



# Corporate Parenting Board

## 1 July 2015

**Time** 5.30 pm      **Public Meeting?** YES      **Type of meeting** Oversight  
**Venue** Committee Room 4 - Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

### Membership

**Chair** Cllr Val Gibson (Lab)  
**Vice-chair**

#### Labour

Cllr Paula Brookfield  
Cllr Jasbinder Dehar  
Cllr Julie Hodgkiss  
Cllr Peter O'Neill  
Cllr Rita Potter  
Cllr Stephen Simkins  
Cllr Martin Waite

#### Conservative

Cllr Christine Mills

#### Liberal Democrat

Cllr Richard Whitehouse

Quorum for this meeting is three Councillors.

### Information for the Public

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

**Contact** Carl Craney  
**Tel/Email** Tel: 01902 555046 or [carl.craney@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:carl.craney@wolverhampton.gov.uk)  
**Address** Democratic Support, Civic Centre, 1st floor, St Peter's Square,  
Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

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**Website** <http://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk>  
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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               | <b>Apologies for absence (if any)</b>  |
| 2               | <b>Declarations of interest (if any)</b>   |
| 3               | <b>Minutes of the previous meeting (11 March 2015)</b> (Pages 5 - 10)<br>[For approval]  |
| 4               | <b>Matters arising</b><br>[To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2015]  |
| 5               | <b>Dates and time of meetings</b><br>[To note that meetings of the Board are scheduled for 17:30 hours on the following dates:<br>30 September 2015;<br>11 November 2015;<br>6 January 2016 and<br>30 March 2016]  |
| 6               | <b>Work Programme 2015/16</b> (Pages 11 - 12)<br>[To consider the Board's Work Programme for the 2015/16 Municipal Year]   |
| 7               | <b>Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan</b> (Pages 13 - 32)<br>[To consider the Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan for Looked After Children and Care Leavers]   |
| 8               | <b>Performance Monitoring Data</b> (Pages 33 - 42)<br>[To consider the Performance Monitoring Data for June 2015 (data as at May 2015) and provisional out-turn data for 2014/15]  |
| 9               | <b>Exclusion of the public and press</b><br>[To pass the following resolution:<br><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 on the grounds shown below] |
|                 | <b>Part 2 – items not open to the public and press</b>   |
| 10              | <b>Councillors visits to establishments</b>  |

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

[To receive details of any visits to establishments undertaken by Councillors since the last meeting]

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# Corporate Parenting Board

Minutes - 11 March 2015

## Attendance

**Chair** Cllr Val Gibson (Lab)

### Labour

Cllr Paula Brookfield  
Cllr Jasbinder Dehar

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre  
Cllr Julie Hodgkiss

Cllr Rita Potter  
Cllr Martin Waite

### Conservative

Cllr Christine Mills

Cllr Patricia Patten

### Employees

Carl Craney  
Emma Bennett  
Jane O'Daly  
Alison Hinds  
Mandy Lee  
Lorraine Millard

Democratic Support Officer  
Service Director, Children and Young People  
Head of Safeguarding, Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust  
Head of Looked After Children  
Children's Safeguarding Manager  
Designated Senior Nurse Safeguarding Children, Wolverhampton  
City Clinical Commissioning Group

*Item No.*     *Title*

**1        Apologies for absence (if any)**

No apologies for absence had been received.

**2        Declarations of interests (if any)**

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

**3        Minutes of the previous meeting (21 January 2015)**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**4        Matters arising**

With reference to Minute No 7 (Performance Monitoring – Looked after Children (LAC)) and insofar as it related to waiting times for LAC having access to the children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), Emma Bennett, Service Director, Children and Young People reported that a request had been submitted to the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, the provider of this service, with a view to a report being submitted to a future meeting on this matter

With reference to the request for other reports made at the meeting, the Service Director for Children and Young People undertook to ensure that these were included within the Work Programme for 2015/16.

Resolved:

That the reports be noted.

**5        Safeguarding Service Annual Report 2013/14**

Mandy Lee, Children's Safeguarding Manager, presented the Safeguarding Service Annual Report for 2013/14. She explained that the Safeguarding Service had statutory responsibility for oversight and ratification of the care plans for Looked After Children (LAC) via the activities of the Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO's). The service was duty bound to provide this Board with an Annual Report which outlined the activity of the service, the impact for children and recommendations for service improvement which would enhance young people's experiences. She drew particular attention to the good performance of LAC participating in reviews but commented that the overall performance of the service was affected by the high number of children in the care system. This in turn had not allowed the service to fulfil all of its functions as outlined in the IRO handbook.

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre enquired as to whether the "Agresso" system would provide "real time information" which would overcome the difficulties the Board experienced by receiving an Annual Report almost twelve months out of date. The Service

Director, Children and Young People, reported that while the “Agresso” system would assist, other factors had led to the delay in this report being presented and that, in any event, it was the “Care First” system which provided the “real time” information which was used to populate the Performance Monitoring Report which was considered at each meeting.

Cllr Paula Brookfield referred Sections 3 and 4 of the Annual Report insofar as they related to quantitative and qualitative information about the service and asked if further such information could be included within the regular Performance Monitoring Reports. The Children’s Safeguarding Manager advised that she was working closely with the Business Intelligence Team to achieve that aim.

Cllr Martin Waite referred to anecdotal evidence of the national shortage of Social Workers and enquired whether the high level of caseloads was a concern. The Service Director, Children and Young People advised that the workload of IRO’s included attendance at Child Protection case conferences in addition to duties on safeguarding and that the high caseload level was a matter of concern. She reported on the initiatives taken to recruit additional Social Workers. Cllr Rita Potter reminded the Board that since March 2012 the number of children in care had increased significantly and enquired with the progress on the campaign to recruit Specialist Foster Carers’. Alison Hinds, Head of Looked After Children reported that recruitment to these posts had commenced but reminded the Board that even when fostered the children remained in the care of the local authority.

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre commented that he understood that the LAC population had stabilised or even dropped slightly and enquired whether this would enable the Safeguarding Service to get closer to fulfilling the functions outlined in the IRO handbook. The Children’s Safeguarding Manager confirmed that this would assist but that the caseload was substantially above that recommended nationally and was also affected by the increase in the number of child protection cases. Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre queried whether there was a danger of the local authority not fulfilling its statutory responsibilities. The Service Director, Children and Young People reported that this was not the position.

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre referred to Section 4.10 of the report insofar as it referred to children participating in reviews and reminded the Board of the views expressed previously by the Children in Care Council (CCC) that it was preferable if reviews were not conducted during school time. The Service Director, Children and Young People advised that reviews were not normally conducted during school time and that the comments made by CCC had related to Personal Education Plans (PEP’s). The matter of PEP’s being undertaken in school time was being addressed by Darren Martindale, COPE Team Manager/Virtual School Head.

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre questioned whether the data provided by the Business Intelligence Team was provided in a sufficient timely manner. The Service Director, Children and Young People advised that the information and manner of presentation of the Performance Monitoring Report had improved considerably and that further work was on-going to improve the contents further. The Chair, Cllr Val Gibson, reminded the Group that many advancements had been made in both the content and style of presentation of the Performance Monitoring report but that this had often resulted in requests for more and/or additional information.

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre referred to Section 8.1 of the report and “some issues arising with the return of timely responses on Red and Amber RAG’s by the social work managers and high turnover of staff in that area had lead to some confusion about the expectations” and enquired whether this position had improved. The Children’s Safeguarding Manager advised that there had been some difficulties encountered due to the high turnover of staff but that a review of the system was now being undertaken. The Service Director, Children and Young People explained that under the current system the system required a formal response to each RAG rating and whilst Red ratings were followed up those ratings with Amber and Green status were not always pursued. In any event the RAG rating system was quantitative rather than qualitative and did not have regard to quality of care.

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre referred to Section 9.1 of the report and enquired as to whether the Council was yet in a position to comply fully with the IRO handbook. The Children’s Safeguarding Manager confirmed that this was not the case due to the continuing high caseloads albeit that the majority of the contents were now being followed. Cllr Dr Hardacre enquired as to the implications for the Council at an Ofsted inspection of non-compliance. The Service Director, Children and Young People, advised that the position with regard to caseloads was likely to be noted only by Ofsted given that the Council was not in a failing position.

Cllr Martin Waite enquired as to the reporting line for the Head of Safeguarding. The Service Director, Children and Young People, advised that the Head of Safeguarding reported to Ros Jervis, Service Director for Public Health and Wellbeing: the division of responsibilities being intentional to retain independence between the two areas of responsibility. Cllr Paula Brookfield questioned as to which Service Director held responsibility for setting priorities. The Service Director, Children and Young People advised that priorities were determined jointly by her and the Service Director, Public Health and Wellbeing.

Cllr Paula Brookfield commented on the absence of any information and/or reference to any reference to Children Sexually Exploited (CSE). The Service Director, Children and Young People reported that this particular topic was much wider than LAC, that considerable work was being undertaken on the issue and that the Council’s model had been adopted by the Home Office as an exemplar and that further work was proposed in respect of LAC who were missing from home or care.

Resolved:

1. That the Annual Report of the Safeguarding Service 2013/14 be received and noted;
2. That the thanks of the Board be conveyed to the Safeguarding Service for the work undertaken and for the Annual Report;
3. That details pertaining to LAC potentially at risk of CSE be submitted to a future meeting.

The Service Director, Children and Young People, presented the Performance Monitoring Report as at March 2015. She drew to the attention of the Board an error in the gender figures in the report submitted to the meeting held on 21 January 2015.

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre referred to the Section pertaining to Education, the discrepancies in some of the information and that Ofsted now considered the best eight results rather than 5+ A\* - C inc. English and Maths. He suggested that this matter be drawn to the attention of the Director of Education. The Service Director, Children and Young People acknowledged the points made and informed the Board of the work currently being undertaken by the COPE Team Manager/Virtual School Head in conjunction with the Business Intelligence Team and the Education Directorate on certain elements of the report.

With regard to LAC Health, Lorraine Millard, Designated Senior Nurse Safeguarding Children, Wolverhampton City Clinical Commissioning Group and Jane O'Daly, Safeguarding Manager, Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust reported on the pro-active steps being taken to ensure that all Wolverhampton LAC received a timely health check. They explained that the different commissioning arrangements of local authorities compounded the position and that the funding for reciprocal health check arrangements had been lost at the time of the last NHS re-organisation. The Designated Senior Nurse Safeguarding Children informed the Board on the arrangements which were in hand for an appointment to the post of Statutory Designated Nurse for LAC by the Wolverhampton City Clinical Commissioning Group and that an interim appointment could be made in the short term. The Safeguarding Manager reported that the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust was currently investigating the possibility of co-location with both the Clinical Commissioning Group and the City Council.

Cllr Paula Brookfield referred to the data in connection children awaiting adoption and enquired at which point those children with a Placement Plan would have their status changed. The Head of Looked After Children advised that this decision was made on an individual basis in respect of each child and that the pre-adoption preparation was conducted sensitively.

Resolved:

1. That the report be received and noted;
2. That the continued enhancement of the format be welcomed;
3. That future reports include data relevant to the average caseload of Social Workers dealing with Child Protection and LAC issues.

## **7 Exclusion of the public and press**

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 contained in paragraph 1 of the Act, namely information relating to any individual.

## **Part 2 – items not open to the public and press**

**8 Councillors visits to establishments**

No visits to establishments had been undertaken by Councillors since the last meeting of the Board. In response to questions from Cllr Martin Waite and Cllr Rita Potter the Service Director, Children and Young People explained the ownership and management arrangements at the Merridale Street West, Wolverhampton Residential Home and the involvement of the Council with private residential children's homes where no Wolverhampton LAC were resident.

Resolved:

1. That the report be received and noted;
2. That any establishments which had not been the subject of a visit by a member of the Board be highlighted, that the Chair be informed accordingly and that the Chair endeavour to seek volunteers from the Panel to undertake such a visit.

**9 LGIU and CCLA Councillor Achievement Award - Cllr Val Gibson**

Cllr Julie Hodgkiss informed the Board that Cllr Val Gibson had recently won a prestigious award from the LGIU and CCLA for her work to drive forward improvements for children and families in Wolverhampton.

Resolved:

1. That the congratulations of the Board be offered to the Chair, Cllr Val Gibson on her recent award from the LGIU and CCLA;
2. That the slides presented recently to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel in relation to the Families r First programme be circulated to the Board.

**10 Thanks to the Chair**

Resolved:

That the best thanks of the Board be extended to the Chair, Cllr Val Gibson, for the able and courteous manner in which she had conducted the proceedings during the current Municipal Year.

Date of meeting	Agenda Items	Invitees
01/07/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Corporate Parenting Officer</li> <li>Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan</li> <li>Corporate Parenting Board 12 month Work Plan</li> </ul>	
30/09/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CiCC joint Meeting</li> <li>• IRO report</li> <li>• Adoption</li> </ul>	CiCC Mandy Lee Louise Haughton
11/11/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C.A.M.H.S</li> <li>• Health CCG/Trust</li> </ul>	Dr Roberta Fry Lorraine Millard/Fiona
06/01/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fostering</li> <li>• Foster Carer Forum</li> <li>• Virtual School</li> </ul>	Daphne Atkinson Pauline McGregory Darren Martindale
30/03/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CiCC joint Meeting</li> <li>• Corporate Parenting Strategy Update</li> <li>• Adoption</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	Louise Haughton

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# Corporate Parenting Board

1 July 2015

<b>Report title</b>	Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Val Gibson Children and Families
<b>Wards affected</b>	All
<b>Accountable director</b>	Linda Sanders, Community
<b>Originating service</b>	Looked after Children's Service
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Alice Vickers Corporate Parenting Officer COPE Team 01902556703
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	Emma Bennet & Cllr Gibson

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## **Recommendation(s) for action or decision:**

The Corporate Parenting Board is recommended to:

1. Consider the enclosed report, strategy and Action Plan outlining the Council's commitment to the needs of Looked After Children.

## **Recommendations for Reviewing, commenting and feedback:**

The Corporate Parenting Board is asked to note:

1. The revised Corporate Parenting Strategy 2015/2016
2. The Corporate Parenting Action Plan.

## 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 That the Corporate Parenting Board considers the Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan for Looked after Children and Care Leavers and if appropriate approves its use across the Council and its partners

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 Care Matters 2007 established an expectation that every local authority would have a strategy to support its children in care. Wolverhampton City Council currently have a strategy that was refreshed in 2014, but with a new officer in post the strategy needed revisiting. The new strategy and action plan is to illustrate Wolverhampton City Council commitment to its Corporate Parenting responsibilities.

## 3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

Previous strategies have highlighted key priorities and these priorities have been continually monitored, measured and progress made. These priorities continue to be important developments for meeting the needs of Children and Young People in Care and the council's commitment to Corporate Parenting. Further Priorities have been developed as a result of consultation and feedback from LAC and CiCC in June 2014 and May 2015 which focuses the strategy on nine priority areas:

- Priority One. "Have services understand us better."
- Priority Two. "Focus on the positive things we do"
- Priority Three. "Help us to make achievements"
- *Priority Four. "Help us to spend time with children who aren't in care"*
- Priority Five. "Keep siblings together & give us more contact with siblings."  
*"Let us make choices about school."*  
*"Give us more information and support about sexual health."*
- Priority Six. Maximise access to work experience and apprenticeship opportunities for LAC and Care Leavers
- Priority Seven. Strengthen care leavers' preparation for independence, teaching independence skills from an earlier age and increasing access to life story work
- Priority Eight. Partnership between health and education to offer cohesive and knowledgeable Support for LAC
- Priority Nine. Make placements changes more positive, by preparing young people about what the family and the community might be able to offer

## 4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications as a result of this report, apart from the cost of activities for consultation and Participation taken out of the LAC budget

## **5.0 Legal implications**

5.1 The relevant legislation is set out in the body of this report. There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report. RB/12062015/W

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 An initial equalities screening has been completed on this strategy and action plan, this has highlighted that equality implications have been addressed within both documents.

## **7.0 Environmental implications**

7.1 There are no specific environmental implications.

## **8.0 Human resources implications**

8.1 There are no specific implications on Human Resources

## **9.0 Schedule of background papers**

9.1 Corporate Parenting Strategy 2015-2016  
Corporate Parenting Action Plan

## **10.0 Apendix**

10.1 Corporate Parenting Strategy 2015 -2016  
10.2 Corporate Parenting Action Plan

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## **Wolverhampton City Council Corporate Parenting Council Strategy 2015/2016**

### **Foreword**

There are very few responsibilities and duties undertaken by the Council and its partners which are more important or pose a greater challenge than that of Corporate Parenting. Wolverhampton City Council takes these duties very seriously and has high aspirations for all of our children who are looked after. We recognise that a whole Council response is required to respond to their need with a coordinated and concerted approach towards developing policies, initiatives, services and budget priorities. In pursuance of this we are encouraged as Councillors, Officers and Partner Agencies to consider the following three questions:

*Is this good enough for my child?*

*Would this have been good enough for me as a child?*

*Is this the best that we can achieve?*

Wolverhampton City Council must work positively with its partner agencies, providing the platforms and levels of excellence to ask all our partners to share our ambitions for Looked after Children. This Corporate Parenting Strategy forms both our statement of intent and vision for the next three years and includes our Pledge to all Looked after Children.

Signed.....  
Lead Member for CYP

Signed.....  
Director of Children and Young  
People

### **Corporate Parenting Strategy Aims**

Wolverhampton Council's Corporate Parenting Strategy for Looked after Children demonstrates the Council's commitment to furthering the life chances of every child and young person in its care. It aims to improve their outcomes, narrowing the gap between them and their peers, by providing effective support which enables them to reach their full potential. The overall aim of the Strategy is to reinforce the corporate responsibility of the whole Council and its partner agencies through commitment to the development of policies, initiatives, services and budget prioritising. This Strategy requires the active engagement of all service departments of Wolverhampton City Council, Elected Members and Partners.

### **What is Corporate Parenting?**

“As the Corporate Parent of children in care we have a special responsibility for their

well-being. Like any good parent, it should put its own children first. That means being a powerful advocate for them to receive the best of everything and helping them to make a success of their lives<sup>1</sup>” (DFES 2006)

The concept of Corporate Parenting was introduced by the Government in 1998 as part of a drive to improve the lives of children who are looked after by the local authority. The Corporate Parenting responsibility was reiterated and reinforced in 2007 with the release of the White Paper Care Matters-Time for Change and the underpinning legislation, Children and Young People Act 2008.

Wolverhampton City Council and its Partners have a legal and moral duty towards all of its Looked after Children and Care-leavers to offer them the kind of support a good parent would provide. Importantly, Wolverhampton City Council's Corporate Parenting responsibility cannot be implemented by services targeted at children alone. It emphasises the collective responsibility of the Local Authority to achieve good parenting including services such as housing, regeneration and leisure. It is also important to note that every elected member of the Council has the specific responsibility of acting as a corporate parent.

Corporate Parenting is different from ‘ordinary’ parenting, in that the focus is not necessarily on forming personal relationships with individual children. Corporate Parenting is about prioritising and championing Looked after Children and this will look very different in different areas of the authority. Below are examples of what Corporate Parenting could look like across Wolverhampton City Council.

- Communications & PR: Prioritising news stories about Looked after Children which help to breakdown stigma of what a Looked after Child is both in the authority and also with the wider public.
- Library services: Provide all Looked after Children with their own library card when they come into care which can follow them around their placements.
- Planning: Consideration of Corporate Parenting responsibilities when a new children’s home is being proposed.
- Procurement: Building into all contracts that any companies working for WCC or Partners that they will offer Work Experience to Looked after Children or prioritise Care Leavers in apprenticeship roles.
- Culture & Leisure Services: To offer specific initiatives to Looked after Children and carers, including free or discounted entrance to venues such as theatres, art galleries, swimming pools etc.
- Housing: A designated link in housing for fostering services.
- ICT Services: Offer ICT support sessions to Looked after Children and their carers.

## **What is the role of our Partners**

Whilst this is a Wolverhampton City Council Strategy it is vital that we recognise the importance of our Partners in the statutory, private and third sector. Wolverhampton City Council alone cannot meet the needs of Looked after Children and Care

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<sup>1</sup> Putting Corporate Parenting into Practice, NCB 2008

Leavers and needs to work effectively with partners to demonstrate our Corporate Parenting responsibilities. Whilst this strategy is a Wolverhampton City Council document it is hoped that it will be adopted by our Partners and the resultant Action Plan is held across all the sectors.

### **Who are our Looked after Children?**

As Corporate Parents it is important for everyone to have a clear and accurate picture of who our Looked after Children are in order to be able to plan and commission services to best meet their needs. At 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015:

- 774 children are being looked after by the Local Authority . This is a slight decrease 783 at 31 March 2014;
- 47 (6%) live in residential children's homes, of whom approximately 59% live out of the authority area.
- 2 live in residential special schools, all of whom live out of the authority area.
- 571 (73%) live with foster families, of whom 62 % live out of the authority area.
- 86 children live with parents or persons with parental responsibility.
- 0 children are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.
- 96 (12%) of looked after children have a decision that they should be adopted; with 26 of those children currently being placed with their adoptive parents.
- 46% of LAC are in placements that are outside of Wolverhampton

The term 'looked after' is applied to any child whom the Authority is providing accommodation for where they are subject to care orders (Section 31) or where children are accommodated through a voluntary agreement and parents' consent.(Section 20). This strategy refers to all children and young people looked after by Wolverhampton City Council regardless of the route taken in to care and their legal status.

Looked after Children are recognised as among the most vulnerable children in our society. Children become looked after for a wide range of reasons, many will have been affected by distressing and traumatic life experiences including physical, emotional, sexual abuse or neglect. Some may come into care because of the illness or death of a parent, others may have a disability or complex needs

As a result of their experiences and coming into the care system, children may experience disrupted education and multiple care placements; they may have difficulties with their social and emotional well-being and lack stable relationships in their life. However placement stability is improving in Wolverhampton: which shows that looked after children in Wolverhampton generally benefit from stable placements with 89% of children and young people who have been in care for 12 months or more having less than 3 placements in the last 12 months and almost half of all LAC have had less than 3 placements since coming into care.(September 2014)

It is important that we recognise that as Corporate Parents we have a responsibility to our care leavers too. In June 2015 63% of carer leavers were in education, employment or training between three months before and one month after their 19th

birthday. Again this has improved since February 2014 for which the outturn was 42%.

### **Key Legislation & Local Policies**

- Children Act 1989
- Quality Protects 1998
- Care Standards Act 2000
- Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000
- Every Child Matters 2003 & Children Act 2004
- Care Matters 2007 & Children Act 2008 –
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Wolverhampton City Council Children, Young Peoples and Families Plan 2015-2025
- Looked After Children Sufficiency Strategy 2014-2017
- Statutory guidance on promoting the educational achievement of looked after children - Department for Education 2014
- In 2014, Wolverhampton will publish its Children, Young People and Families Plan (2014 – 24): the 10 year framework gives scope to improve the health, well-being and cohesiveness of families and the vision is 'Healthy, Happy Families': The four priorities are to:
  1. Reduce the harm caused by child poverty
  2. Increase achievement and involvement in education, training and employment
  3. Make families stronger (LAC/Toxic Trio)
  4. Improve the health of CYP and their families (infant mortality/childhood obesity/Toxic Trio)
- Looked after Children Service Action Plan 2014
- CAMHS strategy for Looked after Children

## Elected Members and Governance

Elected Members have a specific responsibility for children and young people who are looked after. The DFES in 2003 published guidance for all councillors about how to be a good corporate parent, *If This Were My Child*<sup>2</sup> states:

- Councillors have a clear responsibility to ensure that the services being provided to children in their care are of the highest quality.
- Councillors have no greater responsibility than when they act as corporate parent.
- Councillors' role is crucial not just in drawing up policies, but in setting standards and seeing that they are met.
- Councillors should be involved in the setting of a vision and strategic objectives for looked after children and young people.

While all Members have a duty to ensure that the Council fulfils its responsibilities to its Looked after Children, Members who are appointed to the Corporate Parenting Panel have a specific responsibility to oversee this area of Council responsibilities. In Wolverhampton City Council the Lead Member for Children and Young People chairs the cross-party Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP), the chair of the local Foster Care Association and two members of the Children in Care Council also sit on this panel. The CPP is currently a regulatory panel with scrutiny being carried out by the Children and Young people Scrutiny panel.

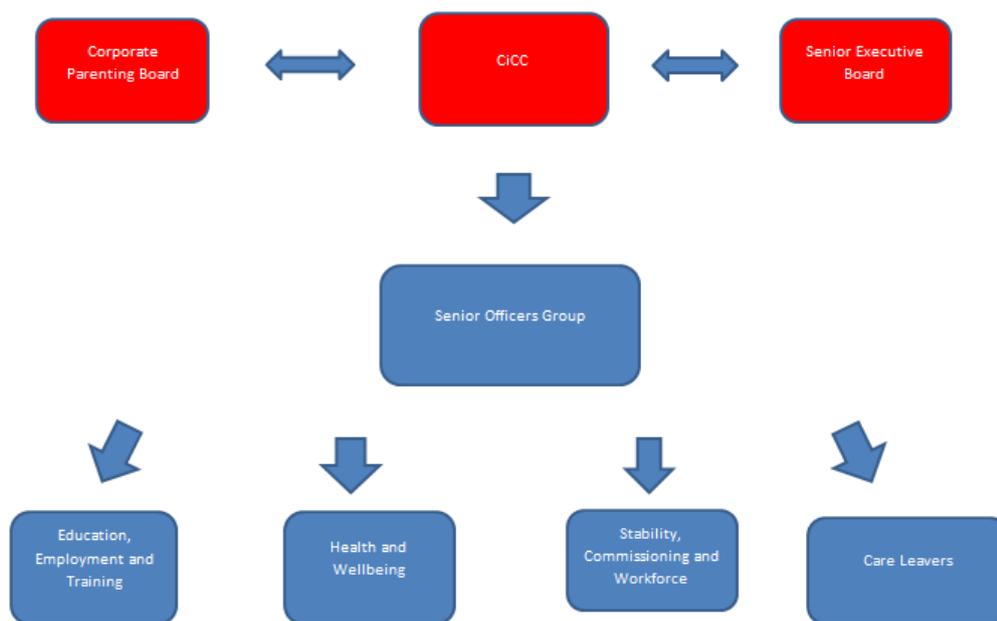
Officers from across Wolverhampton City Council and its Partner Agencies are represented and held accountable at a senior level through the Corporate Parenting Strategic Officers Group. This Group has a responsibility for leadership, vision and implementation of the strategy. Themed Corporate Parenting Operational Officers Groups will be formed to move forward the action plan resulting from this strategy. The Children in Care Council will have responsibility for monitoring the Young Person's action plan that results from this Strategy and are consulted on each of the key service area reports on LAC, providing a response to accompany each report so that the views LAC are captured as well as those of elected members at CPP meetings (this is a new initiative for 2014).

The CiCC are also interested members of The Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel, having their own session dedicated to LAC.(this is a new initiative for 2015)

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<sup>2</sup>

If this were my child, A councillors guide to being a good corporate parent, DFES 2003



## The participation of Looked after Children in Corporate Parenting

It is essential that the voices of Looked after Children are heard and considered in the shaping of services that support them. Planning how to meet the needs of Looked after Children has to be an endeavour based upon their full and active engagement and participation both on an individual and group basis

The Participation Officer for LAC now works in partnership with the Participation Officer for the Wider Youth Council and are now supporting each other with their councils, this new structure will enable information and opportunities to work in sync with each other and work plans reflect the priorities of both.

The CiCC, which meets monthly, is hosted in the Council Chambers to reflect the importance that Wolverhampton City Council places on the views and experiences of Children in Care.

LAC members are involved in the recruitment and selection of Children and Families Staff.

## Corporate Parenting Strategic Priorities 2015-16

Previous strategies have highlighted key priorities and these priorities have been continually monitored, measured and progress made. These priorities continue to be important developments for meeting the needs of Children and Young People in Care and the council's commitment to Corporate Parenting. Further Priorities have been developed as a result of consultation and feedback from LAC and CiCC which focuses the strategy on nine priority areas:

- Priority One. “Have services understand us better.”
- Priority Two. “Focus on the positive things we do”
- Priority Three. “Help us to make achievements”
- *Priority Four. “Help us to spend time with children who aren’t in care”*
- Priority Five. “Keep siblings together & give us more contact with siblings.”  
     *“Let us make choices about school.”*  
     *“Give us more information and support about sexual health.”*
  
- Priority Six. Maximise access to work experience and apprenticeship opportunities for LAC and Care Leavers
- Priority Seven. Strengthen care leavers’ preparation for independence, teaching independence skills from an earlier age and increasing access to life story work
- Priority Eight. Partnership between health and education to offer cohesive and knowledgeable Support for LAC
- Priority Nine. Make placements changes more positive, by preparing young people about what the family and the community might be able to offer

To formulate an action plan for delivery on all of these key priorities the senior officers group will nominate operational colleagues and influence the development and design of the agendas for these working groups in the following areas. Please see the 2015/2016 Corporate Parenting Action Plan.

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## Action Plan Template (2015/16)

Directorate/Service Area:

People/COPE

Accountable Officer for Plan:

Alice Vickers

What?

Who?

Why?

When?

With What?

So What?

Corp. Plan Ref	Action/Activity	Responsible Officer	Anticipated Outcome/Result	Timescales		Resources (£££)	Resources (Other)	Performance Measures
				Proposed Start Date	Proposed End Date			
<b>Priority One. "Have services understand us better."</b>								
Page 25 Corporate Plan Activity Reference or 'Business As Usual' (BAU)	Agree communications Campaign about Corporate Parenting.	Senior Officers Group	Raise the profile of Corporate Parenting throughout the council and its Partners	September 2015	October 2015		Corporate Communication Input from CiCC and Corporate	Campaign rolled out
	Re launch of the revised Corporate Parenting Strategy.	Alice Vickers	Council Commitment launched	September 2015	October 2015	£2000	Senior Officers/CiCC	Council Commitment shared and used in working with it's partners in support LAC population
	CiCC and Corporate Parenting Board to meet twice a year	Alice Vickers/Carl Craney	Both groups will have an increased knowledge of the others terms of reference and influence	September 2015	October 2015		Governance officers	Recognition and understanding of both groups

	CiCC to work with CYP Scrutiny Panel around issues related to LAC	Alice Vickers/Earl Piggott -Smith	CYP scrutiny Panel will gain an insight into the issues/challenges of being cared for to inform their decision making	May 2015	July 2015		Governance officers	Issues raised and explored corporately
	Corporate Parenting awareness and training included in member development programme.	Alice Vickers	Members will have a greater knowledge about how their influence can be used to support their corporate parenting responsibilities	November 2015	March 2016		Governance officers	Corporate Parenting influencing all aspects of the councils work plans
	LAC and Corporate Parenting to be included on induction for all CYP staff	Alice Vickers	All colleagues in CYP services to understand their role in supporting LAC	November 2015	March 2016		HR and Work force development	Numbers completed the training and feedback from evaluation
	LAC and Corporate Parenting to be included on corporate induction package	Alice Vickers	All colleagues to understand their role in supporting LAC	November 2015	March 2016		HR and Work force development	Numbers completed the induction and feedback from evaluation
	Induction literature for Elected Members about Corporate Parenting to be updated.	Alice Vickers	Ensure Elected Members are aware of their responsibilities	May 2015	May 2015		Governance	Complete Literate shared with elected members

	Launch Corporate and internal websites to include appropriate information about Corporate Parenting.	Alice Vickers and CiCC	Raise the profile of Corporate Parenting throughout the council and its Partners	September 2015	October 2015		Corporate Communication Input from CiCC and Corporate	Campaign rolled out
	Set a 12 month work plan for training colleagues in Corporate Parenting and LAC	Alice Vickers/Puja Taloy and Andrew Scragg	Enable participation of CiCC and Care Leavers to deliver and enable colleagues to book	June 2015	March 2016		HR and Work force development	Numbers completed the training and feedback from evaluation

**Priority Two. "Focus on the positive things we do"**

<b>Page 27</b>	CiCC to have a permanent and relevant space to share their experiences and ensure the relevance of their terms of reference and understood by all officers	Alice Vickers Earl Piggott-Smith	CiCC meeting to take place in the Council Chambers	June 2015	March 2016		CiCC Governance Participation	CiCC understand the responsibility of being a council member and officers understand the relevance of the council on their provision
	The LAC awards to promote, recognise and celebrate our young people's achievements	Alice Vickers/CiCC/ Participation Team	Celebrate and recognise the achievements of LAC	June 2015	February 2016	£3500	Voluntary sector and partners	Attendance and evaluation
	Begin a programme of Accreditation for CiCC, using ASDAN – citizenship award	Participation Team	Formalise and accredit skills gained by membership of	August 2015	February 2016	£150	ASDAN	Completion of short Course

CiCC

**Priority Three. "Help us to make achievements"**

	Work in Partnership with Wolverhampton University and Partners - the Aspire to Uni Project to raise the profile of opportunities to access higher education	Darren Martindale	Mentoring to LAC re: higher education opportunities	July 2015	March 2016		Participation and LAC services	Increase of LAC entering higher education
Page 28	Share experiences of CiCC around PEP and post 16 PEPS and share with virtual head	Darren Martindale	Improve engagement of LAC pupils in their own PEPS LAC influencing the process and provision of PEPS	October 2015	November 2015		CiCC	PEP's working efficiently and supporting the needs of LAC pupils
	LAC included in the Fair access protocol	Alex Chilcote	No LAC pupil is permanently excluded from a Wolverhampton School	September 2015	March 2016		COPE	LAC pupil no longer being permanently excluded
	Partnership between schools and the local authority to ensure to an appropriate educational offer for all LAC pupils in Wolverhampton School without delay	Alex Chilcote	The period of time it takes for LAC pupils to access appropriate education, be reduced	September 2015	March 2016		COPE	LAC no longer have to wait for Educational Placements

	Involvement in the New Belonging project and to look at Care Leavers pathway plans are effective in capturing achievements	Laura Woods/Alice Vickers	The New belongings Project being effective in supporting Care Leavers	July 2015	March 2016		Participation/ Transitions Team	Care Leavers getting the right support and Opportunities
	Begin a programme of Accreditation for CiCC, using ASDAN – citizenship award	Participation Team	Formalise and accredit skills gained by membership of CiCC	August 2015	February 2016	£150	ASDAN	Completion of short Course
Page 29	Support Nominations of Black LAC young people for Black History Month Young People awards	Puja Taloy Andrew Scragg Paulette Whyte	Raise the profile of the positive contribution of our Black LAC locally	August 2015	October 2015		Unisons Black History Month Group	Awards received
	Special Achievement awards for LAC	Alice Vickers	Highlight and reward special achievement by LAC	May 2015	February 2016		Children Society	Award Received

**Priority Four. “Help us to spend time with children who aren’t in care”**

	Ensure newly designed Webpage has links to universal services from statutory and voluntary sector	Puja Taloy Alice Vickers	Encourage the use of Universal services by LAC	September 2015	December 2015		CiCC Communication	Webpage launched and publicised
	Encourage the use of Universal services by LAC	Puja Taloy Andrew Scragg	CiCC to consult with Youth Zone	August 2015	September 2015		Youth Zone	CiCC views on provision shared
	Youth Council and CiCC to work	Puja Taloy Andrew	Encourage a collaborative	July 2015	March 2016		CiCC Youth Council	Collaboration and working agreements

	together on projects and member of CiCC to sit on Youth Council	Scragg	working relationship					implemented
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**Priority Five. “Keep siblings together & give us more contact with siblings.”**  
**“Let us make choices about school.”**  
**“Give us more information and support about sexual health.”**

<b>Page 30</b>	Gather data on Siblings groups to establish the occurrence of them being separated and reasoning behind this.	Alison Hinds	Enable design and development of support in this area	November 2015	March 2016		Business Intelligence	Establish the factor influencing separation of siblings
	Partnership between social workers and the COPE team/Virtual head to support school moves	Darren Martindale LAC Consultants	Raise the profile of LAC being involved in decisions made about school and PEPS	September 2015	March 2016		Designated Teachers	LAC pupils influence and participating in decisions made about their schooling
	Links for LAC on accessing Sexual Health Support to be available on webpage	Fiona Brennan	Publicise the support available	August 2015	March 2016		Participation	LAC and Care Leavers accessing appropriate information and making informed choices

**Priority Six. Maximise access to work experience and apprenticeship opportunities for LAC and Care Leavers**

	Ensure LAC and Care Leaver are incorporated into the new module on	Tony O’Callaghan Alice Vickers	LAC and Care Leavers accessing the developing module for Work	August 2015	March 2016		Council Partners	LAC and Care Leavers accessing opportunities
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	Work Experience being developed by the council		experience/trainee ships opportunities within the council and its partners					
	Ensure all LAC are receiving IAG appropriate support	Rosemary Robbins Darren Martindale Helen Woodvine	LAC and Care Leavers are accessing the appropriate support for Career planning	July 2015	March 2016		LAC and Care Leavers	LAC accessing EET
	Ensure New Belongings project outcomes are being shared with Partners and LAC	Laura Woods/Alice Vickers	The New belongings Project being effective in supporting Care Leavers	July 2015	March 2016		Participation/ Transitions Team	Care Leavers getting the right support and Opportunities

**Priority Seven. Strengthen care leavers' preparation for independence, teaching independence skills from an earlier age and increasing access to life story work**

31	The roll out of the Care Leavers Steering group programme	Laura Woods/Alice Vickers	The New belongings Project being effective in supporting Care Leavers	July 2015	March 2016		Participation/ Transitions Team	Care Leavers getting the right support and Opportunities
	Ensure New Belongings project outcomes are being shared with Partners and LAC	Laura Woods/Alice Vickers	The New belongings Project being effective in supporting Care Leavers	July 2015	March 2016		Participation/ Transitions Team	Care Leavers getting the right support and Opportunities
	Foster Carer forum and Training	Pauline McGregor Karen Ward Alice Vickers	Foster carers are skilled to support LAC with preparing for independence	October 2015	March 2016		Foster Carers	Foster Carers training completed

**Priority Eight. Partnership between health and education to offer cohesive and knowledgeable Support for LAC**

	Design and develop a working policy for schools around medical appointments and Attendance	Fiona Brennan Darren Martindale	LAC pupils not to receive adheres attendance at school as a result of planned health support i.e.: C.A.M.H.S or LAC medicals	October 2015	March 2016		Designated Teachers	Attendance of LAC to be improved
	Involvement of both Designated teachers and health staff in Corporate parenting and LAC training	Alice Vickers Fiona Brennan Darren Martindale	Health and Education working cohesively to meet the needs of LAC	October 2015	March 2016		Designated teachers Health professionals	LAC feel supported and their needs are being met by health and education professionals
<b>Priority Nine. Make placements changes more positive, by preparing young people about what the family and the community might be able to offer</b>								
	Briefing information disseminated to LAC teams and tips on accessing universal services in other Authorities	Alice Vickers Puja Taloy Andrew Scragg LAC teams	LAC teams are able to access support on services available in other areas or authorities	January 2016	March 2016			LAC are receiving information on the placement they are moving to.
	Network developed between Participation Staff for CiCC nationally and information shared with local teams	Puja Taloy Andrew Scragg	LAC are able to access information about opportunities and support in their local area	August 2015	March 2016			LAC are accessing support and services in other locations



**Corporate Parenting  
Board**

**Performance Report**

**June 2015**

(data as at May 2015 and provisional 14/15  
out-turn data)

## Key Points to Note

### Redesign and further development

This report for the Corporate Parenting Board continues to be developed. For this report, provisional 2014/15 out-turn figures have been added where available. Please note that these have not yet been validated by the statutory returns to the Department for Education and as such may be subject to change. Published data around LAC absence from school has been added along with data from the published adoptions scorecards.

### Demographics

A considerably lower proportion of LAC are from BME backgrounds compared to the Wolverhampton CYP population.

The number of Looked After Children shows a small but positive decrease. Numbers have been relatively stable since May 2014 demonstrating the impact that the Families R First programme is beginning to have. However, there is still a requirement to reduce numbers further with ambitious targets set for 2015/16 of a reduction of 140 children in care.

There are some concerns that the ratio of LAC numbers compared to children who are subject to a child protection plan is still not as expected. Further work will be undertaken to analyse this further and compare ratios with comparator groups.

### Placements

In-house Foster Carers trend data shows that following the positive increase in numbers earlier on in the year, the number of in-house placements has stabilised at around 22%. It remains to be seen whether the recent campaign will yield an increase in in-house foster care placements.

There has been another increase in the proportion of LAC placed more than 20 miles from home, which means that we are now higher than our comparators 2013/14 out-turn.

The indicators that look at placement stability continue to show positive results and demonstrate that Looked After Children in Wolverhampton generally benefit from stable placements.

### Assessments and Reviews

Assessments and Reviews of Looked After Children in Wolverhampton remain generally up to date with 98% of children participating in their reviews. Of those that participated 44% spoke for themselves. This is extremely positive and shows that the voice of the child is being heard in Wolverhampton.

### Education

The 2014 KS2 results show that Wolverhampton LAC are performing better in 2014 than in 2013. Performance is also considerably better than for LAC in statistical neighbouring authorities, the West Midlands and England overall across Maths, Reading and Writing.

There is just a 9% gap between the performance of LAC at KS2 and the wider Wolverhampton population. This is incredibly positive.

GCSE performance is less positive compared with last years out-turn - however, it should be noted that there has been a change in how this statistic is calculated at a national level this year which has impacted negatively on results in general. There is also some discrepancy between nationally published figures and locally held results. **Please note** - small numbers can also adversely affect this indicator.

## Health

The percentage of children with up to date dental checks fell from 90% at the end of 2013/14 to 81% provisionally at the end of 14/15. There has been a slight increase in performance at the end of May up to 83% and work is ongoing to improve performance further. This result is still higher than the 65.2% of children in the general Wolverhampton population that have seen a dentist in the past 2 years.

The percentage of health checks that are up to date continues to improve and has increased to 88% at the end of May compared with a provisional year end out-turn of 82%. This is due to ongoing work in this area and improved working with RWT and the CCG.

## Leaving Care

**Adoption** - Performance against adoption timescales continues to improve however, overall performance remains below national expectations. The 'Adoption Scorecard' was published in mid-December and detailed analysis has been undertaken. Wolverhampton remains 'double red' in the two key indicators which focus on the timeliness of adoption, however, continue to perform better than national averages when it comes to adopting 'hard to place' children such as those over the age of 5 and those from BME backgrounds.

The adoption pipeline shows that there are currently 96 children with a plan of adoption, 79 of which have placement orders or are currently placed for adoption. Of the 64 that are placed for adoption, a number have been in their placements for some time which is inflating the average number of days. The placements and plans for some of these children are currently being reviewed and not all of the children will be adopted.

51 children were adopted in 14/15 and 5 have been adopted so far in 15/16. This is extremely positive.

**Care Leavers** - The percentage of Care Leavers in Employment Education and Training was worse than statistical neighbours, West Midlands and England averages in 2013/14, although improvements have been made in 2014 and performance is now considerably better than at year end and higher than comparators.

Work is being undertaken on reporting of Care Leavers information and this section of the report will be developed further in the coming months.

## Demographics



56849 children aged 0-17 live in Wolverhampton  
22.6% of the total population

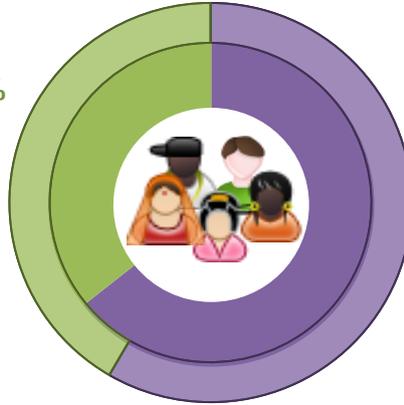
48.8% of the CYP population and 44.7% of LAC are



51.2% of the CYP population and 55.3% of LAC are male



41.6% of the CYP population and 35.7% of LAC are BME

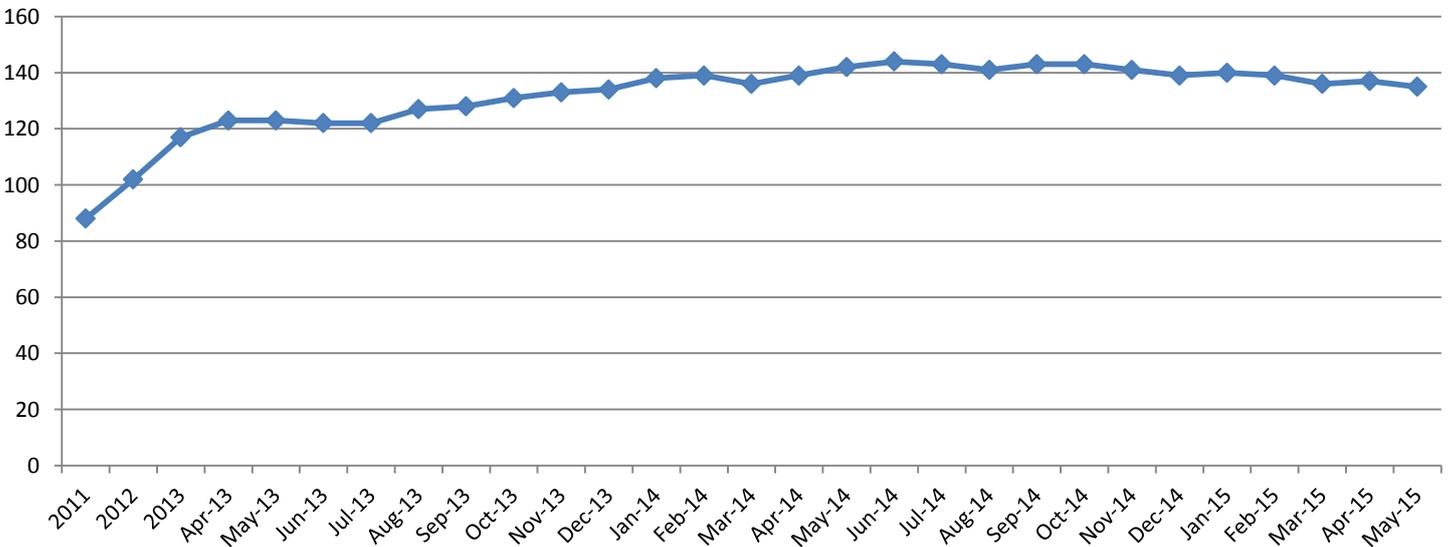
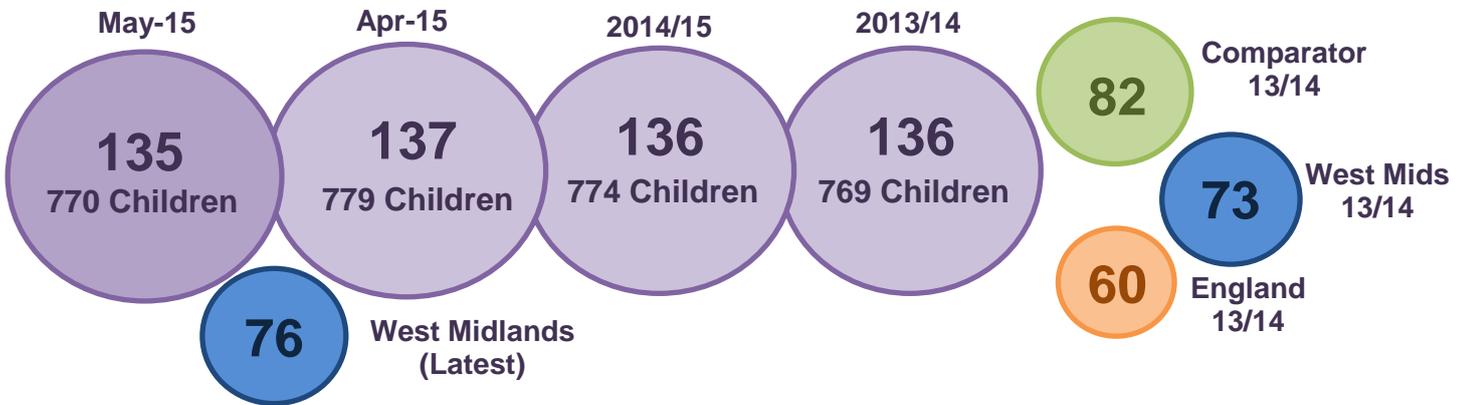


58.4% of the CYP population and 64.3% of LAC are white

Inner circle represents the LAC population, the outer circle is the CYP population

## Looked After Children Population

Rate of LAC per 10,000 population aged 0-17



# Placements

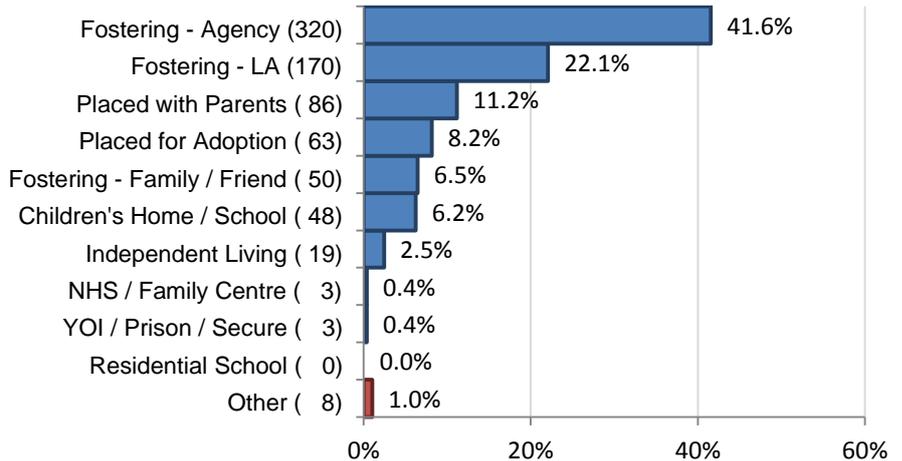


**% LAC Placed 20 miles + from home**

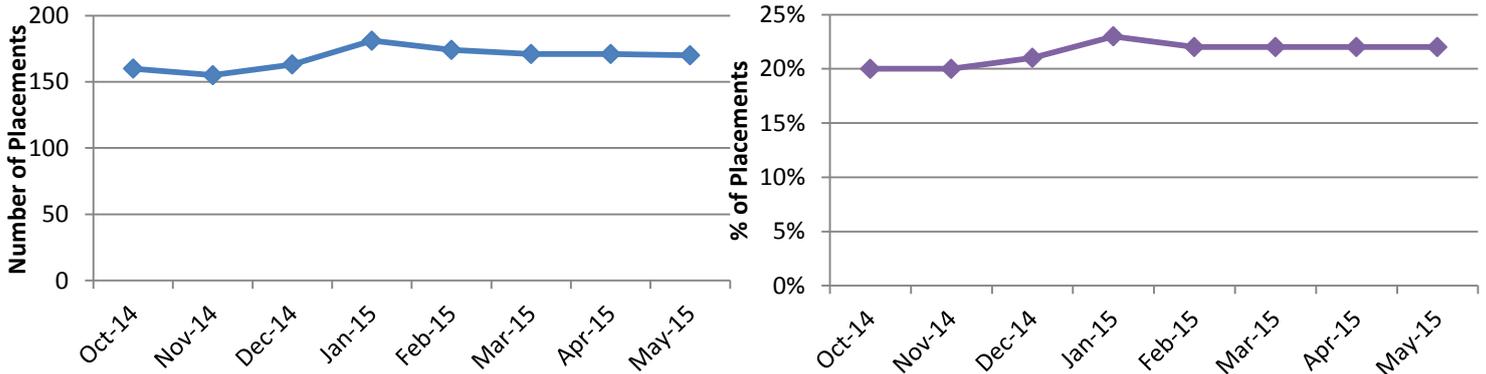


2014/15 Out-turn (provisional) = 14%  
2013/14 Out-turn = 13%  
2013/14 Comparator = 15%  
2013/14 England = 13%

## LAC Placements at 31/05/2015



## In - House Foster Placements



The proportion of LAC Placed with in-house foster carers is increasing demonstrating that the drive to recruit internal foster carers is beginning to yield results

## Placement Stability

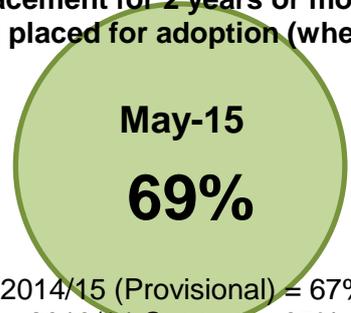


**LAC with fewer than 3 placements in the last 12 months**



2014/15 (Provisional) = 88%  
2013/14 Out-turn = 88%  
2013/14 Comparator = 89%  
2013/14 England = 89%

**% of children in same placement for 2 years or more or placed for adoption (when)**



2014/15 (Provisional) = 67%  
2013/14 Out-turn = 67%  
2013/14 Comparator = 67%  
2013/14 England = 67%

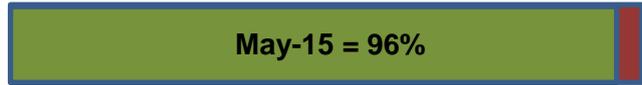
Performance shows that Looked After Children in Wolverhampton benefit from largely stable packages.

# Assessments & Reviews



## Looked After Children with up to date assessments

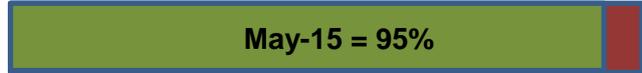
*An up to date assessments is one that has been authorised within the last 6 months.*



2014/05 Out-turn (Provisional) = 96%  
2013/14 Out-turn = 95%

## Looked After Children whose reviews have been completed on time

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



2014/05 Out-turn (Provisional) = 91%  
2013/14 Out-turn = 92%

91% of LAC had all of their reviews completed on time between 01st April 2014 - 31st March 2015. 1760 reviews were completed in the year and of these 96% were completed within timescales.

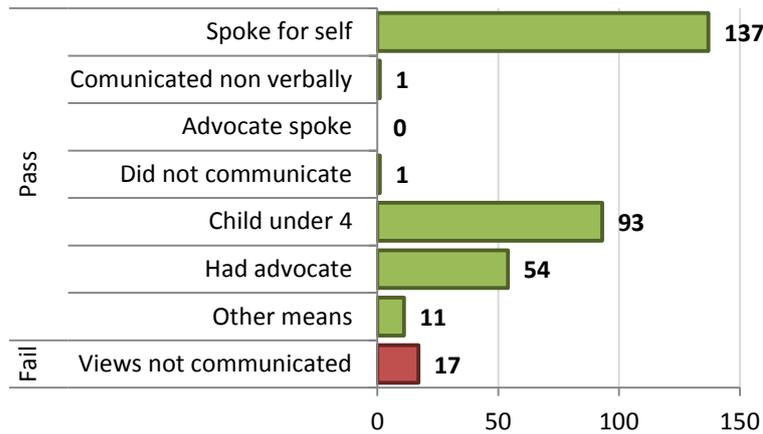
Since 01st April 2015 302 reviews have been completed, 95% have been done within timescales

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



This is really positive and shows that the voice of the child is being heard.

### Participation in LAC Reviews



## Education



KS2 Level 4	Maths	Reading	Writing	Reading, Writing and Maths	GCSEs	5+ GCSE A* - C inc Eng & Maths
<b>Wolverhampton LAC 2014</b>	74%	78%	81%	70%		16.00%
<b>Wolverhampton</b>	86%	88%	84%	79%		45.90%
<b>Wolves LAC 2013</b>	67%	44%	50%	39%		25.80%
<b>West Midlands 2014</b>	60%	69%	61%	50%		13.70%
<b>Statistical Neighbours 2014</b>	60%	68%	54%	45%		17.65%
<b>England 2014</b>	61%	68%	59%	48%		12.00%

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

National results show that looked after children reaching KS2 level 4 in 2014 performed better than in 2013 and better than LAC in the West Midlands, statistical comparator authorities and England overall. However, performance in GCSE's was worse across the board.

Detailed analysis of LAC educational performance was presented to the Panel via the Virtual School Head teacher report 2014. Please note that there is some discrepancies when nationally published data is compared with locally held data - it is the local data that is presented here.

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



**91%**

2013/14 Out-turn

**89%**

2014/15 Out-turn  
(Provisional)

**82%**

May-15

### LAC Absence from School - 2014 (taken from nationally published data)

\* Children looked after for 12 months or more

#### Unauthorised Absence \*

**1.2%**

West Midlands - 0.90%  
Statistical Neighbours - 0.97%  
England - 1.00%

#### Overall Absence \*

**4.0%**

West Midlands - 3.70%  
Statistical Neighbours - 3.69%  
England - 3.90%

#### LAC Persistent Absence

**5.0%**

West Midlands - 4.20%  
Statistical Neighbours - 4.58%  
England - 4.70%

Absence rates are improving, however, they remain slightly higher than comparators.

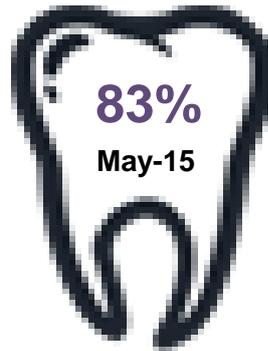
**FURTHER DEVELOPMENT:** Work is continuing to develop a detailed, local, virtual schools report. As that work progresses, further information will be reported here.

## LAC Health



65.2% of children in the  
Wolverhampton Local Authority  
Area have seen a dentist in the last  
two years

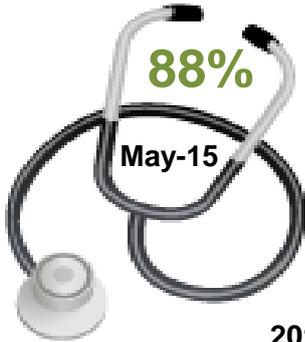
### Dental Checks



2014/15 Out-turn  
(Provisional) = 81%

2013/14 Out-turn = 90%

### Health Checks



2014/15 Out-turn  
(Provisional) = 82%

2013/14 Out-turn = 86%

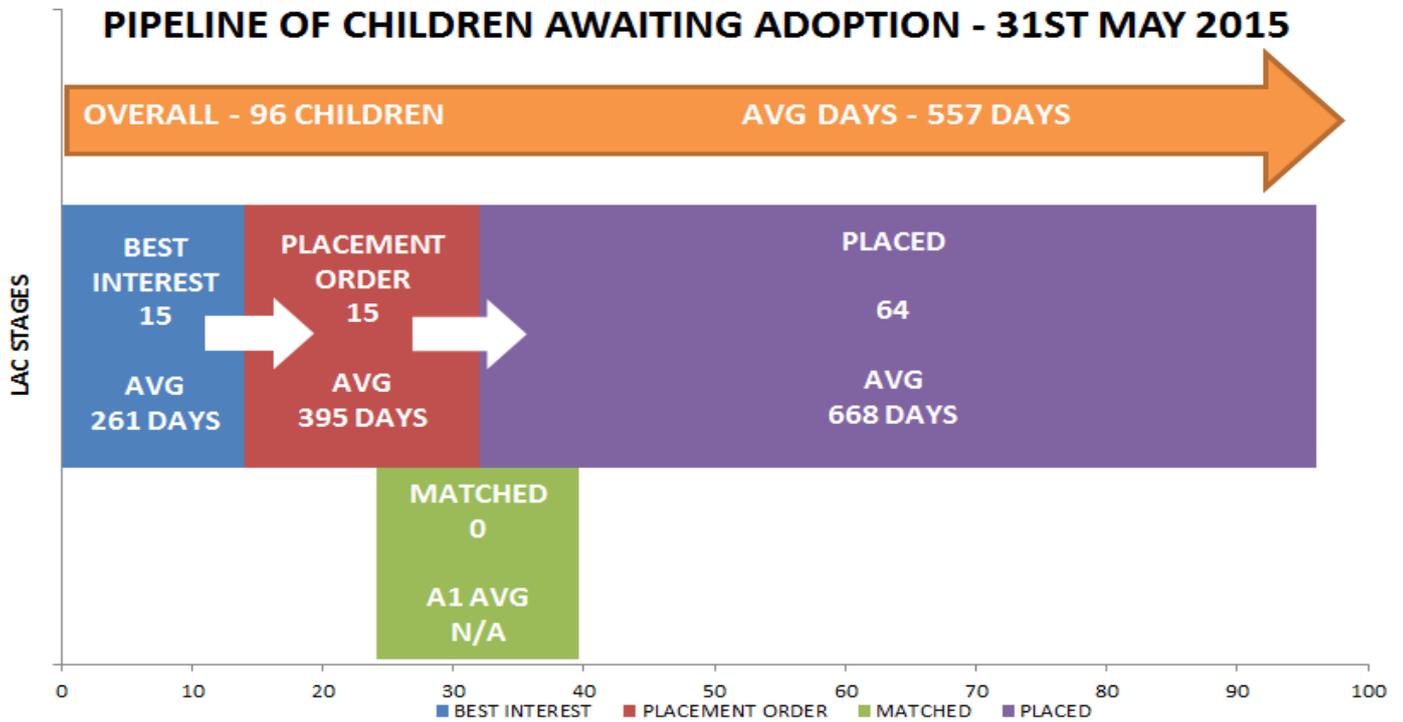
Performance in this area is increasing as  
a result of improved working with the  
CCG and RWT

# Leaving Care



Children Adopted	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 (Provisional)	2015/16 (So far)
	35	50	51	5

## Adoptions



### Adoption Scorecard Results (2011 - 2014)

The adoption scorecard is calculated using results and performance over a three year period

**A1 - Average time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family**

**872 Days**

**38%** adopted in timescales

Statistical Neighbours - 665 (46%)  
England - 628 (51%)

**A2 - Average time between receiving court authority to place and finding a match**

**294 Days**

Statistical Neighbours - 242  
England - 217

**A10 - Average time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (stopped at point of fostering for foster carers adoptions)**

**522 Days**

Statistical Neighbours - 539  
England - 525

### Single year performance (2014/15 - provisional)

**A1 - 619 days with 64% of children adopted within timescales**

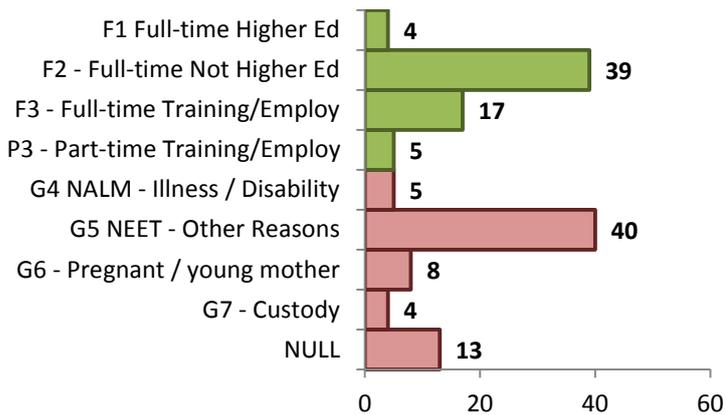
**A2 - 196 days**

**A10 - 410 days**

The adoption scorecards for 2013 were published just before Christmas. Wolverhampton were once again rated 'double red' in the two key indicators, however, performance around adopting hard to place children including those over the age of 5 and from BME backgrounds continues to be better than performance nationally. Detailed analysis of the results has been undertaken and is available.

## Care Leavers

**Number EET Statuses - May 2015**



### Care Leavers in Education, Employment and Training 2013/14

**Wolverhampton - 31%**  
**West Mids - 41%**  
**Statistical Neighbours - 40%**  
**England - 45%**

**Provisional 2014/15 - 43%**

**Further Development:** Work is being undertaken to re-develop care leavers reporting locally to ensure that cohort data is accurately reflected. This section of the report will be developed further as that work progresses.