

# Corporate Parenting Panel Agenda

**Date:** Wednesday 13 July 2022

**Time:** 6.00 pm

**Venue:** Council Chamber, Harrow Civic Centre, Station Road, Harrow, HA1 2XY

## Membership (Quorum 3)

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**Chair:** Councillor Hitesh Karia

**Conservative Councillors:** Matthew Goodwin-Freeman  
Chetna Halai

**Labour Councillors:** Simon Brown  
Aneka Shah-Levy

**Non-Voting Advisory Member:** Valerie Griffin

## Reserve Members:

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**Conservative Reserve Members:**

1. Vipin Mithani
2. Govind Bharadia
3. Zak Wagman

**Labour Reserve Members:**

1. Sasi Suresh
2. Krishna Suresh

## Officers:

**Contact:** Nikoleta Kemp, Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer  
Tel: 07761 405898 E-mail: [nikoleta.kemp@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:nikoleta.kemp@harrow.gov.uk)

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**Agenda publication date: Tuesday 5 July 2022**

# 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 the Vice-Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel for the 2022-2023 Municipal Year.

## 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 - 16)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2022 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, 8 July 2022. 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. Dates of Meetings of the Panel for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2022/23

To approve or vary the dates of future meetings of the Panel for the remainder of the Municipal Year given that the Panel in 2021/22 agreed to move its

24 March meeting to September 2022.

The Panel meets four times a year:

- 13 July 2022
- 3 October 2022
- 31 January 2023
- 27 March 2023

9. **Update from Care Experienced Young People about their Experiences**  
Verbal update.
10. **Update and Performance for Corporate Parenting Service** (Pages 17 - 26)  
Presentation from the Head of Corporate Parenting.
11. **Virtual School Performance Update** (Pages 27 - 38)  
Presentation from the Head of Virtual School.
12. **Update and Performance on Health for Children Looked After** (Pages 39 - 44)  
Presentation from the Named Nurse for Children Looked After in Harrow.
13. **Any Other Urgent Business**  
Which cannot otherwise be dealt with.

## **Agenda - Part II - Nil**

### **Data Protection Act Notice**

The Council will record the meeting and will place the recording on the Council's website.

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



# Corporate Parenting Panel

## Minutes

### 1 February 2022

**Present:**

**Chair:** Angella Murphy-Strachan

**Councillors:** Dr Lesline Lewinson                      Kiran Ramchandani  
Janet Mote    Christine Robson

**Councillors (in attendance):** Councillor Sue Anderson                      Community Engagement, Accessibility & Customer Services Portfolio Holder

**Officers in attendance:**

Paul Hewitt	Corporate Director, People
Anupameya Jain	Acting Assistant Head
Jacinta Kane	Teacher, Virtual School
Christine Nichols	Head of Service – Corporate Parenting
Peter Tolley	Named Nurse for Children Looked After in Harrow
Mellina Williamson-Taylor	Director Children Social Care
	Headteacher, Harrow Virtual School

**Absent:** Valerie Griffin    Councillor Maxine Henson

**127. Attendance by Reserve Members**

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

Ordinary Member

Reserve Member

Councillor Lynda Seymour

Councillor Dr Lesline Lewinson

**128. Declarations of Interest**

**RESOLVED:** To note that the declarations of interest published in advance of the meeting on the Council's website were taken as read.

**129. Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2021 be taken as a read and signed correct record.

**130. Public Questions**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no public questions were received.

**131. Petitions**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no petitions were received.

**132. Deputations**

**RESOLVED:** To note that deputations were received.

**Resolved Items**

**133. Update from Care Experienced Young People about their Experiences**

Members received an update from two care experienced young people on their experience of being looked-after by Harrow Council and receiving leaving care services. They shared their experiences and reported on some of the key messages received from young people at the recent Children in Care Council event held virtually.

The two care experienced young people related the following experiences:

- when transitioning from care to a care leaver, it was important to retain the same social worker. An issue for all young people was the change in social workers from childhood to adolescence and above 18 years old
- one of the young people shared that she felt that some social workers lacked empathy and this impacted adversely on vulnerable young people. Her University studies in social work had highlighted that the understanding of the word addiction was fundamental to the work of a social worker but it was sad that some social work students on her course had no grasp of its meaning. This lack of understanding would hurt vulnerable people. The Head of Corporate Parenting agreed that these were key issues and showed why the Council must listen to the voices of care experienced children and young people. The voice of young people was critical in ensuring that their needs were understood and met. The Chair agreed with these sentiments. A Member commented that empathy would come with experience and could not

be taught. It was the Council's responsibility to make changes and develop relationships between young people and social workers

- one of the young people reflected on their social work university course and shared that 'social GRRAAACCEEESSS' had to be learnt and some students appeared to lack such fundamentals. During their studies, they appeared not to have developed or matured in social work studies as they often used language that would be offensive to those in care. The cohort did try and help each other by showing different ways of addressing the same situation and by educating them further and changing behaviours.

Members thanked the young participants for their contributions and recognised the importance of being looked after by the same social worker throughout their care journey. Constant change of social workers was not good care. With Covid-19 being endemic in society, they hoped that some form of normality would return soon and normal services would resume and positive changes made could be built on. Members were enlightened by the experiences of University social work education and they hoped that the messages conveyed at this meeting had been fed back to the establishment so that improvements could be made for the benefit of future generations/students studying social work.

Members acknowledged that the experiences gained by young people present at the meeting had been gained painfully. Their experiences had also given them a step up in life but at a cost. They were pleased to learn that they continued to challenge others whilst making positive contributions to society.

The Divisional Director of Children and Young People Services thanked the young people and stated that the Council was determined to get it right for future generations of young people in care, including how his staff were managed. The Directorate had reorganised its Service area to meet the needs of young people and had recognised the detrimental effect of continuous changes in social workers. Measures had been put in place to ensure a smooth pathway for young people in care and the Children Looked After Team was now a joint team with the Leaving Care team, and children did not have an automatic change of social worker at the age of 18 years.

The Head of Corporate Parenting stated that empathy, listening skills, emotional understanding were included in workshops for social workers and as part of the probation period.

In response, a young person hoped that this aspect would flourish. The young person identified that there can be gaps in support/care provided by social workers partly because they were burdened by too many cases and in having to deal with trauma. It was also important that social workers learnt to set boundaries.

The Divisional Director of Children and Young People Services stated that he would look to involve young people in staff wellbeing training/courses.

On behalf of the Panel, the Chair thanked the two young persons for sharing their invaluable experiences and suggestions on how the Council and other establishments could improve the lives of young people in care. She would encourage all young people in care to feedback their experiences, including negative ones so that improvements could be made.

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

#### **134. Corporate Parenting Service Update and Corporate Parenting Strategy 2022 to 2025**

The Panel received a presentation from the Head of Corporate Parenting providing an update on the Corporate Parenting Service and the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2022-25 which set out the Council's vision, achievements, foundations and the key priorities.

##### **Corporate Parenting Service**

The Head of Corporate Parenting updated the Panel on the key service areas and the performance scorecard for Q3. She referred to the last column on the scorecard – Harrow actual Q3 2021-22 – and reported that improvements were expected in the areas shaded red and amber and expected Member scrutiny in this regard. She drew attention to areas which had improved from Q2, such as in dental checks. The importance of dental checks had been highlighted with both the social workers and foster carers and it was recognised that additional improvements were required. The target was to reach 90%+ for Q4. Harrow's statistical neighbours had experienced significant declines in dental checks for CLA (42%) during the same period, which was a testament to the hard work of social workers and carers in prioritising the health needs of children in care.

With regard to health checks, the position had markedly improved. In terms of the percentage of children who ceased to be looked after who were adopted, it was important to note that there was not a target in terms of numbers of children adopted by Harrow each year, decisions were based on the individual best interests of children as part of permanency planning. She was pleased to report that 3 children had been adopted and 12 children had permanency under special guardianship orders (SGOs).

Furthermore, as discussed at the last meeting, Harrow was now caring for 30 unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC). The figure had increased in the last 3 months, but it was below the quota of UASCs the Council had agreed to accommodate.

There had been an improvement in young people accessing education, employment, and training (NEET). A Challenge Panel had recently been set up and would focus on developing plans for young people to be supported into education, employment, and training opportunities. Support was also provided by the Harrow Virtual School.

The Panel's attention was drawn to the CLA demographics and disproportionality, and Members were informed that the Asian group was



underrepresented. There had been an increase in Asian CLA from 15% to 26%. There had been a small decrease in the white and mixed race CLA.

The participation at the Children in Care Council event in January 2022 ought to be applauded and it was hoped to build-on this event and involve more young people in care. Feedback was received from care experienced young people about services and their key messages from this event were: what happened when they left care, how this could be improved and the need to have mental health services in place. A self-assessment was planned, and the Service was looking to explore the best ways in which the voices of CLA could be heard. Harrow was also aspiring to an inspection that could be led by young people in care. The Pan London Children in Care Group was also lobbying TFL (Transport for London) to provide free transport for children in care.

The Chair invited questions and comments from Member, particularly in relation to the scorecard, details of which were set out on page 15 of the agenda. Members commented as follows:

- the improvements in dental health checks, health checks and the figures for adoption and guardianship as welcomed. A Member commented that she was not in favour of setting targets for adoption which she considered to be artificial as the child and his/her future was more important than a target;
- it was understood that the backlog in respect of the timeliness of reviews for CLA was as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and that the reviews would be prioritised. It was noted that there had been an issue with the recording of this issue as a result of glitches in IT;
- the percentage of care leavers not in education, employment, or training (19-21 years old) was concerning and clarification was required. The Divisional Director of Children and Young People Services clarified that 2 in 3 children were in education/ employment /training, but he acknowledged that further improvements were required;
- that the previously established relationship with temples needed to be revitalised in order to increase the number of Asian foster carers.

The Head of Corporate Parenting referred to the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2022-2025 and briefed the Panel on the achievement made to date and examples of good practice. She outlined the key priorities at pages 19 – 23 of the agenda, including the aspiration, and highlighted the following achievements:

- care experienced young people were part of every interview panel to recruit social workers, after care personal advisors and managers in the Children Looked After, UASC, and Leaving Care team (introduced in 2020);

- the Council was one of the first local authorities in England to sign-up to the *Parents In and Leaving Care Charter*;
- the Harrow Local Offer to Care Leavers was refreshed following consultation with care experienced young people in 2021. Council tax exemption for all Harrow Care Leavers until their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday was introduced in April 2021;
- in 2021, the Council stayed in touch with 98% of care leavers aged 19-21, and 96% were in suitable accommodation;
- 100% of eligible children had a completed Personal Education Plan (PEP) in 2021;
- no child looked after by Harrow had a permanent exclusion in 2020-2021;
- all children were given extra tuition according to their need;
- the Staying Put policy enabled care leavers to remain with their foster carers after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The priorities for 2022-2025 were set as follows:

- education, training and employment: The Council had high aspirations and wanted to close the attainment gap for children in care. The Council would increase the proportion of care leavers in education, training and employment;
- improve the involvement and participation of young people in all services for children looked after and care leavers, with a focus on co-production, service design, delivery and evaluation;
- children looked after would be happy and healthy, safe and protected from harm and sexual exploitation: improve the physical, emotional and social health and wellbeing of children looked after and care leavers;
- safe and stable homes: The Council would provide a choice of good quality placements that provide security, stability, safety and high standards of care.

Members were delighted with the progress and the participation from young people which showed a degree of ownership. The direction from young people was welcomed. The Head of Corporate Parenting acknowledged the positive steps that had been made across the service but noted that the Council was still on a journey and building on participation for children and young people in care.

**RESOLVED:** That the update and the Strategy be noted.

### 135. Virtual School Performance Update

The Panel received an update on the performance of the Harrow Virtual School. The Headteacher of Harrow Virtual School, accompanied by another member of her team, referred to the presentation slides and reported as follows:

- the photograph on slide 1 was that of a child being looked after by the Council and was taken at an equine therapy session to help promote physical and emotional well-being;
- in June 2021, the role of the Virtual Headteacher to work was extended by the Department for Education (DfE) to support every child with a social worker. Virtual Schools were to build on their current good practice with children in care and offer evidence based interventions to support professionals working with this group. There was an emphasis on children's attainment, progress and attendance. The role was strategic and Virtual Schools were not to provide direct intervention. The guidance received from the DfE did not change existing duties for looked-after and previously looked-after children;
- the strategic leadership of Virtual School Heads for children with a social worker required Virtual Schools to narrow the attainment gap, support children's engagement in education enhance partnerships between education settings and local authorities, details of which were set out on page 42 of the agenda;
- the number of children with a social worker totalled 1552 as set out on the presentation slide on page 43 of the agenda;
- Harrow Virtual School Staffing Structure had been increased to reflect the new duties. The end of Key Stage exam predictions set out on page 45 of the agenda were above the national average for children in key Stages 1 and 2. There was an increase in the number of children predicted to achieve GCSE passes. It was important that children in Year 11 left with some qualifications and therefore support, tuition and mentoring had been made available when required;
- school attendance was 90% , however, persistent absence was at 30% across the schools. The Council promoted school attendance and punctuality for all its CLA. This message had been conveyed to carers as well. The PEP (Personal Education Plan) returns for the Autumn Term were 100% which was excellent. PEPs were taken seriously and there was continuous dialogue with schools so that where interventions were required, these were put in place at an early stage. Intervention included the provision of 1-1 tuition and/or support from a mentor;
- several issues had arisen with children with mental health problems. There had been a few suspensions and one permanent exclusion, which at the time, was in the child's best interest as there were no other alternative support;

- school absences due to Covid-19 had escalated during November and December 2021 but these had now reduced;
- the Royal SpringBoard Foundation worked in partnership with Independent Schools and the DfE to source places for vulnerable children. Harrow Virtual School had a successful outcome of a young child who had been offered a place at an Independent School with a full bursary. Her journey would be monitored and supported;
- the rationale behind Every Child Can Achieve was intended to ensure that the child did not leave school without any qualifications and a programme had been put together which included functional skills qualifications, details of which were set out on page 50 of the agenda. Such qualifications were not easier than GCSEs but offered a different approach to learning to help boost confidence;
- school priorities included a review of the education support packages for hard-to-reach students and to increase the number of CLA and Care Leavers in employment, education, and training to 75% or over. A Learning Mentor had been appointed and good systems were in place for transitions in Years 11/12. Those who had remained in further education had increased by 5%.

Members welcomed the report and praised officers for the new initiatives such as the functional skills qualification and the involvement in the SpringBoard Foundation Programme. They were proud of the achievements, including the expansion of the team. They asked what had happened to the child who had been excluded from school. The Headteacher of Harrow Virtual School reported that the child would attend the Helix which had both primary and secondary school provisions. The Virtual School had a policy in place that all children at risk of an exclusion had access to an assessment by their CLA Educational Psychologist (EP). It was not possible to have the EP assessment before the exclusion, but it happened soon after. The class sizes at the Helix were much smaller and therefore beneficial. Different teaching methods would be applied, and, in this child's case, visual learning was considered best in the child's case. The child was settled at the Helix and would remain at the school and then transition to secondary school from there.

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

### **136. Information Report – Harrow Children Looked After (CLA) Health Report**

The Panel received a report and a presentation from a representative (Named Nurse from CLA Harrow) of the Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust.

The report set out the delivery of health services to Harrow's Children Looked After (CLA) during April - June 2021 in line with the national guidance. The report reviewed the service and included clinical work undertaken during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Named Nurse referred to her presentation circulated with the agenda and outlined the KPIs (key performance indicators) set by the Harrow CCG (clinical commissioning group) and Harrow Council which was to achieve 100% compliance in respect of initial health assessments and review health assessments of CLA within a required period.

The Named Nurse added that reporting by exception was key in capturing those young people who refused health assessments, were placed out of the borough, identify missing children and where requests had been received late. The CLA team also assisted the Council in providing services such as records of dental and optician checks, immunisation status and monitor GP registration of CLA. She referred to the slide which set out the KPIs for Harrow CLA from July to December 2021 and explained that:

- the number of CLA seen for IHA (initial health assessment) from July until December 2021 had ranged from 67% - 100% which was an achievement. Those seen for RHS (repeat health assessment) ranged from 93% - 100% and ought to be applauded
- the lower figure of 82% IHA for October 2021 was as a result of two CLA falling outside the timescale of 20 operational days/28 calendar days. Attempts had been made to avoid this situation, but it was the only time that this had happened given the Covid-19 pandemic
- the CLA team had experienced issues around DNA.

The Panel was also advised that, in relation to Covid-19 immunisation, the requirements for health and social care staff to be double jabbed was subject to change by recent government announcement.

Members were also informed of:

- training and meetings attended by the CLA team as outlined on pages 67 and 68 of the agenda. Further training to tier 4 was being sought to ensure involvement in discharge planning. Clinical supervision training was being sought for help those children experiencing mental health issues;
- new processes, including projects, that the CLA team were taking forward which would assist both the team and help support young people better. These measures were outlined on page 69 of the agenda. The VVE team would provide the CLA team with weekly and timely updates in respect of the health assessments and to explain the reasons for any assessments missed which would help counteract those missing;
- the Peer Review of the Harrow CLA Service had had a positive outcome and the team was developing templates which would help extract data in an efficient manner. This would help to develop and move the service forward for the benefit of young people;

- the challenges around dental health checks appeared to have been resolved and foster carers were provided with relevant contact details;
- and, where appropriate, referred to the Harrow Community Dental Services for urgent treatment.

Members were pleased with the positive outcomes in respect of dental health and enquired about the how health assessment had been and were being conducted due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Named Nurse informed the Panel that the default position was face-to-face meetings. If a young person had tested positive for Covid-19, then the assessment would be carried out virtually, including for those not willing to engage. A Member recognised that there were advantages and disadvantages in all modes of delivery, but a face-to-face approach was considered beneficial as it helped to build relationships. She also recognised that some young people might be more 'open' if assessments were conducted virtually and that others might be unforthcoming.

Members applauded the joined up working between the CLA team and the Council's social workers and the work carried out in addressing the backlog.

The Named Nurse thanked Members for their support and referred to the Corporate Parenting Strategy at agenda item 8 which aspired to engage with young people. She suggested that both authorities would benefit by working jointly which would also help to improve services. This was welcomed by the Council's Head of Corporate Parenting.

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

## 137. Urgent Business

### Date of Next Meeting

The Chair proposed that, due to the proximity of the next meeting of the Panel scheduled to be held on 24 March, and the time required for officers to prepare reports, the meeting be deferred until September. Members agreed and it was

**RESOLVED:** That the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel scheduled to be held on 24 March 2022 be deferred until September 2022, Municipal Year 2022/23.

### A 'Thank You'

Members of the Panel who would not be standing for re-election in May 2022 took this opportunity to thank officers and all participants for their work. They were proud of the vast improvements made in the delivery of Corporate Parenting during their terms in office and in ensuring that the duties and responsibilities of a local authority in respect of the CLA (children looked after) were being met.

The Corporate Director of People Services thanked Members and young people for their support. He thanked Members for the cross-party support his

Service continued to receive in meeting the Council's role as Corporate Parents.

The Chair spoke of her gratitude in the work carried out by the outgoing Councillors and in ensuring the continued development of Children's Services. She thanked all Members, officers, partners and young people for their participation. She also thanked the Corporate Director for his good leadership.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 6.02 pm, closed at 7.54 pm).

(Signed) Councillor Angella Murphy-Strachan  
Chair

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# Corporate Parenting Service Update

July 2022

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*Jacinta Kane*  
*Assistant Director*  
*Corporate Parenting*

- What is Corporate Parenting and 7 principles
- Feedback from Children in Care Council
- Performance Scorecard
- Demographics and Disproportionality
- 18 ● Independent Care Review
- Challenges and Achievements

# What is Corporate Parenting?

When a child comes into care, the council becomes the Corporate Parent. The term refers to the collective responsibility of the council, elected members, employees, and partner agencies, for providing the best possible care and safeguarding for the children who are looked after by Harrow.

Every member and employee of the council has the statutory responsibility to act for that child in the same way that a good parent would act for their own child.

## *Children and Social Work Act 2017*

1. To act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and well-being, of children and young people.
2. To encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings.
3. To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people.

4. To help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners.
5. To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people.
6. For those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work.
7. To prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

## What makes a good Social Worker

When decisions are made about young people, young people should:

- be included in the decision making process;
- be asked their opinion;
- have their wishes listened to, not ignored;
- SW's need to listen to young people and put themselves in the "young peoples shoes";
- SW's to keep young people informed about decisions that affect them;
- They are often given different information from each professional e.g. SW, guardian, foster carers.

# Performance Scorecard

Children Looked After 188; Care Leavers 189 (end of Q4)



Ref No	Indicator Description	Statistical Neighbour Average 2020/21	England average 2020/21	Harrow 2018-19	Harrow 2019-20	Harrow 2020-21	Harrow target 2021/22	Harrow actual Q1 2021-22	Harrow actual Q2 2021-22	Harrow actual Q3 2021-22	Harrow actual Q4 2021-22
1	Rate of CLA per 10,000 children aged under 18	38.6	67.0	29.0	31.7	30.0		29.0	29.7	32.5	31.5
2	Timeliness of Reviews of Looked After Children	Not Published	Not Published	100.0	98.9	97.1	95%	97.1	93.5	90.7	89.8
3	% of CLA with 3 or more placements	10.0	9.0	10.7	13.5	10.0	Q1 - 2.5% Q2 - 5% Q3 - 7.5% Q4 - 10%	1.7	4.5	6.2	13.8
4	% of CLA looked after for 2.5+ years and in the same placement for 2 years	69.5	70.0	53.8	69.7	81.0	70%	73.7	76.9	70.7	68.4
23	% of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation (19 - 21 year olds)	86.4	88.0	94.6	92.9	82.1	85%	82.1	91.9	89.5	89.9
6	% of Care Leavers not in education, employment or training (19 - 21 year olds)	37.5	41.0	31.5	29.1	40.0	35%	38.5	37.1	32.4	27.6
7	% of CLA who are looked after 1 yr + with up to date Dental Checks (rolling year)	41.7	40.0	89.9	94.0	73.0	90%	85.7	80.7	86.4	91.5
8	% of CLA who are looked after 1 yr + with up to date Health Checks (rolling year)	91.8	91.0	96.2	94.0	99.0	95%	95.8	84.4	94.9	99.1
9	% of children who ceased to be looked after who were adopted	5.5	10.0	5.3	3.1	4.3	N/A	4.3	3.6	3.8	3.8
10	% Children who ceased to be looked due to a Special Guardianship Order	Not Published	12.3	6	13	19.1	13%	13.0	19.6	15.2	14.3
11	% of CLA placed more than 20 miles away from home (snapshot)	22.1	16.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20%	23.4	21.6	18.2	16.0
12	% of all CLA (current and ceased) with at least 1 missing episode in year	12.9	10.0	11.8	12.8	9.0	Q1 - 3% Q2 - 6% Q3 - 9% Q4 - 12%	3.6	8.2	8.6	8.8

# CLA demographics and disproportionality Q4 snapshot

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Ethnicity									
	LA Latest snapshot			LA 2020			Eng 2020		
	CLA	Pop	% difference	CLA	Pop	% difference	CLA	Pop	% difference
White	26	27	lower -4%	25	27	lower -7%	75	73	higher 3%
Mixed	23	9	higher 156%	23	9	higher 156%	10	6	higher 67%
Asian	24	49	lower -51%	22	49	lower -55%	4	12	lower -67%
Black	13	9	higher 44%	15	9	higher 67%	7	6	higher 17%
Other	15	6	higher 150%	15	6	higher 150%	3	3	no dif 0%
Age									
	LA Latest snapshot			LA 2020			Eng 2020		
	CLA	Pop	% difference	CLA	Pop	% difference	CLA	Pop	% difference
Under 1	4	6	lower -30%	4	6	lower -33%	5	5	no dif 0%
1 to 4	12	24	lower -50%	15	24	lower -38%	14	22	lower -36%
5 to 9	13	29	lower -55%	13	29	lower -55%	19	29	lower -35%
10 to 15	36	31	higher 17%	43	31	higher 39%	39	34	higher 15%
16-plus	34	10	higher 242%	25	10	higher 150%	23	10	higher 130%
Gender									
	LA Latest snapshot			LA 2020			Eng 2020		
	CLA	Pop	% difference	CLA	Pop	% difference	CLA	Pop	% difference
Male	56	51	higher 10%	59	51	higher 16%	56	51	higher 9%
Female	44	49	lower -11%	41	49	lower -16%	44	49	lower -10%



Government response and implementation strategy to be published before the end of 2022. Priorities:

1. Improve the child protection system so that it keeps children safe from harm as effectively as possible.
- 25 2. Support families to care for their children, so that they can have safe, loving and happy childhoods which set them up for fulfilling lives.
3. Ensure that there are the right placements for children in the right places, so that those who cannot stay with their parents grow up in a safe, stable and loving home.

## Establishment of a National Implementation Board

[The-independent-review-of-childrens-social-care-Final-report.pdf \(childrensocialcare.independent-review.uk\)](https://www.childrensocialcare.independent-review.uk)

- Placement sufficiency and stability for CLA, suitable accommodation for care leavers
- Workforce – recruiting and developing social workers, minimising changes of social workers for CLA
- Transitions to adulthood
- EET, dental checks, health, suitable accommodation for care leavers – better than SN and national averages
- Meaningful participation of care experienced children and young people to improve and design services

# Achieving Excellence Together



# The Journey So Far...



- The Children's Act (1989) was amended in 2014 and required every local authority in England to appoint an officer to make sure that its duty to promote the educational achievement of its looked-after children is properly discharged.
- The Children's Act was amended in 2017 to promote the educational achievement of previously looked-after children.
- Non-statutory guidance was provided in June 2021 to extend the role of the VHT in September 2021, to promote the education for every child with a social worker.

# What is a Virtual School?

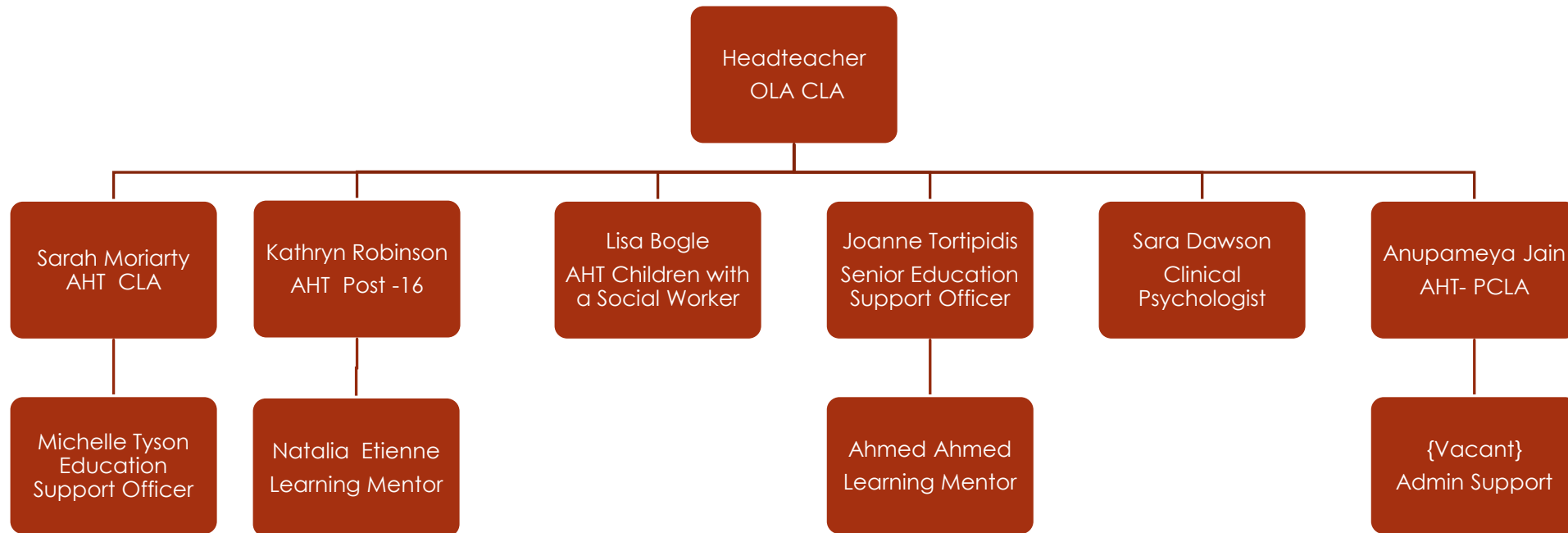


- Every local authority in England has a Virtual School Headteacher (VSH) who has a role to advocate for CLA and children with a social worker.
- Ensures every vulnerable child reaches their full educational potential.
- Has robust procedures in place to monitor educational progress, attainment and attendance.
- Provides training, support and advice for key stakeholders.

# Virtual School Structure



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# Pupil Premium



- Harrow Virtual School gives £1500, split into termly payments of £500 to schools.
- Schools are accountable for how their Pupil Premium (PP) is spent.
- Top-up pupil premium can be applied for if a child or young person has additional needs.
- The spend is monitored via the child's educational targets in their Personal Education Plan (PEP)

# School Overview



- PEP returns remain at 100%.
- 111 pupils of Statutory School Age ( SSA) are on roll.
- 70% of students have been in care for 1 year or longer
- 55% of pupils are educated outside of Harrow. They are spread across 23 local authorities.
- 95% of students attend schools which are Ofsted rated as 'Good' or better.
- 23% of students have an EHCP.
- 33% of students have been identified as having social, emotional and mental health challenges



# Primary End of Key Stage Predictions



- Key Stage 1: 50% (2/4) are expected to achieve 'expected' in Reading, Writing and Maths. The national average is 52% (Reading), 41% (Writing) and 32% (Maths)
- Key Stage 2: 42% (3/7) are expected to achieve 'expected' in Reading, Writing and Maths. The national average for is 32%.

Our primary aged children continue to meet or exceed national averages for children in care.

# Year 11 Exam Predictions



There are currently 19 students in Year 11.

- 42% (8/19) will achieve 8 or more GCSEs at Grade 4 or above.
- 53% (10/19) will achieve 5 or more GCSEs at Grade 4 or above.
- 63% (12/19) will achieve at least 1 GCSE pass

The data above shows performance at Key Stage 4 is improving. More children are expected to receive good GCSEs when compared to the last academic year.

In 2020-2021 only 1 student received 11 GCSEs (grades 4-8) and 4 students achieved GCSE passes in both English and Maths.

# Key Stage 5 – Summer Term



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KS5 (Years 12 and 13) 73 students:

- 78% (57/73) are EET
- 22% (16/73) NEET
- 95% (54/57) of students that are EET are in education or training; 4% (2/57) of students are in employment

# Post-16 Qualification Predictions



- 23 ESOL course passes
- 7 Functional Skills course passes
- 3 GCSE (+1 Year 14 student) predicted to pass
- 3 BTEC Level 2 course passes
- 2 BTEC Level 3 Year 1 passes with progression to Year 2
- 1 Apprenticeship progression for continued employment and training
- 2 AS Level students predicted to pass with progression to A Level
- 2 A Level students predicted to pass with progression to University – AAA and BBB
- 4 BTEC Level 3 course passes with progression to University (2) and employment (2)

# Enrichment Offer



- Harrow School KS3-5 Study Club: weekly on Thursdays 4.30-5.30pm & BBQ 1<sup>st</sup> July 5pm
- Reading Club (online) Years 3-4, 5-6 & 7-9: monthly on Mondays 4.30-5.30pm
- Phoenix outdoor activities i.e. kayaking, raft building Years 10-12: 26<sup>th</sup> July in Hendon NW9
- Brunel University Urban Scholars residential Years 9-10: 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> July
- Horsenden Hill Activity Centre football/golf Years 5-6, Years 11+: July dates TBC in Northolt
- Strength in Horses Years 5-9: 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> August at Edge Stables HA8 8QX
- ESOL Summer School all ages: 1<sup>st</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> August at Capital City Academy in Willesden
- Exscitec STEM residential age 12-14yrs & 15-17yrs: 14<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> August in Leicestershire

## Autumn 2022:

- Care 2 Dance – weekly on Saturdays
- Arvon Lumb Bank creative writing residential October half-term Years 10-12



# Priorities



- To review education packages for ‘hard to reach’ Key Stage 3 and Key 4 students.
- To increase the number of CLA and Care Leavers in Employment, Education and Training to 75% or higher.
- For Key Stage 4 to Key Stage 5 transitions to remain strong.
- School attendance is above 95%.

# Harrow Children Looked After Health Service Corporate Parenting Panel July 2022

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## Christine Nichols – Named Nurse for Children Looked After Harrow

Agenda Item 12  
Pages 39 to 48

# Key Performance Indicators for Harrow CLA

- Harrow CCG and Harrow Council set the following KPIs

## Initial Health Assessments: –

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- To complete 100% of CLA Initial Health Assessments (IHAs) within 20 operational days/ 28 calendar days.

## Review Health Assessments:-

- To complete 100% of CLA Review Health Assessments (RHAs) completed on time.



# Exception Reporting

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- Young people who refuse
- DNAs or missing children
- Out of area
- Notifications from Harrow Council later than 3 months before the review date
- Late requests

These KPIs are taken from Statutory Guidance requirements.

# Other Service Specification Requirements

The CLA team also assist the London Borough of Harrow to:

- Record and report dates of dental checks following health assessment
- To update immunisation status of each CLA following health assessment where possible
- GP Registration
- Record and report dates of Optician Checks

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# KPI's for Harrow CLA January – May 2022

Month	Target for IHA 100% CNWL *	Target for RHA 100% CNWL *	Number seen in timescales Exception Report
January	100%	100%	100 % IHA    100 % RHA
February	100%	100%	100 % IHA    100% RHA
43 March	100%	100%	100 % IHA    100 % RHA
April	100%	100%	100 % IHA    100 % RHA
May	100%	100%	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.

# Training Attended by CLA Team

- The Named Nurse for Harrow CLA attended Harrow Children Services Leadership Awayday
- The Harrow CLA team attended a Looked After Children Awayday with the Hillingdon LAC team

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# Meetings Attended

- **Monthly MASE meetings.**
- **Strategy Meetings.**
- **Child Protection Supervision.**
- **Monitoring Meetings.**
- **Team Meetings.**
- **Quarterly meetings with mental health services.**

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# New Processes

- **The Harrow CLA service will be setting up Saturday clinics for young people to attend for Review Health Assessments. Clinics will commence on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2022. These clinics will give young people more choice / flexible time to be seen. Saturday clinics will be reviewed.**

# Questions

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