

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

Venue Committee Room 3 - 3rd Floor - Civic Centre

Membership

Chair Cllr Beverley Momenabadi (Lab)

Vice Chair Cllr Wendy Dalton (Con)

Labour

Cllr Qaiser Azeem
Cllr Lovinyer Daley
Cllr Jasbinder Dehar
Cllr Barbara McGarrity QN
Cllr Rita Potter
Cllr Clare Simm

Conservative

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

Address Democratic Services, Civic Centre, 1st floor, St Peter's Square,
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 interest |
| 3 | Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2023 (Pages 5 - 12)
[To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2023 as a correct record and signed by the Vice Chair in the Chair.] |
| 4 | Matters arising
[To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2023.] |
| 5 | Schedule of outstanding matters (Pages 13 - 16)
[To receive the Schedule of Outstanding Matters.] |
| 6 | Children in Care Council (CiCC) Presentation
[To receive a presentation from representatives from the CiCC, to include outcomes from the CiCC Annual Survey.] |
| 7 | Care Leavers' Independent Collective (CLiC) Presentation
[To receive a presentation from representatives from the CLiC, to include highlights and achievements for 2022 and actions for the coming year.] |
| 8 | Care Leavers' Survey Outcomes
[To receive a presentation outlining responses to the Care Leaver Annual Survey.] |
| 9 | Education, Employment and Training (EET) Update (Pages 17 - 24)
[To receive an update on the City of Wolverhampton's Offer to Children and Young People in Care, Care Leavers and Vulnerable Young People.] |
| 10 | Performance Monitoring Information (Pages 25 - 34)
[To receive 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 |
|----|---|

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

[To receive verbal feedback on any visits to establishments undertaken by Councillors since the last meeting.]

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Attendance

Chair Cllr Beverley Momenabadi (Lab)
Vice Chair Cllr Wendy Dalton (Con)

Labour

Cllr Qaiser Azeem
Cllr Lovinyer Daley

Cllr Jasbinder Dehar
Cllr Barbara McGarrity QN

Cllr Rita Potter
Cllr Clare Simm

Conservative

Cllr Mak Singh

In Attendance

Emma Bennett Executive Director of Families
Hannah Finch Corporate Parenting Officer
Becky Grainger Designated Nurse for CYPIC, Black Country ICB
Alison Hinds Deputy Director of Social Care
Shelley Humphries Democratic Services Officer
Dr Stephanie Simon Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
Jazmine Walker Head of Service Children and Young People in Care

The Board also welcomed one Foster Carer and members of the Care Leavers' Independent Collective.

Item No. *Title*

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from the following members of the Corporate Parenting Board: Councillor Udey Singh.

2 Declarations of interest

Councillor Barbara McGarrity QN declared an interest in so far as she is a Private Counsellor.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2022

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

4 Matters arising

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

5 Schedule of outstanding matters

Jazmine Walker, Head of Service Children and Young People in Care presented the report on current progress on matters previously considered by the Board.

An update was provided for the numbers of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children who were also care leavers supported by City of Wolverhampton Council during 2022. An update was also provided for foster carers with special guardianship orders as requested at the last meeting of Corporate Parenting Board.

Rebecca Grainger, Black Country ICB provided figures from neighbouring authorities on children in care being placed more than 50 miles away from home which had not been available at the last meeting. It was noted that Walsall recorded those placed over 20 miles from home whilst all other authorities recorded 50 plus. The percentages were as follows:

- 6.9% - Wolverhampton
- 16.8 % - Walsall (20 miles plus)
- 4.7% - Sandwell
- 5.1% - Dudley

It was also reported that the decision to support free NHS prescriptions for care leavers up to the age of 25 years had been declined by the Black Country ICB Health Inequalities Board citing challenges faced with commissioning. The matter had been escalated and was due to be presented to Executive Management Board for further consideration. Advice was also being sought from colleagues at Greater Manchester ICB, where a similar scheme had already been successfully implemented.

It was queried whether participation of care leaver representatives in the upcoming Black Country ICB meetings may lend weight to the proposals as young people could advocate for themselves and outline what exemption from prescription charges would mean for them. This suggestion would be taken away to consider and an update would be provided once more information was available.

Hannah Finch, Corporate Parenting Officer shared that Councillors had been contacted with upcoming dates for establishment visits.

Resolved:

1. That the Schedule of Outstanding Matters be received.
2. That a further update be provided from Black Country ICB on free prescriptions for care leavers up to the age of 25 years once this became available.

6 **Missing Children and Young People in Care**

Laura Wood, Service Manager for Children and Young People in Care and Leaving Care presented the Missing Children and Young People in Care report and highlighted salient points. The report sought to update Corporate Parenting Board on the challenges and actions identified when reducing the number of missing episodes for all children and young people in care and progress made to disrupt recurring missing episodes.

It was acknowledged that the figures may appear alarming however a missing episode was wide-ranging in definition and typically referred to any period (however short) that a child or young person was away from their placement or care setting without their carer's knowledge and/or permission.

In response to a query around the format of social work visits following a missing episode, it was noted that these took place in person wherever possible to establish trust with the young person and gain the advantage of reading any body language which would be missed on a video or audio call. Virtual sessions only took place where face to face was not possible.

The Multi-Agency Child Exploitation panel process was commended as successful and it was agreed to share details of the methodology used to achieve these outcomes with Councillors.

Following an observation that missing episodes had increased after COVID, it was noted that the lifting of lockdown restrictions had presented more opportunities to leave. Episodes had dipped during lockdown as most young people were observing government guidelines.

In response to a query around timeliness of risk assessments, it was acknowledged that these were consistently taking place however there could sometimes be a delay uploading case details to the system.

Following a request for the bi-monthly update on the management oversight of missing episodes to be shared with Councillors, it was noted that this would be managed by the Insight and Performance Team and data could be embedded into the Performance Monitoring Information dashboard presented at each Corporate Parenting Board meeting.

A query was raised around what the response would be to any young person not wishing to co-operate at all with meetings related to missing episodes. It was noted that there may be many factors causing this, but it would be considered that the young person may be victim to exploitation. Officers would then approach the young person's network of trusted people to gain an understanding of the full circumstances and inform the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and other relevant parties accordingly. It was acknowledged again that establishing trust was key and persistence in demonstrating to the young person that the Council would not give up on offering their support as their safety and wellbeing was paramount.

An example was provided of one young person who, despite insistence that they were happy in their placement, would abscond to be with someone deemed inappropriate. After working with the young person, an agreement was reached with a semi-independent living arrangement with wraparound support.

Resolved:

1. That the Missing Children and Young People in Care report be received.
2. That analytics on management of missing children and young people in care be included in the Performance Monitoring Information Report rather than a six-monthly review.
3. That the challenges and actions identified to decrease missing episodes for all children and young people in care be noted.
4. That details of the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation panel process be shared with Councillors.

7 **Children with Complex Needs and Disabilities Children's Homes Review**

Courtney Abbott, Quality and Improvement Advanced Practitioner presented the Children with Complex Needs and Disabilities Children's Homes Review report and highlighted key points. The purpose of the report was to provide assurance to Corporate Parenting Board that Quality and Safety Reviews had been completed and that children and young people with Complex Needs and Disabilities were provided with safe and good quality Children's Homes.

It was reported that the Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) Panel was currently undertaking a national review into safeguarding children with disabilities and complex health needs in Children's Homes. It was identified that 12 children and young people with disabilities and/or complex needs were currently residing in Children's Homes; these homes were not included among the 48 identified by Ofsted therefore a nil return was submitted to CSPR Panel, however City of Wolverhampton Council undertook to complete a review of them as an additional oversight.

In respect of the young person receiving tuition, it was queried what tuition they were receiving. It was noted that the young person's exact circumstances were not known personally to officers in attendance at the meeting, however Maths and English were typically taught to a high standard with methodology aimed at the ability level of each young person.

In respect of the young person described at paragraph 3.7 section d., it was queried what skills were being taught in place of education provision and whether they were meaningful. Assurances were offered that, whilst this particular young person's

situation was not known personally, the skills taught could range from life skills to a vocation, such as car repair or hair styling. The skills taught were again bespoke to each young person's needs and abilities.

Resolved:

That Corporate Parenting Board endorse the Children with Complex Needs and Disabilities Children's Homes Review report.

8 **The Reach Leaving Care Offer Review 2022**

Samantha Grainger, Team Manager – REACH Leaving Care and Hannah Finch, Corporate Parenting Officer and Hannah Finch, Corporate Parenting Officer co-presented the Reach Leaving Care Offer Review 2022 and highlighted key points. The report provided an overview of the Care Leaver Offer and the outcomes of the annual review. It was reported that since the previous Local Offer Review in 2021, the City of Wolverhampton has continued to regularly update and increase its Local Offer in line with the needs and requests of the care experienced young people it supports.

In terms of the engagement sessions with young people, it was queried whether there had been any concerns around them feeling too shy or uncomfortable to share their views in a group setting and if this would hinder the feedback. It was noted that an interactive digital platform had been used for some activities where users could anonymously provide instant feedback to a question or vote for a number of options using an electronic device. It was highlighted that this worked well for some exercises however, following feedback from the young people participating in last year's review, other face to face activities had also been incorporated to gather views.

It was queried how well publicised the Offer was and how young people were reached to make them aware of what they could access. It was noted that the Offer was advertised on the website and information on what was available was passed on to care leavers via a range of professionals that they were likely to encounter, such as Young Person's Advisors (YPAs) mentors. Ways of finding out how well the young people knew the Offer had been built into the engagement exercises to better understand which areas needed promoting wider. Young people present voiced that they felt some aspects of the Offer could be explained more thoroughly by YPAs.

The offer was commended and members stated they felt reassured that care leavers' views were being listened to and used to shape the offer. Young people present added that they felt proud to have contributed their feedback and suggestions for improvements, as well as the positive impact made possible by the Offer.

Resolved:

1. That the update on the review process undertaken of the Care Leaver Local Offer be received.
2. That the findings within the Reach Leaving Care Offer Review 2022 report as outlined at 3.0 be noted.

9 **Virtual School Head Annual Report 2022**

Darren Martindale, Virtual School Head presented the Virtual School Head Annual Report 2022 and highlighted salient points. The report sought to highlight the

educational outcomes of Wolverhampton's children and young people in care and care leavers from September 2021-July 2022, and how these have been supported by the Council, schools and other key partners. It also highlights notable successes as well as future priorities and areas for development. The report also offered Members an understanding in a number of areas pertinent to the achievement of children and young people in care.

The Virtual School Head Annual Report 2022 and work undertaken to support children and young people in care in their education was highly commended.

A query was raised in terms of recent GSCE results and how they compared with 2020. It was confirmed that, whilst results were still encouraging with 19% gaining a Grade 4 or above in both maths and English in 2022, results had been slightly better during 2020 and 2021. Results had been determined using teacher assessments during this period due to COVID and it was thought this supported the theory that examinations were not universally suitable for every student and some young people were capable of achieving better results through assessments.

It was highlighted that Wolverhampton had been regarded as 'good' by Ofsted however a query was raised around the impact of work undertaken to tackle school absences. It was noted that it had been recognised as an area in need of improvement and work was continually ongoing in this area. It was reported that there had been a reduction in persistent absences which had been small but reassuring.

Resolved:

That the Virtual School Head Annual Report 2022 be received.

10 **Performance Monitoring Information**

Alison Hinds, Deputy Director for Social Care presented the Performance Monitoring Information report and highlighted salient points. The report provided analytics on performance in a number of areas relating to children and young people in care.

The higher proportion of males to females outlined at agenda pack page 66 was queried and it was confirmed that it was currently being investigated to understand why this was.

In response to a query around timeliness of initial health assessments being quite low compared with previous years, it was noted that these should be carried out within 20 working days of entering care, which, whilst not impossible, was often a tight timescale to achieve. Assurance was offered that both the Authority and health colleagues were working to gain an understanding of why targets were not being met in individual cases to continually improve.

Resolved:

That the Performance Monitoring Information report be received.

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**

It was reported that two bookings had been confirmed for Councillors to visit Upper Pendeford Farm and extra dates were being scheduled in.

The Chair reminded all Corporate Parenting Board members who had not done so to book in a Total Respect training session which were to be held in February 2023. These workshop sessions were designed to provide Councillors with valuable insight on challenges faced by children and young people in care to ensure Councillors understood and discharged their duty as Corporate Parents effectively.

Resolved:

1. That Councillors interested in visiting Upper Pendeford Farm contact Hannah Finch, Corporate Parenting Officer.
2. That all Corporate Parenting Board members book a Total Respect training session for February 2023.

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 23 March 2023
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Report title	Schedule of Outstanding Matters	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Beverley Momenabadi Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Executive Director of Families	
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
12 January 2023	That a further update be provided from Black Country ICB on free prescriptions for care leavers up to the age of 25 years once this became available.	Rebecca Grainger, Black Country ICB	This has now been approved.
12 January 2023	That analytics on management of missing children and young people in care be included in the Performance Monitoring Information Report rather than a six-monthly review.	Alison Hinds, Deputy Director of Social Care	Information has been requested and Data and Analytics have now included this.
12 January 2023	That details of the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation panel process be shared with Councillors.	Jazmine Walker, Head of Service for Children and Young People in Care	Details have been circulated to the membership via email.
12 January 2023	That all Corporate Parenting Board members book a Total Respect training session for February 2023.	All	Total Respect workshops have taken place and further dates will be circulated following elections.

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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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Corporate Parenting Board 23 March 2023
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Report title	Education, Employment and Training (EET) Update	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Beverley Momenabadi Children and Young People	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	Emma Bennett, Executive Director of Families	
Originating service	Children and Young People in Care	
Accountable employee	Helen Woodvine EET Coordinator Tel 07900708268 Helen.woodvine@wolverhampton.gov.uk	
Report has been considered by	Care Leavers' Independent Collective Children and Young People in Care Managers	15 February 2023 1 March 2023

Recommendation for action:

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Receive the Education, Employment and Training (EET) Update report.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the current performance and key developments to the support on offer to Children and Young People in Care (CYPiC), Care Leavers (CL) and vulnerable young people around Education, Employment and Training (EET) by the City of Wolverhampton Council.

2.0 Overview

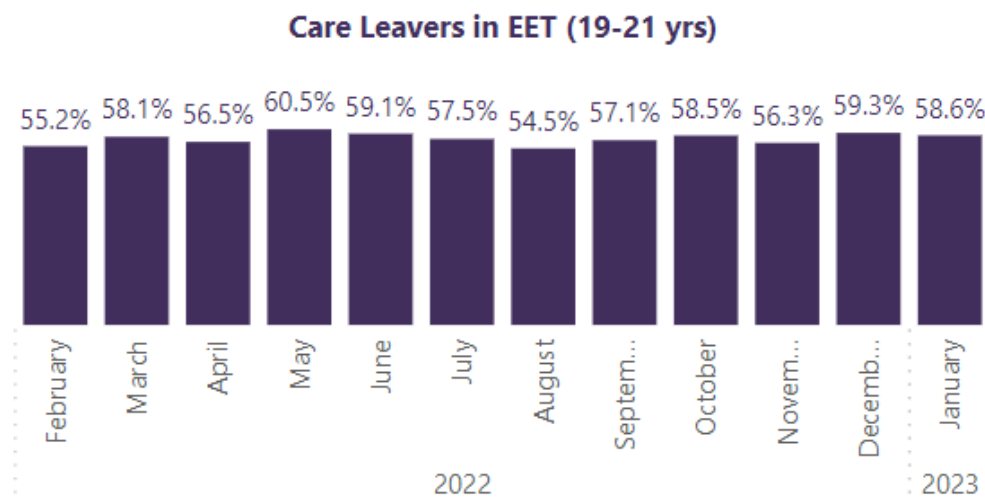
2.1 The service offers a range of EET opportunities and experiences that can assist young people to engage in activity that enhances and supports their journey to the labour market. Recognising that there are enhanced barriers to engagement not only due to the Covid pandemic but also consideration to being a Care Leaver or a child in care.

2.2 Some of the issues facing Children and Young People in Care and Care Leavers are:

- History and culture of low aspiration,
- Trauma and/or attachment-related difficulties and negative previous experiences,
- Disrupted education and high level of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND),
- Negative assumptions around children and young people in care and care leavers
- Financial issues – e.g., apprenticeships, traineeships and second chance learning (care leavers can access training/education up to level three), they do not have an equal financial incentive, therefore financial barriers come into play, considering travel, living costs, etc.

3.0 Background

3.1 For the last 12 months, EET figures (outlined below) have increased by 3.8% with reporting on the 1 February 2023 being 59% positively engaged in EET activity. Of the 19 – 21 cohort we have 26 young people who are NEET. They are currently being offered support from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), the EET Coordinator and the EET Advisor.



4.0 Current Positive outcomes for EET

4.1 The City of Wolverhampton Council have five apprenticeships opportunities for Children Young People in Care and Care Leavers in a variety of positions and levels. These are all within Children's Social Care:

- Corporate Parenting, two apprenticeships at Level 2,
- Participation, one apprenticeship at Level 2,
- Supported Accommodation, Housing Team, one apprenticeship at Level 3,
- Education Employment and Training, one apprenticeship at Level 3.

4.2 The Apprenticeship Recruitment Process is Council-wide, and now includes Care Leaver Support that allows Care Leavers and CYPiC to access and apply for apprenticeship vacancies at the internal stage.

4.3 Work is ongoing to explore:

- More vocational roles within Parks and Gardens, Refuge, Facilities and Maintenance, Car Parks and Parking, Transport, and Catering Services.
- Alternative pathways into apprenticeships to allow care leavers the ability to access work experience or taster days to experience prior to applying.
- An increase in Level 2 apprenticeship opportunities and the ability to be able to study functional skills alongside the apprenticeship framework.
- Develop inclusive apprenticeship opportunities for our Children and Young People in Care and Care Leavers with Special Educational Needs and that have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

4.4 We currently have additional Care Leavers in post within apprenticeship opportunities with the Council including:

- Strengthening Families Service, one apprenticeship at Level 4 Children and Young Peoples Practitioner apprentice,
- Regeneration, Youth employment support team, one Level 3 Creative Content Assistant apprentice,
- Procurement, one Level 3 Procurement Assistant apprentice,
- Communications, one Level 3 Junior Content Producer apprentice.

4.5 Work continues by the EET Team to promote apprenticeship opportunities within the council to our Care Leavers and CYPiC.

4.6 There is one ring fenced opportunity for a Care Leaver on the City of Wolverhampton's National Government Degree Programme (NGDP). This is currently being undertaken by one Care Leaver.

- 4.7 The [Civil Service Internship Scheme](#) is a flagship scheme that gives Care Leavers a chance to benefit from a 12 month paid internship in a central Government department, with the possibility of the post being made permanent at the end of the 12 months
- 4.8 We have a Care Leaver who has successfully been appointed for a position within HM Courts and Tribunals Service and is due to start her employment on the 6 March 2023.
- 4.9 The EET Panel now runs bimonthly and has recorded a 61% success rate for supporting young people's engagement into EET activity. There are additional panels over the summer months to allow for those at risk of not being in EET (NEET) to be captured before the start of the next academic year.
- 4.10 As of September 2022, the City of Wolverhampton Council has 25 Care Leavers attending Higher Education (HE) with a further three taking a break from studies for a year. The number of Care Leavers accessing university has increased year on year as you can see below, with a dip for the COVID year intake of 2020 - 2021.

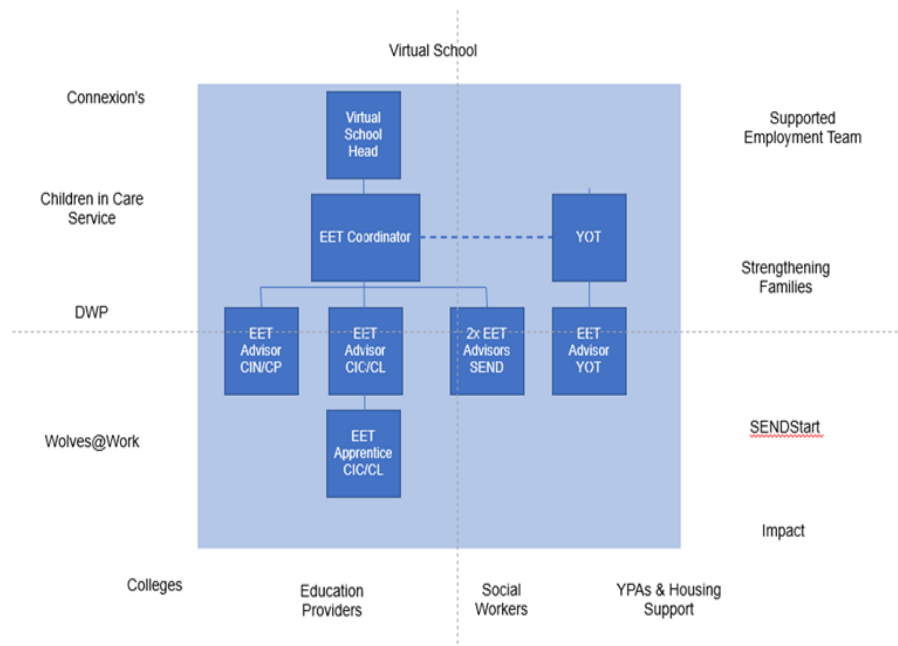
Academic Year	Number of new starters each year
2013 - 2014	2
2014 - 2015	3
2015 - 2016	8
2016 - 2017	9
2017 - 2018	8
2018 - 2019	10
2019 - 2020	11
2020 - 2021 (COVID)	5
2021 - 2022	11
2022 - 2023	8

- 4.11 The City of Wolverhampton graduates of 2022 - 2023., who have worked extremely hard and showed resilience not only through their studies, but also through the COVID pandemic with heavily disrupted learning, have achieved the following:

University	Classification
Harper Adams	2.1 BSC Hons Bio veterinary Science
Coventry	2.1 BSC Hons Bio medical Science
Wolverhampton	2.2 BA Hons Social Care, Criminology and Criminal justice
Lincoln	3 rd class with honours BA Hons Music
Wolverhampton	2.1 BSC Hons Psychology
Heart of Worcester	2.2 BA Hons Game Design and Digital Media
Sheffield	2.1 BA Hons Social Care and Criminology
Worcester	2.1 BA Hons Primary Education
Wolverhampton	2.1 BSC Hons Psychology and Counselling

- 4.12 We continue to support our Care Leavers in Higher Education with a bursary, support with accommodation costs, equipment and two academic reviews a year to support their wellbeing and academic studies. They are also given access to the Ask Jan app for additional wellbeing support.
- 4.13 The EET Drop-in continues to run every Thursday from 1.00 to 6.00 pm and is supported by the EET Coordinator and the EET Advisor to support young people who want to access Information Advice and Guidance and support with all aspects of employment, education, and training needs. The DWP also support the Drop-in monthly with the attendance of our Care Leaver designated contact.
- 4.14 The EET Advisor supports all young people that are to be released from custody prior to release and attends their last release meeting to support and plan for post release to offer advice and guidance around education employment and training and opportunities that are available to them.
- 4.15 The Positive Change programme is written and ready for delivery. The programme will target a small group of NEET young people with barriers to EET from the 19 – 21 cohort. We are currently looking to deliver elements of this to a younger age group of 17- and 18-year-olds. The programme will be delivered by the EET Coordinator and the EET Advisor with the support of external and internal agencies. This will be a 15-week programme to explore barriers to EET and offer enhanced support for care leavers to engage in a variety of EET activity:
- Exploration – Skills assessments, research, labour market information, strengths, transferable skills, CV's and covering letters
 - Step up – Visits to employers, training providers other support mechanisms (Job change, A2B, Youth Hub, DWP, college AES,) individual tasks to prepare for EET - applications, interviews, and next steps
 - EET – Taster sessions, increase in hours and days, work experience, weekly check ins, how to sustain EET and support mechanisms.
- 4.16 The relaunch of EET Strategic Group will occur to drive and monitor the EET action plan, enabling collaborative working between stakeholders and aligned with the Corporate Parenting Plan.
- 4.17 In June 2022, a proposal was agreed by Families Senior Leadership Team to provide additional EET support to our most vulnerable children and young people in the City to support their transition into Employment, Education and Training. This supports one of the key aims of in Our City, Our Plan to ensure there more local people in good jobs and training.
- 4.18 It was recognised that, while young people open to the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and Children in Care and Care Leavers already receive additional support and are monitored and tracked to ensure they stay on track to achieve positive EET outcomes, some other vulnerable groups still lack that bespoke support and coordination.

4.19 It was agreed, therefore, to increase the capacity sitting underneath the Education, Employment, Training (EET) Coordinator role to create two SEND EET Advisors and one EET Advisor for children who are, or have been subject to, Child in Need or Child Protection planning. The advisors will track young people through the vulnerability matrix and identify young people who need more targeted support. Becoming part of the Virtual School Team, they will work closely with School Improvement Advisor for children with a social worker, Connexions, schools and other key partners.



4.20 Work Experience for CYPiC and Care Leavers is now available to over 18s and is managed by the Organisational Development Team.

4.21 During Care Leavers week we showcased an EET event at the Civic Centre, an event to promote opportunities to Care Leavers attended by 25 providers including training providers, DWP, employers, volunteering, and internal apprenticeship support.

4.22 We have met with Employability UK and they are able to offer our CYPiC and Care Leavers a suite of four sessions to be delivered to a group of young people either face to face or in a hybrid approach to support their personal development. Employability UK supported John Lewis in their campaign for Care Leavers' support. The programme is supported by volunteers from business. We are looking to bring a group of NEET young people together to access this provision.

4.23 The programme is called Journey to Success:

- A to Z of confidence
- Be the Best You
- Vision board and guest motivational speaker
- Presentation and discussion

4.24 We have been in discussion with four organisations to promote new external opportunities for Care Leavers and have secured a commitment from the following organisations to offer work experience, volunteering opportunities and development of either apprenticeship or employment opportunities to be made available with a priority interview being given to CYPiC and Care Leavers:

- The Little Dessert Shop
- Eurofit
- The Haven Wolverhampton
- Hub for Grub – Volunteering opportunity
- Progress Care
- Collins Aerospace
- Eurovia

This work is still in progress.

5.0 Financial implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.
[JG/22022023/U]

6.0 Legal implications

6.1 The publishing of a Local Offer for Care Leavers is a legal requirement as set out in the Children and Social Work Act 2017 to improve support for looked after children in England and Wales, especially for those leaving care.
[SB/2102/2023/K]

7.0 Equalities implications

7.1 Outcomes for Children in Care and Care leavers as a result of their pre-care and in care experience are poorer than their peers. Unfortunately, sometimes being in care can have a negative impact on children's education as frequent placement and school moves will all impact on a child's confidence and ability to learn.

7.2 Traumatic experiences before entry into care can also cause difficulties, which may affect a child's behaviour, self-esteem, self-regulation, or trust in authority figures. This experience means that nationally compared to the general population care leavers are (DoE, Published 12 August 2019):

- less likely to be in education, employment, or training - over a third of 19-year-old care leavers are not in education, employment, or training.
- more likely to be attempting to live independently - some are unable to remain in their placements beyond the age of 18. They are therefore likely to experience compressed and accelerated transitions to independence.
- Impact of childhood trauma means they are more likely to suffer with issue relating to emotional health and wellbeing.

- more likely to have a criminal conviction and may have experienced unnecessary criminalisation. Care leavers are estimated to represent between 24% and 27% of the adult prison population.

7.3 The support provided by the EET Team is to help mitigate against the negative impact of being in or leaving care and the inequality they can face in society.

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

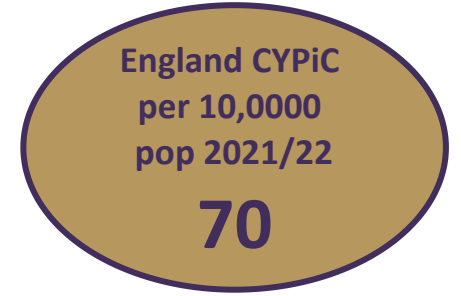
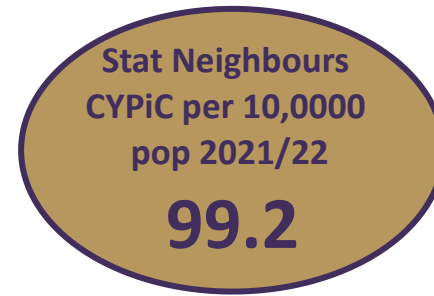
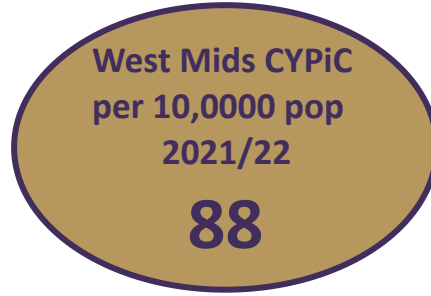
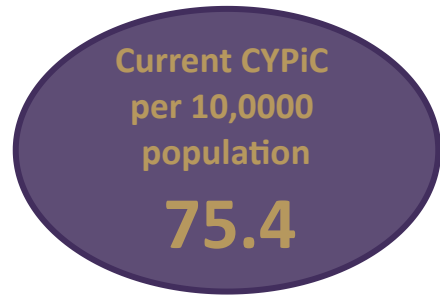
PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

Data as at:

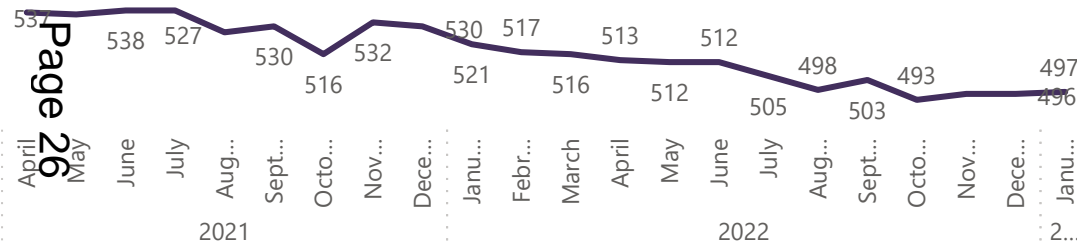
31/01/2023

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Current CYPiC Profile

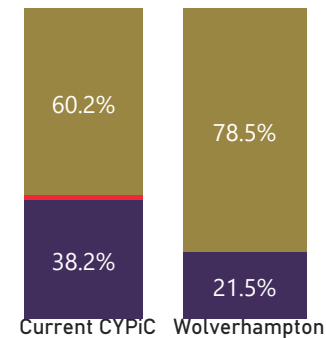


Number of Children and Young People in Care in Wolverhampton



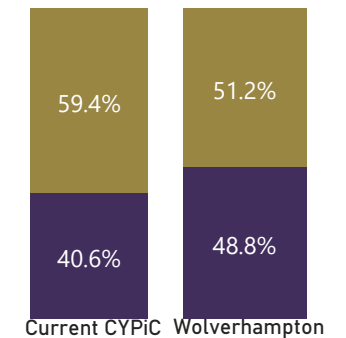
Ethnicity Comparison

- Ethnic Minority...
- Other
- White

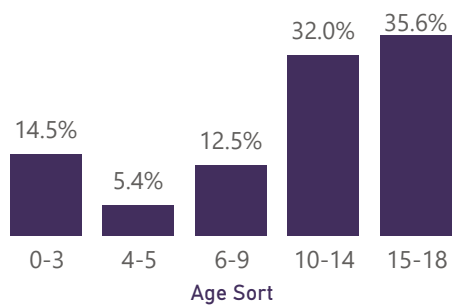


Gender Comparison

- Female
- Male



Age Breakdown



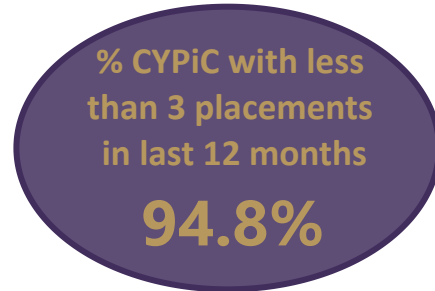
There were 497 children and young people in care at the end of January 2023. The numbers of young people entering care has stabilised over the past six months, with little variation seen, following a sustained reduction recorded over the past 12 months. 68% of the children and young people in care are over the age of 10 with 35.6% aged 15-18 and 32% aged 10-14 years. There remains an over representation of children and young people from an ethnic minority background in the current CYPiC cohort with 38.2% compared to 21.5% for the Wolverhampton population. There is also a slightly higher proportion of males (59.4%) in the current CYPiC cohort when compared to the overall Wolverhampton population (51.2%).

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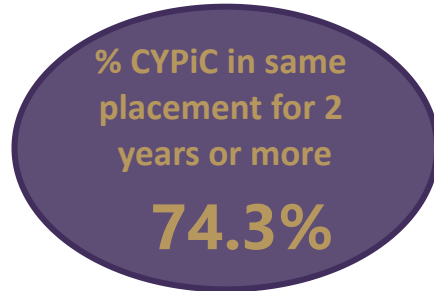
CYPiC Placement Analysis



2018/19 = 13%, 2019/20 = 10%,
2020/21 = 12%, 2021/22 = 14%

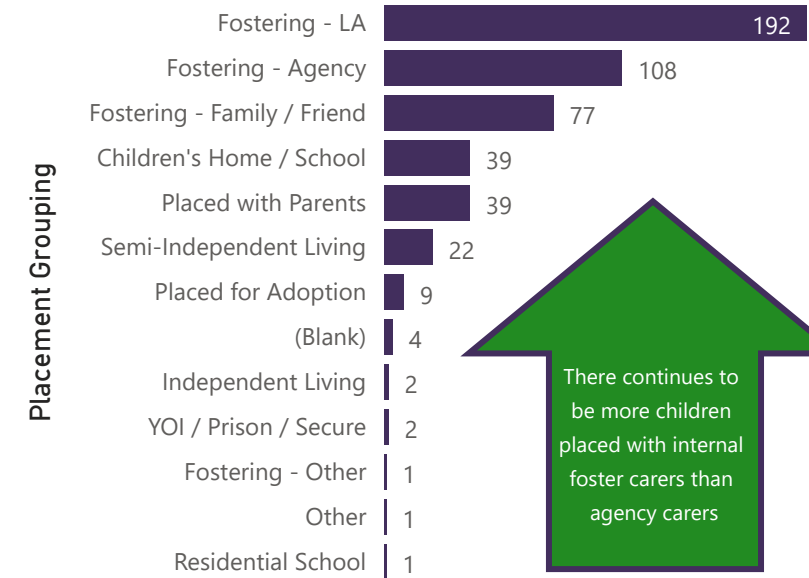


2018/19 = 86%, 2019/20 = 91%,
2020/21 = 94%, 2021/22 = 94%



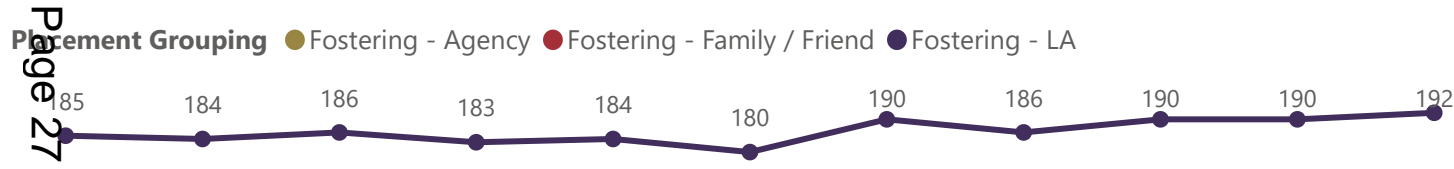
2018/19 = 73%, 2019/20 = 74%,
2020/21 = 77%, 2021/22 = 75%

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

● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 ● 7



The percentage of CYPiC placed more than 20 miles from home remains at 11%, as per the previous period and remains an improvement when compared to the previous two years. The percentage of CYPiC with fewer than 3 placements in the last 12 months has remained stable around 95%. The percentage of CYPiC in the same placement for 2 years remains at 74.3% with no change recorded from the previous period and year.

Assessments, Reviews, Visits



CYPiC with an up to date assessment

Where a new assessment has been completed within 12 months



● Fail ● Pass

2021/22 = 68.48%
2020/21 = 80.66%
2019/20 = 77.82%



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



● In Timescales ● Not in Timescale

2021/22 = 99.4%
2020/21 = 98.9%
2019/20 = 96.93%



Page 28

CYPiC who participated in the review

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



● (Blank) ● Pass ● Fail

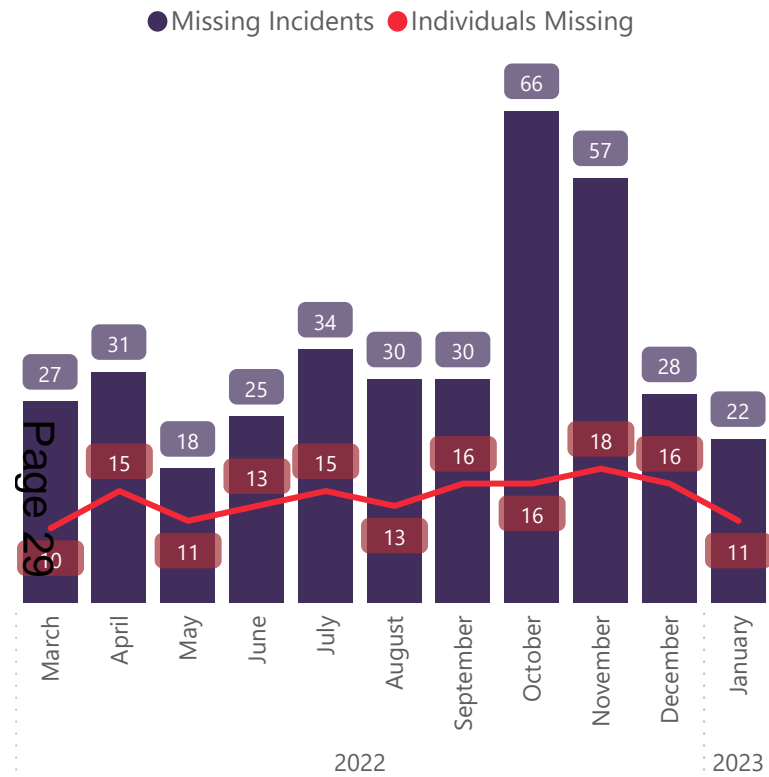
2021/22 = 98.2%
2020/21 = 99.3%
2019/20 = 93.8%

CYPiC with an up to date assessment is at 71.31% at the end of January 2023, which is a slight improvement from 68.48% recorded in 2021/22. Strong performance continues in the percentage of CYPiC with an up date review at 98.39%, this is similar to levels seen over the past two years. CYPiC Review Participation over the last 12 months is at 97.76%.

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CYPIC Missing Incidents

Number of Missing Incidents for CYPIC by Month



Year	2022											2023
Missing From	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	
Foster care	9	8	5	12	18	13	20	49	36	14	12	
Other	1	1	3		2	1	1	4	2	2	2	
Parental/family home			1	1	2	3		3	8	4	1	
Residential Home	17	21	7	5	12	13	7	7	9	7	6	
School		1	2	7			2	3	2	1	1	
Total	27	31	18	25	34	30	30	66	57	28	22	

Year	2022											2023
Time Missing	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	
<24 Hours	10	9	6	8	17	4	11	27	17	6	7	
1 Day	13	18	6	8	12	13	11	27	29	14	7	
2-6 Days	3	4	4	5	4	9	7	10	10	6	7	
7+ Days	1		2	4	1	4	1	2	1	2	1	
Total	27	31	18	25	34	30	30	66	57	28	22	

Numbers of missing incidents for CYPIC have remained stable over the past two months following an increase recorded in October and November 2022. 22 incidents were recorded at the end of January 2023, generated from 11 individuals.

32% of CYPIC missing incidents recorded in January were missing for less than 24 hours, a further 32% were missing for one day and 36% were missing for two days or more, with one YP missing for more than seven days (5%) this is consistent with the patterns seen over the past year.

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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%

	Wolverhampton CYPiC		All Wolverhampton		West Midlands CYPiC		Statistical Neighbours CYPiC		England CYPiC	
	2019	2021	2019	2021	2019	2021	2019	2021	2019	2021
KS4										
% 9-4 pass in English and Maths	15.2	32.1	57.6	68.1	17.4	29.4	18.63	25.71	17.8	28.8
Average Attainment 8 Score	20.4	27.1	45.1	50	20	24.5	20.01	23.27	19	23.2
Average Progress 8 Score	-1.09		-0.01		-1.08		-1.08			-1.23

Page 30

The 2021 KS4 results show that Wolverhampton CYPiC has improved in line with national, statistical neighbours and West Midlands 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 (including KS2) of CYPiC in Wolverhampton please refer to the Virtual School Head teacher annual report.

Attendance data has been updated for 2021. This is taken from latest DfE published data and shows that performance is in line with with comparator groups. Wolverhampton are in the upper quartile nationally (best performance) for children and young people in care unauthorised absence.

CYPiC with an up to date PEP performance has increased in January by 8.5% since last reported. Work is ongoing in the service to improve the PEP performance for the year 12 and 13 cohort. School age children cohort have 98.6% PEP's in timescale at the end of January; a increase compared to November's performance,

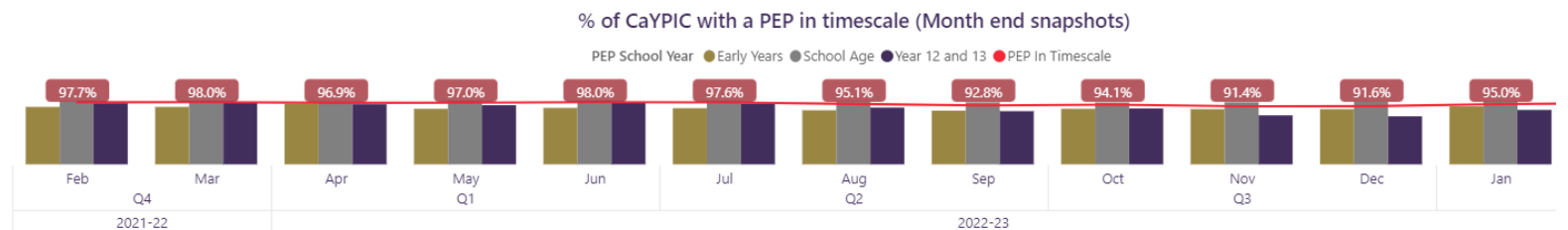
CYPiC Unauthorised Absence (2021)
1.1%
 West Midlands- 1.1%
 Statistical Neighbours- 1.4%
 England- 1.5%

CYPiC Overall Absence (2021)
9.5%
 West Midlands- 9%
 Statistical Neighbours- 8.7%
 England- 9.1%

CYPiC Persistent Absence (2021)
33.7%
 West Midlands- 31.5%
 Statistical Neighbours- 29.6%
 England- 30.4%



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



PEP's - All Ages

Jan 23 = 95%
 2020/21 = 90%
 2019/20 = 93%

PEP's - Early Year's

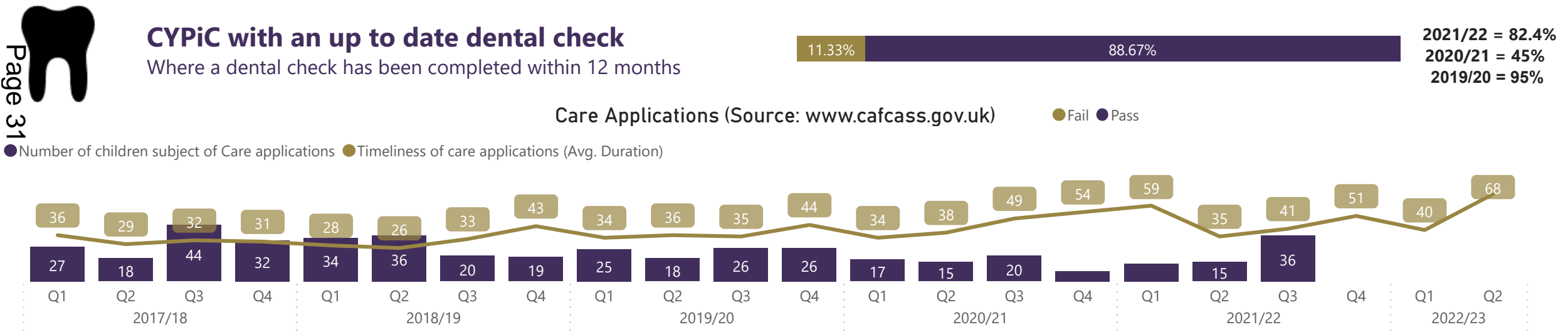
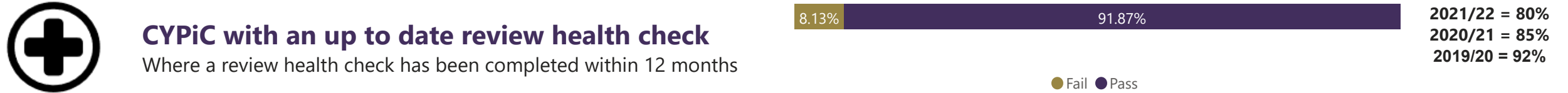
Jan 23 = 91.3%
 2020/21 = 93%
 2019/20 = 72%

PEP's - Year 12 & 13's

Jan 23 = 85.7%
 2020/21 = 51%
 2019/20 = 81%

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



The percentage of CYPiC with an up to date review health check has further increased to 91.87% at the end of January. The percentage of new CYPiC receiving an initial health check within 20 working days of entering care has seen a slight increase from 10% in November to 16% at the end of January. This remains an area of concern and continues to be flagged as such in internal performance management meetings. The percentage of dental checks completed increased to 88.67% at the end of January and is currently higher than it has been over the past two years (yearly totals). The average duration for Care Applications for Q2 2022/23 is 68 days, this is the highest quarterly average recorded in over five years. No data is currently available for the number of children subject to care applications after Q3 2021/22.

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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

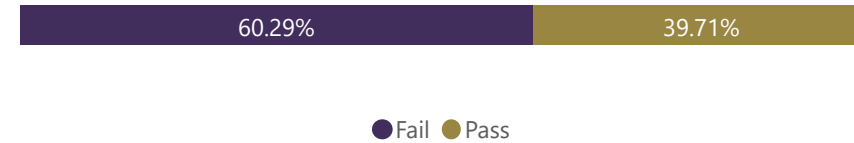


2021/22 = 43%
2020/21 = 29%
2019/20 = 66%
2018/19 = 58%



CYPiC adopted within A2 indicator (122 Days)

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

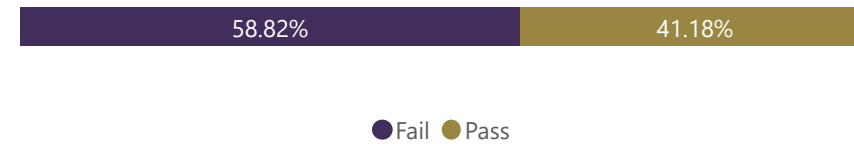


2021/22 = 41%
2020/21 = 43%
2019/20 = 49%
2018/19 = 67%



CYPiC adopted within A10 indicator (428 Days)

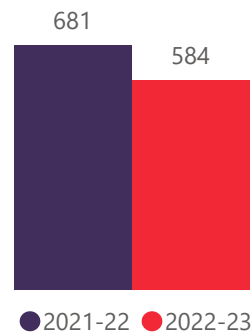
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (stopped at point of fostering for foster carers adoptions)



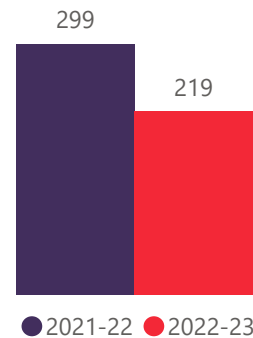
2021/22 = 43%
2020/21 = 38%
2019/20 = 81%
2018/19 = 80%

Page 32

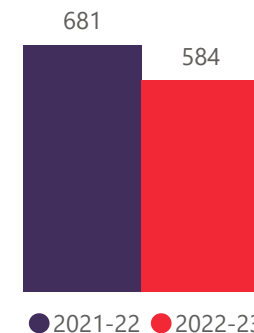
Adoptions - A1 (Avg. Days)



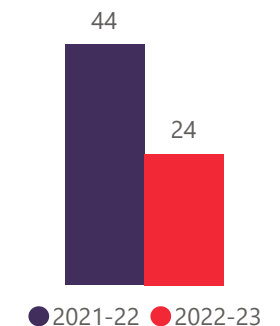
Adoptions - A2 (Avg. Days)



Adoptions - A10 (Avg. Days)



Number of Adoptions



There were 44 adoptions in the 2021/22 year, a significant increase from the 21 adoptions in 2020/21 which was heavily impacted by Covid-19 as court closures caused delays in timeliness, 24 adoptions have been recorded YTD for 2022/23 (Apr 22 - Jan 23), this is an increase of two from November 2022.

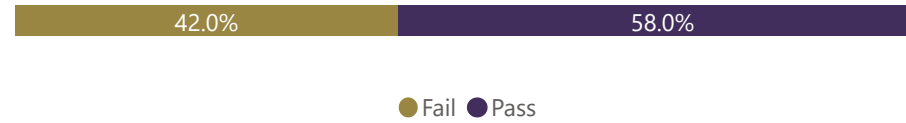
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Care Leavers



Care Leavers EET Status

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

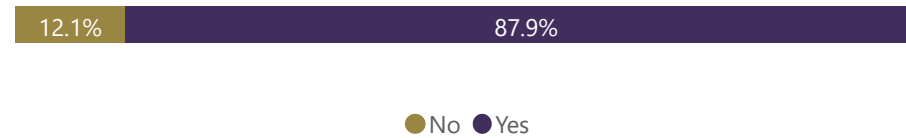


2021/22 Year Out-turn = 56%
 2021/22 West Midlands = 52%
 2021/22 Stat Neighbours = 51%
 2021/22 England = 55%



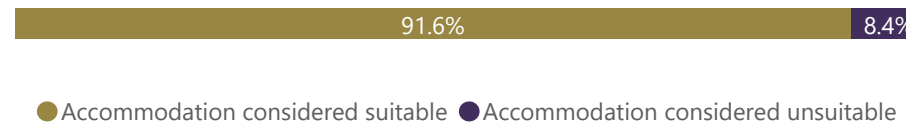
Care Leavers available to work

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



Care Leavers in suitable accommodation

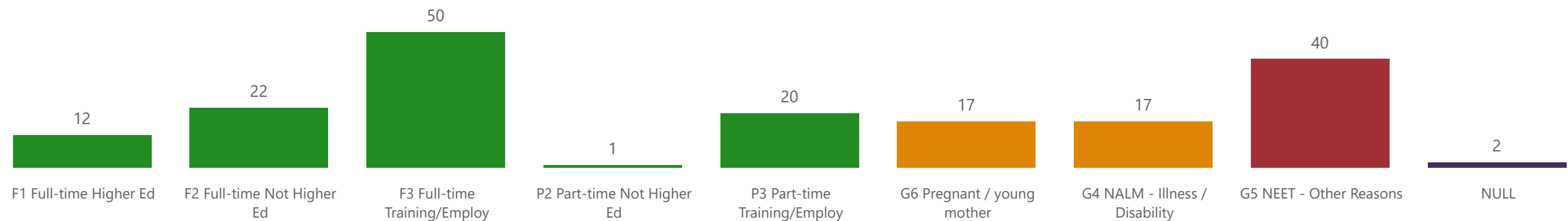
Care Leavers aged 19-21 who live in suitable accommodation



2021/22 Year Out-turn = 87%
 2021/22 West Midlands = 86%
 2021/22 Stat Neighbours = 87.6%
 2021/22 England = 88%

Page 33

Current Care Leaver EET Status (19-21)



At the end January 2023, 58% of 19-21 year old care leavers were in Education, Employment or Training, this is a slight improvement on previous quarters and years and remains above the local and statistical neighbours and is now slightly above the national level. 87.9% of care leavers aged 17-21 are available for work, this remains a significant achievement when considering the high levels of youth unemployment within the city.

A further increase is seen in the percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation with 91.6% of the current care leavers 19-21 cohort are currently deemed to be in suitable accommodation at the end of January, this is above the 2021/22 total and local, regional and national levels.

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