

# Corporate Parenting Panel

## AGENDA

**DATE:** Tuesday 11 June 2019

**TIME:** 7.00 pm

**VENUE:** Committee Room 5, Harrow Civic Centre, Station Road, Harrow, HA1 2XY

### **MEMBERSHIP** (Quorum 3)

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**Chair:** Councillor Angella Murphy-Strachan

**Councillors:**

Sue Anderson  
Christine Robson  
Chloe Smith

Janet Mote (VC)  
Lynda Seymour

**Non-Voting Advisory Member:**

Valerie Griffin

**Reserve Members:**

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1. Simon Brown
2. Dean Gilligan
3. Rekha Shah
4. Maxine Henson

1. Dr Lesline Lewinson
2. Chetna Halai

**Contact:** Navshika Beeharry, Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer  
Tel: 020 8416 8063 E-mail: [navshika.beeharry@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:navshika.beeharry@harrow.gov.uk)

## **Useful Information**

### **Meeting details:**

This meeting is open to the press and public.

Directions to the Civic Centre can be found at:  
<http://www.harrow.gov.uk/site/scripts/location.php>.

### **Filming / recording of meetings**

The Council will audio record Public and Councillor Questions. The audio recording will be placed on the Council's website.

Please note that proceedings at this meeting may be photographed, recorded or filmed. If you choose to attend, you will be deemed to have consented to being photographed, recorded and/or filmed.

When present in the meeting room, silent mode should be enabled for all mobile devices.

### **Meeting access / special requirements.**

The Civic Centre is accessible to people with special needs. There are accessible toilets and lifts to meeting rooms. If you have special requirements, please contact the officer listed on the front page of this agenda.

An induction loop system for people with hearing difficulties is available. Please ask at the Security Desk on the Middlesex Floor.

**Agenda publication date: Monday 3 June 2019**

# **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. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR**

To consider the appointment of a Vice-Chair to the Corporate Parenting Panel for the Municipal Year 2019/2020.

## **3. 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.

## **4. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 12)**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2019 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

## **5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS \***

To receive any public questions received in accordance with paragraph 16 of the Executive Procedure Rules.

Questions will be asked in the order in which they were received. There will be a time limit of 15 minutes for the asking and answering of public questions.

**[The deadline for receipt of public questions is 3.00 pm, 6 June 2019. Questions should be sent to [publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk)**

**No person may submit more than one question].**

## **6. PETITIONS**

To receive petitions (if any) submitted by members of the public/Councillors under the provisions of Executive Procedure Rule 47 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

## **7. DEPUTATIONS**

To receive deputations (if any) under the provisions of Executive Procedure Rule 48 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

## **8. CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER (CLA) ACTIVITY TO END OF MARCH 2019 (Pages 13 - 38)**

Report of the Corporate Director of People.

## **9. HARROW CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER (CLA) HEALTH REPORT (Pages 39 - 44)**

Report of the Associate Director of Children, Central and North West London.

## **10. UPDATE ON REGIONAL ADOPTION AGENCY (VERBAL REPORT)**

Verbal report of the Corporate Director of People.

## **11. OFSTED ANNUAL ENGAGEMENT VISIT (Pages 45 - 56)**

Report of the Corporate Director of People.

## **12. SEND INSPECTION (VERBAL REPORT)**

Verbal report of the Corporate Director of People.

## **13. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

Which cannot otherwise be dealt with.

## **AGENDA - PART II - Nil**

### **\* DATA PROTECTION ACT NOTICE**

The Council will audio record item 4 (Public Questions) and will place the audio recording on the Council's website, which will be accessible to all.

[**Note:** The questions and answers will not be reproduced in the minutes.]

# CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

## MINUTES

### 3 APRIL 2019

<b>Chair:</b>	* Councillor Angella Murphy-Strachan	
<b>Councillors:</b>	* Sue Anderson	* Christine Robson
	* Simon Brown (2)	* Lynda Seymour
	* Janet Mote	
<b>Non-Voting Advisory Member:</b>	* Valerie Griffin	Foster Carer
<b>In attendance: (Officers)</b>	Jon Dalton	Head of Housing Needs
	David Harrington	Head of Business Intelligence, Resources
	Emma Hedley	Named Nurse for Children Looked After, Harrow
	Paul Hewitt	Corporate Director, People
	Zoe Sargent	Associate Director of Children, CNWL
	Peter Tolley	Interim Divisional Director, Children and Young People
	Laurie Ward	Specialist Nurse for Children Looked After, Harrow

\* Denotes Member present  
 (2) Denotes category of Reserve Member

#### 30. Attendance by Reserve Members

**RESOLVED:** To note the attendance at this meeting of the following duly appointed Reserve Members:-

Ordinary Member

Reserve Member

Councillor Maxine Henson

Councillor Simon Brown

**31. Declarations of Interest**

**RESOLVED:** To note that the following interests were declared:

Agenda Item 7 – Harrow Children Looked After (CLA) Health Report

Councillor Sue Anderson declared an interest in that a member of her family identified as being non-binary. She would remain in the room whilst the matter was considered and voted upon.

Agenda Item 8 – Harrow Fostering Recruitment Plan 2019-2022

Councillor Angella Murphy-Strachan declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a member of the Harrow African Caribbean Association (HACAS). She would remain in the room whilst the matter was considered and voted upon.

**32. Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2019 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

**33. Public Questions, Petitions and Deputations**

**RESOLVED:** To note that there were none.

**RESOLVED ITEMS**

**34. Information Report - Harrow Children Looked After (CLA) Health report**

The Panel received a report of the Associate Director of Children's Services and the Named Nurse Children Looked After (CLA) Harrow, which set out the delivery of health services to Harrow's CLA from January to February 2019 in line with national guidance.

The Named Nurse reported as follows:

- there continued to be improvements in initial and review health assessments completed within timescales that quarter, with figures rising to 83% in February, compared to 80% in January 2019. This was considered positive news which reflected the successes made through partnership working with social services;
- targets in relation to contractual conditions had reached 100% for both initial health assessments (IHA) and review health assessments (RHA), which emphasised the effort that social workers had been through to complete referrals on time, including for those CLA who had been based up to 20 miles away;

- over the past couple of months, the following work had been undertaken: regular quarterly meetings with Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Independent Reviewing Officers Meetings and a permanency process was agreed in partnership with Coram – a children’s charity working with Harrow Council to help improve the borough’s service to children needing adoption;
- further training had been delivered to the First Response Team (FRT) and signposting for specialist training for Foster Carers was now in place;
- she had been asked for the health assessment paperwork by Wembley CLA to help improve best practice and was invited to contribute to the NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) draft scope consultation on CLA and young people;
- the Annual Client Satisfaction Survey results had been completed after an extended deadline, with over half of CLA respondents providing feedback on their health assessment experience between July and December 2018. The number of CLA who had rated their experience as ‘great’ or ‘good’ was 91% and 9% had rated it ‘ok’. She was pleased to note that there were no negative responses. All the children (100%) felt they were treated with respect during their health assessment which was an increase from before considering that numbers using the service had increased.

Members were pleased with the outcomes and congratulated the Associated Director and the Named Nurse for their achievements.

Following questions and comments from Members, an officer advised that:

- the success rate of the Annual Client Satisfaction Survey was due to the fact that children had been involved in the input of the design of the form which had made it user-friendly. A copy of the form was circulated to the Panel for their information.
- practitioners were responsible for verifying details of the respondents but all responses were ‘anonymous’. Members were of the view that the form should provide additional choices under the ‘gender’ section in order to give consideration to the number of children who were increasingly undergoing transition and identified themselves as non-binary. An officer advised that work had been done on this by the Young Harrow Foundation but no consensus had been reached on how best to identify those who were undergoing transition. It was suggested that Harrow CLA and other services should continue to make best efforts to consult with their users on this aspect to ensure all work was inclusive.

The Specialist Nurse relayed a case study about an unaccompanied asylum seeking child who had been diagnosed with Hepatitis B and the challenges surrounding this case as the child lived in a hostel with 30 other people of

various nationalities. She explained how collaboration by various health bodies had helped to resolve various issues to ensure safe outcomes for all those living in the hostel. The young people concerned were now awaiting their boosters since their initial vaccinations and three had been referred to Adult Services.

Members thanked all for their work and endorsed the ongoing value of joint working in public health.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

**Reason for Decision:** To ensure that Members, in their roles as Corporate Parents, were availed of the performance indicators and the clinical work undertaken.

### **35. Information Report - Harrow Fostering Recruitment Plan 2019 - 2022**

The Panel received the report of the Corporate Director of People which set out the Harrow Fostering Recruitment Plan 2019 – 2022 to help attract foster carers.

It was noted that the report highlighted challenges in recruitment of foster carers, namely the difficulty of carers balancing their ‘other’ commitments with foster caring, the changing demographic of the borough resulting in a higher demand for carers of specific nationalities, such as Romanian and Polish, and because some children had complex needs thereby making them difficult to place.

The Divisional Director of Children and Young People (Interim) reported that work was being done by the Communications Team to source carers through a range of methods which would include internet marketing, placing of electronic advertisement board(s) at key sites in the borough, dissemination of professional information packs and community liaison initiatives/friend schemes to target specific demographics. It was appreciated that the latter methods would take time due to the need to build links within the community prior to getting desired results.

The Advisory Member referred to the recruitment events she had attended and reported how prospective foster carers had felt assured and comforted to hear from experienced carers.

The Divisional Director of Children and Young People (Interim) thanked Panel members for their support in attending events and emphasised the point that recruitment and retention were interlinked and continued to be tracked through ongoing monitoring and evaluation. An enhanced payment scheme was also on offer to help retain existing foster carers.

The Corporate Director of People highlighted that 74% of children in foster care were placed in-house, a figure that was comparatively higher than the average in West London and across London.



A Member informed the Panel that the recruitment drive would also include visits to two temples within the borough to help increase the numbers of carers from other faith groups.

The Chair stated that she would suggest additional Afro-Caribbean community groups once she had discussed the current list with officers outside of this meeting.

A Member was pleased with the work being done to represent the Romanian community in Harrow given that it was a growing language of the borough. Members noted that it was also intended to recruit social workers from that community.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

**Reason for Decision:** To be availed of the progress made in recruiting foster carers.

### **36. Information Report - Higher Education amongst Care Leavers**

The Panel received the report of the Corporate Director of People, which set out the current position in respect of care leavers in higher education.

The Divisional Director of Children and Young People (Interim) introduced the report and informed the panel that 16.4% of care leavers in Harrow attended university which was an improvement from the 12% in 2017 and significantly higher than the national average. This was considered to be a key achievement for all those involved given the difficult start in life that many care leavers experienced.

The key activities to support higher education were summarised, with particular mention given to the Leaving Care and UASC (Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children) Team who had actively encouraged young people between the ages of 18-21 to engage in higher education, training or work via the Leaving Care local offer on the Harrow council website.

The Divisional Director provided a summary of two case studies which highlighted a snapshot of how education increased life chances of young people.

A Member queried what options were available for those not aspiring to university education and opting to enter the apprenticeship route. The Divisional Director of Children and Young People (Interim) explained that each leaver had access to Prospects (careers advisory service) and a tailored Pathway Plan to identify their needs. He undertook to provide further information at a future meeting.

Another member enquired if care leavers who had gone to university could return back to their foster home after higher education as this would have an impact for other children being fostered in their absence. The Divisional Director for Young People (Interim) explained that a return would depend on a

range of factors which included the length of time they were away from home, strength of their relationship with the carer and vulnerability. Forward planning was a key factor.

A Member enquired about the mental health support for young people who are no longer eligible for CLA support and typically have to meet a higher threshold for adult services, as their conditions become apparent when the level of support is reduced as they become older. The Divisional Director for Young People (Interim) clarified that the CLA Team worked with those up to 25 years of age and identified specialist health needs to develop transition to additional support, where required, rather than waiting for crisis situations to occur. Improvements in this service were continually underway but reported to be better at flagging incidents.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

**Reason for Decision:** To ensure that, as Corporate Parents, young people were engaged in education, employment and training.

### **37. Housing for Care Leavers - Update**

The Panel received the joint report of the Corporate Directors of Community and People which set out the housing assistance available to care leavers.

An officer introduced the report and responded that the housing quota of 19 lettings in 2018 had been increased to 22 lettings for 2019-20 so that the Council could continue to provide social housing for young people leaving care. Provisions were also in place to offer shared accommodation if this quota turned out to be insufficient.

A member thanked officers for their work in this area as previous concerns had been expressed about how sharing arrangements would work. In response, the Divisional Director of Children and Young People (Interim) stated that the report epitomised the importance of corporate parenting across the council and thanked colleagues in the housing service for their support.

**RESOLVED:** That the increase in the quota be welcomed.

**Reason for Decision:** To ensure that young people leaving care had settled accommodation.

### **38. Information Report - Children Looked After (CLA) Performance Benchmarking Data**

The Panel received the report of the Corporate Director of People which set out benchmarking data with statistical neighbours and London and England averages for CLA and care leavers.

An officer introduced the report and informed members that data for Quarter 4 was not yet available but it was important that the Panel considered the latest information. The data for 'overall absence of CLA', 'CLA - % classed as persistent absentees' and '% of CLA pupils with at least one fixed exclusion'

were highlighted to be challenging where improvements were required to meet targets.

Educational achievement showed signs of improvement which was encouraging. Similarly, '% of CLA missing' was decreasing and the Council performed well in training but emphasised that it continued to set high targets for future improvement.

CLA offending rates were down which demonstrated effective work between the youth offending team and social care team. Meanwhile, there had been small increases in alcohol misuse which were being looked at, as well as '% of CLA who were away from placement without authorisation'.

The officer advised that the statistics for immunisation were not recorded in his report but that the Council compared favourably with its neighbouring authorities.

The Chair queried attainment for CLA Key Stage 4 and asked what strategies had been put in place for the Virtual School to address this. The Divisional Director Children and Young People (Interim) confirmed that the strategies in place were as before and that staff capacity had also increased to address emotional needs. Personal Education Plans (PEPs) were also in place and partnership working between the Virtual School and school in the borough was good.

Another member was pleased to learn that PEPs and care plans, including cooperation from schools both within and outside the borough, were in place.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

**Reason for Decision:** To be availed of performance as Corporate Parents.

### **39. Update on Regional Adoption Agency**

The Corporate Director of People reported that there was a national requirement for local authorities to become Regional Adoption Agencies (RAAs) operating across boundaries to ensure maximum choice for children with voluntary adoption agencies at their heart.

The Corporate Director added that Harrow Council had embraced this requirement and would act as the lead commissioner with Coram as its strategic partner to help deliver an agency with six other local authorities. Initially, Harrow Council, Redbridge Council and City of London would work together followed by a phased entry involving Bromley, Waltham Forest, Hillingdon and Slough Councils. The agency would 'go live' at the end of April 2019.

A Head of Service had been recruited to lead on this initiative and would be in post in July 2019 and a recruitment exercise for assessors was underway.

The Corporate Director thanked Members for attending various engagement events across the local authorities.

A Member commended the work that had been done and the opportunities the agency would provide to improve pathways for adoption. It had been valuable to meet with the adoptees that had accessed the service.

Another Member stated that this work was important and highlighted the value of multi-agency working. She was concerned that the Government no longer updated the Adopted Children's Register which Coram had to update for the purposes of this exercise.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

**Reason for Decision:** To welcome and be availed of this initiative.

#### **40. Meetings of the Corporate Parenting Panel - Municipal Year 2019/20**

The Chair reminded all present to record the dates of the meetings of the Panel in their diaries and sought Members' agreement to vary the start time of the October 2019 in order to allow the young people, who would be invited to participate in the meeting, to leave the meeting at a reasonable time.

**RESOLVED:** That meetings of the Panel scheduled to be held on 11 June 2019, 14 January 2020 and 30 March 2020 commence at 7.00 pm and that the meeting on 2 October 2019 commence at 6.00 pm.

#### **41. Urgent Business**

##### Ofsted Visit

The Corporate Director of People informed the Panel that colleagues from Ofsted would be visiting the Council on 4 April 2019 and that he would be sharing the self-assessments undertaken with them. The Corporate Director explained that the key priority of the exercise was to improve outcomes for those in education. He undertook to provide a report to the next meeting of the Panel.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 7.03 pm, closed at 8.20 pm).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR ANGELLA MURPHY-STRACHAN  
Chair



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**REPORT FOR: Corporate Parenting  
Panel**

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	11 June 2019
<b>Subject:</b>	Children Looked After (CLA) Activity to end of March 2019
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Paul Hewitt, Corporate Director of People
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Christine Robson, Portfolio Holder for Young People and Schools
<b>Exempt:</b>	No
<b>Decision subject to Call-in:</b>	No
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All
<b>Enclosures:</b>	Children Looked After - Activity to end of March 2019

## Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This information report sets out activity for children looked after and care leavers as well as provisional performance position at Q4 2018-19. National and comparator data is also included where appropriate for context.

**Recommendations:** That the report be noted.

**Reason for recommendation:** To keep the Panel informed of performance in their role as Corporate Parents.

## Section 2 – Report

See the attachment which shows provisional outturn position at the end of March and an update of activity for children looked after (CLA) at the end of March where available.

### Key Points:

- Overall CLA numbers continue to remain low with our rate of CLA per 10,000 staying below statistical neighbour and England averages.
- Overall CLA session absence and persistent absence remain high and above comparator data. Recently published data shows a reduction in missed school sessions however our absence rate remains higher than SN and England average. Our Persistent absence rate has increased from 17% to 22% and is much higher than SN and England rate.
- Personal Education Plans have continued to improve with 97.7% of school age CLA having a PEP in the last term
- 33.3% of CLA looked after over a year reached the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths which is above the England score but below the 2017 statistical neighbour average.
- Key Stage 4 average attainment 8 scores have improved but progress 8 remains similar and both are below SN and national averages . 20% of CLA looked after over a year achieved a 9-4 in English and Maths which is above the England score but below the 2017 statistical neighbour average.
- Provisional data for CLA looked after over a year shows annual dental checks to below comparator data; health assessments are slightly below comparator data.
- Immunisations for CLA looked after over a year has increased by 15% bringing us in line with our position at the end of the previous year.
- Of those CLA at 31<sup>st</sup> March, 51.5% had become looked after due to an initial need category of abuse of neglect, followed by 22.5% due to absent parenting - mainly unaccompanied asylum seekers.

- There's been one more adoption in the last quarter bringing the annual total to 5
- 100% of current CLA at the end of March had their reviews in time
- The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation has increased from the previous quarter and remains significantly above the statistical neighbour average. Care leavers who are NEET have decreased from the previous reports and is below the statistical neighbour average.
- The placement stability of our CLA with respect to number of placements has increased to 7.1% keeping us below comparator data. The percentage of CLA looked after for 2.5 years who have been in the same placement for 2 years has decreased to 63.2% putting us below the statistical neighbour average

### **Options considered**

Not applicable as this is an information report.

### **Ward Councillors' comments**

Not applicable as it affects all wards.

### **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

### **Legal Implications**

Not applicable as this is an information report.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Not applicable as this is an information report.

### **Council Priorities**

#### **Supporting Those Most in Need**

- Children and young people are given the opportunities to have the best start in life and families can thrive

### Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Jo Frost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 28/05/2019		

Name: Paul Hewitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Director
Date: 25/05/2019		

<b>Ward Councillors notified:</b>	<b>NO, as it impacts on all wards</b>
<b>EqIA carried out:</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>EqIA cleared by:</b>	<b>N/A – information report only</b>

### Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

**Contact:** Dipika Patel, Partner- Business Intelligence Unit, Tel: 020 8420 9258, Email: [dipika.patel@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:dipika.patel@harrow.gov.uk).

David Harrington, Head of Business Intelligence, Tel: 0208 420 9248, Email: [David.harrington@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:David.harrington@harrow.gov.uk).

#### Background Papers:

- Source: Local data taken from Mosaic System
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-looked-after-in-england-including-adoption-2017-to-2018>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-looked-after-in-england-including-adoption-2016-to-2017>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-looked-after-in-england-including-adoption-2015-to-2016>





# **Corporate Parenting Report**

**11<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

**Children Looked After**

**Activity to end of March 2019**

**Key Indicators to end of March 2019 (provisional outturns)**

# CONTENTS

<b>PART A:</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE INFORMATION</b>	<b>3-4</b>
	<a href="#"><u>KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS with targets and Comparators</u></a>	3-4
<b>Part B:</b>	<b>CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER (CLA) DETAIL</b>	<b>5-21</b>
B1)	<a href="#"><u>NUMBERS OF CLA OVER TIME</u></a>	5
B2)	<a href="#"><u>AGE GROUPS</u></a>	6
B3)	<a href="#"><u>GENDER</u></a>	7
B4)	<a href="#"><u>ETHNICITY</u></a>	8
B5)	<a href="#"><u>PLACEMENT TYPE</u></a>	9
B6)	<a href="#"><u>SCHOOL AGE CLA</u></a>	10
B7)	<a href="#"><u>CLA EDUCATION</u></a>	11
B8)	<a href="#"><u>CLA HEALTH</u></a>	12
B9)	<a href="#"><u>CLA STARTING &amp; ENDING, DUAL REGISTERED CPP AND UASC</u></a>	13
B10)	<a href="#"><u>REASONS FOR ENTERING AND LEAVING CARE</u></a>	14
B11)	<a href="#"><u>ADOPTIONS AND SGOs</u></a>	15
B12)	<a href="#"><u>CLA REVIEWS</u></a>	16
B13)	<a href="#"><u>CARE LEAVERS</u></a>	17
B14)	<a href="#"><u>CLA WHO GO MISSING</u></a>	18
B15)	<a href="#"><u>CLA PLACEMENT STABILITY</u></a>	19
B16)	<a href="#"><u>CLA PLACEMENTS OVER 20 MILES</u></a>	20
B17)	<a href="#"><u>CLA OFFENDING</u></a>	21

# Part A –Performance Indicators for Children Looked After

Ref No	Indicator Description	Statistical Neighbour Average 2016/17	England average 2016/17	Harrow 2016-17	Harrow target 2016/17	Harrow actual Q4 2017-18	Harrow actual Q1 2018-19	Harrow actual Q2 2018-19	Harrow actual Q3 2018-19	Harrow actual Q4 2018-20
1	Rate of CLA per 10,000 children aged under 18	39.0	62.0	36.0		27.2	27.8	29.9	28.5	29.2
2	Timeliness of Reviews of Looked After Children	Not Published	Not Published	97.0	95%	98.7	98.7	98.8	Unavailable	100.0
3	% of CLA with 3 or more placements	11.6	10	17.0	Q1 - 2.5% Q2 - 5% Q3 - 7.5% Q4 - 10%	13.5	0.6	0.6	7.9	7.1
4	% of CLA looked after for 2.5+ years and in the same placement for 2 years	66.0	70.0	57.1	65%	80.6	75.0	73.5	57.9	63.2
5	% of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation (19 - 21 year olds)	81.0	84.0	88.0	90%	87.1	62.9	92.0	90.5	95.5
6	% of Care Leavers not in education, employment or training (18 - 21 year olds)	32.8	39.0	30.0	30%	26.6	45.7	31.0	35.8	31.5
7	% of CLA who are looked after 1 yr + with up to date Dental Checks (rolling year)	90.0	84.0	93.0	90%	91.0	82.8	82.8	88.2	77.6
8	% of CLA who are looked after 1 yr + with up to date Health Checks (rolling year)	93.9	90.0	93.0	95%	97.0	73.1	84.9	90.3	90.6
9	% of children who ceased to be looked after who were adopted	6.8	14.0	4.0	Q1 - 2.5% Q2 - 5% Q3 - 7.5% Q4 - 10%	6.6	2.7	3.0	4.3	4.3
10	% of CLA placed more than 20 miles away from home (snapshot)	20.9	14.0	19.0	20%	21.7	22.7	21.3	21.5	22.1
11	% of all CLA (current and ceased) with at least 1 missing episode in year	14.0	10.0	14.0	Q1 - 3% Q2 - 6% Q3 - 9% Q4 - 12%	13.2	4.6	8.0	11.7	12.5
12	Percentage of all CLA (current and ceased) with at least one instance of being away from placement without authorisation	8.5	5.0	10.0	Q1 - 2.5% Q2 - 5% Q3 - 7.5% Q4 - 10%	11.9	4.6	7.6	8.6	10.0

## Part A – Education Performance Indicators for children looked after

Educational Attainment at Key Stages	Harrow 2015-16	Harrow 2016-17	Harrow 2017-18	England average	SN Average	Harrow 2018-19 Q1	Harrow 2018-19 Q2	Harrow 2018-19 Q3	Harrow 2018-19 Q4
Percentage of children looked After reaching the expected standard least level 4 at KS2 in Reading, Writing and Maths (Source DfE)	100*	40.0	33	35.0	41 (outer London average)	Annual indicator			
Percentage of children Looked After (1+ years) achieving 9-4 pass in English and mathematics.	New GCSE's from 2016-17	8.0	20	17.8	25.0				
Average Attainment 8 (1) Score for children Looked After (1+ years) at KS4	15.0	12.6	16.1	18.9	18.8				
Average Progress 8 (2) Score for children Looked After (1+ years) at KS4		-1.9	-1.9	-1.2	-1.1				
Absence Indicator									
Percentage of sessions missed. (CLA 1 year+)	5.3	6.9	5.9	4.5	4.3	12.4	14.4	10.6	10.7
Percentage classed as persistent absentees (CLA 1 year+)	X	17.0	21.7	10.6	13.2	31.8	29.6	22.2	20.4
Exclusions from school									
Percentage of CLA with at least one fixed term exclusion	15.6	X	12.2	11.8	12.4	21.2	0.0	4.9	12.5
Special educational needs									
Percentage of CLA with SEN but without a statement/EHCP	28.6	23.9	31.8	29	25.2	Routine monitoring under development			
Percentage of CLA with SEN but with a statement/EHCP	30.4	28.2	25.8	26.5	33.3				

X - Figures suppressed in order to protect confidentially due to small number

\* - Only one child in the cohort.

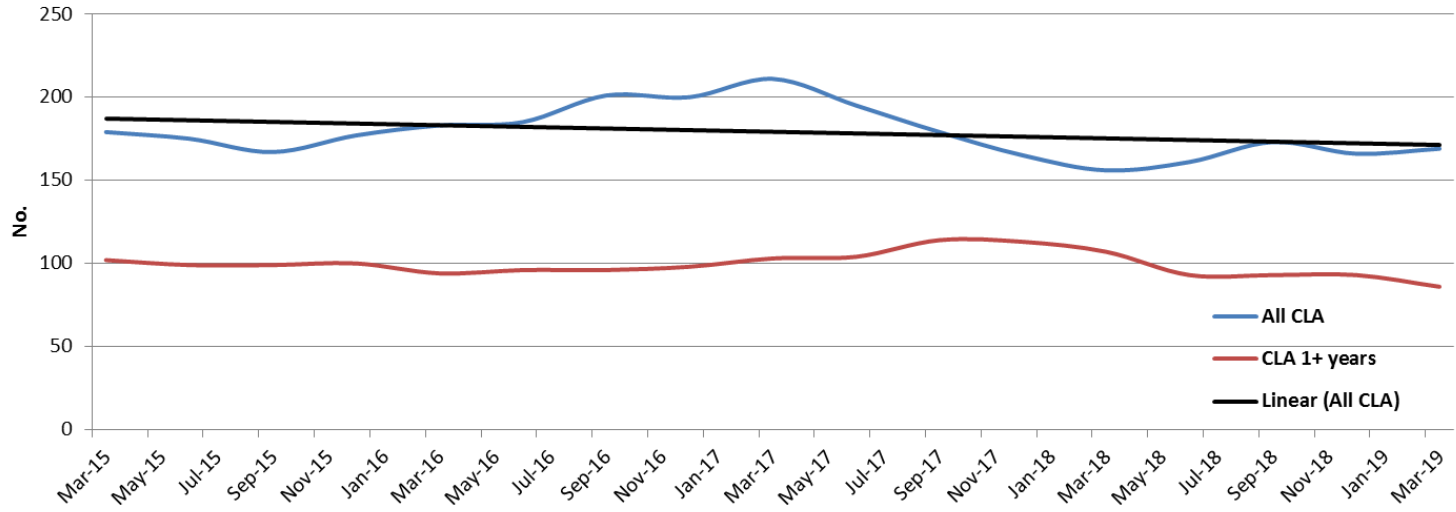
**Note\_ DfE published data for absence and exclusions will be lower as it only includes children looked after at 31st March whose data has been matched with the National Pupil Database, our in year monitoring includes all children so numbers will be higher.**

**(1) Attainment 8** - Attainment 8 measures the average achievement of pupils in up to 8 qualifications including English (double weighted if the combined English qualification, or both language and literature are taken), maths (double weighted), three further qualifications that count in the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) and three further qualifications that can be GCSE qualifications (including EBacc subjects) or any other non-GCSE qualifications on the DfE approved list.

**(2) Progress 8** - Progress 8 aims to capture the progress a pupil makes from the end of key stage 2 to the end of key stage 4. It compares pupils' achievement – their Attainment 8 score – with the average Attainment 8 score of all pupils nationally who had a similar starting point (or 'prior attainment'), calculated using assessment results from the end of primary school. Progress 8 is a relative measure, therefore the national average Progress 8 score for mainstream schools is zero. When including pupils at special schools the national average is not zero as Progress 8 scores for special schools are calculated using Attainment 8 estimates based on pupils in mainstream schools.

Part B1 –Numbers of CLA over time

Number of CLA - the long-term trend

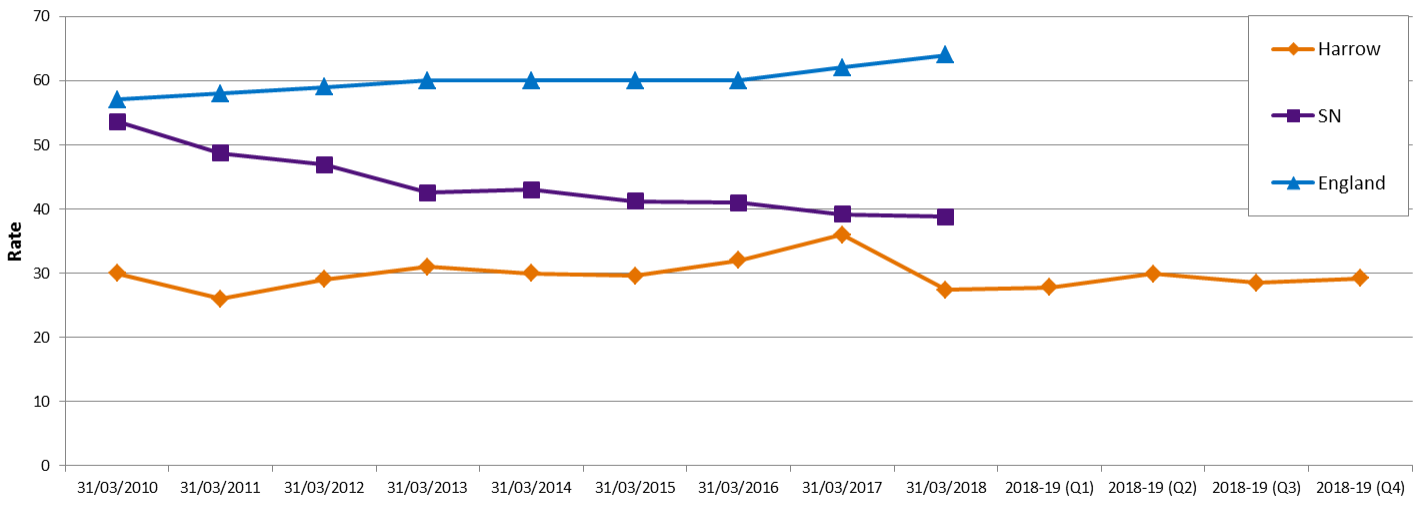


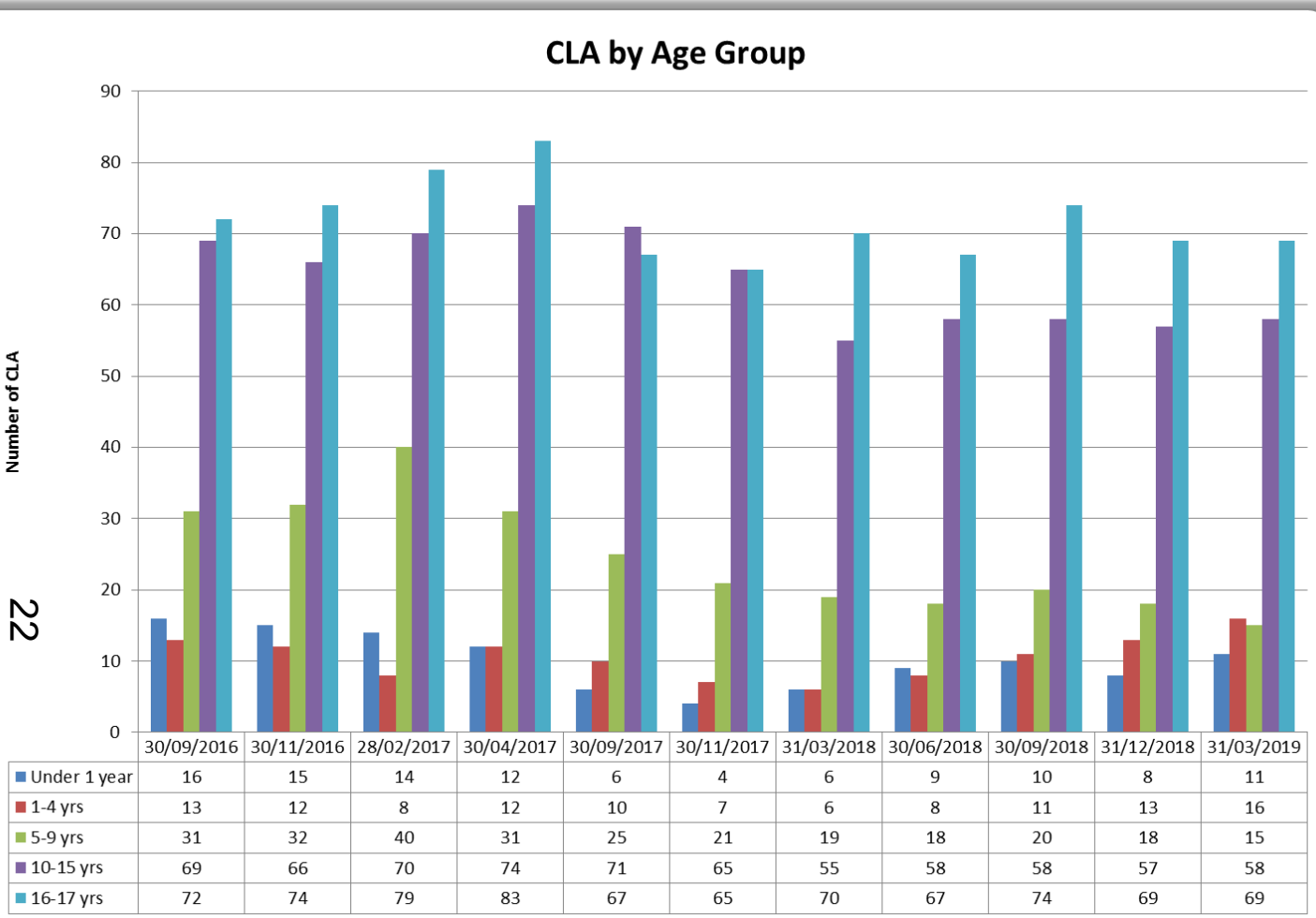
21

The number of all CLA has been increasing slightly in the last quarter with CLA 1yr + showing a decrease. The 3 year trend shows an overall decrease in CLA numbers

The rate of CLA per 10,000 has increased slightly in line with the increase of the overall CLA cohort in recent months. We continue to remain below the 2018 statistical neighbour average and England rates per 10,000.

Rate of CLA per 10,000 children aged under 18

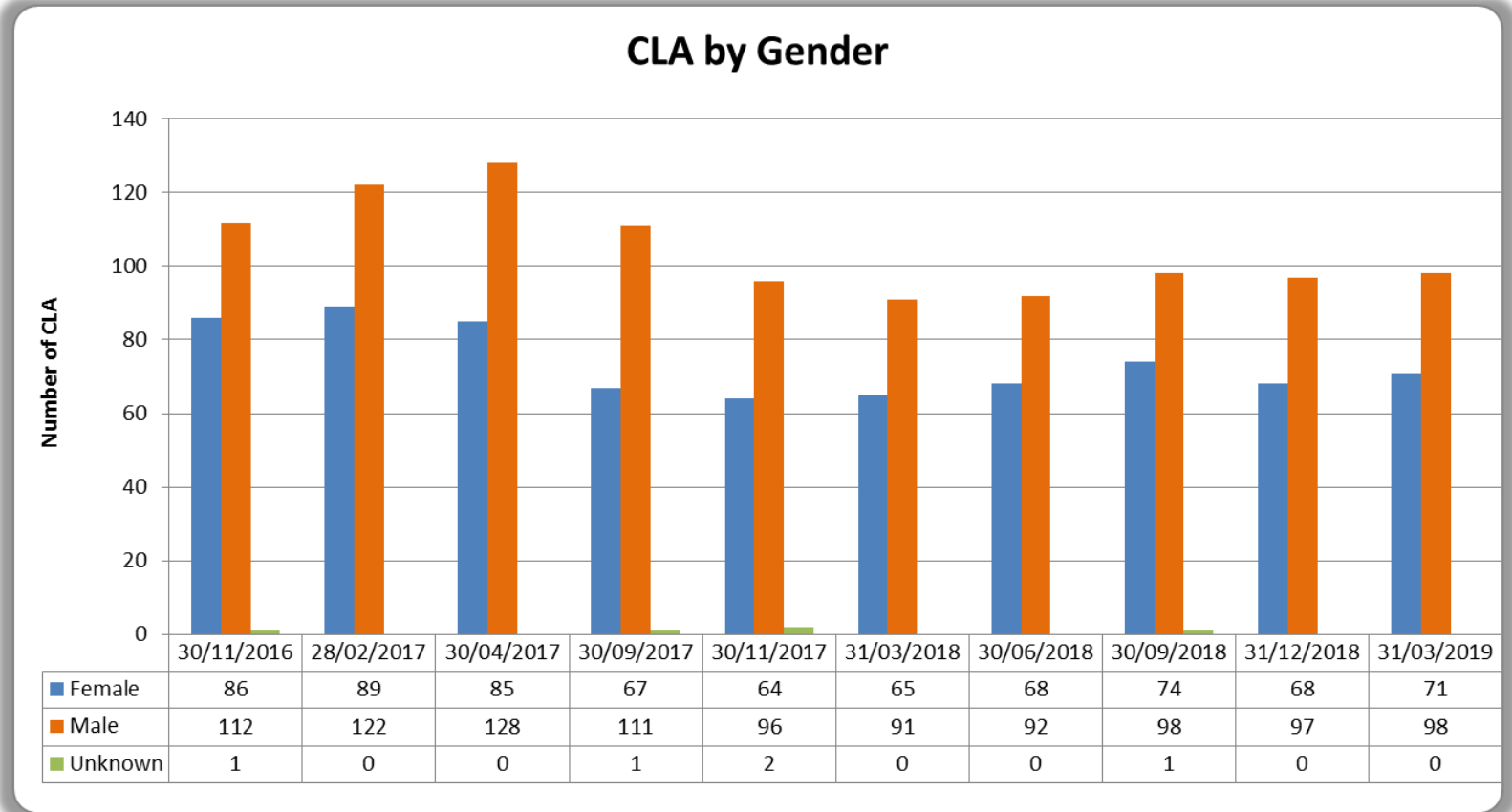




The main shift from the previous quarter has been an increase in the number of CLA under 5. Looking at annual figures the proportion of 16-17 year old CLA is high compared to the England and Statistical Neighbour averages. This is an additional pressure for leaving care services with approximately two thirds of care leavers aged 16 to 18 ceasing to be looked after at age 18.

Comparator Info. for % of age of CLA at 31/03/2018 (Source: SSSA903)	Age at 31 March 2018 (years) (%)				
	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 15	16 -17
<i>Harrow</i>	3.8%	3.8%	13.2%	34.6%	44.7%
<i>England</i>	5.7%	13.0%	18.9%	39.4%	23.0%
<i>Stat. neighbours avg.</i>	4.6%	8.2%	12.2%	38.3%	36.4%

23

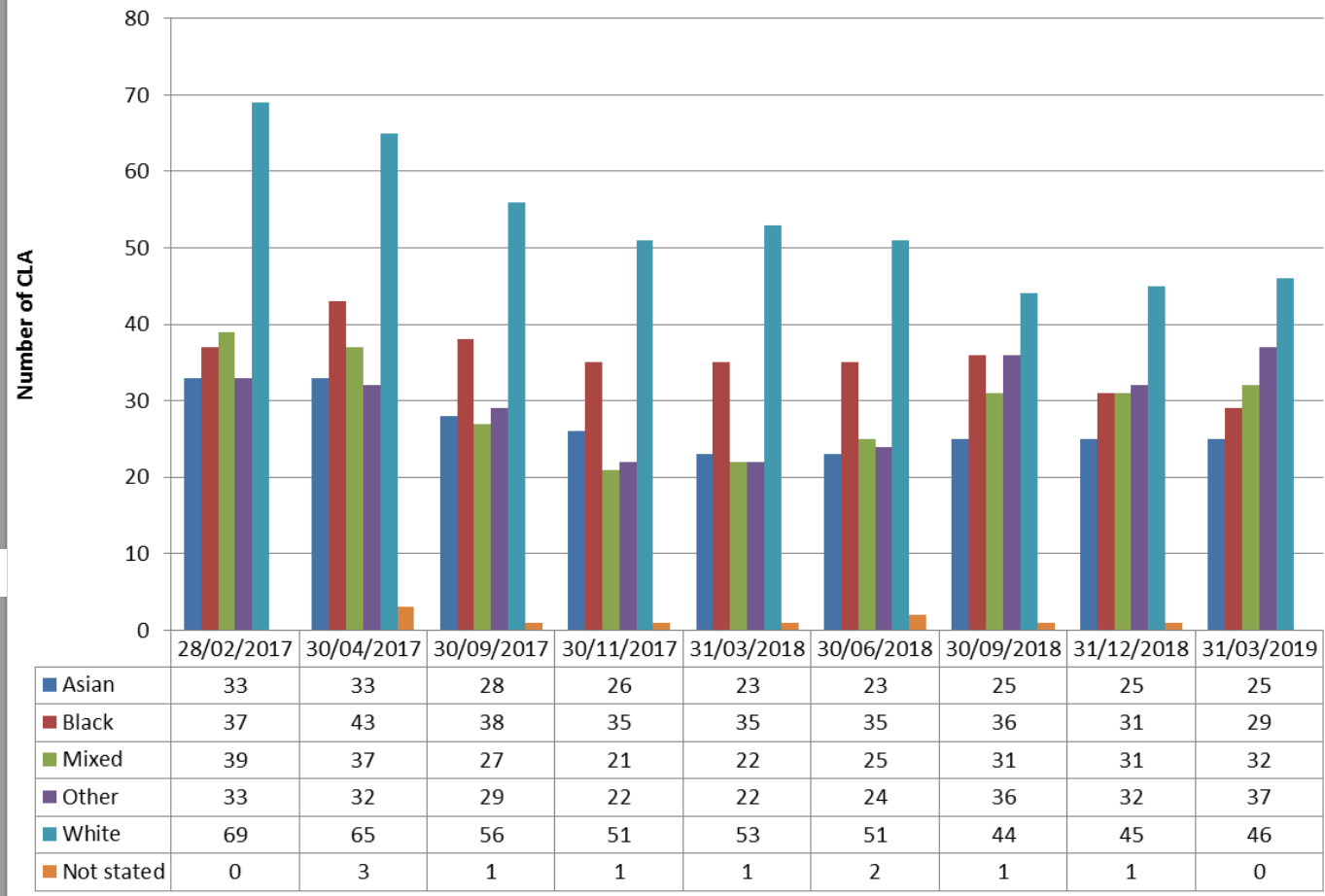


The looked after cohort is 58% Male and 42% Female, this proportion is in line with comparator data.

Comparator Info. for % of gender of CLA at 31/03/2018 (Source: SSSA903)	Gender (%)	
	Male	Female
<b>Harrow</b>	57.2%	42.8%
<i>England</i>	56.1%	43.9%
<i>Stat. neighbours avg.</i>	58.1%	41.9%

24

### CLA by Ethnicity



Approximately three quarters of Harrow’s children looked after population are from BME groups which is significantly higher than the statistical neighbour average

This quarter the ethnicity which has shown the biggest movement is ‘other’ backgrounds with an increase of 5 CLA.

Published data shows Harrow to have a higher proportion of CLA from other backgrounds.

Comparator Info. for % of ethnicity of CLA at 31/3/2018 (Source: SSSA903)	White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Other Ethnic Groups/ Other
<b>Harrow</b>	36.5%	12.6%	14.5%	22.0%	13.8%
<i>England</i>	74.6%	9.5%	4.5%	7.1%	3.4%
<i>Stat. neighbours avg.</i>	40.7%	17.5%	15.6%	18.7%	4.8%



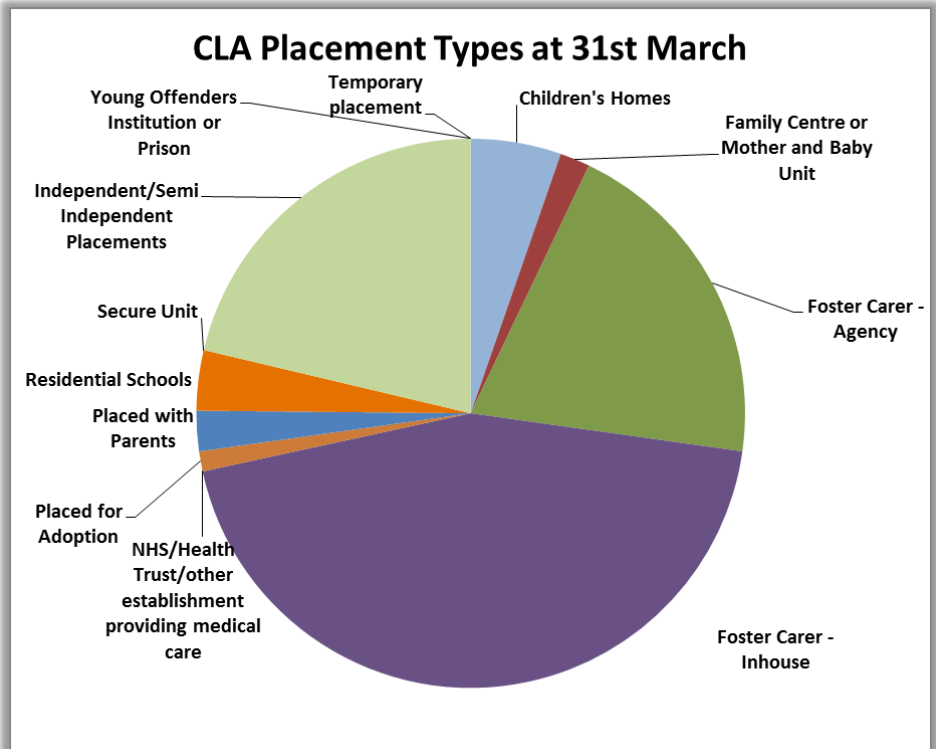
**B5 – Children looked after after placement type**

Placement Type	Apr-16	Sep-16	Nov-16	Feb-17	Apr-17	Sep-17	Nov-17	Feb-18	Mar-18	Jun-18	Sep-18	Dec-18	Mar-19
Children's Homes	16	13	10	13	16	12	10	11	11	8	11	8	9
Family Centre or Mother and Baby Unit	2	3	3	2	2	1	0	2	1	2	3	3	3
Foster Carer - Agency	29	25	26	32	31	28	25	17	23	21	23	27	34
Foster Carer - Inhouse	70	107	100	101	100	74	71	73	66	74	80	73	75
NHS/Health Trust/other establishment providing medical care	0	4	4	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Placed for Adoption	6	4	5	6	7	10	7	4	4	3	3	2	2
Placed with Parents	2	0	2	0	0	6	7	5	4	5	7	6	4
Residential Schools	8	6	7	7	7	5	5	4	4	4	4	5	6
Secure Unit	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Independent/Semi Independent Placements	33	36	39	44	45	37	34	40	39	39	42	41	36
Temporary placement	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	2	2	3	0	0	0
Young Offenders Institution or Prison	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>169</b>

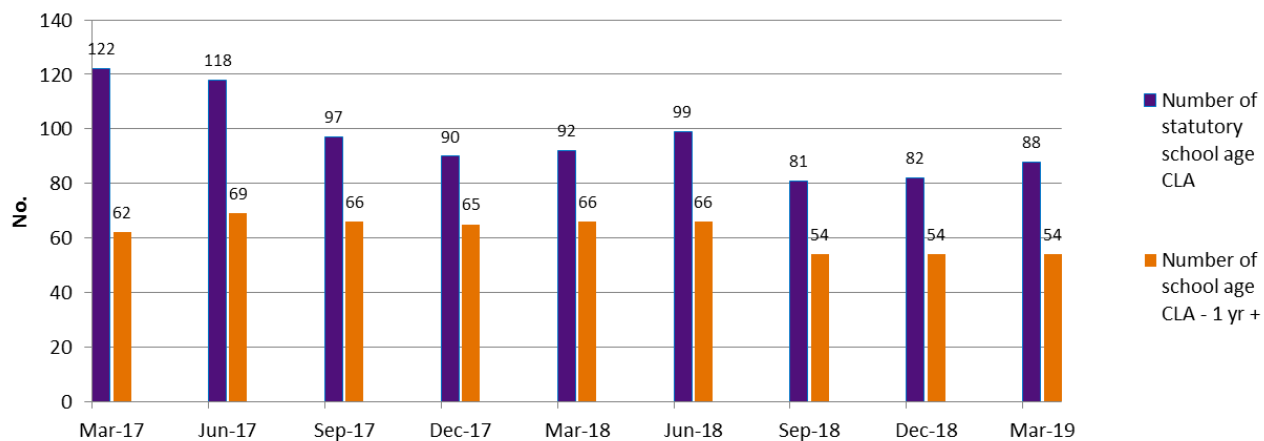
There are no significant changes to the proportion of placement types. Fostering remains the most common placement accounting for 64.5% of CLA followed by independent and semi independent placements accounting for 21.3%. Annual figures show us above the England and Statistical Neighbour average for the percentage of CLA in the secure units, children's homes and hostels category.

Comparator Info. for % of Main Placement Types of CLA at 31/03/2018 (Source: SSDA903)	Harrow	SN avg.	England
foster placements	58.5%	68.2%	73.2%
placed for adoption	2.5%	0.7%	3.0%
placed with parents	1.8%	1.3%	6.2%
other placements within the community	0.0%	5.4%	4.1%
secure units, children's homes and hostels	34.6%	17.2%	11.3%
other residential accommodation	1.3%	1.5%	1.6%
residential schools	1.3%	0	0.2%
other placements	0.0%	0	0

Published data shows Harrow has slightly less children in foster placements compared to SN average and more in community settings, this is mainly due to higher numbers of children aged 16+



### School age CLA



Harrow monitors all school children and those looked after 1 year plus. At the end of March, 88 CLA are of statutory school age of whom 54 have been looked after more than a year. There has been one permanent exclusion this academic year with 12.5% of CLA having at least one fixed term exclusion. As we head towards the Summer term this figure is expected to rise as seen in previous years. Overall session absence and persistent absence remains high and is significantly above the statistical neighbour average. PEP performance has continued to improve considerably with 97.7% of CLA having a PEP during the Autumn term.

26

PI Description	Mar-17	Jul-17	Dec-17	Mar-18	Jul-18	Dec-18	Mar-19
% of school age CLA (all CLA) permanently excluded this year (Sept to date)	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1
% of school age CLA (1 yr + at 31st March) permanently excluded this year (Sept to date)	1.6	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
% of school age CLA (all CLA) with at least one fixed-term exclusion this year (Sept to date)	9.0	10.8	3.3	12.0	15.8	4.9	12.5
% of school age CLA (1 yr + at 31st March) with at least one fixed-term exclusion this year (Sept to date)	9.7	12.2	4.6	13.6	22.1	4.9	14.8
% absence from school (all CLA - % of sessions missed)	12.2	11.3	11.7	11.4	12.6	11.6	12.7
% absence from school (1 yr+, % of sessions missed)	10.4	10.0	8.9	10.5	12.3	10.6	10.7
% of CLA (all CLA) classified as persistent absentees	23.8	29.2	26.7	28.3	29.7	20.7	30.7
% of CLA (1 year+) classified as persistent absentees	17.7	20.3	16.9	22.7	29.4	22.2	20.4
% of CLA (all school age CLA) with up to date PEP	68.0	81.7	70.0	66.3	82.2	93.9	97.7

## CLA educational attainment

DfE indicators include only CLA who have been looked after for more than one year to measure outcomes. **Education data is updated annually**

KS2 CLA Looked After for over a year	2017 SN Average	2017 England	2016	2017	2018
<b>Number of CLA</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>
KS2 % of CLA 1yr + reaching expected standard in reading, writing and maths	53%	32%	0.0%	45.5%	33.3%
KS2 Average progress score in reading	1.46	-0.7	-	-1.3	1.12
KS2 Average progress score in writing	1.16	-0.9	-	-2.4	-1.52
KS2 Average progress score in maths	0.31	-1.1	-	-1.6	-

27

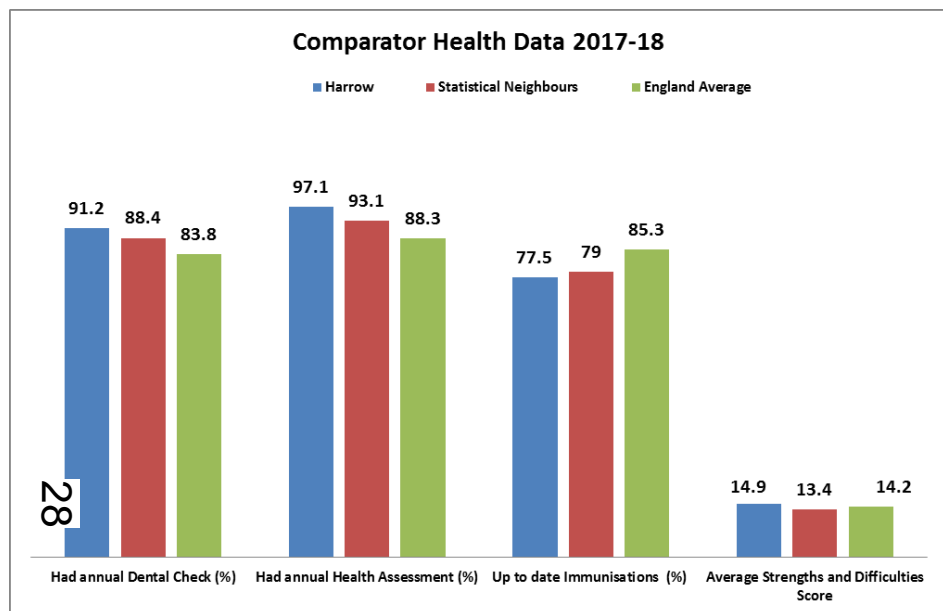
1 out of 3 CLA looked after over a year reached the expected standard in reading, writing and maths. The average progress score across reading, writing and maths has improved from the previous years figures though overall our performance for KS2 dropped.

KS4 CLA Looked After for over a year	2017 SN Average	2017 England	2016	2017	2018 (Provisional)
<b>Number of CLA</b>			<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>
KS4 % of CLA 1 year + achieving 9-4 in English and Mathematics	33.30%	17.50%	-	8.0%	20%
KS4 % of CLA 1 year + achieving 9-5 in English and Mathematics		7%	14.3%	0.0%	6.7%
KS4 Average attainment 8 score	18	19.3	15	12.6	16.1
KS4 Average progress 8 score	-1.14	-1.18	-1.71	-1.87	-1.9

Out of the 15 KS4 CLA looked after over a year, 3 achieved a 9-4 in English and Maths. Of these 3, 1 achieving a 9-5. KS4 average attainment 8 scores has improved but both Attainment 8 & Progress 8 scores remains lower than SN and England average

## B8 - CLA Health

Annual health checks have improved but along with dental checks remain below the statistical neighbour average. Immunisations have improved considerably to 76.5% and is in line with last years performance. CLA with up to date SDQ's has decreased to 66% from the previous quarter, our average SDQ score was higher in 2017/18 than the statistical neighbour and England averages.



Comparative Data (%) year ending 2018	Had annual Dental Check (%)	Had annual Health Assessment (%)	Up to date Immunisations (%)	Average Strengths and Difficulties Score
<b>Harrow</b>	<b>91.2</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>14.9</b>
<b>Statistical Neighbours</b>	<b>88.4</b>	<b>93.1</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>13.4</b>
<b>England Average</b>	<b>83.8</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>85.3</b>	<b>14.2</b>

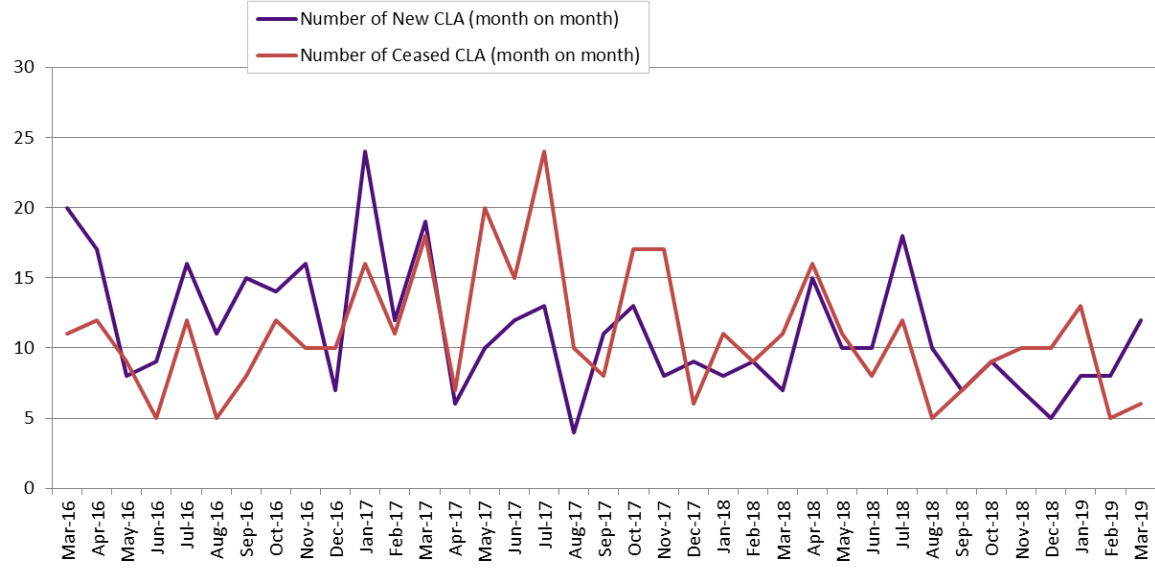
Note on SDQ scores: a score of under 14 is considered normal, 14-16 is borderline cause for concern and 17 or over is a cause for concern.

Indicator Description	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17	Mar-18	Jun-18	Sep-18	Dec-18	Mar-19
% of all CLA aged 4-16 who have an up to date strengths and difficulties (SDQ) score	75.6	68.5	93.4	78.3	87.9	63.4	63.4	72.4	66
% of CLA (1 yr +) with immunisations up to date	68.9	66.3	64.1	66.4	63.6	69.3	57.5	61.7	76.5
% of CLA with up to date Dental Checks (CLA 1 yr +)	77.7	74.5	86.8	84.1	80.4	82.8	82.8	88.2	77.6
% of CLA with up to date Health Checks (CLA 1 yr +)	97.0	90.6	93.0	89.4	93.5	73.1	84.9	90.3	90.6
% of new CLA where health assessment has been completed within 28 calendar days YTD	49.2	38.5	69.6	80.5	68.2	38.1	22.8	36.9	41.9

**B9 – Number of new CLA, number of ceased CLA and number of children looked after who also have a child protection plan or are unaccompanied asylum seeking children.**

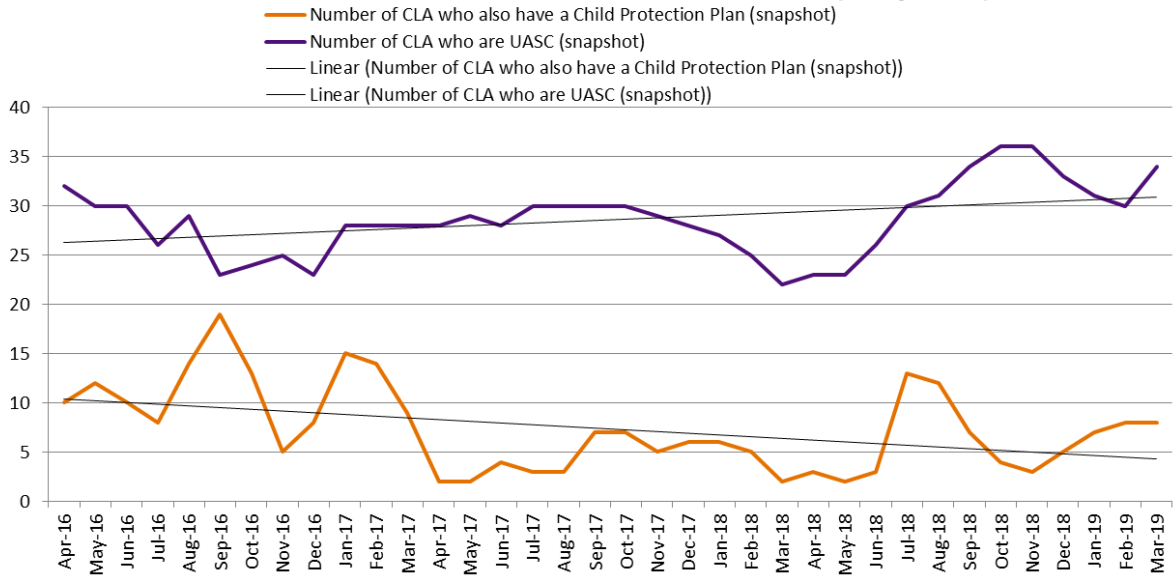
29

**Number of CLA starting and ceasing**



The number of new and ceased CLA continues to vary, month on month.

**Number of CLA who are also CPP or UASC (snapshot)**



The number of CLA who are UASC has seen an increase since the last report. The 3 year trend shows overall UASC figures increasing across the period. Looked after Children who have a child Protection Plan has seen an increase, this will fluctuate as discontinuing plans for children who become looked after needs involvement from partner agencies and is also dependent on the care plan for the child.

## B10 – Reasons for entering and leaving care

When a 'Social Work Assessment' is carried out, the primary need is recorded in line with DfE categories. For children who are looked after at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019, most common primary need type is Abuse or Neglect (51.5%) followed by Absent Parenting (22.5%).

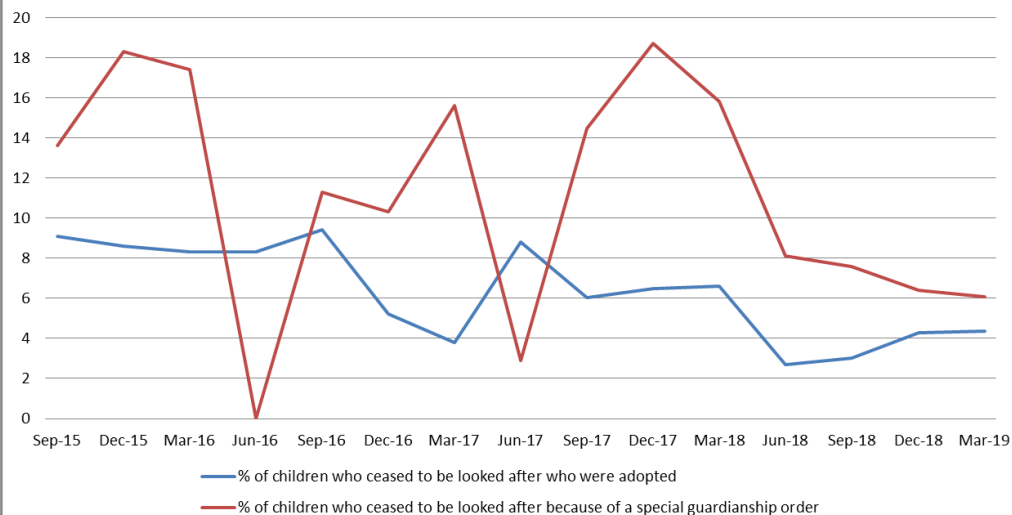
Primary Need	Count	%
Abuse or Neglect	87	51.5%
Absent parenting	38	22.5%
Family dysfunction	12	7.1%
Socially unacceptable behaviour	8	4.7%
Family in acute stress	6	3.6%
Child Disability	8	4.7%
Parental illness or disability	3	1.8%
Low income	7	4.1%
Cases other than Children in Need	0	0.0%
Not Stated	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>	

Reason LAC Ceased YTD Description	Count	%
Discharge	0	0.0%
Care taken over by another LA	1	0.8%
Returned home to live with parents	34	28.8%
Moved into independent living	16	13.6%
Transferred to residential by ASC	2	1.7%
Period of LAC ceased for any other reason	42	35.6%
Sentenced to custody	3	2.5%
Left care to live with parents, relatives, or other	2	1.7%
Adopted	5	4.2%
Accommodation on remand ended	0	0.0%
Age assessment child is 18 or over	3	2.5%
Child moved abroad	3	2.5%
Residence order	0	0.0%
SGO	7	5.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	

Year to date of the 118 children who ceased to be looked after, 42 (35.6%) ceased for other reasons and 34 (28.8%) returned home to live with their parents or relatives.

## B11– Adoptions and Special Guardianship Orders of CLA

% of CLA adopted or subject to SGOs



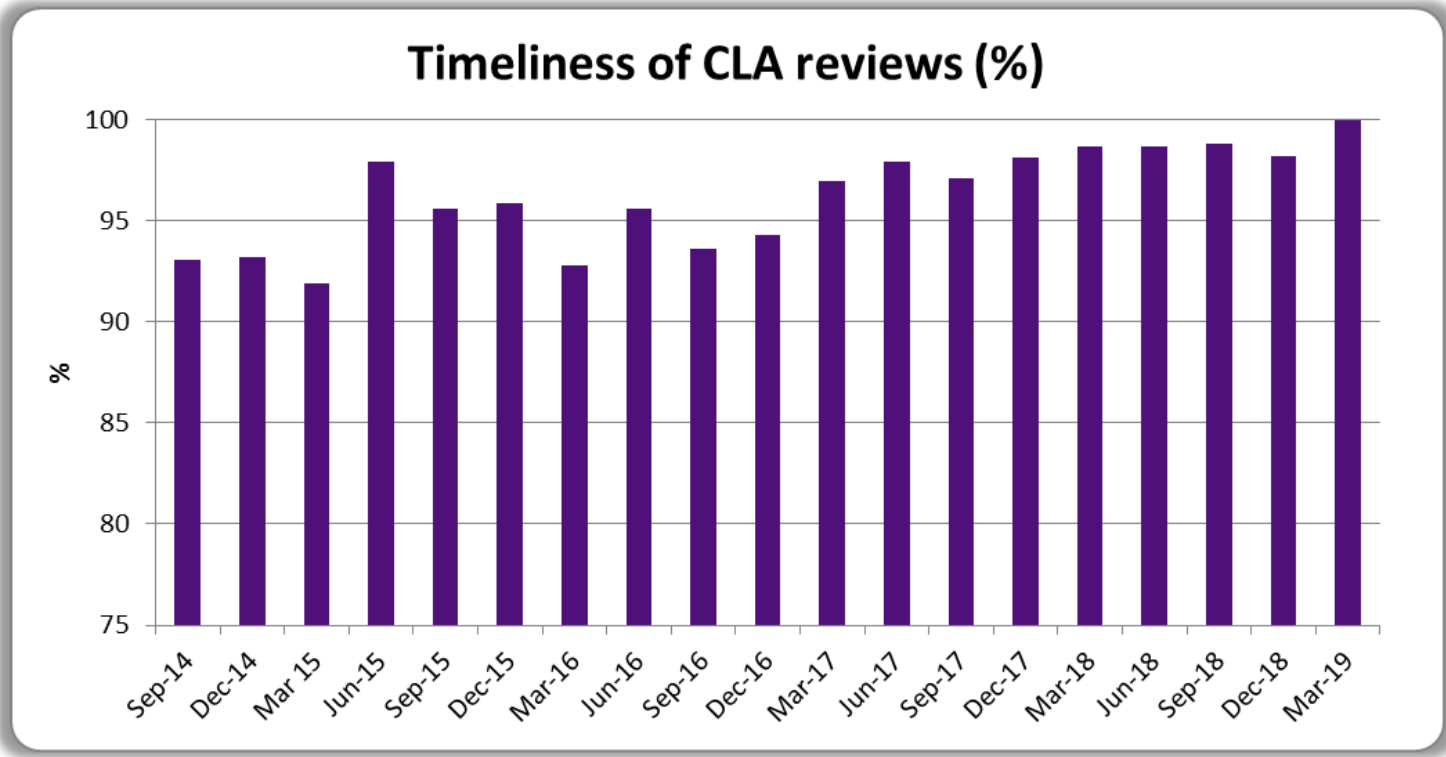
	LA	2012-15	2013-16	2014-17
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family (days)	Harrow	339.00	439.00	472.00
	Statistical Neighbours	588.00	603.30	593.00
	England Average	593.00	558.00	520.00

	LA	2012-15	2013-16	2014-17
Average time between a LA receiving court authority to place a child and deciding on a match	Harrow	104.00	154.00	173.00
	Statistical Neighbours	207.90	217.80	228.30
	England Average	223.00	226.00	220.00

31

The percentage of ceased CLA who were adopted at the end of Q4 is 4.3% with 6.1% ceasing and becoming subject of an SGO. The average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family has improved from the previous quarter to 278.2 days, keeping us below comparator averages. 86% of children now wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family, an improvement from the previous quarter. The average time between receiving court authority to place a child and matching with adoptive family has remained stable from the previous quarter at 100.6 days but remains below comparator averages.

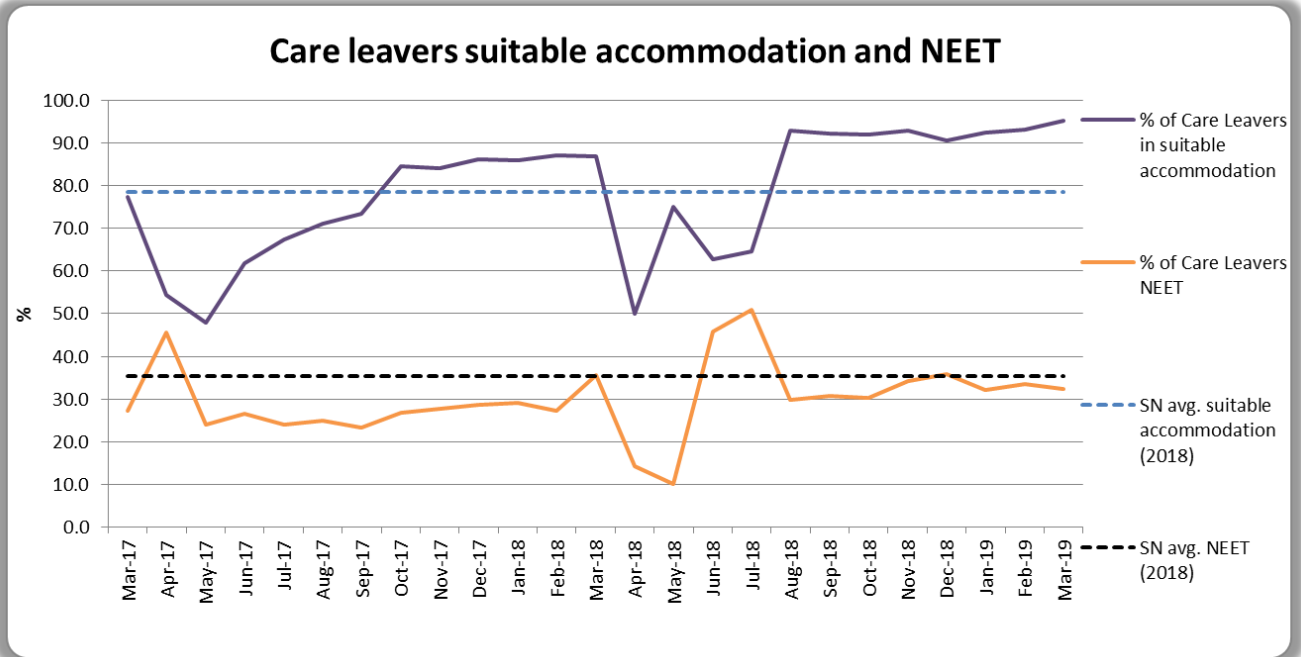
Adoption Indicator	Mar-16	Jun-16	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17	Mar-18	Jun-18	Sep-18	Dec-18	Mar-19
The average time (days) between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, for children who have been adopted. <b>Measured Quarterly (YTD).</b>	595	297.0	426.0	390.5	390.5	543.0	506.6	380.3	333.0	286.0	437.5	332.2	278.2
The average time (days) between a local authority receiving court authority to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family. <b>Measured Quarterly (YTD).</b>	283	72.0	189.0	167.0	167.0	86.0	102.0	93.9	116.0	147.0	86.0	100.6	100.6
Percentage of children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family. <b>Measured Quarterly.</b>	61	55.6	80.0	83.0	83.0	0.0	20.0	50.0	83.3	100.0	50.0	83	86



The timeliness of CLA reviews remains high at 100% and is above our target of 95% of reviews to be held in time.



**B13 – Care leavers**



33

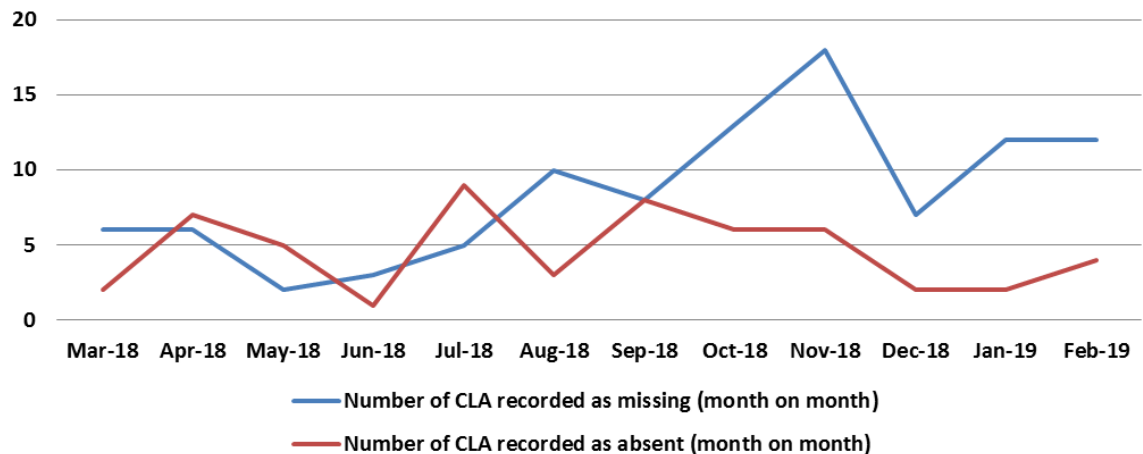
Care Leaver Snapshot NEET Status	Mar-19	%
NEET - due to Illness or Disability	1	0.5%
NEET - due to Pregnancy or Parenting	6	2.9%
NEET - Other Circumstances	34	16.6%
Unemployed	1	0.5%
Not Recorded	20	9.8%
Enrolled on Course - Not Yet Started	3	1.5%
F/T Higher Education (i.e. beyond A Level)	22	10.7%
F/T Training or Employment	16	7.8%
Full Time Education	2	1.0%
Other F/T Education	87	42.4%
Other P/T Education	6	2.9%
P/T Higher Education (i.e. beyond A Level)	1	0.5%
P/T Training or Employment	6	2.9%
Count:	205	

Care leavers in suitable accommodation has increased from the previous quarter and remains significantly above the statistical neighbour average. Care leavers who are NEET have decreased from the previous reports and is below the statistical neighbour average.

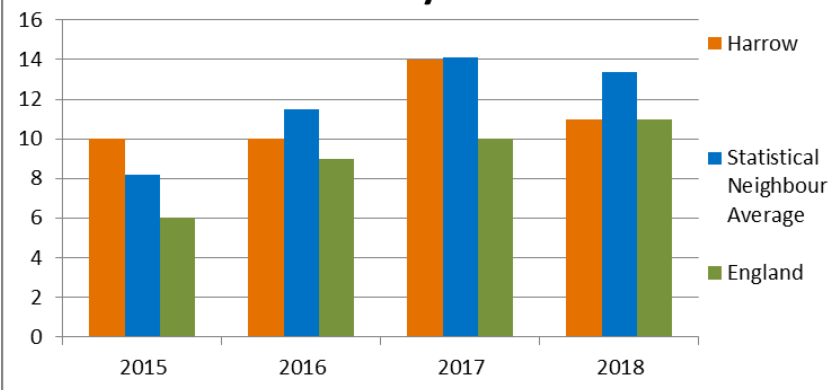
The suitable accommodation and NEET indicators can only look at activity in the period 3 months before and 1 month after the care leavers birthday in year. As such anything recorded outside of this period cannot be considered. Looking at current data excluding the constraints around birthday, 20.5% NEET and 9.8% not recorded.

## B14 – Children who go missing or are absent

Number of CLA with a Missing and Absent without Authorisation instance .



% CLA who had a missing incident in the year



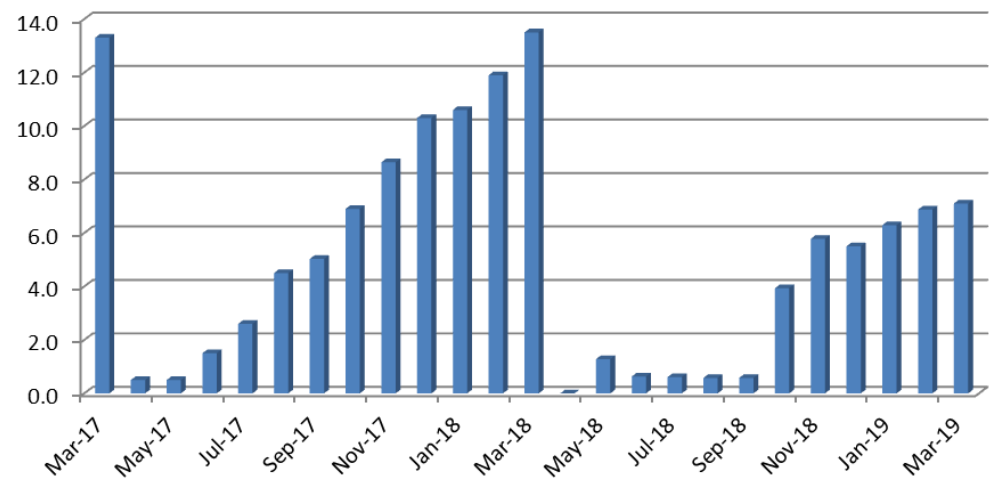
	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19
Number of CLA recorded as missing (month on month)	6	6	2	3	5	10	8	13	18	7	12	12	13
Number of CLA recorded as absent (month on month)	2	7	5	1	9	3	8	6	6	2	2	4	6

	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17	Mar-18	Jun-18	Sep-18	Dec-18	Mar-19
% of CLA who had at least one missing incident (year to date)	14	12.2	12.5	12.8	13.2	4.6	8.0	11.7	12.5
% of CLA away from placement without authorisation at least on one occasion (year to date)	10	10.5	11.7	11	11.8	4.6	7.6	8.6	10

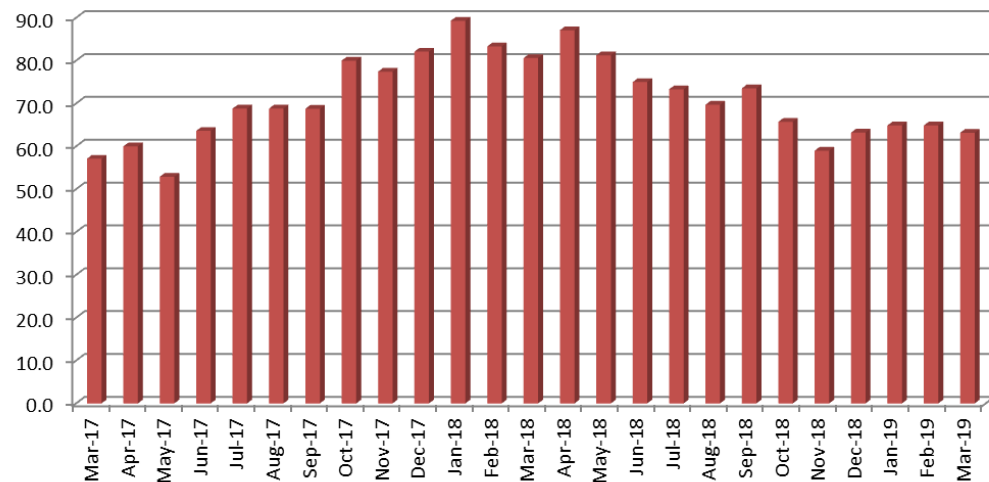
The percentage of CLA missing from placement has remained stable with absent children increasing from the previous quarter. Missing and absent children continue to remain a focus for Children's services with weekly and monthly multiagency meetings focussing on repeat offenders. A Runaways Worker is also in post and undertakes return interviews with children who go missing. Of all CLA year to date, 12.5% have had at least 1 missing episode with 10% having at least 1 absent episode, with the percentage absent from placement being above the statistical neighbour average.

## B15 – CLA placement stability

### % CLA with more than 2 placement moves in year



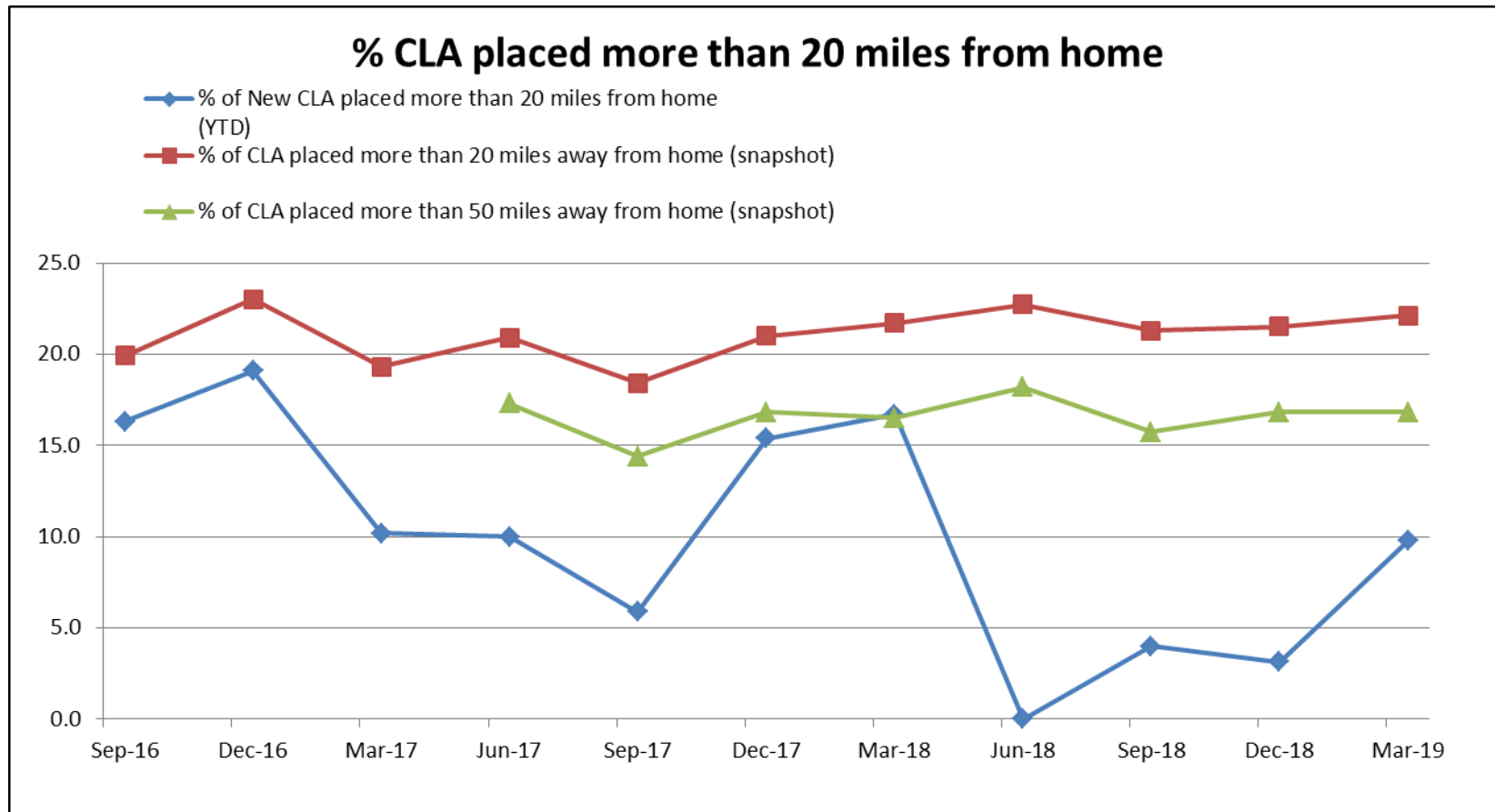
### % CLA looked after for 2.5 years who have been in same placement for 2 years



The placement stability of our CLA with respect to number of placements has increased to 7.1% with 12 of our CLA having had 3 or more placements during the year, we are below the England and statistical neighbour averages. There are 20 CLA who have had 2 placement moves whereby another move in the year would have had a negative impact on the indicator. The percentage of CLA looked after for 2.5 years who have been in the same placement for 2 years has decreased to 63.2% with 24/38 CLA in placement for over 2 years, we are below the statistical neighbour average

## B16– CLA placed over 20 miles from home

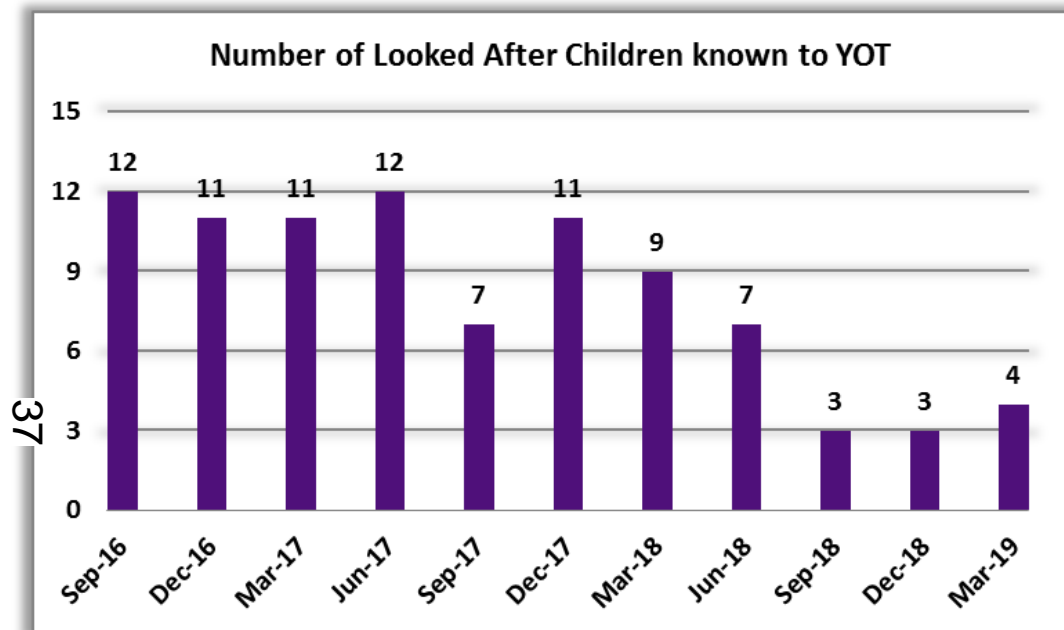
36



The percentage of all new CLA placed more than 20 miles from home has increased from the previous report to 9.8%, which is an improvement from our position of 16.7% at the same time last year. The percentage of all CLA at the end of each month who are placed more than 20 miles from home has increased slightly from the last quarter with those placed more than 50 miles from home remaining stable. In order to give a balanced view, these indicators exclude looked after children who are placed with parents, placed for adoption or are unaccompanied asylum seekers.

## B17 – CLA Offending

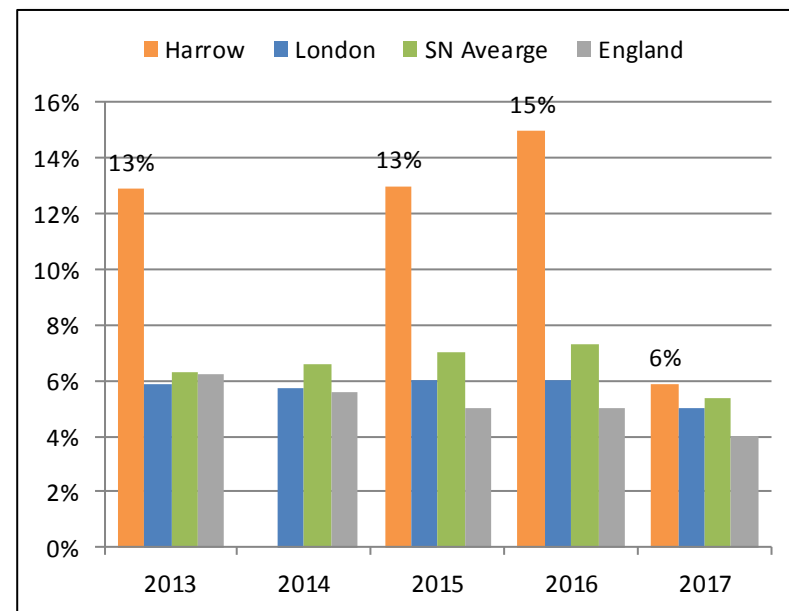
Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17	Mar-18	Jun-18	Sep-18	Dec-18	Mar-19
12	11	11	12	7	11	9	7	3	3	4



The number of Looked After Children known to YOT has increased by 1 in the last quarter but remains low overall. Harrow's CLA offending rate is higher than comparators – this is being investigated and may be due to the comparatively small numbers of young people who are looked after, and a corresponding tendency towards higher levels of risk and vulnerability amongst this group.

% of children looked after for 1 year+ subject to a conviction, final warning or reprimand during the year

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Harrow</b>	13%		13%	15%	6%
<b>London</b>	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%
<b>SN</b>	6%	7%	7%	7.30%	5.40%
<b>England</b>	6%	6%	5%	5%	4%



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**REPORT FOR: Corporate Parenting  
Panel**

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	11 June 2019
<b>Subject:</b>	Harrow Children Looked After Health (CLA) Report
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Zoe Sargent, Associate Director of Children's Services, Central & North West London
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Christine Robson, Portfolio Holder for Young People and Schools
<b>Exempt:</b>	No
<b>Decision subject to Call-in:</b>	No
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All
<b>Enclosures:</b>	Children Looked After Health Report

## **Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations**

This report reviews performance indicators and the delivery of health services to Harrow's Children Looked After (CLA) during March – April 2019 in line with national guidance.

**Recommendations:** That the report be noted

**Reason for recommendation:** To keep the Panel informed of the clinical work undertaken by the Children Looked After Team.

## **Section 2 – Report**

See attached report

### **Options considered**

Not applicable as this is an external information report.

### **Ward Councillors' comments**

Not applicable as it affects all wards

### **Risk Management Implications**

Not applicable as this is an external information report.

### **Legal Implications**

Not applicable as this is an external information report.

### **Financial Implications**

Not applicable as this is an external information report.

### **Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Not applicable as this is an external information report

### **Council Priorities**

The report focuses on:

- Supporting those most in need
- Protecting vital public services

Specific focus is on the service delivery from health to Children Looked After:

- Children and young people are given the opportunities to have the best start in life and families can thrive
- Healthcare services meet the needs of Harrow residents



### **Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance**

Not applicable as this is an external information report

<b>Ward Councillors notified:</b>	<b>NO, as it impacts on all Wards</b>
<b>EqIA carried out:</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>EqIA cleared by:</b>	<b>N/A – external report</b>

### **Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers**

**Contact:** Emma Hedley, Named Nurse for Children Looked After Harrow,  
Tel: 01895 484945, Email: [emmahedley@nhs.net](mailto:emmahedley@nhs.net).

#### **Background Papers:**

Corporate Parenting Panel Reports  
October 2018, January 2019, March 2019

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## Children Looked After Health Report

### Targets

All targets in relation to contractual conditions were met for initial health assessments and review health assessments from health.

Month	CNWL Contractual Targets *	
March	100% IHA	100% RHA
April	100% IHA	100% RHA

\*excludes requests and consent not made available within 3 days for IHA's and within 3 months for RHA's, CLA who do not attend or refuse appointments given, CLA placed out of Harrow who depend upon another provider to offer an appointment.

There continues to be improvements in review health assessments completed within timescales this quarter.

Month	Number of children looked after seen in timescales	
March	90% IHA	100% RHA
April	60% IHA	100% RHA

### Monitoring

Bi-monthly monitoring meetings with Harrow CCG and Harrow Council continue.

Weekly meetings with Harrow Council to monitor health assessments and weekly case discussion.

### Work Undertaken

The team continues to attend all strategic and partnership meetings to best support the health needs of children looked after, these include CLA reviews, MASE (multi agency sexual exploitation) panel, children at risk meetings, strategy meetings adoption and fostering panel.

Attended CLA team meeting to discuss immunisations and health recommendations.

Case discussions with the CLA, UASC and CIN teams and the Clinical Psychologist from the Virtual School.

Quarterly meeting with CAMHS and case discussion.

Joint visit with Social Worker

### Training

Delivered training to the Harrow School Nurse Team

Attended the Royal College of Nursing CLA conference

Course on understanding Autistic Spectrum Disorders

Student Nurse spent the day with the team. Thank you letter received.

### Development

Specialist Nurse invited to attend the first pathway panel for 16 year olds

### Team News

Joint team away day to look at future planning

Named Nurse became a member of the new regional adoption panel 'ambitious for adoption'

### **Voice of the Child**

All children looked after who attended for their appointment in Harrow and the surrounding areas are given the opportunity to provide feedback on their health assessment experience.

Today it was ok because I wanted to know how tall I was and how much I weigh (14)

It was helpful and helped me to see if I was fit and healthy and lots of questions (12)

I felt fine this health assessment I'm happy for them to do it again (13)

It was very good (16)

Very good and easy to talk to. Understood everything she said. (16)

It was good (17)

Happy with assessment (17)

Useful and fine (15)

I think that this health assessment went well (10)

I want to go home. Scared of checking ears. Miss dog, dad and mum. I liked talking about dogs. (8)

Scared as so many people and concerned about the number of questions. In Vietnam no health checks and did not understand it but now she is happy about it. First time ever done such a thing. (16 via interpreter)

### **Carers Comments**

The visit at the doctors was very amazing the children were assessed well I am very impressed.

Yes the doctor listened to every query I have regarding baby in my care. I got all the answers back.

She is a very helpful doctor.

Happy with everything. Comfortable.

Emma Hedley – Named Nurse for Children Looked After Harrow, CNWL  
20<sup>th</sup> May 2019



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**REPORT FOR: Corporate Parenting  
Panel**

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	11 June 2019
<b>Subject:</b>	Ofsted Annual Engagement Visit
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Paul Hewitt, Corporate Director of People
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Christine Robson, Portfolio Holder for Young People and Schools
<b>Exempt:</b>	No
<b>Decision subject to Call-in:</b>	No
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All
<b>Enclosures:</b>	Letter from Ofsted

## **Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations**

This report sets out the outcomes of the recent Ofsted Annual Engagement Meeting.

**Recommendations:** That the Ofsted Annual Engagement letter and its contents be noted.

**Reason for recommendation:** To keep the Panel informed of progress in their role as Corporate Parents.

## **Section 2 – Report**

This is an information report only outlining the outcome of the recent Ofsted meeting.

### **Ward Councillors' comments**

Not applicable as it affects all wards

### **Legal Implications**

Not applicable as this is an information report.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Not applicable as this is an information report.

### **Council Priorities**

Please identify how the decision sought delivers these priorities

#### **1. Supporting Those Most in Need**

Children and young people are given the opportunities to have the best start in life and families can thrive through having children's services which is seen as good by the regulatory authorities.

### Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Paul Hewitt

Corporate Director

Date: 31/5/2109

**Ward Councillors notified:**

NO, as it impacts on all Wards

**EqIA carried out:**

N/A – information report only

### Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

**Contact:** Peter Tolley, Divisional Director Children and Young People, Tel: 0208 736 6978, Email: [peter.tolley@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:peter.tolley@harrow.gov.uk).

**Background Papers:**

None

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Date: 22 April 2019

Paul Hewitt  
Corporate Director, Peoples Services  
Harrow Council, Civic Centre, 2nd Floor, South  
[Paul.hewitt@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.hewitt@harrow.gov.uk)

**Sean TARPEY**  
Senior HMI, London

Dear Paul,

Thank you and your staff for their active participation in this year's annual engagement meeting. The discussion about current performance and the actions you are taking to develop your services was very useful. Please see below some brief notes of the meeting that I hope encapsulates the key points.

### **Note of social care annual engagement meeting on 4 April 2019**

#### **Attending:**

Paul Hewitt: Corporate Director People Services  
Peter Tolley: Divisional Director, Children and Young People Services  
Parmjit Chahal: Head of service Children's Access Service  
Dionne Thomas: Head of Service Children in Need  
Barbara Houston: Head of Corporate Parenting  
Mark Scanlon: Head of Early Support and Youth offending services  
Neil Harris: Head of Quality Standards and Service Improvement  
Mellina Williamson-Taylor: Virtual School Head Teacher  
Sean Tarpey, Senior HMI Social Care, London Region

#### **Recent focused visit:**

We commenced the meeting by reflecting on the experience and learning from the focused visit that took place in October 2019. The focused visit considered your 'front door arrangements' including the decision making within the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH). You stated that you were pleased with the outcomes found which I agreed given the substance of the letter were generally very positive and entirely indicative of a 'good' local authority. You reflected that for some staff and managers the visit was intense. It was pleasing you found the work and attitude of the inspectors helpful and that staff appeared comfortable being spoken to by

inspectors. You recognised and agreed that the three emerging areas to improve practice namely, partner engagement in strategy meetings, improved auditing and the better evaluation of early help services were fair and that you are already sighted on these as reflected in your initial self-assessment. You have since incorporated these more explicitly in your re-newed self-assessment that we went on to consider.

### **Self-assessment:**

I commented on the ease and accessibility of your self-assessment document. It is well laid out for the reader, giving broad detail on matters such as leadership and governance, commissioning and quality as well as national and local priorities. The assessment then gives more detail in specific service areas usefully marrying commentary with information including statistics and comparisons where this is helpful or anchors a point. It is useful that the self-assessment can be seen in context with other multi-agency plans and/or initiatives. The section on demographics and services to children helpfully contextualises the challenges within the borough not least with respect to ethnicity as almost 70% of children and young people within the borough are from minority ethnic groups and 88.4% of your school population is classified as belonging to an ethnic group other than White British.

The evaluation goes on to highlight the key areas for further development incorporating the findings from the focused visit. You also highlight what you consider your top three outcomes for the year pertaining to strengthened partnerships, implementation of the workforce strategy and a range of initiatives to help prevent children becoming looked after unless this was the only venue to secure their personal safety. We will return to these issues later.

You also highlight and make evident the key risks for the year ahead and we discussed if these were shared across the Department. You assured me these were not only identified by senior managers in isolation but much rather from staff following a number of engagement activities to elicit their views. Unsurprisingly the challenges of austerity and knife crime are writ large across the workforce. More locally the provision of SEND services and developments to the landscape post LSCB's reflect national and political priorities.

### **Innovations, pilots and good practice:**

Within Harrow you continue to demonstrate and embrace opportunities to improve practice. These are well documented within the self-assessment. However, I note your further work to consolidate and expand upon the Parenting Assessment Manual Software (PAMS). I know you hope this will improve the agility of your local responses linked to the public law outline and other legal proceedings.

In similar vein both the digital fingerprinting pilot and that of the alcohol breathalysers continue to show promise and external evaluation is positive. For these reasons it is likely the scope of such work will be broadened.

Your work with the Romanian Embassy and Ministerial leads for safeguarding has further strengthened your work in this area. The development of agreed protocols to manage casework is a significant achievement.

You tell me that you have secured funding from a DfE innovation fund to appoint a specialist female genital mutilation specialist who works within the MASH. It is notable that you have since secured your first female genital mutilation Protection Order. You have now entered phase three of the Harrow Safer Relationship Programme and report that the proof of concept is now met. For this reason, you will expand the cohort of couples with whom you work focusing on the issues of domestic abuse alongside underlying issues including drug and alcohol misuse. You are hopeful this work undertaken jointly with the Metropolitan Police Service will be sustained as clinicians from the Asian Counselling service receive training.

The Keeping Families Together initiative is now funded through the base budget following a successful pilot that focused on preventing children entering the care system or to be successfully reunified with family given ongoing support. The success of the initiative is reflected in the falling numbers of looked after children which now stands at an approximate figure of 160 from the higher figure of 211 in March 2017.

### **Core business:**

I think it is fair to reflect that emboldened by your detailed self-assessment we rather 'cantered' through issues of core business highlighting notable successes or stubborn issues in so doing. For this reason, the summaries are brief:

- **Leadership and governance**

You inform me that Harrow continues to 'reap the benefits' of strong political and corporate focus. This is illustrated by committed and targeted support to Children and Young People's Services. The position of the DCS as head of the People's Service Directorate ensures that there are increasing opportunities for integrated structures as exemplified by the commissioning arrangements for the children and young adult's disability service. It is of note that permanent appointments have now been made following the departures of the former CEO and Corporate Director of Children's Services. Service plans are in place at all levels of the organization and feed in to individual appraisals and consideration of succession planning. For this reason, you believe workforce planning is strong as evidenced by the proportion of

permanent staff. Your use/reliance on agency staff is at 16% set aside the London average of 26%. Vacancy rates also compare favourably.

- **Commissioning and quality:**

Broadly speaking you feel you have maintained progress in this area in the past year. Examples of success exist for example in relation to your carers strategy that involved extensive consultation with young people prior to its implementation. Other examples have seen a focus on health assessments for children looked after and the redesign of the Children's Advocacy Service. The latter service has received positive feedback regarding the quality of advocates and the increasingly innovative ways they are seeking to hear the voice of the child. Robust monitoring of health visitor and school nursing contracts seem to have been both timely and impactful. I was powerfully struck by the reporting that the percentage of children who turned 15 months in the quarter who received a 12-month review by the age of 15 months has leapt from 7.6% to 86% from quarter 2 to quarter 3.

Your quality assurance framework is well embedded, and we discussed that within the first three quarters of this year 139 audits were completed across the service, commendably 28 young people or family members were able to contribute their views. Positive areas of practice evidenced good direct work with children and the increasingly stability of the workforce demonstrates such work achieves improving and better outcomes.

On the flip side more work is required to promote professional curiosity and explore with the 'whole/wider' family emerging information including risk and resilience factors. Some stubborn issues remain and although staff report they are well supported by active and experienced managers only 74.1% received supervision in line with departmental expectations. I note the figure is improving. Similarly, there is more work to ensure chronologies are produced, contain the right information and are used to inform practice. Similarly, management oversight within the audit sample was 75.4%. It is the challenge for Harrow to achieve consistency and ensure the good practice (much of which is evident) embeds as standard practice. Nevertheless, I was struck in this section that the auditing activity does strive to raise and maintain standards.

- **Education strategy and support to schools**

Your input into this section is very thorough running to nearly ten pages and will I know be of great interest to colleagues with a deeper knowledge and understanding of the detail. For this reason, I will pass the evaluation to education colleagues in preparation for the education bespoke meeting later in the year.

- **Early Support:**

I am aware that your model of service delivery was implemented in December 2016 and you report that this is now well embedded. Your aim is to deliver services within the heart of local communities seeking to deliver services to groups within existing facilities rather than as was traditional in the home setting. Your aim was to increase/maintain the provision of services within the confines of reduced budgets. You know believe you have extensive 'reach' and the service is working well. The work is supported by several service pathways including early help assessments. You are looking to better understand and evaluate what works well in the borough through an evaluation tool Outcome Stars which will fit well with the Mosaic management tool used extensively across the service. For older children you are seeking to establish an overarching Youth Engagement strategy and work to this goal is ongoing.

Together with Families (TWF) is Harrow's response to the Troubled Families programme. It was through TWF that the Keeping Families Together service was established building on the principles of a whole family approach to intensive intervention. To date Harrow has included over 1500 families in the Together with Families programme of which sustained progress can be securely evidenced for 480 families.

Within Harrow the number of children with LD, ASD and challenging behaviours has increased steadily since 2015. You tell me this has led to a growth in demand for children with SEND requiring additional support in mainstream or special schools. To meet this demand locally 151 additional places have been identified in Harrow including the expansion of three special schools. You believe that further demand is projected for an additional 120 places. This is putting substantial strain on already tight resources. You have not yet had your SEND inspection and wondered when it might be. My truthful answer is 'I don't know!' but advise that any preparation with partner agencies is likely to be helpful.

- **Children's Social Care: Referral, Assessment, Children in Need and Child Protection:**

Referral activity is increasing although it remains manageable. Other figures are unremarkable save for the high percentage (98%) of assessments completed within 45 days which constitutes good practice. You describe in your self evaluation your MASH as a strong platform that promotes getting it right first time' and the focused visit supported this assertion. It is noticeable that within this aspect of service audit and performance activity feature strongly and the service is staffed with permanent workers. This somewhat bucks a London trend.

Within the Children Access Service you have located your multi-agency violence, vulnerability (VVE) and exploitation team. You report you are very pleased with its progress believing in particular that the daily VVE meeting have greatly improved information sharing. You have agreed the remit of the MACE should be extended and are progressing developments to this end. You tell me that the contextual safeguarding model is being further developed to be aligned with Safe Harrow and LSCB initiatives. Alongside these strategic developments you continue to develop a range of meetings where individual young people at risk of VVE are discussed following the Victim, Offender, Location and Themes model (VOLT).

We discussed the improvements to strengthen the expertise in the MASH including the appointment of a specialist female genital mutilation worker. We have previously commented favourably on the inclusion of an education lead within the MASH and the positive impact this has to engage schools in all safeguarding activity. I was pleased this was further recognised within the focused visit and continue to see this post as a best practice exemplar others could, or indeed should, follow. We discussed briefly the work of the First Response Team including the high priority it affords child in need cases.

- **Children looked after:**

Generally service delivery in this area remains strong. Relevant data shows improvements in placement stability (despite a more complex cohort), health assessments and the completion of Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaires (SDQ's). You report that as you have been successful in reducing your overall children looked after figures the proportion of UASC within that cohort as well as care leavers has grown. You are looking to work collaboratively with other London Boroughs to best support this vulnerable young group. You report that Senior Leaders including politicians are ambitious and pro-active corporate parents. As a result, there has been improved access to educational support and information communications technology (ICT). You also report an increased focus on personal education plans and improved pathways for mental health support through Harrow Horizons.

- **Care leavers:**

Your own provisional data suggests that currently 90% of care leavers are in suitable accommodation and 65% in Education, Employment or Training. This is above statistical neighbours and national averages. The local offer to care leavers has been updated following consultation with young people and is informed by the requirements of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. The Leaving Care Charter has also been updated and care leavers receive Council Tax relief.

You inform me there is a comprehensive Preparation for Independence Programme for care leavers to include coverage of such topics including, finance, relationships, education, employment and training. You provide in addition to personal advisors specialist advice from a commissioned service (Prospects) as well as an independent advocacy service. Alongside young people you commission two Leaving Care Forums each year where you inform me older care leavers may discuss and explore their own personal journeys while offering advice and support to younger peers. There is an increasing number of care leavers attending further and higher education including University (16%).

- **Missing children:**

In keeping with many other London Boroughs you have adopted the Pan London Runaway and Missing from Home and Care Protocol. Missing children data is reviewed and analysed by the VVE sub group of the HSCB. You, as a partnership, have invested in E-CINS, a cloud based software package to further support the sharing of information promoting improved analysis of vulnerable children who go missing, the reasons why and known associates. You convene multi-agency strategy discussions for individual children and have promoted with the police 'grab packs' to help to quickly locate and safeguard children where possible. Information regarding missing children is shared with the CSE co-ordinator who may in the light of other contextual information escalate matters for a strategy discussion or bespoke vulnerability assessments.

- **Domestic abuse:**

You evidence through section 3 of your self assessment your work and commitment to address and reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse in all of its insidious forms. I note that the HSCB maintains an appropriate focus on this work that includes the Tavistock couples counselling partnership alongside perpetrator programmes delivered through the Safer Harrow partnerships.

**Summary:**

You recognise within your own 'final words' section of the self evaluation that the challenge for your good services is to sustain your high standards. The self-evaluation, thoughtful contribution to this meeting with a senior management team that is both stable and able provide firm building blocks for this to occur.

Thank you once more for your contribution to a constructive and interesting meeting.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean Tarpey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "S".

**Sean Tarpey**  
**Senior HMI (social care)**

Please note: This letter is not published by Ofsted and the comments made have not been evaluated as part of an inspection.