

Key Points to Note

Redesign and further development

This report for the Corporate Parenting Board has been redeveloped in order to present the data in a more visual way, allowing key points to be better highlighted. Further information will be added to the report in the coming months, in particular further development and analysis is being undertaken around LAC education and Care Leavers.

Demographics

A slightly higher percentage of LAC are female compared to the CYP population in Wolverhampton generally.

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

The number of Looked After Children shows a small but positive decrease. Numbers have been stable at around the 800 mark now since May 2014 demonstrating the impact that the Families R First programme is begging to have. As at 14/01/2014 the number of LAC had fallen further to 781 or 137 per 10,000 population.

Placements

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

Work is being undertaken as part of the Families R First programme around understanding the proportion of LAC in different placement types compared with the proportion of total cost of those placement types - this will be included in the report in future months.

Assessments and Reviews

Assessments and Reviews of Looked After Children in Wolverhampton remain generally up to date with 99% of children participating in their reviews. 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 - 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. This is being investigated. *Please note* - small numbers can also adversely affect this indicator.

Health

The percentage of children with up to date dental checks continues to fall from 90% at year end to 79% in November 2014. 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 up to date health checks also continues to fall and is now at 77%. The pressure on health services and funding issues is contributing to the fall in performance in this area. The CCG and RWHT have indicated that they are committed to resolving the issue and work is on-going to identify if the issues are affecting a particular cohort of children.

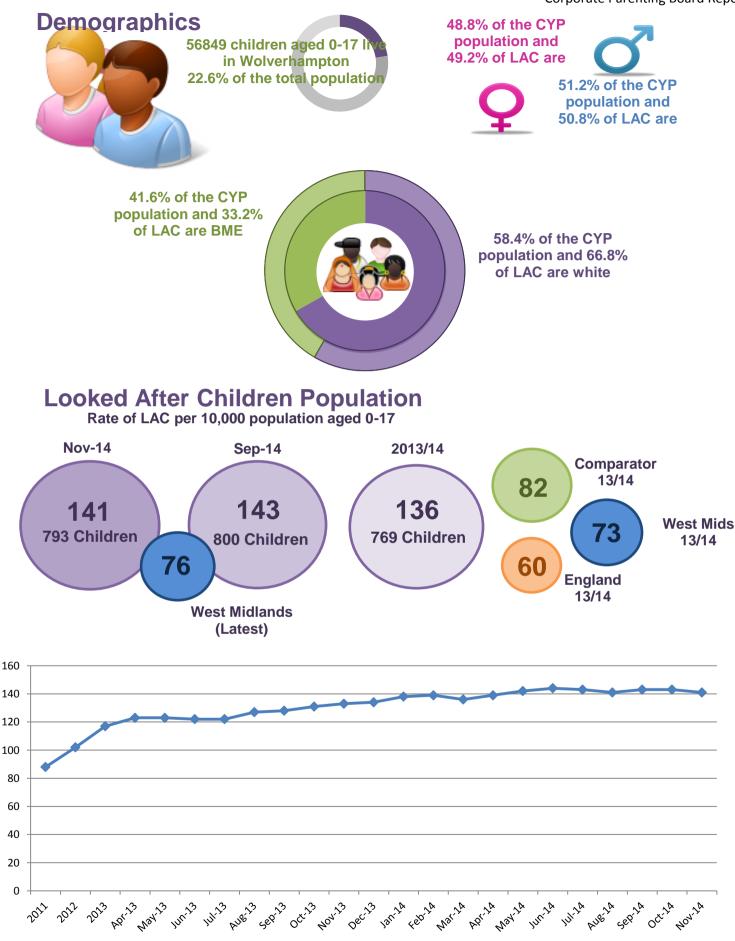
Leaving Care

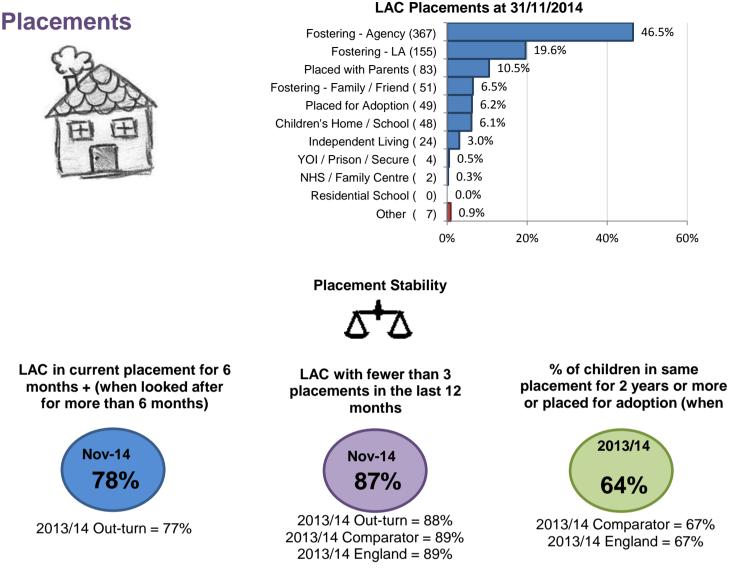
Adoption - Performance against adoption timescales continues to improve however, overall performance remains below national expectations. The 'Adoption Scorecard' was published in mid-December and detailed analysis is currently being undertaken. Wolverhampton remains 'double red' in the two key indicators 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.

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

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Wolverhampton City Council Corporate Parenting Board Report





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

Assessments & Reviews



Looked After Children with up to date assessments

Looked After Children with up to date reviews

First Review is within 20 working days. Second review within 3 months. Third and subsequent reviews every 6 months Nov-14 = 96%

2013/14 Out-turn = 95%

Nov-14 = 94%

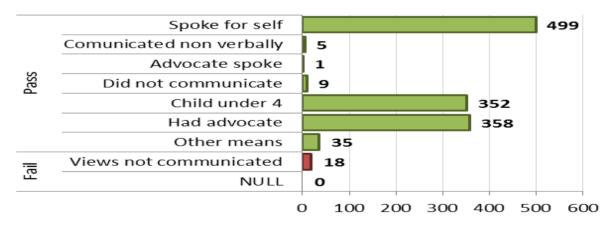
2013/14 Out-turn = 92%

94% of LAC have had all of their reviews completed on time since 01st April 2014. 1281 reviews have been completed in the year. Of these 96% were completed 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.



1.4 Context: Full Answers for Participation

Education

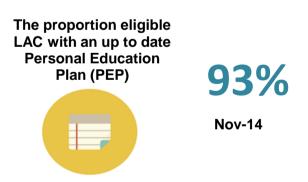


KS2 Level 4	Maths	Reading	Writing	Reading, Writing and Maths	5+ GCSE A* - C	5+ GCSE A* - C inc Eng & Maths
Wolverhampton LAC 2014	74%	78%	81%	70%	15.80%	-
Wolverhampton	86%	88%	84%	79%	57.60%	45.90%
Wolves LAC 2013	67%	44%	50%	39%	48.40%	25.80%
West Midlands 2014	60%	69%	61%	50%	18.10%	13.70%
Statistical Neighbours 2014	60%	68%	54%	45%	19.33%	17.65%
England 2014	61%	68%	59%	48%	16.30%	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 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.

This data is taken from nationally published information - there is some discrepancies when compared with locally held data. This is being investigated and detailed analysis around LAC education and attainment is being undertaken but could be due to change in definitions.



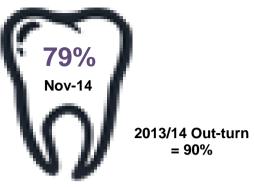
FURTHER DEVELOPMENT: Absentee and exclusion data to be included. Local reporting around this is being developed and will be available for future reports. National comparator data for 2014 has not yet been published.

LAC Health



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

Dental Checks





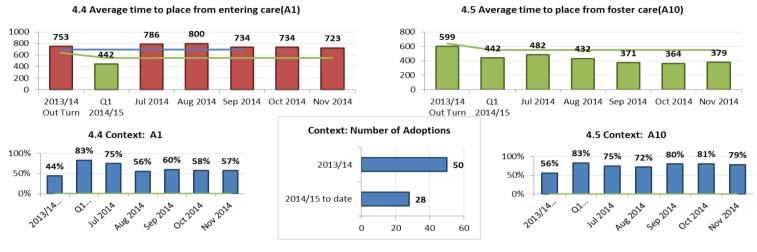
2013/14 Out-turn = 86% The pressure on health services and funding issues is contributing to the fall in performance in this area.

The CCG and RWHT have indicated that they are committed to resolving the issue and work is on-going.

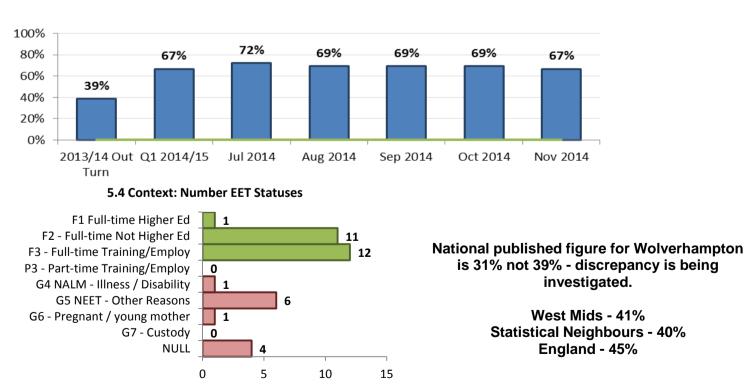
Leaving Care



Adoptions



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 is currently being undertaken.



Care Leavers

5.4: Education, employment & training of care leavers