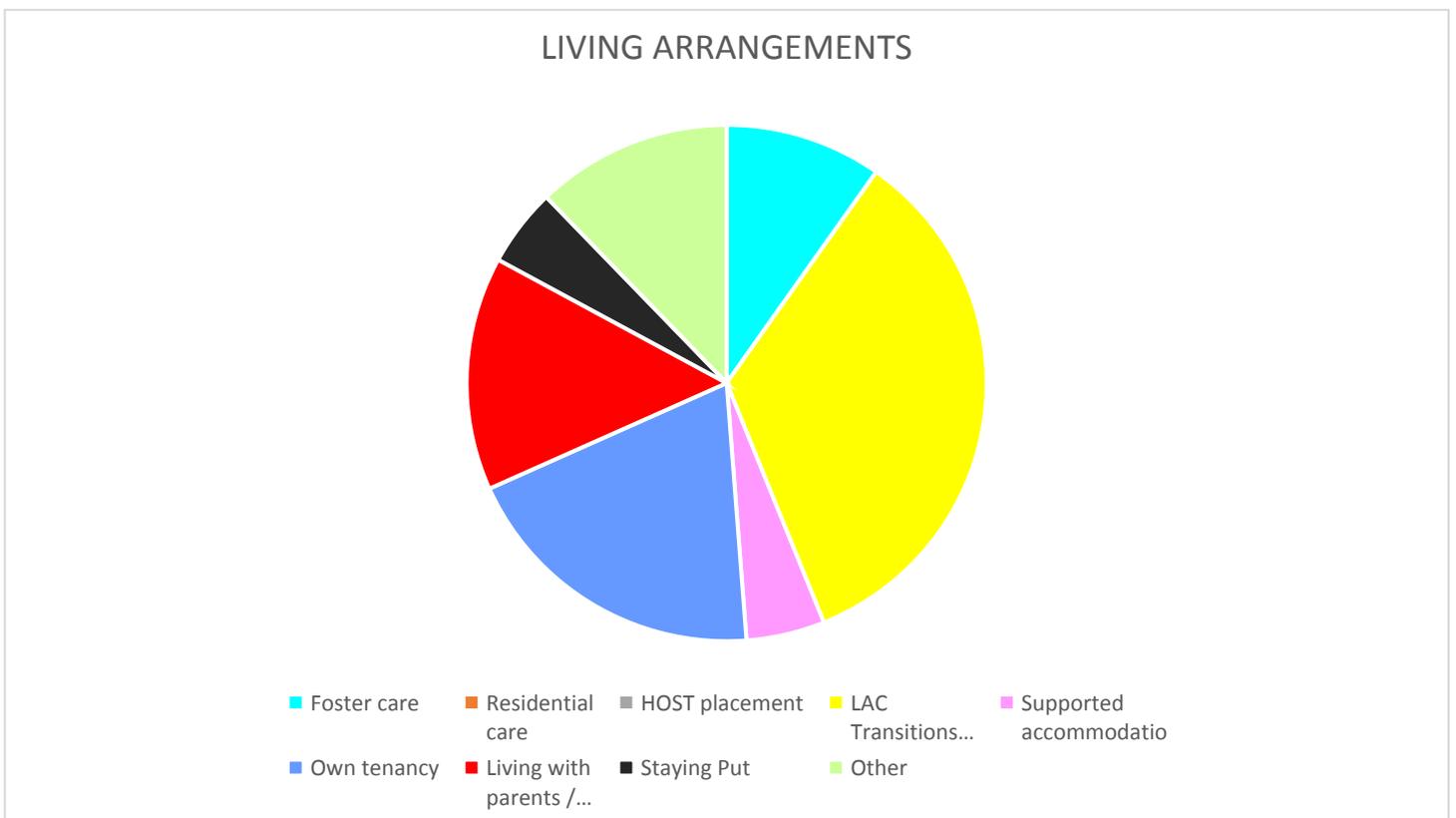
Care Leaver Status

Out of 41 recipients 40 young people answered the question. 65 % were in the category of over 18 – Former Relevant young people. 12.50 % were under 18 and had left care, hence were Relevant and the second highest figure were under 18 and currently in care – Eligible and equated to 22.50% of the Children and Young People in Care population.

The involvement of Young Persons Advisors at 16 plus would have a bearing as the role allows for more time to be spent with young people. An older age group would also be more likely to complete the survey.

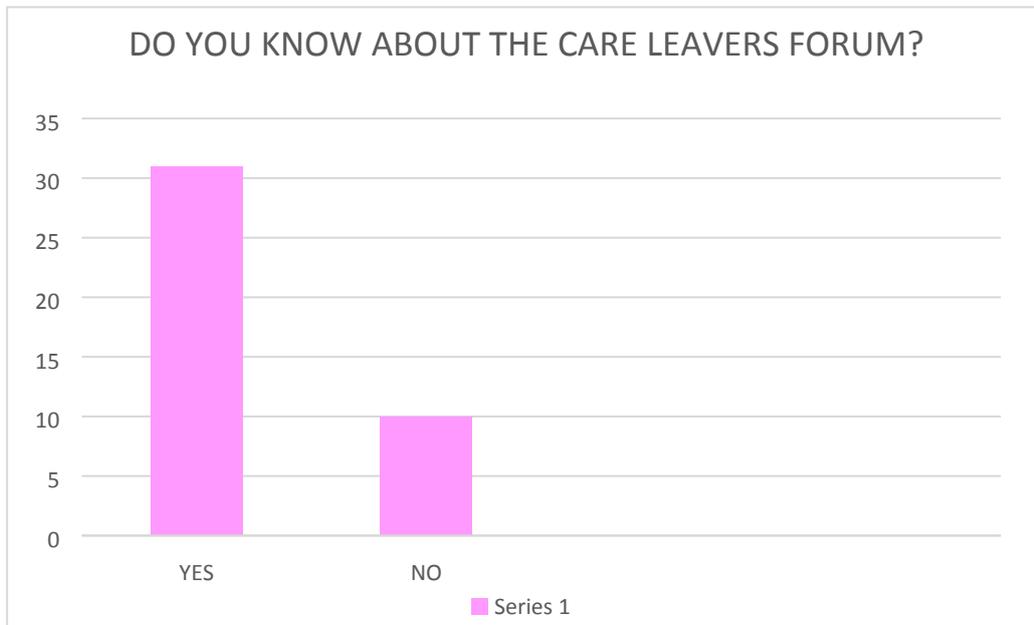
Living Arrangements

Of the 41 cohort who responded 9.76% young people were in a foster care placement. There was no response from young people residing in residential care or HOST placements. The highest percentage came from Children and Young People in Care Transitions flats 34.15% and next highest figure was young people with their own tenancy which equated to 19.51%. Living with parents and relatives 14.63%. Staying Put and Supported Lodgings equated to the same percentage – 4.88% which may be related to young people feeling more settled, with good support networks, resulting in less dependency on the service.



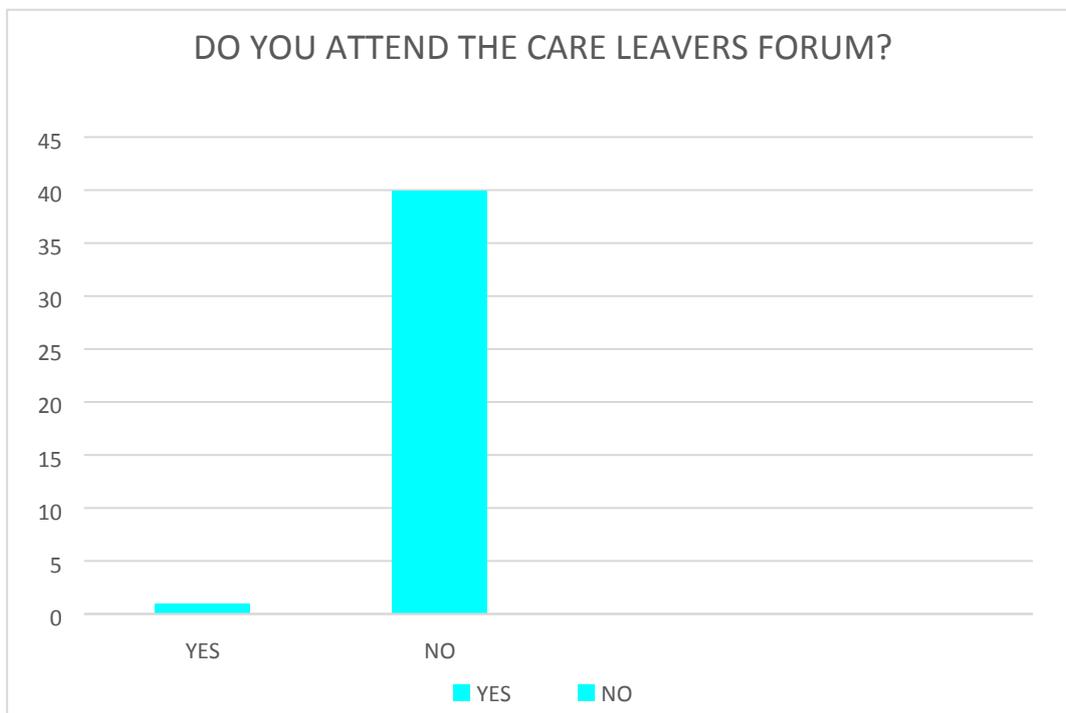
Do you know about the Care Leavers' Forum?

Of the 41 recipients 75.61% answered yes – a total of 24.39 % did not know. The comparison to last year was that 64% of young people reported that they were aware of the Care Leavers' Forum.



Do you attend the Care Leavers' Forum?

Of the 41 participants 97.56% reported that they did not attend and 2.44% which equated to one young person attended. 40 young people did not wish to attend. The person who attended reported that they found the forum valuable.



If you are not attending, why not?

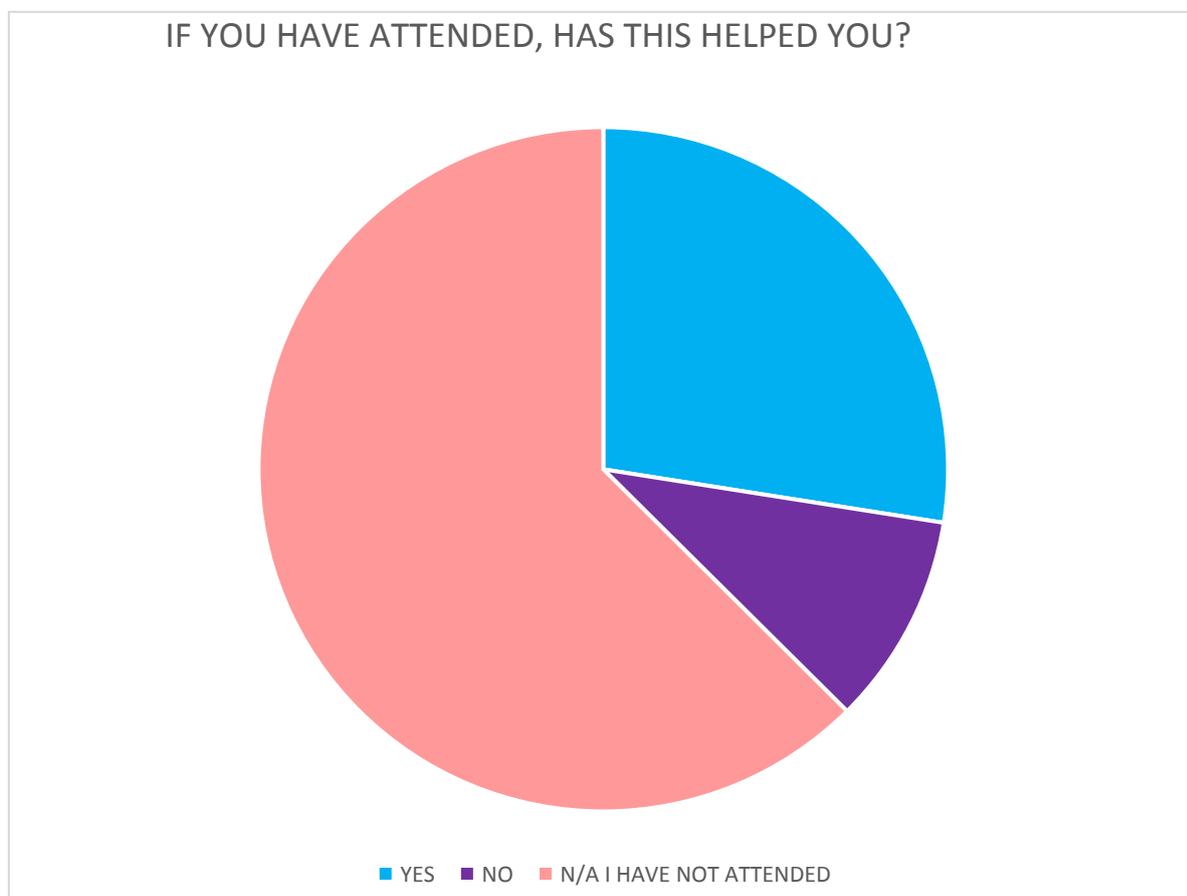
Of the 41 participants who answered the question 2.63% stated that they were unsure of the aim and purpose of the Forum. 76.32 % stated that they do not want to attend. 10.53% resided out of city and the same percentage was reported to be 'Other'.

Do you know about the Drop-in Service on Friday at The WAY?

Of the 41 recipients 85.37% responded yes which equates to 35 young people. A total of 14.63% did not know about the service which totalled six in the cohort.

If you have attended has this helped you?

Of the 40 young people who responded 27.50% stated yes 10% reported no and 62.50% stated that the questions were not applicable due to not having attended. The poor attendance of young people at The WAY cannot be overlooked and needs to be given due consideration; over 50% of the recipients are choosing not to utilise provision provided by the WAY. A targeted questionnaire may be of some merit in identifying what provision would be most effective and of greater benefit.

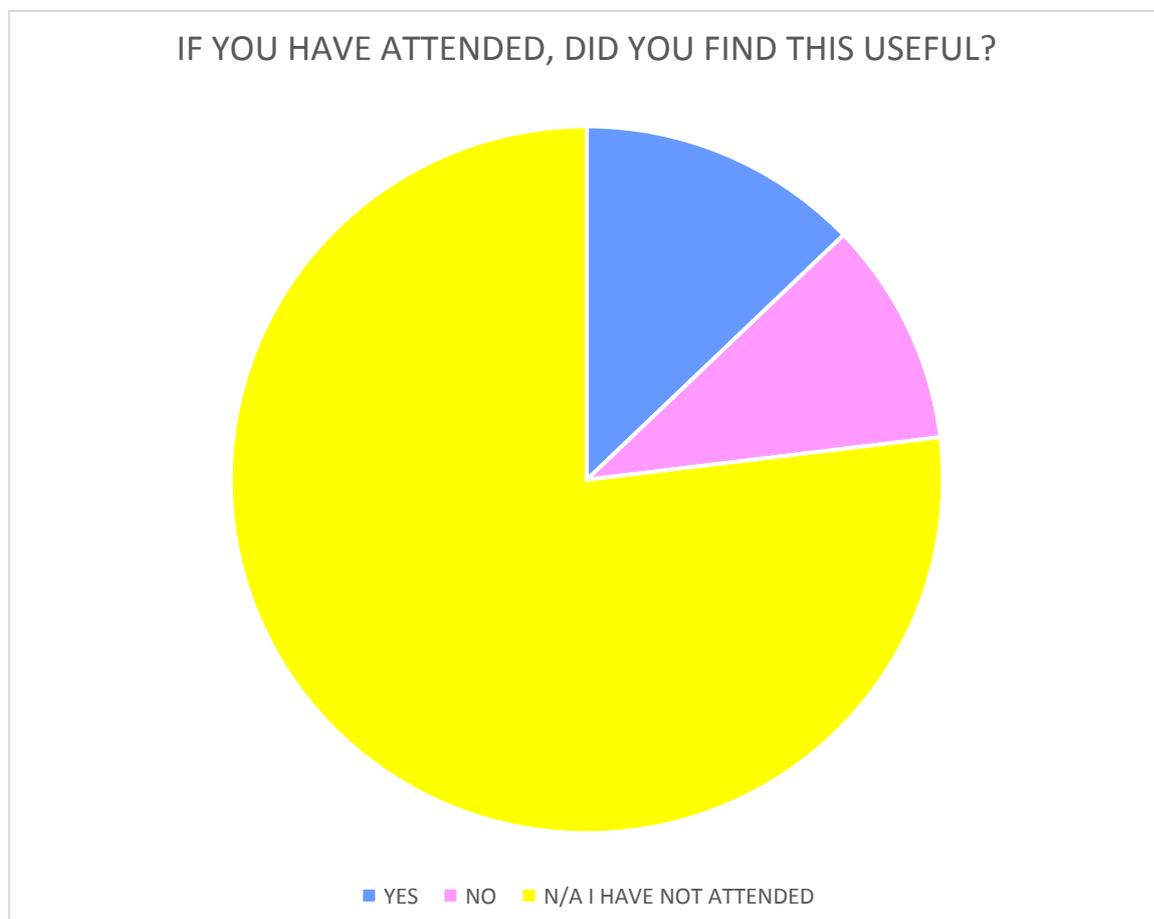


Do you know about the Care Leavers' INDI Group?

41 out of 41 answered the question. 70.73% reported yes. 29.27 % stated that they had not known about the INDI Group.

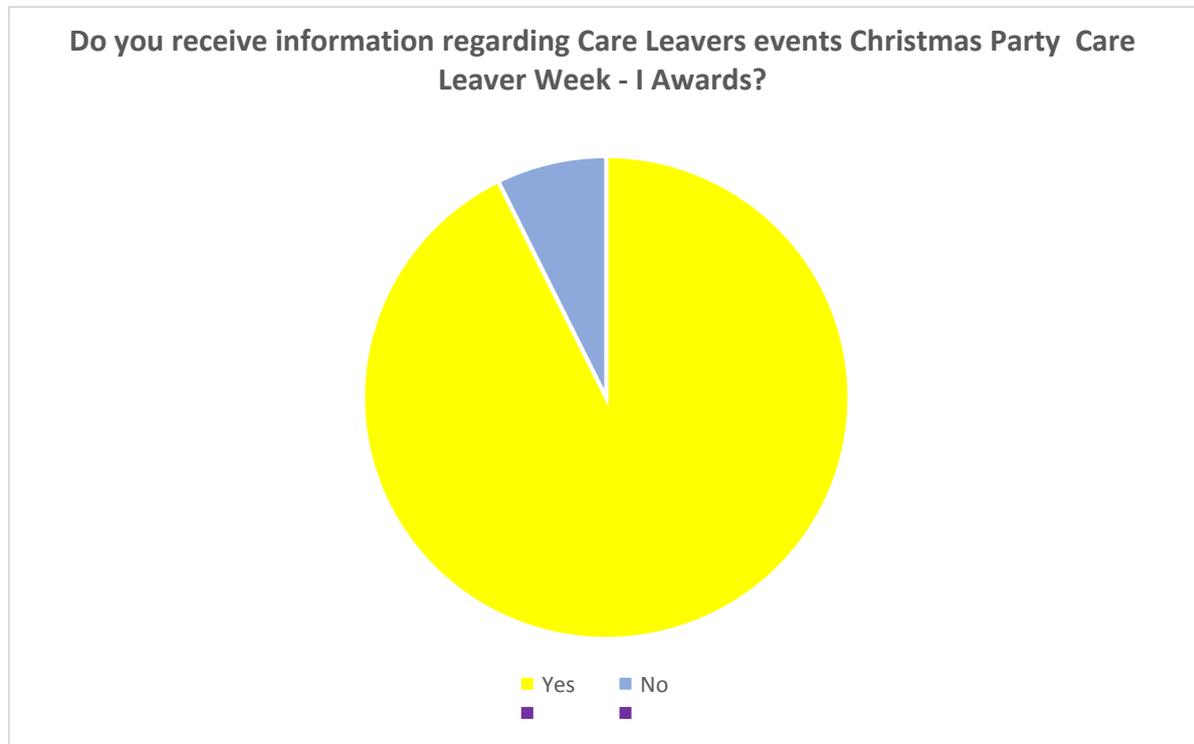
If you have attended, do you find this useful?

Of the 41 recipients 39 responded 12.82% stated that they had found the group useful 10.26 % reported that they had not found the group useful and 76.92% reported that they had not attended. A targeted survey may be required to identify why a larger proportion of young people are not utilising the group. Consideration needs to be given to whether there is a need to develop alternative Groups to meet the varied needs of Children and Young People in Care Transitions Service.



Do you receive information regarding Care Leavers' events Christmas Party Care Leaver Week - I Awards?

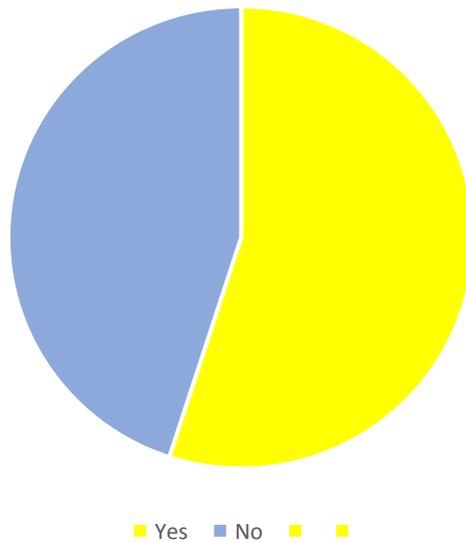
Out of 41 recipients 38 answered the question. 89.47 % responded yes and 10.53 per cent reported no. The expectation should have been 100% response. This result may relate to the recent turnover in staff, there needs to be assurances and clear expectations that all staff ensure that young people are made aware of important and significant events, not as an isolated conversation but as a regular topic of discussion. The monthly newsletter should highlight and promote up and coming events.



Do you know about our Facebook page Lacey Childs?

Out of 41 recipients 40 answered the question of this figure 55% reported yes and 45% no. The result has shown a down turn from last year which recorded 63% of young people knew of the Facebook page Lacey Childs.

Do you know about our Facebook page Lacey Childs?

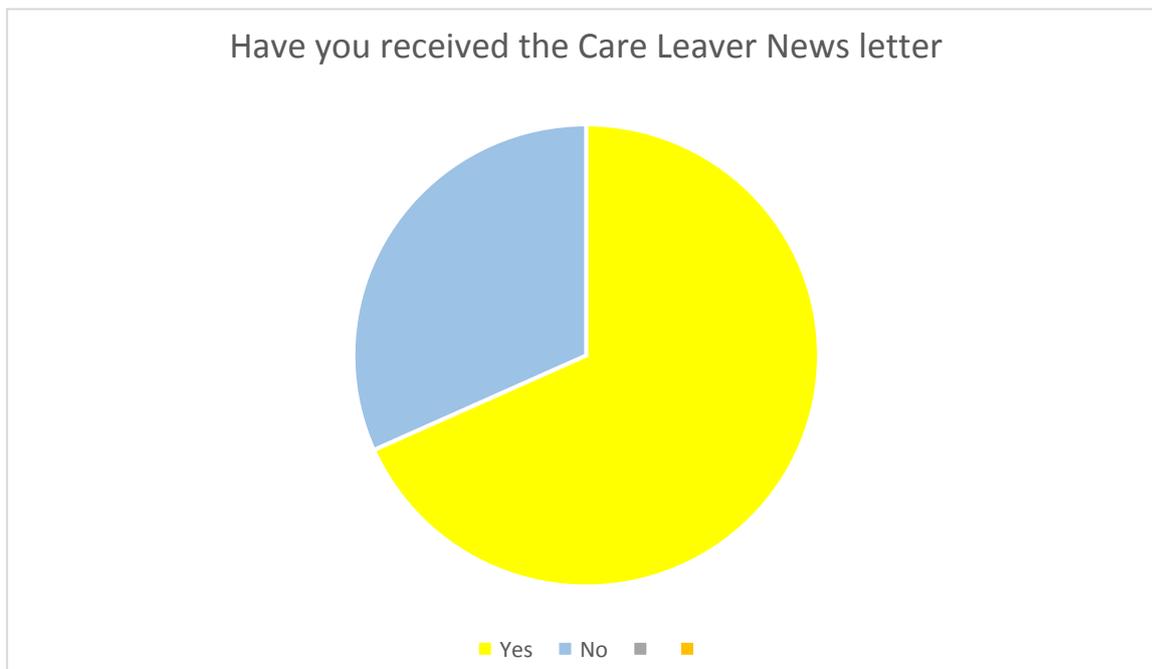


Do you use it?

Of the 41 cohort 78.05% reported that they did not use it and 19.51% recorded that they did.

Have you received the Care Leaver Newsletter?

Out of 41 respondents 41 answered the question of this number 68.29% reported no and 31.71% yes. Half of the young people who responded to our survey do not receive the newsletter the figure is up by 1% from the previous year. The newsletter clearly needs to be relaunched and widely promoted.



Do you find the newsletter useful?

Out of 41 recipients 36 answered the question 22.22% reported yes and 16.67% no. There needs to be more consistency and greater efforts made to ensure all young people receive the care leavers newsletter.

Any suggestions around how to make the newsletter better?

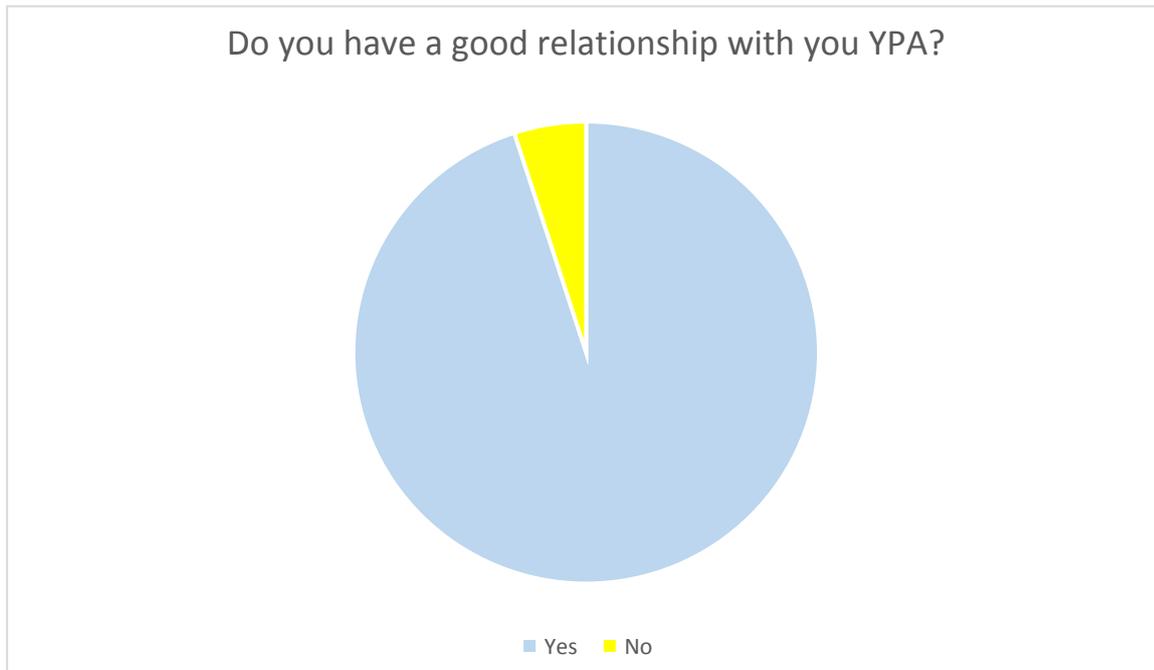
Of the 31 recipients five young people answered, which is not surprising given the proportion of young people who are in receipt of the newsletter.

Do you have a good relationship with your social worker?

Out of 41 recipients 24 answered the question 17 did not to respond. 66.67% answered yes and 33.33% no. The figure reflects a decrease from last year where it was 81% who reported yes. There has been a recent period of instability within the staffing group; involving the recruitment of agency staff this situation may have a bearing on the response. The team will have a full complement of permanent workers from October 2018 which will promote best practice.

Do you have a good relationship with your Young Person’s Advisor (YPA)?

Out of 41 recipients 40 young people answered the question. 95% recorded yes and 5% no. The figures show an increase from last year which was 78%. An excellent result and one to be proud of. We need to maintain this standard and see the figure increase further. The service has enjoyed a stable Young Person's Advisor staffing group who are able to provide a consistent level of support.



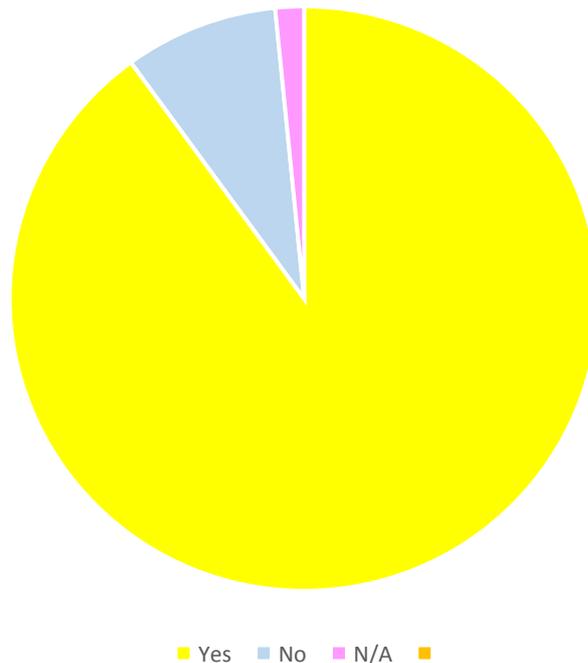
Are you making decisions for yourself regarding your future?

Of the 41 Cohort 40 young people answered the question. 97.56% answered yes and 2.44% replied no

Do you feel you left foster / residential care when you were ready?

Of the 41 respondents, 40 young people answered the question 80% reported yes. 7.50 % no and 12.50% not applicable remained in care. The figure is a down turn from last year which was 84 %.

Do you feel you left foster / Residential care when you were ready?



Are you being supported; did you feel prepared for leaving care?

Of the 41 participants – 39 responded to this question. 79.49 % reported yes. 5.13% responded No. 15.38% were still in care.

Does your accommodation meet your needs?

Out of 41 recipients – 39 young people answered the question of this number 93.31 % replied yes and 7.69 % reported no.

Are you in education, employment or training (EET)?

Out of a 41 cohort – 40 responded, of this number 58.54% reported yes and 41.46% answered no.

If you are not in EET, are you getting the right support to get into education, employment or training?

Of the 41 recipients 35 young people answered of this number 45.71% responded yes and 54.29 % reported N/A. The numbers of participants who met the criteria were low and therefore the accuracy of the data will be affected.

Do you feel that you know your leaving care entitlements?

Of the 41 recipients 40 answered the question of this number 85% reported yes equating to 34 young people and six young people reported no. The expectation is that all young people should know their entitlements.

Do you feel adequately supported with money and budgeting?

Of the 41 recipients 40 answered of this number 90% responded yes and 10% no. The statistics are reflective of the same figure last year.

Can you identify all the things the Children and Young People in Care Transitions Service does well?

Of the 41 recipients 39 young people answered the question. The highest statistics 53.85% related to the area of the service being supportive. and equated to 21 young people. There was a significant drop in other areas with the next figure being 12.82% listening and progressing young people's views on improving the service. Reliability was the third highest score 7.69%. General advice and guidance and support with health concerns and EET totalling 5.13%. There were some areas which scored 2.56%. The lower scoring areas need to be given some attention they included: engaging young people in events and activities, Problem solving, Preparation for independence (Accommodation)

Rating of Leaving Care Service overall?

Of the 41 participants 37 responded to the question with a rating of 83%

Do you wish to remain open post 25?

72.22% reported yes and 27.78% no which is a good outcome and a testament to the work currently being undertaken in the team. The statistics are an improvement on last year which rated 63%.

The total of participants in the survey was overall disappointing and will impact on the quality of data. The statistics will only capture a percentage of young people currently open to the team the analysis of data will be limited to the cohort who participated within the survey.

Areas for Improvement

- Social Workers, Young Person's Advisors, Foster Carers and Residential Staff need to understand the relevance of young people participating in the survey to support the continuous efforts made to improve service delivery.
- Targeted efforts need to be made to ascertain feedback from young people residing in residential and Host Placements which recorded naught response in both these areas.

The question relating to the Leaving Care Forum indicated that a high proportion of young people were unclear about the purpose of the forum. 24.39% did not know about the care leaver forum 97.06% of young people who knew about the forum did not attend. Of that

number 2.63% stated they were unsure of what the forum was about. 10.53% stated they lived out of city and 10.53% reported other reasons.

- The newsletter needs to be improved relaunched and available to all.
- 62.50% of young people do not attend the Drop- In provision at The Way on Friday afternoons.

Employment and Education

- The percentage of fulltime apprenticeships and employment was below 12% and full- time employment 8 %. Ongoing efforts will continue to be made to improve this area. Working in partnership with voluntary sector and charities. The guaranteed place on the National Citizen Service (NCS) programme needs to be actively promoted and young people encouraged to attend. Participation on the NCS need to become a norm rather than a rarity.
- Full time and part time training equated to less than 10 %. There was no full time or part time work experience or full or part time voluntary work, which needs to be developed and built upon.

Strengths

Children and Young People in Care Transitions service:

- 75.61% of young people knew about the care leaver forum compared to 64% last year.
- 95% of Care Leavers reported that they have a good relationship with their Young Person's Advisors. Improvement on last year from 78%
- 97.56% of the young people reported that they are making decisions for themselves regarding their future. Upward trend from last year from 92%
- 96.77% of young people reported that they are getting the right help. Upward trend from last year from 93%
- 93.31% of young people reported that their accommodation is meeting their needs
- 100/% of young people reported that they felt safe in their accommodation. Upward trend from 90% last year.
- 90% of young people reported that they feel adequately supported with money and budgeting
- 100% of young people feel supported with health and wellbeing. Upward trend from 96% last year.

- 83% rated the care leaving service was good.
- 72.22% reported that they would wish to remain open to the Children and Young People in Care Transitions. Upward trend from last year from 63%

CONCLUSION

The Children and Young People in Care Transitions Service are continuing to improve the standard and quality of service provision as outlined in the Strengths. The areas of improvement need to inform the Action Plan to ensure that the provision available remains progressive and fit for purpose. The annual survey is crucial to the overall effectiveness of the service, therefore social workers, young person's advisors including foster carers and residential staff need to be proactive in encouraging all young people to complete the survey.

The participation rate was hugely disappointing; sustained and rigorous efforts need to be made by workers and Team Managers to ensure we have at least 75% of young people within the service completing the survey. Managers will be expected to monitor the completion of the annual survey in their Units to ensure we have a significant upturn in numbers of participants.

The attendance within the Indi Group was also low and an area which needed to be given some focus and attention, to develop and widen the cohort of young people currently attending. The Drop-In service provided at the WAY also revealed a low turnout with 62.50% of young people stating that they had known about the provision but had chosen not to attend. The sessions provide an opportunity for young people to have consultations with a young person's advisor, Children and Young Persons nurse, and a Housing advisor. There needs to be some exploration around why the provision is not utilised more readily and whether an alternative venue would prove to be more effective.

The question relating to the Care Leavers Forum revealed 97.56% of young people did not attend. The medium needs to be promoted and information made available to young people around how the forum could influence and shape service provision.

The question relating to do you feel supported with Health and Wellbeing prompted a 100% score. The question relating to Listening and progressing young people's views scored 12.82% which is low and could correlate with the lack of interest shown in the Care Leavers Forum. It is essential that the overarching and consistent message given is that the views of the

young person do count and can influence how the service is delivered and what type of support is available.

There appears to be an inconsistent amount of young people who receive newsletters. The newsletter needs to be improved relaunched and available to all. There needs to be more consistency and greater efforts made to ensure all young people receive the newsletter. The survey revealed that a proportionate amount of young people did not know their entitlements. The newsletter could provide an additional forum to share information around activities and up and coming events including help and support available.

The question of what you rate the service overall scored a rating of 83% and the response to do you wish to remain open to the service post 25 scored 72.22% which is very positive and testament to the hard work and commitment of workers and managers within the service.

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 22 November 2018
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Report title	Performance Monitoring Information	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paul Sweet Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services	
Originating service	Communications, Insight and Performance Team	
Accountable employee(s)	James Amphlett	Business Intelligence Manager
	Tel	01902 551033
	Email	james.Amphlett2@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Corporate Parenting Board	27 September 2018

Recommendation for action:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Confirm receipt of the report and request any additional indicators or data items that they would like to see reported in future performance updates.

Recommendations for noting:

The Corporate Parenting Board is asked to:

1. Note the most recent performance relating to Children and Young People in Care and Care Leavers.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Corporate Parenting Board on the latest performance relating to Children and Young People in Care and Care Leavers.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Corporate Parenting Board has regularly received a performance report. The report in its current format has been presented to the Board since January 2015, with some additions and enhancements made to the report over time at the request of the Board.

3.0 Update

3.1 All current indicators in the report have been updated with data as at 31 September 2018. The report has been updated in presentation as per request of the board however all indicators remain. Please note that this data is provisional and may not directly reflect the end of year outturn which will not be confirmed until statutory returns are submitted at the end of July.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
[NM/12112018/M]

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.
[TS/09112018/Q]

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 The report contains some demographic data, however, there are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

7.0 Environmental implications

7.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

8.0 Human resources implications

8.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from this report.

9.0 Corporate Landlord implications

9.1 There are no direct Corporate Landlord implications arising from this report.

10.0 Health and Wellbeing implications

10.1 There are no direct Health and Wellbeing implications arising from this report.

11.0 Schedule of background papers

11.1 There are no background papers related to this report.

12.0 Appendices

12.1 Appendix 1: Performance Monitoring Report.

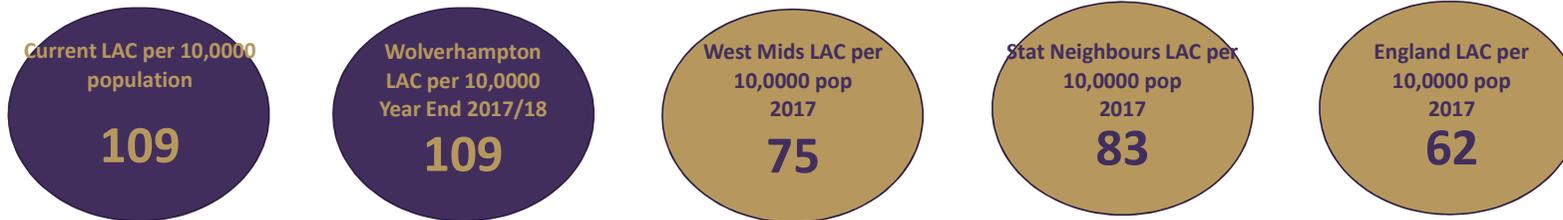
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CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

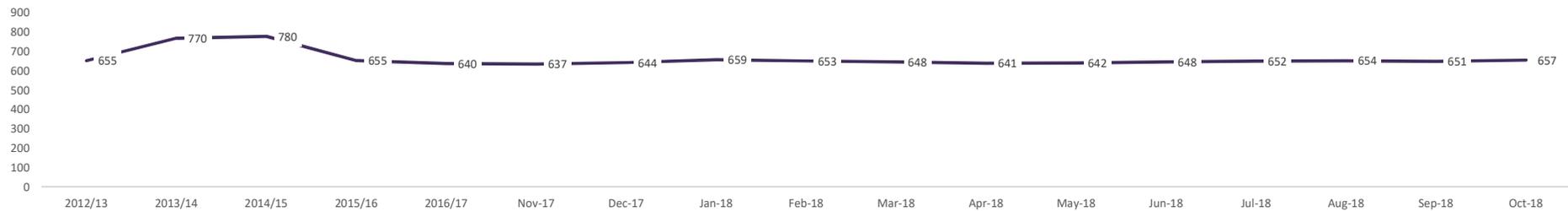
PERFORMANCE REPORT

**NOVEMBER 2018
(DATA AS AS SEPTEMBER 2018)**

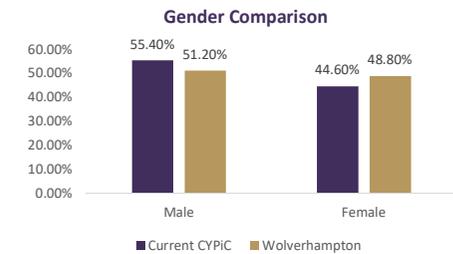
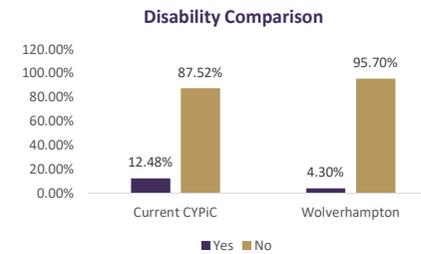
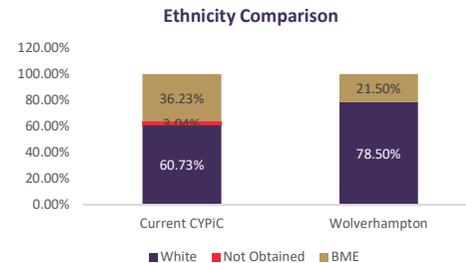
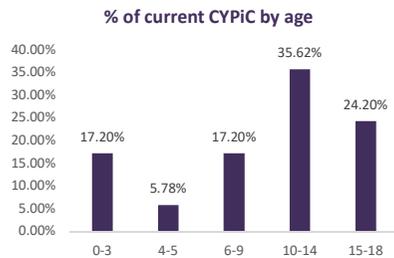
Current LAC Profile



Number of Children and Young People in Care in Wolverhampton



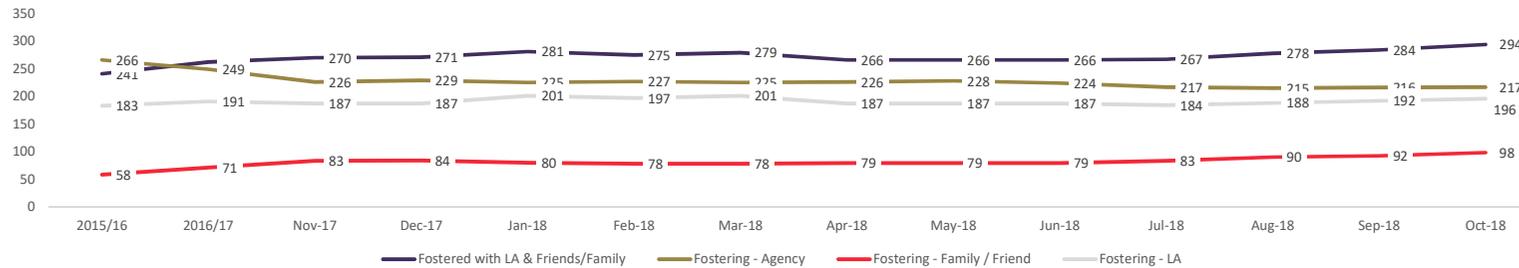
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Demographic data has been updated with the 2016 mid-year population estimates. A considerably lower proportion of CYPIC are from BME backgrounds compared to the Wolverhampton CYP population. Wolverhampton also has a relatively old CYPIC population with the majority of CYPIC aged over 10. Overall there has been a slow increase in the number of CYPIC over the past 6 months and now is higher than at any point in the previous year and a half. The rate of CYPIC starts is not increasing and the increase is linked to a slowing in the rate of LAC ends. A reduction is required to bring Wolverhampton in line with comparators.

CYPiC Placement Analysis

Breakdown of Foster Placements



The number of CYP placed internally foster parents continues to increase to 294.



% CYPiC placed within 20 mile + from home

16%

2016/17 = 14%
2015/16 = 16%
2014/15 = 16%

% CYPiC with fewer than 3 placements in last 12 months

86%

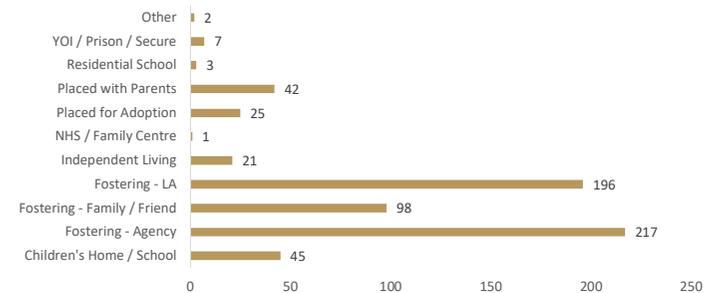
2016/17 Wolverhampton = 87%
2016/17 West Midlands = 89%
2016/17 Stat Neighbours = 90%

% CYPiC in same placement for 2 years or more

67%

2016/17 Wolverhampton = 71%
2016/17 West Midlands = 71%
2016/17 Stat Neighbours = 71%

Current CYPiC by Placement Type



Trends for placements with 'in-house' Foster Carers show continued stronger performance. The pace of this increase has accelerated in the last quarter and number of children placed with internal foster carers is higher than at any point in the past 5 years. The main reason for this increase is the 'Family Values' project that has been targeted with increasing the number of internal placements. Through this project workstreams are working on reducing the time taken to approve new carers, improving accessibility to council's foster carer programme, improve retention of current carers, review decisions making when placing children externally. To help continue this trend managers have cut the target number of days to approve foster parents from 8 to 6 months.

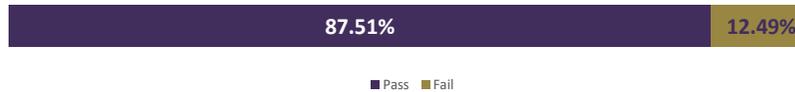
The indicators that look at placement stability have remained strong in the month against a backdrop of static LAC numbers and increased adoptions. Stability generally continues to show positive results and demonstrates that Looked After Children in Wolverhampton benefit from stable placements. The proportion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

Assessments, Reviews, Visits



CYPiC with an up to date assessment

Where a new assessment has been completed within 12 months



2017/18 Year Out-turn = 82%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 83%



CYPiC with an up to date review

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

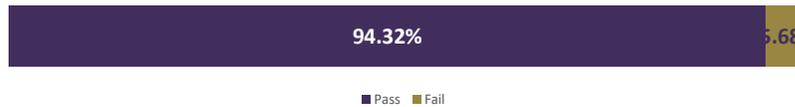


2017/18 Year Out-turn = 92%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 82%



CYPiC who participated in the review

The proportion of CYPiC reviews where the child was present or contributed by other means in their review



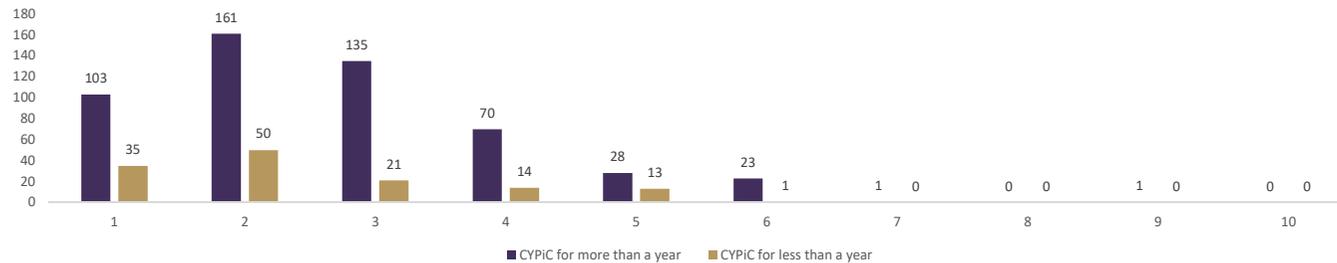
2017/18 Year Out-turn = 94%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 90%



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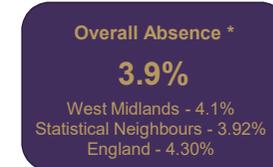
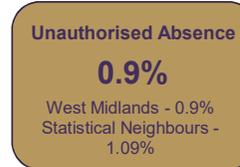
Number of Social Workers LAC have had in the past 12 months



Indicators around timeliness of assessments of Looked After Children have been developed to look at the percentage of LAC who have been assessed or re-assessed within 12 months. This indicator shows the clear majority of CYPiC are assessed each year. CYPiC reviews completed within timescale remain high at 93% 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 2017-2018. Performance so far in 2018-2019 is very strong with a 94% pass rate.

46% of young people who have been looked after for more than a year and 37% who have been looked after for less than a year have had 3 or more social workers in the past 12 months

KS2 Expected Standard	Maths	Reading	Writing	Reading, Writing and Maths
CYPiC Wolverhampton 2017	39%	42%	42%	25%
Wolverhampton 2017	78%	73%	75%	64%
CYPiC West Midlands 2017	41%	40%	44%	29%
CYPiC Stat Neighbours 2017	40%	39%	43%	30%
CYPiC England 2017	41%	45%	47%	32%
KS4	GCSE A* - C in Eng & Maths	Attainment 8	Progress 8	
CYPiC Wolverhampton 2017	19%	21%	-1%	
Wolverhampton 2017	58%	45%	0%	
CYPiC West Midlands 2017	19%	21%	-1%	
CYPiC Stat Neighbours 2017	22%	19%	-1%	
CYPiC England 2017	18%	19%	-1%	



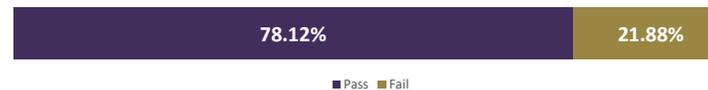
CYPiC with an up to date PEP

The proportion eligible CYPiC with an up to date Personal Education Plan (PEP)

The 2017 KS2 an KS4 results show that Wolverhampton LAC performed better than CYiC regionally but slightly below national and statistical neighbours. There remains a significant gap between the performance of LAC and all Wolverhampton children however small numbers in the cohort 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 2017 - 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

PEP's - All ages



2017/18 Year Out-turn = 80%



PEP's - Early Years



2017/18 Year Out-turn = 51%



PEP's Year 12 & 13



2017/18 Year Out-turn = 80%



Health and Dental Checks and Care Applications



CYPiC with an up to date health check

Where a health check has been completed within 12 months

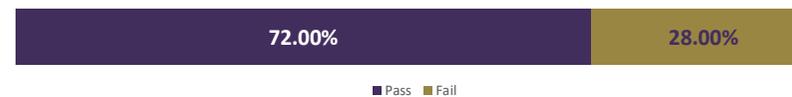


2017/18 Year Out-turn = 84%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 84%



CYPiC with an up to dental check

Where a dental check has been completed within 12 months



2017/18 Year Out-turn = 91%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 89%



Care Applications



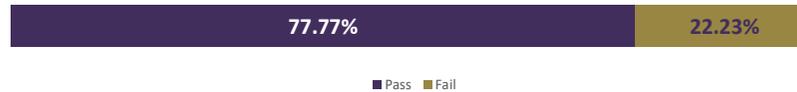
The percentage of children with up to date dental checks continues to decrease to a low of 72% in the month. Managers are targeting this area of performance with sustained data quality work and supervision. Analysis is also being undertaken to see how many children have a medical check but not a dental check. 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 86% and is favourable against year out-turn 2016-2017.

Adoption



CYPiC adopted within A1 indicator

Average time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family

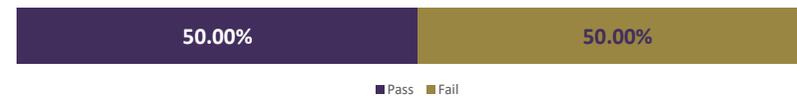


2017/18 Year Out-turn = 60%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 46%



CYPiC adopted within A2 indicator

Average time between receiving court authority to place and finding a match



2017/18 Year Out-turn = 55%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 60%



CYPiC adopted within A10 indicator

Average time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (stopped at point of fostering for foster carers adoption)

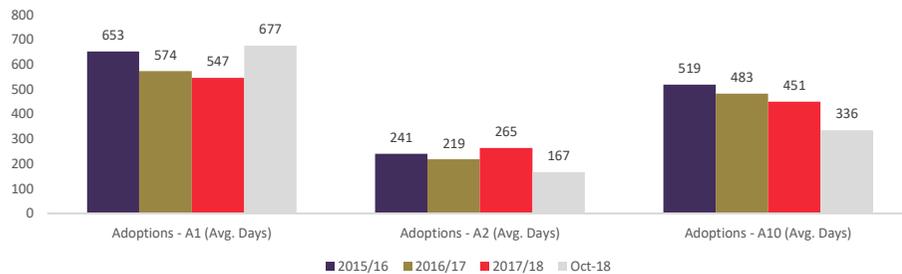


2017/18 Year Out-turn = 63%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 56%

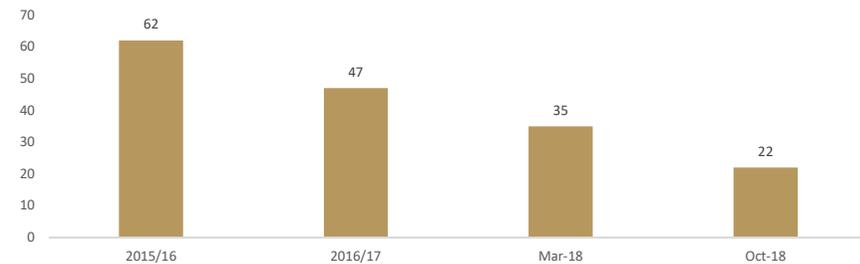


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Average Days against Adoption Indicators



Number of adoptions



Adoption timeliness improved in the 2018/19 against A2 and A10 adoptions indicators. Wolverhampton's A10 indicator is now below national targets and A2 indicator average days is lower than at any previous mid-year point. This is promising performance especially when considering that Wolverhampton also compares favourably to comparators against the adoption of hard to place children. 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 2017-2018 show a similar pattern to the previous year, however an encouraging start has been made in 2018/2019 with 77% of adoptions within timescale.

Care Leavers



Care Leavers EET Status

Education, Employment and Training of Care Leavers aged 17-21



2017/18 Year Out-turn = 60%
2016/17 West Midlands = 46%
2016/17 Stat Neighbours = 47%
2016/17 England = 50%



Care Leavers available to work

Average time between receiving court authority to place and finding a match



2017/18 Year Out-turn = 84%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 82%



Care Leavers in suitable accommodation

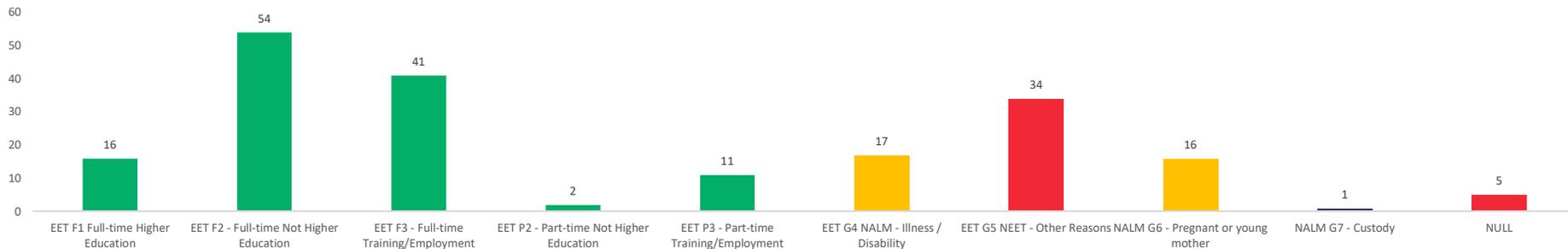
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (stopped at point of fostering for foster carers adoption)



2017/18 Year Out-turn = 88%
2016/17 West Midlands = 82%
2016/17 Stat Neighbours = 83%
2016/17 England = 84%



Current Care Leaver EET Status



Care Leaver data continues to be an area of real strength for the authority. 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. In September 2018 this percentage increased to 61%.

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

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