

# **REPORT FOR: CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL**

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<b>Date:</b>	10 January 2017
<b>Subject:</b>	INFORMATION REPORT – Activity and Performance
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No – Information only
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Chris Spencer, Corporate Director, People Services
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Christine Robson
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All
<b>Exempt:</b>	No
<b>Decision subject to Call-in:</b>	No
<b>Enclosures:</b>	Children Looked After (CLA): Performance Report

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

This is an information report which sets out activity for children looked after and care leavers at 30 November 2016 (where data is available) as well as the provisional performance position at Quarter 2 of 2016-17. Where appropriate, national and comparator data is also included for context.

## Section 2 – Report

The attached Appendix shows provisional outturn position at end of Quarter 2 (2016-17) and an update of activity for children looked after (CLA) at the end of November where available.

### Key Points:

- Numbers of children looked after have stabilised in recent months with 199 CLA in November compared to the 3 year monthly high of 201 seen in September. While numbers and rates have increased across the years the overall rate of CLA per 10,000 children ( Harrow rate - 35) remains below the national (60) and statistical neighbour (41) average.
- There are no significant changes to the profile of the CLA cohort.
- In-house foster placements has shown a slight decrease but remains the most common placement for CLA accounting for 50% of all placements compared to just over 40% at the beginning of the year.
- One looked after young person has had a permanent exclusion this academic year; 5 CLA have had at least one fixed-term exclusion,
- Attendance is carefully monitored for all CLA, 11% of school sessions missed since start of academic year, our absence rate for CLA looked after 1 year+ has been higher (5.6%) compared to statistical neighbours (4.2%) and England (4%) averages last year,
- The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation remains low at 73.5%. (12 are considered to be living in unsuitable accommodation e.g. prison, living with family or friends deemed to be unsuitable). 33 % of care leavers are not in employment education or training. ((10 are not recorded) Work is being done to improve the recording of information on FWi to capture whether we are still in touch with those that have left care. New worker has started in the post; a fuller picture will be available for Q3. All efforts are made to help young people gain skills and training through Xcite and similar projects.
- The proportion of CLA 2+ placement moves has increased slightly above the annual 10% target but remains under the statistical neighbour average (12%). Placement moves are being closely monitored as there are 24 CLA with 2 moves which could potentially impact the indicator should another move occur.
- Long term stability of CLA placements remains under target with 48.7% of CLA looked after for 2.5 years being in the same placement for 2 years. Due to the small cohort involved in this indicator, changes with a single placement move can have a big impact on the percentage. For

November one LAC turned 16 which removed them from the indicator which resulted in a 4% drop from the previous month.

### **Options considered**

Not applicable as this is an information report.

### **Risk Management Implications**

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

Risk included on Directorate risk register? Yes

Separate risk register in place? No

### **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.

### **Corporate Priorities**

The Council's vision:

#### **Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow**

Please identify how the report incorporates the administration's priorities.

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for families

The report focuses on the qualitative and quantitative measures of service delivery to vulnerable children, young people and families. These measures help to inform & improve service planning.

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

Name: Jo Frost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the
Date : 15/12/2016		Chief Financial Officer

<b>Ward Councillors notified:</b>	<b>NO, relevant to all wards</b>
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**EqIA carried out:**

**NO**

**EqIA cleared by:**

N/A information report  
only

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

### **Contacts:**

Dipika Patel,  
Partner- Business Intelligence Unit  
020 8420 9258  
dipika.patel@harrow.gov.uk

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

**Background Papers:** None