

Children in Care

Performance Data

2020/21 Q1
(as at 30th Jun 2020)

Sept 2020

Corporate Parenting Panel

**Children Looked After
Performance Report**

1. This report provides an overview of key metrics and performance indicators to the Panel.

Commentary

Performance reports

Reports should be shared regularly updating on key indicators in relation to children in care, including direction of travel. These indicators are part of a nationally collected dataset reported to government, and include information on placement stability, outcomes for children in care and adoption. For quarter 1 (Q1) Wiltshire had 448 children looked after, this number has reduced from 467 since the end of the last financial year. An area the Panel is yet to give focus on is that of Care Leavers therefore at the November CPP performance data will include, suitable housing, for care leavers, care leavers, employment, training and education figures and how well we are keeping in touch with our care leavers.

Key priorities to consider include:

- placement stability
- health data (*separate report from Virgin Care*)
- educational attainment (*reported via Wiltshire Virtual School*)
- proportion of care leavers in education, employment or training (*to be reported Nov 2020*)
- children in care being placed out of area or at a distance
- proportion of care leavers that the council has regular contact with (*to be reported Nov 2020*)
- availability of suitable housing for care leavers (*to be reported Nov 2020*)

2. An at a glance report is shown below. Of particular note:

- a. *CLA Reviews* - Percentage of CLA reviews on time. Q1 shows that 100% of annual reviews have been on time. This has exceeded our target range of 93% - 98%. In Q4, 2019 we were performing at 88%. A considerable amount of work has been undertaken by the reviewing officers who have utilised the COVID-19 situation to engage wider with birth families, children and young people and their carers in preparation and participation in CLA reviews.
- b. *Distant placements*: Q1 shows no change in this indicator since our end of year report where we were showing 36% of children placed at over 20 miles from home. For this financial year we are being more ambitious and have set our target range to be between 26 – 32%. This is in line with our aspirations of increasing our number of foster carers through the new Fostering Excellence Programme where we want more of our children and young people to be placed locally. Since the launch of the Every Day matters campaign we are forecasting 20 – 30 new in-house foster carers to have been recruited and approved by March 2021.
- c. *Placement Stability*: placement stability for Children Looked After in Wiltshire is really good and we have gone from 77% to 79%. The number of children experiencing 3+ placements was at 9% at the end of year quarter and for Q1 there has been further improvement showing at 7% which is below that of the England average and SN both of which are 10%. During the COVID-19 period we had expected to see an increase in placement break down, but this did not happen. In the lockdown period (March – June) we had 11 placement moves, only one of these linked directly to the pressures brought about by COVID-19; two children returned home, and two older children moved into independent accommodation.
- d. *CLA Visits* – the timeliness of CLA visits has significantly improved between Q4 (2019) and Q1 (2020) with 95% of visits being in time and in line with our end of year target. The Children in Care team managers now have better oversight of their

team's performance activity and have fully utilised the "at a glance" reporting in Liquid Logic allowing them to put checks and balances in for their teams. Q1 was significantly impacted upon by the COVID-19 restrictions in place however social workers ensured that the range of visiting options were fully utilised such as home visits at a distance based on risk assessments and the virtual platforms made available through SKPE, Microsoft Teams, WhatsApp and Facebook messenger.

- e. *Adoption Performance* – is measured against the adoption scorecard. At the end of the last financial year (2019/20) Wiltshire had 19 children placed for adoption. This first quarter has shown a dip in the number of children adopted, going from 3 in the last quarter to 2 for Q1. We need to work with Adoption West to get a better understanding of progress being made in applications to adopt and court deadlines for adoption orders. The A3 measure shows a small decline relating to children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving to adoption. We believe that by the end of this financial year these numbers will have significantly improved as well as taking into account any impact COVID-19 may have had in Q1.

Iona Payne
Head of Children in Care & Young People's Services

September 2020

Children in Care in Wiltshire – at a glance

Number of children under 18 yrs in the care of Wiltshire local authority between 2013 - 2020 (at 31st March each year)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Children	446	397	404	419	443	444	462	467

Proportion of children per 10,000 of the under 18 population between 2013 - 2020 (at 31st March each year)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Wiltshire	43	39	39	40	42.6	42.3	44.3	44.2
Statistical Neighbour	42	43	45	48	52	53	56	n/a
England	60	60	60	60	62	64	65	n/a

Number of children entering care by age

	Q2 19/20		Q3 19/20		Q4 19/20		Q1 20/21	
	Children	%	Children	%	Children	%	Children	%
Under 1	13	25%	10	32%	10	23%	7	23%
1 - 4	14	27%	5	16%	6	14%	6	19%
5 - 9	6	12%	3	10%	14	32%	9	29%
10 - 15	14	27%	8	26%	8	18%	9	29%
16+	5	10%	5	16%	6	14%	0	0%
Total	52	100%	31	100%	44	100%	31	100%

Number of current looked after children by age (at end of quarter)

	Q2 19/20		Q3 19/20		Q4 19/20		Q1 20/21		England* (2019)
	Children	%	Children	%	Children	%	Children	%	
Under 1	19	4%	25	5%	26	6%	27	6%	5%
1 - 4	49	10%	45	10%	47	10%	45	10%	13%
5 - 9	62	13%	63	14%	72	15%	68	15%	18%
10 - 15	203	43%	198	43%	198	42%	195	44%	39%
16+	137	29%	134	29%	124	27%	113	25%	24%
Total	470	100%	465	100%	467	100%	448	100%	100%

Number of current looked after children by placement type (at 30th June 2020)

Placement type	Children	%
Placed with WC foster carer	151	33.7%
Foster carer other local authority	2	0.4%
Placed with IFA foster carer	134	29.9%
Voluntary/third sector provision	4	0.9%
Foster Placement with relative or friend	60	13.4%
Fostering subtotal	351	78.3%
Homes & Hostels	39	8.7%
Residential School	2	0.4%
NHS / Health Trust / medical or nursing care establishment	0	0.0%
Family Centre / Mother and Baby Unit	0	0.0%
Residential Accommodation not subject to Children's Home regulations	0	0.0%
Residential Care Home (Reg Homes Act 1984)	1	0.2%
YOI or Prison	0	0.0%
Residential subtotal	42	9.4%
Placed with parents / person with parental resp.	8	1.8%
Placed with parents subtotal	8	1.8%
Independent Living or Other Placement	24	5.4%
Placed for adoption	21	4.7%
Secure Unit	2	0.4%
Missing from Placement	0	0.0%
Other placement subtotal	47	10.5%
Total	448	100%

Safeguarding Improvement Data Set (Looked After Children) – 2020/21 Q1 update

Key to RAG ratings at end of document

Ref	Indicator	Previous Yrs Performance		Qtrly Performance (last 5 quarters)										2020/21		Comparators (2018/19)		Comment	
		2017/18	2018/19	Apr to Jun 2019	RAG	Jul to Sep 2019	RAG	Oct to Dec 2019	RAG	Jan to Mar 2020	RAG	Apr to Jun 2020	RAG	DOT	Actual (Ytd)	Target	England Avg		Stat Neighb.
1	Number of looked after children	444	468	460	-	470	-	465	-	467	-	448	-	↓	467	448-478	n/a	n/a	
2	Looked after children rate per 10,000	41	44	43	G	45	G	44	G	44	G	42	G	↓	42	42-45	65	56	
3	Number/% of Interim Care Orders	49 11%	57 12%	47 10%	G	62 13%	G	60 13%	G	59 13%	G	45% 10%	G	↓	10%	10-14%	16%	16%	
4	Number/% of Section 20 LAC	99 22%	128 27%	121 26%	G	121 26%	G	114 25%	G	113 24%	A	102 23%	G	↓	23%	23-26%	18%	24%	
5	% of Section 20 LAC more than 1 yr		45%	52%	-	54%	-	57%	-	54%	-	60%	-	-	54%	-	-	-	
6	% LAC reviews on time	98%	81%	90%	A	89%	A	86%	A	88%	A	100%	G	↑	100%	93%-98%	-	-	
7	% LAC participating in reviews	97%	75%	92%	A	88%	A	89%	A	89%	A	96%	G	↑	96%	95%-98%	-	-	
8	% LAC placed more than 20 miles from home	32%	34%	35%	A	37%	R	40%	R	36%	A	36%	A	=	36%	26-32%	20%	31%	
9	LAC with 3+ placements during the year	12%	9%	9%	G	7%	G	8%	G	9%	G	7%	G	↓	7%	7-10%	10%	10%	
10	Looked after for at least 2.5 yrs in same placement for at least 2 years	77%	77%	77%	G	78%	G	78%	G	77%	G	79%	G	↑	79%	75-82%	69%	66%	

Ref	Indicator	Previous Yrs Performance		Qtrly Performance (last 5 quarters)									2020/21		Comparators (2018/19)		Comment		
		2017/18	2018/19	Apr to Jun 2019	RAG	Jul to Sep 2019	RAG	Oct to Dec 2019	RAG	Jan to Mar 2020	RAG	Apr to Jun 2020	RAG	DOT	Actual (Ytd)	Target		England Avg	Stat Neighb.
11	LAC statutory visits on time against basic practice standard: Any child more than one year LAC – at least one visit during the 3 months Any one less than a year - should have had 6 weekly visits	89%	83%	91%	G	92%	G	89%	A	90%	G	95%	G	↑	90%	90%-95%	-	-	
12	Private Fostering: New notifications(confirmed)	54	50	6	G	22	G	2	G	8	R	1	G	↑	1		-	-	
	% followed up in 7 days	100%	82%	100%	G	95%	G	100%	G	88%	R	100%	G	↑	100%	100%	-	-	
13	Number of children adopted	22	33	10	G	4	R	4	R	3	R	2	R	↓	8	27-32	-	-	
14	A1: Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, for children who have been adopted (days) (cumulative in year)	326	342	300	G	309	G	308	G	369	R	316	G	↓	316				
		392 (2015-18)	377 (2016-19)	-	-	330	-	339	-	352	-	-				339 (2017-20)	300-360 (2017-20)	486 (2015-18)	458 (2015-18)
15	A2: Average time between a local authority receiving a court order to place a child and the local authority deciding to match an adoptive family (cumulative in year)	132	100	72	G	78	G	87	G	133	A	133	A	=	133				
		171 (2015-18)	152 (2016-19)	-	-	105	-	116	-	117	-	-				116 (2017-20)	150-170 (2017-20)	201 (2015-18)	183 (2015-18)
16	A3: % children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family (cumulative in year)	74%	75%	62%	R	67%	R	70%	A	64%	R	62%	R	↓	62%				
		73% (2015-18)	76% (2016-19)	-	-	75%	-	72%	-	71%	-	-				72% (2017-20)	75%-80% (2017-20)	56% (2015-18)	59% (2015-18)

Ref	Indicator	Previous Yrs Performance		Qtrly Performance (last 5 quarters)								2020/21		Comparators (2018/19)		Comment			
		2017/18	2018/19	Apr to Jun 2019	RAG	Jul to Sep 2019	RAG	Oct to Dec 2019	RAG	Jan to Mar 2020	RAG	Apr to Jun 2020	RAG	DOT	Actual (Ytd)		Target	England Avg	Stat Neighbr.
17	Number of newly approved adopters and time taken to approve adopters from application	17	27	4	R	6	G	5	A	Data no longer avail.	-	Data no longer avail.	-	↓	Data no longer avail.	22-27	-	-	Since the move to Adoption West, data on the time taken to approve new adopters is no longer available.
	0-3 months	0	0	0		0													
	3-6 months	4	5	2	-	1	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-						
	6-12 months	12	20	2		5													
	More than 12 months	1	2	0		0													
18	% LAC had health check in last year	80%	74%	-	R	-		-		96%	G	-		↑	Reported Annually	85-90%	90%	85%	Data is available after the annual CLA census is complete (end July) where all dental and medical data will have been fully reconciled with Virgin Care.
19	% LAC had dental check in last year	89%	91%	-	G	-		-		89%	G	-	↓	Reported Annually	85-90%	85%	78%		

Notes:

RAG definitions

Red – not meeting levels of performance in line with statutory guidance or within 10% of target (for smaller numbers within 20%)*

Amber – not on target, up to 10% away (for smaller numbers within 20%) *

Green – expected to achieve current year target

*warning – where low figures are concerned, e.g. a target of less than 20, 10% variance is very small and reduces the reliability of the RAG rating