

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

**Venue** MS Teams

## Membership

**Chair** Cllr Beverley Momenabadi (Lab)

### Labour

Cllr Mary Bateman  
Cllr Paula Brookfield  
Cllr Jasbinder Dehar  
Cllr Asha Mattu  
Cllr Rita Potter

### Conservative

Cllr Wendy Dalton  
Cllr Stephanie Haynes  
Cllr Mak Singh  
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](mailto:shelley.humphries@wolverhampton.gov.uk)  
**Address** Democratic Services, Civic Centre, 1st floor, St Peter's Square,  
Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

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**Website** <http://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk>  
**email** [democratic.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk)  
**Tel** 01902 550320

Please take note of the protocol for filming, recording and use of social media in meetings, copies of which are displayed in the meeting room.

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               | <b>Apologies for absence</b>  |
| 2               | <b>Declarations of interests</b>  |
| 3               | <b>Minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2022</b> (Pages 3 - 10)<br>[To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2022 as a correct record.]  |
| 4               | <b>Matters arising</b><br>[To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2022.]  |
| 5               | <b>Schedule of outstanding matters</b> (Pages 11 - 14)<br>[To receive the Schedule of Outstanding Matters.]   |
| 6               | <b>Adoption Service Interim Report</b> (Pages 15 - 30)<br>[To receive the Adoption Service Interim Report for Adoption@Heart.]  |
| 7               | <b>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC) and Young People</b> (Pages 31 - 38)<br>[To receive the update on Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children and Young People in Wolverhampton.]  |
| 8               | <b>Performance Monitoring Information</b> (Pages 39 - 46)<br>[To receive the Performance Monitoring Information Report.]  |
| 9               | <b>Exclusion of the Press and Public</b><br>[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

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 10 | <b>Councillor Visits to Establishments - Schedule of Visits</b><br>[To receive verbal feedback on any visits to establishments undertaken by Councillors since the last meeting.] |
|----|---|

## **Attendance**

**Chair** Cllr Beverley Momenabadi (Lab)

## **Labour**

Cllr Mary Bateman  
Cllr Jasbinder Dehar

Cllr Asha Mattu  
Cllr Rita Potter

## **Conservative**

Cllr Wendy Dalton  
Cllr Stephanie Haynes

Cllr Mak Singh  
Cllr Udey Singh

## **In Attendance**

Fiona Brennan  
Alison Hinds  
Shelley Humphries  
Darren Martindale  
Shaquille Spence  
Jazmine Walker

Black Country and West Birmingham CCG  
Deputy Director for Social Care  
Democratic Services Officer  
Virtual School Head  
Participation Officer  
Head of Service - Children and Young People in Care

A member of the Children in Care Council was also welcomed as a guest presenter.

*Item No. Title*

**1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from member of the Corporate Parenting Board, Councillor Paula Brookfield.

Apologies were also received from Emma Bennett.

**2 Declarations of interests**

There were no declarations of interest made relative to the items under consideration at the meeting.

**3 Minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2021**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2021 be confirmed as correct record subject to the correction to minute 7:

A query was raised around the number of independent residential homes across the City and if these figures could be provided.

and its resolution:

3. That the number of independent residential homes across the City be provided.

**4 Matters arising**

In respect of minute 7, it was requested that a written response be provided to the request for the number of independent residential homes across the City.

It was raised that feedback from young people suggested previous presentations to the Corporate Parenting Board had not been met with much challenge from attendees present. Members and attendees were encouraged to engage with young people when presenting their items.

Resolved:

That a written response be provided to the request for the number of independent residential homes across the City.

**5 Schedule of outstanding matters**

Jazmine Walker, Head of Children and Young People in Care presented the Schedule of Outstanding Matters report on actions previously considered by the Board and highlighted salient points.

In addition to the information contained within the report it was noted that, in respect of the item from 10 June 2021, this action would be taken forward by Jazmine Walker in the absence of the Corporate Parenting Officer who had now left post. It was reported that, although a date had not yet been finalised, conversations were

ongoing with Fiona Brennan, Black Country and West Birmingham CCG in respect of inviting young people to the Strategic Health Steering Group.

Resolved:

That the Schedule of Outstanding Matters be received.

## 6 **Children in Care Council (CiCC) Annual Survey**

A member of the Children in Care Council delivered the presentation on the outcomes of the CiCC Annual Survey conducted for 2022. It was reported that each year, the CiCC produce a survey to gain feedback from young people on the support received which was used to highlight key issues and identify areas of improvement for the Children and Young People in Care service.

The presentation outlined a set of questions that had been developed for the survey. It was confirmed that the questions would be reviewed at the next CiCC meeting and, once agreed, the finalised surveys would be distributed to young people in a variety of formats and channels, including a digital link being made available on the Children in Care website and Foster carer portal.

It was queried whether the survey could include a question asking which type of setting the child or young person was placed in to gain an understanding of which services and settings were working most effectively. It was noted that this would be considered for inclusion.

A query was raised around how quickly the service typically responded to emerging concerns highlighted by survey feedback. It was confirmed that results were continually shared with the Head of Children and Young People in Care and the service managers team would compose an action plan to respond. It was noted that this practice was maintained as a matter of course to identify areas of development as well as a response to high level concerns.

A query was raised around how satisfied young people were with the existing services based on previous feedback. It was thought young people were generally happy from the feedback in other areas, however it was important that surveys were completed and returned to gather as much information as possible.

It was noted that the Service Manager for Children and Young People in Care would be attending the next Children in Care Council meeting to support work on the survey.

It was confirmed that the questions referencing reviews related to reviews with Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) and personal education plan (PEP) reviews undertaken by the school.

A query was raised around the number of questions and how to encourage as many young people to participate in the survey as possible. It was noted the intention was to keep the questions direct and the number edited down to maintain interest.

In response to a query on how the data was tracked, it was confirmed that the feedback from the CiCC survey would be analysed by the CiCC and Council officers. It was added that the intention this year was to compile a set of questions that

remained the same for each survey going forward so data could be tracked year on year and the final set would be co-produced jointly with the young people of CiCC and Children's Services.

The work was commended and a query raised around the questions on personal education plan (PEP) reviews. It was noted that feedback from the survey would be collated with data from PEP dip-sampling undertaken by the Virtual School Head to inform how young people wished to engage with their PEP reviews going forward.

In the chat area, Fiona Brennan, Black Country and West Birmingham CCG offered to share the survey with health colleagues to distribute to the children and young people in care they came into contact with.

Resolved:

1. That the Children in Care Council Annual Survey presentation be received.
2. That a question gathering information on types of settings would be considered for inclusion in the Children in Care Council Annual Survey.

## 7 **Virtual School Head Annual Report 2021**

Darren Martindale presented the Virtual School Head Annual Report in his capacity as Virtual School Head and highlighted salient points.

The report detailed educational progress and achievements of Wolverhampton's Children and Young People in Care and previously in care, the steps that the Authority had taken to support those achievements and priorities for future work.

It was acknowledged that two young people achieving first class degrees with honours was a huge positive and great success.

In terms of personal education plans (PEPS) for sixth formers, it was queried why completion rates were so low and if the young people had been asked why this was. It was noted that some of the factors included technical or recording issues, staff changes or challenges arranging timely meetings. It was clarified that years 12 and 13 were showing an 82% completion rate.

A concern was raised around the use of teacher assessments during the pandemic in lieu of examinations and whether previous assessment methods would return. There were fears some young people may have missed out on achieving their potential grades due to them performing better in an examination situation. It was expected there may potentially be a greater emphasis on examinations this year as any remaining restrictions lifted, although this was not confirmed as yet. It was acknowledged that whilst some young people thrived in an examination, many performed better in a summative assessment. Work was also being undertaken on supporting young people to prepare for examinations.

A query was raised around a higher number of males than females being assessed at entry level post-16. It was acknowledged that this year there had been more females assessed at higher levels, however this was monitored and no concerning trends had emerged. Assurances were offered that monitoring would continue and any patterns that became apparent would be examined in greater detail to understand why.

It was confirmed that pupil premium was set at a national standard and was offered to authorities as a lump sum which was divided into £2,345 per pupil. It was noted that each local authority managed this differently, but in Wolverhampton, money was provided to schools in termly instalments and tracked using PEPs.

A concern was raised around the response to exclusions as a result of extreme behaviours or violence, particularly those involving a weapon or prohibited article. Members were assured that exclusion or risk of exclusion cases of this nature were worked on closely involving the young person, their parent or carer and a multi-agency team.

It was noted that no recent data was available due to delays caused by COVID however, historically, Wolverhampton was below national average in terms of fixed term exclusions and permanent exclusions were exceptionally rare. A small amount of pupil premium was reserved for fund additional support for those with additional need.

It was clarified that recorded incidents of extreme behaviours often involved spontaneous behaviour that challenged due to dysregulation or behaviour used to communicate an unmet need and every effort was made to identify the cause and appropriately support the young person.

In response to a query around pupil premium it was clarified that, in Wolverhampton, any support typically started at the same time as the child entered a setting even if there was a short delay in receiving the funding. It was confirmed that pupil premium was paid to the setting the child was primarily attending. In the rare event that a child was excluded and temporarily moved to another setting, such as a pupil referral unit (PRU) or alternative provider, it was confirmed that the money would be paid to that setting, a process made simpler by the termly instalments.

The information within the report, achievements of the children and young people and the work undertaken to support them in their education was commended. Members were thanked for their engagement and support.

Resolved:

That the Virtual School Head Annual Report 2021 be received.

8 **Children and Young People's Sufficiency and Commissioning Strategy 2021 - 2024**

Resolved:

That the Children and Young People's Sufficiency and Commissioning Strategy 2021 – 2024 item be deferred until the next meeting.

9 **Support for Care Leavers Over Christmas 2021**

Jazmine Walker, Head of Service - Children and Young People in Care presented the Support for Care Leavers Over Christmas 2021 report and highlighted salient

points. The report outlined the support provided to Care Leavers during Christmas 2021 facilitated through the REACH team over the continued COVID-19 pandemic.

It was reported that the Christmas period often impacted on the vulnerabilities of Wolverhampton's young people who have left Wolverhampton's care, leaving them more isolated, struggling financially and at risk of exploitation. The report set out how the service took steps to mitigate against this, whilst maintaining current COVID-19 guidelines and protecting the health and safety of this group of young people. 80 such young people had been identified as being in this position and having no contact with anyone over the holiday period.

The support included gifts, confectionary and cards donated from various sources to ensure the young people felt valued and that they were being thought of and gifts were chosen with each individual in mind. Financial support was also provided to assist with utilities and food, as well as food delivery vouchers for the 45 young people living out of City to allow to them to benefit from ordering a takeaway meal in the cuisine of their choice.

COVID restrictions had prevented gatherings from being held over the Christmas period however the events were postponed and survival guides provided containing strategies on coping over the holiday period.

Resolved:

That the Support for Care Leavers Over Christmas 2021 report be received.

## 10 **Performance Monitoring Information**

Alison Hinds, Deputy Director of Social Care presented the Performance Monitoring Information and highlighted salient points. The report provided an update on service performance as at 31 December 2021 and questions were invited.

The number entering care had stabilised since November and there was a positive performance to report in terms of placement stability. It was confirmed that a breakdown of how many children were in each placement type was included in the Placement Analysis section of the report

It was noted that an improved performance had been seen in children receiving up to date assessments and reviews as well as a high level of young people participating in their reviews.

A high level had been seen in years 12 and 13 and Early Years PEPs completion however a slight dip had been seen in school age children which had affected the averages.

Health assessments were returning to pre-COVID levels along with improvements seen following the review of the reporting system. Dental checks were now at 80% also returning to pre-COVID levels.

Adoption orders had increased which had been expected as previously delayed cases moved through court. Improvements had also been seen in terms of timeliness.



Care leavers had performed well in education, employment and training despite the challenges presented by the pandemic. Those in suitable accommodation had also improved on last year.

It was confirmed a typographical error had been spotted in relation to the year the data referred to.

A query was raised around whether the number of adoptions was expected to rise as matches began to be made and delayed cases moved through the courts. Assurances were offered that children continued to be adopted and placed throughout the pandemic and the low figures seen last year was as a result of court delays.

A query was raised around unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) arriving within the City and if this had had an impact on children's services. It was confirmed a small number of young people arrived through the hotel in the City. It was reported that the majority of these arrived with their families via the planned National Transfer Scheme, although occasionally there were spontaneous arrivals which accounted for some of the UASC.

It was noted that families arriving together were supported as a family unit with provision of food and essential items, although safeguarding was also in place as appropriate; only those that were UASC would be involved with the care service. There had been a very small number of young people disputing their age. It was confirmed that there had been more UASC than in previous years as a result of the recent events. Close work was being undertaken in partnership with SERCO to support families.

A query was raised around how the service supported children who wait longer as there were concerns on the impact to their emotional wellbeing whilst awaiting placement. Close work was being undertaken with Adoption@Heart and it was noted that the Adoption Interim Report scheduled for the March meeting would provide much more involved detail on the support offered to this cohort.

It was confirmed that every effort was made to secure a suitable and stable placement for each child using matching processes for plans of fostering or adoptions. Figures were not immediately available however it was agreed that the number of children who wait longer would be included in the Adoption Interim Report for the next meeting.

The Chair also referenced the Children's Residential Provision Review report that was due to be considered by Scrutiny Board on 2 February 2022 that may be of interest

Resolved:

1. That the Performance Monitoring Information report be received.
2. That the number of children who wait longer would be included in the Adoption Interim Report for the next meeting.

11 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Resolved:

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.

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

No visits had taken place since the last meeting of Corporate Parenting Board however it was noted that a visit was planned. Councillor Mary Bateman, Councillor Wendy Dalton, Councillor Rita Potter and Councillor Gurmukh Singh all expressed an interest in attending and were advised they would be contacted to confirm details. Any other members wishing to attend were invited to contact Jazmine Walker, Head of Service – Children and Young People in Care.

Resolved:

That Councillors be contacted to confirm a visit to a residential home.

<b>CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL</b>	<b>Corporate Parenting Board</b> <b>31 March 2022</b>
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<b>Report title</b>	Schedule of Outstanding Matters	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Beverley Momenabadi Children and Young People	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Emma Bennett, Executive Director of Families	
<b>Originating service</b>	Governance	
<b>Accountable employee</b>	Shelley Humphries	Democratic Services Officer
	Tel	01902 554070
	Email	shelley.humphries@wolverhampton.gov.uk

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**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.

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Lead Member / Officer</b>	<b>Current Position</b>
10 June 2021	That young people be invited to participate and provide feedback in a meeting of the Strategic Health Steering Group.	Jazmine Walker, Head of Service Children and Young People in Care	Complete – Young people have been invited to attend a specially scheduled Health Steering Group meeting for the evening of 18 May 2022.
27 January 2022	That a written response be provided to the request for the number of independent fostering residential homes across the City.	Jazmine Walker, Head of Service Children and Young People in Care	Complete - Alison Hinds, Deputy Director Social Care provided the requested information to Councillor Wendy Dalton via email on 2 March 2022.
27 January 2022	That a question gathering information on types of settings would be considered for inclusion in the Children in Care Council Annual Survey.	Shaquille Spence, Participation Officer	Complete - It has been fed back to the Children in Care Council to include a demographics question in the Annual Survey.
27 January 2022	That the number of children who wait longer would be included in the Adoption Interim Report for the next meeting.	Mark Tobin, Head of Service, Adoption@Heart	Complete – the information has been included within the report.

### **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 Any other implications**

- 6.1 There are no other implications arising from this report.

### **7.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 7.1 Minutes of previous meetings of the Corporate Parenting Board and associates.

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<b>CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL</b>	<b>Corporate Parenting Board</b> <b>31 March 2022</b>
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<b>Report title</b>	Adoption Service Interim Report	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Beverley Momenabadi Children and Young People	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Emma Bennett, Executive Director of Families	
<b>Originating service</b>	Adoption@Heart	
<b>Accountable employee</b>	Mark Tobin	Head of Service
	Tel	07970 266496
	Email	Mark.tobin@adoptionatheart.org.uk
<b>Report has been considered by</b>	Childrens Social Care Leadership Team	10 March 2022
	Cabinet Member Briefing	15 March 2022

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**Recommendation for action:**

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Receive the Adoption Service Interim Report for Adoption@Heart.

**Recommendations for noting:**

The Corporate Parenting Board is asked to note:

1. The progress made by the Regional Adoption Agency.

## 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This interim report fulfils the obligations in Adoption National Minimum Standards (2011) and Adoption Service Statutory Guidance (2011) Adoption and Children Act 2002 to report to the “executive side” of the local authority. This has guided the structure and information set out in the report attached at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 It is important to note that data and information within this report is accurate as of 30 September 2021.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 Adoption@Heart is a Regional Adoption Agency providing adoption services on behalf of Sandwell, Dudley, Walsall and City of Wolverhampton Councils. The service is hosted by City of Wolverhampton Council and went live on 1 April 2019. Following a directive from the Department for Education in 2015, all local authorities in England are required to enter into regional arrangements for their adoption services by 2020.

## 3.0 Progress

- 3.1 The report (Appendix 1) provides the detail of performance and the progress the service has made from 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021.

## 4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 The budget for 2021-2022 is £5,011,257 and the agreed contributions from each of the partners are shown below:

<b>Partner Authority</b>	<b>Total Contribution 2021 - 2022</b>
Dudley MBC	1,216,450
Sandwell MBC	1,318,780
Walsall MBC	1,219,797
City of Wolverhampton Council	1,256,230
<b>Total to be funded 20/21</b>	<b>5,011,257</b>

- 4.2 Any costs associated with the delivery of the service will be contained within the above allocation. Should additional costs be identified over and above the allocation then discussions will take with partners to agree additional contributions to fund the service. [JG/11032022/O]

## 5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 The collaboration agreement which outlines the requirements of all partners was agreed with oversight from the council’s legal service, prior to the service becoming operational



in April 2019. This remains the underpinning legal agreement. Primary legislation is in place requiring all councils in England to enter into regional arrangements by 2020.  
[SB/10032022/Q]

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 There are no equalities implications to highlight at this stage.

## **7.0 Climate Change and Environmental implications**

7.1 There are no climate change or environmental implications in place at this stage.

## **8.0 Human resources implications**

8.1 Staff in the service are employed by the City of Wolverhampton Council following a Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (TUPE) exercise in April 2019.

## **9.0 Corporate Landlord implications**

9.1 The Adoption@Heart service is located at Priory Green Offices, Pendeford. There are no property portfolio implications at this stage as the service will remain at this location for the foreseeable future.

## **10.0 Health and Wellbeing Implications**

10.1 The health and wellbeing implications at this stage are coronavirus. Individual Risk Assessments have been carried out and the service is using the live dedicated coronavirus webpages on City People to keep up to date with advice and information.

## **11.0 Schedule of background papers**

11.1 Appendix 1: Adoption Service Interim Report

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Report title:	<b>Adoption Service Interim Report</b> <b>1 April to 30 September 2021</b>
Date of report:	14 February 2022
To:	City of Wolverhampton Council
Produced by:	Mark Tobin Head of Service
Service:	Adoption@Heart

## 1. Introduction and Purpose of the Report:

This report fulfils the obligations in Adoption National Minimum Standards (2011) and Adoption Service Statutory Guidance (2011) Adoption and Children Act 2002, to report to the “executive side” of the local authority. This has guided the structure and information set out in the report below.

The report covers the six-month period 1 April to 30 September 2021.

It is important to note that data and information within this report is accurate as of 30 September 2021.

Adoption@Heart is a Regional Adoption Agency, providing adoption services on behalf of Sandwell, Dudley, Walsall and Wolverhampton Councils. The service is hosted by City of Wolverhampton Council and became operational 1 April 2019.

## 2. Number, type and age of children waiting for adoption and length of time waiting:

As of 30 September 2021:

There were 18 children subject to placement orders but not yet placed for adoption. Two had already had a decision to cease family finding with a view to a formal change of plan (not yet ratified), a further eight children were linked but not yet formally matched and one child was formally matched but not yet placed with adoptive parents. The remaining seven were the subject of active family finding.

The timescales these children had been waiting since their placement order was granted are set out below.

Less than 3 months:	4
Between 3 and 6 months:	6
Between 6 and 12 months:	7
Between 12 and 24 months:	0
Children waiting over 2 years:	1

## 2.1 Children Made Subject to Placement Orders

Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Total
5	4	0	2	3	0	14

## 2.2 Children Subject to Should be Placed for Adoption (SHOBPA) decisions as of 30 September 2021 (without Placement Order)

### 2.3 Number of Children who had a SHOPBA during the period

Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Total
1	1	0	1	0	0	3

## 2.4 The Numbers of Children with PO who had a Change of Plan (away from adoption) in the Period

0

## 2.5 Number of Children Placed for Adoption during the period.

Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Total
3	2	5	3	3	0	16

Children Placed in Previous Years:

Financial Year:	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
Children Placed:	45	42	25	38

**3. Number of Children Adopted:**

The number of children legally adopted by their adoptive parents in the six-month period to 30 September 2021 was 18.

In year average timescale for children adopted:

A1 690 days

A2 228 days

Both are outside the thresholds (as below).

Number of children adopted in the three previous years is below:

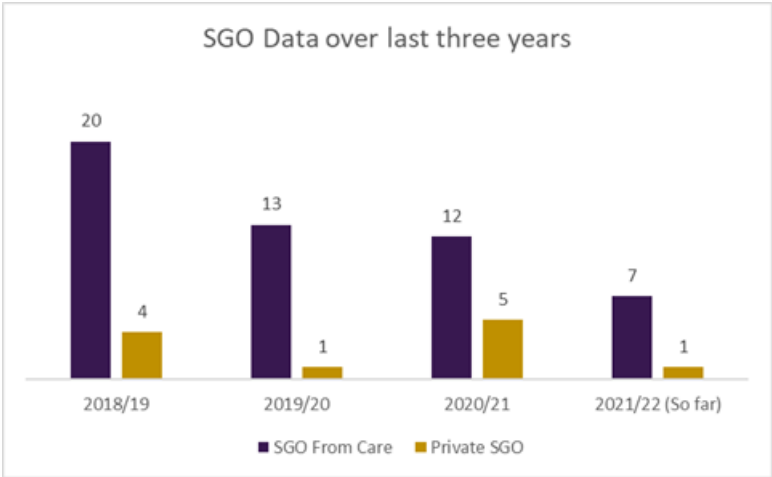
Financial Year:	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
Children Adopted:	40	41	8	8

Court delays caused by Covid-19 and the impact on the courts, will be a contributory factor in delaying the adoption of children, however, the lower number of children placed in 2019/20 will also be a contributory factor. There is evidence of a significant increase in children adopted in the first half of the current year.

The numbers of children leaving care nationally via adoption has reduced continuously since 2017.

**Special Guardianship Orders Granted**

(For comparative purposes)



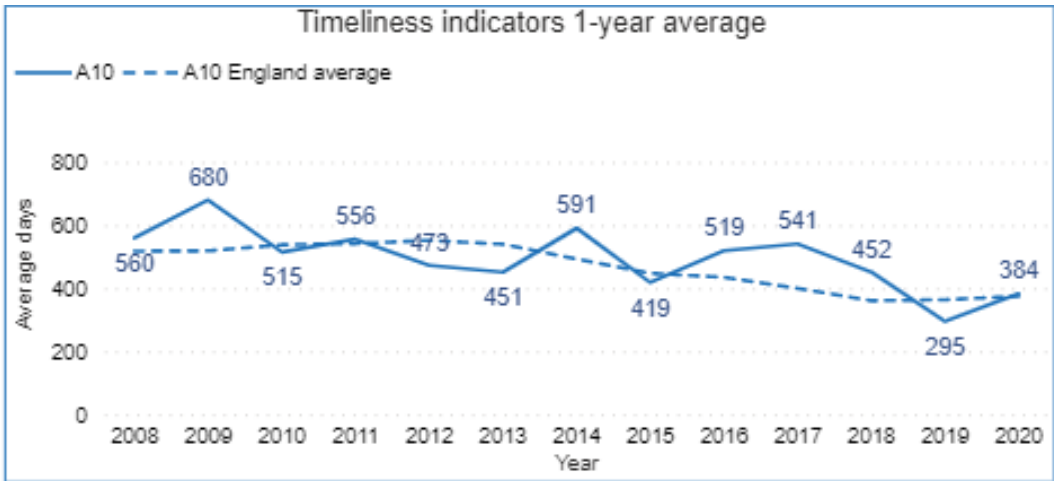
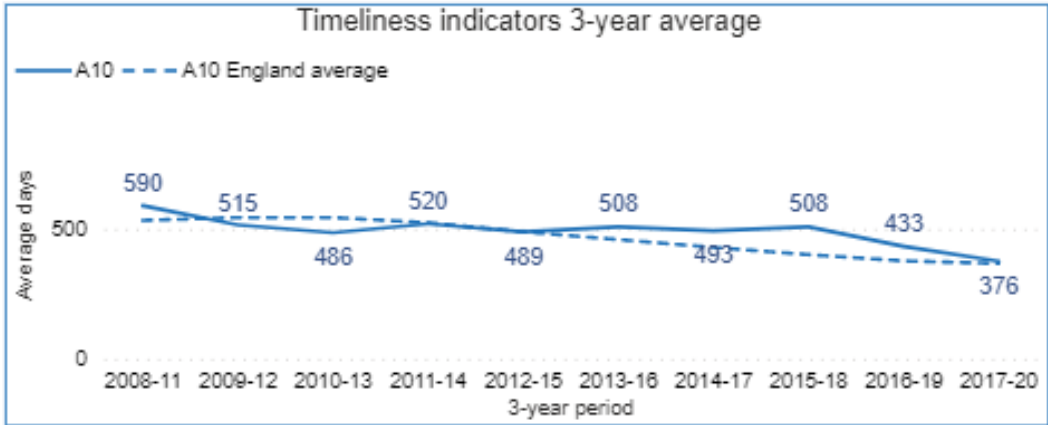
**Adoption Scorecard Performance**

In 2014, as part of its' Adoption Reform Agenda, the government introduced Adoption Scorecards to track local authority performance and to tackle delay in the adoption system. Scorecards are produced for a 3-year rolling average, with the latest data being published for April 2018 - March 2019 (Published April 2020). Given this is a 3-year average, performance is adversely affected by children placed outside of timescales and this could be a small cohort of children who awaited a significant length of time.

The current indicators are:

**A10** – number of days between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family. The current threshold is 426 days.

**A2** – the number of days between receiving court authority to place a child for adoption and the Agency decision about a match to an adoptive family. The current threshold is 121 days.

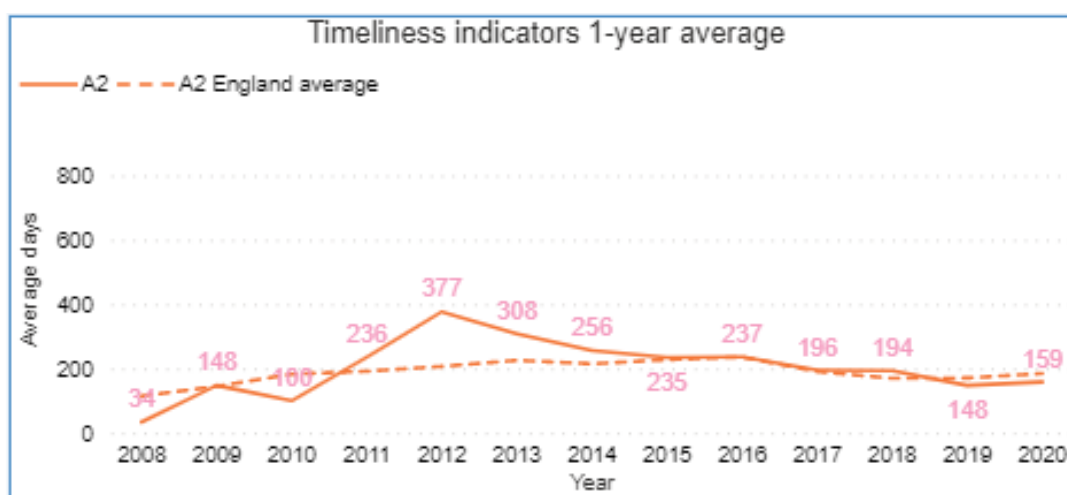
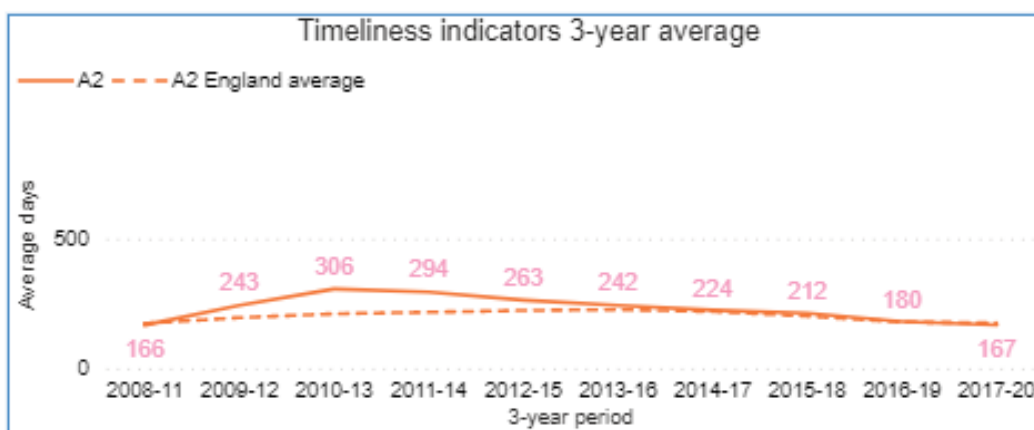


A10: Average time (in days) between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family adjusted for foster care adoptions:				
2020 average days: 384	2020 England average: 375	Average time in 2020 was longer than in 2019	2017-20 average days: 376	2017-20 England average: 367

A10 performance for both single year and three-year average is below threshold but above England average.

The single year performance is 42 days below threshold and 9 days above England average.

The 3-year average is 50 days below threshold and 59 days below national average.



3.1

A2: Average time (in days) between a local authority receiving court authority to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family:				
2020 average days:	2020 England average:	Average time in 2020 was longer than in 2019	2017-20 average days:	2017-20 England average:
159	185		167	175

Performance for A20 is above threshold for both 3-year average and single year. Both are below England average.

The 3-year average is 46 days above the threshold (121) and 54 days above national average

The single year performance is 38 days above threshold and 64 days above national average.

### Early Permanency

There were four Wolverhampton children placed in early permanence placements via Foster for Adopt.

## 4. Recruitment of Adopters:

### Adopter Recruitment Performance

Please refer to the separate Power Point which is taken from the dashboard reporting tool.

### Adopter Approvals at A@H Panels

First year 2019/20	Since 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021	Total projected approvals combined for 2 years	Approved April to September 2021
50	69	119	27

### Adopters in Progress on 30 September 2021

Stage 1	On a break	Stage 2	Total
49	3	35	87



## Registrations of Interest (Start of Stage one)

First year 2019/20 (Full year)	1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 (Full year)	April to September 2021
64	117	41

## Adopters approved and waiting

Not linked or provisionally linked	Provisional link / in progress	Matched at panel / ADM not placed	Total approved / Not placed
21	20	1	42

## Adopter Timescales

41 Adopters were approved, but not yet formally matched at panel with a child. Of these, 12 had waited a year or more and 19 under four months. 20 of these were provisionally linked with a child but not formally matched.

20 out of 27 approvals were completed within 16 weeks.

The average number of days adopters spent in stage two was 150 days (121 target). The average timescale from ROI to approval was 175 days (target 183).

31 out of 49 adopters who completed stage one, did so within eight weeks. Despite the majority completing stage one in timescales, the average number of days in stage one was 123 (target 56).

Of the 54 Stage one completions this year 31 (57%) have completed within eight weeks, with 83% within 16 weeks.

Of the 27 approvals this year, 20 (74%) have been approved within 16 weeks.

A report providing a regional and national comparison, relating to adopter approval timescales is to be presented to Management Board in November. Adoption agencies have experienced Covid-19 related impact on timescales.

## Adopter Approvals

This gradual improvement in adopter sufficiency is evident in the increased numbers of ROI's during the year 2020/21. Whilst registrations appear to have slowed down, the numbers of

prospective adopters in the process, currently 87, suggests the service should see an increase in approvals in the current year, albeit, staffing capacity issues in the recruitment team are likely to have an impact.

Out of the 42 adopters who are approved without a child placed, 20 have a connection with a child and are in the process of either being linked or matched. 21 therefore, do not yet have a connection with a child i.e., a provisional link. Some of the adopters waiting over 12 months have specific matching criteria, in relation to ethnicity and are being considered for placements outside of the region.

## **5. Requirements on the Preparation of Adoption Report Regulations:**

### **5.1 Complaints**

There was one formal complaint about the service during the six-month period and this related to adopter applicants who were not recommended for approval by the agency. This is delayed in stage one due to a pending IRM hearing.

### **5.2 Staffing**

The service employs 32 qualified Social Workers on a permanent basis, along with six agency Social Workers, who are providing additional capacity due to vacant posts, sickness, maternity leave and additional demand created by Covid-19. Two agency Social Workers have been funded by the partner agencies for twelve months, to provide additional family finding capacity.

There are three Team Managers, with one each covering the thematic service areas. One of these posts (Family Finding) was vacant until September 2020, but a seconded Manager in that role was permanently appointed in quarter three. The panel team have two Panel Advisors along with a Panel Co-ordinator and three Panel Administrators, one of which is currently vacant.

Management capacity has been increased with the addition of a Service Manager, funded within the existing budget. This role was in the process of recruitment at year end and subsequently, recruited to on an interim basis, pending a permanent appointment.

Vacancy rates have remained low since the service went live and despite Covid-19, sickness and absence rates have been minimal during the full year period of 2020/21.

### **5.3 Referrals to the Independent Review Mechanism (IRM)**

There has been one referral to the IRM in the period and this has not yet been heard by the IRM panel. It relates to a non-approval of an adopter application.

## 6. Family Finding Activity:

### 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 – Children placed in year

LA / Trust	In House	Interagency	Total placed
Sandwell	11	24	35
Wolverhampton	14	24	38
Walsall	20	17	37
Dudley	10	4	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>124</b>

### 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 – Children placed via Foster for Adoption in year

LA/ Trust	In House	Interagency	Total
Sandwell	3	3	6
Wolverhampton	4	5	9
Walsall	5	1	6
Dudley	3	2	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>26</b>

Inter-agency usage for children placed via Foster for Adopt regulations is 42 percent.

### 1 April to 30 September 2021 – Children placed in quarter 1 & 2

LA/ Trust	In House	Interagency	Total placed
Sandwell	6	8	14
Wolverhampton	13	9	22
Walsall	6	4	10
Dudley	5	7	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>58</b>

## 48 percent of children placed were placed inter-agency/52 percent in house

### Children Placed Foster for Adopt – 1 April to 30 September 2021

LA / Trust	FFA Inhouse	FFA Interagency	Total
Dudley	1	1	2
Sandwell	8	2	10
Walsall	2	1	3
Wolverhampton	4	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>19</b>

### For children placed Foster for Adopt 79 percent were placed in house/21 percent inter-agency

The number of children placed in the half year is 58. This is slightly above the performance for the previous year (124 full year).

28 out of 58 children were placed inter-agency Therefore, inter-agency placements were made for 48 percent of children placed. Inter-agency usage at end of quarter four of the previous year was 56 percent, so this indicates an improvement in performance.

The spread of children placed/matched across the four partners significantly indicates some degree of variance in comparison with the previous year, given Wolverhampton is considerably higher than the other partners. The pro rata number for Dudley indicates an increase in performance is likely in the year.

Inter-agency usage in Wolverhampton and Walsall is lower than for the other partners.

It is also very positive that 15 out of 19 children placed via Foster for Adopt are placed with in house adopters and this should impact positively on performance as it is highly likely these children will be matched and placed for adoption during the remainder of the year.

## 7. Adoption Panels:

Adoption Panels were held on 24 occasions during the six month period. There are at least four panels a month for adoption matters to be heard. There is also flexibility within the panel system, allowing for extra and special panels to be arranged in order to enable additional cases and emergency matters to be heard, as and when directed by the courts. The service aims to avoid delay for children and ensures matters are dealt with in a timely manner.

The service has three adoption panel chairs. A fourth chair is in the process of being recruited.

The Agency Decision Makers from Wolverhampton make all the decisions regarding the suitability for approval of all prospective adopters. The SHOBPA decisions remain in the three Local Authorities and the Trust. Agency Decision Makers are very flexible with regard to early

decisions with regard to matches, in order to enable transitions that work best for the child, for example using school holidays.

Panels have made positive recommendations on 27 adopter approvals and 55 matches in the period. All recommendations made by panel have been positive, with the exception of one adopter approval. All panel recommendations have been supported by the ADM.

Panel continues to be supported by a very committed group of staff. There are 1.5 Panel Advisors, one part time Panel Co-ordinator and two full time equivalent Panel Administrators.

Panel continues to offer individual feedback to Social Workers, regarding quality of the paperwork and to the Local Authorities and the Trust, regarding delay for children. Panel are also open to constructive observations regarding their performance.

Feedback is also sought from adopters attending panel, which this is largely positive and includes comments such as “panel were warm and welcoming” and “panel members put us at ease”.

Panels continue to run virtually due to Covid-19 restrictions. Consideration is currently being given to the benefits of the virtual panel system and to what extent the system might remain virtual once restrictions are lifted. There have been clear benefits regarding adopter attendance and reducing regional travel for professionals.

## **8. Accountability:**

### **Management board**

The service has continued to have in place two key layers of governance with a Management Board attended by Assistant Directors and a Strategic Commissioning Board attended by Directors of Children’s Service.

The Strategic Commissioning Board has continued to meet quarterly, supported by the commissioning lead from Dudley. The Chairing of this board has been with the Director of Children’s Services in Dudley during the six-month period.

Management Board is chaired by the Deputy Director for Children’s Social Care in Wolverhampton, as host Local Authority for Adoption@Heart.

Report completed by:



**Mark Tobin**  
Head of Service

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<b>CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL</b>	<b>Corporate Parenting Board</b> <b>31 March 2022</b>
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<b>Report title</b>	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC) and Young People	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Beverley Momenabadi Children and Young People	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Emma Bennett, Executive Director of Families	
<b>Originating service</b>	Children and Young People in Care	
<b>Accountable employee</b>	Caterina Robinson	Service Manager
	Telephone	07989855189
	Email	<a href="mailto:caterina.robinson@wolverhampton.gov.uk">caterina.robinson@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a>
<b>Report has been considered by</b>	Children and Young People in Care Management Team Meeting	2 March 2022
	Children's Social Care Leadership Team Meeting	10 March 2022

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#### Recommendations for decision:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Receive the update on Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) and Young People in Wolverhampton and the current support offer.
2. Receive a further update on UASC children and young people in six months' time for review.

#### Recommendations for noting:

The Corporate Parenting Board is asked to note:

1. An increase in numbers of UASC currently accommodated in Wolverhampton and a greater package of support offered.

## 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the current position of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC) and Young People in Wolverhampton and the support offered to this group of children and young people from April 2021 - March 2022.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 The National Transfer Scheme (NTS) was established in 2016 to establish a mechanism for the statutory responsibility for UASC to be transferred from an entry local authority to another authority in the UK to ensure fair distribution and relieve the pressures for the entry local authority. Since 2018 challenges occurred and there was a need for a new NTS rota which has been further established this year.
- 2.2 The rota was voluntary from July 2021, in which Wolverhampton were involved. This became a mandated rota in November 2021 due to the increase in UASC requiring accommodation. Since November, NTS became mandatory for all local authorities with an expectation that this would be temporary. We have now completed eight cycles of the voluntary NTS rota and phase one (cycles one-four) of the mandated scheme. We are currently on phase two (cycles five-eight) of the mandated scheme. It was anticipated when the rota began that there would be eight cycles over a two-year period with 650 young people between cycles one and four, and 650 young people between cycles five and eight, however five months into the rota and we already hit cycle eight with over 900 UASC transferring between local authorities.
- 2.3 Wolverhampton exceed the target to place UASC within ten working days from the date of referral and often place within five working days and as we have already taken a referral ahead of cycle five, we will no longer receive any more referrals for the rest of the cycles of phase two.

### Figure update:

- 2.4 On 31 March 2021, Wolverhampton supported a total of six UASC children in care and 27 UASC care leavers.
- 2.5 Since April 2021, Wolverhampton have supported a further 24 UASC in Wolverhampton. 16 were planned as part of the NTS rota and eight spontaneous arrivals.
- 2.6 Since April 2021, three UASC have become care leavers, one has returned to a hotel following an age-assessment and one care leaver has exited the service at 25.
- 2.7 As of March 2022, Wolverhampton are supporting 56 UASC. 27 are children in care and 29 UASC care leavers. This is increase in 23 UASC this year overall.
- 2.8 Of the 27 children and young people in care, six are turning 18 within the next six months.
- 2.9 Of the 29 Care Leavers, zero are turning 25 within the next six months so there will be an increase up to 35 UASC care leavers within six months.



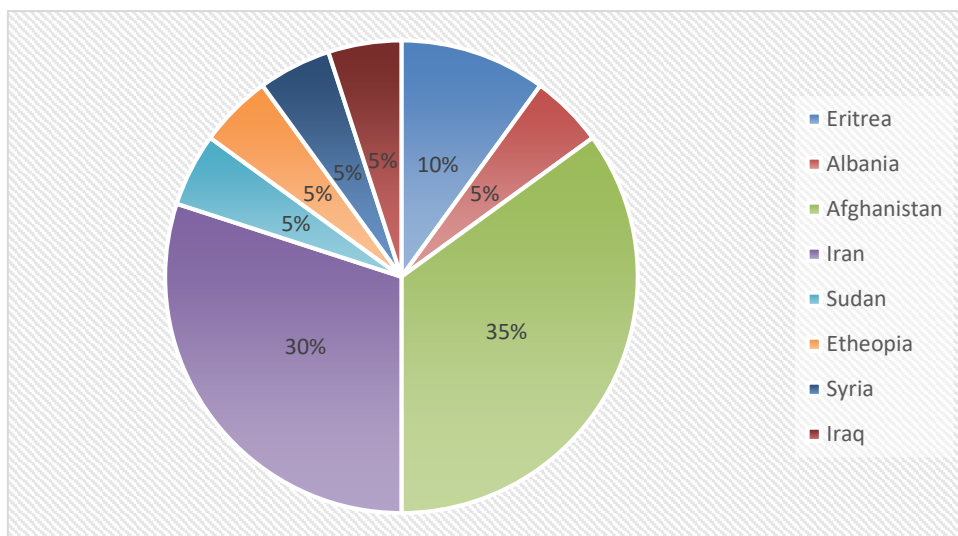
### **3.0 Progress**

#### **Age-disputes in hotels and spontaneous arrivals**

- 3.1 In September 2021, Wolverhampton had two spontaneous arrivals from a hotel procured by the Home Office for families claiming asylum. One young person was age-assessed as she disputed herself that she was a child after being placed into foster care. The young person was assessed as an adult and has since returned to the hotel willingly.
- 3.2 In November 2021 a third spontaneous UASC presented at the police station saying he is 16 and unaccompanied from Afghanistan. A fourth spontaneous arrival was picked up at the train station and a fifth spontaneous arrival who had travelled from Iran and was picked up by police
- 3.3 In December 2021, one young person presented to the Police station reporting they were a UASC and were accommodated.
- 3.4 In January, we accommodated two young people following a referral from SERCO, based within one of the hotels who were disputing the ages of the two young people placed into the hotel. SERCO were advised to request a copy of the age assessment completed by the Home Office in the first instance. This was completed and the two young people were re-referred to social care having assessed that their age assessments completed at the time of arrival were not Merton-compliant. They have since been accommodated by the Local Authority and placed into foster care.
- 3.5 Out of eight spontaneous arrival referrals since April, we have accommodated seven. One has returned to the hotel following an age assessment. With spontaneous arrivals or age-disputed young people in hotels, we rely on the Operation Innerste procedures between police and social care to ensure young people are not known to other local authorities or the police.
- 3.6 For the spontaneous arrivals we are unable to assess whether this is coincidence or linked to any other reason. Other local authorities have seen similar trends with Coventry and Solihull seeing a large increase in Afghanistan UASC presenting themselves as minors once they are placed into the area.

## Nationality

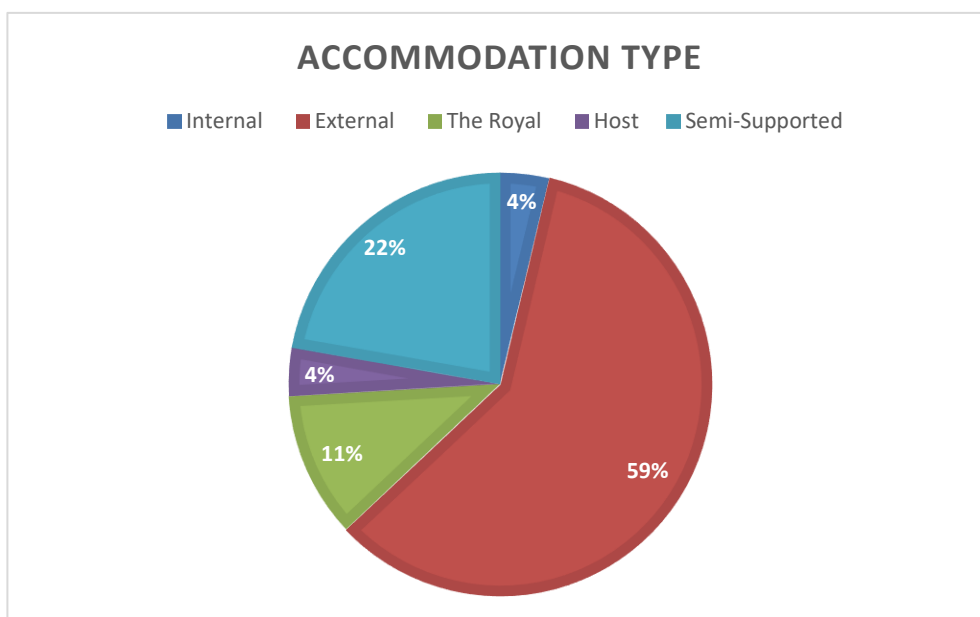
3.7 The diagram below shows the nationalities of our current children in care UASC cohort:



3.8 Many of our young people are from Afghanistan and Iran but there are eight separate countries of origin within our UASC community, this is considered when matching to placements and is driving forward the need for group activities between workers and the Refugee and Migrant Centre (RMC).

## Accommodation Type

3.9 The below diagram shows the placement types of our children in care UASC cohort. In summary:



- 59% of UASC are living with external foster carers.
- We have been successful in supporting UASC to live independently. All care leaver UASC live independently and seven young people in semi-supported (six in flats and one with a host).

- Three UASC boarding at the Royal Wolverhampton School.

#### **4.0 The Needs of UASC**

##### **Health**

- 4.1 Due to the increase in UASC, there has been an increase in Initial Health Assessments (IHA). The Gem Centre have now increased the appointment slots to two hours to allow for interpreters and the Local Authority support if interpreter availability is an issue. Our health colleagues in the Royal Wolverhampton NHS trust have created a bespoke package of support available for UASC. All UASC will now be allocated a named nurse on arrival. There is also a new document developed to support the Review Health Assessment (RHA) which focuses on vulnerabilities, health and emotional wellbeing. Following their RHA, UASC will be offered a follow up appointment two months later to meet their named nurse. They will receive a Sleep Pack (provided by the Separated Child charity which consists of lavender oils and aids to support sleep).
- 4.2 The named nurse will build a relationship in order to and review care plans to avoid drift in the health needs of UASC. Following an appointment with the named nurse, they will be invited to drop ins and will make another appointment two month after. It is recognised that UASC have a significant health need and we can now offer a bespoke service. Health colleagues will also sit on the UASC wellbeing panel from April 2022.

##### **Education**

- 4.3 UASC are arriving with very limited English i.e., unable to write their own name and therefore are not eligible for English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) courses as yet. There is a requirement for pre-ESOL work and Wolverhampton Local Authority have worked together with Wolverhampton College to provide a bespoke / additional pre-ESOL course for up to twelve young people. We have six of our UASC Not in Education, Employment or Training who have started the course in March 2022 and we are opening up to other Local Authorities. The Get Ahead Programme (GAP) is a twelve-week mainstream programme adapted for our UASC and will run five days a week during the summer term. Wolverhampton are keen to ensure the educational offer is sufficient and happy to lead on supporting other local authorities who have children placed within the region. By September, young people will be able to access ESOL and Level 1 provision dependant on their levels and location and will therefore be in Education, Employment and Training.

##### **Placement suitability / availability**

- 4.4 Young people are arriving with little knowledge or skills around independent living and are requiring a great deal of support from the housing support team. Some young people are unable to leave their flats on their own and require a great deal of support to get about. This is being addressed with targeted work via the RMC for new arrivals and independence skills are being assessed at the ports.

4.5 We have also found it harder to find suitable accommodation in external fostering agencies of late where placements are becoming further afield with Coventry last week and Leicester put forward as the only other option. This is a concern where we did not previously have any issues placing UASC locally in external agencies well equipped and experienced to support UASC.

## **5.0 Support Services to UASC in Wolverhampton**

5.1 In addition to Barnardo's Anti-Trafficking Service, we have an excellent resource in the Refugee and Migrant Centre (RMC). This wellbeing project was funded up until March 2022 with plans to extend for financial year 2022-2023. This links the local authority, The Royal School, Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and the RMC.

5.2 The RMC provide invaluable support to our young people as a universal service but additionally have provided case work, mentoring, legal advice and support, ESOL courses, group work and support our UASC with everyday living, education, health and wellbeing and immigration advice and support. The Service Manager for Children and Young People in Care (CYPiC) and RMC are working on an action plan around targeted support to new arrivals in particular.

5.3 There is an Assistant Director of Children's Services Task and Finish Group which encourages regional authorities to support each other around the transfer and delivery of support to UASC in each area. The Service Manager for CYPiC attends this meeting monthly.

5.4 The Royal Wolverhampton School is a free school with additional boarding facilities and has worked with 13 UASC since 2015, having supported three UASC to transition to University. The Royal is a diverse and multi-racial school serving both the City of Wolverhampton and local areas and international countries of Romania, Baltic states, Hong Kong, Spain, Germany, Croatia, Bulgaria, and Nigeria. As such, pupils immediately find a sense of belonging and family, critical in their ethos and values. The RMC work in close partnership with the Royal school, so where possible, we try and place our young people at this school.

5.5 We have a monthly UASC Health and Wellbeing panel, chaired by CYPiC Service Manager and consists of the RMC, Senior social worker, CAMHS and more recently to include CYPiC named nurses. The panel reviews the health and wellbeing needs of all UASC.

5.6 We have developed a UASC training package for all social workers, delivered by our Advanced Practitioner. Four sessions have been delivered this year. Coram have also commissioned age assessment training and Wolverhampton social workers are routinely attending so we can increase our pool of social workers who are age-assessed trained. We regularly receive free UASC training via the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership which is accessed by social workers.

5.7 We have a UASC champion who sits within the Reach leaving care team as a Young Person Advisor (YPA). We have also funded an additional YPA post from UASC funding and their role is to support with securing immigration status for our young people.

- 5.8 The Grand Mentor scheme extends to UASC.
- 5.9 To conclude, we ensure all social workers understand UASC and we remain committed to supporting the presenting immigration, health and wellbeing needs by reviewing service and subsequently requesting additional funding for the RMC to continue their services. Holistically we support our UASC utilising the roles and combined experience from the UASC Champion, Advanced Practitioner, the RMC, CAMHS and The Royal Wolverhampton School.
- 5.10 We continue to see an increasing demand to accommodate UASC over the last six months. Whilst we feel well equipped to deal with this in some areas due to the links established with relevant agencies, support from the Personalised Support Team (who identify our placement options), internal Supported Accommodation team, and The Royal Wolverhampton School. As we continue to see this increase, we need to further review capacity within the local authority. It is recognised that this is a national issue, and all other local authorities are experiencing the same, therefore the support offer is being considered widely by the NTS and Home Office.

## **6.0 Financial implications**

- 6.1 There are no financial implications for this paper.  
[JG/11032022/Y]

## **7.0 Legal implications**

- 7.1 Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 imposes a general duty on local authorities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need. Children seeking asylum (UASC) are children who arrive in the country with no responsible adult to care for them are separated or 'unaccompanied' and are therefore 'in need'. The relevant local authority children's service has a gateway duty to assess such children under section 17, and then, almost always, to accommodate them under section 20 of the Children Act 1989 and therefore child in care procedures apply.
- 7.2 There is also a requirement to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in accordance with section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship, and Immigration Act 2009.  
[SB/13032022/J]

## **8.0 Equalities implications**

- 8.1 UASC receive the same service as CYPiC, and we ensure the Local Authority and its partners meet children and young people's individual needs as a good parent would. Furthermore, the Nationality and Borders bill includes an equality impact assessment and the Local Authority take into consideration protected characteristics when supporting UASC with their language, religious and cultural needs.

## **9.0 All other Implications**

- 9.1 There are no other implications considered in this paper

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**CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD**

**PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW**

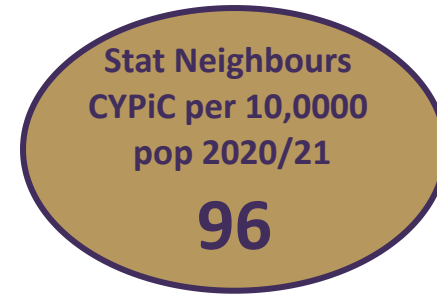
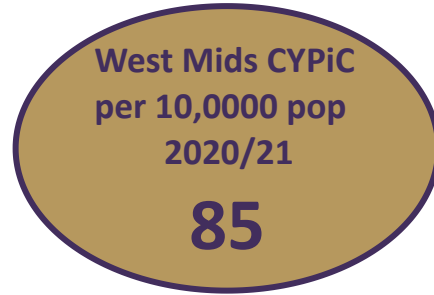
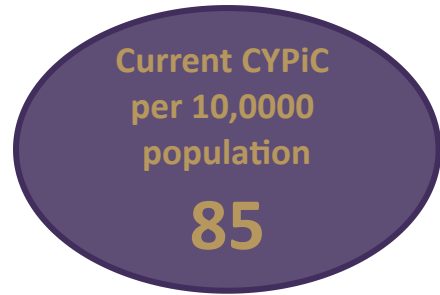
**Data as at:  
28 February 2022**

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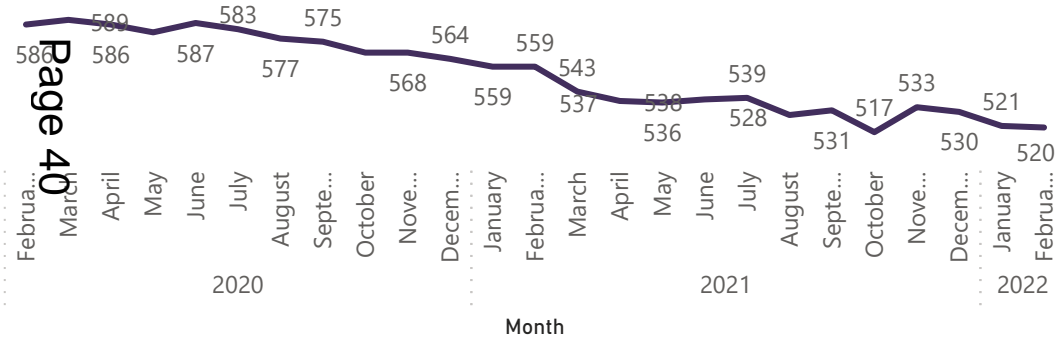
Agenda Item No: 8

# City of Wolverhampton Council - Corporate Parenting Report

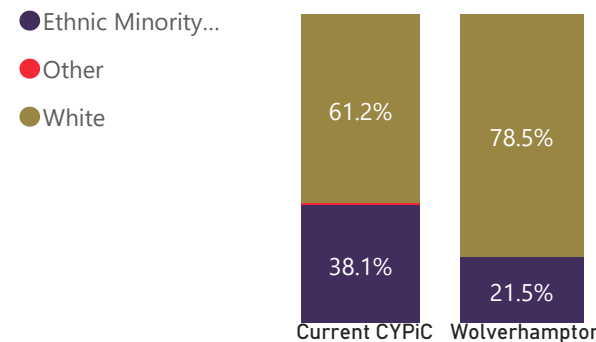
## Current CYPiC Profile



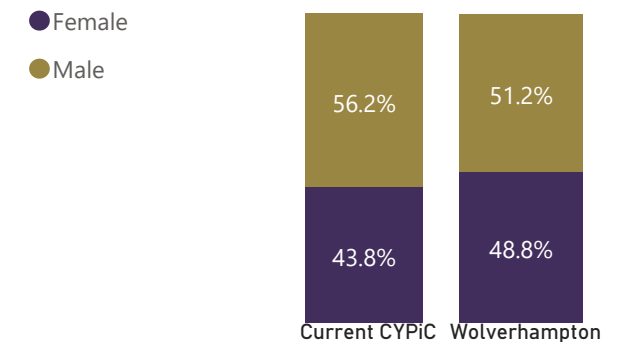
Number of Children and Young People in Care in Wolverhampton



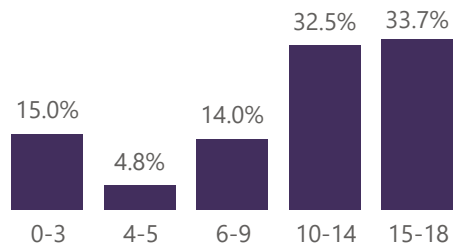
Ethnicity Comparison



Gender Comparison



Age Breakdown



The numbers of children and young people in care have decreased in the year to date to 520 from 543 in March 2021. The number of children leaving care and entering care has stabilised over the last 2 months after an increase of admissions in November. Over 65% of Wolverhampton's children and young people in care are aged 10 and above with 34% aged 15 or above. There is an over representation of children from ethnic minority groups in the current CYPiC cohort compared to the overall city population of 0-18 year olds. There is also a slight over representation of males when compared to the overall Wolverhampton population of 0-18 year olds.



# City of Wolverhampton Council - Corporate Parenting Report

## CYPiC Placement Analysis



% CYPiC placed more than 20 mile + from home

**13%**

2018/19 = 13%, 2019/20 = 10%, 2020/21 = 11%

% CYPiC with less than 3 placements in last 12 months

**93.8%**

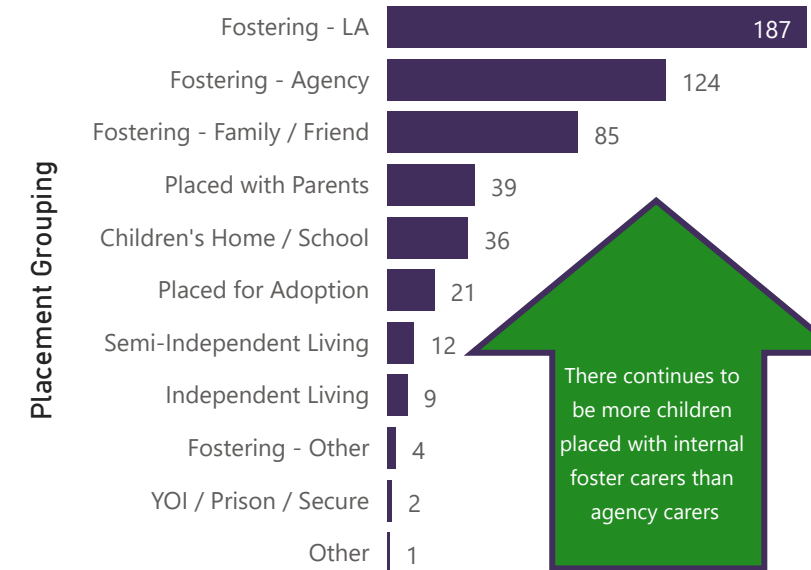
2018/19 = 86%, 2019/20 = 91%, 2020/21 = 94%

% CYPiC in same placement for 2 years or more

**72.7%**

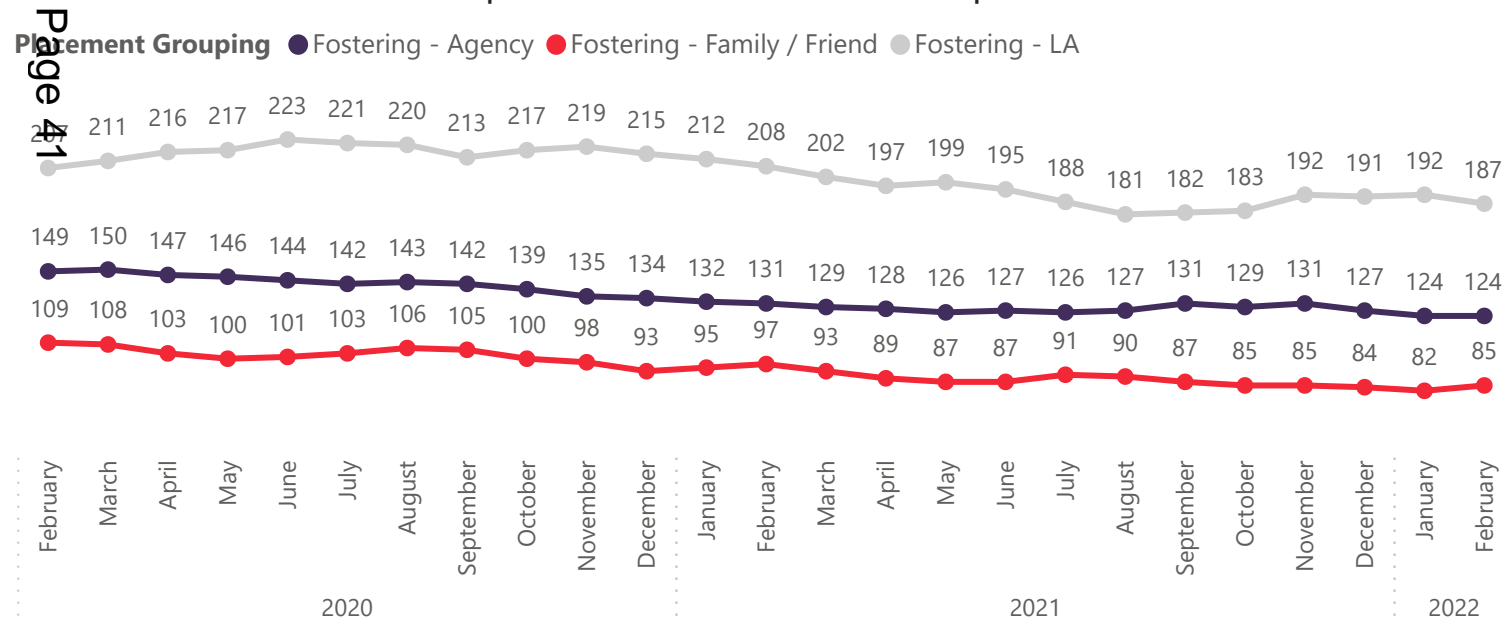
2018/19 = 73%, 2019/20 = 74%, 2020/21 = 78%

### Current CYPiC by Placement Type



There continues to be more children placed with internal foster carers than agency carers

### Number of placements for current CYPiC in past 12 months



### Number of placements for current CYPiC in past 12 months



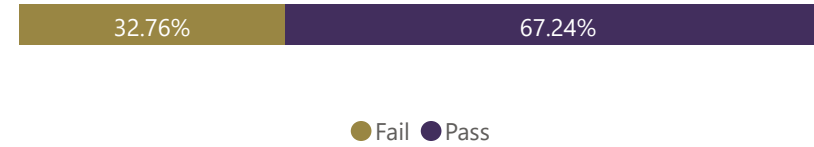
The percentage of CYPiC with fewer than 3 placements during the last 2 years has remained consistent, when compared to the latest published year end data, at 94%. There has been an increase of 2% from the end of the 20/21 year for CYPiC placed more than 20 miles from home and the percentage of CYPiC in the same placement for 2 years or more has dropped by 5%.

## Assessments, Reviews, Visits



### CYPiC with an up to date assessment

Where a new assessment has been completed within 12 months



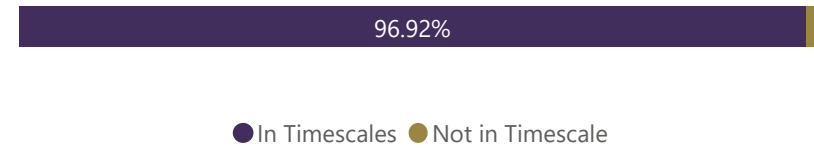
2020/21 = 80.66%  
2019/20 = 77.82%

● Fail ● Pass



### 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



2020/21 = 98.9%  
2019/20 = 96.93%

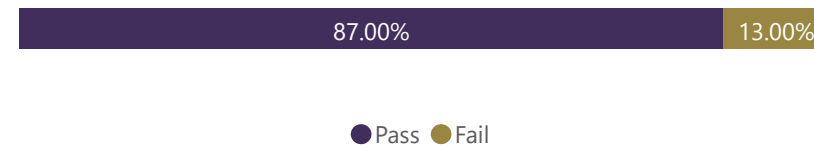
● In Timescales ● Not in Timescale



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### CYPiC who participated in the review

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



2020/21 = 99.3%  
2019/20 = 93.8%

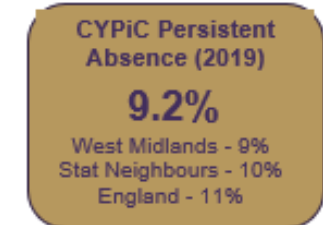
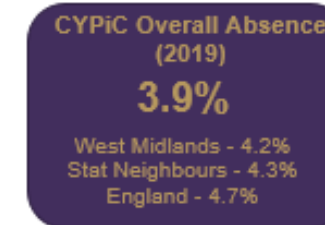
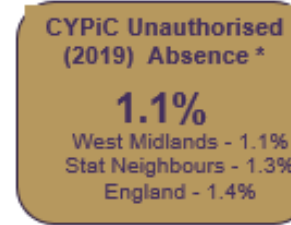
● Pass ● Fail

CYPiC with an up to date assessments is at 67% which is a decrease from 81% at year end 2020/21, while reviews continue to stay strong with 97% of children recorded as having an up to date review.

CYPiC Review Participation has seen a decline to 87% in February from 99% at year end 2020/21.

## Education

KS2 Expected Standard	Maths	Reading	Writing	Reading, Writing and Maths
CYPiC Wolverhampton 2019	47%	50%	58%	42%
Wolverhampton 2019	74%	70%	77%	64%
CYPiC West Midlands 2019	50%	51%	52%	38%
CYPiC Stat Neighbours 2019	54%	49%	52%	38%
CYPiC England 2019	51%	49%	50%	37%
KS4	9-4 Pass in English and Maths	Attainment 8	Progress 8	
CYPiC Wolverhampton 2019	15%	20%	-1%	
Wolverhampton 2019	58%	45%	0%	
CYPiC West Midlands 2019	18%	20%	-1%	
CYPiC Stat Neighbours 2019	18%	20%	-1%	
CYPiC England 2019	18%	19%	-1%	



### CYPiC with an up to date PEP

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

#### PEP's - All Ages



2020/21 = 90%  
2019/20 = 93%

#### PEP's - Early Year's



2020/21 = 93%  
2019/20 = 72%

#### PEP's - Year 12 & 13's



2020/21 = 51%  
2019/20 = 81%

● Fail ● Pass

The 2019 KS2 and KS4 results show that Wolverhampton CYPiC has improved in line with 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. 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 2019. This is taken from published data that was released in April 2020, and shows that performance is in line with or better than comparator groups. Wolverhampton are in the upper quartile nationally (best performance) for children and young people in care overall absence.

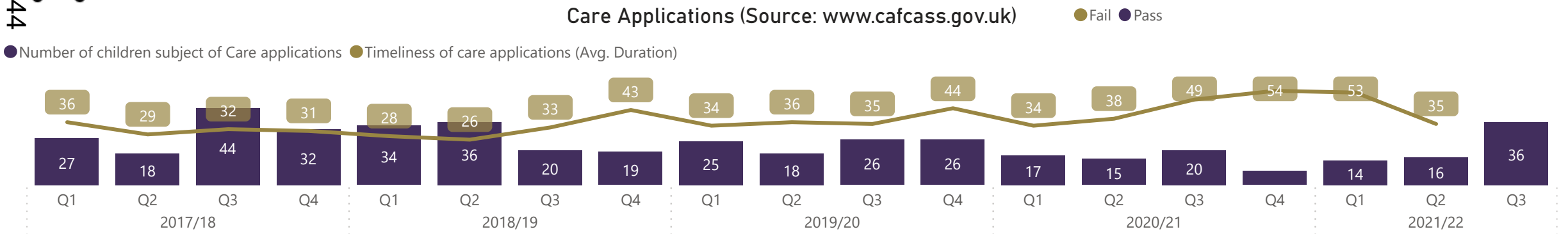
CYPiC with an up to date PEP performance has improved in February. Work is ongoing in the service to improve the PEP performance for the year 12 and 13 cohort.

# City of Wolverhampton Council - Corporate Parenting Report

**Health & Dental - This data is internal CWC data and reflects different timescales to the data provided by health**



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The percentage of dental checks completed has seen an improvement throughout the year. Medical checks which were previously an area of strength had been low previously, partly impacted by recording issues, this is currently 83% for February. Of the new CYPiC in the past 12 months, 16% had an initial health assessment within the first 20 working days, this remains an area of concern and continues to be flagged as an area of concern in internal performance management meetings. The number of children subject of care applications has seen a significant increase to 36 in 2021/22 Q3, more than double the number recorded for the previous quarter.

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## Adoption



### CYPiC adopted within A1 indicator (428 days)

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



2020/21 = 29%  
2019/20 = 66%  
2018/19 = 58%

● Fail ● Pass



### CYPiC adopted within A2 indicator (122 Days)

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



2020/21 = 43%  
2019/20 = 49%  
2018/19 = 67%

● Fail ● Pass



### CYPiC adopted within A10 indicator (428 Days)

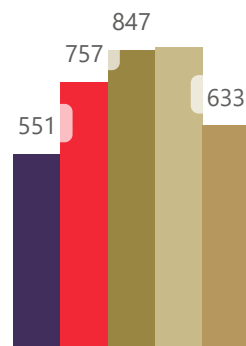
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (stopped at point of fostering for foster carers adoptions)



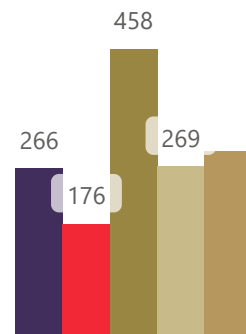
2020/21 = 38%  
2019/20 = 81%  
2018/19 = 80%

● Fail ● Pass

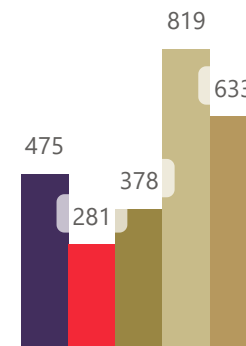
Adoptions - A1 (Avg. Days)



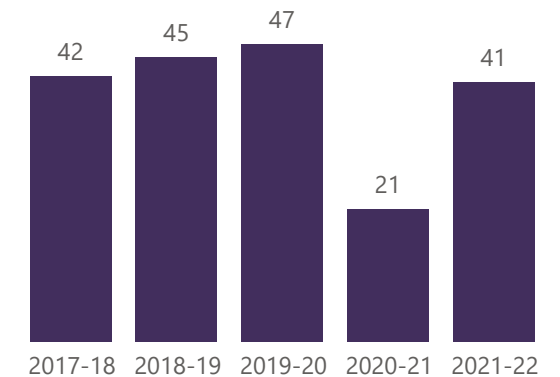
Adoptions - A2 (Avg. Days)



Adoptions - A10 (Avg. Days)



Number of Adoptions



● 2017-18 ● 2018-19 ● 2019-20 ● 2020-21 ● 2021-22

There have been 41 adoptions so far in 2021/22, a significant increase from the 21 adoptions in 2020/21 which was heavily impacted by Covid-19 as court closures caused delays in timeliness.

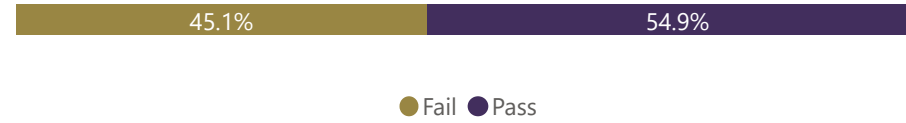
# City of Wolverhampton Council - Corporate Parenting Report

## Care Leavers



### Care Leavers EET Status

Education, Employment and Training of Care Leavers aged 19-21

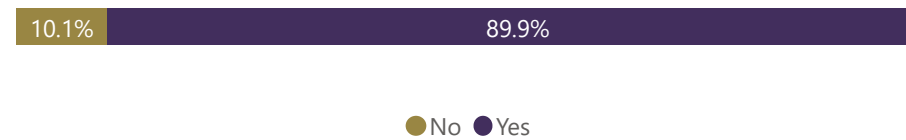


2020/21 Year Out-turn = 46%  
 2020/21 West Midlands = 50%  
 2020/21 Stat Neighbours = 48%  
 2020/21 England = 52%



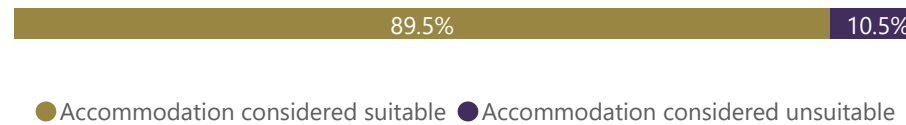
### Care Leavers available to work

Care Leavers aged 17-21 who are available for education, training or employment



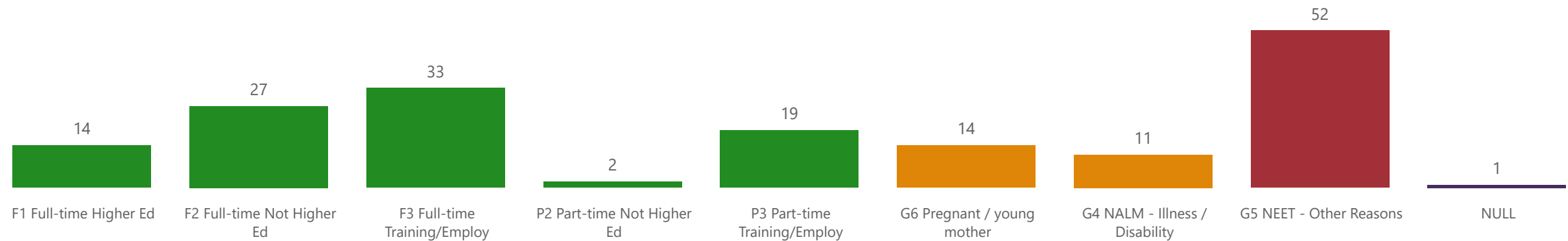
### Care Leavers in suitable accommodation

Care Leavers aged 19-21 who live in suitable accommodation



2020/21 Year Out-turn = 85%  
 2020/21 West Midlands = 87%  
 2020/21 Stat Neighbours = 87%  
 2020/21 England = 88%

### Current Care Leaver EET Status (19-21)



At the end of February, 55% of 19-21 year old care leavers were in Education, Employment or Training. This has reduced from 61% reported at the end of December 2021, however, remains above the previous year's out turn locally, when compared against the last published data for statistical neighbours, also above the previous year's out turn at a regional and national level. 90% of care leavers aged 17-21 are available for work. This is a significant achievement when considering the high levels of youth unemployment within the city. Of the 19-21 cohort 10% (28 young people) were not available due to pregnancy or parenting, illness or disability. 90% of the current care leavers 19-21 cohort are currently deemed to be in suitable accommodation.