

Time 5.30 pm **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** Oversight

Venue Committee Room 5 - Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

Membership

Chair Cllr John Reynolds (Lab)

Labour

Cllr Caroline Siarkiewicz
Cllr Paul Sweet
Cllr Martin Waite
Cllr Paula Brookfield
Cllr Rashpal Kaur
Cllr Rita Potter
Cllr Zee Russell

Conservative

Cllr Paul Appleby
Cllr Udey Singh

Quorum for this meeting is three Councillors.

Information for the Public

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

Contact Shelley Humphries
Tel/Email Tel: 01902 554070 or shelley.humphries@wolverhampton.gov.uk
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Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

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Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

Agenda

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

- | <i>Item No.</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|-----------------|---|
| 1 | Apologies for absence |
| 2 | Declarations of interests |
| 3 | Minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2019 (Pages 5 - 12)
[To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2019 as a correct record.] |
| 4 | Matters arising
[To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2019.] |
| 5 | Schedule of Outstanding Matters (Pages 13 - 16)
[To receive the Schedule of Outstanding Matters.] |
| 6 | Children in Care Council (CiCC) and Care Leavers' Forum Workshops
[To participate in introductory workshops with the young people.] |
| 7 | Corporate Parenting Board Work Plan 2019 - 2020 (Pages 17 - 22)
[To approve the Corporate Parenting Board Work Plan for municipal year 2019 – 2020.] |
| 8 | Children living in Wolverhampton who are in the care of other Local Authorities (Pages 23 - 26)
[To receive information on children living in Wolverhampton who are in the care of other local authorities.] |
| 9 | Accommodation for 16 and 17 year old Young People in Care and Care Leavers (Pages 27 - 36)
[To receive the accommodation for 16 and 17-year-old Young People in Care and Care Leavers report.] |
| 10 | Performance Monitoring Information Report (Pages 37 - 48)
[To receive and comment on the Performance Monitoring Information Report.] |
| 11 | Exclusion of the Press and Public
[That in accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.] |

PART 2 - ITEMS NOT OPEN TO THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

- 12 **Councillor Visits to Establishments - Schedule of Visits**
[To receive verbal feedback on any visits to establishments undertaken by Councillors since the last meeting.]

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Attendance

Chair Cllr Paul Sweet (Lab)

Labour

Cllr Jasbinder Dehar
Cllr Celia Hibbert

Cllr Peter O'Neill
Cllr Caroline Siarkiewicz

Employees

Emma Bennett
Fiona Brennan
Dawn Deans
Alison Hinds
Shelley Humphries
Joginder Shoker-Kang
Dr Stephanie Simon
Alice Vickers

Director of Children's Services
Designated Nurse, Children and Young People in Care
Senior Social Work Manager - Adoption
Head of Children and Young People in Care
Democratic Services Officer
CAMHS Representative
Designated Doctor, Children and Young People in Care
Corporate Parenting Officer

Item No. *Title*

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Obaida Ahmed, Councillor Claire Simm, Councillor Udey Singh and Councillor Martin Waite.

2 Declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interest made.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2019

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5 Schedule of outstanding matters

It was agreed that the safeguarding report outlining statistics and relationships with 'at risk' children from other local authorities would be deferred to another meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.

In response to a query regarding Councillor visits, it was reported that Councillor Martin Waite had visited a private sector residential home and a written report had been prepared. It was agreed that, as Councillor Waite had given apologies for this meeting, this would be deferred to the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.

It was clarified that only establishments where Wolverhampton children were placed could be visited and it was agreed that a different Councillor would be invited to attend each time.

Resolved:

1. That the safeguarding report outlining statistics and relationships with 'at risk' children from other local authorities be deferred to another meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.
2. That the report for the Councillor Visit be deferred to the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.
3. That the Schedule of Outstanding Matters report be received.

6 Performance Monitoring Information Report

Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services presented the Performance Monitoring Information report and highlighted salient points. The dashboard had been updated with data as at 30 January 2019, however it was noted that the

number of children in care had fallen from 637 to 626 since the information had been captured.

The 10 – 15-year-olds cohort had the steepest spike, whilst it was noted that the high numbers recorded for 15 – 18-year-old may be as a result of a legacy spike. It was highlighted that internal placements had exceeded set targets whilst placements with agencies had decreased.

In respect of long-term stability, it was noted that the figures may be affected by placements of children into long-term care.

Assessments, reviews and visits figures were showing as very positive and it was noted that up to date personal education plan (PEP) figures were much improved on last year. Health and dental check figures were also strong compared to last year. A slight dip in dental checks had been seen in this snapshot, however extensive work had been undertaken to improve this across the year.

A considerable number of care leavers were in education, employment and training (EET), as well as those being available for the labour market. Care leavers in suitable accommodation figures had decreased, however Wolverhampton's numbers remained strong compared to statistical neighbours.

In response to a query regarding housing provision, it was clarified that there were contracts in place for supported lodgings with the YMCA. It was not solely for care leavers, however it was available for their use if considered appropriate for their situation. It was reported that there was also some provision for families to let spare rooms to care leavers. It was clarified that close work was being undertaken with Wolverhampton Homes and 30 flats were available for the use for care leavers. Specialist provision had also been made for young mothers.

Resolved:

That the Performance Monitoring Information report be received.

7 Children and Young People in Care - Statutory Performance

Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services presented the Children and Young People in Care – Statutory Performance briefing note. The report highlighted information on 10 key indicators covering children and young people which was provided as part of the annual Children Looked After – 903 Return and covered the previous financial year.

It was noted that Wolverhampton was an outlier in terms of numbers, however considerable work was being undertaken to reduce these numbers.

Five out of ten indicators had seen improvement, four had seen a decrease yet remained strong and one had remained the same. It was highlighted that Wolverhampton had achieved the top quartile of performance in two indicators and second quartile in three. Wolverhampton appeared in the bottom quartile for percentage of children and young people in care at 31 March 2019, however this had improved in 2018 – 2019. An outline of the indicators was provided with an analysis of the figures.

In response to a question relating to point 3.3 regarding children involved in missing incidents, it was clarified that West Midlands Police defined a missing child as a child who had not returned home and their whereabouts were unknown to their carer. If they had not returned home but their carer was aware of their whereabouts, they were classed as absent. This definition was likely to undergo a change in that a child was classed as missing if their disappearance was reported to police. It was noted that once a child had returned, a Return Interview was conducted within 72 hours to ascertain where they had been and with whom.

Resolved:

That the Children and Young People in Care Statutory Performance briefing note be received.

8 **Corporate Parenting Strategy 2018 - 2021 Update**

Alice Vickers, Corporate Parenting Officer presented the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2018 – 2021 Update report. The report outlined the developments progressed and opportunities made available to children and young people in care and care leavers since the launch of the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2018 – 2021 in April 2018.

It was noted that in May 2018, the Strategy was launched with a Corporate Parenting Workshop which identified opportunities and ideas for what was known as the Corporate Parenting Senior Officers' Group to develop. The Group had been refreshed as the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board and included external partners as well as internal officers to ensure better outcomes for children and young people.

It was reported that a Corporate Parenting Action Plan based on the seven Corporate Parenting Principles had been developed for the first time for 2018 -2019. The Action Plan was presented at each Corporate Parenting Partnership Board meeting for officers and partners to review and add to. It was noted that priority areas were highlighted in a table on the first page and actions that had been completed were outlined on subsequent pages. It was noted that all actions were complete for the 2018 – 2019 Action Plan and the plan was approved.

It was noted that the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board scheduled for Monday 1 April 2019 would be dedicated to identifying new priorities for the 2019 – 2020 Action Plan.

It was highlighted that it was important for Wolverhampton's children and young people in care to hold high aspirations and a query was raised whether care leavers who had done well could act as peer mentors or ambassadors. It was noted that HeadStart was already exploring this resource with peer-to-peer mentoring.

Resolved:

1. That the developments outlined in the Corporate Parenting Strategy Update 2018 – 2021 be received.
2. That the Corporate Parenting Action Plan 2018 – 2019 be approved.

9 **Adoption Agency Interim Report**

Dawn Deans, Senior Social Work Manager presented the Adoption Agency Interim Report and highlighted salient points. The report provided an update on the work carried out by the City of Wolverhampton Adoption Service from April – October 2018.

It was highlighted that the target of six early permanence placements had been achieved earlier than expected and the new regional adoption agency (RAA) Adoption@Heart was due to launch on 1 April 2019.

It was highlighted that there had been extensive work on embedding black, and minority ethnic (BAME) imagery and messaging in marketing activities and several bespoke targeted campaigns had been developed, which included information being translated into several different languages.

In response to queries regarding the RAA, it was clarified that it was a Black Country agency rather than West Midlands and that the budget was on track for the first year. It was also noted that the operating model for the RAA had been approved at Cabinet.

Resolved:

That the Adoption Agency Interim Report be received.

10 **Health Services for Children and Young People in Care Annual Report January 2018 - February 2019**

Fiona Brennan, Dedicated Nurse for Children and Young People presented the Health Services for Children and Young People in Care Annual Report January 2018 – February 2019 and highlighted salient points. The report outlined action being taken to deliver health outcomes for children and young people in care and advise the Corporate Parenting Board of future plans.

It was noted that there had been a focus on commissioning arrangements and that the health care provision had expanded to cover children in care placed within a 50-mile radius. This accounted for 92% of children however it was noted that the Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) remained responsible and worked closely with the remaining 8% placed outside of this area.

It was added that the expansion of the administration team had enabled services to become more streamlined and had improved the timeliness of health assessments.

Attention was drawn to page 82 which outlined the Key Health Priorities for Wolverhampton.

In respect of immunisations, it was noted that children in care were less likely to be immunised at the age of two. It was thought that this was due to the process of being placed into care beginning around this age, causing this to be overlooked.

In respect of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), it was noted that the service had undergone a transformation and the CYPiC team had been restructured. It had been ensured that children and young people in care were recognised as having extra or specialised needs.

It was noted that waiting lists had been significantly reduced since the transformation. The longest waits had been experienced with unaccompanied asylum seeker children (UASC), who had been difficult to engage.

The reduction in waiting times was commended however concerns were expressed regarding cancellations or children not showing up for health assessments. It was noted that there were some repeat offenders which could often skew the figures. The Board was reassured that this would be reviewed and addressing non-attendance would become a key performance indicator. It was noted that persistent non-attendance would result in a safeguarding referral, and WCCG would escalate to Children's Services if necessary. Social Workers would be informed in all instances. It was clarified that CAMHS covered a 20-mile radius.

Resolved:

That the Health Services for Children and Young People in Care Annual Report January 2018 – February 2019 be received.

11 **The House Project**

Alison Hinds, Head of Children and Young People in Care presented the House Project report. The report outlined the proposal to implement the House Project in the City of Wolverhampton. It was highlighted that many care leavers felt moving into their own home was daunting and that many felt loneliness.

It was noted that the House Project was an initiative that was first established in Stoke-on-Trent where young care leavers would be involved in refurbishing void properties. Once the properties were refurbished, the young people could move in and remain there as long as they wished.

It was noted that the project had many positive outcomes, such as the young people gaining a feeling of ownership, independence and achievement as well as building a community of support.

It was outlined that the second phase of the project involved funding the development of the House Project in five local authorities. Once the model is assured, it is anticipated that the National House Project will disseminate the framework to other authorities.

It was proposed that the City of Wolverhampton would develop the House Project to complement the supported housing accommodation offer that already exists for care leavers. The National House Project had been contacted and would be visiting Wolverhampton to consult with employees within the Transition Team and the care leavers themselves.

It was suggested that the Authority ensure that private sector landlords did not exploit the system, however the Board was reassured that a strong working relationship had been forged with Wolverhampton Homes to secure properties for the Project and that 33 flats had been identified.

The House Project was welcomed by Board members and it was agreed it would help build confidence. The project would be progressed with a formal report being provided to Cabinet Resources Panel.

Resolved:

That the House Project report be received.

12 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information contained in paragraph 2 of the Act, namely information that is likely to reveal the identity to an individual.

13 **Councillor Visits to Establishments - Schedule of Visits**

Resolved:

That this item be deferred until the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.

14 **Any other business**

It was announced that Councillor Peter O'Neill would be retiring in May 2019. Councillor O'Neill extended thanks to the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Board and commended the work of the Corporate Parenting Board stating it had been a privilege to be a member.

The Chair took to the opportunity to wish Councillor O'Neill well on behalf of the Board and recognise his contribution as a member.

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 13 June 2019
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Report title	Schedule of Outstanding Matters	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor John Reynolds Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services	
Originating service	Governance	
Accountable employee	Shelley Humphries	Democratic Services Officer
	Tel	01902 554070
	Email	shelley.humphries@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Recommendation for action:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Receive and comment on the Schedule of Outstanding Matters.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to appraise the Board of the current position with a variety of matters considered at previous meetings of the Corporate Parenting Board.

2.0 Background

2.1 At previous meetings of the Board the following matters were considered and details of the current position is set out in the fourth column of the table.

Date of Meeting	Subject	Lead Member / Officer	Current Position
22 November 2018	A safeguarding report outlining statistics and relationships with children living in Wolverhampton who are in the care of other local authorities.	Dawn Williams, Head of Safeguarding.	Scheduled for this meeting.
24 January 2019	Head of Children and Young People in Care to encourage residential home managers to respond to Councillor visit requests.	Alison Hinds, Head of Children and Young People in Care.	A visit report has been prepared for this meeting.

3.0 Financial implications

3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

3.2 The financial implications of each matter will be detailed in the individual report submitted to the Board.

4.0 Legal implications

4.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

4.2 The legal implications of each matter will be detailed in the individual report submitted to the Board.

5.0 Equalities implications

- 5.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.
- 5.2 The equalities implications of each matter will be detailed in the individual report submitted to the Board.

6.0 Environmental implications

- 6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.
- 6.2 The environmental implications of each matter will be detailed in the individual report submitted to the Board.

7.0 Human resources implications

- 7.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from this report.
- 7.2 The human resources implications of each matter will be detailed in the individual report submitted to the Board.

8.0 Corporate Landlord implications

- 8.1 There are no direct Corporate Landlord implications arising from this report.
- 8.2 The Corporate Landlord implications of each matter will be detailed in the individual report submitted to the Board.

9.0 Health and Wellbeing implications

- 9.1 The Health and Wellbeing implications of each matter will be detailed in the individual report submitted to the Board.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

- 10.1 Minutes of previous meetings of the Board and associates.

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 13 June 2019
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Report title	Corporate Parenting Board Work Plan 2019-2020	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor John Reynolds Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services	
Originating service	Children's Services	
Accountable employee	Alice Vickers	Corporate Parenting Officer
	Tel	01902 553010
	Email	Alice.Vickers@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report has been considered by	Children and Young People in Care Management Team	15 May 2019

Recommendation for action:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Approve the enclosed proposed Corporate Parenting Board Work Plan 2019–2020 outlining the Corporate Parenting Board's activities for the next 12 months.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 Members of the Corporate Parenting Board are invited to review, comment and provide feedback on the Corporate Parenting Board Work Plan 2019–2020.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Corporate Parenting Board meets regularly and requires a new Work Plan to be considered for municipal year 2019-2020.

3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

- 3.1 The proposed decision is that the Corporate Parenting Board approve the Corporate Parenting Board Work Plan 2019-2020 which will ensure all reports are scheduled onto forthcoming agendas for this Board.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications as a result of this report.
- 4.2 Any costs associated with the Corporate Parenting Board Work Plan 2019-2020 will be contained within existing budgets within Children's Services.
[NM/04062019/F]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.
[TC/05062019/I]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications as a result of this report.

7.0 Environmental implications

- 7.1 There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

8.0 Human resources implications

- 8.1 There are no human resources implications as a result of this report.

9.0 Corporate Landlord implications

- 9.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications as a result of this report.

10.0 Health and Wellbeing implications

10.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications as a result of this report

11.0 Schedule of background papers

11.1 Corporate Parenting Board Work Plan 2019-2020

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Corporate Parenting Work Plan 2019 - 2020

Date of Corporate Parenting Board Meeting	Date of Children and Young People in Care Managers' Meeting	Date of Children in Care Council (CiCC)	Agenda Items	Invitees
13/06/2019	15/05/2019	24/04/2019	Corporate Parenting Board Work Plan 2019 - 2020 Total Respect and CiCC	Alice Vickers Andrew Scragg
18/07/2019	12/06/2019	26/6/2019	Adoption Annual report Health Report Fostering Annual Report Foster Carers Forum	Alison Hinds Fiona Brennan Lisa Whelan Esther Douglas
26/09/2019	21/08/2019	28/08/2019	Sufficiency Strategy Independent Reviewing Officer Report	Nick Price Mandy Lee
21/11/2019	16/10/2019	30/10/2019	Carers Leavers' Local Offer CLIC (Care Leavers Forum)	Laura Wood Andrew Scragg
23/01/2020	13/11/2019	27/11/2019	Children in Care Council (CiCC) Virtual School Report	Andrew Scragg Darren Martindale
26/03/2020	19/02/2020	26/02/2020	Adoption Interim Report The House Project Corporate Parenting Strategy Report	Mark Tobin Alison Hinds Alice Vickers

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 13 June 2019
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Report title	Children living in Wolverhampton who are in the care of other Local Authorities	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor John Reynolds Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services	
Originating service	Safeguarding	
Accountable employee	Mandy Lee	Safeguarding Manager
	Tel	01902 550654
	Email	Mandy.lee@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be considered by	Corporate Parenting Board	13 June 2019

Recommendations for action:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Receive the Children living in Wolverhampton who are in the care of other Local Authorities report and be assured of the safeguarding arrangements in place.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide information in relation to duties and responsibilities for children who are in the care of other Local Authorities, but who are placed within Wolverhampton. To provide assurances that such young people are appropriately safeguarded.

2.0 Background and context

- 2.1 Children and young people who are in the care of other Local Authorities may be placed within Wolverhampton for a number of reasons:
- placed with connected persons
 - placed with foster carers
 - placed in residential unit
 - placed in unregulated supported living accommodation for care leavers.
- 2.2 The placing authority retains the statutory responsibility for these children and young people. They will have a social worker, a Young Persons Advisor if over 16, an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) and all the same requirements in relation to statutory visiting, Personal Education Plans (PEPs), health assessments, etc as if they resided in their local area.
- 2.3 If children go missing or are at risk of exploitation, the placing authority has responsibility for responding to the risks and putting safeguards in place. They have responsibility to completing missing return interviews.
- 2.4 The placing authority must inform the local authority where the child is to be placed. This notification is basic identifying information (e.g. name, date of birth, placement address, name of social worker).
- 2.5 Ofsted have responsibility for ensuring the providers of regulated placements meet care standards, including appropriate safeguarding arrangements.

3.0 Wolverhampton responsibilities

- 3.1 The Safeguarding Service receives notifications from other local authorities that children are placed in Wolverhampton. These are recorded on CareFirst so should that referral be received in relation to these young people, the local authority concerned can be notified.
- 3.2 Records show at the Council were notified of 136 children placed in the area between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019.
- 3.3 If there is a child found in the area (Wolverhampton) who is believed to be suffering or at risk of suffering significant harm, Children's Social Care have a duty to undertake enquiries (under the Children Act 1989). Where a child is the responsibility of another local authority, they would do so in liaison with that local authority. In most cases, Wolverhampton Multiagency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) would coordinate arrangements

between police and the other local authority to respond to the concern. If concerns arose out of office hours, Wolverhampton Emergency Duty Team would need to take any immediate protective actions.

- 3.4 City of Wolverhampton Council do not have any regulatory powers in relation to independent care providers. This lies within the remit of Ofsted. Supported living providers for care leavers (16-18 years old) are not regulated. The Director of Children's Services meets regularly with Ofsted on a quarterly basis and discussions include independent care providers in Wolverhampton. In addition, Ofsted notify the Local Authority directly of any safeguarding concerns/inadequate judgement of independent care providers in Wolverhampton.
- 3.5 In addition, the Safeguarding Service takes efforts to ensure effective safeguarding wherever possible:
- Joint visits with police to settings where there have been police call outs.
 - Visit/briefing to providers staff teams by the Local Authority Designated Officer to ensure staff are aware of 'Allegations against people who work with Children Procedures'.
 - Planning officers refer applicants for new Children's Homes to the Head of Safeguarding, so that the provider can be made aware of any safeguarding concerns in the proposed location as soon as possible.
 - Ofsted raises concerns with the Safeguarding Service when there is a concern that an unregulated setting is acting as a Children's Home. This would trigger a visit from the service. Ofsted would be notified if evidence that the setting was acting as a Children's Home emerged.
 - The Safeguarding Service would convene and chair a complex strategy meeting if there were safeguarding concerns relating to children linked to specific localities or offenders in Wolverhampton, regardless of whether the children were in the care of other local authorities.
 - Independent Provider Forum meets to engage and support these local establishments.

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 The report provides details of the responsibilities for children and young people who are placed in Wolverhampton by other local authorities. It provides assurance that Children's Services does all it can to address safeguarding concerns when they arise.

5.0 Financial implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report.
[NM/04062019/I]

6.0 Legal implications

- 6.1 The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations Volume 2 Care Planning, Placement and Case Review 2015 statutory guidance and the associated regulations outline the duties of local authorities to notify other local authorities if they place a child in care within their area.

In addition, under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 it is the general duty of every local authority to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need; and so far as it is consistent with that duty, to promote the upbringing of such children by their families.

[TC/31052019/R]

7.0 Equalities implications

- 7.1 There are no equalities implications however the report reflects the understanding that children and young people in care are some of the most vulnerable in our community.

8.0 Environmental implications

- 8.1 There are no environmental implications.

9.0 Human resources implications

- 9.1 There are no Human Resources 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 None

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 13 June 2019
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Report title	Accommodation for 16 and 17-year-old Young People in Care and Care Leavers	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor John Reynolds Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable Director	Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services	
Originating service	Commissioning	
Accountable employees	Adam Cooper	Lead Commissioner
	Tel	01902 551028
	Email	Adam.cooper@wolverhampton.gov.uk
	Veronica Grantham	Quality Assurance & Compliance Manager
		01902 555494
	Tel	Veronica.grantham@wolverhampton.gov.uk
	Email	ov.uk
Report to has been considered by	Children and Young People Strategic Leadership Team Meeting	23 May 2019

Recommendation for action:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Receive the Accommodation for 16 and 17-year-old Young People in Care and Care Leavers report.

Recommendation for noting:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to note:

1. The arrangements in place to ensure the support and quality of care for 16-17 young people in care living in supported accommodation.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This report asks the Corporate Parenting Board to consider the following:
- The City of Wolverhampton Council's procedures when placing 16 and 17-year-old young people in 'other accommodation', including semi-independent units, supported accommodation, hostels, foyers and supported lodgings
 - an overview of each type of 'other accommodation' and quality assurance to safeguard young people
 - the number of young people currently placed in 'other accommodation'
 - commissioning developments intended to improve quality and safeguarding

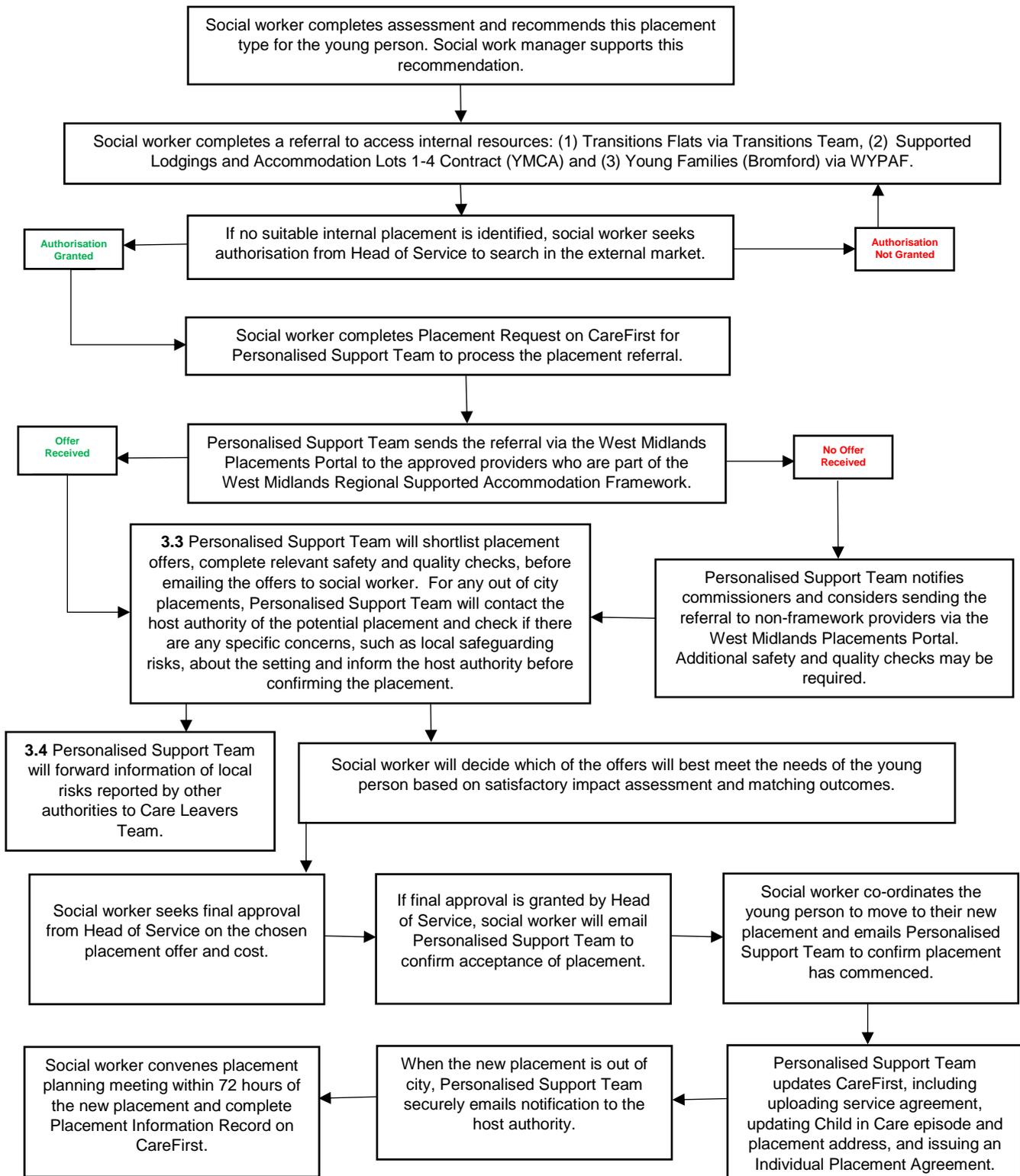
2.0 Background

- 2.1 Local authorities in England require to place 16 and 17-year-old young people in care and care leavers in 'other accommodation'. In England, 'other accommodation' includes semi-independent units, supported accommodation, hostels, foyers and supported lodgings. These types of accommodation provide an alternative for 16 and 17-year-old young people who do not wish to live with a foster family or in a children's home.
- 2.2 On 11 April 2019, Nadhim Zahawi MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families, wrote to all Directors of Children's Services and Chairs of Local Safeguarding Children's Board highlighting the challenges faced by many local authorities in relation to these unregulated services. These challenges include the recent increase in the number of older children coming into care, and these children are less likely to wish to live in a foster care home or children's home. (See Appendix 1 – Letter from Nadhim Zahawi MP).
- 2.3 This report sets out the current position of the City of Wolverhampton Council with regard to these issues.

3.0 Procedures of Placing Young People in 'Independent living with or without support'

- 3.1 The Head of Children and Young People in Care, Lead Commissioner Children's Services, Quality Assurance and Compliance Manager and Personalised Support Children's Lead have reviewed and agreed that the flowchart below. This shows the current processes and responsibilities of relevant officers/teams when placing young people in 'Independent living with or without support'.
- 3.2 These procedures are intended to ensure relevant processes and checks are carried out to ensure safety and quality of placements.
- 3.3 Following a review, two additional steps have been included (**see 3.3 and 3.4 in flowchart**) in order to ensure safety and suitability of placement offers. Personalised Support Team will contact the host authority of the potential placement and check if there are any specific concerns, such as local safeguarding risks of Child Sexual Exploitation and County Lines,

about the setting and inform the host authority before confirming the placement. Personalised Support Team will forward information of local risks reported by other authorities to Care Leavers Team.



4.0 Overview of Placement Types and Quality Assurance

- 4.1 There are a range of placement types available to 16 and 17-year-old young people in care and care leavers in order to meet their individual needs.
- 4.2 The types and placements and quality assurance are outlined below.

5.0 Internal Transitions Flats

- 5.1 If the young person is identified as ready to learn independence skills and gain support at one of the transitions flats, the social worker, in agreement with the young person will make an initial referral to the Senior Housing Worker/Supported Accommodation Manager.
- 5.2 There are 24 Transitions Flats. Each young person receives 8 to 30 hours per week of support depending on their needs. These flats are managed, and quality monitored internally by the Supported Accommodation Team.
- 5.3 As of 15 April 2019, there are 24 young people staying in these flats. 14 young people are 16 and 17-year-old, and ten young people are 18 and 19-year-old. Majority of the young people aged 18 and 19 are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC), others have moving on plans.

6.0 Supported Lodgings and Accommodation Lots 1-4 Contract (delivered by YMCA) Young Families Supported Accommodation Contract (delivered by Bromford)

- 6.1 These contracts provide accommodation options including supported accommodation and supported lodgings to 16 and 17-year-old in or near Wolverhampton.
- 6.2 They are quality monitored by the Quality Assurance and Compliance (QAC) Team in accordance to the contractual service specifications. To ensure young people are receiving safe and good quality of support, when required, the QAC team will set service improvement plans for YMCA with actions which are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time bound. These placements are quality monitored by the QAC Team once a year as a minimum to ensure young people are receiving safe and good quality of support.

7.0 Sub Regional Framework

- 7.1 The City of Wolverhampton Council is part of the West Midlands Sub Regional Supported Framework Contract which has been extended to 2021. Staffordshire County Council is the lead authority of this framework. All 14 participating authorities report any quality concerns at a provider level to Staffordshire County Council who would address the concerns through contract management procedures.
- 7.2 In city placements are quality monitored by the QAC Team once a year as a minimum. To ensure young people are receiving safe and good quality of support, when required, the

QAC team will set service improvement plans for providers with actions which are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time bound.

- 7.3 Occasionally, the City of Wolverhampton Council needs to place young people out of city. Placements within the West Midlands region are quality monitored by the QAC Team once a year as minimum.
- 7.4 The QAC team is a member of the West Midlands Regional Quality Assurance Group. The group meet bi-monthly to share monitoring outcomes, service improvement plans and escalations. The group and Ofsted hold regular information sharing to raise and discuss concerns where providers may be operating children's homes without Ofsted registration.
- 7.5 The QAC team continues to work closely with Wolverhampton Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) to identify and investigate any concerns of unregulated supported accommodation in Wolverhampton. LADO will raise any concerns directly with the Police and Ofsted.

8.0 Spot Purchase

- 8.1 When all the above placement types have been exhausted, spot purchase placements will be considered. As these providers may be not known to the Council, thorough pre-placement checks must be completed to satisfactory levels by the Personalised Support Team and social workers.
- 8.2 Similar to placements made under the sub regional framework, in city placements are quality monitored by the QAC Team once a year as a minimum. To ensure young people are receiving safe and good quality of support, when required, the QAC team will set service improvement plans for providers with actions which are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time bound.

9.0 Current Picture in the City of Wolverhampton

- 9.1 As of 15/04/2019, there are 44 young people in care are placed in the placement type of 'Independent living with or without support'. The majority of these young people are accommodated in internal transitions flats.

Service Type	Number of Young People
Internal Transitions Flats	24
Supported Lodgings and Accommodation Lots 1-4 Contract (YMCA) Supported Accommodation for Young Families (Bromford)	8
Sub Regional Framework	7
Spot Purchase	5
TOTAL	44

16 y.o.	8
17 y.o.	26
18 y.o.	6
19 y.o.	4
TOTAL	44

Male	25
Female	19
TOTAL	44

In City	35
Out of City	9
TOTAL	44

- 9.2 The City of Wolverhampton Council has less control of quality assurance over spot purchase placements. In addition to the above placement procedures, we aim to have better control of this type of placements to ensure young people are safe and receive good quality of support.

10.0 Commissioning Developments

Supported Accommodation Contracts

- 10.1 A comprehensive review of the City of Wolverhampton Council's current contracts with regard to supported accommodation was completed between October 2018 and January 2019 in order to ensure that these contracts meet the needs of children and young people in Wolverhampton.
- 10.2 As a result, new service specifications have been developed in collaboration with internal operational staff and young people that will underpin a provision which focuses on the following:
- Working with and complementing existing services, including the Council's Children's Services
 - Adherence to Gateway/Hub Approach which will be managed and administered by the Council (Children's Services, Care Leavers Team) to ensure objectivity in terms of accepting and directing referrals. In addition to this, a data collection system will be developed to track usage and trends in order to shape future service provision.
 - Having a well-trained and motivated staff team which can adequately meet the identified needs of service users, particularly those with multiple/complex issues including young offenders.

- Delivering activities which support sustained independence for service users and the successful achievement of outcomes, particularly those relating to education, employment and training.

- 10.3 The contracts will go out to tender in May 2019 and will be in place for 1 December 2019.
- 10.4 A comprehensive performance management framework will rigorously be applied to the new contracts to ensure outcomes of young people are optimised.
- 10.5 The supported lodgings element of the current contract with YMCA will be transferred to the City of Wolverhampton Council's Supported Accommodation Team in November 2019.
- 10.6 These measures will give the Council more control over the quality and safety of accommodation options for young people.

Sub Regional Supported Accommodation Framework

- 10.7 The current Sub Regional Supported Accommodation Framework has been extended to 2021. Regional work on the new tender will commence later in 2019 to ensure the new tender will go out in 2020. The City of Wolverhampton Council's Commissioning Team has asked to be part of the regional development group to ensure the new tender include adequate and effective quality assurance requirements.
- 10.8 In addition, the Council's Commissioning Team are part of the task and finish group that will develop the role of the regional commissioning resource and will look to ensure where appropriate that quality and safeguarding of supported accommodation considered to address this emerging need.

Spot Purchase

- 10.9 It is intended that as part of the Commissioning restructure and resulting re-prioritisation of Quality Assurance and Compliance Team's workload currently undertaken between Lead Commissioner for Children Services and Quality Assurance and Compliance Manager that additional quality monitoring will be able to be undertaken in regard to spot purchasing to manage the risks in this area.
- 10.10 Proposal regarding this will be agreed with Head of Children and Young People in Care to ensure quality monitoring is co-ordinated.

11.0 Financial implications

- 11.1 The total approved budget for 2019-2020 for accommodation for 16 and 17-year-old Young People in Care and Care Leavers is £937,000.
- 11.2 There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report.

[JB/05062019/E]

12.0 Legal implications

12.1 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

[TS/05062019/T]

13.0 Equalities implications

13.1 There are no equalities implications as a result of this report.

14.0 Environmental implications

14.1 There are no environment implications as a result of this report.

15.0 Health and Wellbeing Implications

15.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications as a result of this report.

16.0 Project Implications

16.1 There are no project implications as a result of this report.

17.0 Human resources implications

17.1 There are no human resources implications as a result of this report.

18.0 Corporate landlord implications

18.1 There are no corporate landlord implications as a result of this report.

19.0 Schedule of background papers

19.1 None

20.0 Appendices

20.1 Appendix 1 – Letter from Nadhim Zahawi MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families



Nadhim Zahawi MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

To: Directors of Children's Services
Cc: Chairs of Local Safeguarding Children's Board

11th March 2019

Use of unregulated provision to accommodate children in care and care leavers aged 16 and 17

All local authorities use 'other accommodation' – which includes semi-independent units, supported accommodation, hostels, foyers and supported lodgings – to accommodate older children in care and care leavers aged 16 and 17. These types of accommodation provide an alternative for young people who do not wish to live with a foster family or in a children's home; and can provide a 'stepping stone' for young people who want more independence, but are not yet ready for the challenges of maintaining an independent tenancy.

As you know, this sort of provision is not inspected by Ofsted, but there are responsibilities on local authorities - set out in statutory guidance – to ensure that the accommodation they use is suitable; and to ensure that the young person is getting the support they need. This includes the local authority making checks on the character and suitability of the landlord/provider; and ensuring that the setting complies with the health and safety requirements that relate to rented accommodation.

Where local authorities are placing a young person out of area, there are additional safeguards in place. These require the placing authority to inform the host authority before confirming the placement; and to check whether the host authority is aware of any concerns about the setting. This is designed to ensure that poor quality providers are identified and exporting local authorities stop placing children in them.

I know that many local authorities use commissioning mechanisms that identify 'approved providers' who meet agreed quality standards and have a track record of delivering high quality provision. However, I am also aware that, as a result of recent increases in the number of older children coming into care – who are less likely to want to move in with a foster family or live in a children's home – the demand for high quality provision is, in many areas, outstripping supply.

There are no simple answers, but there are a number of ways in which we are trying to tackle this problem, including continuing to fund local authorities to implement Staying Put, which reduces local authorities' need to place young people in 'other accommodation'. And we are also piloting Staying Close in 8 local authorities, which provides an enhanced support offer for young people leaving residential care; and have made a commitment to roll out Staying Close nationally.

We are also using the children's social care Innovation Programme to fund projects in London, where problems are most acute, to increase councils' capacity. This work should also result in fewer children being placed far away from home. We will also be providing seed funding to fostering partnerships to increase sufficiency of foster parents and are providing funding to three local authorities to set up new secure provision.

While I recognise the challenges that exist, I know that you will share my view that despite them we must do as much as we can to ensure that young people are not placed in settings that expose them to a range of safeguarding risks, such as CSE and becoming involved in County Lines.

The risks of not doing so were brought home to me recently when I met representatives from Bedfordshire Council and Bedfordshire Police Service, who raised concerns that other local authorities were placing young people in unregulated provision in Bedfordshire, without first checking whether Bedfordshire Council had any reservations about the provider. In one of the examples they gave, rival gang members from two neighbouring local authorities had been placed with the same provider. In neither case had the placing local authority contacted Bedfordshire to discuss the suitability of the provider before making the placement decision.

I know that – thanks to your efforts - there will be many examples where young people are being accommodated in high quality provision that meets their needs. But the cases above demonstrate that information is not always being shared, with the consequent risk that vulnerable young people are being placed in unregulated provision without the placing local authority speaking to the host authority to ensure they are aware of any concerns about the provider.

I would therefore be grateful if you would review your procedures when placing young people in unregulated provision (especially where the provider is outside your local area) to ensure that statutory requirements are being met and that young people are not put at risk.

I also wanted to let you know that I have asked Sir Alan Wood to explore with local authorities the factors that are driving the increased use of other accommodation, as I am keen to hear your views about how we can work together on this problem. Sir Alan's work will look in particular at how local authorities are using 'other accommodation' – both in their own authorities and when they place young people out of area – and the challenges that local authorities are facing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Zahawi', written in a cursive style.

Nadhim Zahawi MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 13 June 2019
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Report title	Performance Monitoring Information	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor John Reynolds Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Director of Children's Services	
Originating service	Insight and Performance Team	
Accountable employee	James Amphlett	Business Intelligence Manager
	Tel	01902 551033
	Email	James.Amphlett2@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be considered by	Corporate Parenting Board	13 June 2019

Recommendation for action:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Receive 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 note:

1. 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 30 January 2019. Please note that this data is provisional and may not directly reflect the end of year out turn 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/04062019/T]

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.
[TS/05062019/R]

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 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.

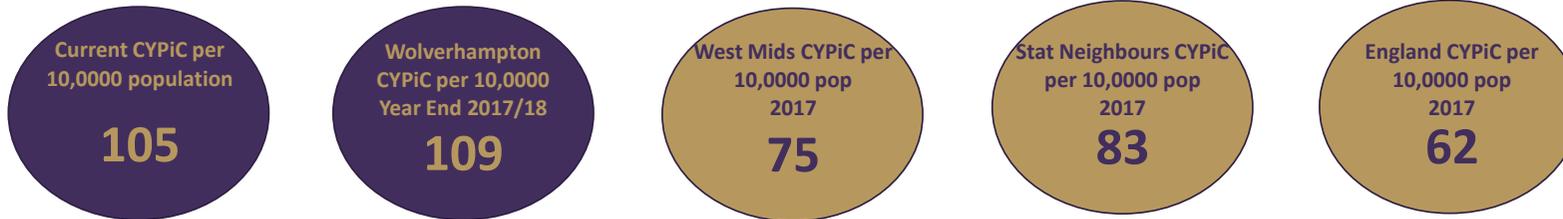
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CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

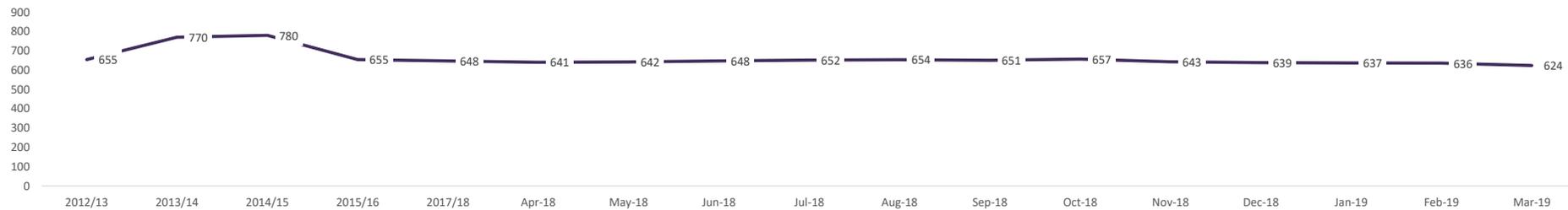
PERFORMANCE REPORT

MAY 2019
(DATA AS AT 31ST MARCH 2019)

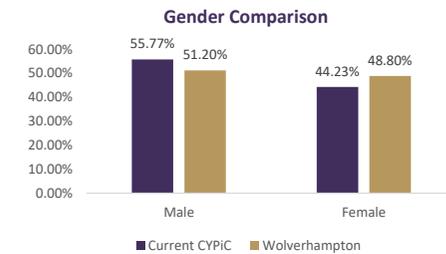
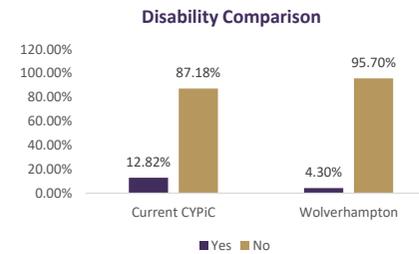
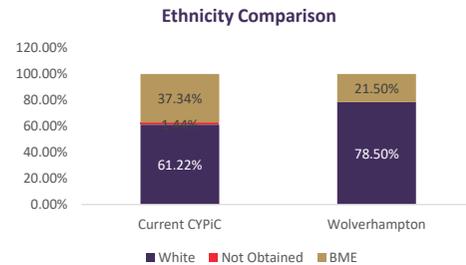
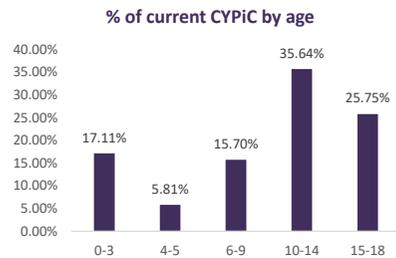
Current CYPiC Profile



Number of Children and Young People in Care in Wolverhampton



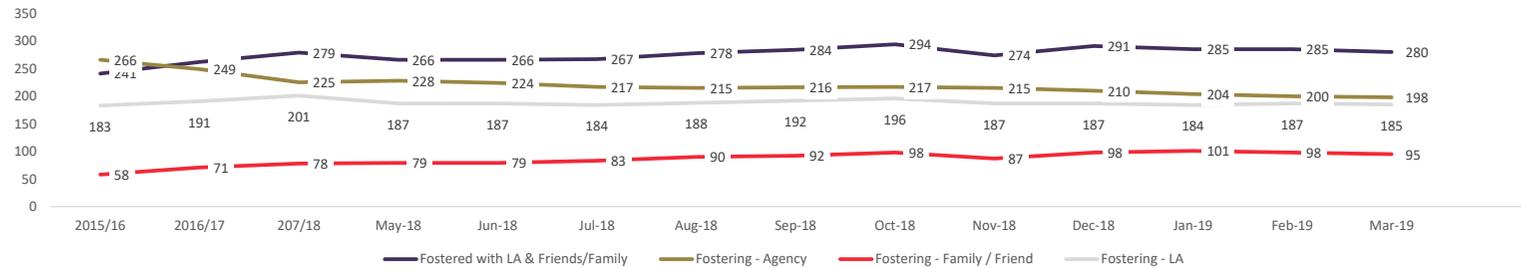
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Demographic data has been updated with the 2017 mid-year population estimates. A considerably lower proportion of CYPiC are from BME backgrounds compared to the Wolverhampton CYP population. Wolverhampton also has a relatively old CYPiC population with the majority of CYPiC aged over 10. Overall there has been a continued decrease in the number of CYPiC over the past 3 months and now is lower than at any point in the previous two years.

CYPiC Placement Analysis

Breakdown of Foster Placements



The gap between the number of CYP placed with internal fostering against those placed with agency carers continue to narrow



% CYPiC placed within 20 mile + from home

16%

2017/18 = 14%
2016/17 = 14%
2015/16 = 16%

% CYPiC with fewer than 3 placements in last 12 months

85%

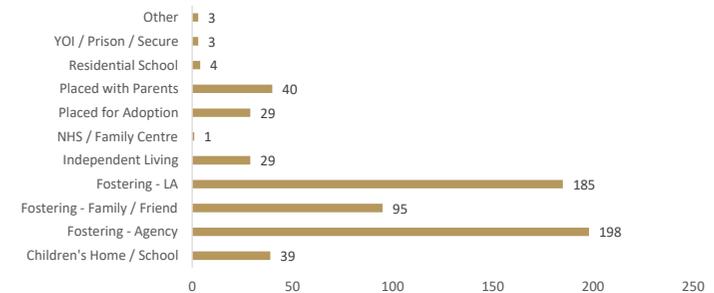
2017/18 Wolverhampton = 84%
2017/18 West Midlands = 89%
2017/18 Stat Neighbours = 90%

% CYPiC in same placement for 2 years or more

67%

2017/18 Wolverhampton = 70%
2017/18 West Midlands = 68%
2017/18 Stat Neighbours = 70%

Current CYPiC by Placement Type



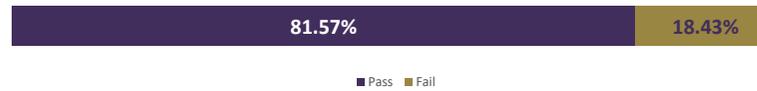
Through the performance of Family Values Project, a clear increase in placements with internal foster carers can be seen. Although the number of children placed with internal generic foster carers remains consistent over the year, there is a clear decrease in agency placements and increase in those placed with friends and family carers. Overall the percentage of children in care who are fostered has remained at 76% throughout 2018/19 so data shows that more children are being placed internally instead of with agency carers, not as a different option to residential care. The Family Values project has also seen a net increase of 21 internally approved foster cares in 2018/19/ This is the largest net increase seen in one year, 20 more than in 2017/18.

There has been an improvement in the performance of long-term stability from 58% to 67%. This has been seen after decreases earlier in the year caused by the re-placement of several long-term children in care and some of last month's cohort leaving care. At the same time there has also been an improvement in the percentage of children having three or more placements in the year. Short term placement stability remains an area on concern for the authority and Wolverhampton are in the bottom quartile of national performance.



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

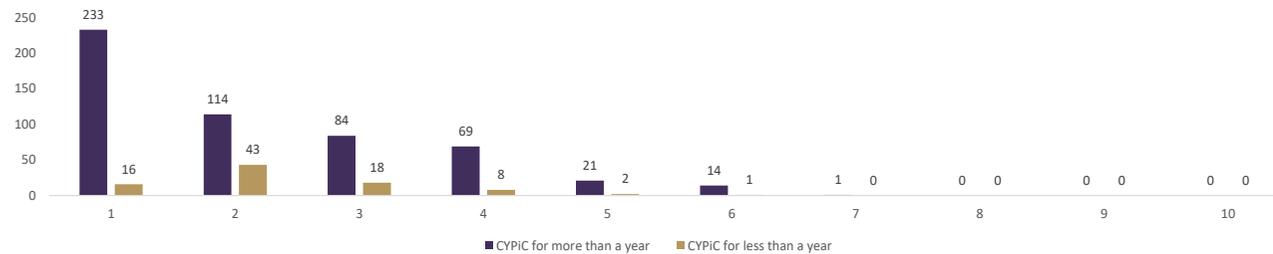
The proportion of CYPiC reviews where the child was present or contributed by other means in their review



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



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



The clear majority of Children and Young People in Care have an up to date assessment, review and visit. Over 90% of assessments, reviews and visits are up to date. This is a strong performance although in all areas a slight decrease has been seen in the last month. There is a new system that allows workers and managers more access to understand which assessments, reviews and visits are due. It is hoped that this will help increase performance even further.

19% of young people who have been looked after for more than a year and 11% who have been looked after for less than a year have had more than 3 social workers in the past 12 months. This is a decreasing trend.

KS2 Expected Standard	Maths	Reading	Writing	Reading, Writing and Maths
CYPiC Wolverhampton 2018	36%	50%	45%	21%
Wolverhampton 2018	76%	77%	75%	65%
CYPiC West Midlands 2018	46%	50%	47%	33%
CYPiC Stat Neighbours 22018017	49%	53%	48%	36%
CYPiC England 2018	47%	51%	49%	35%
KS4	9-4 Pass in English and Maths	Attainment 8	Progress 8	
CYPiC Wolverhampton 2018	12%	17%	-1%	
Wolverhampton 2018	58%	44%	0%	
CYPiC West Midlands 2018	18%	19%	-1%	
CYPiC Stat Neighbours 2018	20%	19%	-1%	
CYPiC England 2018	18%	19%	-1%	

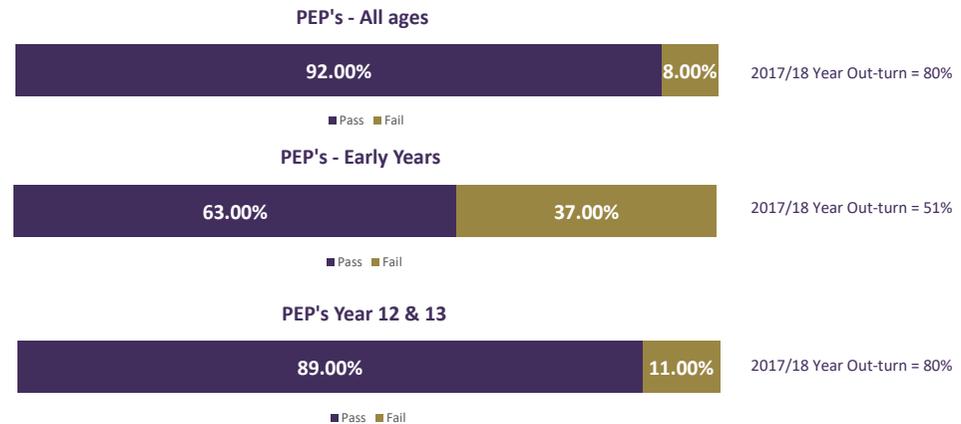


CYPiC with an up to date PEP

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

The 2018 KS2 an KS4 results show that Wolverhampton CYPiC has fallen behind comparator performance. There remains a significant gap between the performance of CYPiC and all Wolverhampton children however small numbers in the cohort can make these measurements volatile. Wolverhampton is in the bottom quartile of performance for both CYPiC Expected Standard for Reading Writing and Maths and CYPiC 9-4 Pass in English and Maths. For further information about the education attainment of CYPiC in Wolverhampton please refer to the Virtual School Head teacher annual report.

Attendance data has been updated for 2017 - attendance of Wolverhampton CYPiC at school is better than that of comparators. please note there was an error in previous reports where persistent absence was under-reported.



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

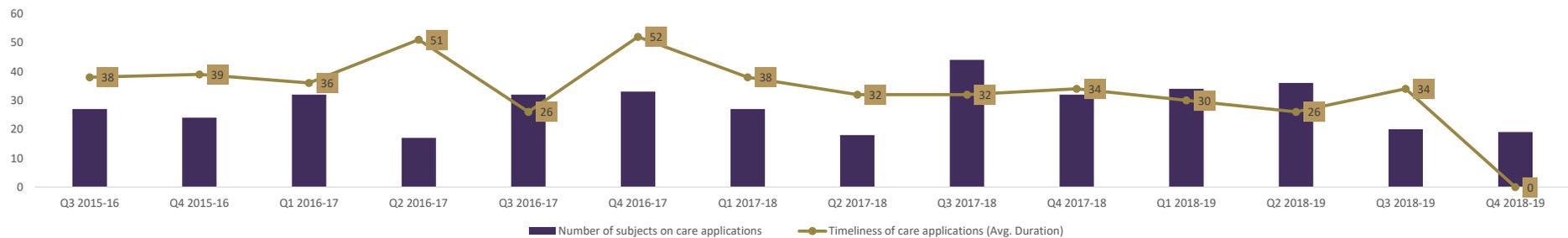
Where a dental check has been completed within 12 months



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



Care Applications



After continued decreases in the percentage of up to date dental checks, following targeted work by managers within the service performance is back in line with the strong performance seen in years past. The result 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 94% and is favourable against year out-turn 2017/18.

Adoption



CYPiC adopted within A1 indicator

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

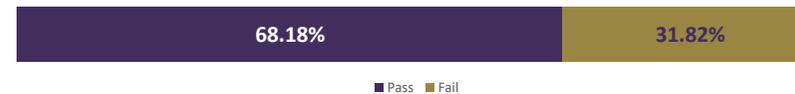


2017/18 Year Out-turn = 60%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 46%



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)

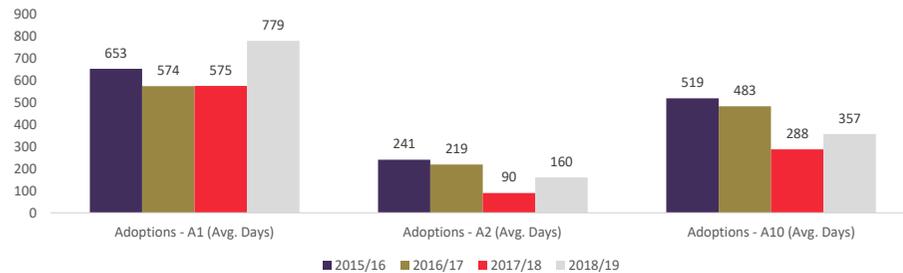


2017/18 Year Out-turn = 63%
2016/17 Year Out-turn = 56%

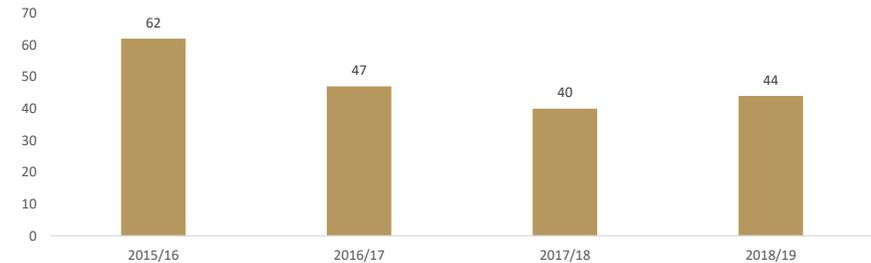


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Average Days against Adoption Indicators



Number of adoptions



Adoption timeliness improved in 2018/19 against A2 and A10 adoptions indicators. Wolverhampton's A10 indicator is below national targets and A2 indicator average days is lower than at any previous year. This is promising performance especially when considering that Wolverhampton also compares favourably to comparators against the adoption of hard to place children. Average days for A1 continues to increase however this is due to the adoption of four long term hard to place children who took over 2000 days but were all placed with their foster carer.

Care Leavers



Care Leavers EET Status

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

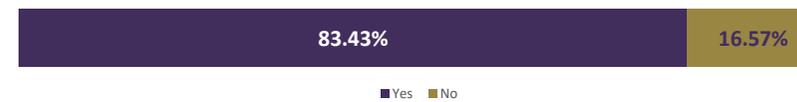


2017/18 Year Out-turn = 60%
2016/17 West Midlands = 46%
2016/17 Stat Neighbours = 47%
2016/17 England = 50%



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

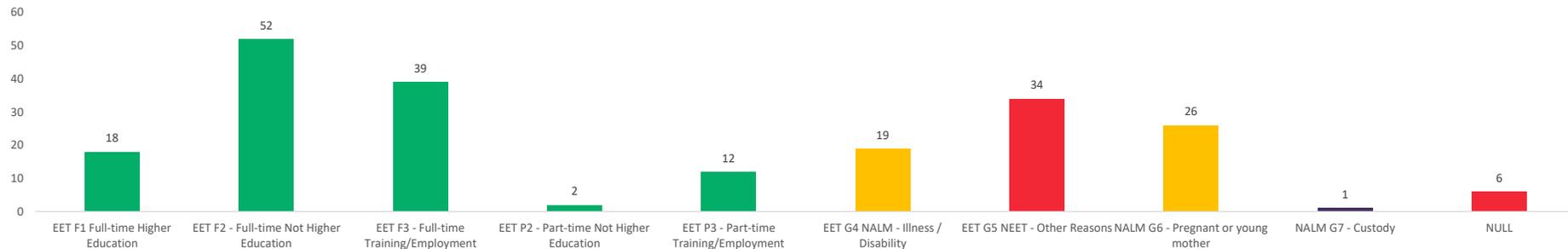
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (stopped at point of fostering for foster carers adoption)



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 strength for the authority. At the end of March 2019 12% of 17-21 year olds were in Education, Employment or Training. 83% of care leavers are available for work with 15% (35 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 85% of the cohort are currently in suitable accommodation.