

Corporate Parenting Panel AGENDA

DATE: Monday 21 October 2013

TIME: 7.30 pm

VENUE: Committee Room 5,
Harrow Civic Centre

MEMBERSHIP (Quorum 3)

Chairman: Councillor Christine Bednell

Councillors:

Janet Mote

Margaret Davine
Mitzi Green

Zarina Khalid (VC)

James Bond

Reserve Members:

1. Lynda Seymour
2. Chris Mote
3. John Nickolay

1. Raj Ray
2. Mrs Rekha Shah

1. Krishna James

1. (Vacancy)

Contact: Vishal Seegoolam, Senior Democratic Services Officer
Tel: 020 8424 1883 E-mail: vishal.seegoolam@harrow.gov.uk

AGENDA - PART I

1. ATTENDANCE BY RESERVE MEMBERS

To note the attendance at this meeting of any duly appointed Reserve Members.

Reserve Members may attend meetings:-

- (i) to take the place of an ordinary Member for whom they are a reserve;
- (ii) where the ordinary Member will be absent for the whole of the meeting; and
- (iii) the meeting notes at the start of the meeting at the item 'Reserves' that the Reserve Member is or will be attending as a reserve;
- (iv) if a Reserve Member whose intention to attend has been noted arrives after the commencement of the meeting, then that Reserve Member can only act as a Member from the start of the next item of business on the agenda after his/her arrival.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from:

- (a) all Members of the Panel;
- (b) all other Members present.

3. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 8)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2013 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To receive questions (if any) from local residents or organisations under the provisions of Executive Procedure Rule 50 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

5. PETITIONS

To receive petitions (if any) submitted by members of the public/Councillors under the provisions of Executive Procedure Rule 48 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

6. DEPUTATIONS

To receive deputations (if any) under the provisions of Executive Procedure Rule 49 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

7. INFORMATION REPORT - ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE (Pages 9 - 28)

Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Families.

8. HOUSING FOR CARE LEAVERS - UPDATE REPORT (Pages 29 - 32)

Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Families.

9. INFORMATION REPORT - CARE LEAVERS EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION & TRAINING (EET) & CARE LEAVERS SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION (Pages 33 - 44)

Report of the Divisional Director of Targeted Services.

10. CORPORATE PARENTING DISPLAY (Pages 45 - 48)

Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Families.

11. AGENDA TRACKER (Pages 49 - 50)

12. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Which cannot otherwise be dealt with.

AGENDA - PART II - NIL

This page is intentionally left blank

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

MINUTES

8 JULY 2013

Chairman: * Councillor Christine Bednell

Councillors: * James Bond * Zarina Khalid
* Margaret Davine * Janet Mote
* Mitzi Green

* Denotes Member present

126. Attendance by Reserve Members

The Chairman reported that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.5.4, Councillor Zarina Khalid had replaced Councillor Husain Akhtar as a Member of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

RESOLVED: To note that there were no Reserve Members in attendance.

127. Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: To note that the following interests were declared:

Agenda Item 9 – Report on Health Passports

Councillor Janet Mote declared a non-pecuniary interest in that her daughter was a nurse at Northwick Park Hospital. She would remain in the room whilst the matter was considered and voted upon.

128. Appointment of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED: To appoint Councillor Zarina Khalid as Vice-Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Panel for the 2013/2014 Municipal Year.

129. Minutes

Members of the Panel commented that a Corporate Parenting Display had not been organised prior to the Full Council meeting on 4 July 2013. Officers would investigate why this did not occur and would look to re-organise the display for the next available Full Council meeting.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2013, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

130. Public Questions, Petitions and Deputations

RESOLVED: To note that no public questions, petitions or deputations were received at this meeting.

RESOLVED ITEMS

131. Information Report - Activity and Performance

The Panel received a report which set out the latest performance position and an analysis of latest available performance data in relation to Children Looked After (CLA).

An officer introduced the report and made the following points:

- the timing of the meeting meant that data relating to Quarter 1 of 2013/14 data was not yet available;
- the first phase of the Children's Services Improvement Plan had been completed at the end of Quarter 3;
- as part of the Children's Services Improvement Plan, the Children and Families Service and its partners were moving into a new phase of development to drive improved practice and outcomes;
- from 2011/12 to 2012/13 there was an increase of 56% in the number of core assessments by social workers and a 51% increase in the number of Section 47 investigations;
- this activity had been seen to increase further in the early months of 2013/14 and had led to an increase in the number of Child Protection Plans (CPP) and the number of Looked After Children (CLA);
- there were two underlying reasons for this increase in activity. Firstly there was an increasing population in Harrow with a subsequent increase in pressure on schools. Secondly thresholds had been reviewed which enabled more needs being identified.

During the discussion on this item, Members of the Panel raised a number of queries which officers responded to as follows:

- it was acknowledged that outcomes for care leavers had not been achieved in the past as well as the Council would have liked. However performance in this area was better than last year and an Action Plan had been developed to ensure that targets were achieved. Additionally a specific post had been recruited to, to focus on outcomes for care leavers. A Multi Agency Panel had also been established to scrutinise those who were not involved in activities to try and assist them and looking at providing training in skills for social workers to support relevant activities;
- an update report on outcomes for care leavers would be provided to the meeting of the Panel on 21 October 2013;
- the Council had seen a good improvement in the percentage of CLA in suitable accommodation to 80%. This was an update to the position which had been contained in the report to the Panel. An option suggested by representatives from Beyond Limits to investigate sharing housing was also being investigated;
- the proposed closure date for accommodation at Honeypot Lane was 31 October 2013. Discussions had been taking place with Housing Services on identifying if the accommodation could be occupied by CLA or care leavers;
- whilst there had been an upward pressure in the increase for the number of core assessments and Section 47 investigations across London, this had not been to the extent as experienced in Harrow;
- the use of foster carers had increased and the number of children placed under special guardianship and placed more than 20 miles away had decreased, which was good news for the Council;
- Harrow was now on a par within its comparator boroughs in terms of its performance;
- the Council's partnership with CORUM had resulted in a wider choice, specialists and support in relation to foster carers. The Council were always actively looking to reach different parts of the communities to reach a wider variety of foster carers and work was going on in a number of strands to help achieve this.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

132. Report on Health Passports

A Council officer introduced a report which provided a description of the implementation of Health Passports in Harrow.

The officer reported that unfortunately colleagues from NHS Harrow had not been able to attend and sent their apologies. The officer reported the following:

- the concept of providing a Health Passport was discussed with NHS Harrow and health providers for Looked After Children (CLA) following the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection in May 2012;
- the Looked After Children Nurse, the Designated Nurse and the Youth Participation Officer from the Council led in developing the project. Young People were involved in the development of the Health Passports and the current draft before the Panel reflected these views together with good practice examples from across the country.

During the discussion on this item, Members of the Panel raised a number of issues which were responded to by officers as follows:

- Care Leavers would hold the physical copy of their Health Passport as it was an important concept that they 'owned' this document. The Council would only hold an electronic copy;
- an update report on the progress of the Health Passports would be presented to the Panel in July 2014.

During the discussion on this item Members of the Panel made a number of comments as follows:

- the proposed Health Passports were useful for young people, carers and children coming up for adoption;
- the Health Passport was a good concept and to have relevant information collated in one document was very important.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

133. Report of Mental Health Care for Children Looked After

The Chair welcomed Melanie Woodcock representing the Child and Family Mental Health Services (CAMHS). In introducing the report she made the following points:

- CAMHS was a community based and universally targeted supporting specialist service;
- Harrow CAMHS operated a triage system which was led by General Practitioners (GPs). There was a quick turnover and access for referrals. The Triage system allowed CAMHS to see clients quickly;
- referrals to CAMHS had to be appropriate but GPs were good at ensuring that this occurred in practice;
- following a referral, the young person was seen within 10 days. This was then followed up with an assessment appointment which was done within 5½ weeks;

- the CAMHS team consisted of 17.74 Full Time Equivalent Staff (FTE). This included part time staff;
- the majority of referrals to CAMHS came from GPs. At present CAMHS had a caseload of 648 cases and only 20 of these involved Looked After Children (CLA);
- the main issues which CAMHS dealt with involved CLA were depression, anxiety and sexual incidents;
- specialist assessments were offered and care pathways were not rigid;
- a wide a range of support was offered by CAMHS including family therapy, clinical psychology, nursing support and play therapy;
- the key message that CAMHS delivered was focusing on the needs to the individual child.

During the discussion on this item, Members of the Panel raised a number of issues which officers and the representative from CAMHS responded to as follows:

- there had been an issue which concerned the Council in relation to the way referrals were made to CAMHS. At present the Council were not allowed to make a direct referral to CAMHS and that this could only go through the health system;
- there was concern from the Council that CLA were not given a priority above all other children particularly in relation to waiting lists or generally as applicable to their circumstances. The representative from CAMHS responded that they were commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group who set the relevant thresholds for referrals. There was no specific CLA team within CAMHS and all referrals were treated equally in terms of their importance;
- CAMHS were investigating using more direct psychotherapy in their treatment of children.

At the conclusion of the debate Members of the Panel commented that they had concerns over the referral pathways to CAMHS. They were concerned that referrals could only be made via the health system and that the Council did not have an ability to also do this directly.

An officer commented that these concerns had been raised with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) previously, and they had commented that the decision to accept referrals was ultimately the responsibility of CAMHS.

The representative from CAMHS responded by saying that the final decision did not rest with them and that the CCG were their commissioners. CAMHS

were confident that they were not dealing with cases which were better dealt with under targeted and universal services.

A Member of the Panel suggested that a reference be made to the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee and the Health and Well-being Board to investigate these issues further and to commence dialogue with the CCG on analysing and reviewing the referral pathways to CAMHS. This was agreed.

RESOLVED: That a reference be made to the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee and the Health and Well-being Board to investigate liaising with the Clinical Commissioning Group on analysing and reviewing the referral pathways to the Child and Family Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

134. Update Access to Leisure facilities for Children Looked After and young people who are Leaving Care

The Panel received a report which provided an update to the support to Looked After Children (CLA) and young people leaving care with access to leisure facilities.

An officer introduced the report and made the following points:

- the CLA Life Chances Forum has continued to support and review arrangements to provide CLA and young people leaving care which opportunities and options to engage with recreational activities and work responsively to young peoples views;
- the CLA Life Chances Forum had established a sub-group in respect of facilitating CLA access to Leisure. This included representatives from the Children and Families Service, Leisure Services and partner agencies;
- the Chair of the CLA Life Chances Forum had met with the Portfolio Holder for Community and Cultural Services at the time, to discuss progress and future opportunities to promote recreational activities;
- a summer fun day had been organised for 25 July 2013 for CLA and young people leaving care to have information and to be involved with a taster of activities, including those delivered at the Harrow Arts Centre;
- in partnership with Greenwich Leisure Ltd (GLL), the CLA Life Chances Forum had established registration and membership of all CLA who lived in or around the borough to the leisure facilities at Harrow Leisure Centre. There had been 2 periods of registration. However despite the 30% discount offered, there had been insufficient registration for this to be viable. A different strategy was therefore required.

During the discussion on this item, Members of the Panel raised a number of issues which officers responded to as follows:

- as part of the Summer Fund Day, officers would be speaking to young people to try and determine why there was a low take up of registration for leisure facilities at Harrow Leisure Centre;
- it was important to highlight that other activities were available at the Harrow Arts Centre and Cedars Youth Centre. However public transport to Cedars Youth Centre was an issue;
- a good suggestion was for foster carers to be trained to encourage those who they cared for to utilise leisure facilities. Members of the Panel were also asked to encourage other Councillors to attend the Summer Fun Day.

RESOLVED: That for the purposes of any future Cabinet or Portfolio Holder decisions:

- (1) the Panel continue to support CLA and young people leaving care with discounted leisure membership funded by the Care Matters Grant;
- (2) the Panel supports Corporate Parents responsibility to raise awareness of recreational provision by partnership working with the Summer Fund Day, membership of the CLA Life Chances Forum and contribution to social work team meetings;
- (3) the Panel support the consideration of including in commissioning of the new providers (SLM) to offer access to leisure for CLA and careleavers at the Leisure Centre, to provide more cost effective access to the Leisure Centre for CLA and young people leaving care;
- (4) the Panel support the consideration of exploring recreational activities of interest to young people, engaging feedback from the Summer Fund Day, the Leaving Care Forum and Beyond Limits to inform about service user needs and for the development of a menu of services to be available.

135. Agenda Tracker

The Panel confirmed that the following reports were to be presented at future meetings:

- report on careleavers and the Action Plan at the meeting of the Panel on 21 October 2013;
- an update report on Health Passports would be presented to the Panel in July 2014;
- a report on the Corporate Parenting Display before the next Full Council meeting should be presented on 21 October 2013.

RESOLVED: That the work programme be updated in line with the Panel's comments.

136. Chairman's Announcement

The Chair was advised that Nick Crick, Service Manager for Children Looked After, would be leaving the Council. On behalf of the Panel the Chair thanked Nick for all of his efforts and assistance to the Panel and wished him well for the future.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 8.59 pm).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE BEDNELL
Chairman

**REPORT FOR: CORPORATE
PARENTING PANEL**

Date:	21 October 2013
Subject:	INFORMATION REPORT – Activity and Performance
Responsible Officer:	Catherine Doran, Corporate Director of Children and Families
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Janet Mote, Portfolio Holder for Children and Schools
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	CLA & CPP Activity and Performance Report

Section 1 – Summary

This report sets out latest performance position and key data relating to Children Looked After (CLA) and Children with Child Protection Plans (CPP)

Section 2 – Report Issues

See attachment which shows performance and activity to September 2013.

Key Points:

- Outcomes for care leavers – especially accommodation, education and employment at age 20 and 21 - are a priority for improvement – the Leaving Care Team is working with the Virtual School to improve this
- CLA numbers had risen to 176 compared to an average of 159 for the prior year
- There were 177 Child Protection Plans compared with an average of 128 for the prior year
- This reflects the lowering of thresholds to ensure need is being met; and corresponds with significant increases in referrals, assessments and child protection investigations
- Short term placement stability is on target for this stage of the year
- Long term placement stability is below target. The Divisional Director now chairs an Access to Resources Panel which scrutinises every placement move
- Performance on child protection plans over 2 years and repeat child protection plans has improved significantly
- Initial health assessments and annual checks for CLA are not being completed on a timely basis – this is a major concern which is being addressed with the Trust that provides the CLA nursing service
- 12 CLA received fixed term exclusions and 2 were excluded permanently during the last academic year
- 4 CLA achieved at least one GCSE, one CLA achieved 5 GCSEs including English and Maths
- At Key Stage 2, two of three CLA were at or above the expected level for English and Maths
- The Virtual School is working with social care teams and schools to improve educational outcomes for all CLA

Options considered

Not applicable

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Risk Management Implications

The Children's Services Risk Register has been updated to reflect the performance risks highlighted in this report.

Risk included on Directorate risk register? Yes

Separate risk register in place? No

Corporate Priorities

§ Supporting and protecting people who are most in need

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Jo Frost
Date: 07 Oct 2013



on behalf of the*
Chief Financial Officer

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact:

Dipika Patel, Business Intelligence Unit
020 8424 9258 dipika.patel@harrow.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank



Corporate Parenting Report

September 2013

**Children Looked After
Children Subject to a Child Protection Plan
(Activity to end of September 2013)**

CONTENTS

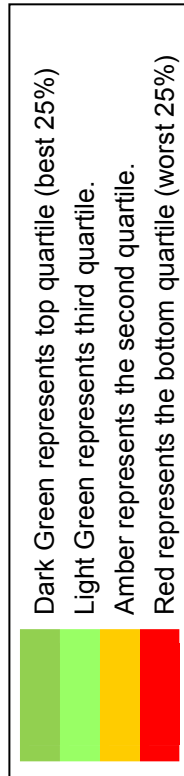
PART A: PERFORMANCE INFORMATION	3
A1) KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS.....	3
Part B:	
B1) NUMBERS OF CLA & CPP	5
PART C: CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER (CLA)	6
C1) AGE GROUPS	6
C2) GENDER.....	7
C3) ETHNICITY	8
C4) PLACEMENT TYPE	9
C5) CLA EDUCATION.....	10
PART D: CHILDREN SUBJECT TO A CHILD PROTECTION PLAN (CPP)	11
D1) AGE GROUPS	11
D2) ETHNICITY	12
D3) GENDER.....	13
D4) CATEGORY OF ABUSE.....	14
D5) DURATION OF PLAN.....	15

Part A– Key Performance Indicators

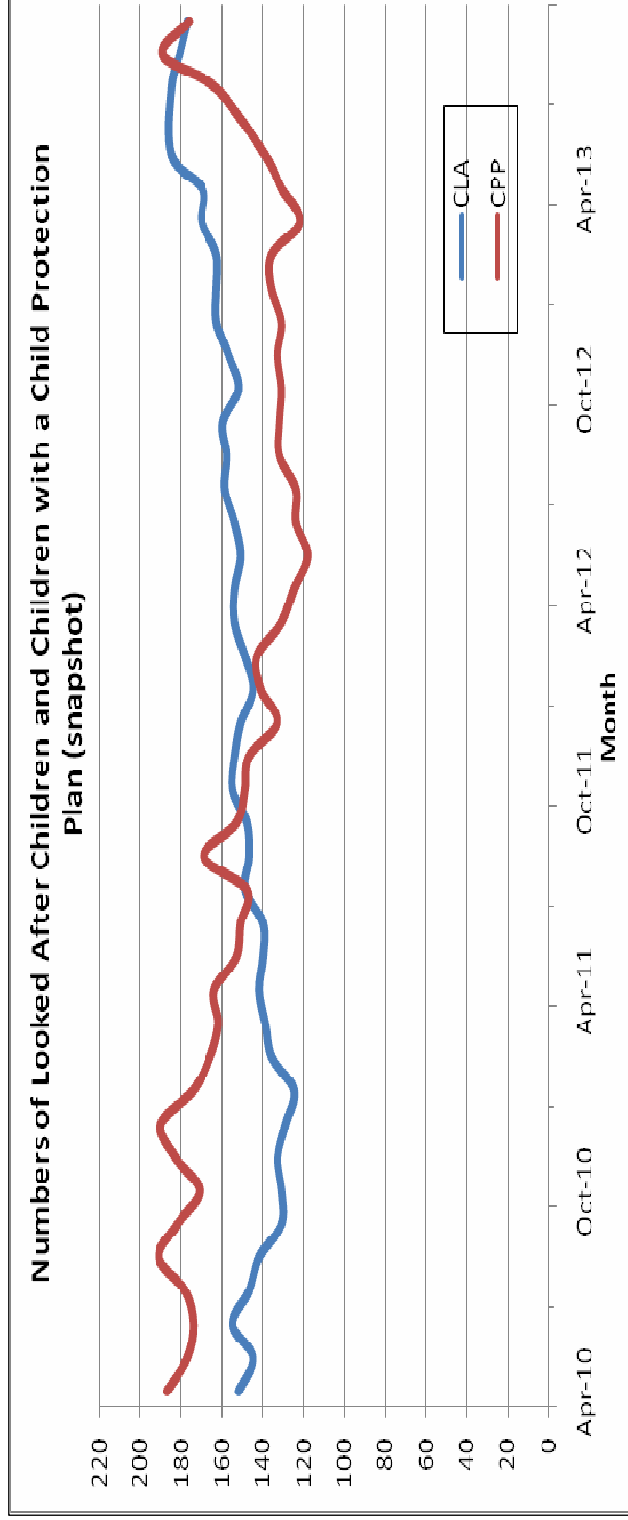
PI Ref	PI Description	Harrow 11/12 (%)	Comparators averages 2011-12 (%)	Harrow 12/13 (%)	Q1 13/14 (%)	Q2 13/14 (%)
NI 60	Timeliness of Assessments (% complete in 45 working days) - YTD		New Indicator		87.7	84
NI 64	Ceased CPP that lasted 2 or more years (%)	17.9	Statistical Neighbours - 9.2 England - 5.6	11.2	0	4.3
NI 65	CPP for 2nd or subsequent time (within 2 yrs of last plan) (%)		New Indicator		4.2	6.7
NI 67	Timeliness of CPP reviews (%)	100	Statistical Neighbours - 98.5 England - 96.7	100	100	100
NI 62	CLA placement stability: number of moves (% with 2+ moves)	17	Statistical Neighbours - 11 England - 11	15.5	0.5	2.73
NI 63	CLA placement stability: length of placement (%)	71.4	Statistical Neighbours - 68 England - 68	52.9	50	57.9
Local	% of new CLA where health assessment has been completed within 28 working days (month on month)		New Local Indicator		25	0
Local	% of CLA with up to date Dental Checks (CLA 1 yr +)	96.2	Local Indicator	93.8	82	82.4
Local	% of CLA with up to date Health Checks (CLA 1 yr +)	88.6	Local Indicator	91.4	91	77.3
Local	% of sessions (all CLA) absent from school (% of sessions missed) *	15.6	Local Indicator	14.3	8.3	Start of new academic year

PI Ref	PI Description	Harrow 11/12 (%)	Comparators averages 2011-12 (%)	Harrow 12/13 (%)	Q1 13/14 (%)	Q2 13/14 (%)
Local	% of school age CLA (all CLA) fixed-term excluded this year (Sept to date)			18.5	11.7	Start of new academic year
Local	% of school age CLA (all CLA) permanently excluded this year (Sept to date)n *		Local Indicator	0	1.9	Start of new academic year
New	% of Care Leavers age 19 in suitable accommodation		New Indicator - definition has changed - NI 147 looked at a cohort of care leavers aged 19 who were looked after on 1st April aged 16. The revised indicator looks at all eligible care leavers aged 19. Our performance for the previous indicator for 2012-13 was 80% of the cohort were in suitable accommodation , England average was 88%		91.7	88.5
New	% of Care Leavers age 20 in suitable accommodation		New Indicator		85.7	94.1
New	% of Care Leavers age 21 in suitable accommodation		New Indicator		60	76.9
New	% of Care Leavers aged 19 not in education, employment or training (NEET)		New Indicator - definition has changed - NI 148 looked at a cohort of care leavers aged 19 who were looked after on 1st April aged 16. The revised indicator looks at all eligible care leavers aged 19. Our performance for the previous indicator for 2012-13 was 54% of the cohort were NEET , England average was 34%		16.7	23.1
New	% of Care Leavers aged 20 not in education, employment or training		New Indicator		44.4	23.5
New	% of Care Leavers aged 21 not in education, employment or training		New Indicator		60	57.1

* Statistical Neighbours – Barnet, Croydon, Ealing, Enfield, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Kingston Upon Thames, Merton, Redbridge, Slough
** Education Indicators are measured in academic years



Part B –Numbers of CLA and CPP over time

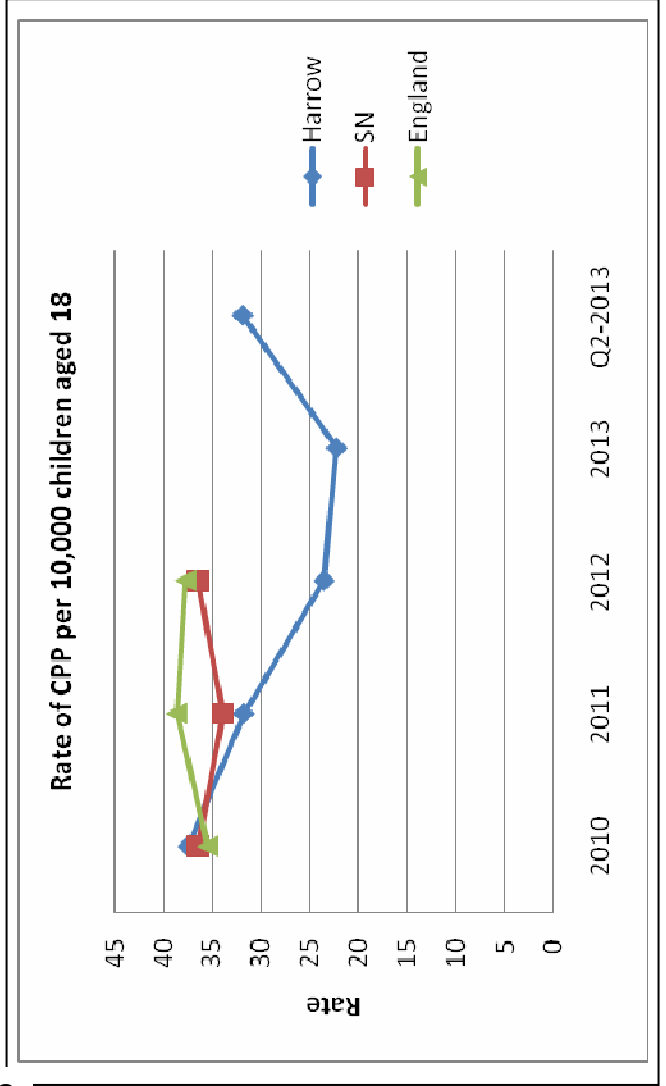
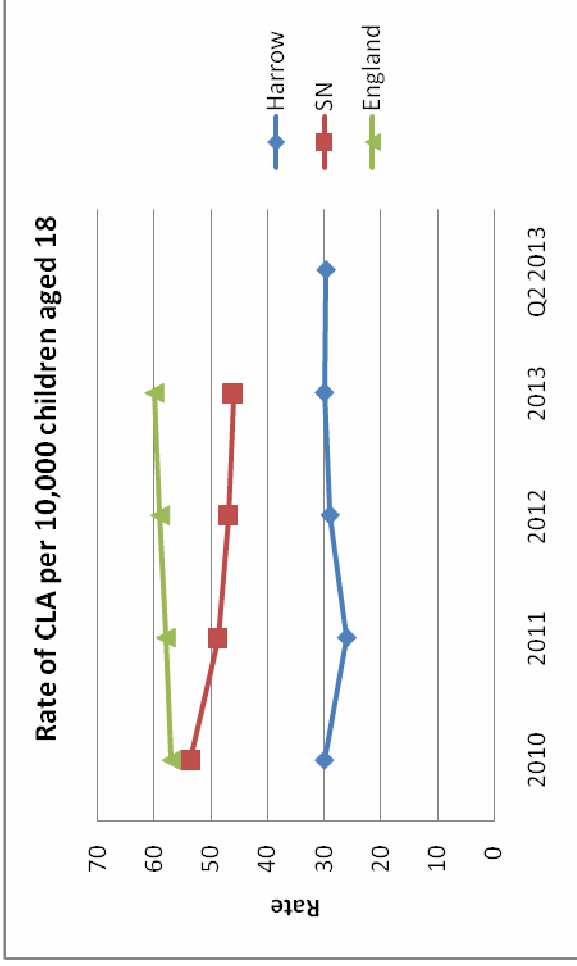


CPP numbers have risen significantly in 2013-14 to the current level of 179. The rise which corresponds with a lowering of thresholds, gives a rate of 31.9 per 10,000, which brings Harrow closer to comparator rates.

CLA numbers have also risen to 164. Harrow continues to have a significantly lower rate of CLA than comparators. Further analysis of the statistical neighbours group shows that Merton and Redbridge have similar rates. The average is pulled up by Croydon Hillingdon and Hounslow which have high numbers of CLA.

Comparator Info: Rates per 10,000 population

	London	England	Harrow	Harrow latest Q2 13-14
CPP (2012)	35.7	37.8	23.6	31.9
CLA (2013)	55	60	30	29.7



CLA at 31 March 2013	CLA numbers	Rates per 10000 population
Redbridge	205	28.0
Harrow	170	30.0
Merton	140	32.0
Barnet	310	37.0
Enfield	300	37.0
Kingston upon Thames	130	37.0
Slough	180	48.0
Ealing	400	51.0
Hounslow	305	52.0
Hillingdon	365	56.0
Croydon	735	82.0
Statistical Neighbours		46.0
England		60.0

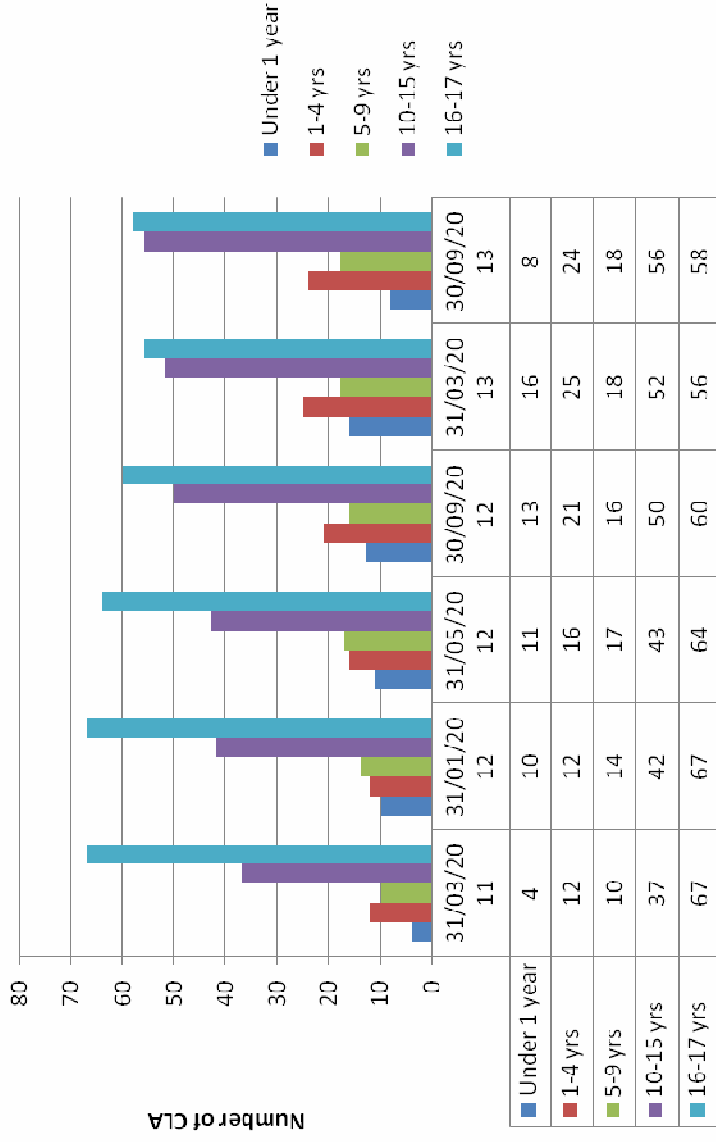
CPP at 31 March 2012 (2013 not yet published)	CPP numbers	Rates per 10000 population
Redbridge	141	19.9
Harrow	129	23.6
Kingston upon Thames	91	26.9
Enfield	234	29.7
Barnet	258	31.0
Croydon	288	32.3
Hounslow	216	37.5
Ealing	290	37.8
Merton	173	39.8
Hillingdon	346	53.7
Slough	209	55.9
Statistical Neighbours		36.5
England		37.8

Part C: Children Looked After (CLA)

C1

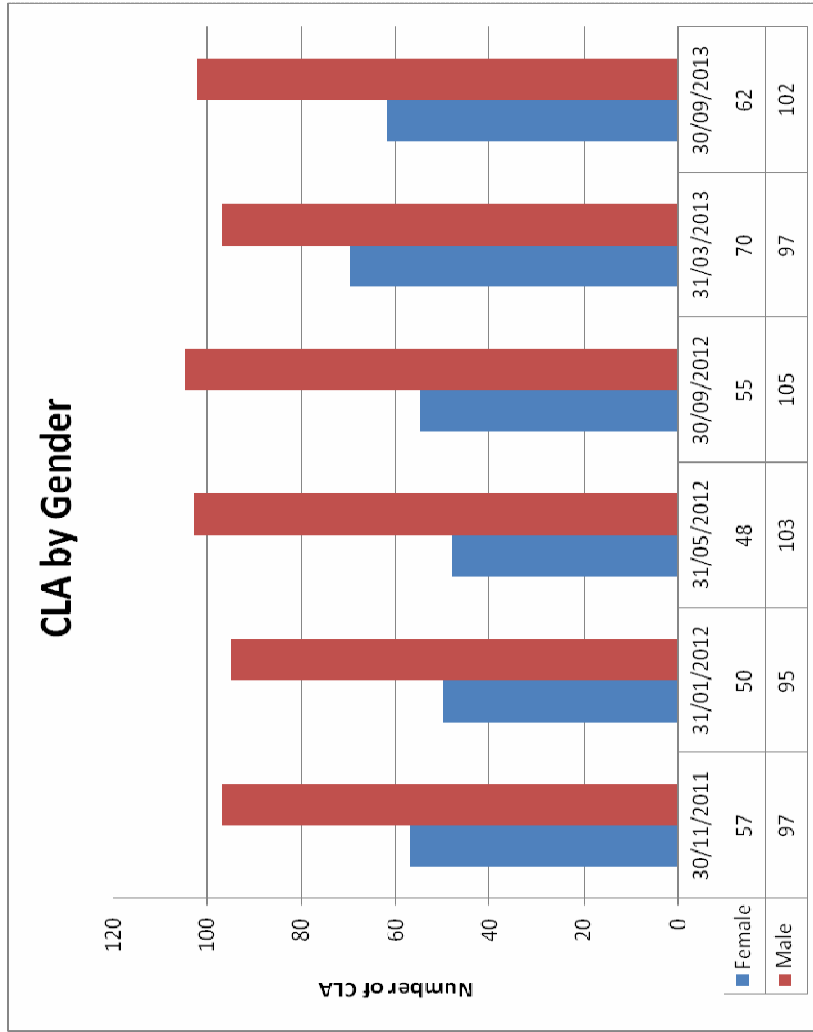
Two thirds of our CLA population falls in 10 -17 years age group. The number of CLA 10-15 years has been rising but we are still below statistical neighbours . The proportion of 16-17 year olds is broadly now in line with statistical neighbours. Increases in numbers of younger CLA has also brought these age groups into line with comparators. We want to ensure that we are enabling CLA to have permanent care arrangements wherever possible and that may be adoption, guardianship, residence or long term fostering. We need to analyse the throughput of our CLA figures to understand where we are.

CLA by Age Group



Comparator Information for percentages of age of CLA at 31st March 2012 (Source: SSDA903)	Age at 31 March 2012 (years) (%)				
	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 15	16 -17
England	6	19	19	36	20
London	6	14	16	37	27
Statistical neighbours Average	6	14	15	35	30
Harrow 2012 (Numbers)	8% (15)	8% (15)	11% (15)	29% (45)	43% (70)
Harrow Q2 2013-14 (latest)	5%	15 %	11%	34%	35%

C2 – Gender



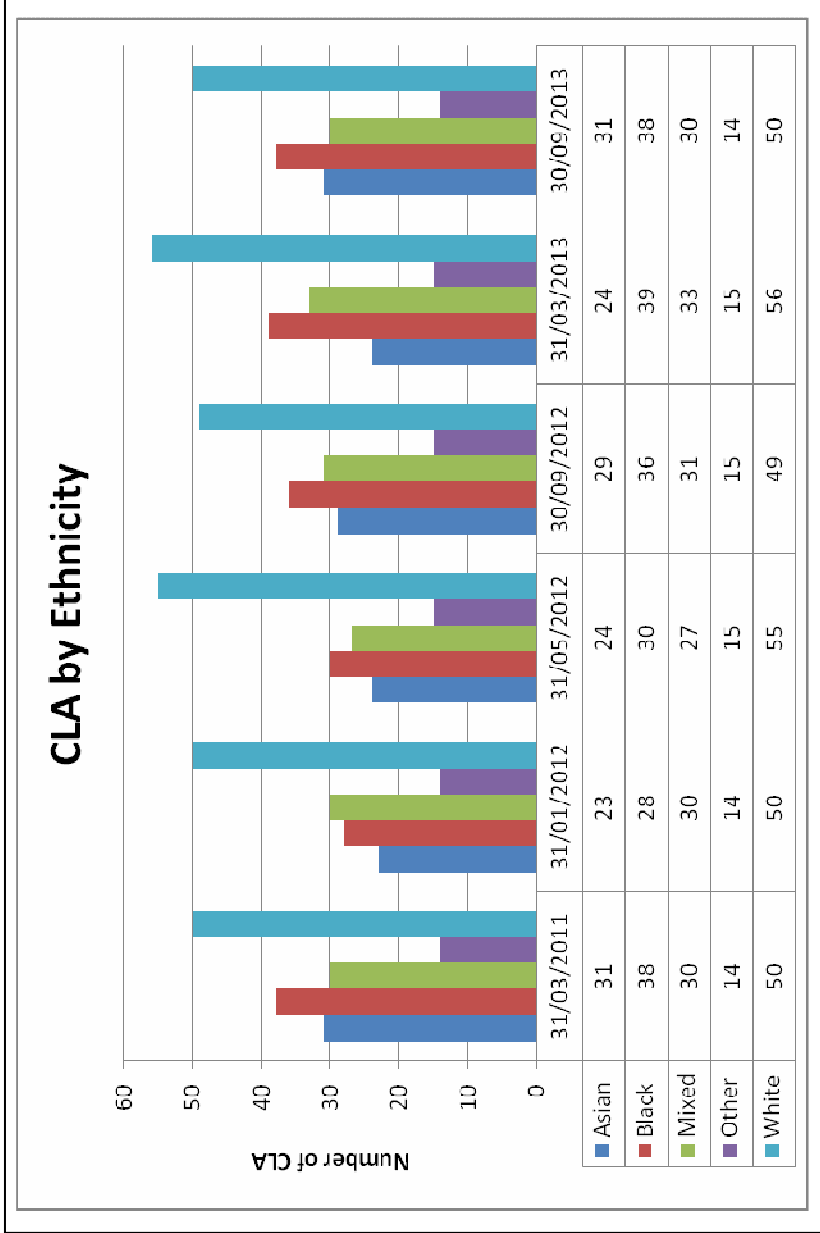
Comparator info CLA by gender 31.3.2012

Source: SSDA903

	Gender	
	Male	Female
England	55	45
London	56	44
Statistical neighbours Average	58	42
Harrow	68% (105)	32% (50)
Harrow Q2 2013-14 (latest)	62%	38%

Harrow historically has a higher proportion of males who are looked after. However, the proportion of CLA who were female has increased to 38% at 30th Sept and more in line with comparators

**C3 - Ethnicity
Harrow CLA ethnicity over time**



At Q2 there is an increase in numbers of CLA from Asian backgrounds, and a reduction in those from White backgrounds.

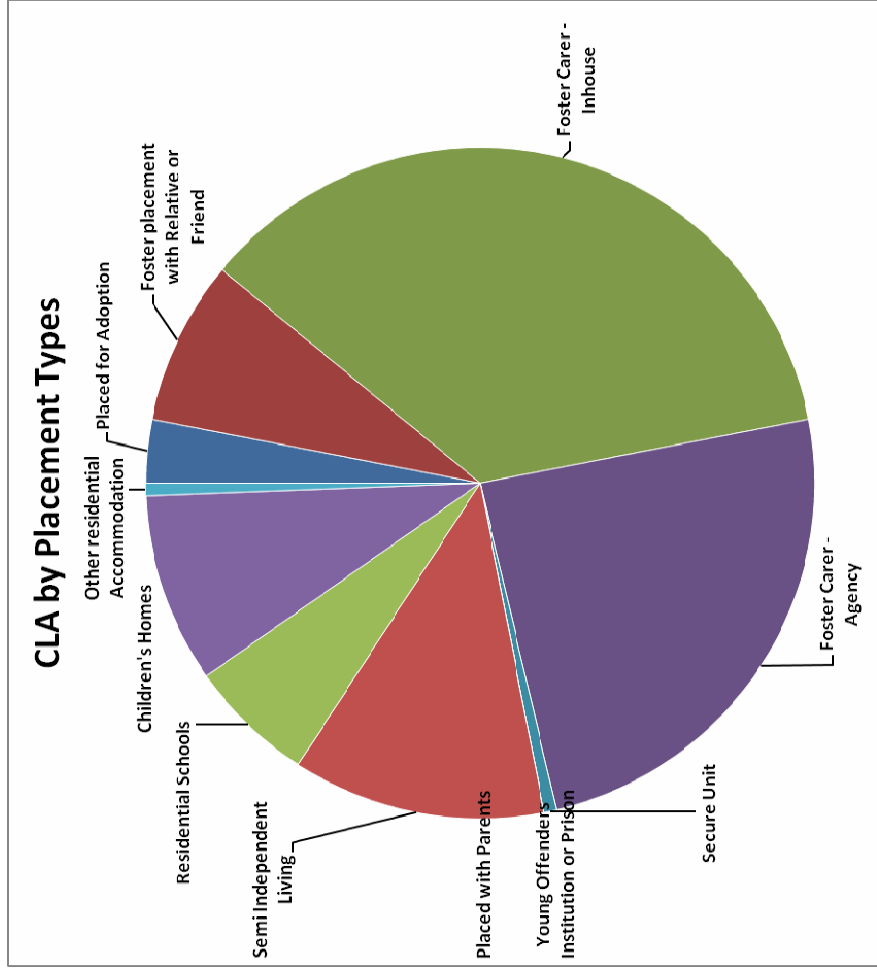
The representation of children and young people from Mixed or Black backgrounds in Harrow's care population is higher than amongst the general population. This trend is also seen amongst Harrow's statistical neighbours.

Comparator Information on Ethnicity at 31.03.2012 (%)
Source: SSDA903

	White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Other Ethnic Groups
Statistical Neighbour	46	15	16	20	6
England	78	9	4	7	3
Harrow	34	18	15	23	10
Harrow Q2 Latest	30	18	19	23	9

C4 – Placement Type Harrow Placement Detail 30th September 2013

Placement Type	Feb-13	Sep-13	Change
Placed for Adoption	5	5	0
Foster placement with Relative or Friend	5	13	8
Foster Carer - Inhouse	65	59	-6
Foster Carer - Agency	31	40	9
Secure Unit	1	1	0
Young Offenders Institution or Prison	1	0	-1
Placed with Parents	3	0	-3
Semi Independent Living	24	20	-4
Residential Schools	10	10	0
Children's Homes	11	15	4
Other residential Accommodation	4	1	-3
Missing from Placement	0	0	0
Grand Total	160	164	4



Percentage of children looked after at 31 March 2012, by placement	Harrow		London		England	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Foster placements	95	62	74	74	75	75
Placed for adoption	1	1	3	3	4	4
Placement with parents	0	0	2	2	5	5
Other placement in the community	25	17	6	6	3	3
Secure units, children's homes and hostels	15	11	10	10	9	9
Other residential settings	3	2	2	2	2	2
Residential schools	10	7	2	2	1	1

Overall all types of foster care placements (68%) are now in line with statistical neighbours and England averages of around 72%.

Action is being taken to improve both short and long term placement stability. The Divisional Director has set up a Panel and will be chairing to gate keep & scrutinise all placement moves for authorisation before they are implemented. The service is focusing on providing improved placement options and improved support / early intervention.

C5 – CLA Education Data

*note that DfE indicators are standardised by including only CLA who have been looked after for more than one year

CLA educational attainment trends

CLA looked after for over a year at 31/03/13	2011	2012	2013 (provisional)
Total children in KS2 cohort:	2	2	3
Attained at least Level 4 in Maths at end of KS2	50%	0%	67%
Attained at least Level 4 in English at end of KS2	0%	0%	67%
Attained at least Level 4 in both English and Maths	0%	0%	67%
Total young people in GCSE cohort:	19	13	12
GCSE: Attained at least 1 A* - G	47.4%	46.2%	33.3%
GCSE: Attained 5 or more A* - G	31.6%	23.1%	16.7%
GCSE: Attained 5 or more A* - C	5.3%	0%	8.3%
GCSE: Attained 5 or more A* - C inc Eng. & Maths	5.3%	0%	8.3%

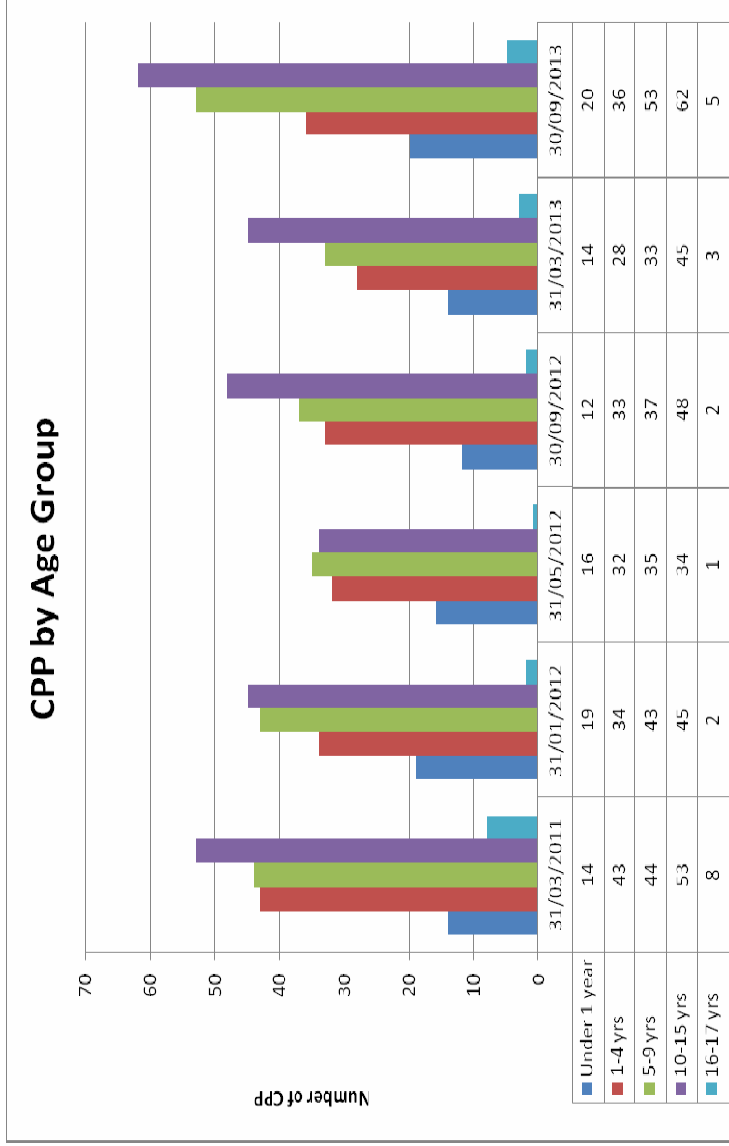
Detail for 2013 GCSEs:

TOTAL IN COHORT	GCSE ONLY					GCSE & Equiv.	
	Sat GCSE Exams?	1 A*-G	5 A*-G	5* A-C	5* A-C inc Eng Math	5* A-C	5* A-C inc Eng Math
All CLA	13	13	8	3	3	3	3
%	56.5%	56.5%	34.8%	13.0%	13.0%	13.0%	13.0%
All CLA (1 YR+)	4	4	2	1	1	1	1
%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	8.3%	8.3%	8.3%	8.3%

Part D: Children Subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP)

Children are made the subject of a child protection plan (CPP) when they are considered to be at risk of physical, sexual, emotional harm or neglect. Overall Harrow has seen a decrease in the number of children with a CPP. At 31st March 2013, 123 children had a Child Protection Plan, this has risen to 176 at 30th Sept.

D1 - CPP by Age

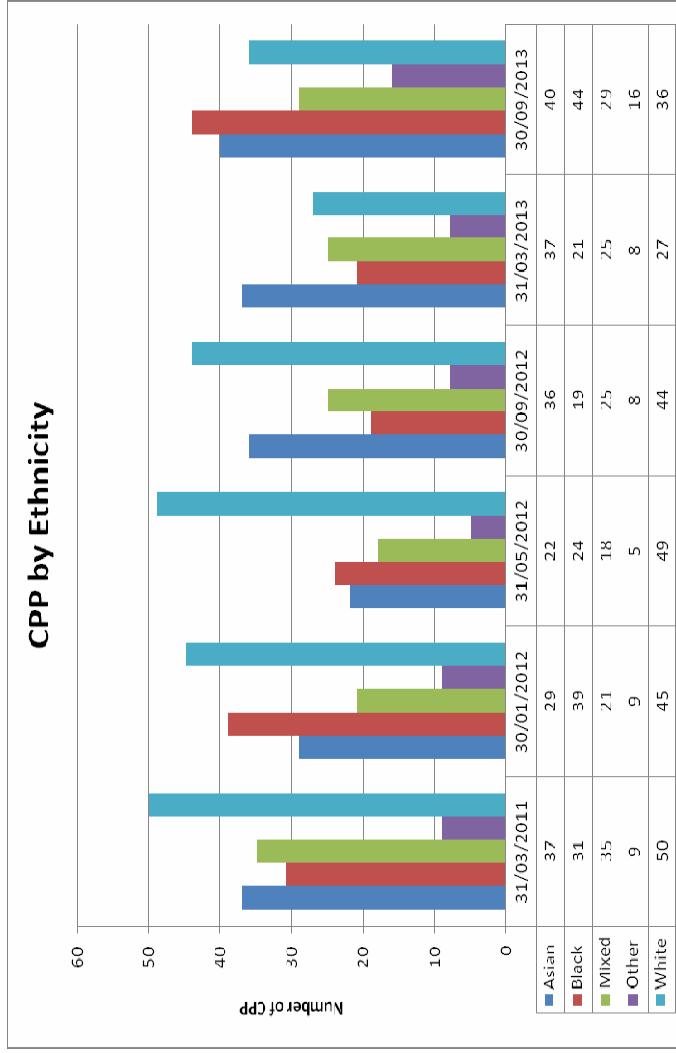


Comparator Info CPP by age group (%) 31.3.2011

We have a higher proportion of children with CP plans in the 10 – 15 years age group, similar to children looked after.

	Under 1	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-15 years	16 & over
England	13.4	30.5	28.5	25.2	2.2
London	13.2	29.4	29.3	26.4	1.9
Harrow	13.2	24.8	27.9	33.3	0.8
Harrow Q2	11.4	20.5	13.1	35.2	2.3

D2 - CPP by Ethnicity



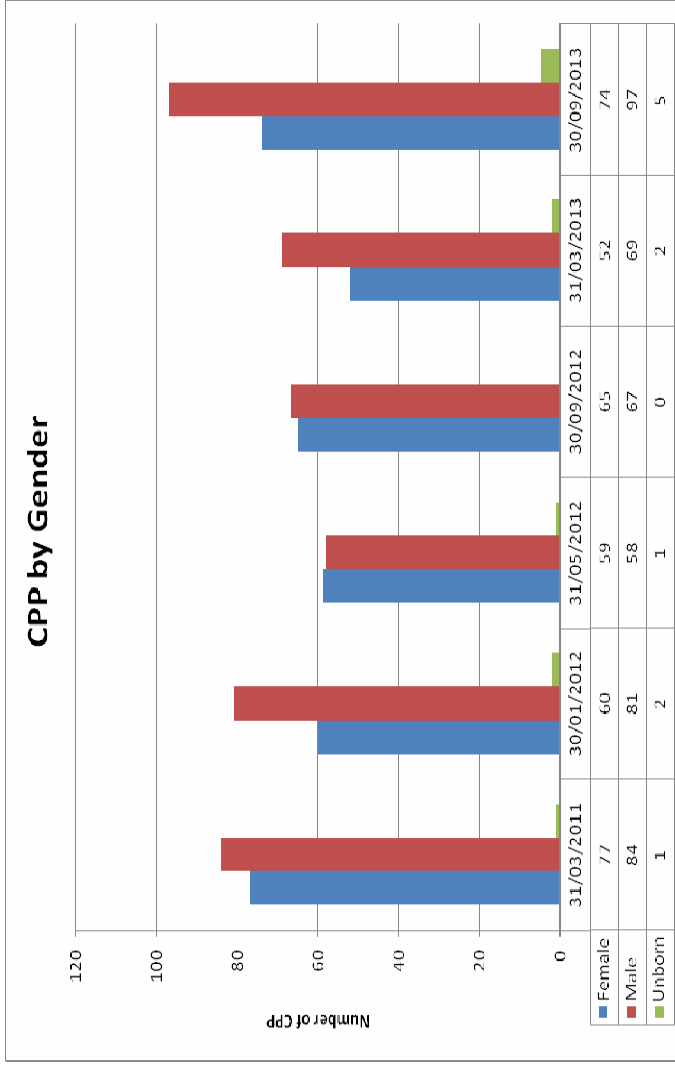
Comparator Information Ethnicity of Children subject to Child Protection Plans at 31st March 2012 (%)

Source: Cin Census

	White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Other Ethnic Groups	Refused / Unknown
London	45.1	15.3	12.2	21.6	2.8	3
England	75.9	7.9	5.4	4.9	1.2	4.6
Harrow	34.1	14	25.6	24	2.3	0
Harrow Q2	20	16	23	25	9	6

At Q2 there was an increase for all groups but a bigger increase for Black children having a CP Plan. Proportions of children with plans with Black and Mixed ethnicity are higher than would be expected compared with the general population - this trend is also seen across London.

D3 - CPP by gender



The gender of Harrow children with Child Protection plans is similar to London & England averages.

There is a slight increase in the number of unborn children with CP plans at the end of Sept.

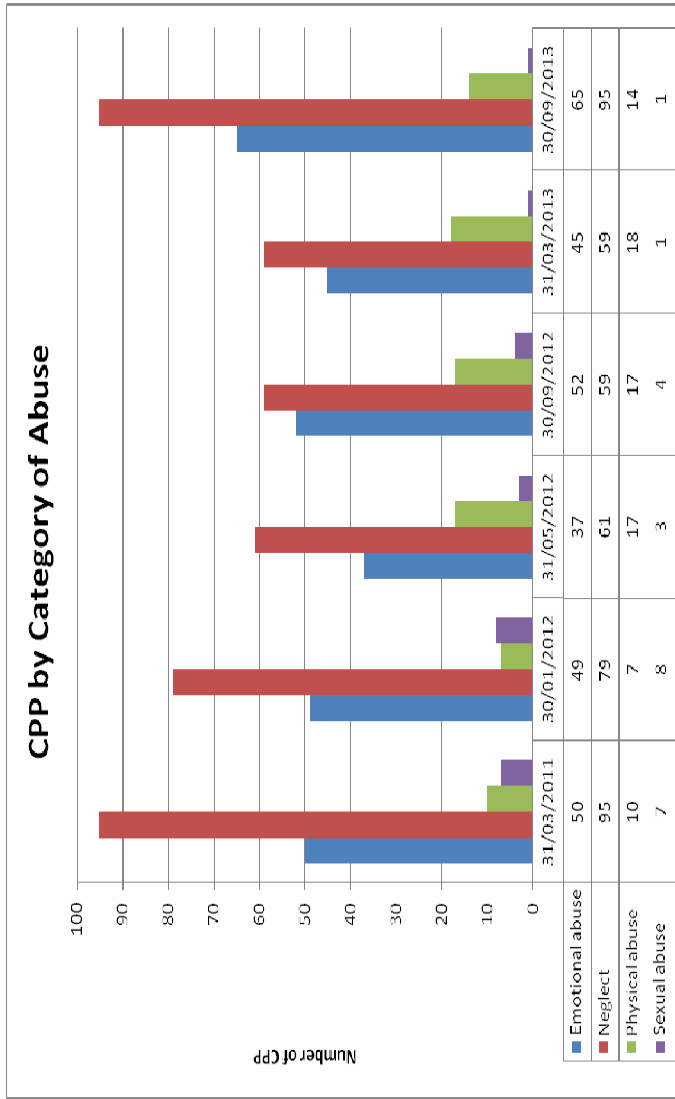
Comparator information for age groups & gender of children with Child Protection plans at 31st March 2012(%)

Source: CiN Census

	Male	Female	Unborn/Unknown
England	50	48	2
London	49.1	48.4	2.5
Harrow	51.2	47.3	1.5
Harrow Q2	55.1	42	2.8

D4 - CPP by Category of Abuse

Harrow had a high number of children requiring a plan under the category of neglect. Harrow tends to record primary types of abuse as one of the four categories rather than recording 'multiple' e.g. emotional abuse may be present in all types of abuse.



Recent increases in plans have mostly in the categories of neglect and emotional abuse. This follows a decline in numbers of plans due to neglect between 2011 and early 2013, corresponding with an overall reduction as a long term plans were ended.

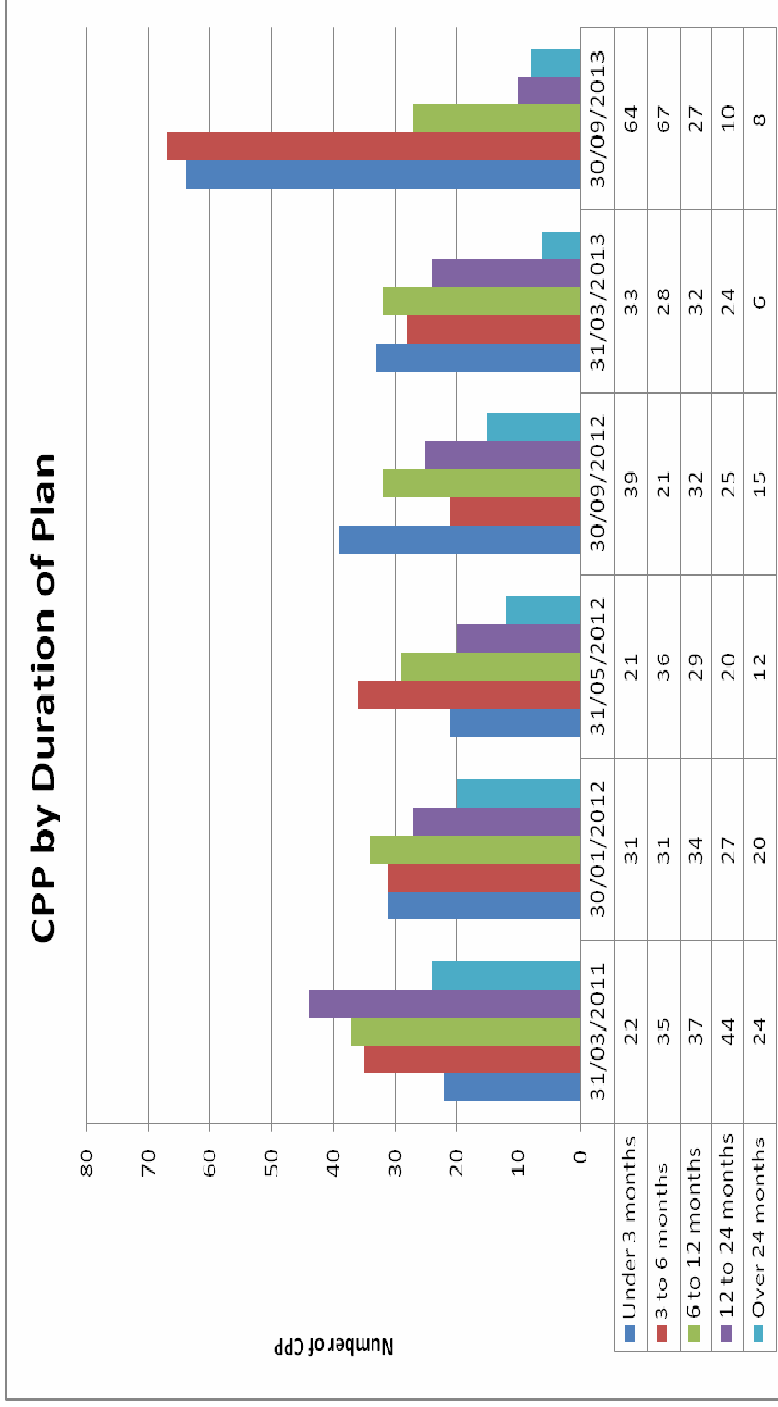
At 30th Sept. 2013, 54% of children had a plan due to concerns about neglect compared to 60% at 31st March 2011. The proportion due to emotional abuse had risen to 37%, compared with 30% in 2011.

Comparator Info - Category of CPP at 31st March 2012 (%)

	Neglect	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Emotional Abuse	Multiple
England	42.9	10.1	5	30.9	10.9
London	41.9	8.7	2.6	33.9	11.9
Harrow	55.8	15.5	5.4	23.3	0
Harrow Q2	53.8	7.9	0.6	36.9	0

Source: CiN Census

D5 - CPP by duration of plan



Comparator Info – CPP duration at 31st March 2012 (%)

Source: CIN Census

	3 months or less	3 - 6 months	6 - 12 Months	1 - 2 years	2 years and over
England	28.6	23.4	27.3	17.2	3.6
London	28.9	20.9	26.3	18.3	5.6
Harrow	33	9.3	29.5	19.4	9.3
Harrow Q2	36.4	38.1	15.3	5.7	4.5

Co-ordinated work has taken place to progress and end plans in a timely manner, meaning that the numbers of plans lasting over 12 months have reduced.

The number of plans under 6 months has increased sharply due to the increase in numbers of Child Protection plans in recent months.

REPORT FOR: Corporate Parenting Panel

Date of Meeting: 21st October 2013

Subject: Housing for Care Leavers - Update Report.

Responsible Officer: Catherine Doran
Corporate Director of Children and Families

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Janet Mote, Portfolio for Children and Schools

Exempt: No

Enclosures: No

1.0 Summary and Recommendations

- This report seeks to update the Corporate Parenting Panel of the housing assistance available for careleavers.

2.0 Introduction

Every year in March the planned distribution of permanent housing (i.e. quotas) for the following financial year is agreed with the Portfolio Holder for Housing.

2.1

These quotas are set following consideration of historic lettings data, future supply and demand data and assumptions. Care leavers are supported and prioritised under band B. For the leaving care quota, the number of care leavers anticipated to be ready for independent living, and therefore ready to leave care in the following financial year is also considered. The Allocations Scheme changes on 22nd October 2013 but Care Leavers continue to have high priority through the quota.

2.2

In the year 2013/14 the quota has been set at 20, as reported to Corporate Parenting Panel in April.

3.0 Issues

3.1

In 2012-13, in spite of the expectation that the number of care leavers would exceed the quota this did not happen. Indications are that although predictions of young people needing accommodation, would exceed the quota of 20 in 13-14, so far that hasn't happened. 20 care leavers have been nominated for the quota places, and so currently the quota is sufficient. Alternative housing solutions are not needed at present..

4. Proposed Recommendations

4.1

The planned review by the Care Leaver and Housing sub group should take place in October 2013 to see if sufficient accommodation is available or decide alternate housing is required to ensure all young people are housed in this financial year.

4.2

If the quota is not sufficient we can bring forward our proposals to offer accommodation in shared housing. This would either be managed by the council or a Housing Association, leased from a private landlord. We have agreed with the Housing Benefit Service the rent levels that could be charged (and covered by HB). We could divert a Private Sector Leased property to shared housing and manage it by our PSL team. Alternatively Genesis Housing are prepared to lease a property and manage it. We consider small shared housing units for 3 care leavers to be the most suitable option, but we can agree the exact configuration if shared housing is needed. We would also need to put in place a Service Level Agreement to deal with void periods, rent arrears. and support for the residents. The Care Leaver and Housing Sub Group can finalise this. This option could be achieved within a few months of deciding it is needed, subject to agreement.

4.3

An alternative proposal relates to the former Children's Home (Honeypot Lane). More work needs to be done to see if this could offer a realistic development option for shared housing for care leavers. This work is underway.

4.4

Housing Services and Children & Families Services will continue to work in partnership in this sub group and actively manage and respond to care leavers housing needs.

5. Environmental Impact

There is no specific environmental impact from the issues outlined in this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1

Where the Locata quota is utilised and any additional careleavers require accommodation, then alternate solutions will be required to provide accommodation:

- a. Renting from a private landlord will probably incur the cost of a deposit and rent in advance, plus admin costs currently equal to approximately £1,750.
- b. Renting from a housing association may require a fixed sum financial guarantee of approximately £3,000 per tenancy.

7. Risk Management Implications

All related risks are recorded in the Children's Services risk register. There is a significant reputational risk from a poor inspection of social care, where support to children looked after and young people leaving care are crucial to mitigate risks and demonstrate developing practice and procedure support to this cohort.

8. Equalities implications

CLA and care leavers are additionally vulnerable child in need. The 2009 statutory guidance "The Roles & Responsibilities of the Lead Member for Children's Services and the Director of Children's Services" highlights the need for Local Authorities to work corporately to improve the well-being of looked after children and young people leaving care, to make their needs a priority and seek the same outcomes that any reasonable caring parent would want for their own children. CLA consistently fare worse than their peers

across a range of indicators including health, education, training, employment, homelessness and offending.

9. Corporate Priorities

CLA and care leavers are additionally vulnerable by virtue of the experiences that led them into Local Authority care and in respect of the poor outcomes that many CLA and care leavers experience when compared to their peers, The Council's corporate priorities include providing care and protection to those who are most in need and this includes CLA and care leavers.

4.0 Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Jo Frost



on behalf of the
Chief Financial Officer

Date: 7th October 2013

7.0 Contact Details and Background Papers

Papers - NONE

Contact:

Ann Garratt, CLA , Children's Services

Jon Dalton, Housing Needs Service Manager, CHW

Ann.Garratt@harrow.gov.uk

Jon.dalton@harrow.gov.uk

Tel: 0208 416 8647

**REPORT FOR: CORPORATE
PARENTING PANEL**

Date of Meeting: 21 October 2013

Subject: **INFORMATION REPORT** – Care Leavers
Employment, Education & Training (EET) &
Care Leavers Suitable Accommodation

Responsible Officer: Melissa Caslake, Divisional Director of
Targeted Services

Exempt: No

Enclosures: None

Section 1 – Summary

FOR INFORMATION

This report sets out Care Leavers Employment, Education & Training (EET) &
Care Leavers Suitable Accommodation

Section 2 – Report

Looked after children service

The service is made up of 3 teams:

Children Looked After team (CLA) responsible for children up to the age of 18

Leaving Care team responsible for young people over 18 years

Unaccompanied Asylum Children team (UASC) responsible for children of all ages

The CLA team structure

One Team Manager

One Senior Practitioner

Five social workers

The responsibilities of the CLA team.

The team is responsible for children and young people who are looked after by Harrow Council who have a plan of permanency by way of long term fostering or adoption. When a young person reaches the age of 18 they are transferred to the leaving care team.

The Leaving Care and UASC team structure

One Team Manager

Two Senior Practitioners

Four social workers

4 social care assistants

1 careers advisor.

The responsibilities of the Leaving Care and UASC team.

The team is responsible for young people who are preparing for their move into independence and further education, employment or training. They support unaccompanied asylum children under section 20 of the Children Act 1989.

Young people who are in employment, education or training (EET)

Age category	EET	NEET T	EET - Split
16 years old care leavers	21	4	16- enrolled in college/BTEC/AS 1-enrolled in ESOL course 1-GCSE 2-CWD 1-case closed
17 years old care leavers	22	7	7-enroled in ESOL course 1- in Mental Health Hospital supported with in house tuition. 8- enrolled in college 2-CWD 2-part –time work 1- in school 1- X16 programme

18 years old care leavers	35	8	<p>7- enrolled in ESOL course</p> <p>21 – enrolled in college</p> <p>1- in Prison</p> <p>1- X16</p> <p>4-Adults with Disabilities Team</p>
19 years old care leavers	31	19	<p>2-Adults with Disabilities Team</p> <p>5- referred to X-16</p> <p>22- enrolled in college/apprenticeship</p> <p>2-full-time employment</p>

20 years old care leavers	19	14	<p>3-in Employment</p> <p>4- referred to X-16 programme</p> <p>7- enrolled in college/ESOL</p> <p>4- Adults with Disabilities team</p> <p>1-case closed</p>
21 years old care leavers	9	17	<p>1-returned home to parents</p> <p>1-ESOL</p> <p>5-Enrolled in college</p> <p>1-case closed</p> <p>1-Fulltime employment</p>
Total	137	69	

What do we do to support young people to maintain their EET status.

- Social workers actively engage, encourage and support young people in their chosen field of education, employment and training.
- Effective and aspirational pathway plans are implemented and reviewed on a regular basis.
- Recognizing the achievements of young people including financial reward in accordance with the Leaving Care Charter.
- All young people who are EET are entitled to travel and lunch money in addition to their weekly allowance or subsistence payments.

- Regular monitoring of attendance and early identification of any difficulties.

We have 7 young people attending University studying a range of subjects including mechanical engineering, politics, law and business studies. The young person studying law was provided with work experience through legal services in Harrow before taking up his place at Cambridge University.

A number of young people are attending college and their studies include construction, art and design, child care, hospitality, drama, sport and IT.

The young people who are in employment including the banking sector, social work, education (learning and development mentor), working for a car dealership having successfully completed an apprenticeship, and for an accident claim company.

Young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET).

There are 4 different groups within the NEET cohort

1. Those not available for learning—who will be deemed as having “reasonable excuse” for not participating eg due to pregnancy, maternity leave, illness

2. Core/sustained NEET, those with long term and complex barriers to learning

3. At risk NEET, those who are undecided, dissatisfied with current opportunities or with some barriers to learning eg low qualifications

4. Open to learning –young people with no discernible barriers to education or training.

The majority of young people who are looked after and NEET fall within categories 1-3.

Age category	EET	NEET	Reason for NEET
16 years old care leavers	21	4	1- awaiting placement change from Wales

			<p>1- secure unit</p> <p>1- awaiting apprenticeship placement</p> <p>1 – willing to enroll in ESOL course</p>
17 years old care leavers	22	7	<p>4- engaging positively and looking to start training shortly</p> <p>1-Young mum looking to re -engage with education</p> <p>1- hard to engage</p> <p>1- Involved with YOT unable to attend college due to the nature of the crime.</p>
18 years old care leavers	35	8	<p>4- Engaging positively and is looking for training or employment.</p> <p>1- in prison</p> <p>1- in secured unit</p> <p>1- baby subject to ICO</p> <p>1- recently dismissed from employment</p>

19 years old care leavers	31	19	<p>6- Engaging positively looking for employment or training.</p> <p>5- case closed</p> <p>2- Young mums wanting to re-engage with education.</p> <p>1- Missing</p> <p>1- Deported</p> <p>1- recalled to prison</p> <p>1- detained in hospital</p> <p>1-has medical issues</p> <p>1- Living in semi-independent unit in Portsmouth after placement breakdown. Hard to engage.</p>
---------------------------	----	----	---

20 years old care leavers	19	14	4- deported 3- case closed 3- Positively engaging to get into training or employment. 1- hard to engage 1- at high risk of deportation 2- in custody
21 years old care leavers	9	17	4- missing 3-deported 1-case closed 3- case likely to be closed 1-young parent 5- Hard to engage or unable to contact.
Total	137	69	

The activity to reduce the number of young people who are NEET.

- A multi agency panel has been established to individually review all young people who are NEET. The panel is chaired by the Service Manager for looked after children and membership comprises Team manager and Senior Practitioner from Leaving Care/UASC, Psychiatrist from Morning Lane, Senior Practitioner from Access to Resources, Career Adviser seconded from CFBT and

linked to the Virtual School, Ignite, Independent Reviewing Officer and the Youth Development Team.

- The purpose of the panel is to identify and minimize the blocks to engagement and participation thereby helping young people to access a range of opportunities. Following presentation at the panel each young person will have a detailed action plan with actions, timescales and responsibilities clearly identified and agreed.
- Ensuring that all young people have an up to date aspirational pathway plan. Work is currently underway with the Virtual School to strengthen pathway planning.
- Secondment from CFBT an experienced worker with a proven track record of moving young people from NEET to EET. Challenging but achievable targets have been set for the year.
- Increasing the skills of the staff to engage with young people who are NEET eg; Motivational Interviews.
- Increased frequency of visiting to young people who are NEET.
- Weekly performance management reports to track improved performance.
- Engagement of young people with the X16 programme: see attached report.
- Ensuring staff are aware of the wide range of services available and to support young people and facilitate access to such services.

Section 3 – Further Information

None

Section 4 – Financial Implications

None

Section 5 - Equalities implications

None

Name: Jo Frost



on behalf of the
Chief Financial Officer

Date: 7 October 2013

Section 7 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Melissa Caslake, Divisional Director of Targeted Services

Background Papers:

None

This page is intentionally left blank

**REPORT FOR: Corporate Parenting
Panel**

Date of Meeting:	Monday 21 st October 2013
Subject:	Corporate Parenting Display
Responsible Officer:	Catherine Doran, Corporate Director of Children and Families
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Janet Mote Portfolio Holder for Children and Schools
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	None

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report is to inform the Corporate Parenting Panel about the Corporate Parenting Display for all Councillors. The aim of the display is to promote and raise the profile of Children Looked After and Beyond Limits.

Recommendations:

No recommendations required. This report is for information purposes only.

Reason: (For recommendation)

No recommendations outlined.

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph

The Corporate Parenting Display is an opportunity to encourage Councillors towards understanding their role as a Corporate Parent. The display is also a chance for Children Looked After from Beyond Limits to raise their profile, promote Beyond Limits and an occasion to meet their Corporate Parents.

Options considered

None

Background (if needed)

The Corporate Parenting Display occurs annually before a full Council Meeting. The display has previously been well received by Councillors. The display is a chance for Councillors to acknowledge the achievements of Children Looked After and Beyond Limits – Children in Care Council. The stall displays information and accomplishments of Children Looked After in the past year. Councillors have the opportunity to meet and greet members from Beyond Limits while enjoying some light refreshments.

Current situation

This Corporate Parenting Panel Display will take place on Thursday 14th November at 6.30pm outside the Council Chamber.

Photos from the CLA Award Ceremony and Young Voices Session will be on display as well as information and leaflets on the Harrow Pledge, Leaving Care Charter, Young Voices and Beyond Limits.

At least 2 members from Beyond Limits will be available to meet the Councillors before the Full Council Meeting commences at 7.30pm.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications

Equalities implications

There are no Equality Implications.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Jo Frost



on behalf of the*
Chief Financial Officer

Date: 8 October 2013

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Zabeen Jamadar
Participation Coordinator
020 8424 1103

Background Papers:
None

This page is intentionally left blank

Corporate Parenting Panel Work Programme 2013/2014

DATE OF MEETING	Final reports to Democratic Services	Report title and purpose	Report Author
Monday 21 October 2013	Monday 7 October 2013	Education and Employment Outcomes for teenage CLA	Melissa Caslake / Nick Crick
		Update Report on Housing for Careleavers	Jon Dalton / Nick Crick
		Examination Results	Catherine Halsall
		Information Report – Activity and Performance	David Harrington
		Report on careleavers and the Action Plan at the meeting of the Panel on 21 October 2013	Melissa Caslake
		Report on Corporate Parenting Display	Zabeen Jamadar
Tuesday 17 December 2013	Thursday 5 December 2013	Information Report – Activity and Performance	David Harrington
Monday 28 April 2014	Monday 14 April 2014	Information Report – Activity and Performance	David Harrington

This page is intentionally left blank