

Key Points to Note

Redesign and further development

This report for the Corporate Parenting Board continues to be developed. For this report, the % of LAC placed more than 20 miles from home, trend data for in-house foster carers and the adoption's pipeline have been added. Further information about LAC education and adoptions will be added in future reports.

Demographics

Please note: There was an error in the gender figures in the last report. These have now been corrected.

Almost 7% more LAC are female compared to the CYP population in Wolverhampton generally.

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 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 03/03/2015 the number of LAC had fallen further to 780 or 137 per 10,000 population (this is just 11 more than at 31st March 2014 but is now the same rate per 10,000 due to population changes).

Placements

In-house Foster Carers trend data has been added to the report and shows a positive increase in the number and percentage of LAC placements that are with in-house foster carers.

There has been a slight increase in the proportion of LAC placed more than 20 miles from home, however, this is still in line with our comparators.

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.

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 40% 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 - 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 74% in January 2015. 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 fall in the percentage of up to date health checks appears to have stabilised with 78% up to date at the end of January. Some of the issue appears to be with children being placed out of area. The pressure on health services and funding issues has also contributed to the fall in performance in this area. The CCG and RWHT have indicated that they are committed to resolving the issue and the CCG have agreed to recruit a LAC designated nurse to help address this issue. While this recruitment takes place, RWT have agreed to undertake some of the health checks for LAC placed out of area. The situation will contiue to be closely monitored by the local authority via monhtly meetings with 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 has been added to the report and this shows that there are currently 98 children with a plan of adoption, 80 of which have placement orders or are currently placed for adoption. Of the 44 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.

40 children have been adopted this year, as at the end of January which 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, although improvements have been made in 2014 and performance is now considerably better than at year end and higher than comparators.

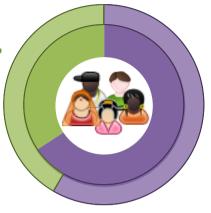
Demographics 56849 children aged 0-17 liver in Wolverhampton 22.6% of the total population

48.8% of the CYP population and 55.7% of LAC are



51.2% of the CYP population and 44.3% of LAC are male

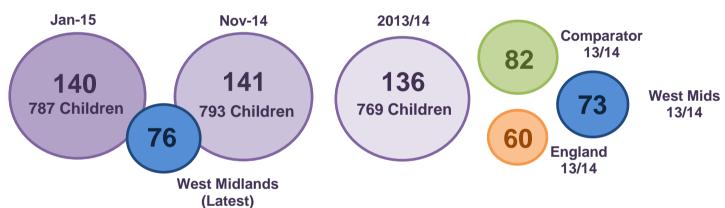
41.6% of the CYP population and 34.2% of LAC are BME

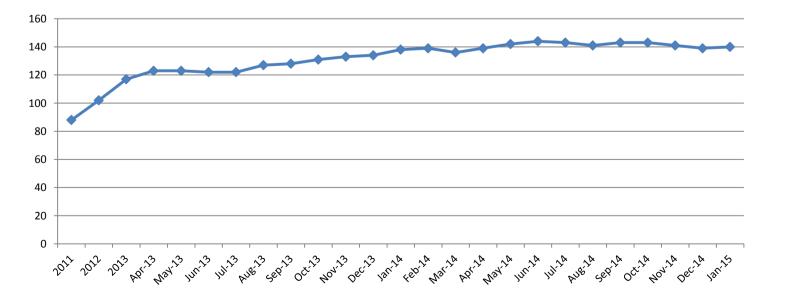


58.4% of the CYP population and 65.8% of LAC are white

Looked After Children Population

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





Placements

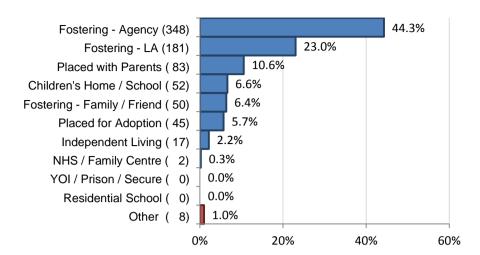


% LAC Placed 20 miles + from home

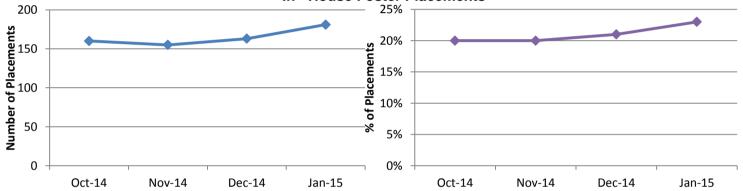


2013/14 Out-turn = 13% 2013/14 Comparator = 15% 2013/14 England = 13%

LAC Placements at 31/01/2015







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 in current placement for 6 months + (when looked after for more than 6 months)



2013/14 Out-turn = 77%

LAC with fewer than 3 placements in the last 12 months



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



West Midlands (Latest) = 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.

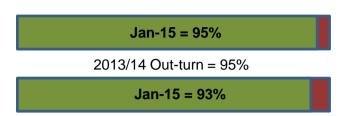
Assessments & Reviews



Looked After Children with up to date assessments

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



2013/14 Out-turn = 92%

93% of LAC have had all of their reviews completed on time since 01st April 2014. 1540 reviews have been completed in the year. Of these 96% were completed within timescales.

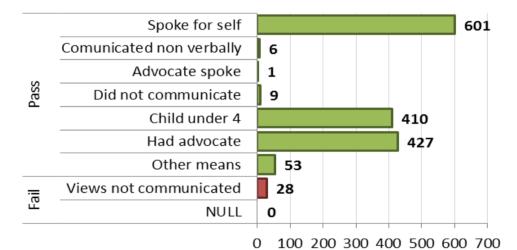
The proportion of LAC reviews where the child was present or contributed by other means since 1 April

98%

Jan-15

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

1.4 Context: Full Answers for Participation



Education

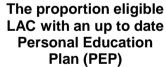


KS2 Level 4	Maths	Reading	Writing	Reading, Writing and Maths	GCSEs	5+ GCSE A* - C	5+ GCSE A* - C inc Eng & Maths
Wolverhampton LAC 2014	74%	78%	81%	70%		15.80%	17.00%
Wolverhampton	86%	88%	84%	79%		57.60%	45.90%
Wolves LAC 2013	67%	44%	50%	39%		48.40%	25.80%
West Midlands 2014	60%	69%	61%	50%		18.10%	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.

There is some discrepancies when nationally published data is 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.





93%

Jan-15

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.

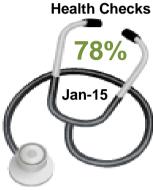
LAC Health



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

Dental Checks 74%

2013/14 Out-turn = 90%



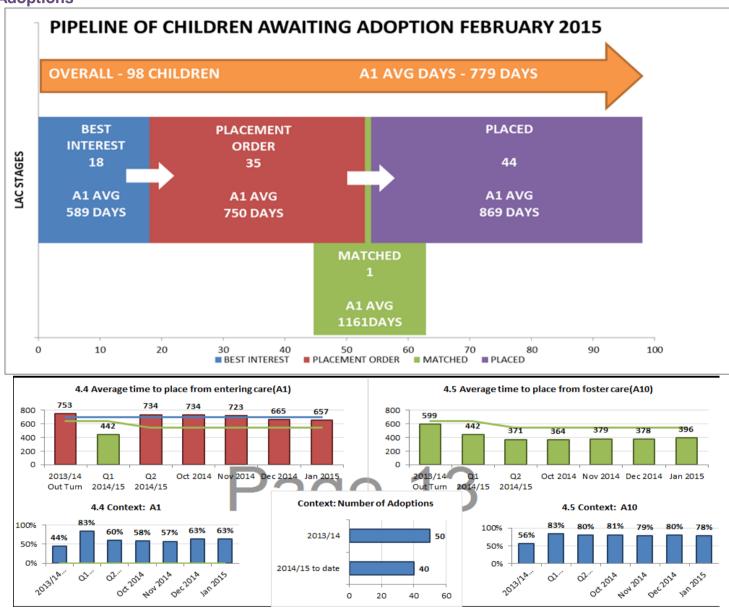
2013/14 Out-turn = 86% Children placed out of area and the pressure on health services and funding issues is contributing to the fall in performance in this area

An action plan for addressing this issue has been agreed with the CCG and RWT.

Leaving Care



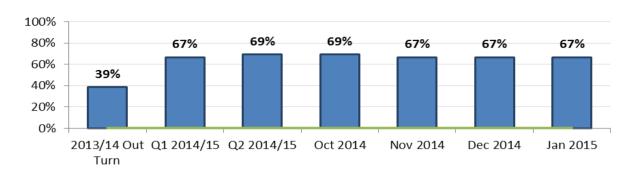
Adoptions



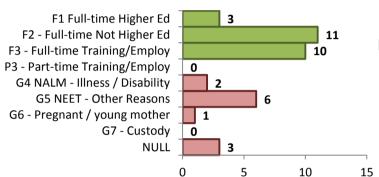
The adoption scorecards for 2013 were published just before Christmas. Wolverhampton were once again rated 'double red' in the two key indicators, however, performance around adopting hard to place children including those over the age of 5 and from BME backgrounds continues to be better than performance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

Care Leavers

5.4: Education, employment & training of care leavers



5.4 Context: Number EET Statuses



National published figure for Wolverhampton is 31% not 39% - discrepancy is being investigated.

West Mids - 41% Statistical Neighbours - 40% England - 45%