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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).

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#### 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>