

# Corporate Parenting Service

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LONDON BOROUGH OF  
**HARROW**

- Performance Scorecard
- Policy and Practice Updates
- Pilots and Innovation
- Commissioning Updates

Ref No	Indicator Description	Statistical Neighbour Average 2021/22	England average 2021/22	Harrow 2020-21	Harrow 2021-22	Harrow 2022-23	Harrow target 2022/23	Harrow Q1 2023-24
1	Number of current CLA at end of quarter	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	182	188	179	N/A	192
2	Number of current Care Leavers at end of quarter	Not Published	Not Published	183	189	186	N/A	185
3	Rate of CLA per 10,000 children aged under 18	42.7	70.0	30.0	31.5	29.8		32.0
4	Timeliness of Reviews of Looked After Children	Not Published	Not Published	97.1	89.8	68.8	95%	94.6 (174/184)
5	% of CLA with 3 or more placements	10.0	9.0	10.0	13.8	9.5	Q1 - 2.5% Q2 - 5% Q3 - 7.5% Q4 - 10%	1 (2/192)
6	% of CLA looked after for 2.5+ years and in the same placement for 2 years	69.5	70.0	81.0	68.4	66.7	70%	69.2 (27/39)
7	% of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation (19 - 21 year olds)	86.4	88.0	82.1	89.9	90.1	90%	96.6 (28/29)
8	% of Care Leavers not in education, employment or training (19 - 21 year olds)	35.0	38.0	40.0	27.6	28.2	35%	34.5 (10/29)
9	% of CLA who are looked after 1 yr + with up to date Dental Checks (rolling year)	75.0	70.0	73.0	91.5	91.1	90%	82.1 (92/112)
10	% of CLA who are looked after 1 yr + with up to date Health Checks (rolling year)	93.0	89.0	99.0	99.1	91.1	95%	91.1 (102/112)
11	% of children who ceased to be looked after who were adopted	9.0	10.0	4.3	3.8	3.5	N/A	4.8 (1/21)
12	% Children who ceased to be looked due to a Special Guardianship Order	10.0	13.0	19.1	14.3	8.8	N/A	9.5 (2/21)
13	% of CLA placed more than 20 miles away from home (snapshot)	21.0	16.0	20.0	16.0	16.2	20%	20.5 (31/151)
14	% of all CLA (current and ceased) with at least 1 missing episode in year	13.0	11.0	9.0	8.8	8.2	Q1 - 2.5% Q2 - 5% Q3 - 7.5% Q4 - 10%	7.5 (16/213)

- Q1 Performance: 82% of all CLA have up to date dental checks (92/112 children)
- This is better than the statistical neighbour average of 75% and England average of 70%
- However, our target is for at least 90% of all CLA to have an up to date dental check
- This is reviewed monthly as part of our performance framework, and plans are in place to support need-to-reach adolescents to access dental checks, including increased focus on this area in CLA reviews

# Placed 20+ miles away

- Q1 performance: 20.5% of children placed 20+ miles from their home address (31/151 children)
- This is comparable to statistical neighbour average (21%)
- As noted in previous meetings, the majority of the children placed 20+ miles from their home address are in long-term, matched placements, including 10 children with in-house foster carers, 4 children with independent foster carers (IFAs), CYADS specialist placements (9) and 4 children in residential children's homes.
- Joint work is underway in the CYADS service and commissioning to improve placement sufficiency for children with disabilities requiring residential care so that children can be placed closer to or within Harrow.

- Q1 performance: 7.5% of CLA have had a missing episode (16/213 children)
- Statistical neighbour average is 13% of CLA have had a missing episode over the course of a year
- This is a cumulative indicator, and some CLA have repeat episodes of going missing from care
- Return Home Interviews are offered to all children who are missing from care, to explore push/pull factors, map peers and locations and to help assess risk.
- All missing children are reviewed on a weekly basis at the strategic missing meeting with police on a Monday morning at 9.30am
- All missing children have multiagency strategy meetings to locate children and return them safely, risk assessments and medium and high risk children (where exploitation is an identified risk) are reviewed at the monthly multiagency MACE panel with police, health, education, social care, youth justice service and community safety.
- National Referral Mechanism (NRM) referrals are made where children are identified as at risk of child trafficking and exploitation, and an independent child trafficking guardian (ICTG) allocated.

**Care Experience as a Protected Characteristic** has been introduced by 55 Councils to date, this will be brought to Cabinet for December 2023.

**Ofsted have announced they will be** conducting thematic inspections of regional adoption agencies (RAAs) this year to understand how key areas of adoption practice contribute to good outcomes for children and others affected by adoption.

The thematic inspection will take place between October and December 2023 and will consider:

- the effectiveness of the RAA's recruitment, assessment, family finding and matching practice in providing safe, child focused and timely adoptive placements for children
- the effectiveness of adoption support for adoptive families, birth families and adopted adults
- the extent to which the RAA leader understands the service's strengths and areas for development and their ability to take decisive and effective action for improvement
- the extent to which the views of those with a lived experience of adoption inform service delivery and improvement
- the extent to which the RAA governance arrangements enable the RAA to deliver effective services and provide the necessary assurance to member local authorities and other RAA partners.
- **Harrow and Coram Ambitious for Adoption have been awarded the Early Permanence Quality Mark, which is awarded to adoption agencies that demonstrate the quality of their service, and their commitment to delivering early permanence for children where adoption is in their best interest.**

## **Housing First**

Partnered with Centrepoin and Housing to provide intensive, relationship-based support for 5 Harrow care leavers with complex needs and high risk of homelessness. To commence in December 2023. Projected to result in c.£156-£208k savings per year

## **KPIs:**

- Housing and tenancy sustainment – maintaining tenancies, no rent arrears or antisocial behaviour
- Reduction in offending
- Health and wellbeing, improved mental health, and reduction in alcohol and substance use
- Improved engagement in Employment, Education and Training
- Family reconnection and improved relations



## **Fostering Recruitment and Retention Hub (DfE Funded)**

Partnership with WLA boroughs to improve recruitment and retention on “in-house” foster carers and to compete effectively with IFAs. We are 1 of 10 clusters running this programme across the country.

Will include piloting a “Mockingbird” model of supporting foster carers. The Mockingbird Family Model (MFM) is an alternative way of providing foster care. It involves foster carers being part of a group with other foster carers who are described as satellite foster homes. They are supported by a central 'hub' home, which provides resources and support to the satellite homes.

## **KPIs**

- Response to enquirers on the day of contact or the first working days (100% target)
- Improve numbers and timeliness of fostering approvals, more specialist carers
- Approved foster carers represent the diverse communities of West London
- Foster carers report high levels of satisfaction with the recruitment process and carer retention is improved
- Improved placement stability and outcomes for children in care

- Advocacy and Independent Visitor Services contract has been awarded to **Coram Voice** following a competitive tendering process, and including a care experienced young person on the moderation panel
- Coram Voice are a sector leader for Advocacy and Independent Visiting (IV) services and are also commissioned by the DfE to deliver the National Advocacy Advice Line and Safety Net service
- The advocacy service is for all children and young people including children at risk of homelessness, in care - including children living away from home, separated minors, care leavers, disabled children receiving short breaks and all children and young people accessing children's social care service between the ages of 4-25 years.
- The Independent Visitor service is for looked after children and care leavers. Coram Voice IVs are an adult role model who build a stable friendship with the child they are matched with. All IVs join Coram with the expectation that they will remain matched with their child for at least two years, and many existing IVs are matched for much longer. Coram IVs visit the child monthly, listening, talking and having fun together sharing their interests and hobbies. Coram tailor every match closely to the needs and wishes of the child, which helps to promote a long lasting friendship.



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