

## Public Document Pack

# Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Thursday, 22nd October, 2015  
at 5.30 pm

### **PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING**

Conference Room 3 - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

#### **Members**

Councillor Keogh (Chair)  
Councillor L Harris  
Councillor Lloyd  
Councillor McEwing  
Councillor O'Neill  
Councillor Painton  
Councillor Spicer  
Mrs U Topp  
Revd. J Williams

#### **Contacts**

Senior Democratic Support Officer  
Natalie Noke  
Tel: 023 8083 3950  
Email: [natalie.noke@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:natalie.noke@southampton.gov.uk)

Improvement Manager  
Mark Pirnie  
Tel: 023 8083 3886  
Email: [mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk)

# **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL**

**Role of this Scrutiny Panel:** To undertake the scrutiny of Children and Families Services in the City, including the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), Early Help, Specialist & Core Service, looked after children, education and early years and youth offending services, unless they are forward plan items. In such circumstances members of the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel will be invited to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee meeting where they are discussed.

### **Terms Of Reference:-**

Scrutiny of Children and Families Services in the City to include:

- Monitoring the implementation and challenging the progress of the Council's action plan to address the recommendations made by Ofsted following their inspection of Children's Services in Southampton and review of Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in July 2014.
- Regular scrutiny of the performance of multi-agency arrangements for the provision of early help and services to children and their families.
- Scrutiny of early years and education including the implementation of the Vision for Learning 2014 – 2024.
- Scrutiny of the development and implementation of the Youth Justice Strategy developed by the Youth Offending Board.
- Referring issues to the Chair of the LSCB and the Corporate Parenting Committee.

### **Public Representations**

At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may address the meeting on any report included on the agenda in which they have a relevant interest. Any member of the public wishing to address the meeting should advise the Democratic Support Officer (DSO) whose contact details are on the front sheet of the agenda.

**Access** – access is available for the disabled. Please contact the Democratic Support Officer who will help to make any necessary arrangements.

### **Business to be Discussed**

Only those items listed on the attached agenda may be considered at this meeting.

**QUORUM** The minimum number of appointed Members required to be in attendance to hold the meeting is 3.

**Smoking policy** – the Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings.

**Use of Social Media:-** The Council supports the video or audio recording of meetings open to the public, for either live or subsequent broadcast. However, if, in the Chair's opinion, a person filming or recording a meeting or taking photographs is interrupting proceedings or causing a disturbance, under the Council's Standing Orders the person can be ordered to stop their activity, or to leave the meeting.

**Mobile Telephones:-** Please switch your mobile telephones to silent whilst in the meeting

### **Rules of Procedure**

The meeting is governed by the Council Procedure Rules and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

**Fire Procedure** – in the event of a fire or other emergency a continuous alarm will sound and you will be advised by Council officers what action to take

**Southampton City Council's Priorities**

**Dates of Meetings: Municipal Year**

- Jobs for local people
- Prevention and early intervention
- Protecting vulnerable people
- Affordable housing
- Services for all
- City pride
- A sustainable Council

2015	2016
3 <sup>rd</sup> September	18 <sup>th</sup> February
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	21 <sup>st</sup> April
17 <sup>th</sup> December	

### DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are required to disclose, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, **both** the existence **and** nature of any "Disclosable Pecuniary Interest" or "Other Interest" they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this Agenda.

#### DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

A Member must regard himself or herself as having a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter that they or their spouse, partner, a person they are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were a civil partner in relation to:

(i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

(ii) Sponsorship:

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from Southampton City Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expense incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

(iii) Any contract which is made between you / your spouse etc (or a body in which the you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest) and Southampton City Council under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and which has not been fully discharged.

(iv) Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of Southampton.

(v) Any license (held alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of Southampton for a month or longer.

(vi) Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) the landlord is Southampton City Council and the tenant is a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interests.

(vii) Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of Southampton, and either:

- a) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or
- b) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest that exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

#### Other Interests

A Member must regard himself or herself as having an 'Other Interest' in any membership of, or occupation of a position of general control or management in:

Any body to which they have been appointed or nominated by Southampton City Council

Any public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature

Any body directed to charitable purposes

Any body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy

### **Principles of Decision Making**

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- respect for human rights;
- a presumption in favour of openness, accountability and transparency;
- setting out what options have been considered;
- setting out reasons for the decision; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

In exercising discretion, the decision maker must:

- understand the law that regulates the decision making power and gives effect to it. The decision-maker must direct itself properly in law;
- take into account all relevant matters (those matters which the law requires the authority as a matter of legal obligation to take into account);
- leave out of account irrelevant considerations;
- act for a proper purpose, exercising its powers for the public good;
- not reach a decision which no authority acting reasonably could reach, (also known as the "rationality" or "taking leave of your senses" principle);
- comply with the rule that local government finance is to be conducted on an annual basis. Save to the extent authorised by Parliament, 'live now, pay later' and forward funding are unlawful; and
- act with procedural propriety in accordance with the rules of fairness.

## AGENDA

Agendas and papers are now available via the City Council's website

### **1 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)**

To note any changes in membership of the Panel made in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3.

### **2 DECLARATION OF PARTY POLITICAL WHIP**

Members are invited to declare the application of any party political whip on any matter on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

### **3 DECLARATIONS OF SCRUTINY INTEREST**

Members are invited to declare any prior participation in any decision taken by a Committee, Sub-Committee, or Panel of the Council on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

### **4 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

### **5 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 1 - 2)

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 September, 2015 and to deal with any matters arising, attached.

### **6 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - PERFORMANCE** (Pages 3 - 32)

Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services providing an overview of performance across the Children and Family Division since September 2015, attached.

### **7 LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2014/2015**

(Pages 33 - 104)

Report of Keith Makin, Independent Chair Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board detailing the Annual Report 2014/15, attached.

### **8 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

To move that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the following Item.

The confidential report contains information deemed to be exempt from general publication based on Category 2 (Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an

individual) of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. In applying the public interest test it is not considered to be in the public interest to disclose this information as the individuals' legal expectation of privacy outweighs the public interest in the exempt information.

**9 LEARNING FROM SERIOUS CASE REVIEWS** (Pages 105 - 110)

Confidential report of Keith Makin, Independent Chair Local Safeguarding Children Board detailing learning from Serious Case Reviews, attached.

**10 OUTCOMES FOR CARE LEAVERS** (Pages 111 - 120)

Report of Service Director Children and Families providing an update in relation to the core outcomes for young people within the current cohort of care leavers in Southampton, attached.

**11 MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS** (Pages 121 - 124)

Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services relating to recommendations made at previous meetings, attached.

Wednesday, 14 October 2015

HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

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CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2015

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Present: Councillors Keogh (Chair), L Harris, Lloyd, McEwing, O'Neill, Painton and Spicer

Apologies: Mrs Topp and Revd. J Williams

In Attendance Councillor Jeffery – Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Social Care

5. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 be approved and signed as a correct record.

6. **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - PERFORMANCE**

The Panel considered the report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Service providing and overview of performance across the Children and Family Division since June 2015.

Following on from the last meeting information was provided on how referrals were made to the MASH. It was noted that although there had been a reduction in the number of referrals this may be due to the time of year with holidays and school closures impacting on demand.

The Panel looked at the detailed data that had been provided, focusing particularly on the areas where there had been significant changes. There was a need to undertake additional analysis to see why these changes had occurred and what could be done to improve performance.

RESOLVED:-

- i. that officers give consideration as to how elected members can be engaged in the campaigns to promote fostering and adoption in Southampton. This should include ensuring that Councillors have contact details enabling them to signpost interested people to the appropriate first point of contact; and
- ii. that the Council attends Hampshire Constabulary's Families Day in Netley in June 2016, to increase awareness and interest in fostering and adoption, in Southampton and to promote the opportunities available.

7. **EDUCATION ATTAINMENT IN SOUTHAMPTON**

The Panel considered the report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services concerning the provisional education attainment results in Southampton and also details of post 16 progression.

It was noted that the results at primary stage were often above national average however this changed at secondary level. It was felt that this did not reflect the quality of the schools as identified in the Ofsted ratings. There was a need to investigate the issues resulting in the performance variations at the various key stages.

The Panel expressed their concerns with the Key Stage 4 results for Looked After Children (LAC) and the support given to them to help them fulfil their potential. Particular concerns were raised about the lack of Personal Education Plans and the necessary focus on education for LAC.

The Panel also suggested that more members needed to be encouraged to become school governors. In addition the Panel agreed that Special Educational Needs, Early Years and Post 16 education would need to be considered by the Panel at a future meeting. **RESOLVED:-**

- i. to request that the Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Social Care, that through the agenda planning process, ensures that the Corporate Parenting Committee prioritises the educational attainment of LAC and ensure that Personal Education Plans were in place for all LAC;
- ii. that Councillors were provided with information on the performance of schools within their ward.
- iii. that information relating to LAC post 16 progression, keys stage 4 and 5, for 2015 be circulated to the Panel.
- iv. that the breakdown of KS4 and KS5 results be circulated to the Panel when available, to enable appropriate reports to be developed for the December 2015 Panel meeting.
- v. that schools be given the opportunity to meeting with members to share their experiences of Ofsted inspections.

#### 8. **MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Panel noted the report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services setting out progress on recommendations made at previous meetings.



# Agenda Item 6

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - PERFORMANCE		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	22nd OCTOBER 2015		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Mark Pirnie</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 023 8083 3886
	<b>E-mail:</b>	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>Director</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Dawn Baxendale</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 023 8083 2966
	<b>E-mail:</b>	Dawn.baxendale@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
None			
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>			
At the meeting the Service Director for Children and Families will be providing the Panel with an overview of performance across the division since August 2015.			
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>			
	(i)	That the Panel consider and challenge the performance of Children and Families Services in Southampton.	
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
1.	To enable effective scrutiny of children and family services in Southampton.		
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>			
2.	None.		
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>			
3.	To enable the Panel to undertake their role effectively members will be provided with appropriate performance information on a monthly basis and an explanation of the measures.		
4.	Performance information up to September 2015, and explanations of significant variations in performance are attached as Appendices 1 and 2.		
5.	The Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Social Care and the Children and Families Services Director have been invited to attend the meeting and provide the performance overview.		
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>			
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>			
6.	None.		
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>			
7.	None.		
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>			
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>			
8.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of		

	the Local Government Act 2000.
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
9.	None
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
10.	Improving the effectiveness of the political scrutiny of children's safeguarding will help contribute to the following priorities within the Council Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting vulnerable people</li> </ul> Prevention and early intervention.
<b>KEY DECISION</b>	No
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	None directly as a result of this report
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	Children and Families Monthly Dataset – September 2015
2.	Children and Families Monthly Report – September 2015
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>	
1.	None
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out.	No
<b>Privacy Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to be carried out.	No
<b>Other Background Documents</b>	
<b>Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None

# Agenda Item 6

Appendix 1

## Children and Families Monthly Dataset - Key Performance Measures

% change from previous month

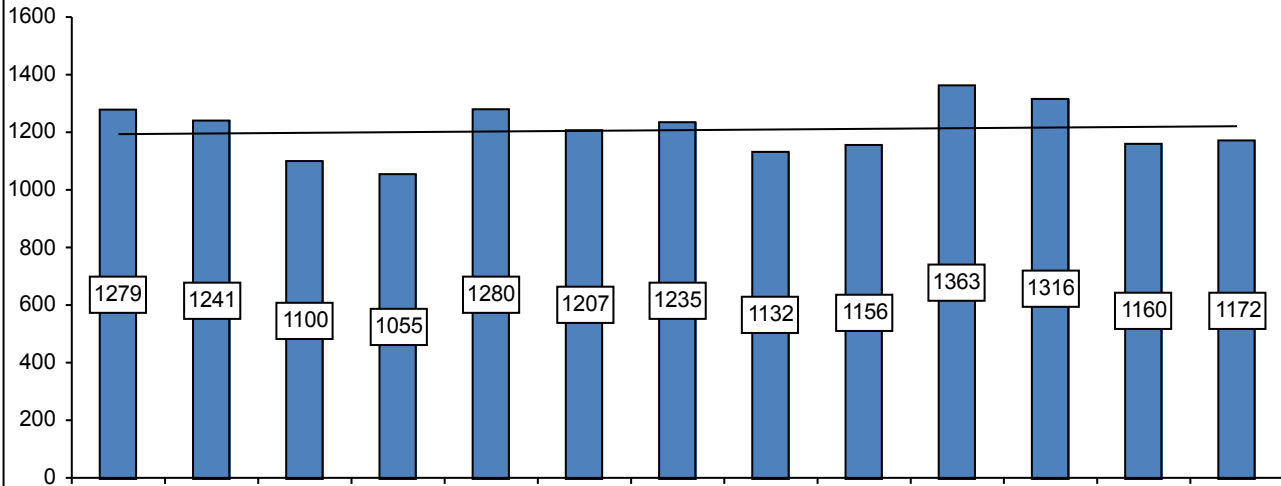


Number

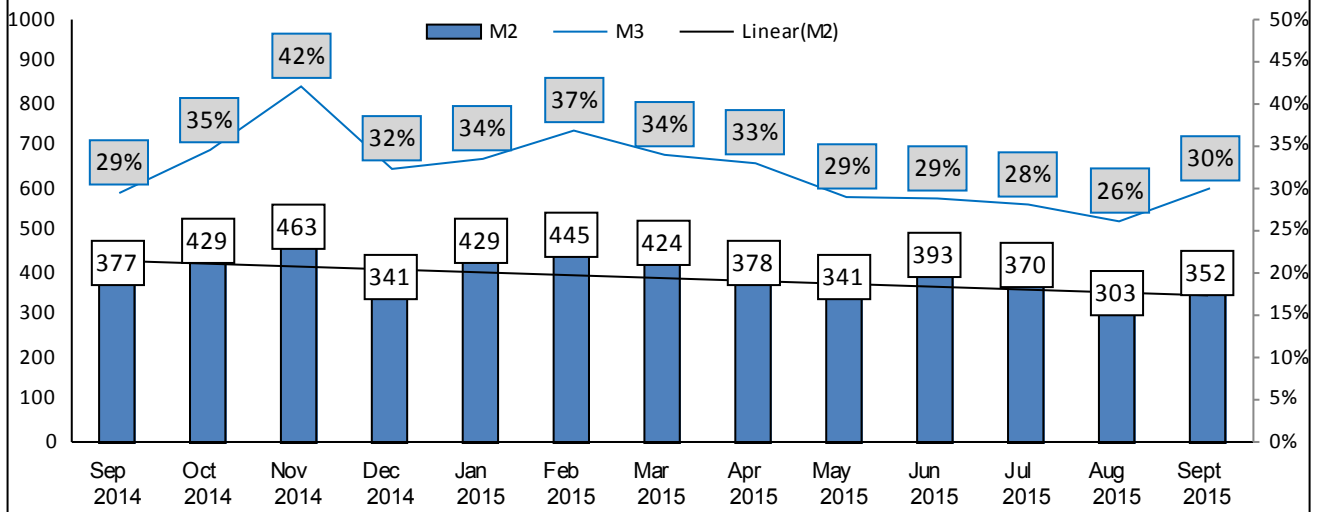


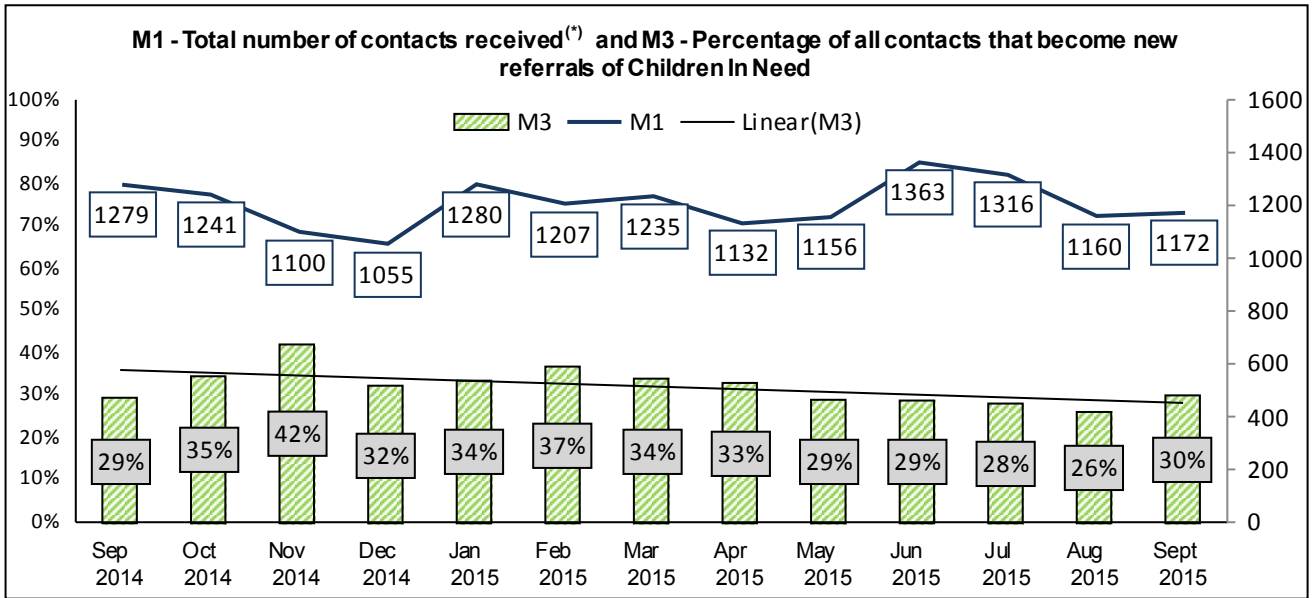
Percentage

**M1 - Number of contacts received (includes contacts that become referrals)**

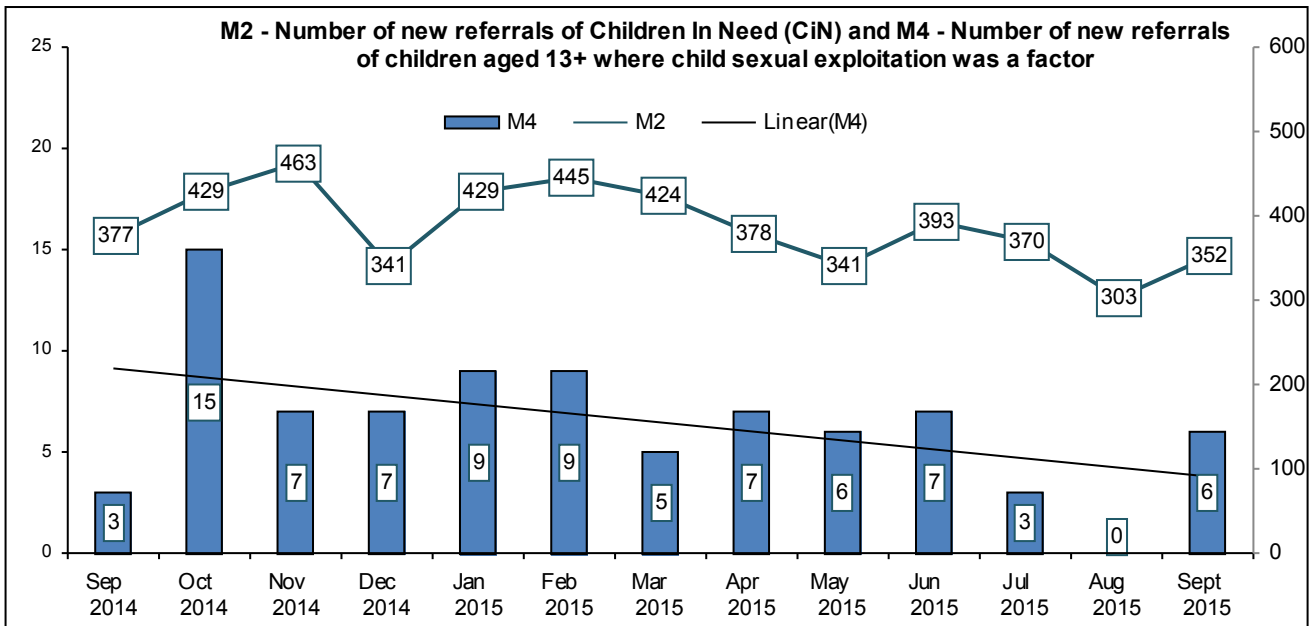


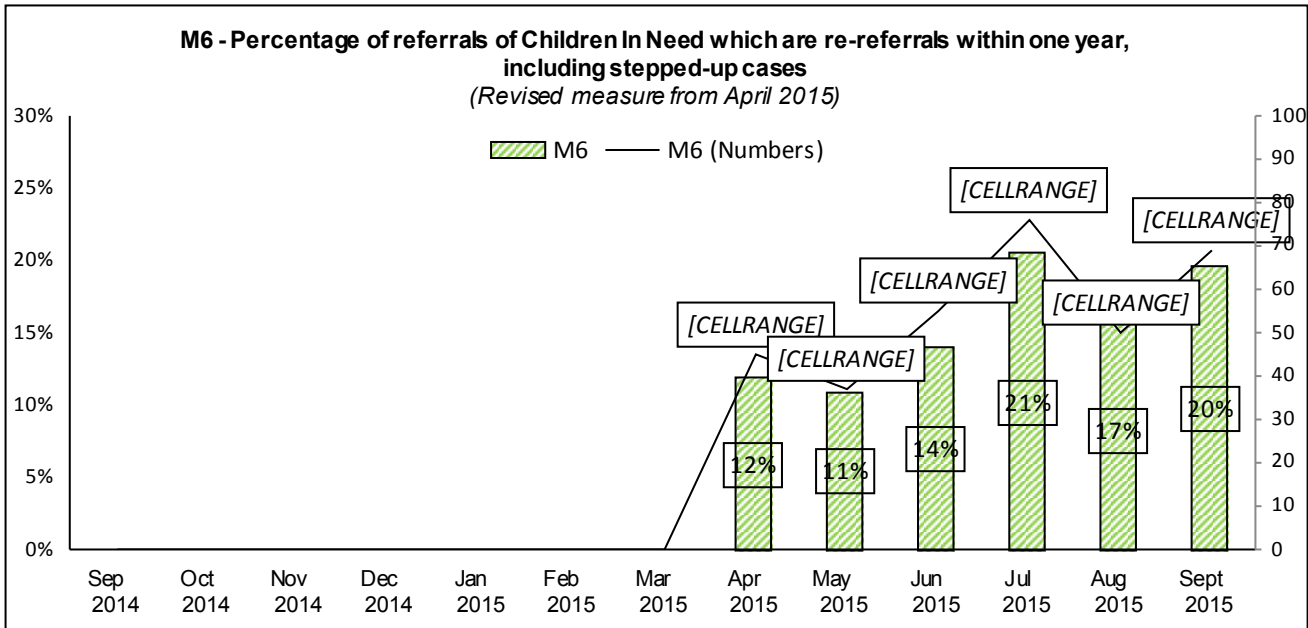
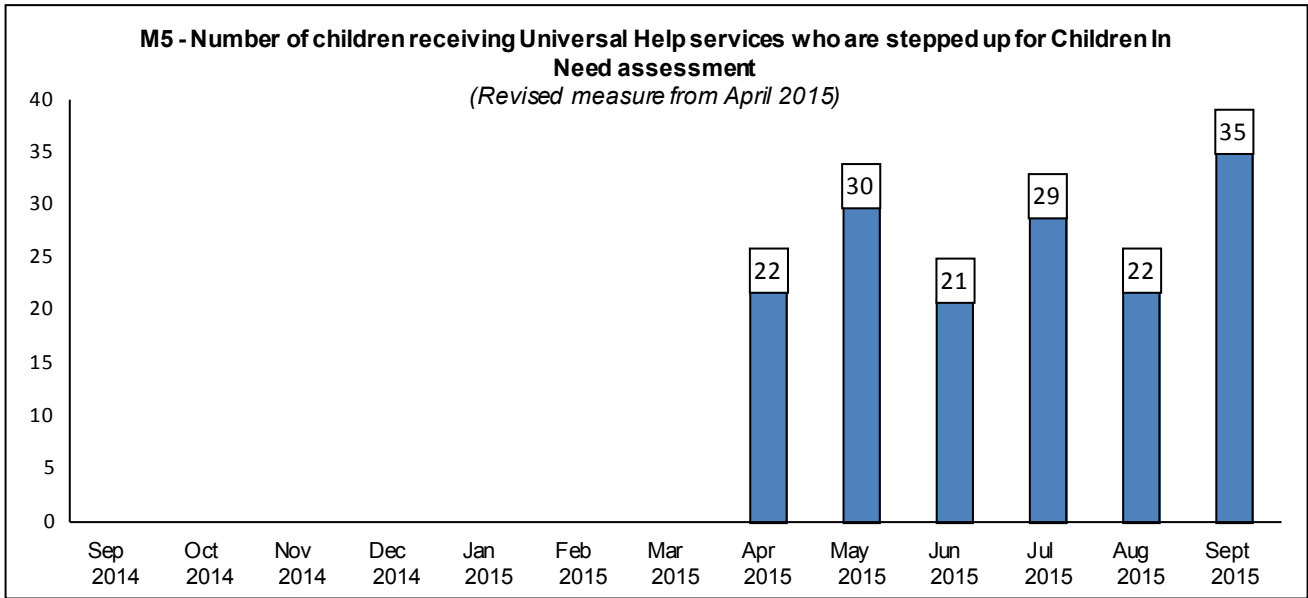
**M2 - Number of new referrals of Children In Need and M3 - Percentage of all contacts that become new referrals of Children In Need (CIN)**

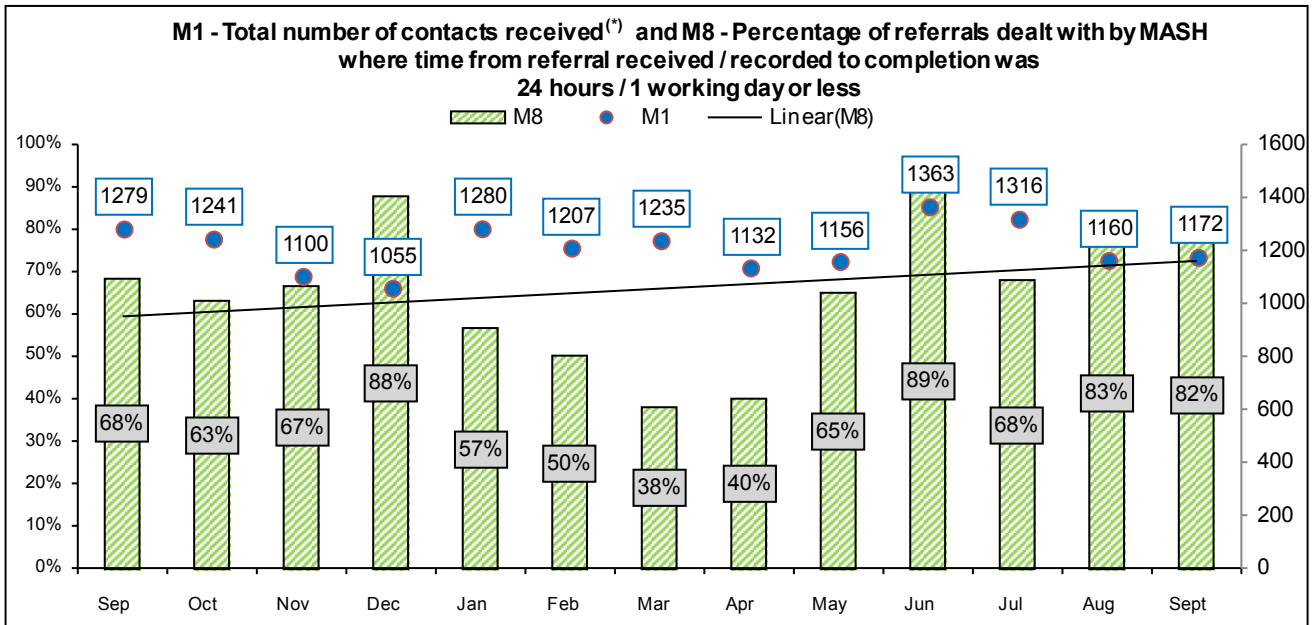




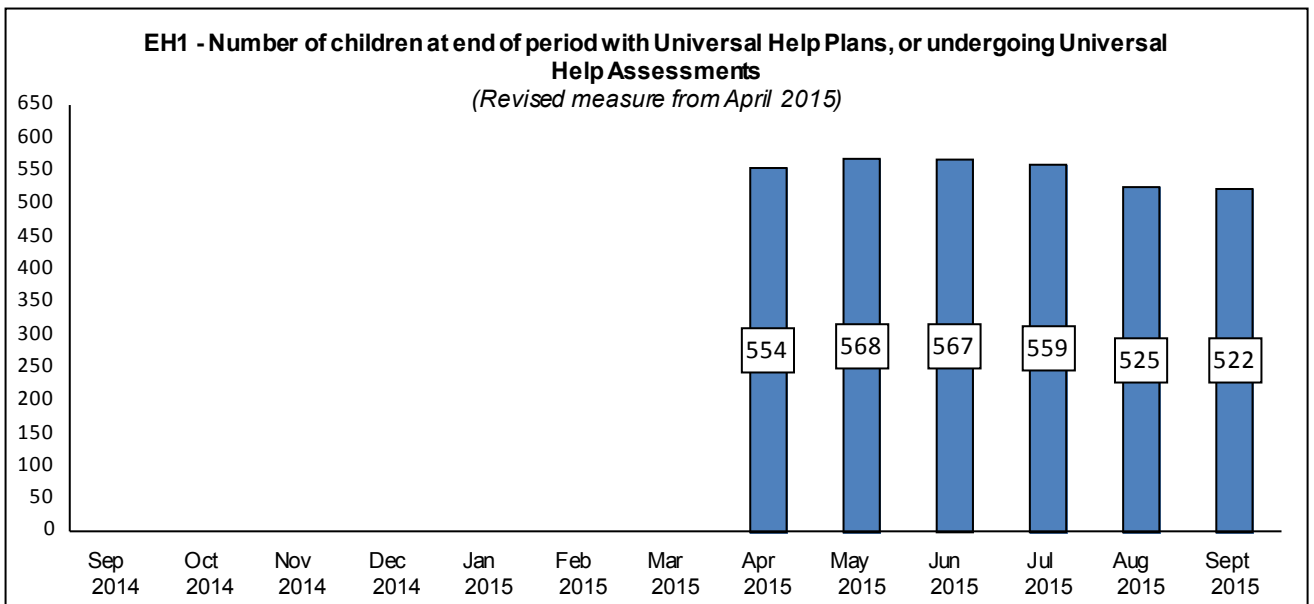
(\*)M1 - Includes contacts that become referrals.

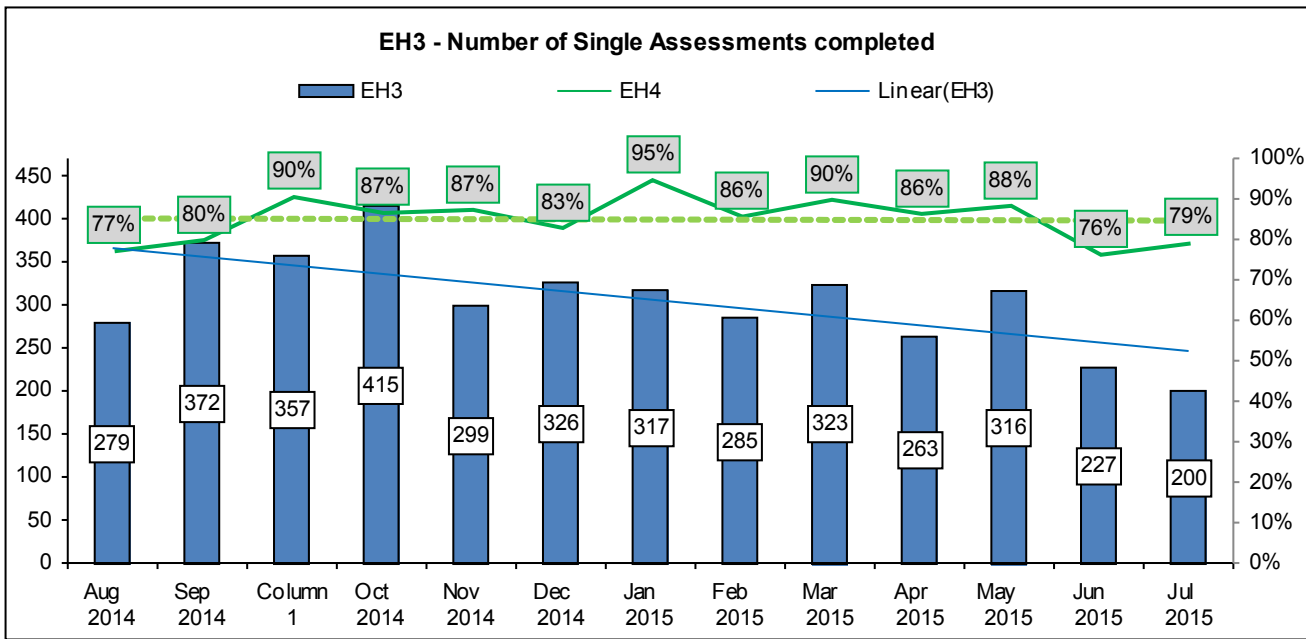
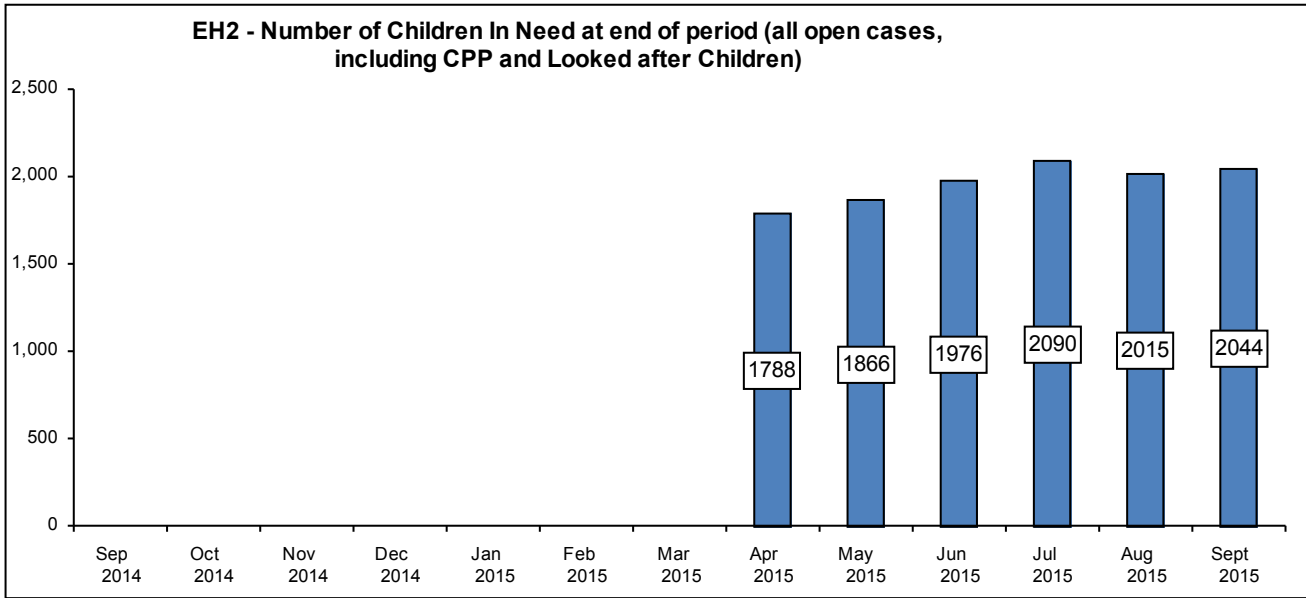


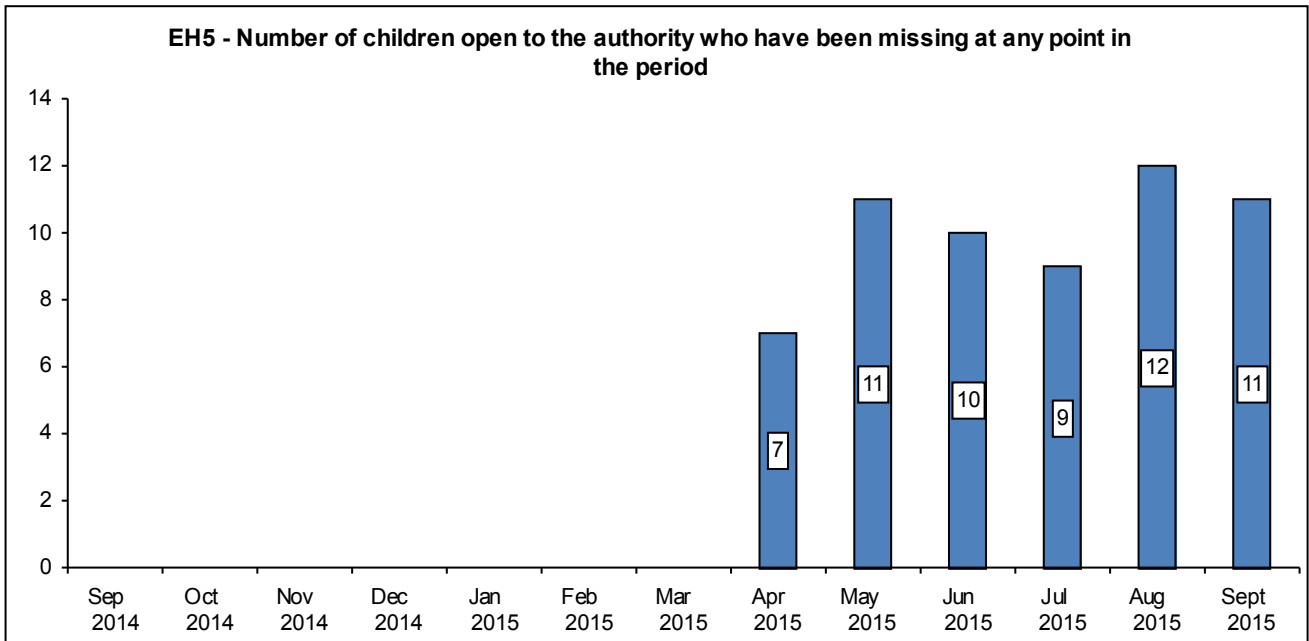
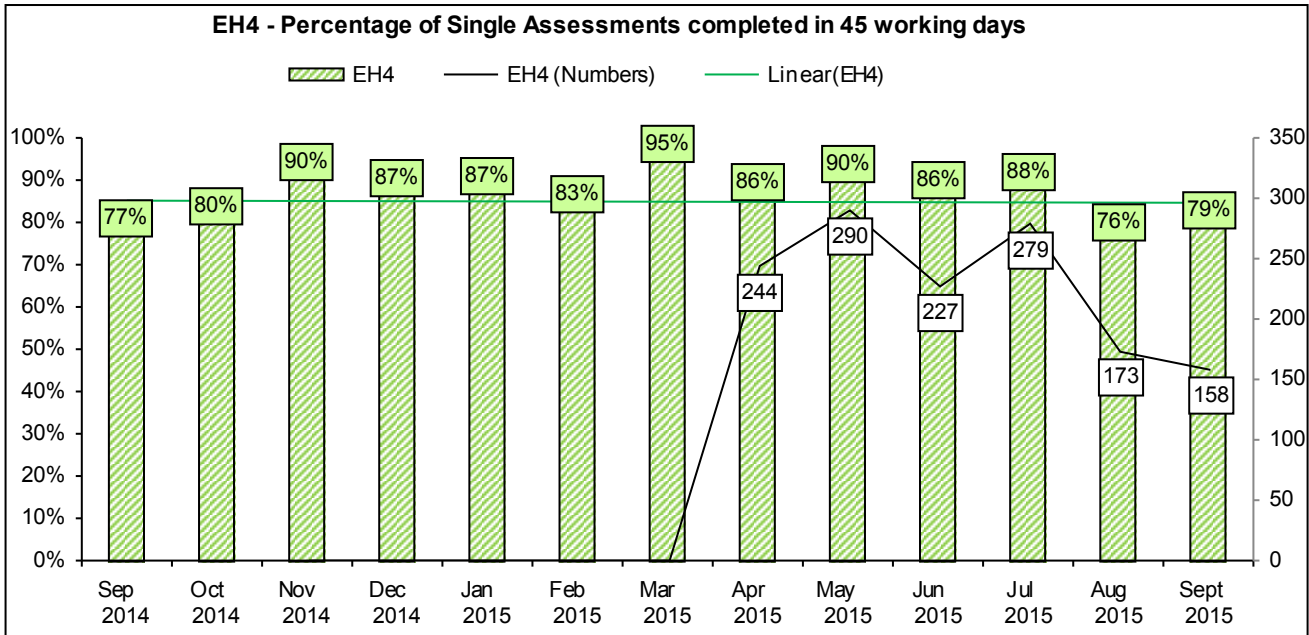




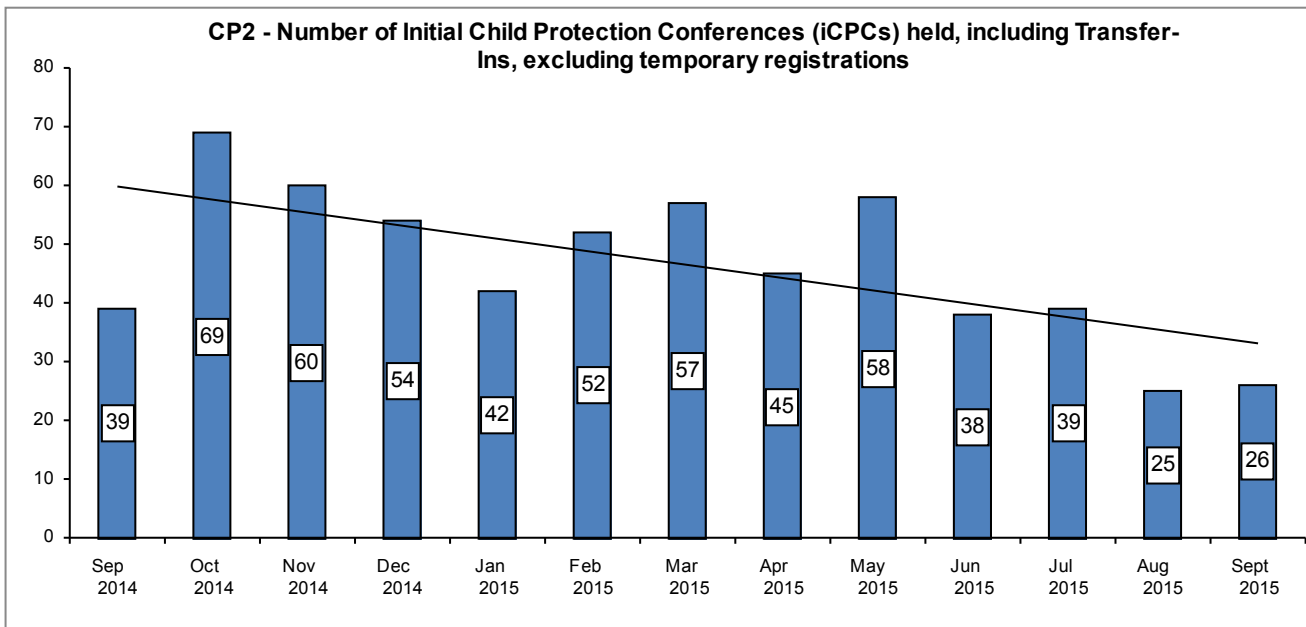
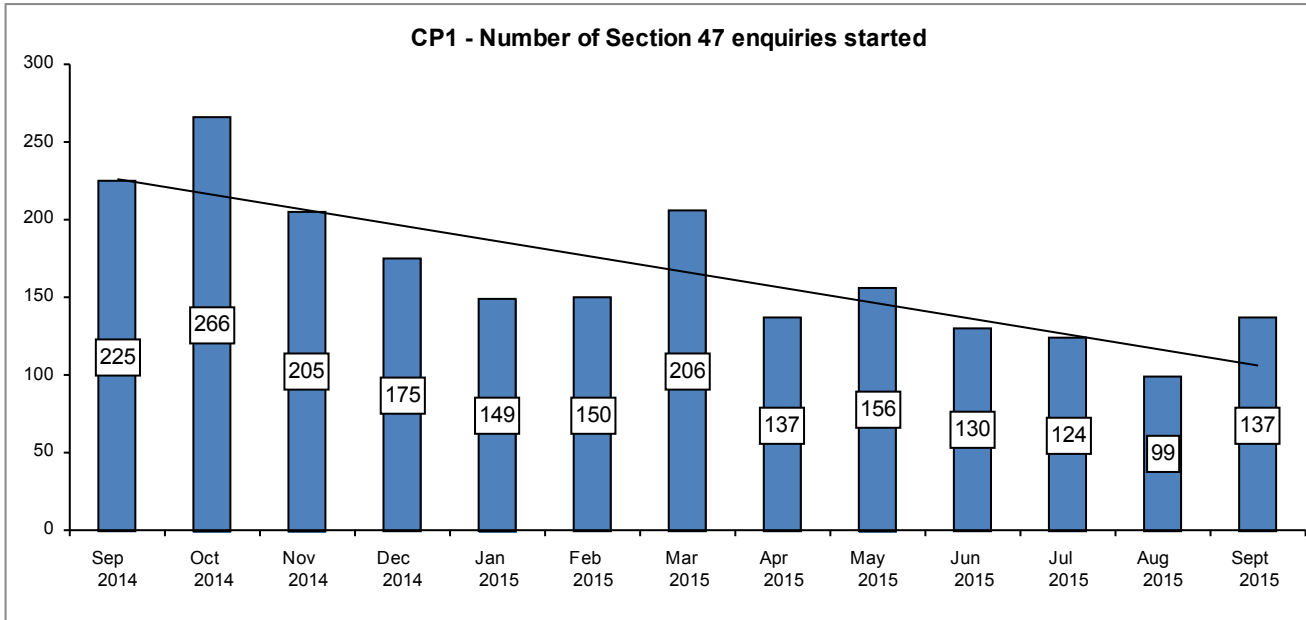
<sup>(\*)</sup> M1 - Includes contacts that become referrals.

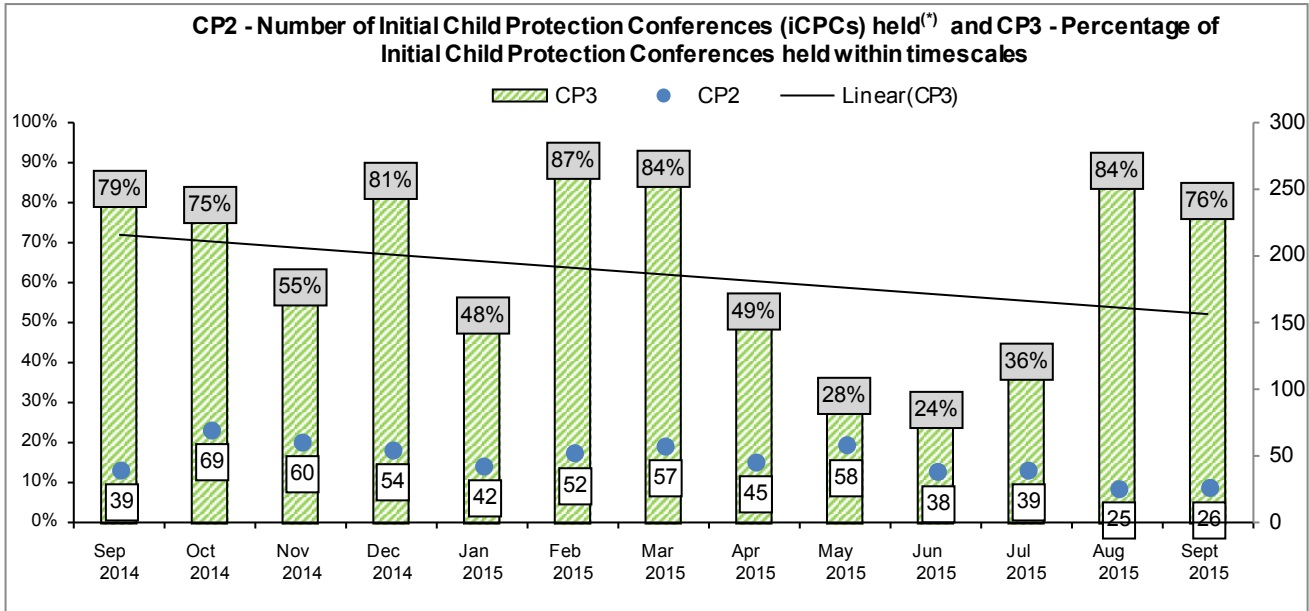




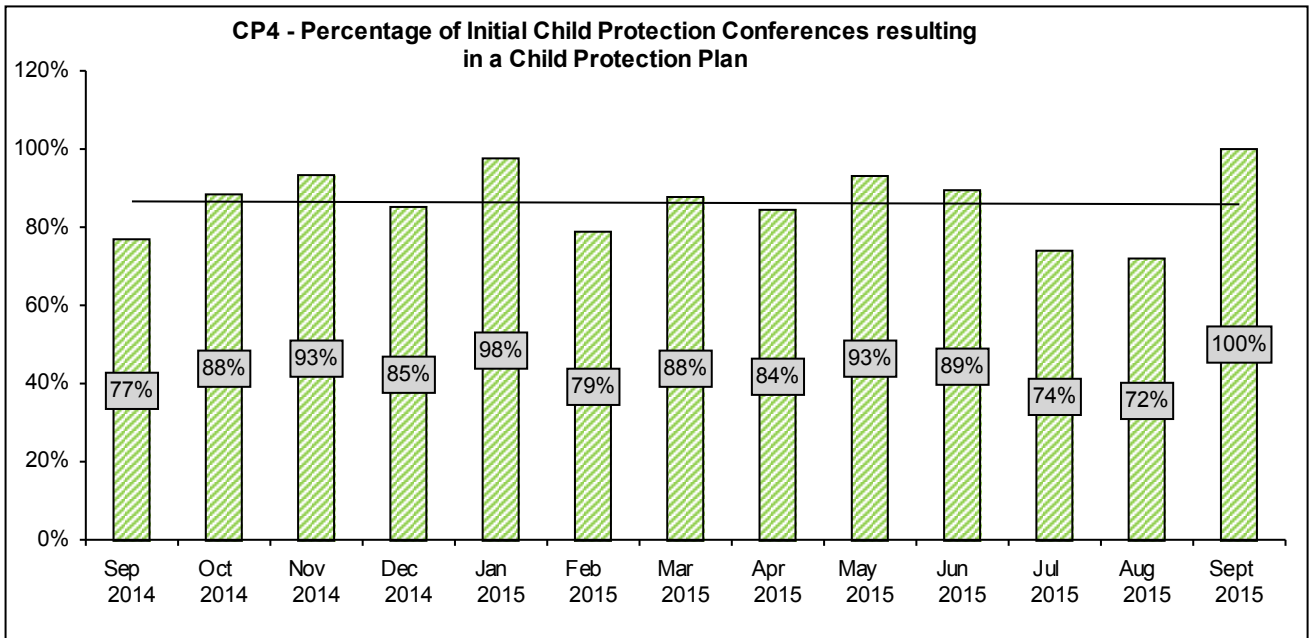


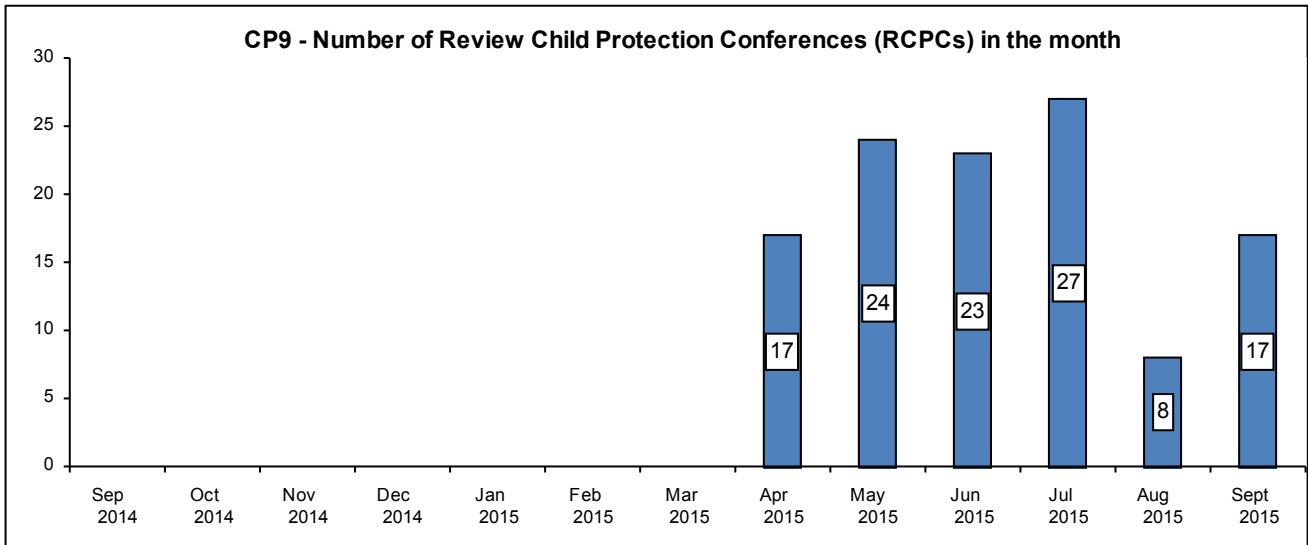
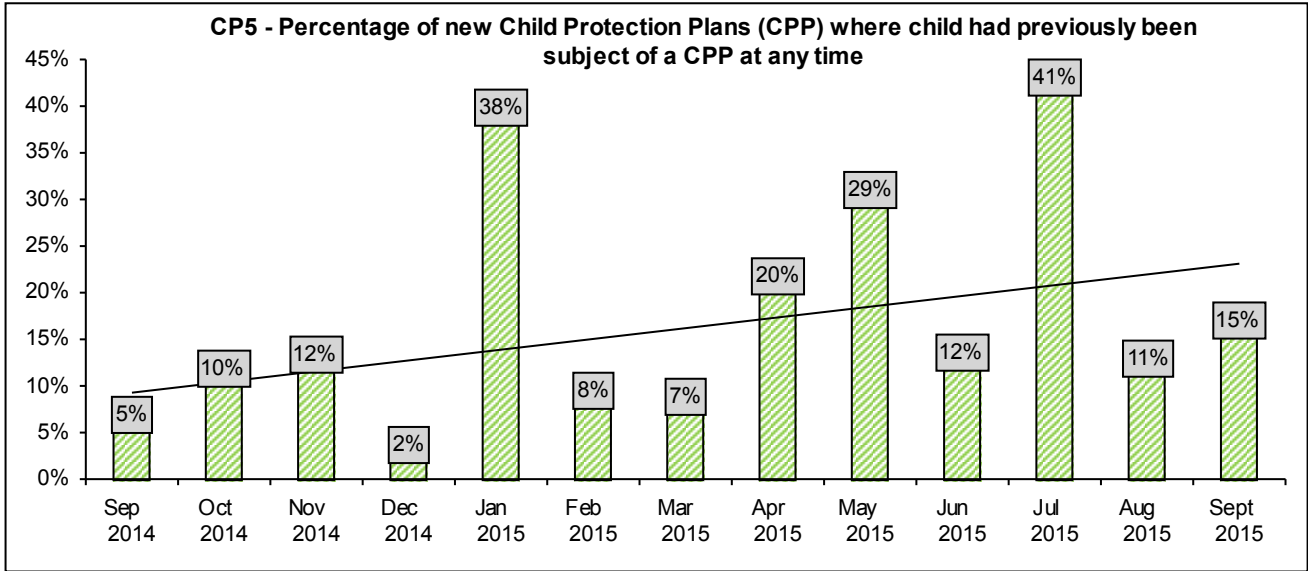


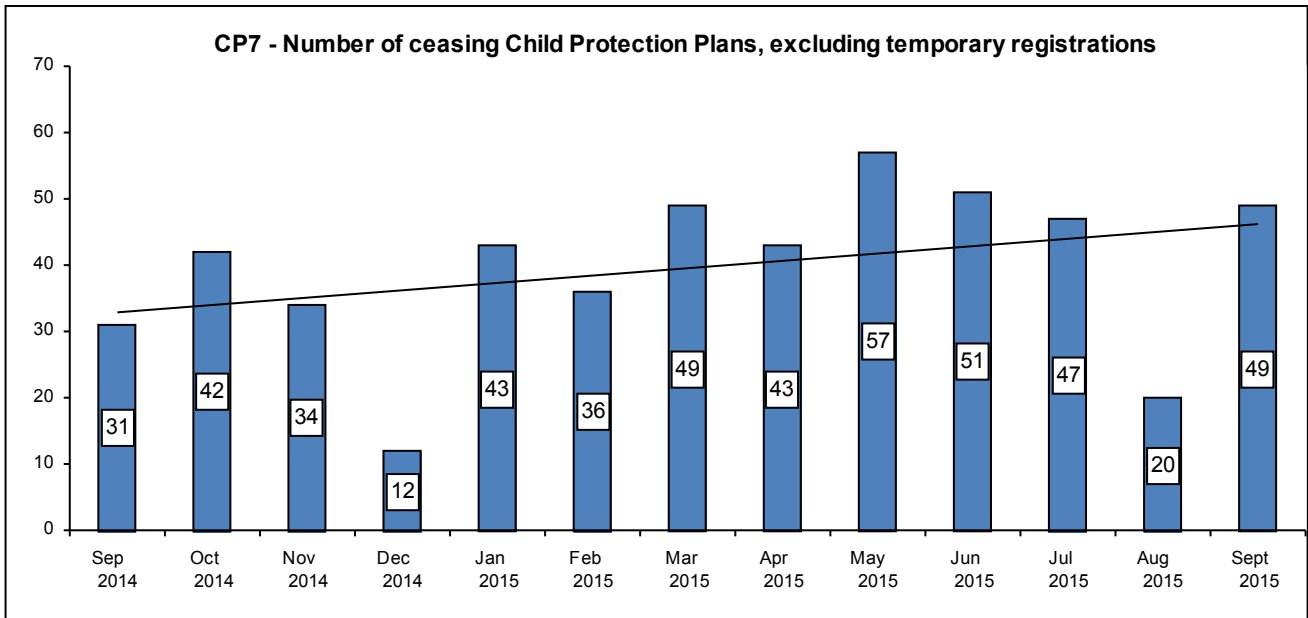
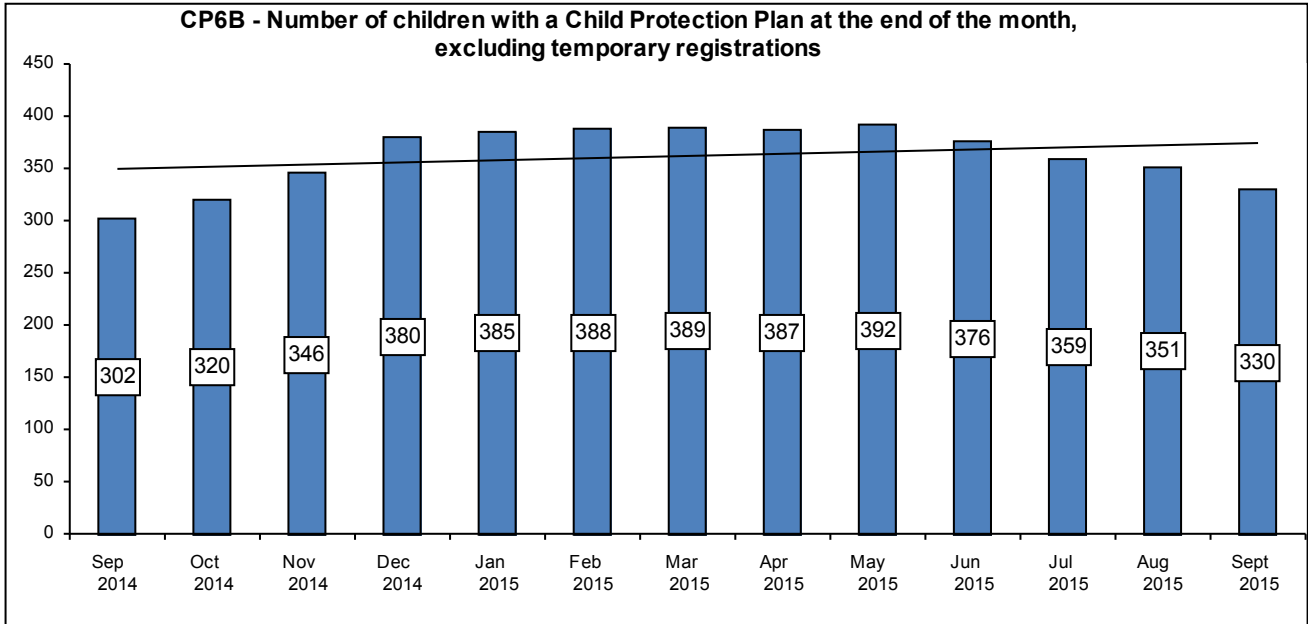




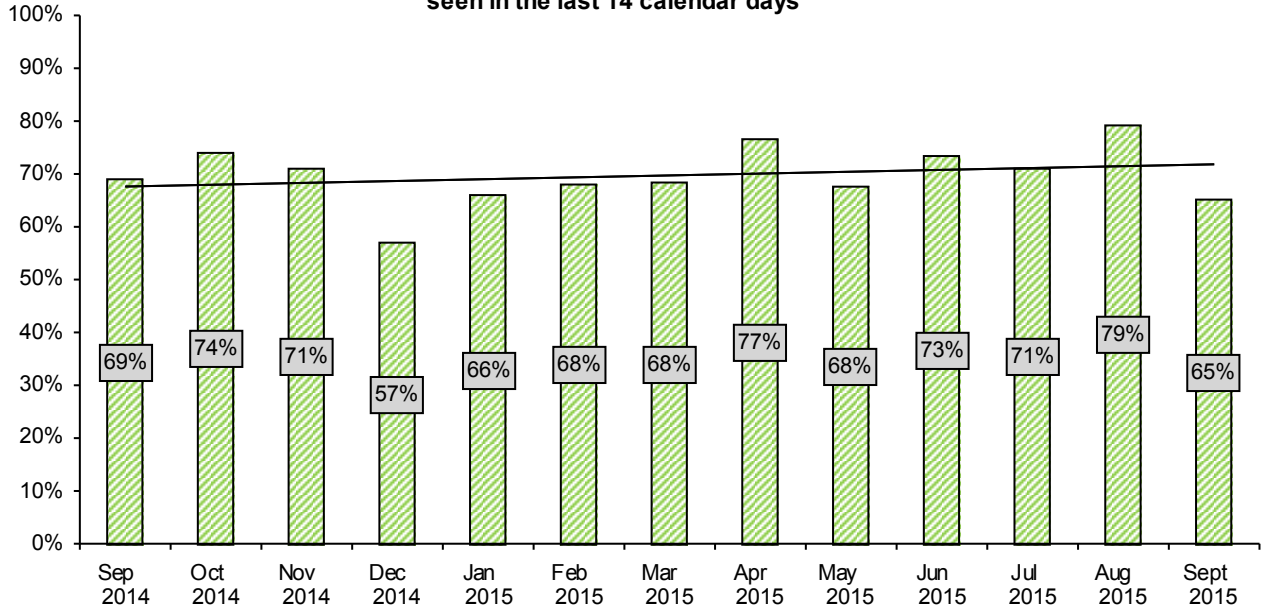
<sup>(\*)</sup> CP2 - Includes transfer-Ins, excluding temporary registrations.



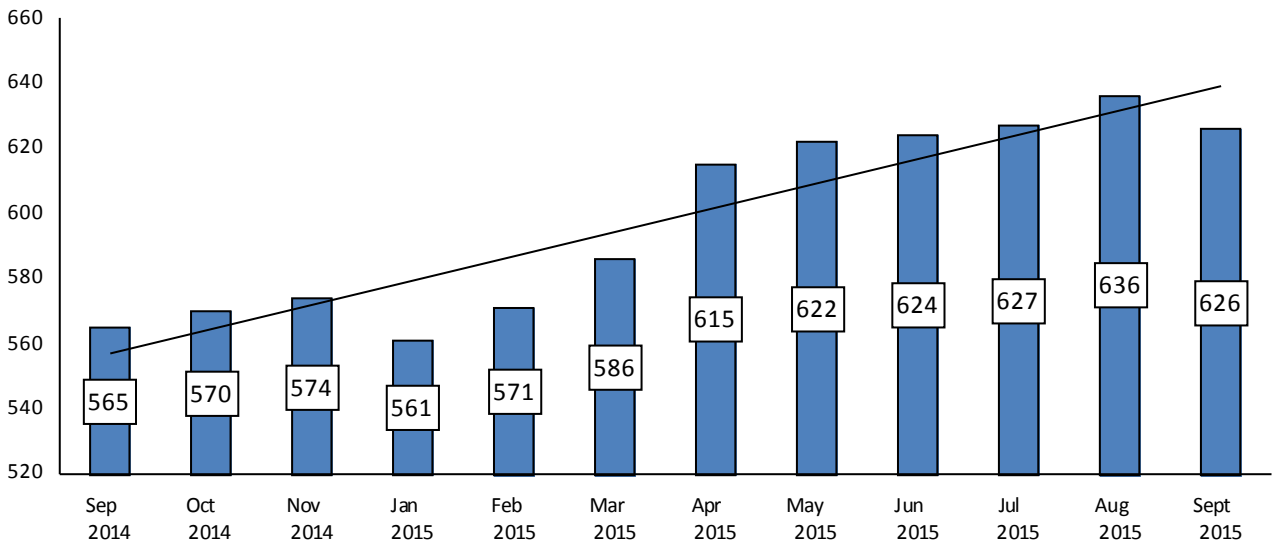


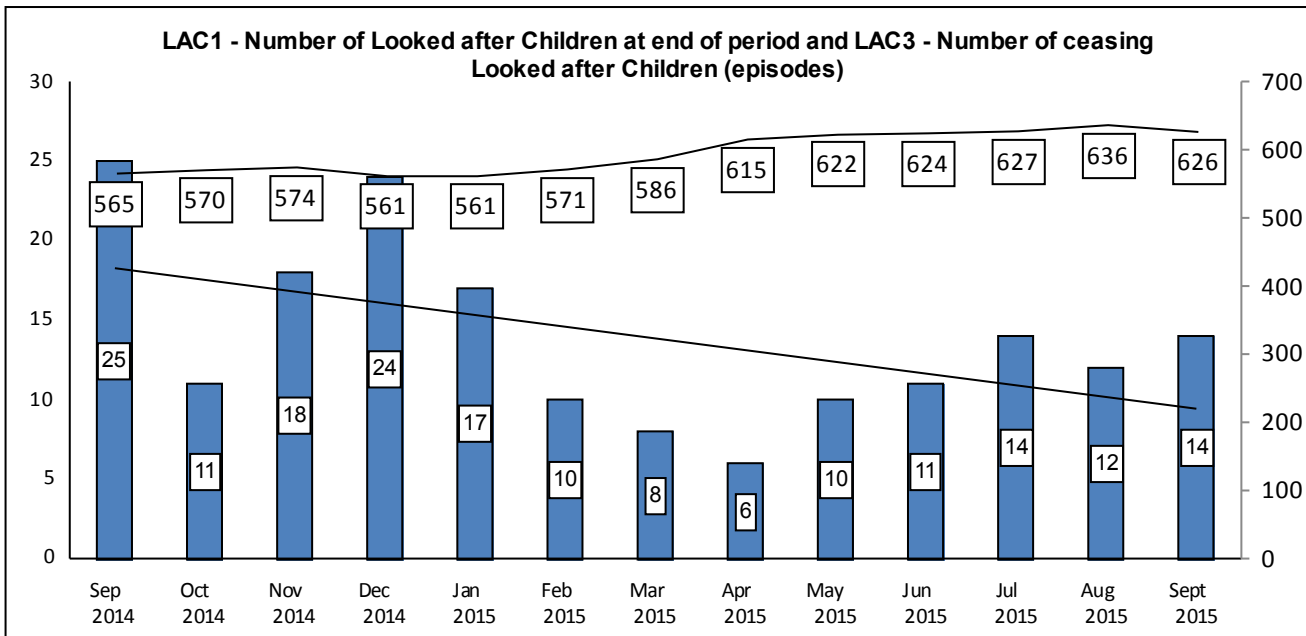
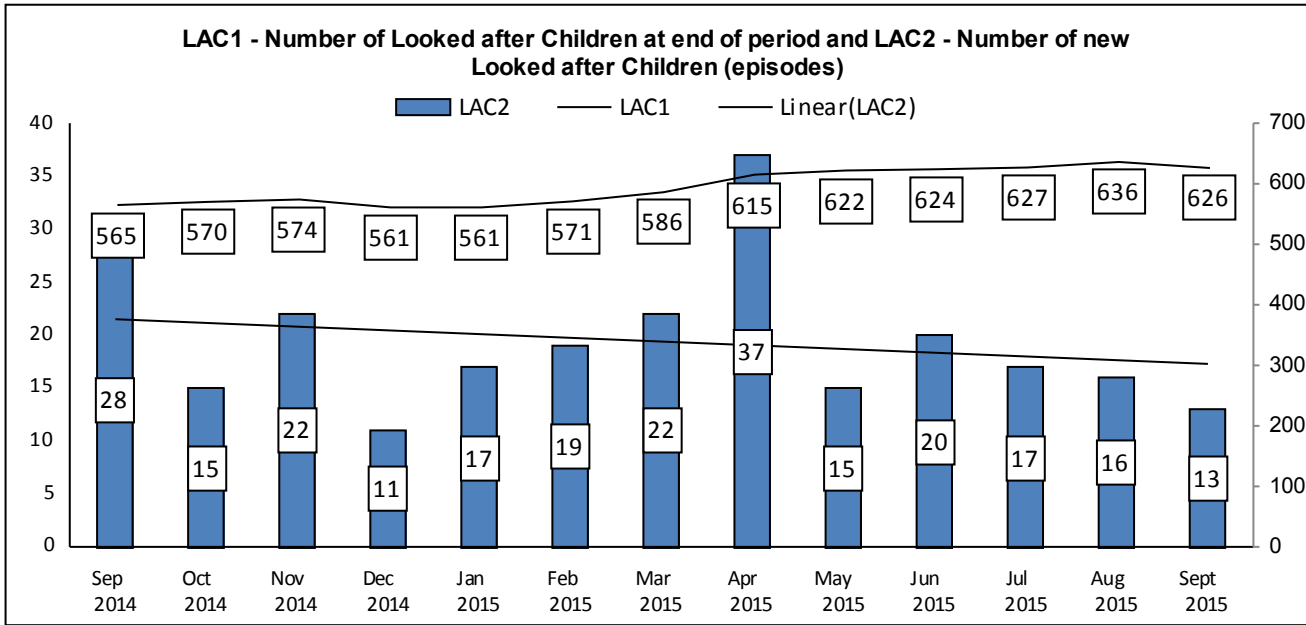


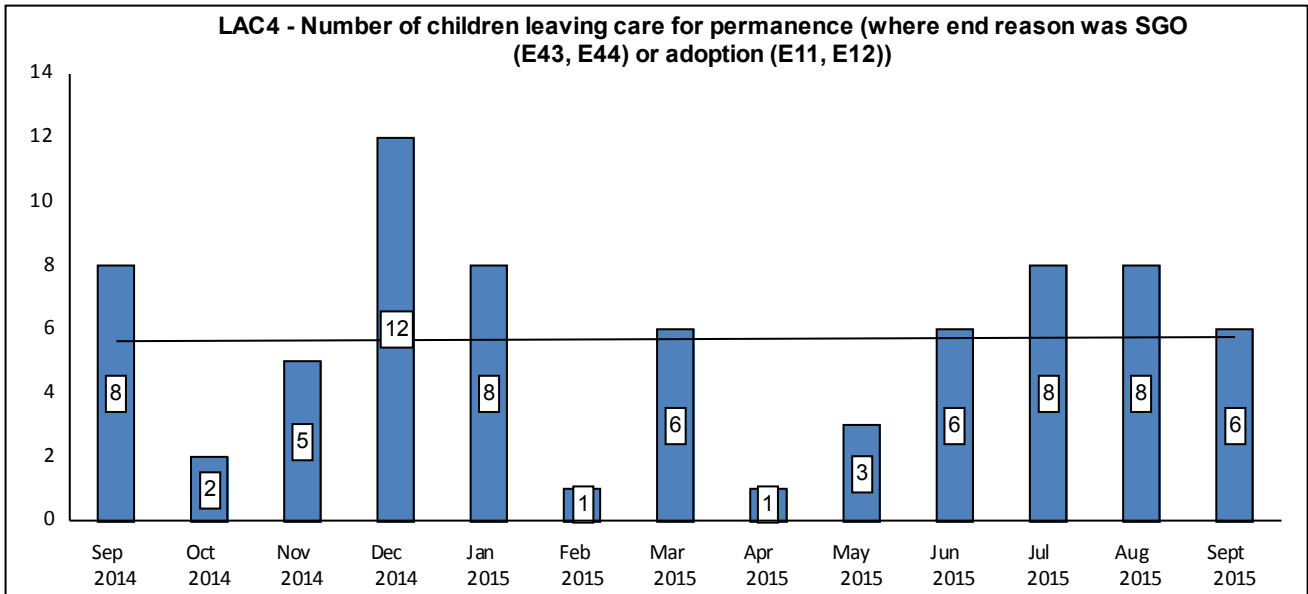
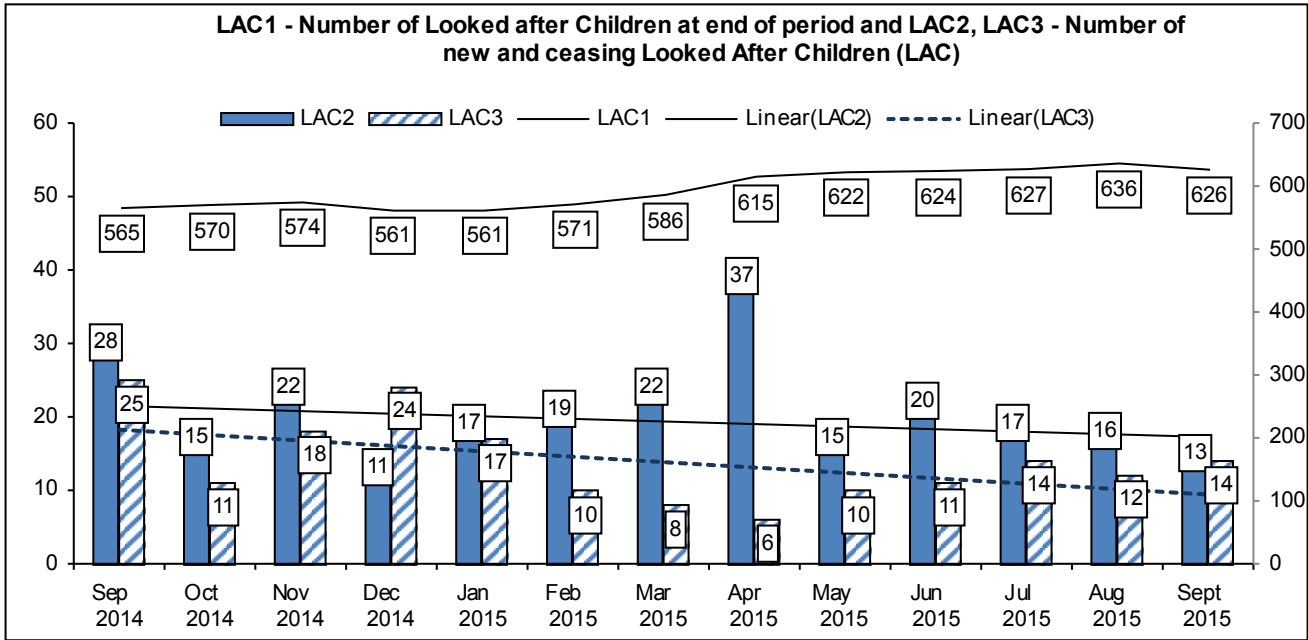
**CP8 - Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan seen in the last 14 calendar days**

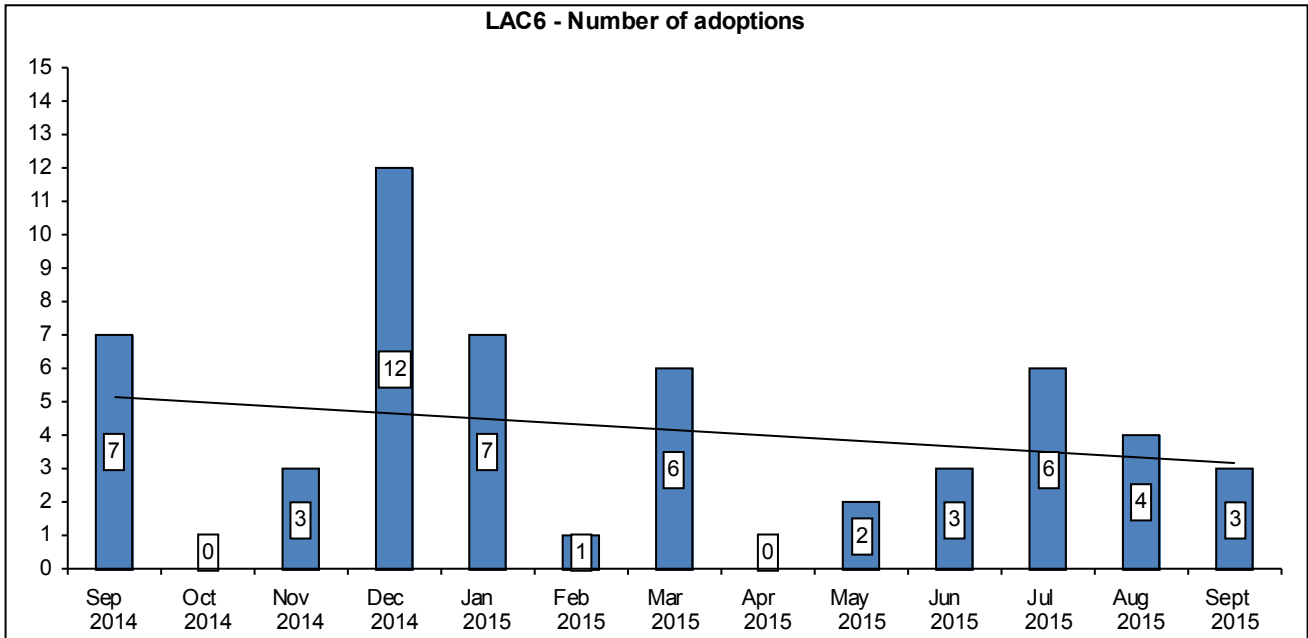
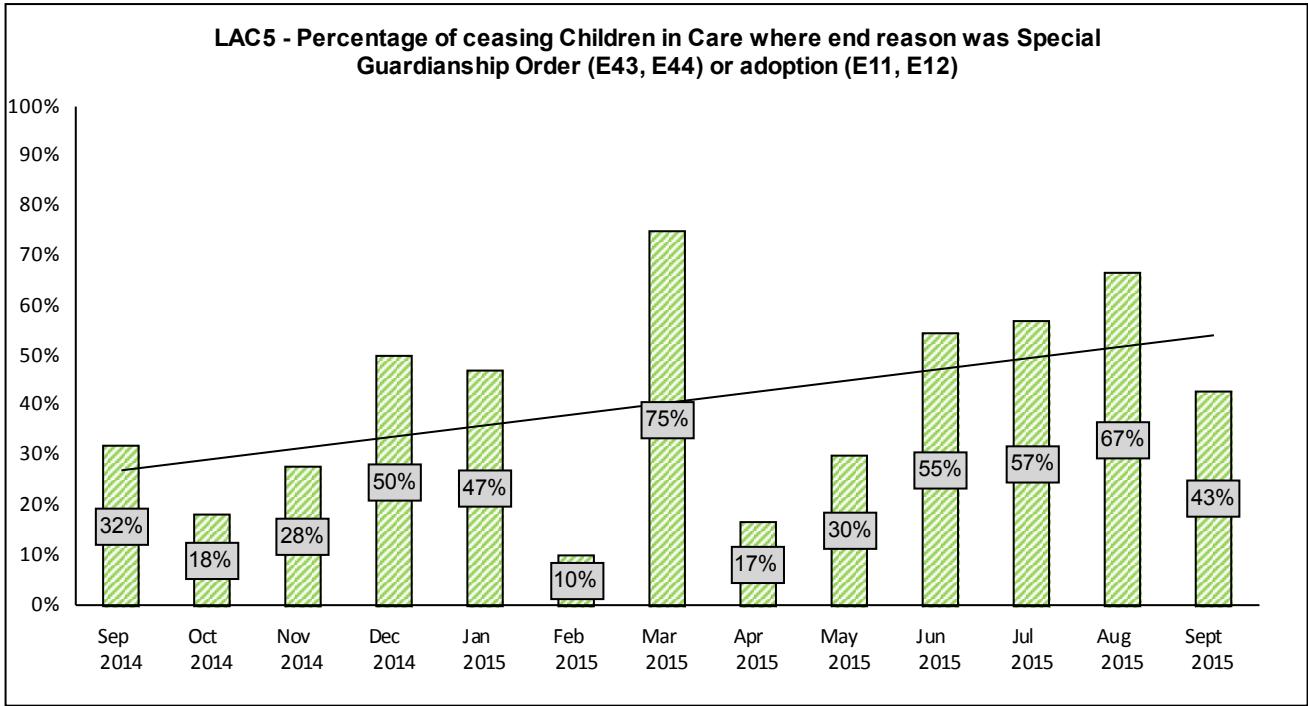


**LAC1 - Number of Looked after Children at end of period**

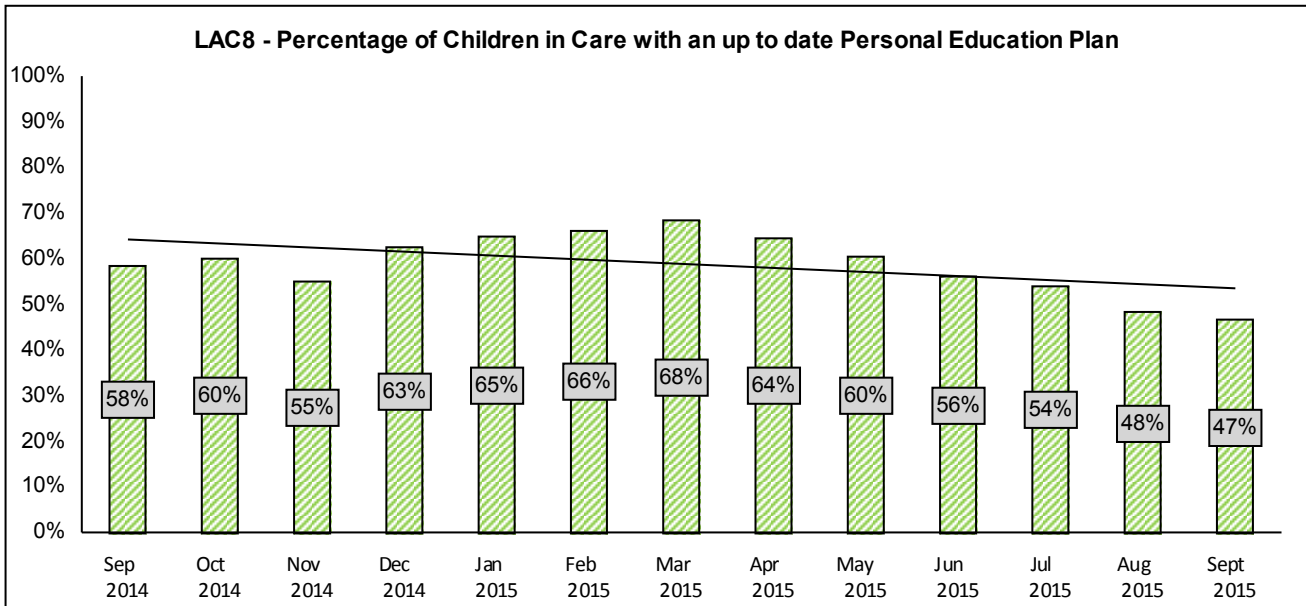
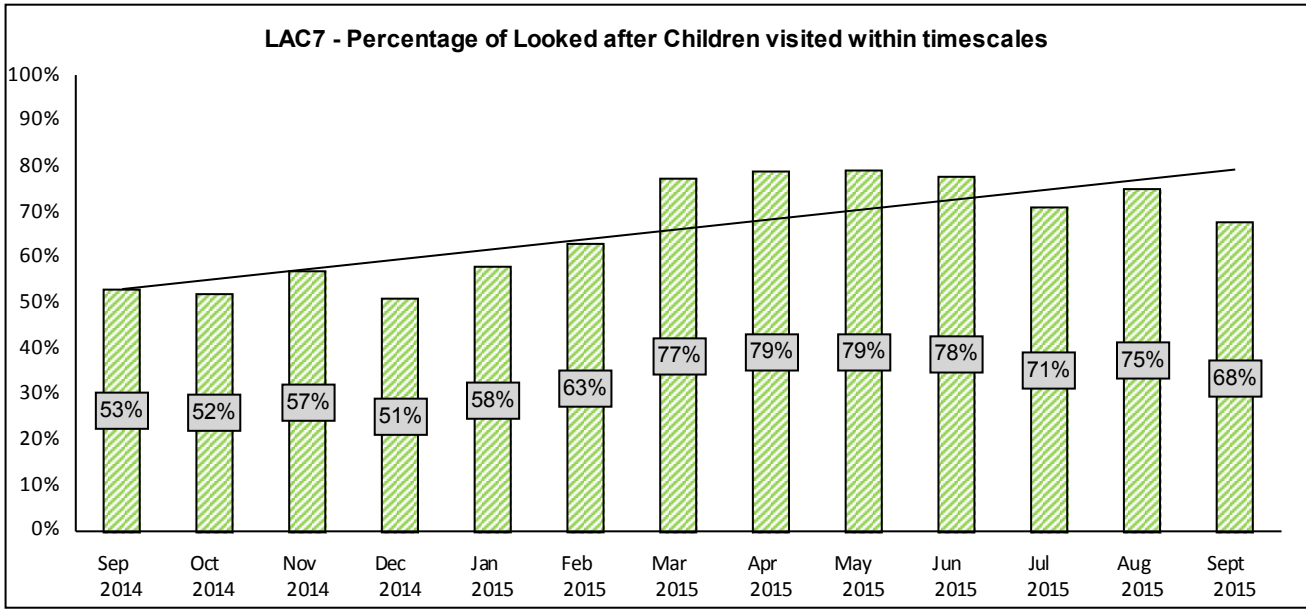


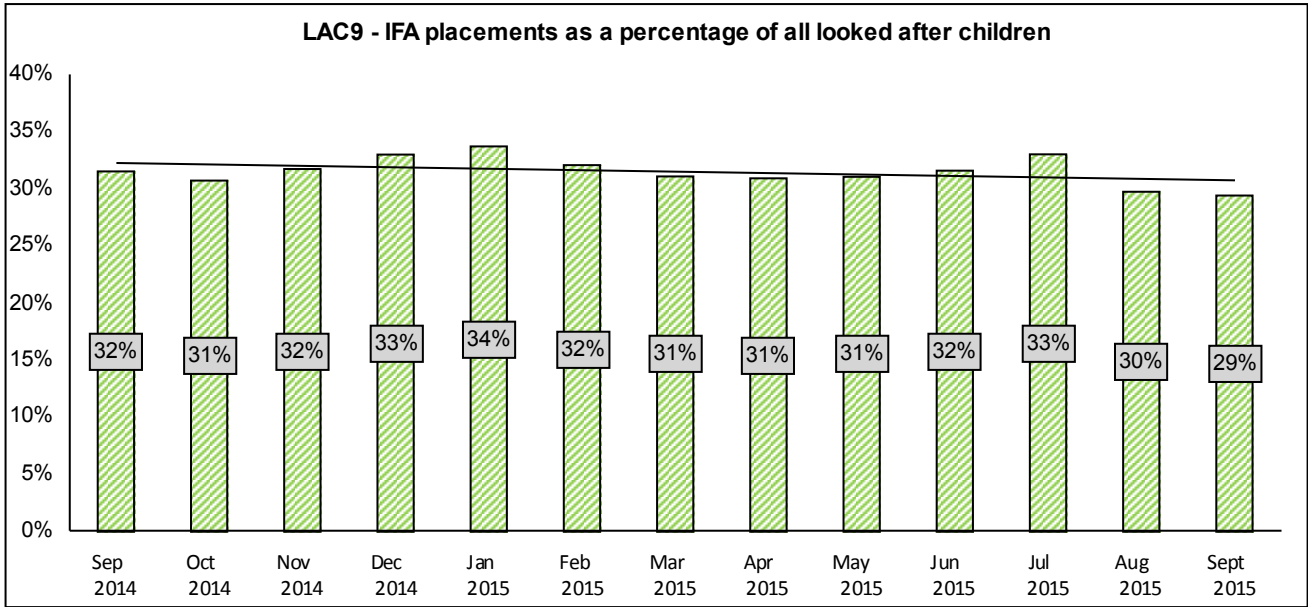












Qualitative measures:			Key to direction of travel:					
Positive change	Similar	Negative change	Increase: over 10%	↑	Similar	⇒	Decrease: over 10%	↓

Measure Ref (Click on link for graph)	Performance Area	Description	Sep 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	Jun 2015	Jul 2015	Aug 2015	Sept 2015	% change from previous month	% change from same period last year	12 month average	Max. value in last 12 months
<a href="#">M1</a>	MASH	Number of contacts received (includes contacts that become referrals)	1279	1241	1100	1055	1280	1207	1235	1132	1156	1363	1316	1160	1172	⇒ 1	⇒ (8)	1201	1363
<a href="#">M2</a>	MASH	Number of new referrals of Children In Need (CIN)	377	429	463	341	429	445	424	378	341	393	370	303	352	↑ 16	⇒ (7)	389	463
<a href="#">M3</a>	MASH	Percentage of all contacts that become new referrals of Children In Need (CIN)	29%	35%	42%	32%	34%	37%	34%	33%	29%	29%	28%	26%	30%	↑ 15	⇒ 2	32%	42%
<a href="#">M6-QL</a>	MASH	Percentage of referrals of Children In Need (CIN) which are re-referrals within one year	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	12%	11%	14%	21%	17%	20%	↑ 19	n/a	16%	21%
<a href="#">M6-QL (val)</a>	MASH	Count of CIN re-referrals	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	Revised measure from April	45	37	55	76	50	69	↑ 38	n/a	55	76
<a href="#">M4</a>	MASH	Number of new referrals of children aged 13+ where child sexual exploitation was a factor	3	15	7	7	9	9	5	7	6	7	3	0	6	n/a	↑ 100	7	15
<a href="#">M8-QL</a>	MASH	Percentage of referrals dealt with by MASH where time from referral received / recorded to completion by MASH was 24 hours / 1 working day or less	68%	63%	67%	88%	57%	50%	38%	40%	65%	89%	68%	83%	82%	⇒ -1	↑ 20	66%	89%
<a href="#">M5</a>	MASH	Number of children receiving Universal Help services who are stepped up for Children In Need (CIN) assessment	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	22	30	21	29	22	35	↑ 59	n/a	27	35
<a href="#">EH1</a>	CIN	Number of children at end of period with Universal Help Plans, or undergoing Universal Help Assessments	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	554	568	567	559	525	522	⇒ (1)	n/a	549	568
<a href="#">EH2</a>	CIN	Number of Children In Need (CIN) at end of period (all open cases, excluding UHPs, UHAs, CPP and LAC)	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	Revised measure from April 2015	1788	1866	1976	2090	2015	2044	⇒ 1	n/a	1963	2090
<a href="#">EH5-QL</a>	CIN	Number of children open to the authority who have been missing at any point in the period	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	7	11	10	9	12	11	⇒ -8	n/a	10	12
<a href="#">EH3</a>	Assessments	Number of Single Assessments completed	279	372	357	415	299	326	317	285	323	263	316	227	200	↓ (12)	↓ (28)	308	415
<a href="#">EH4-QL</a>	Assessments	Percentage of Single Assessments completed in 45 working days	77%	80%	90%	87%	87%	83%	95%	86%	90%	86%	88%	76%	79%	⇒ 4	⇒ 3	86%	95%
<a href="#">EH4-QL (val)</a>	Assessments	Number of Single Assessments (SA) completed in 45 working days			New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	244	290	227	279	173	158	⇒ -9	n/a	229	290
<a href="#">CP1</a>	Child Protection	Number of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started	225	266	205	175	149	150	206	137	156	130	124	99	137	↑ 38	↓ (39)	161	266
<a href="#">CP2</a>	Child Protection	Number of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) held, including Transfer-Ins, excluding temporary registrations	39	69	60	54	42	52	57	45	58	38	39	25	26	⇒ 4	↓ (33)	47	69
<a href="#">CP9</a>	Child Protection	Number of Review Child Protection Conferences (RCPCs) in the month	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	New measure from April 2015	17	24	23	27	8	17	↑ 113	n/a	19	27

Measure Ref (Click on link for graph)	Performance Area	Description	Sep 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	Jun 2015	Jul 2015	Aug 2015	Sept 2015	% change from previous month	% change from same period last year	12 month average	Max. value in last 12 months
<a href="#">CP3-QL</a>	Child Protection	Percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) held within timescales	79%	75%	55%	81%	48%	87%	84%	49%	28%	24%	36%	84%	76%	-9	-4	61%	87%
<a href="#">CP4</a>	Child Protection	Percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) resulting in a Child Protection Plan	77%	88%	93%	85%	98%	79%	88%	84%	93%	89%	74%	72%	100%	39	30	87%	100%
<a href="#">CP5-QL</a>	Child Protection	Percentage of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time	5%	10%	12%	2%	38%	8%	7%	20%	29%	12%	41%	11%	15%	38	200	17%	41%
<a href="#">CP5-QL (val)</a>	Child Protection	Number of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time	<i>New measure from Jun 2015</i>	<i>New measure from Jun 2015</i>	<i>New measure from Jun 2015</i>	<i>New measure from Jun 2015</i>	<i>New measure from Jun 2015</i>	<i>New measure from Jun 2015</i>	<i>New measure from Jun 2015</i>	<i>New measure from Jun 2015</i>	<i>New measure from Jun 2015</i>	4	12	2	4	100	n/a	550%	1200%
<a href="#">CP6B</a>	Child Protection	Number of children with a Child Protection Plan at the end of the month, excluding temporary registrations	302	320	346	380	385	388	389	387	392	376	359	351	330	(6)	9	367	392
<a href="#">CP7</a>	Child Protection	Number of ceasing Child Protection Plans, excluding temporary registrations	31	42	34	12	43	36	49	43	57	51	47	20	49	145	58	40	57
<a href="#">CP8-QL</a>	Child Protection	Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan seen in the last 14 calendar days	69%	74%	71%	57%	66%	68%	68%	77%	68%	73%	71%	79%	65%	-18	-6	70%	79%
<a href="#">LAC1</a>	Looked after Children	Number of Looked after Children at end of period	565	570	574	561	561	571	586	615	622	624	627	636	626	(2)	11	598	636
<a href="#">LAC7-QL</a>	Looked after Children	Percentage of Looked after Children visited within timescales	53%	52%	57%	51%	58%	63%	77%	79%	79%	78%	71%	75%	68%	-10	28	67%	79%
<a href="#">LAC8-QL</a>	Looked after Children	Percentage of Looked after Children with an up to date Personal Education Plan (PEP)	58%	60%	55%	63%	65%	66%	68%	64%	60%	56%	54%	48%	47%	-4	-20	59%	68%
<a href="#">LAC2</a>	Looked after Children	Number of new Looked after Children (episodes)	28	15	22	11	17	19	22	37	15	20	17	16	13	(19)	(54)	19	37
<a href="#">LAC3</a>	Looked after Children	Number of ceasing Looked after Children (episodes)	25	11	18	24	17	10	8	6	10	11	14	12	14	17	(44)	13	24
<a href="#">LAC4</a>	Looked after Children	Number of children leaving care for permanence (where end reason was SGO (E43, E44) or adoption (E11, E12))	8	2	5	12	8	1	6	1	3	6	8	8	6	(25)	(25)	6	12
<a href="#">LAC5-QL</a>	Looked after Children	Percentage of children leaving care for permanence (where end reason was Special Guardianship Order (SGO) (E43, E44) or adoption (E11, E12))	32%	18%	28%	50%	47%	10%	75%	17%	30%	55%	57%	67%	43%	-36	34	41%	75%
<a href="#">LAC6</a>	Looked after Children	Number of adoptions	7	0	3	12	7	1	6	0	2	3	6	4	3	(25)	(57)	4	12
<a href="#">LAC9</a>	Looked after Children	IFA placements as a percentage of all looked after children	32%	31%	32%	33%	34%	32%	31%	31%	31%	32%	33%	30%	29%	(1)	(7)	31%	34%

**Data notes**

**Single Assessments** - all figures exclude SAs recorded as the vehicle for the RCPC report. The full year figures have been recalculated using 45 working days as the timescale.

**CIN and EH numbers** - withdrawn pending data accuracy work. Numbers for previous months may not be correct.

**Step-up numbers** - may also be affected by data accuracy issues.

**LAC8** - Children in care for more than 28 days, over the age of 2 ½ with a PEP in the last six months are considered to have a valid PEP.

### Summary

September saw the start of the Autumn term in schools, which has likely affected certain performance figures, such as numbers of referrals, numbers of Section 47 enquiries started and numbers of Initial and Review Child Protection conferences held.

When looking at the qualitative measures, we see that the percentage of re-referrals of Children In Need within one year, the percentage of new Child Protection Plans where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time in their lifetime, the percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan seen in the last 14 calendar days, and the percentage of Looked after Children with an up to date Personal Education Plan all showed negative changes when compared to the previous month, the same period in the previous year, or both.

Positive changes include the percentage of referrals dealt with by MASH where the time from when the referral was received to completion was one working day or less, and the percentage of children leaving care for permanence (where end reason was Special Guardianship or adoption).

This month, the percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences resulting in a Child Protection Plan represents an exceptional figure at 100%. This appears to indicate that the right threshold has been met for the children who were brought into an ICPC.

Other notable changes in September include the percentage of IFA placements, which, although not a significant change, has for the first time been recorded at under 30% since the recording began in June 2014.

*N.B. The number of Review Child Protection Conferences in the month has not been included in this analysis – this measure has only been reported on since April 2015, so comparative figures for the full year are not available, and although there is a notable change when compared to the previous month, it is assumed to be purely circumstantial (due to school holidays).*

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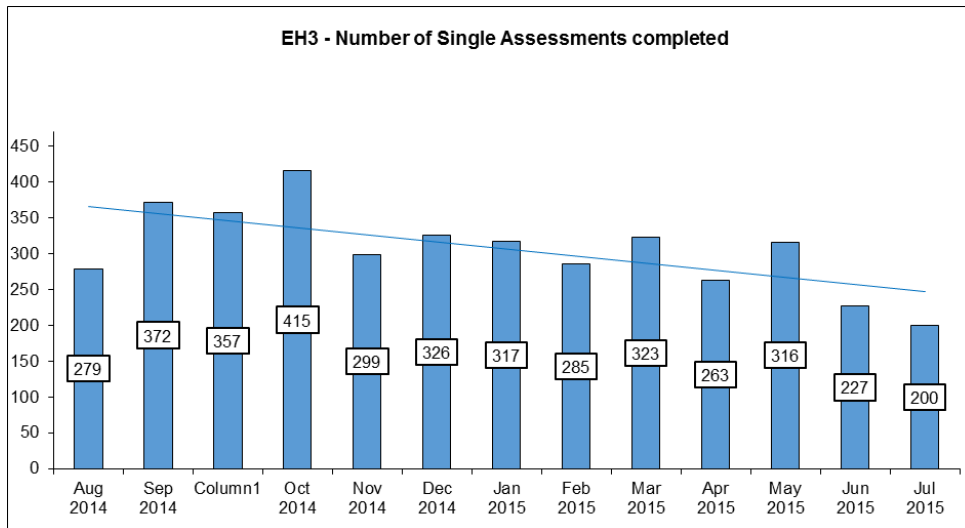
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## Quantitative measures: significant changes (+/-10%)

### Assessments

#### EH3 - Number of Single Assessments completed

The number of Single Assessments completed has decreased by 12% compared to the previous month, and 28% compared to the same period in the previous year. There is a continuing downward trend on this figure and this month's figure is, at 200, 35% below the 12-month average of 308.

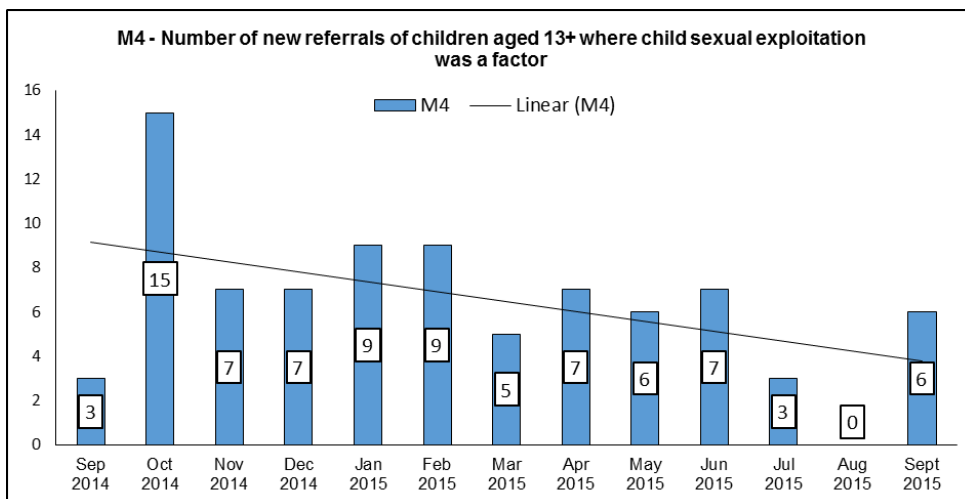


### MASH and Children in Need (CiN)

#### M4 - Number of new referrals of children aged 13+ where child sexual exploitation was a factor

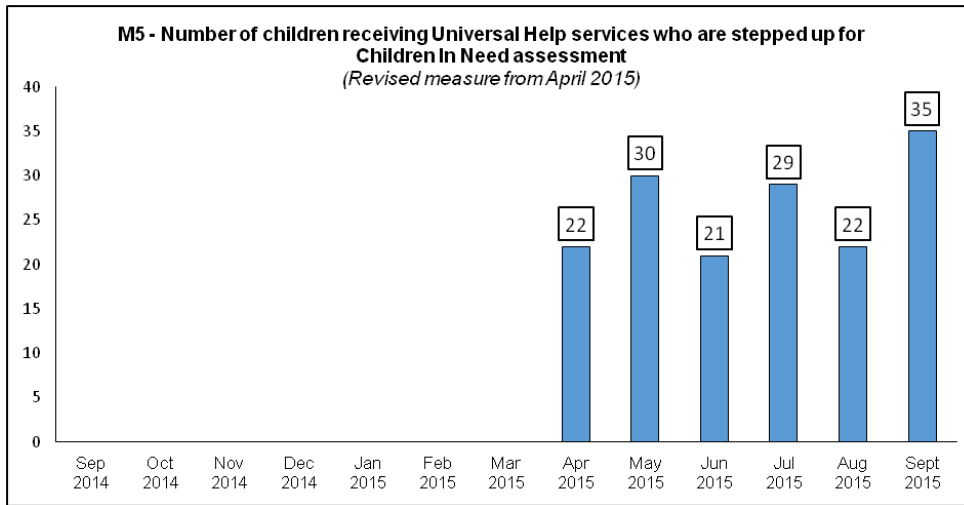
There has been an increase of 100% in this figure compared to the same period last year, but it should be noted that child sexual exploitation is recorded either as 'at risk', 'vulnerable to' and 'subject to', and the graph below presents the total of all three categories.

This has been noted to be an area where further development is required in all three areas: Practice, recording and reporting.



**M5 - Number of children receiving Universal Help services who are stepped up for Children In Need (CiN) assessment**

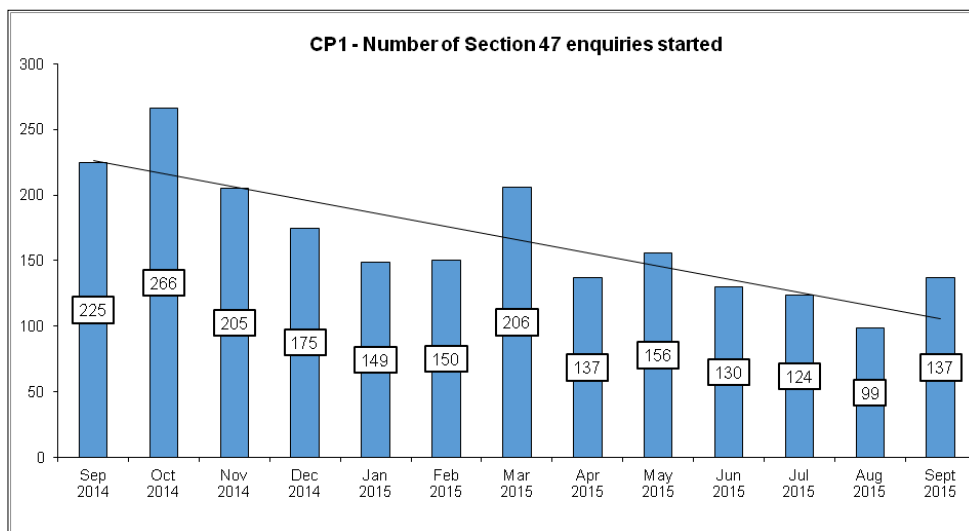
This indicator has only been monitored since April 2015; therefore, trend analysis is currently not viable. There have, however, been substantial changes month on month – a 59% increase compared to the previous month, and a 67% increase compared to June 2015, which at 21 currently represents the lowest value within the last six months.



**Child Protection (CP)**

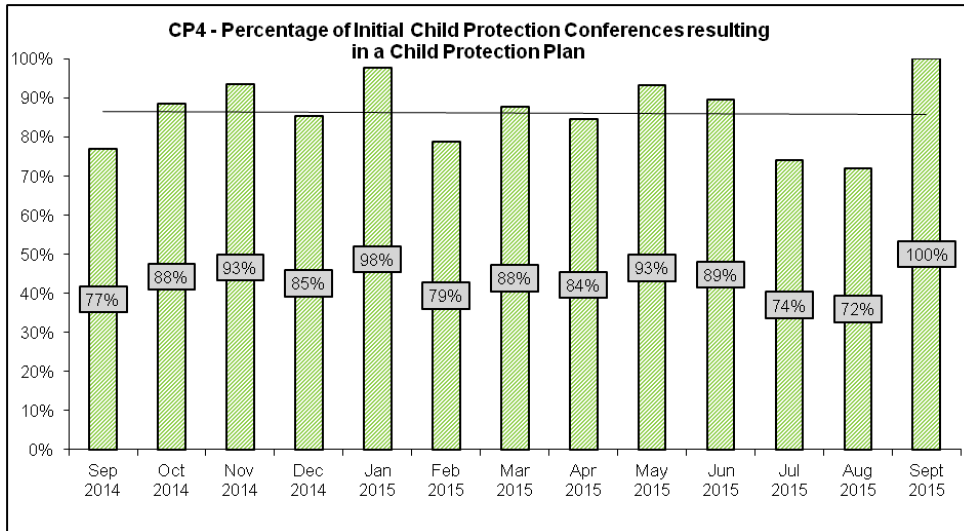
**CP1- Number of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started**

The number of Section 47 enquiries started has decreased month on month since May 2015, but has peaked slightly in September, after an exceptionally low figure in August. Compared to the same period last year, the number has gone down by 39%. There is expected to be an even larger percentage change next month, as the comparative figure of October 2014 is, at 266, currently the highest value within the last 12 month.



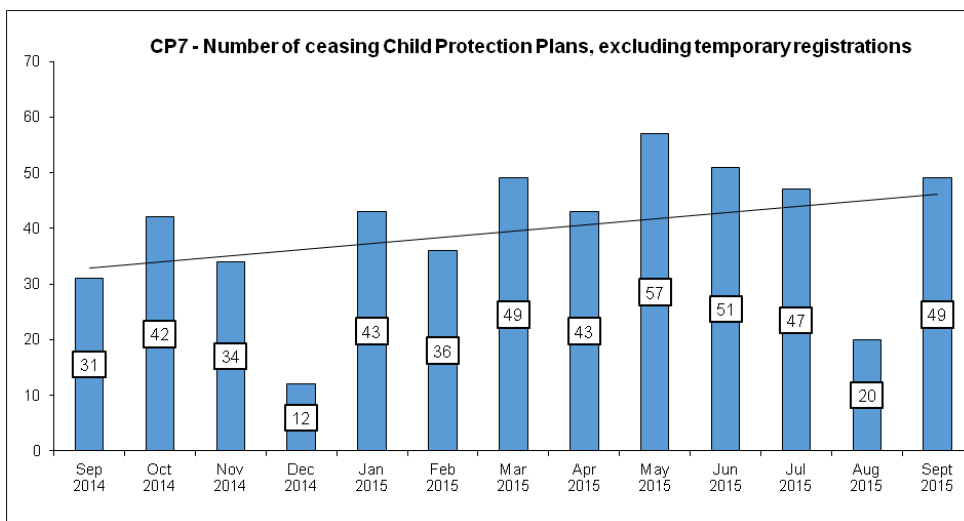


**CP4 - Percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) resulting in a Child Protection Plan**  
 In September, all ICPCs held resulted in a Child Protection plan – a first time in two years or more, although January 2015 was close at 98%. A high percentage is an indication that relevant children are brought into an ICPC when the result of it is that they are put on a Child Protection plan. Looking back, this is generally one of the best performing figures in all performance areas and shows that the process is well established and functions as intended.



**CP7 - Number of ceasing Child Protection Plans (CPP), excluding temporary registrations**

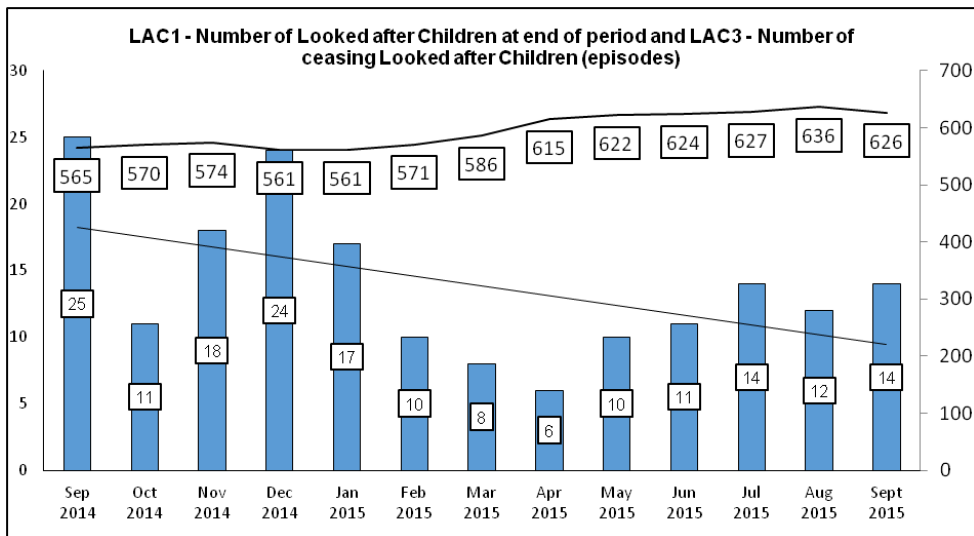
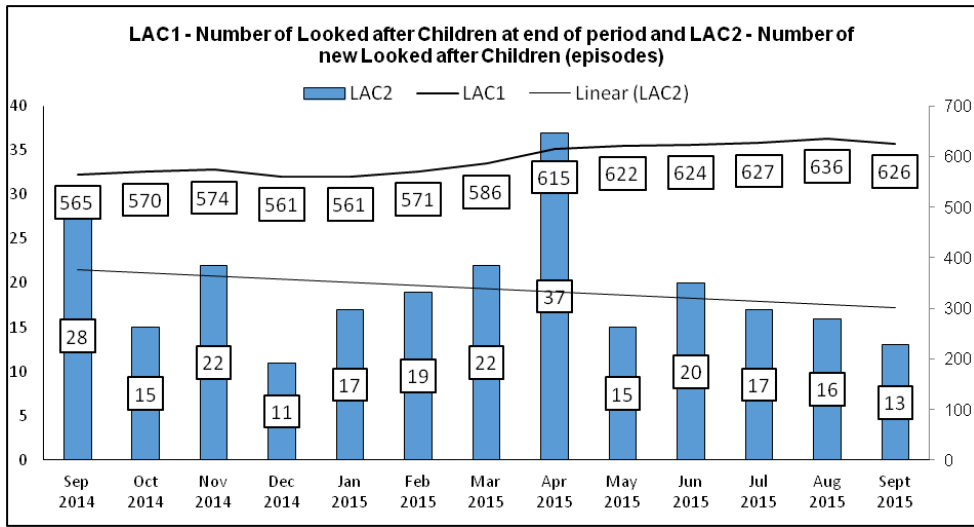
The number of ceasing CPPs has increased by 58%, from 31 in the same period previous year to 49 in September 2015. The number is currently 23% above the 12-month average of 40, and despite the drop in August, there is a clear upward trend on this figure.



**Looked after Children (LAC)**

**LAC2 - Number of new Looked after Children (episodes)**

This indicator has decreased by 19% compared to August, and 54% compared to the same period last year. Numbers of Looked after Children are shown below in two graphs – which also show that the numbers of new and ceasing Looked after Children are not accurately reflected in the total number of Looked after Children, for which reason, it may be assumed that episode of new and ceasing LAC are at times recorded subsequently, which then in turn affects the accuracy of all three measures (LAC1, LAC2 and LAC3).



## Qualitative measures: significant changes (+/-10%)

**Positive change** – **Negative change**

### MASH and Children in Need (CiN)

#### **M6** - Percentage of referrals of Children In Need (CiN) which are re-referrals within one year

At 20%, the percentage of CiN referrals which are re-referrals has gone up by 19% compared to the previous month, and 78% compared to the lowest percentage (11%) in May 2015. This is after a positive decrease of 20% in August, when comparing to July 2015.

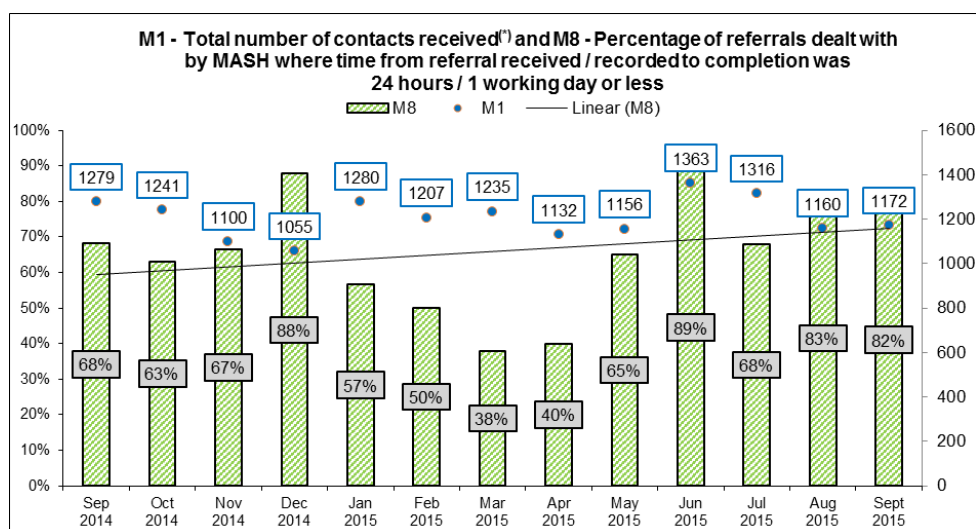
There were 69 children in September who were re-referrals to Children in Need within one year. This appears to indicate the children / families did not receive the level of support they needed at the time, and there is a risk that without that support, their problems could escalate further.

With this figure, it is useful to look at both of the percentage, and the actual numbers of children that have returned within one year. The largest number of children subject to re-referrals was 76 (in July 2015).

#### **M8** - Percentage of referrals dealt with by MASH where time from referral received / recorded to completion by MASH was 24 hours / 1 working day or less

There has been a 20% increase in this percentage compared to the same period last year, and the figure is now 24% above the 12-month average of 66%.

The graph below shows the indicator together with the total number of contacts received (M1), and it may be useful to consider what factors affect this percentage, as when looking at the total number of contacts it can be seen that the fluctuations do not occur in unison. As noted in the previous month's analysis, reasons for changes in this figure should be investigated to see what can be done to improve consistency of performance.

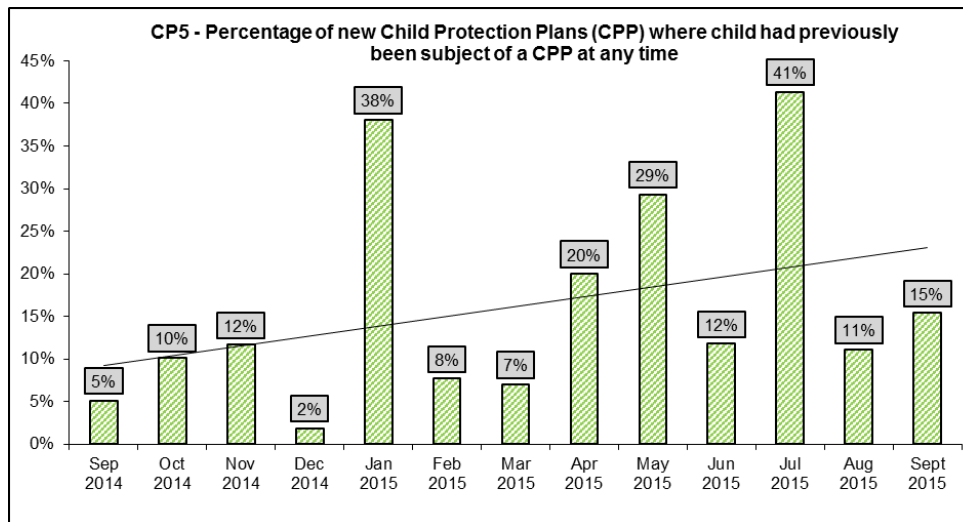


### Child Protection (CP)

#### **CP5** - Percentage of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time

There has been an increase in the percentage of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where the child has previously been subject of a plan compared to both the previous month (38%) and the same period last year (200%). The numbers of repeat CP plans are low – under five in September – for which reason, any change in the number will affect the percentage significantly. We also know that none of the repeat CP plans were recent occurrences – the initial episodes took place three to four years ago

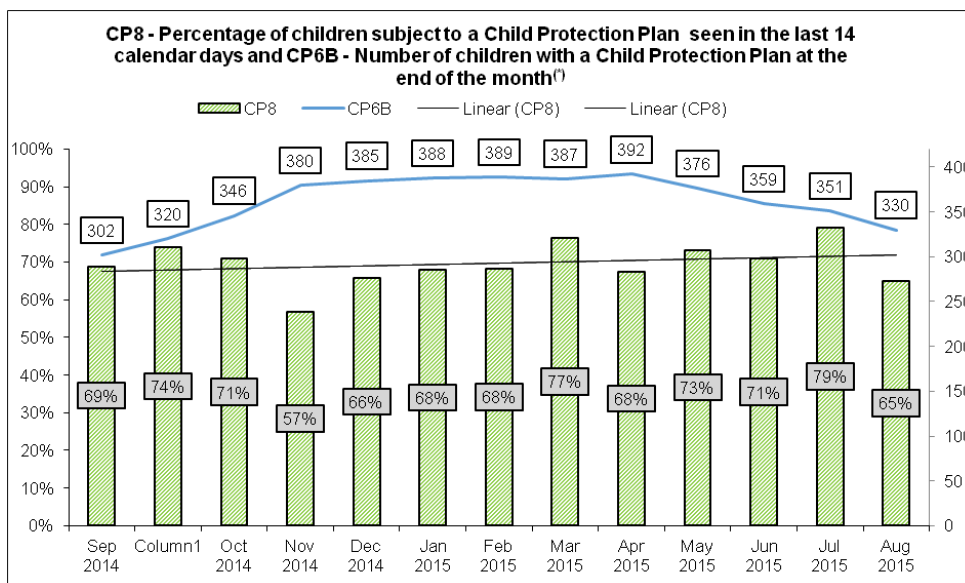
Details of these children have been forwarded to the relevant Principal Officer, for further investigation of their individual circumstances and reasons for their re-referrals.



**CP8 - Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan seen in the last 14 calendar days**

This figure has decreased by 18% compared to August 2015, when the percentage, at 79%, was at its highest within the last 12 months. At 215, the actual figure is also lower than in the previous month (278).

It could be expected that the number of statutory and other duties to be completed each month increases when the total number of children on CP plans is higher, but the graph below clearly shows that the percentage of children seen in the last 14 calendar days is not affected by the total number. Factors which have a negative effect on this performance indicator, and which are within our control, should be investigated and eliminated where possible, to ensure that children who are subject to Child Protection plans are visited within timescales, and the visits are recorded in a timely manner.

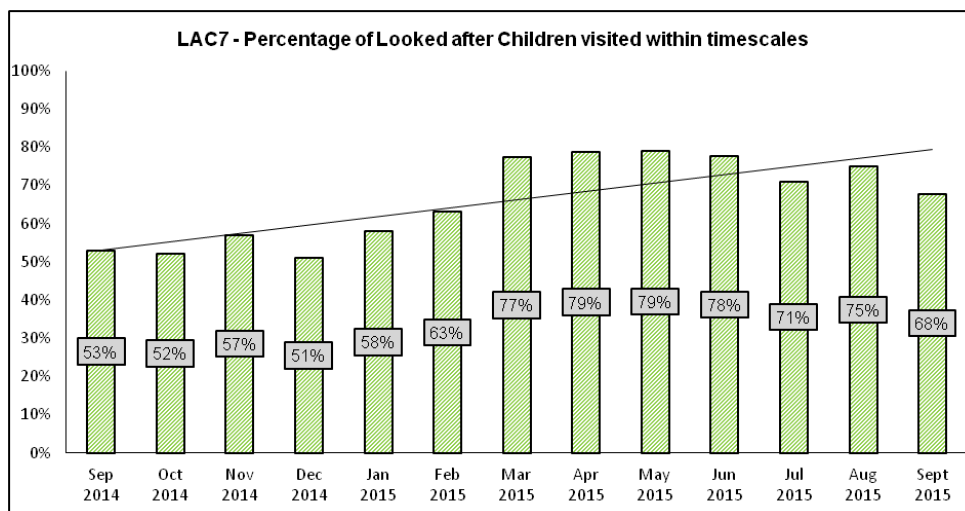


## Looked After Children (LAC)

### LAC7 - Percentage of Looked after Children visited within timescales

This figure has decreased by 10% from the previous month, but has seen a positive increase of 28% when comparing to the same period last year. In numbers, 424 out of 626 children were visited within timescales.

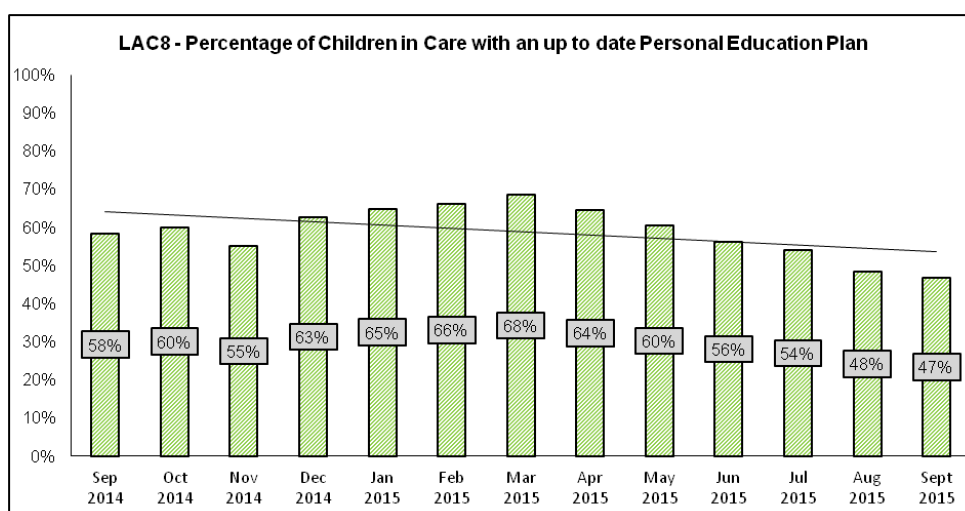
There continues to be a steep upward trend on this figure, thanks to the improved performance levels from March 2015 onwards. The figure is still just above the 12-month average of 67%, and currently 33% above the lowest level (51%) seen in December 2014.



### LAC8 - Percentage of Looked after Children with an up to date Personal Education Plan (PEP)

The percentage of Looked after Children with an up to date Personal Education Plan has decreased month on month since March 2015, and is now 21% below the 12 month average of 59%, and also at its lowest in the last 12 months. To improve future performance, it may be useful to investigate practice in March 2015 to see what positive factors contributed to the high performance level.

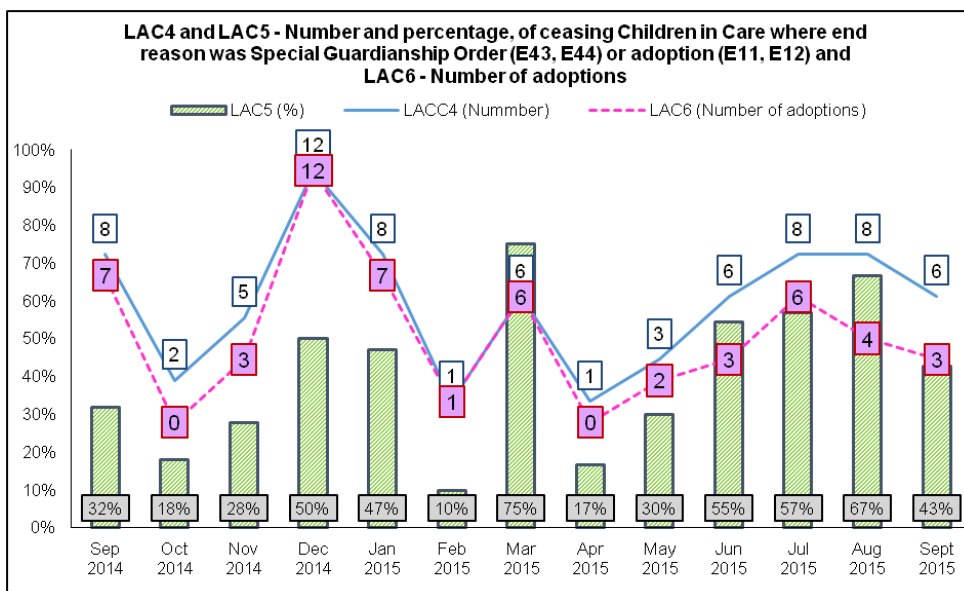
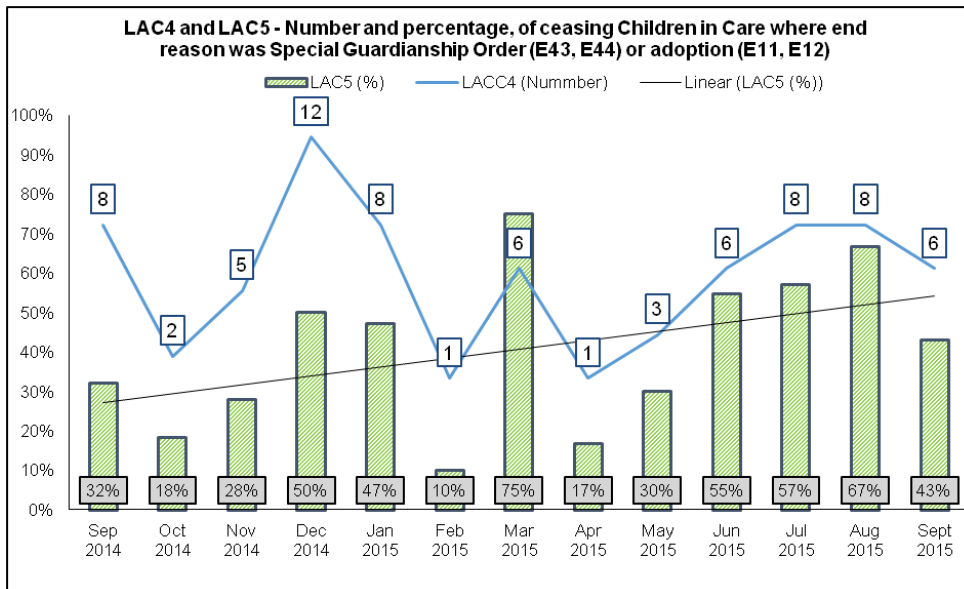
In numbers, 236 out of 506 (school-aged) Looked after Children had an up to date Personal Education Plan in September. This is compared to 247 out of 511 children in August and 273 out of 506 children in July.



LAC4, LAC5 and LAC6 - Number and percentage of children leaving care for permanence (where end reason was Special Guardianship Order (SGO) (E43, E44) or adoption (E11, E12)), and LAC6 – Number of adoptions

The number of children whose LAC episodes ended for permanence (either SGO or adoption) in September was six (of which three were adoptions) – this represents 43% of all ending LAC episodes. The percentage has decreased by 36% when compared to the previous month, but increased by 34% compared to the same period in the previous year, for which reason it is marked above as a positive change.

The second graph below shows that generally, a large proportion of children leaving care for permanence are adopted.



# Agenda Item 7

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LSCB) ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	22nd OCTOBER 2015		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	KEITH MAKIN, INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF LSCB		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Sarah Lawrence</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 023 8083 2468
	<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:Sarah.lawrence@southampton.gov.uk">Sarah.lawrence@southampton.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Director</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Kim Drake</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 023 8083 4899
	<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:Kim.drake@southampton.gov.uk">Kim.drake@southampton.gov.uk</a>	
<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
None			
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>			
<p>Working Together to Safeguard Children and Young People 2015 statutory guidance directs that the LSCB produces an annual report providing a “rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local [Safeguarding] services”. The report attached aims to provide this assessment. The Scrutiny Panel are asked to consider if this is the case.</p> <p>Ofsted reflected that the previous annual report did not meet this requirement, as part of its judgement that the LSCB ‘requires improvement’ to be good. Since the time of the review by Ofsted the LSCB has made improvements to its systems for gaining assurance from local services including in the way that information and data is reported to the Board. This is now more effective in informing the boards work, which is reflected in the Annual Report. In September 2015, the LSCB approved this report alongside its Business Plan for 2015-18 and the Summary Documents all of which are attached and are published online at (<a href="http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk">www.southamptonlscb.co.uk</a> ).</p> <p>The Panel is asked to particularly reflect on the key issues identified in the opening statement within the report which is made by the Independent Chair, Keith Makin and to utilise this information in the work of the panel. This statement is based on the finding within the report which include learning from case reviews and audits, and from the Ofsted inspection.</p>			
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>			
	(i)	For the Panel to receive the LSCB Report and utilise the information contained to inform its work.	
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
1.	To ensure the information contained in the report and the learning that is gained by the LSCB during the year is embedded in scrutiny functions and future work.		
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>			
2.	None.		

<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>	
3.	The 2014-15 LSCB Annual Report and a summary of the document are attached as Appendices 1 and 2. Attached as Appendix 3 is the LSCB 2015-18 Business Plan.
4.	It is recommended that the Panel receive the LSCB Report and Business Plan and utilise the information contained to inform its work.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
5.	None.
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
6.	None.
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
8.	None
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
9.	Improving the effectiveness of the political scrutiny of children's safeguarding will help contribute to the following priorities within the Council Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protecting vulnerable people</li> <li>• Prevention and early intervention.</li> </ul>
<b>KEY DECISION</b>	No
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	None directly as a result of this report
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	LSCB Annual Report 2014-15 Summary Document
2.	LSCB Annual Report 2014-15
3.	LSCB Business Plan 2015-18
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>	
1.	None
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out.	No
<b>Privacy Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact	No



Assessment (PIA) to be carried out.		
<b>Other Background Documents</b> <b>Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>		
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)	
1.	None	

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# LSCB Annual Report Summary 2014-15

**LSCB** { Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is a statutory body that leads on keeping children safe and ensuring their wellbeing in Southampton.



The majority of children and young people in Southampton grow up happy, safe and well in secure families and communities...

...unfortunately there are children and young people in the city that face significant challenges and risks in their lives.



The LSCB is a group of agencies that work together to make sure that services in the city are working together to keep children safe.



OFSTED reviewed the work of the LSCB in July 2014. They found that we are effective at focusing on the right areas. They saw evidence of many positive changes which should lead to improved safeguarding for children.



They judged that it was too early to see the impact of these changes and so said that overall the LSCB requires improvement.

## Children in Southampton

The current population of Southampton is

**245,300**

**51,700**  
children under 18

This is 21% of the total population in the area.

**19.7% of children from black and minority ethnic (BME) groups**

The largest (BME) groups are Asian or British Asian.

## Primary schools

Children in Southampton who's first language is not English

**25.3%** compared to England average **19.4%**

## Secondary schools

Children in Southampton who's first language is not English

**20.1%** compared to England average **15%**

The health and wellbeing of children in Southampton is generally worse than the England average. Infant and child mortality rates are similar to the England average

**23.5%** of children are living in poverty compared to England average **19.2%**

**18.4%** of children are eligible for free school meals in Primary schools compared to England average **15.6%**

## Early years and education

**86%** of schools are outstanding or good



**TOP 3**

Southampton is in the top 3 performing local authorities in the South East (Ofsted)



Good level of Early Years Development indicator (introduced by DfE) **62%** of providers reach this level

**10% A\*-C** Increase in Children Looked After attaining A\*-C in English and Maths GCSE

## School attendance



**25,099**

Number of days needed to bring the attendance rate up to the same level as the National average (of **4.4%**).



**4.8%** of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) this is below the national average.



For more details see [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk)

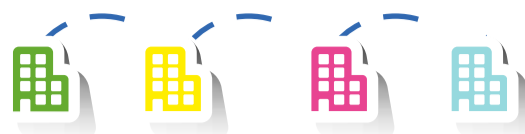
## Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

 **19,542**

contacts were made to MASH about safeguarding concerns during 2014-15.

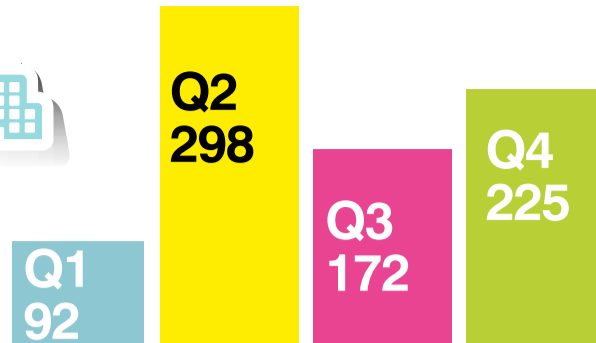
 **1,196**  
average per month

## Early Help



The Early Help service includes multi agency teams

Number of Universal Help Assessments completed



## Child Protection Planning

In Quarter 4, the rate of Children on a CP Plan was

**81 per 10,000** of the population



The percentage of children subject to repeat child protection plans has varied between

**9-16%** **15%**

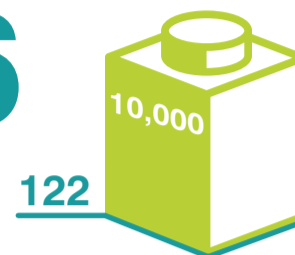


Close to England average

## Children Looked After

**586**

Southampton has a high number of children that are looked after, compared to other areas



...122 per 10,000 of the population



England average 60

The LSCB:

**13**

Safeguarding Policies have been checked and approved by the Board



The LSCB:

**89%**

Challenges made by the Board are complete and resulted in positive change



The LSCB:

**14**

Agencies have sent in Section 11 Audits (to demonstrate their agencies knowledge and practice around safeguarding)



The LSCB carries out case reviews when things go wrong and children are harmed. This year the LSCB found the common themes in its reviews which have helped us to learn lessons and change services;



Use of child protection procedures needs strengthening



Neglect is an area that needs more work



Domestic violence and abuse is a key safeguarding concern



Improve escalation of concerns between services



Staffing and supervision needs a focus



Thinking family not just about the child or adult



We need to understand diversity better



Safeguarding of children when they attend school or are electively home educated



Responses to child death need to be improved

**65%**

The LSCB has written an action plan based on these themes to target its work areas. 65% of these actions have been implemented so far the rest are in progress.

## Summary of priority areas for the next three years

- 1 Make sure that every agency in the City is working to Safeguard Children and Young People until they are safe
- 2 Ensure that the cut in resources do not impact on the standard of Safeguarding in the City and children's safety
- 3 Coordinate the work that is being done in the City to try and stop radicalisation, exploitation and victimisation of Children and Young People
- 4 Use learning from case reviews to improve the safety and wellbeing of Children and Young People in the City
- 5 Make sure that agencies are focussed on building resilience and raising aspirations of Children and Young People in Southampton



**Southampton  
Local  
Safeguarding  
Children Board**



# Annual Report

## 2014-15

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*“The majority of children and young people in Southampton grow up happy, safe and well in secure families and communities”.*



*“We do however face some very challenging issues in the City which impact on our success in ensuring children and young people are safeguarded and their welfare promoted”.*

## How safe are Children in Southampton? Keith Makin, Independent Chair

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The majority of children and young people in Southampton grow up happy, safe and well in secure families and communities. Unfortunately there are children and young people in the City that face significant challenges and risks in their lives. This report aims to highlight the key issues facing the children, young people and their families in Southampton and to comment on the quality of responses to safeguard these children by local services. The findings from this report have informed our Business Plan for the coming period of 2015-18 in order that we can address and seek assurance of the quality of responses in the city.

The LSCB experienced a period of review during early 2014/15, including inspections by Ofsted of the Local Authority and the LSCB. The Ofsted judgement was that both “required improvement” to be good, which reflected our own assessment prior to their time in the city. An outline of their findings is given later in this report these form part of our future business plan.

The LSCB has core statutory functions as detailed in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015. During this year we have been able to fully develop our processes and systems to provide a view of strengths and weaknesses in the safeguarding system, I believe the benefit of this is now becoming evident. The LSCB has now received a full financial year of improved data reporting and commentary from Board members. This has improved the identification of safeguarding issues as they arise and enabled challenge in our board meetings. The work on this will further develop during this coming year with the recruitment of a time limited dedicated analyst post for the LSCB.

To compliment this we have received Section 11 (of the Children Act 2004) reviews from all partners with this statutory duty. In addition the LSCB also receives qualitative reports to our main board and sub groups on key priority areas that were highlighted in our business plan last year. This again has facilitated healthy challenge among partners in a much richer way than previously possible. I am confident through these that partners with the statutory duty under this legislation have the key processes in place to meet statutory duties, safeguarding children and young people and promoting their welfare. There are some themes coming from these for improvement as detailed later in this report, which I am, from the monitoring of actions, confident are underway. We have engaged with many service areas that have not been involved in this previously as part of our work to make safeguarding everybody’s business, for example this year having Section 11 Reviews from UK Border Agency and British Transport Police.



*“We are hearing more clearly the voice of children and young people through our quality assurance activities”*

We are hearing more clearly the voice of children and young people through our quality assurance activities - Single Agency reports for example are clearly evidencing some really interesting practice of engaging with young people on their experience of services particularly through the work of some Health Providers and Voluntary Sector and I am encouraged to hear of work to focus on youth engagement by the Local Authority in the coming year. Our Community Engagement Group has a clear plan of action led by very engaged professionals giving us clear channels of communication to and from families and children in Southampton.

The LSCB has delivered a schedule of multi agency audits this year to gain assurance and detail regarding the quality of safeguarding practice in the City. Two audits are completed and two are in progress at the time of writing. These have given us a range of areas for action and improvement, detailed later in this report. I feel we as a board are much more equipped using these mechanisms to comment on the quality of local practice and success of local service in keeping children and young people safe, the report that follows gives an assessment of this.

The LSCB logs all challenges that take place within the main board and sub groups and publishes these and subsequent actions within a ‘Challenge Log’ each quarter. This enables us to clearly monitor where challenges are made and action taken in response.

We have also strengthened links with other key strategic partnerships in Southampton – most notably the Local Safeguarding Adults Board, whom we now share management support with I am confident that this joint work will lead us to develop the ‘think family’ approach identified as learning for the city in recent work and also ensure we make best use of resources in partnerships. Our links with the Health and Wellbeing Board and Safe City Partnership with the city are also strengthening and I hope to ensure this good linkage develops to its full potential in the coming months.

One of our key statutory functions relates to reviews where things go wrong in often tragic cases involving children and young people in the city. Where this happens we as an LSCB are required to review the circumstances to establish if lessons can be learned to prevent similar situations in the future. During 2014-15 the LSCB published four serious case reviews which identified failings that occurred in a period from 2006 in Southampton services. The Board deeply regrets the failings across the system which have been identified, and I extend my deepest sympathy to the families involved.

The Board has this year received assurance from members on the key themes identified and all services involved have detailed action plans, with progress on these reported to the LSCB every six months. I am confident that these actions are being progressed and are resulting in improvements to the quality of provision in Southampton.

*“I am confident that we are working much more safely to protect children in the city as a partnership”*

The thematic issues identified in the reviews have influenced our work this year, assurance of work to address these issues has been sought and where needed led by the LSCB in terms of coordination, and will continue to be so. The LSCB continues to disseminate learning from the reviews and these have influenced our learning and development and quality assurance work. Particular areas of safeguarding concern and work which needs further focus as detailed later in the report.

*“We face some very challenging issues in the City which impact on our success in ensuring children and young people are safeguarded and their welfare promoted”.*

I am confident that we are now working much more safely to protect children in the city as a partnership. I am clear however that there is still work to do to embed further the learning from reviews and as such this will be a continuing priority for the LSCB in the coming period. One of the ways we continue to seek assurance is through reviews of services adherence to Section 11 of the Children Act – this report details later what we have learned from these, there are some key areas that I will continue to seek assurance of in the coming year. We have amended the Section 11 review template to ensure that key learning areas from Case Reviews is regularly assessed and that board members continue to be held to account for these at the Board level.

We face some very challenging issues in the City which impact on our success in ensuring children and young people are safeguarded and their welfare promoted. I particularly refer to a number of indicators that show poor outcomes for our children as detailed later in the report and some of the key indicators that reflect the complexity of issues that affect families in Southampton.

Southampton Local Authority has regularly reported an increase in the numbers of Children entering the safeguarding system through the MASH, to Early Help and also an increase in the rate of children requiring Child Protection Planning – 81 children per 10,000. This rising trend is reflected nationally with a 12% increase reported by Department for Education (DfES). This is double the national average rate and is also above the Statistical Neighbour rate. This shows a willingness to manage risk at this level and Ofsted found Southampton’s Thresholds to be fair. This volume has added pressure to the child protection system in the City and the LSCB is aware of the impact of increasing volume. The LSCB monitors relevant service data and seeks assurance from the Local Authority on action to manage the impact of this rise in demand.

Southampton also has a high number of Children that are Looked After. The Figure at the end of the financial year was 586, or 122 per 10,000 of the population compared to a national average of half of this. Again this is an area which needs focus and appreciation by the LSCB. While the high number provides assurance that thresholds for safety are being responded to, there are concerns regarding outcomes for children that become looked after if the turnaround time to permanence is long. This large number of CLA does also provide a

*“Southampton has a high rate of reported incidents of domestic violence”*

concern in terms of resources and pressures on the child protection system. I will continue to seek assurance and remain in oversight of any plans to address this rate to ensure safeguarding remains of a high priority in the work.

Southampton has a high rate of reported incidents of domestic violence – while this could be related to confidence in reporting which is of course a positive reflection of the responses that exist, we are clear in the LSCB that this has a very significant impact on the safety of children in the city. As a result the LSCB has this year led on awareness raising of the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people and delivered a very successful conference to that effect involving survivors and children and young people that have experienced domestic abuse in the planning and delivery of the event. The LSCB has also led a strategy group who have this year developed a clear action plan to tackle this issue and we will continue influencing and monitoring this working alongside Southampton Safe City Partnership.

*“The challenge that deprivation and poverty presents will continue to increase and to challenge us as services in Southampton”*

A specific challenge comes from the levels of deprivation and child poverty in Southampton which are higher than the national average. 24.9% of people in this area live in some of the most deprived areas in England and as a consequence nearly a ¼ of children live in poverty. While not solely a cause, this is a major factor impacting on neglect and abuse levels as evidenced in research. Neglect has been continually identified as an area of concern with 1 in 3 child protection cases including neglect as an issue. The LSCB has also led in coordinating work strategically and operationally in aiding to improve professional’s responses to this issue. This continues into the coming period.

Reflecting on continuing austerity measures affecting welfare benefits - a further £12bn of reductions are predicted, it is likely that numbers of children in poverty will rise in future. This is acknowledged by the Child Poverty Action Group who reports that child poverty is expected to rise by nearly a third in the decade to 2020. The challenge that deprivation and poverty presents will continue to increase and to challenge us as services in Southampton, and I will ensure this is a priority for the LSCB to monitor and evaluate over the coming years.

While I am assured of specific areas of concern highlighted in Case Reviews published this year there are ongoing challenges faced by services working to protect children. In particular the volume of concerns being considered by MASH, the complexity of issues in cases and size of families alongside the ongoing challenge of recruiting and retaining experienced professionals and managers has an impact in the city’s services and their responses. I feel the information we have scrutinised this year demonstrates how these factors contribute to pressures experienced at the ‘front door’ and in terms of the responses from universal, early help and child protection services. The outcomes for the children in the city are also showing the impact of the continued challenges faced as is demonstrated above.

*"I am particularly impressed by the quality of provision by our Children Centres, Early Years and schools".*

Having considered the information presented to the LSCB in terms of Early Help and also Education & Early Years, I am particularly impressed by the quality of provision by our Children Centres, Early Years and schools in terms of the % ratings from Ofsted and attainment at Early Years, Key Stages 1 and 2.

Of concern in this area is the attainment of our pupils at Key Stage 4 which has reduced this year. Currently there is a 6.3% gap in Southampton compared to the national average of pupils gaining 5+ GCSE's at grades A\*-C. This demonstrates a decline in performance on previous years and will continue to be monitored and assurance of action to tackle the problem sought.

*"There are concerns in terms of the rate of total school attendance which is below the national average by some 25,000 school days"*

The gap between disadvantaged pupils and others at Key Stage 4 level shows improvements and this year, taking Southampton slightly above the national average. In addition there was an increase in the percentage of Children Looked After attaining A\*-C in English and Maths GCSE this year taking the figure 6% above the national average. This would indicate there is a trend in reducing the gap between these two groups and 'others' in terms of attainment. While this is an early positive indication the LSCB is aware that the rate of CLA succeeding in gaining A-levels is low. The LSCB will continue to monitor these trend and request detail of this through reporting of this academic years results.

The data reported to LSCB highlights that there are also particular concerns in terms of the rate of total school attendance which is below the national average by some 25,000 school days, this is an area that needs focus. School attendance is a way of ensuring children are safe and their welfare monitored. Attendance also has an impact on other key outcomes such as attainment and future employment as teenage conception for example. As such the LSCB will continue to monitor this in our quality assurance work.

*"The percentage of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) is below the national average".*

The percentage of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) is below the national average and the rate for our statistical neighbours, this demonstrates success which needs to be sustained.

Poor outcomes experienced by our children highlighted in the 2015 Child Health Profile for the City include the rate of teenage conceptions, admissions to hospital for alcohol related issues, self-harm and mental health which are also of concern. These demonstrate poor outcomes that are clearly not as we would wish for the Children and young people of the city and the LSCB recognises this. As such we will ensure a focus on seeking assurance of the actions being taken to address the gaps demonstrated in education attainment at Key Stage 4 and beyond and to raise attainment and aspirations of our young people in the coming period

*“The LSCB has focussed on scrutinising responses to children and young people that go missing and / or are at risk of child sexual exploitation (CSE)”*

and the LSCB will strive to challenge and highlight this key areas with strategic partners, professionals, volunteers and communities.

This year LSCB oversaw the development and launch of the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) in Southampton, alongside coordinated Early Help Services. Reports to the Board focused on key statistics relating to MASH and Early Help and this is a continued area for regular reporting to the LSCB. The Reports this year highlighted issues around engagement of adult focussed services— an area the LSCB raised and successfully sought assurance of - as a result adult services are regular participants and a specific role has been commissioned to link to drug and alcohol services. Other issues raised reflected the need for further analysis of data and information that is held by MASH. Reporting of application of thresholds developed by the LSCB has also formed part of this report and I have been assured of the success of this, however we will be seeking further assurance of this throughout the coming period and also have programmed a themed audit to identify this in particular in terms of Early Help.

*“The complex and high level issues represented in this report have an impact on the level of responses that services can provide particularly in these unprecedented times of budget pressures in the public sector”.*

In addition the LSCB has focussed on scrutinising responses to children and young people that go missing and / or are at risk of child sexual exploitation (CSE) through the work of the MET – Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Group. Through this the LSCB is seeking further assurance regarding the quality of return interviews and work by services to show how this information is fed in to future safety planning. The MET Group has recently reviewed its operational focused work and added a schedule of thematic quality audits in the MET area, these will be fed into the LSCB regularly this coming year.

The ADCS (Association of Directors of Children’s Services) reviewed of the quality of work in the City in responding to CSE which they found largely to be good. Some areas were highlighted as impressive to the review team and their findings aided in the direction of this work. I am particularly impressed by the dedicated Social Work roles focussed on improving responses and engagement with young people and their families alongside the linked development of a ‘CSE Hub’ led by Hampshire Constabulary. I look forward to the success of this being reported to the LSCB.

The LSCB has heard some details from key colleagues about work to prevent violent extremism and will seek assurance further on this in future. Of particular focus will be the City and Local Authority response to the recently introduced Counter Terrorism Act. Safeguarding is a crucial element of the Prevent work in terms of young people’s potential exploitation and we will seek to ensure leadership on this issue with other key strategic groups and partnerships.

The performance of the city in reducing reoffending rates within YOS is an indicator of outcomes for children and young people, linked again to aspirations and a has also shown a

*"I am confident [of the] continued commitment to improvement at some points in the child's journey however there are areas under pressure as a result that need our collective focus"*

decrease and at year end this had for the first time gone below the national average. There is still a concern relating to the rate of first time entrants to the youth justice system as this is still significantly higher than the national average and as such will remain an area for the LSCB to monitor and evaluate the success of work to address this.

The complex and high level issues represented in this report have an impact on the level of responses that services can provide particularly in these unprecedented times of budget pressures in the public sector. Southampton has made a commitment to the safeguarding of children in its Local Authority, Health and Policing priorities which has been reflected in its continued level of resourcing these services. I am confident that the 'transformation' of local services in the last 18 months and a continued commitment to the issue has provided improvement to provision at some points in the child's journey however there are areas under pressure as a result that need our collective focus. The information in the report that follows details these areas and the outcomes impact they have. As an LSCB our role is to scrutinise and monitor this and I am confident our systems and partnerships with providers will enable the LSCB to do this and to lead the way in influencing future developments.

I am also concerned that we continue to promote a high level of commitment to safeguarding – both being 'everybody's business' and in terms of resourcing relevant provision and will therefore commit to keeping this as a priority areas for the LSCB in the coming years.

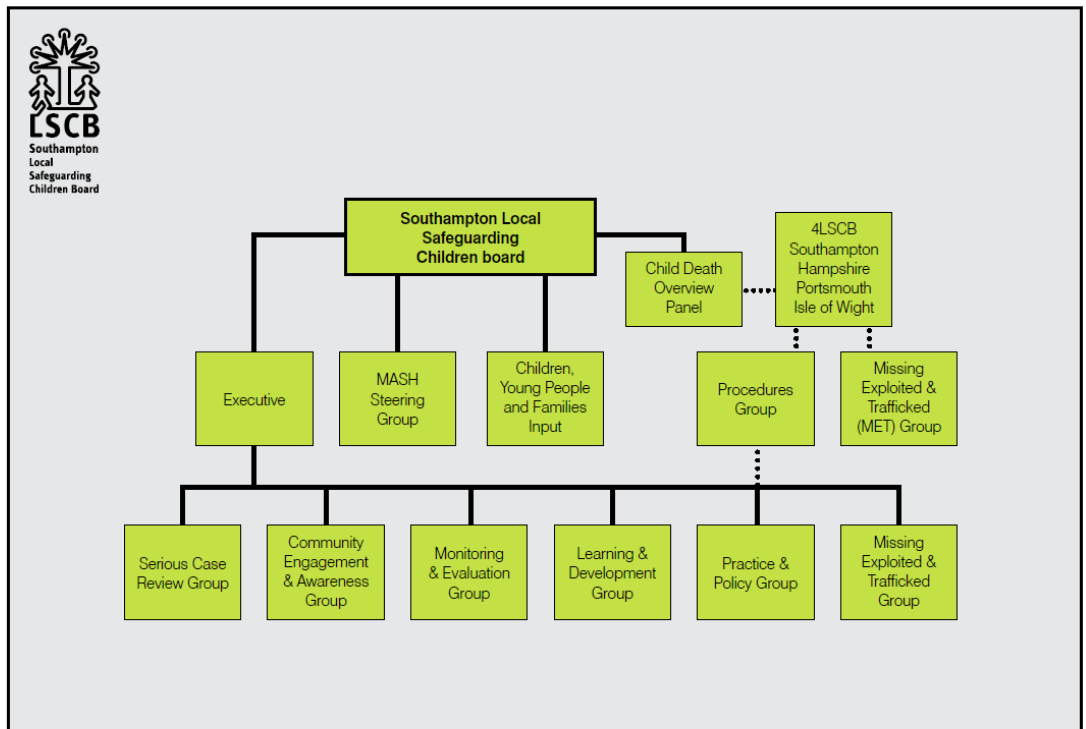


**Keith Makin**  
Independent Chair  
September 16, 2015

## Introduction

### Who are the LSCB?

Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is a statutory body that leads on keeping children safe and ensuring their wellbeing in Southampton. The LSCB is a group of agencies that work together to make sure that services in the city are working together to keep children safe. The LSCB must also continually check that what is done in Southampton works. For example, we try to make sure that the procedures we publish are clear and help staff and volunteers know what to do when they are worried about a child, or that staff and volunteers receive the training they need to undertake their roles. We focus our attention and efforts on a range of agreed priorities taken forward by 'sub groups' of the main LSCB. The structure used during this year is detailed in the following diagram:



*For 2014-15 the LSCB had a Business Plan with 9 Priority areas of work, these were developed using key learning from Case Reviews, audits and other work areas.*

*All actions are either in progress or completed.*

## **What did the LSCB do in 2014-15?**

### **Business Plan Update**

The LSCB has a Business Plan that details the work that will be done during a set period of time. For 2014-15 the LSCB had a Business Plan with 9 Priority areas of work, these were developed using key learning from Case Reviews, audits and other work areas. The full Business Plan document can be viewed on our website [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk). Progress against the plan was reviewed in May 2015 at a special meeting of board members, this informed future business planning and determined the work of the board in the coming year/s. Any areas with incomplete actions have been indicated below and are carried forward or have been completed since that time. The Board acknowledged that the number of priorities should be reduced for the next Plan. A summary of progress against the priorities is below.

Following review of the plan, the LSCB has assessed that all actions are either in progress or completed. Any actions that are incomplete for the year end have been carried forward in the revised business plan for 2015-18.

#### **Priority 1: Ensure a coordinated approach and response to;**

- **Neglect**

Following findings from serious case reviews and a review of Ofsted's report "In the Child's Time" the LSCB commissioned immediate learning workshops and the development of a multi-agency Neglect Strategy and Toolkit for professionals. Work on this includes;

  - a. A task and finish multi agency group to develop the strategy and toolkit researching good practice in other parts of the UK
  - b. Development of a multi-agency data set focussed on neglect to aid in monitoring and quality assurance work of the board
  - c. Delivery of a learning workshop for professionals on identifying Neglect to be further delivered including a focus on dental neglect.

The strategy and toolkit are due to be published and fully launched alongside further specific learning events in the coming year.

- **Domestic Violence & Sexual abuse**

The LSCB has long recognised the impact domestic violence has as a safeguarding issue. Learning from the Child K serious case review highlighted the need for strategic leadership on this issue. The LSCB made a decision during this year to set up a time



*Southampton as a city will not tolerate, excuse or ignore domestic violence and abuse.*

limited strategic group to drive the development of a Strategy and Plan on this issue. The groups remit included strategic leadership also for sexual violence and abuse, forced marriage and so called honour based violence. Through this work the LSCB has:

- Had oversight of plans to integrate the MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) with the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) during this coming year
- Delivered a well evaluated cross partnership conference on the issue, sending out a clear message at the event that Southampton as a city will not tolerate, excuse or ignore domestic violence and abuse. The event included input from survivors including young victims of domestic and sexual violence and 6 local children and young people running a workshop

It has since been agreed that the lead partnership for this work is Southampton Safe City Partnership with reports on progress of key developments and the issue to the LSCB at least annually. All actions for this area in progress, where not complete these are monitored by the Safe City Partnership.

- **Missing, Exploited and Trafficked issues**

The LSCB agreed a three year multi-agency action plan for MET issues embracing learning from other areas case reviews, locally identified issues as well as guidance from national bodies. The plan is available on [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk) . This is monitored and evaluated by the MET Strategic Group. Ofsted identified clear areas for improvement in terms of the LSCB role in monitoring responses to children and young people that go missing which has also informed the plan. The implementation of the plan this year has included:

- Quarterly MET performance monitoring of local data including indicators and commentary regarding missing children and the quality and success of return / safe and well interviews carried out with young people that go missing from home or care.
- Learning workshops and training on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) – attended by at least 180 professionals to the end of the year, planned further regular sessions.
- Chelsea’s Choice (an acclaimed theatre production) performances in 3 local secondary schools and evening sessions with community members early in 2015-16
- Steering of work by the MET Operational Group.
- ADCS (Association of Directors of Children’s Services) Peer Review of CSE delivered and used findings informed future work

*180 professionals attended learning workshops regarding identifying and responding to Child Sexual Exploitation.*

*A 'how safe do you feel?' survey with target groups of children and young people....told us generally they felt safe however there were some areas linked to the environment and community that impacted on this feeling and perception for example police presence, safety on street, lighting and CCTV.*

- Established links with Youth Offending Services, considered links to exploitation of young people due to serious and organised crime
- Oversight of work to develop a CSE Hub in Southampton MASH.
- Planned workshops regarding human trafficking for 2015-16

**Priority 2: Enable the voices of children, young people and families to be at the centre of the work of the LSCB**

The LSCB delivered a survey 'how safe do you feel?' with target groups of children and young people including those that are looked after and using local counselling and support services. This told us generally that those completing the survey felt safe however there were some areas linked to the environment and community that impacted on this feeling and perception for example police presence, safety on street, lighting and CCTV. Findings from this were fed to the Safe City Partnership for consideration in their strategic plan and have informed the work of the Board as relevant. The LSCB continues to explore options for developing regular consultation with children and young people in the widest sense possible. A work area being developed is to arrange 'back to the floor' activities for board members to link with key groups of children and young people in the City. The LSCB shares a Community Engagement and Awareness Group with the Local Safeguarding Adults Board. This group leads this area and will link to other surveys and work happening within local services and partnerships. The Community Engagement and Awareness Group has also:

- Agreed a Community Engagement and Awareness Raising strategy
- Provided coordination of local multi agency work to engage with communities and individuals on safeguarding issues
- Involved young people in the recruitment of Lay Members
- Developed a calendar of events to coordinate awareness raising work
- Identified key areas for further awareness raising and engagement work within the partnership including E Safety, Anti Bullying and Child Safety Week.
- Linked with key community champions and groups to raise awareness
- Delivered 4 newsletters during the year to raise awareness of local training, events and services as well as link to national updates see [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk) .

**Priority 3: Ensure that the Board and partners, professionals and the community are: Thinking Family in approach to safeguarding – considering impacts of adult issues (substance use, alcohol, learning disability and mental health) and ensuring 'child first'.**

A think family approach was identified as a key theme from learning in case reviews published during this year. The LSCB has this year carried out the following:

- Coordinated support and work in both LSAB (Adults Board) and LSCB by developing one Safeguarding Boards Team
- Ensured that Adults Services are represented in the MASH service

*The LSCB has created a 'Challenge' Log which highlights areas that are challenged or action*

- Delivered Weekly Wednesday Workshops promoting a think family approach to learning opportunities – these are open to professionals in both adult and child focussed services
- Developed a set of supervision standards for key safeguarding services that include 'think family' approach, and assist in quality assurance activities
- Requested specific work to monitor the effectiveness of the 4LSCB Joint Working Protocol in key adult and children and family services
- Took strategic leadership of Domestic Violence issues and work given the impact on children and young people
- Ensured quality assurance scheduled work takes place with Substance Misuse services, alcohol Services and adult services mental health and learning disability provision.

**Priority 4: Effective use of 4LSCB procedures**

The LSCB shares an online repository of Child Protection Procedures with the 4LSCBs in Hampshire, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight. The effective use of these procedures was highlighted as key learning from serious case reviews, which found the procedures themselves were fit for purpose but knowledge and application of these were not always apparent. Since that learning the LSCB has led delivery of learning workshops to highlight key themes from serious case reviews particularly:

*89% of challenges were completed and 11% (4) were outstanding but with action in progress.*

- Strategy Discussions / Meetings and S47 enquiries
- Core group & Child Protection Conferences
- Escalation – resolving professional disagreements

Application of the procedures for the above continue to be the focus of the LSCB quality assurance work and auditing by the LSCB, further details can be found later in this report.

The LSCB has created a 'Challenge' Log which highlights areas that are challenged or action that is requested by Board members and in sub groups of partner agencies. This keeps a log of action that is suggested and how this is progressed and completed and is published online every quarter. During 2014-15; 37 Challenges were made at main board and sub groups, 89% completed and 11% (4) were outstanding but with action in progress.

The LSCB has also focussed on ensuring appropriate and safe rapid responses to child death and effectiveness of CDOP processes, both areas are have been reviewed and work is in

*The Chair of the LSCB has written to the Department for Education to highlight local learning from case reviews...in relation to Elective Home Education.*

progress to improve these including revision of local procedure and regular training from key professionals.

The Board has through its Quality Assurance activity continued to seek assurance that commissioned services are adhering to safeguarding standards, the section 11 audit and review template has been updated to include a focus on services commissioned by the partners reporting to LSCB.

The LSCB has reviewed the current procedure for Electively Home Educated children and sought assurance from the Local Authority that as safe as possible pathway is in place to identify safeguarding concerns. The Chair of the LSCB has written to the Department for Education to highlight local learning from case reviews that indicate arrangements for EHE within the statutory national framework do not aid in local services safeguarding children.

The LSCB has also ensured that key areas of procedures are highlighted in a core Learning and Development offer for local professionals working with children and young people which has included:

- Recruitment of expert trainer for Level 3 Safeguarding and refresher training
- Delivering in excess of 10 days of specialist workshops into key safeguarding issues and processes
- Delivered a full multi-agency training needs analysis with input from professionals and board members
- Established a multi-agency training pool to support delivery of local training.
- Quality assured single agency Safeguarding training to ensure it is covering key learning issues for Southampton.

*The LSCB recognised a need to increase focus on diversity issues in responses as well as in terms of the LSCB in its own work which continues to develop.*

**Priority 5: Recognise and respond to the diverse population of Southampton in the work of the LSCB**

The LSCB recognised a need to increase focus on diversity issues in responses as well as in terms of the LSCB in its own work which continues to develop. During this year the LSCB has:

- Ensured learning opportunities from SCR's emphasised that race and culture do not outweigh responsibility to safeguard children and young people – reinforcing the message that it is 'children first'.
- Delivered a focussed LSCB workshop for Board members regarding diversity – to boost LSCB knowledge and understanding of Southampton population and safeguarding issues
- Ensured that the profile of the city is reflected in engagement work with families
- Developed a 'task and finish' group to assess current provision in relation to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and identify a work programme to scope and address this issue.

*Safeguarding is everybody's business*

- Identified strategic leadership and action relating to so called Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage through domestic violence focussed work.

**Priority 6: Reinforce 'safeguarding is everybody's business'**

The LSCB continues to reinforce this message in learning opportunities and in community engagement and awareness raising activities as detailed above. There is still work to do, this continues to be a priority area of work for the LSCB.

*The rising number of looked after children in the City and the outcomes for the children and young people in this cohort continues to be of concern.*

**Priority 7: Raising aspiration and closing the gap for Looked After Children**

During 2014-15 the LSCB has received information and sought assurance from the Local Authority and its partners regarding responses and work to address this area. The rising number of looked after children in the City and the outcomes for the children and young people in this cohort continues to be of concern. The LSCB will continue to seek assurance of action to address this. Reports to board this year included:

- Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report
- Reports regarding attainment including LAC at each of the Key Stages in Education (reported later)
- Reports regarding attendance rates – including reports of Children Missing from Education.

**Priority 8: Raise awareness of key child safety issues**

This is linked to the priority areas detailed above, the LSCB has identified key priority areas for awareness raising using evidence from local data, and learning from case reviews and ensured a coordinated plan to ensure awareness is raised. This work is jointly delivered with the Local Safeguarding Adult Board and Public Health colleagues. The LSCB has focussed this year on linking with national campaigns and Public Health to deliver messages locally including promotion of Child Safety Week other key national awareness raising activities. Plans are in place to deliver a range of community focussed work during Child Safety Week and also Anti Bullying Week.

*The LSCB has received 14 Section 11 Audits this year from services with a statutory duty as set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.*

**Priority 9: Measuring success and evaluating outcomes**

The LSCB has published a Quality Assurance Framework which details the activity undertaken to deliver this area of work. The LSCB receives section 11 reviews from all statutory board members at least annually and requests an update on any suggested actions as follow up every 6 months. This role is delivered by the Monitoring and Evaluation Group of the LSCB. In addition the LSCB has;

- Received 14 Section 11 Audits this year from services with a statutory duty as set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 – and follow up every 6 months where action is needed to meet the requirements of this.

*The LSCB has received findings from thematic audits and reports from statutory services. Details of the findings and themes are given in the sections that follow.*

- Delivered thematic multi agency audits (at least 2 per year) including Core Group effectiveness and a review of Child Protection Strategy and Enquiry Practice. The LSCB Monitoring and Evaluation group monitors progress against an agreed action plan. Learning from these audits is detailed in the following section.
- Received 6 monthly reports to the Monitoring and Evaluation Group from statutory services detailing work to improve outcomes and take action to address challenges and suggestions
- Scrutinised local data in relation to safeguarding children and challenged partners as appropriate on performance and improvement plans
- Participated in peer challenge with other strategic boards and partnerships including a ADCS Review of CSE and in delivery of a review of Kent LSCB

Further details of the LSCB Audit Work and Section 11 findings and themes are detailed in the sections that follow.

In addition the LSCB Chair meets regularly with Chairs of key partnerships in the City including presentation of Annual Reports with the local Health and Wellbeing Board, Adults Board and Community Safety Partnership to enable peer challenge between boards. The local authority has established a Children’s Scrutiny Panel, the LSCB Chair will attend planned focussed sessions during the coming year.

*The LSCB Chair meets regularly with Chairs of key partnerships in the City.*

*The LSCB and its partners had implemented many improvements to services prior to the publication of the SCR reports, with further improvements being made to ensure that the circumstances are not repeated.*

*The Reviews found common themes which have been translated into action.*

*575 professionals attended learning events.*

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## What has the LSCB learned this year?

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### Case Reviews

Where things go wrong the LSCB is required to review the circumstances to establish if lessons can be learned to prevent similar situations in the future. During 2014-15 the LSCB published four serious case reviews regarding the tragic circumstances involving families and children in Southampton. These were known as:

Family A  
Child I and Child M  
Child K  
Child L

The reviews cover a period dating back to January 2006 – it is important to note that the LSCB and its partners had implemented many improvements to services prior to the publication of these reports, with further improvements being made to provision to ensure that the circumstances are not repeated. At the time of publication the LSCB outlined how we will work to maintain the highest possible standards and safeguard children in the future. The details of the reviews and improvement work can be found on [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk).

The Reviews found common themes which have been translated into action by the LSCB. Below is a summary of the key areas highlighted. The learning from these reviews has been implemented in 65% of actions that are complete and 35% of actions are underway. – Full details of actions planned and undertaken can be found on the LSCB website.

At the time each review was published the LSCB held learning events to ensure professionals, and managers took action to address the issues identified in their own work. 575 professionals attended these in total.

- Using Child Protection Procedures Effectively

This was a common theme in SCRs and as such has been a priority area for the quality assurance and policy work of the LSCB.

The LSCB commissioned three thematic audits of cases during this year to test the quality of responses in some key areas identified in these SCR's. These were; a review of cases that were subject to Section 47 (of the Children Act) investigations, a review of practice where there were 'pre-birth' safeguarding concerns and an audit of Core Group work. As a result the LSCB has had some assurance of the issues raised, and has sought further work and

*Themes identified in the SCR's that were published this year:*

- *Using Child Protection Procedures Effectively*
- *Neglect*
- *Domestic Violence and Abuse*
- *Escalation*
- *Staffing and Supervision*
- *Thinking Family*
- *Diversity*
- *Elective Home Education*
- *Responses to Child Death.*

regular feedback on these key areas to take us further on the journey of continuous improvement.

- Neglect

Neglect has been a key theme in our SCR and audit work, it is a key safeguarding issue in the city, with 1 in 3 children on a Child Protection Plan in the City experienced neglect. The LSCB this year has led work to develop a city strategy and action plan and at the time of writing, is about to publish these, alongside a revised toolkit for professionals. This is a continuing area of concern and focus for the LSCB and partners.

- Domestic Violence and Abuse

This was particularly highlighted in the case of Child K. We have this year focussed on domestic violence and abuse as a key priority area. The LSCB alongside the Safe City Partnership has driven the strategic work in this area with a full plan being developed to improve and integrate responses into safeguarding and beyond and continues to play a major role in ensuring coordinated responses. The LSCB will continue to seek details and assurance to help eliminate this crime. We have also focused closely on Female Genital Mutilation to ensure guidance and protocols are developed that assist professionals in their work as well as building on existing good practice and expertise to raise awareness of this issue.

The LSCB also continues to learn about the quality of local practice and issues through reviews of cases that do not meet the 'serious' case review threshold. In Southampton we have delivered two such reviews during 2014-15 with learning disseminated and actions included in the plans for the LSCB and individual services. This highlighted learning detailed later in the report. These reviews were delivered in the context of history of involvement by services in the city at a time covered by the Serious Case Reviews

- Escalation

This was a theme identified in all recent SCR's. The LSCB considers effective challenge throughout the partnership to be a key factor in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Knowledge of procedures relating to challenge were not widely known or understood in Southampton during the period covered by the Serious Case Reviews and as a result of the reviews a range of activities have taken place during 2014 to address this. A LSCB procedure is in place to direct professionals on the course of action where there are concerns about the way a case is dealt with. The LSCB has ensured that the procedure is fit for purpose and being used by staff in Southampton through awareness raising and learning and development work.

- Staffing and Supervision



The LSCB recognises that safe and effective supervision is essential and has recently adopted core safeguarding supervision standards following learning from the SCR's. The LSCB requires all agencies to implement and provide evidence of progress against these standards and is progressing audit work as part of the Learning and Development Group agenda.

- Thinking Family

It is essential that agencies work holistically with families, including fathers in order to maximise the safety of children and young people. The LSCB is working closely with the Local Authority, Local Safeguarding Adults Board and its members to identify areas that can align to provide effective coordination and quality assurance of services working to safeguard children and their families. The LSCB continues to seek assurance from partners including the Local Authority that these recommendations are addressed.

- Diversity

The Family A SCR in particular highlighted the need for professionals to consider the needs of the child first, focussing also on cultural difference and diversity issues within the family. Stating that issues of race and culture should not outweigh the responsibility which we all share for the safeguarding of children. This is now clear in Level 3 Safeguarding Training Offered by the LSCB.

Since that time the LSCB has also identified the need to work more robustly to ensure that local professionals and services are able to respond to the cultural and diverse needs of families and children in Southampton. The LSCB has begun to develop this area and will ensure a continued focus to seek assurance of responses and to coordinate developments.

- Elective Home Education

This issue was particularly raised in the case of Family A and the LSCB has followed up on the issue with the DfE. The Chair wrote to ask for further clarity regarding the definition of "suitable education" in relation to children educated otherwise than at school and to ask the Department for Education to re-evaluate the evidence of safeguarding concerns for children who are electively home educated, including any Serious Case Reviews where this is a feature.

In addition the LSCB has been working with the Local Authority to ensure that local multi-agency guidance in respect of the safeguarding of children who are electively home educated is informed by the findings of this Serious Case Review. The LSCB is requesting agencies to consider ways in which they can increase the support they offer to children who are electively home educated, in the light of the issues arising from this review.

- Responses to child death

*The LSCB also learns about the quality of local practice and issues through reviews of cases that do not meet the 'serious' case review threshold.*

The LSCB accepts that during the timeframe of the reviews the rapid response arrangements were insufficient. The LSCB has been since assured that changes have been made to the arrangements and a revised 4LSCB procedure is in progress with training for professionals involved in the process. Southampton has a Designated Doctor for child deaths now in place.

The Board and all services involved have detailed action plans, with progress on these reported to the LSCB every six months. The learning from these reviews has been implemented in 65% of the actions for the LSCB as reported at the end of 2014-15, with the remaining actions all in progress.

The LSCB also learns about the quality of local practice and issues through reviews of cases that do not meet the 'serious' case review threshold. In Southampton we have delivered two such reviews with learning disseminated and actions included in the plans for the LSCB and individual services. These highlighted learning regarding;

- Consistency of protection of individual children from larger families where there are concerns regarding neglect or abuse of their siblings
- Awareness of 'fire setters' programmes offered by Hampshire Fire and Rescue services for young people
- The importance of considering the family history in the assessment of current risks
- Importance of recognising disguised compliance by parents
- Ensuring awareness of professionals to improve support for children and young people with acute medical conditions.

*Multi Agency Learning events were held for these reviews, to ensure that this was direct and immediate.*

Multi Agency Learning events were held for these reviews with the professionals and managers involved to ensure that this was direct and immediate. Further learning events are planned for areas requiring wider learning such as in terms of supporting children with acute medical conditions.

### **Child Death Overview Panel**

Southampton shared the Child Death Overview Panel function and management with the 4LSCB's in Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth. This allowed for shared resources and also learning across a larger area as is suggested in Working Together 2015. CDOP reports to the LSCB quarterly to identify any key learning, key issues or concerns and also provides details of the data relating to child death notifications and review status. CDOP reports more fully on an annual basis to the LSCB given that the wider area allows for richer trend issue analysis and feeds data to the national database held by Department for Education. Key learning for the 4 areas from cases reviewed during 2014-15 to be actioned is as follows:

*CDOP reports fully on an annual basis to the LSCB given that the wider area allows for richer trend issue analysis.*

- A piece of work to understand further the support teenagers are offered to manage their long term conditions as they transition from childhood.
- For perinatal and neonatal deaths there is a lack of information about the maternal care during pregnancy. Further work is needed with maternity units to ensure for perinatal and neonatal deaths that relevant maternal information is included on the CDOP form.
- The issue of suicide in young people is being taken forward through the Suicide prevention plan. This plan should be presented to the LSCBs in the Autumn
- Reinforce advice to parents regarding the risks of co-sleeping
- Better identification and support/referral for parents known to be using alcohol or drugs
- Review of education on road safety in schools
- Review of emotional support for young people in schools and through mental health services.
- Review of information sharing between professionals in families where risks identified.
- Ensure that Asthma plans in place for all children with asthma according to national guidance and shared with schools.
- Review of arrangements for transfer to specialist care with specific regard to the IoW.
- Review of paediatric expertise and capacity in primary care (currently being carried out in Portsmouth and SE Hampshire).

## **Multi Agency Audits**

*The findings from the Core Group audit in relation to the impact on children's outcomes of multi-agency interventions presented an improving picture.*

Two Multi-Agency Thematic Audits have also taken place this year on the following topics, each has a dedicated action plan and is monitored either by the Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Group or the main LSCB:

### **Core Group**

This audit took place in June 2014 and was delivered by local professionals from key member agencies. The aim of the audit was to establish the effectiveness of current core group arrangements in improving safeguarding outcomes for children and young people and their families subject to child protection planning. Whilst it looked at the efficiency of the Core Group in procedural and operational terms it also aimed to provide an understanding of the quality of the interventions led by the core group in influencing safety outcomes.

The findings from this audit in relation to the impact on children's outcomes of multi-agency interventions presented an improving picture, with some key areas for further development. It highlighted how positively rich multi agency involvement in the Core Group impacts on the quality and timeliness of intervention and improvements in outcomes for children and young people. Where multi agency involvement was limited, the core group and family showed less

*It highlighted how positively rich multi agency involvement in the Core Group impacts on the quality and timeliness of intervention and improvements in outcomes for children and young people.*

understanding of the risks posed by specific issues and this was clearly impacting on success of the core group in improving outcomes. There was in some cases a lack of involvement of key adult services where there were 'toxic trio issues'. The audit also identified low GP and Hospital representation in terms of attendance and of information fed into core group. Similarly Police information was not always clearly reported in. This impacted on quality and progress of the child protection plan where information from these would have informed the Group of subsequent issues or improvements that would have informed child protection planning. Ethnicity and other equality and diversity issues (child/ren and parents) were not always reflected within the Child Protection Plan.

There were missed opportunities for multi-agency interventions at an early stages within families, before child protection planning. This is reflective of the historical issues regarding lack of coordination of provision at this level. The audit team felt these cases highlighted further evidence of the need for the transformation work taking place within Children and Family services in the City.

There were also examples of strong quality practice demonstrated. In one case the audit team felt the recording was exceptional by the Lead Social worker. In others there were clear interventions in place that were reflected in updates to the Child Protection Plan and clear links in the Social Worker case notes back to the plan.

The majority of interventions audited were of a quality that led to improved safety and outcomes for the children involved.

### **Child Protection Strategy and Enquiry Practice**

The LSCB commissioned this review using independent auditors. This took place in response to learning from SCR's that the enquiry process had not been sufficiently robust. The purpose of the review was to; evaluate the quality of child protection practice, explore the current involvement of multi-agency partners and the experience of families and to evaluate to what extent the child protection enquiry process has improved outcomes for children.

*The review found a mixture of areas of good practice and areas for development.*

The review found a mixture of areas of good practice and areas for development. The auditors were clear that the threshold for commencing a child protection enquiry is in the right place in Southampton. The review also found that the current balance between strategy discussions and strategy meetings does not cause concern however there was an issue regarding recording of strategy discussions.

The review found a need for organisation and clarity of documentation relating to enquiries to be improved and also to ensure that the relevant partner professionals are consulted in all such enquiries. The involvement of children, in terms of seeking their views is generally very good

*The LSCB plans audit work in the following areas for the coming year:*

- *Pre Birth*
- *Teenage Conceptions*
- *Early Help*

however the reviewers felt that the overall quality of the investigations does need to markedly improve. The reviewers in consultation with the LSCB made recommendations in relation to these learning areas which are being taken forward as an action plan led by the Local Authority, monitored by the LSCB.

### **Further multi agency audit work**

The LSCB has undertaken delivery of the following audit work to be reported in the coming year:

#### **Pre Birth Audit**

To establish the level of multi-agency collaboration in relation to adherence to the LSCB Pre-birth protocol, quality of practice and joint decision making. Particularly focussing on:

- a) Involvement and collaborative working of multi-agency partners;
- b) Early identification and notification;
- c) Quality of the assessments, intervention and planning
- d) Experience of families
- e) How the process has improved the outcomes for the children involved.

Review of teenage conceptions that occurred among Southampton resident children (aged under 16 years) during 2013 to:

- a) Identify whether opportunities to safeguard children/young people had been missed
- b) Better understand circumstances and factors contributing to unplanned pregnancy to support future prevention activity
- c) Develop a clearer pathway for young people u18 years old who become pregnant.

#### **Early Help Audit**

The LSCB will deliver an audit of the quality of responses to children and young people supported at this level. The LSCB has considered and agreed this following the local Ofsted Review and "Early Help: Who's responsibility?". Learning from a local 'critical learning review' delivered by Youth Offending Service also reinforced the need for this. Plans for this are currently being made and the audit will be delivered in the coming year.

## **Section 11 Reviews**

The LSCB has a structure in place to receive reviews from key services in Southampton who have a duty under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004. This places a duty on a range of

*The Section 11*

*Audit process*

*identified some key*

*areas for*

*development that*

*these are being*

*progressed by the*

*relevant Board*

*members.*

organisations to ensure their functions and any services that they contract out to others are discharged regarding the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The LSCB has received fourteen Section 11 reviews during the year, presented to the Boards Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Group with the Chair of the LSCB present. The meetings enable peer review and challenge. These included from:

- Southampton City Council:
  - Children & Family Services; including early help, social care, youth offending, education & early Years
  - Adults Services
  - Housing Services
  - Licensing
  - Sport, leisure and culture services
  - Public Health
- CAFCASS (Child and Family Court Advisory Support Services)
- Hampshire Constabulary
- Hampshire Probation Trust / Community Rehabilitation Company
- Home Office – Border Force
- NHS (including Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group, Solent NHS Trust, University Hospitals (Southampton) NHS Trust, Public Health and Southern Health)

*The LSCB receives 6*

*monthly updates on*

*action plans as a*

*result of Section 11*

*Audits.*

Through this process the Chair and the LSCB has received assurance of local practice and process, and some key areas for development have been identified and are being progressed by the relevant Board members:

- a) A need to ensure across that all staff in these agencies are receiving safeguarding training at 'level 1' (see [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk) and the Learning and Development Strategy for details of the levels)
- b) Safer Recruitment Practice and related training, this is not necessarily in place across all partners and this needs to be rectified
- c) Agencies with commissioning responsibility weren't always aware that this duty applies in terms of the providers of services that they commission – therefore the Section 11 was not completed on that basis the first time.
- d) Knowledge of E Safety issues is limited and training on this is not always available
- e) Some services were not fully aware of their duty in terms however following this process it was clear that further understanding was present.

*Ofsted saw evidence of many positive changes which should lead to improved safeguarding for children.*

The learning above has informed action plans that have been developed by each service, progress against these are reported back to the group on a six monthly basis.

## **Learning from Ofsted**

Ofsted inspected Southampton Local Authority twice in 2014, firstly in May 2014 and then again re visited in July 2014. At the same time as this, Ofsted reviewed the LSCB. They saw evidence of many positive changes which should lead to improved safeguarding for children. They judged that it was too early to see the impact of these changes and so said that overall the LSCB requires improvement to become good. This judgment matched the LSCBs own assessment of its stage of development. The Board is confident that it will make these improvements in the coming year to be 'good' and strives to eventually become outstanding in its work.

The full Ofsted report can be found online at [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk) for details. The recommendations for the LSCB are summarised as below:

1. Use management information systematically to understand trends, quality and performance
2. Annual report to provide rigorous assessment of quality of multi agency practice
3. Develop protocols and guidance to support response to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
4. Ensure coordination and improvement of responses to children that go missing from home and care
5. Regular audits to evaluate quality of practice (not just process)
6. Develop learning and improvement plans from multi agency audits & ensure implemented
7. Ensure experiences and views of children and young people receiving help and support are clearly understood by the board and action is taken in response.

*All Ofsted recommendations are being actioned and are detailed in the LSCB Business Plan. At the time of writing all actions are underway and 26% of actions are completed.*

All recommendations are accepted and the LSCB has integrated action within the refreshed Business Plan to ensure these are met. The LSCB monitors progress against these every 6 months at the main board meeting. At the time of writing all actions in response to the recommendations are underway with 26% of actions being complete.

Ofsted deemed that the Local Authority Children's services in Southampton require improvement because:

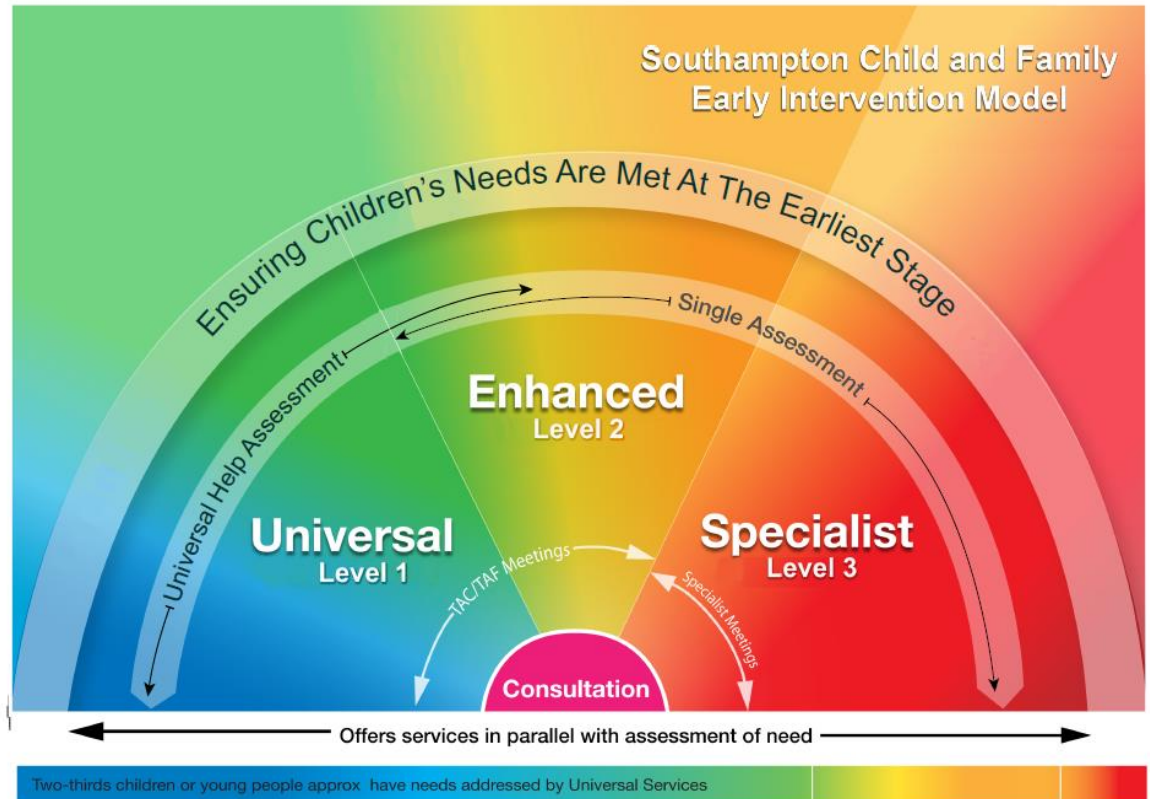
1. Politicians have not been meeting their corporate parenting responsibilities to champion looked after children and care leavers and ensure that their needs are met.

2. Too many care leavers are not in education, employment and or training. Only three care leavers are currently in higher education.
3. Over 30% of care leavers are either not in touch with services or assessed as living in unsuitable accommodation.
4. Adoption is not achieved quickly enough for a small minority (17%) of looked after children.
5. Care plans for looked after children are neither thorough nor comprehensive and therefore are not effective in assisting practitioners in their work to ensure that all children's needs are being met.
6. The majority of looked after children do not receive good quality life story work.
7. Looked after reviews are too often delayed or not held at the right time
8. Arrangements to respond to children who go missing from home and care are not sufficiently robust.
9. Strategy discussions do not always include all appropriate agencies and are poorly recorded.
10. Case recording is often not sufficiently detailed nor purposefully linked to the care plan of the child.
11. The supervision of social workers does not consistently promote reflective practice
12. Performance management arrangements are not sufficiently focused on improving the quality of work with children and families.

The LSCB has received details of the Local Authority action plan in response to these findings and has requested regular updates on progress.



## Outcomes for Children & Young People in Southampton



This section of the report focusses on analysis of the outcomes for Children and Young People in Southampton during the period 2014-15. It uses the format of The Southampton Child and Family Early Intervention Model and Threshold Document to explain this. The Threshold Document was adopted by the LSCB in 2014, it provides professionals in the City with a framework to identify when a child and their family may need additional support as well as giving examples of some of the indicators that could suggest support is needed. The Model reflects a continuum levels of support from Universal to Specialist Services. The diagram above represents the continuum of support demonstrated within the Model. The full document is available on the LSCB website [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk).

*Approximately 51,700 children under the age of 18 years live in the city. This is 21% of the total population in the area.*

*The proportion of children and young people whose first language is not English in primary schools is 25.3%.*

*Around 23.5% of children are living in poverty whilst the national average is 19.2%.*

*The health and wellbeing of children in Southampton is generally worse than the England average.*

The information analysed in the section that follows has been selected from a data set presented at each main LSCB meeting during 2014-15. Statistical Neighbour and National Average figures have been used where available and appropriate to provide comparison.

## **What we know about Children in Southampton**

The current population of Southampton is 245,300 of which 124,600 are male and 120,600 are female. Approximately 51,700 children under the age of 18 years live in the city. This is 21% of the total population in the area. (Mid-Year Estimate 2014).

Children and young people from ethnic groups account for 19.7% of all children living in Southampton. The largest ethnic groups of children and young people in the area are Asian or British Asian (2011 Census).

The proportion of children and young people whose first language is not English in primary schools is 25.3% compared to the England average 19.4% and in secondary schools this is 20.1% compared to an England average of 15% (LAIT Department of Education 2015).

Around 23.5% of children are living in poverty whilst the national average is 19.2% (Department for work and pensions 2012). The proportion of children entitled to free school meals in primary schools is 18.4% against a national average of 15.6%. (LAIT Department of Education 2015).

The LSCB receives details of the Child Health Profile for the city as this is published each year by Public Health England. The full report is available via [www.chimat.org.uk](http://www.chimat.org.uk) –the headlines this year for Southampton are as follows.

- The health and wellbeing of children in Southampton is generally worse than the England average. Infant and child mortality rates are similar to the England average
- The rate of family homelessness is similar to the England average.
- Children in Southampton have worse than average levels of obesity: 11.1% of children aged 4-5 years and 21.5% of children aged 10-11 years are classified as obese. Assurance of work to tackle this will be sought from the Health and Wellbeing Board in the coming year.
- A similar percentage of mothers initiate breastfeeding compared with the England average, with 74.5% breastfeeding. However there is no data within the profile to suggest if this level is sustained at 6-8 weeks after birth.
- 16.4% of mothers in Southampton are smokers at time of the delivery of their baby compared to a national average of 12%, this is an area that will be explored further via links with the Health and Wellbeing Board.

*A higher percentage of children (95.2%) have received their first dose of immunisation by the age of two in Southampton.*

*The rate of young people under 18 who are admitted to hospital because they have a condition wholly related to alcohol such as alcohol overdose remains significantly higher than the national average.*

*The area has a higher teenage conception rate compared with the England average.*

- A higher percentage of children (95.2%) have received their first dose of immunisation by the age of two in Southampton.
- By the age of five, 90.6% of children have received their second dose of MMR immunisation which is higher than the England average.
- For Children in Care immunisation rates are lower. 68.1% are reported in this to have had up-to-date immunisations - significantly lower than the national average of 87.1% and highlighting a gap compared to 'other' children. The LSCB will monitor this and seek assurance from relevant partners and partnerships to ensure focussed action.
- The rate of young people under 18 who are admitted to hospital because they have a condition wholly related to alcohol such as alcohol overdose shows a reducing trend when compared to the previous period, however the rate remains significantly higher than the national average. Alcohol use and its impact is a focus of Southampton Safe City Partnership work and the LSCB will continue to seek assurance of the plan to address high levels among children. There are links demonstrated in terms of alcohol use in the data reported to the LSCB regarding sexual offences where the victim is under 18, the LSCB continues to focus on this through its Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Group and through data reported to the LSCB as detailed later in this document.
- The rate of young people aged 10 to 24 years who are admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm is lower this year than the previous period and is slightly less than the national average.
- In 2013, approximately 36 girls aged under 18 conceived for every 1,000 females aged 15-17 years in this area. This is higher than the regional average. The area has a higher teenage conception rate compared with the England average. This has influenced the LSCB audit plan for the coming year – teenage conceptions being a focussed multi agency activity (See "What has the LSCB learned" section).
- In 2013/14, 1.4% of women giving birth in this area were aged under 18 years. This is higher than the regional average. This area has a similar percentage of births to teenage girls compared with the England average and a higher percentage compared with the European average of 0.9%.

In terms of young people offending in Southampton the LSCB receives updates regarding first time entrants to the criminal justice system and re-offending rates.

While the figure is showing a reducing trend, Southampton has a higher rate of first time entrants aged 10-17 years than statistical neighbours and the national average. Per 100,000 of the population this stands at 533, compared to 426. The Southampton figure is a 45% reduction in comparison to the equivalent reporting period in the previous year. The national level has reduced by 15%.

*Southampton has a higher rate of first time entrants to the criminal justice system than statistical neighbours and the national average.*

*35% of young people re-offend in 12 month period from original their offence.*

*Ofsted findings for Children’s Centres place Southampton in the top 3 performing local authorities.*

35% of Young people re-offend in 12 month period from original their offence. Again this is a reducing figure and below the statistical neighbour and national average, information from the lead officers for Youth Offending Service to the LSCB request that it should be noted this is in part due to a larger cohort of young offenders. In order to continue to address re-offending robustly, within the context of a smaller cohort with complex needs, the YOS continues to work closely with the Youth Justice Board. In 2015, specific areas of focus will be offending by the Priority Young People cohort (to support further reductions) and offending by 10 – 13 year olds. Data is reported for the most recent cohort which is published 12 months in arrears.

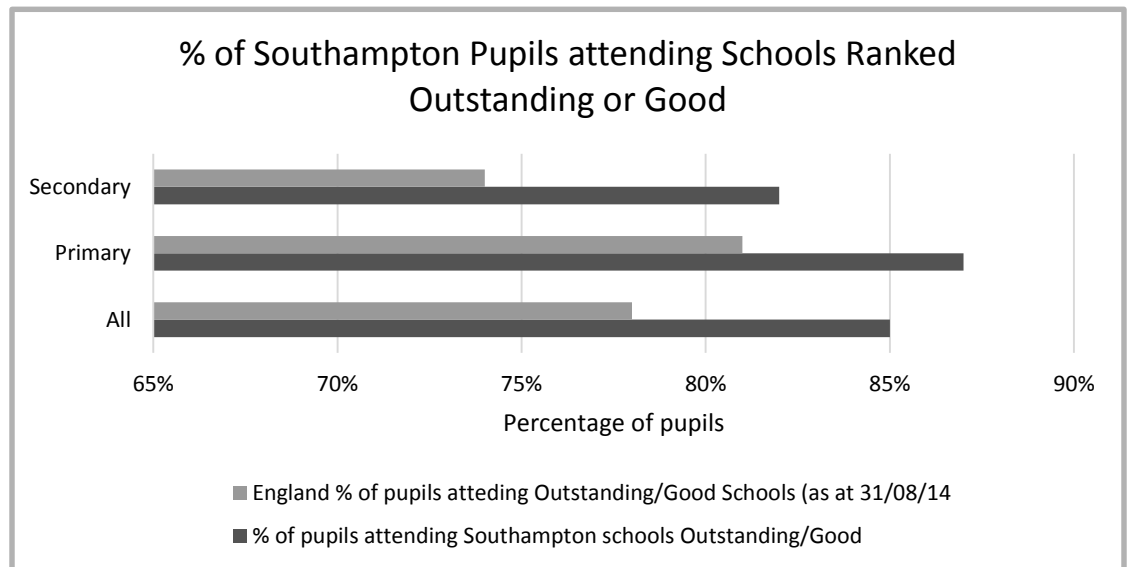
## Universal Services

### Early Years & Education

According to the SCC Children and Families Services Annual Report for 2014 the picture in terms of the standards of provision in this sector is improving and reassuring.

Ofsted findings for Children’s Centres in the South East published in September 2014 place Southampton in the top 3 performing local authorities. All of the centres in the City have been rated either good or outstanding.

A high proportion of Early Years Providers are good or outstanding with none being rated as inadequate. 2014 was the second year of the new Good Level of Development indicator introduced by DfE, and 62% of children achieved this compared to a national average of 60%.



Children are achieving above the national average at Early Years Foundation Stage and at the national average at Key Stage 1. They are attaining beyond the national average at Key Stage 2.

At Key stage 4 there is a larger gap than previous years indicating a drop in performance compared to the national average of pupils gaining 5+ GCSE's at grades A-C.

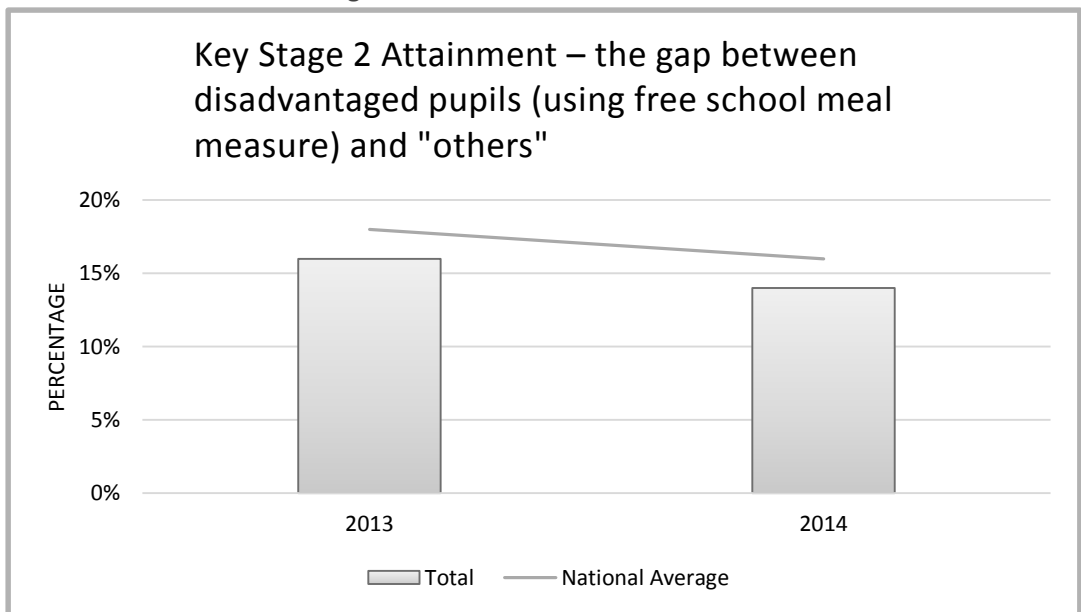
The gap between disadvantaged pupils and others at Key Stage 2 and 4 level however shows improvements and we are slightly above the national average.

86% of Southampton schools judged either outstanding or good with 85% of our children attending these schools, this is higher than a national average of 78%. In terms of Children Looked after (CLA) 71% attend an Outstanding or Good school in the city.

In terms of attainment there is a mixed picture in Southampton. Children are reported to be achieving above the national average at Early Years Foundation Stage and at the national average at Key Stage 1. They are attaining beyond the national average at Key Stage 2. For the second consecutive year Southampton's Key Stage 2 results have been above the national average which is something to be celebrated. This year Children in the city are 2% above the national average with 81% at L4+. As the graph above demonstrates there is a lower gap than the national average for disadvantaged pupil's achievement at Key Stage 2.

There are challenges in attainment of our children beyond this. At Key stage 4 there is a 6.3% gap in Southampton compared to the national average of pupils gaining 5+ GCSE's at grades A-C. This is a larger gap than previous years indicating a drop in performance.

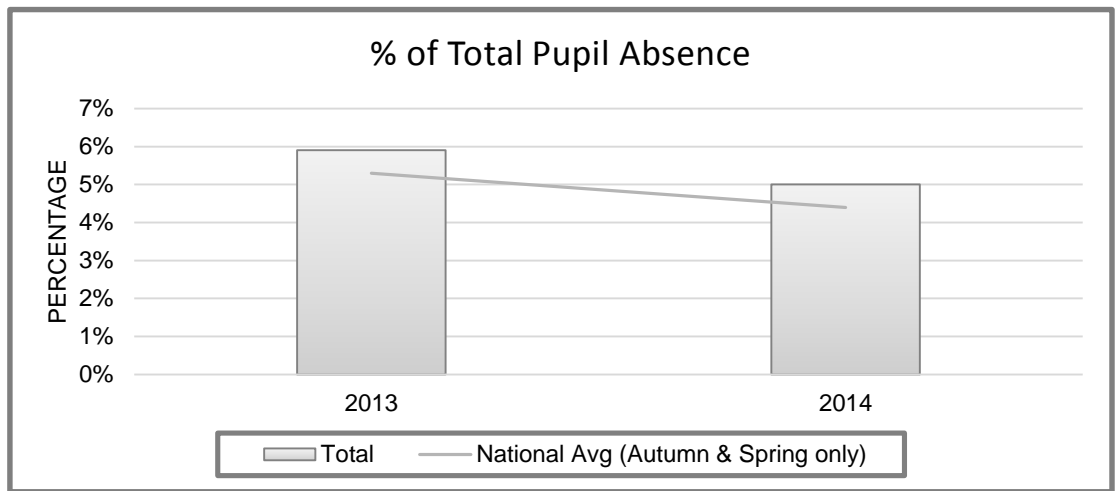
The gap between disadvantaged pupils and others at Key Stage 2 and 4 level however shows improvements and we are slightly above the national average, and there was a 10% increase in Children Looked After attaining A\*-C in English and Maths GCSE this year taking the figure 6% above the national average.



*There are particular concerns in terms of the rate of total school attendance.*

Data reported to the LSCB highlights that there are particular concerns in terms of the rate of total school attendance. Southampton ranks as 139th worst out of 152 Local Authorities in this area. The rate in the city was 5% and attendance of an additional 25,099 days is needed to bring the rate up to the same level as the National average of 4.4%. The attendance rate is an area that needs particular focus, there are links to poor outcomes for children and young people and the LSCB will continue to monitor progress and data in this area.

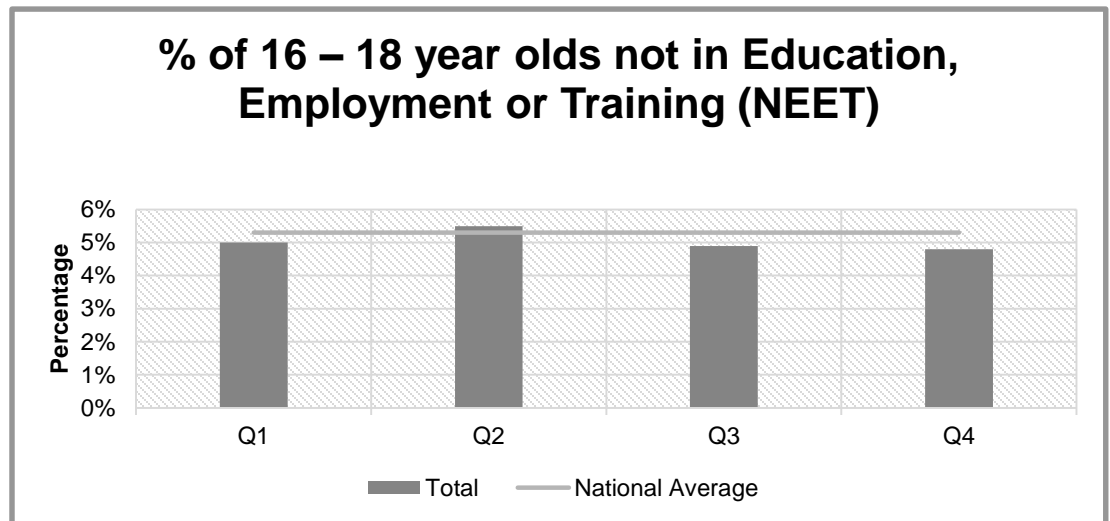
*Southampton's Key Stage 5 performance is below the national average*



Southampton's Key Stage 5 performance is rated in terms of points score per candidate in level 3 qualifications for students aged 16-18 years old at the end of A level study. This was 598.9 compared to a national average of 698.5 which is again below the national average.

The percentage of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) demonstrates success which needs to be sustained.

The percentage of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) is below the national average and the rate for our statistical neighbours, this demonstrates success which needs to be sustained.



The LSCB will continue to monitor levels of attainment and attendance as well as NEET figures in relation to areas highlighted above, this will be delivered via the priority area of the Business Plan for this coming year of *Ensure a focus on building resilience and raising the aspirations of children and young people in Southampton*. Details of how this will be progressed can be found in the Business Plan.

The focus of the LSCB Health indicators are regarding Health Assessments for Children Looked After.

### Health

Southampton Health Services also submit quarterly data to the LSCB, in addition to the data analysed using Chi-Mat explored in earlier sections. The focus of the LSCB Health indicators are regarding Health Assessments for Children Looked After, which is detailed in the relevant section that follows. The LSCB plans to review indicators on the data set during the coming year which may lead to further Health issues being reported, potentially linked to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Chi Mat Data.

### Where there are safeguarding concerns

#### MASH

The LSCB oversaw the development of the Southampton MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) during this period. Since its inception in March 2014 a 6 monthly report has been

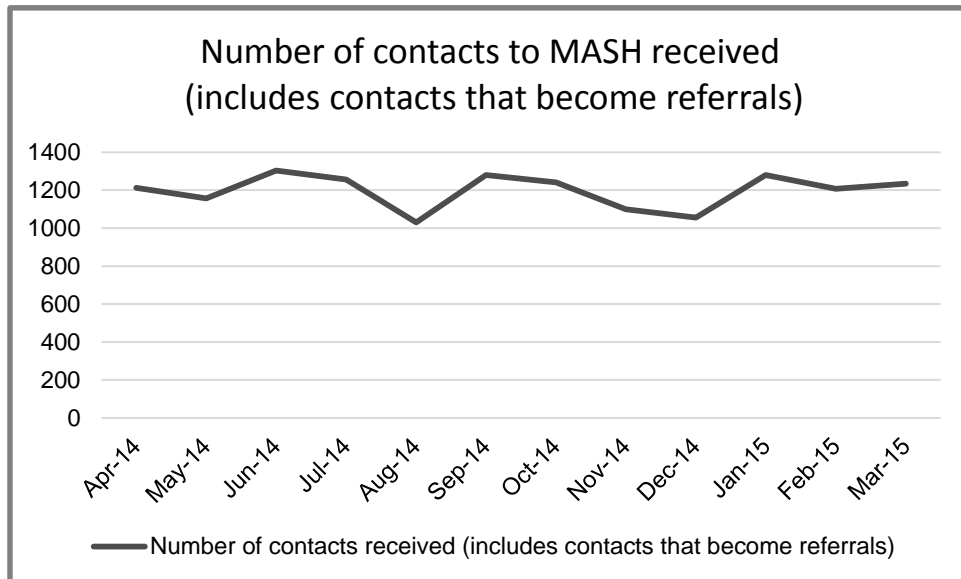
*The LSCB has and continues to seek assurance of the MASH operation and the planned future developments.*

requested by the LSCB which has covered data and performance information regarding the MASH and Early Help Service.

Children and Family Services has lead the development of the MASH which was positively viewed by Ofsted and is held in high regard by other areas who often visit to see it in action. The positive partnership working in the city is clearly demonstrated in the MASH with all key areas now participating and having dedicated MASH roles. The Local Authority has also taken steps during this period to develop linked multi agency responses to key areas. The MASH and Child Protection Teams have now been integrated in the service, and developments planned relating to embedding multi agency responses to Child Sexual Exploitation, linked to Hampshire Constabulary work on a CSE Hub and Domestic Violence (via a joined MASH and MARAC). Reports to the LSCB have highlighted issues around engagement of adult focussed services in the MASH, which has been resolved to some extent, and the need for further analysis of information that is held with the MASH. The LSCB has and continues to seek assurance of the MASH operation and the planned future developments. The LSCB is also seeking assurance of the future multi agency governance arrangements for the service.

In terms of volume the MASH received 19542 contacts about safeguarding concerns during 2014-15 averaging 1196 per month. This includes contacts that went on to become referrals to other Help and Protection services including Early Help. There was a peak in June 2014 of 1303 contacts received, this was shortly after the publication of 3 SCR's.

*There was a peak in June 2014 in terms of the contacts received by MASH, this was shortly after the publication of 3 SCR's.*



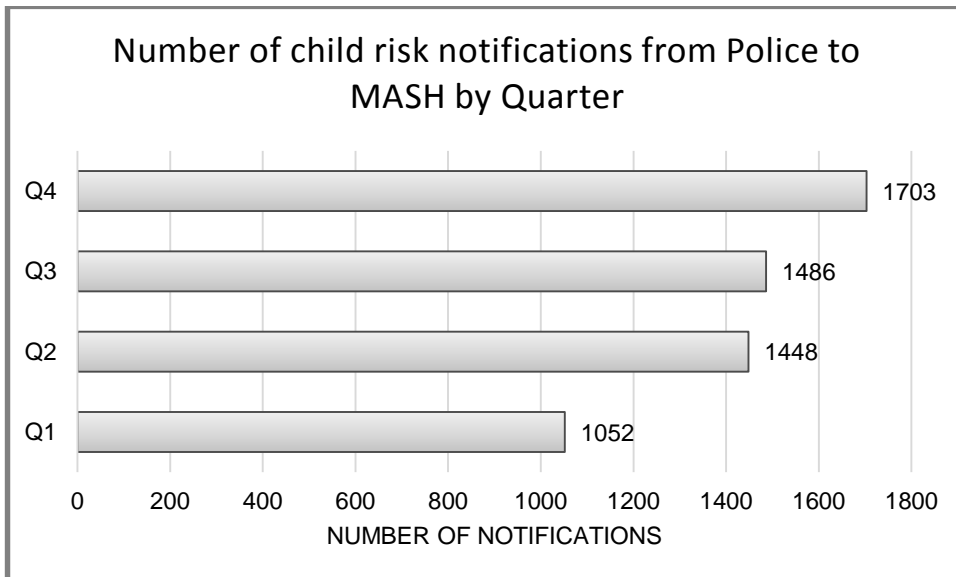


*Ofsted were complimentary about the approach and integration of Families Matter to the Early Help team.*

*The service has picked up significant levels of new work as the increase in referrals to MASH have impacted on this area.*

*The LSCB has plans to carry out an audit of quality of Early Help responses for the coming year to assess the impact and quality of work.*

The highest % of referrals to ‘front door’ services such as the MASH are reported by DfE to come from Police (around 25%) with Schools, Health services and Individuals / family being other main referrers. Locally notifications to MASH from Police have risen during this financial year as reported below. This demonstrates an increase in the number of contacts to MASH:

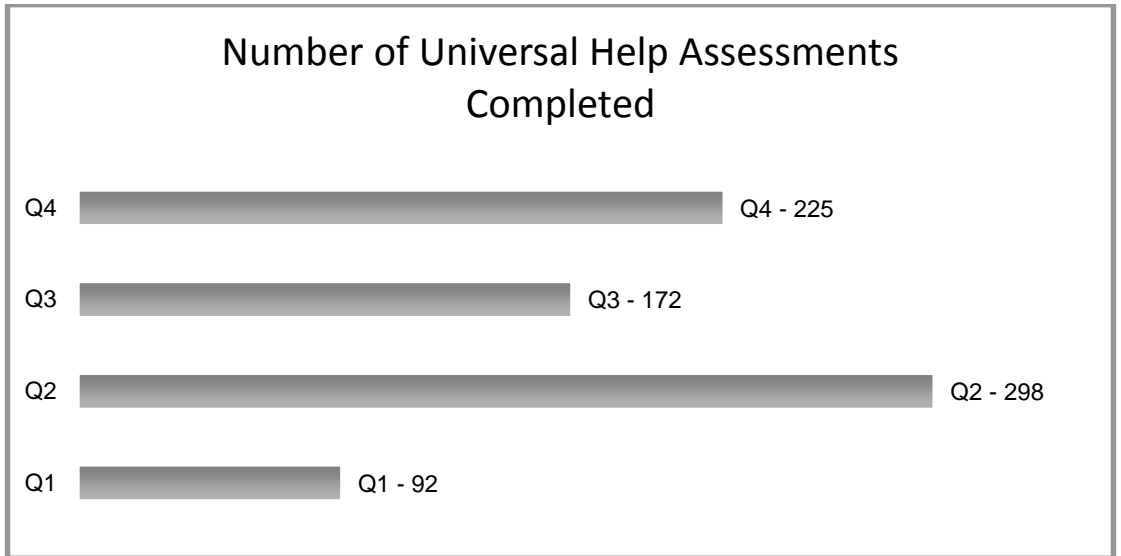


### Early Help

Early help services were established as coordinated teams by the Local Authority in early 2014. This was in recognition of the need to shift work to more prevention and early intervention, as identified in SCR’s for Child L and Family A. The Early Help service includes multi agency teams. Ofsted were complimentary about the approach and integration of Families Matter to the Early Help team. The LSCB receives updates on progress of Early Help as part of 6 monthly reports from the Local Authority and monitors key indicator for this area as described below.

The service has picked up significant levels of new work as the increase in referrals to MASH have impacted on this area. The LSCB has plans to carry out an audit of quality of Early Help responses for the coming year to assess the impact and quality of work in this area. The number of universal help assessments completed below demonstrates those that have come through to Early Help teams which are multi agency through the MASH, work is progressing to identify further numbers of assessments that are completed by universal service providers. The data shows a peak in Q2, which correlates to a peak in contacts made to the MASH in June 2014 shortly after the publication of 3 SCR’s in the City.

*This initial data suggests a higher than national average rate in terms of Children in Need.*



*Further detail of these indicators and analysis of this area will be sought in the coming period.*

### **Children in need of help and protection**

The LSCB requests performance information from the Local Authority relating to Children In Need as follows:

- Rate of Children in Need Referrals per 10,000 population

In quarter one the rate of referral per 10,000 was reported at 407. This was much higher than the national average of 332, nearer to our statistical neighbour average of 385. This item has not been reported since Quarter 1 due to data accuracy issues being investigated.

- % of referrals of children in need that are re referrals within 1 year

This item has not been reported this year due a review of calculation methods.

- % of children in need with a child in need plan

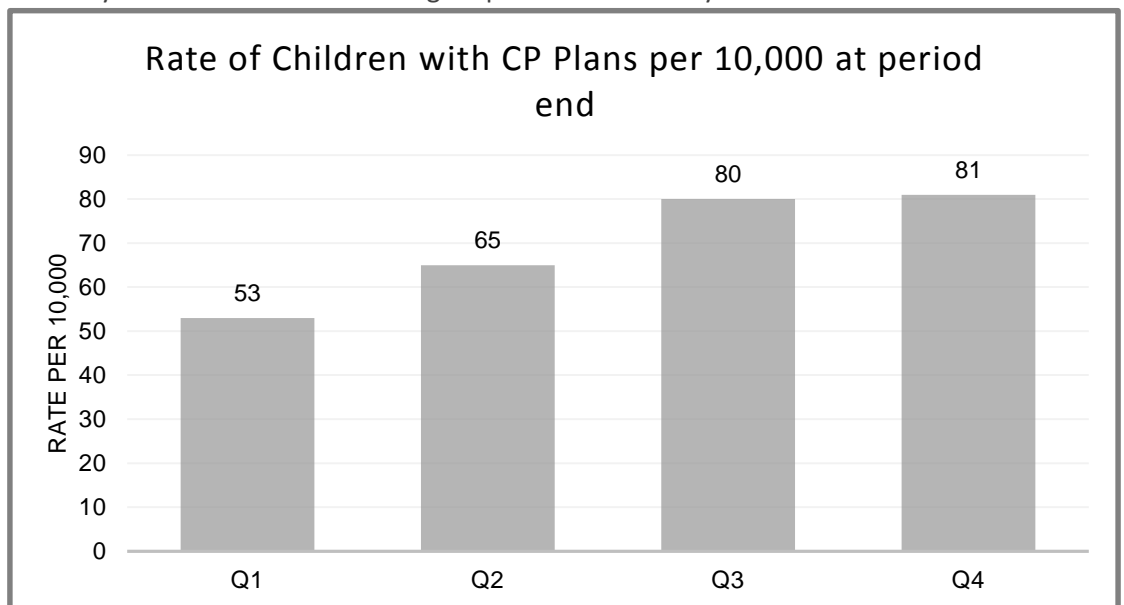
The percentage of children in need with a child in need plan was reported to be 95% in Q1 but similarly this figure has not been reported again due to data accuracy.

This initial data suggests a higher than national average rate in terms of Children in Need. Further detail of these indicators and analysis of this area will be sought in the coming period.

*The rate of children on a child protection plan demonstrate an increasing trend, in Q4 this was more than twice the previous national average.*

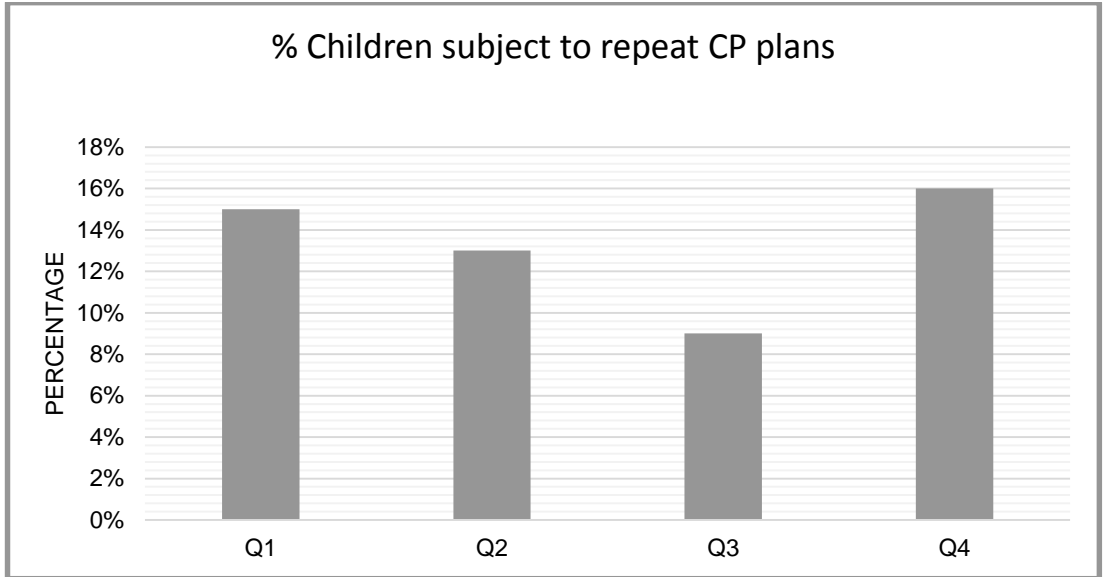
*The percentage of children subject to repeat plans is close to the national average.*

The rate of children with a child protection plan (per 10,000 of the population) is reported quarterly to the LSCB. The figures demonstrate an increasing trend, at the end of Q4 the rate had risen to 81 which is more than twice the previous national average (38), and higher than the Statistical Neighbour average of 52, it has been reported that DfE state a 12% increase has occurred from last financial year and so the comparator figures may change. The LSCB has acknowledged this high rate and seeks assurance and commentary on this from the local authority in terms of actions to mitigate pressures on the system and teams involved in



coordinating Child Protection Planning, and responses to this.

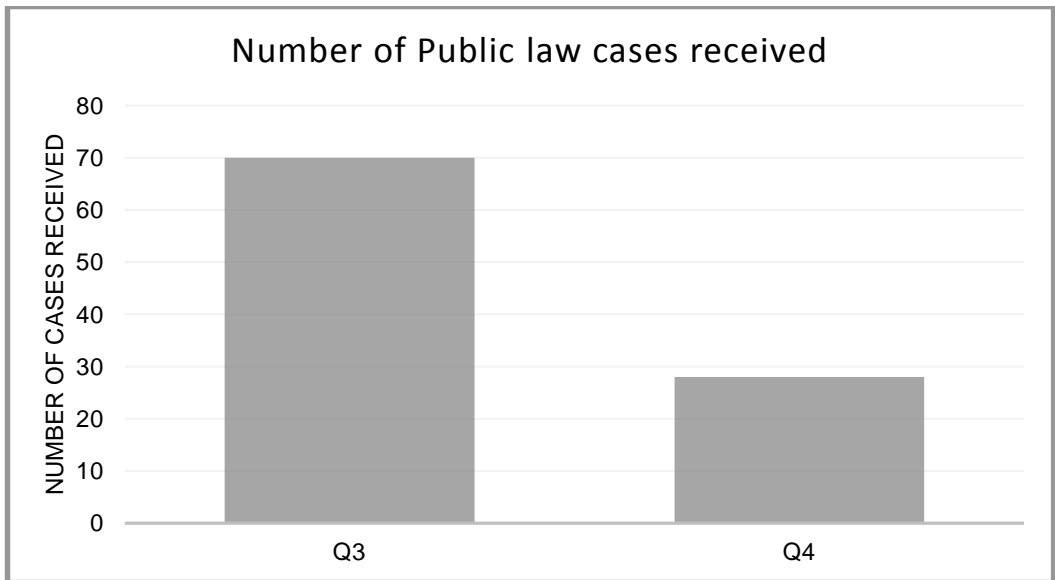
The percentage of children subject to repeat plans has varied between 9-16% which was the latest figure reported. According to the local authority there were several families with 3 or more children who returned on CP Planning during this time which caused a rise in the percentage. The figure is still close to the national average of 15%.



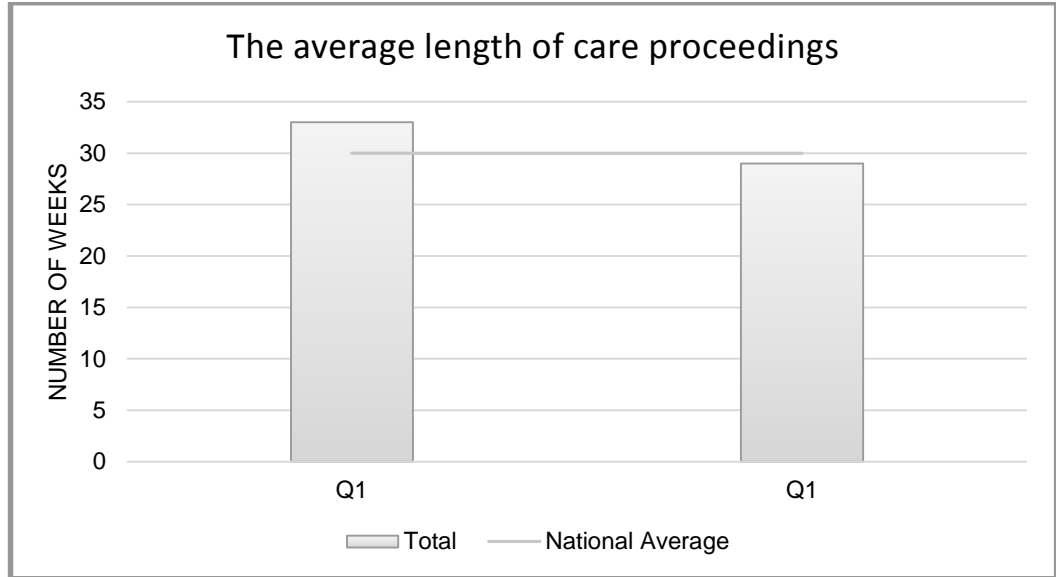
Local increases reflect national figures with the DfE reporting 5% increases each year in Children in Need (CIN), 12% increase in children on Child Protection Plans and increases in court applications.

In terms of public law family cases relating to protection, CAFCASS report for Q3 and 4 as below for Southampton:

*Southampton has 39% of cases over the target of 26 weeks' timescale.*



CAFCASS report also from Family Justice Board figures that Southampton has 39% of cases over the target of 26 weeks' timescale. This compares to a statistical neighbour average of 23 weeks' timescale. This is an area of concern that will continue to be monitored through the LSCB Data Set.



*The LADO has delivered workshops via the LSCB to raise awareness of procedures to respond to allegations against staff and volunteers in Southampton.*

### **Allegations against Staff & Volunteers**

The LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) reports annually to the LSCB, following this year's report this indicator became part of the LSCB data set in Quarter 4, the figures below highlight the number of referrals and that 82% of these met the threshold for LADO. The LADO is employed by the Local Authority. There are no national or statistical neighbour comparators to use to analyse this figure. The LADO has delivered workshops via the LSCB to raise awareness of procedures to respond to allegations against staff and volunteers in Southampton.

<b>Number of LADO referrals</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Number of LADO referrals that met the threshold as a percentage</b>	<b>82%</b>

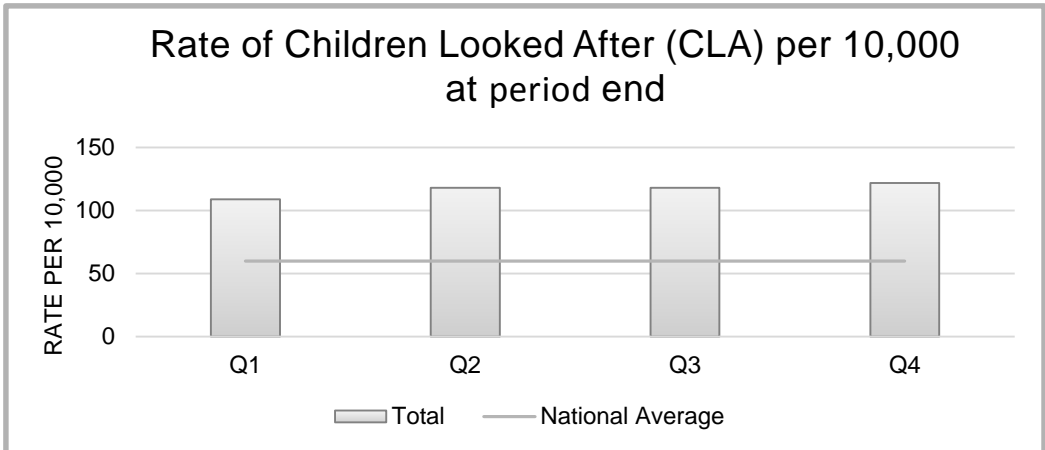
*Southampton has a high number of Children that are Looked After.*

*586 Children, or 122 per 10,000 of the population the national average is half of this.*

*The LSCB will continue to seek further details and assurance of work in this area.*

## Children Looked After

Southampton has a high number of Children that are Looked After. The Figure at the end of the financial year was 586, or 122 per 10,000 of the population compared to a national average of half of this.



While the high number provides assurance that thresholds for ensuring children are safe are being applied, there are concerns regarding this particularly in relation to the length of time to ensure permanent safe arrangements are made. The outcomes for children that become looked after are poorer than the general population, this can be exacerbated if the turnaround time to ensure safe resettlement, or permanence is long.

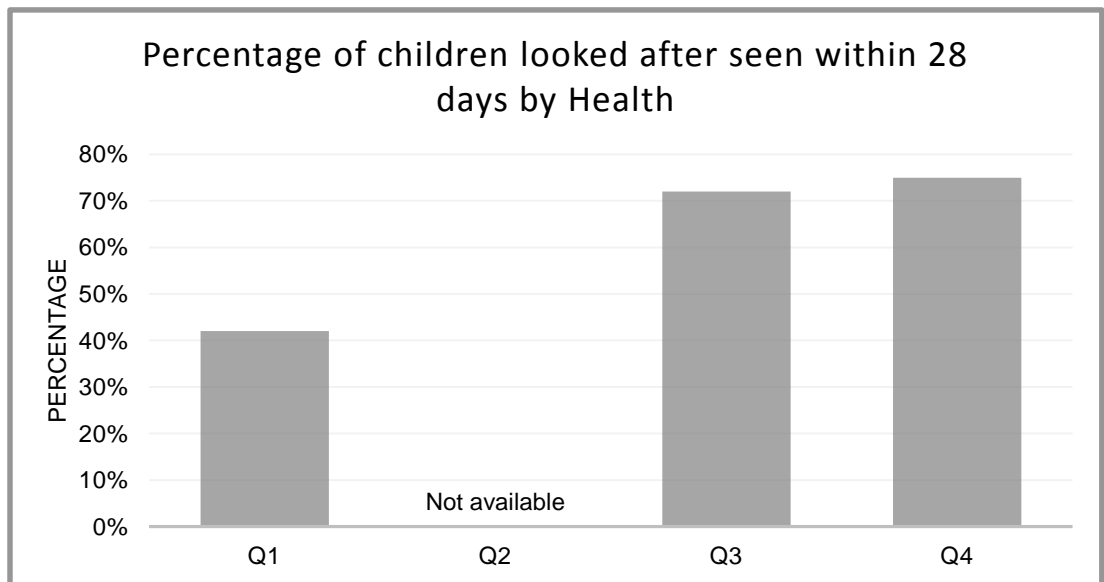
The safeguarding of children and young people comes first. While the large number of CLA does also provide a concern in terms of pressures on the child protection system this would not be a reason to adjust thresholds, however the LSCB will continue to seek further details and assurance of work in this area particularly around timeliness and the Local Authority ability to respond to high numbers safely. The LSCB will continue to be part of plans to safely address the rate.

The impact on outcomes for children that are looked after by the Local Authority are generally poorer than for 'other' children, local data demonstrates this. For example:

- Immunisation rates are lower. 68.1% are reported in the Child Health Profile to have had up-to-date immunisations - significantly lower than the national average of 87.1%
- While there was a 10% increase in Children Looked After attaining A\*-C in English and Maths GCSE this year there is still a gap that needs addressing. This gap extends passed Key Stage 4 onto the number of children that have been looked after attending further and higher education.

*The impact on outcomes for children that are looked after by the Local Authority are generally poorer than for 'other' children.*

In addition to the numbers and rate of CLA the LSCB also receives information to indicate the responses from Health, these relate to the number of children requiring health assessment and the number and percentage seen for this within 28 days. The performance in this area has improved, at the start of the year it was reported that 42% were seen with 28 days – this has now increased to 72%. The LSCB will continue to monitor this indicator in the coming period and seek a regular commentary from Health partners to explain this.



*The Child Health Profile for the City reports that infant and child mortality rates are similar to the England average.*

### Child Deaths

Every child death is a tragedy and the LSCB has a role to ensure where appropriate that a review of the circumstances happens to gain learning where appropriate.

The Child Health Profile for the City reports that infant and child mortality rates are similar to the England average. The Annual Figures for CDOP including Southampton are given below:

Number of child death notifications for Southampton: 12

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Hampshire	16	10	19	11	56
Isle of Wight	1	2	3	0	6

Portsmouth	5	2	2	2	11
Southampton	3	4	2	3	12
TOTAL	35	32	32	21	120

	Expected	Unexpected
Hampshire	31	25
Southampton	6	6
Portsmouth	4	7
Isle of Wight	4	2

6 Child Deaths were expected and 6 were unexpected, of these CDOP reports 28% had modifiable factors. Learning in this period are reported in the earlier section of this report.

At this time the CDOP arrangement across the area is subject to review – this is being led by Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Boards following their own analysis of the shared arrangements success. Southampton LSCB sees the value of a shared CDOP, but acknowledges learning from local case reviews including SCR's which highlights the need for a refreshed Rapid Response procedure as well as closer management of the CDOP process and will act this year to ensure this.

### **Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Children and Young People**

The LSCB MET Strategic Group monitors and evaluates local responses to children and young people that go missing, are at risk of child sexual exploitation or are trafficked. The MET group also coordinates work in the city on MET issues via an agreed multi agency plan. The group carries its quality assurance role out by receiving data and reports from the key services in the city that are responding to MET issues. Where this shows concern the group requests further assurance on behalf of the board and escalates these if necessary to the main board. The Group has also developed a plan to audit cases according to key themes and areas relating to Child Sexual Exploitation indicators.

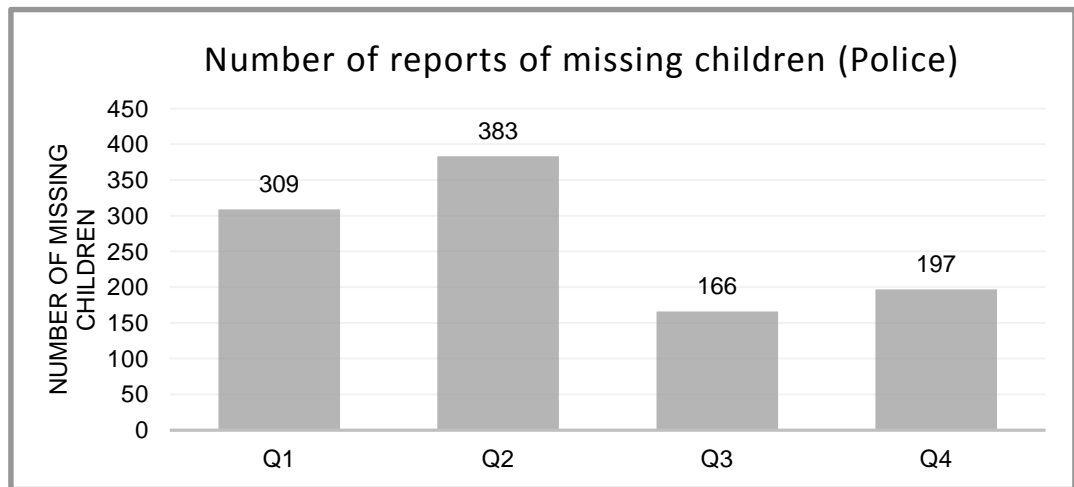


*The focus on the issue and commitment by local partners is to be commended however there is still work to do to ensure we fully understand the issues and how they impact on our children.*

This is a growing area of concern in Southampton and the UK generally. Full details of the nature and extent of MET issues in the City is an area of development for the MET group and the wider partnership and the data used to date could be much more sophisticated. The focus on the issue and commitment by local partners is to be commended however there is still work to do to ensure we fully understand the issues and how they impact on our children. Some of the positive work is apparent and there is demonstrable good practice happening. For example, the Local Authority has established a dedicated social work role for Child Sexual Exploitation, and at the time of writing the recruitment of two additional posts to support this role is underway. The established role and post holder were commended in the ACDS review that took place this year in Southampton. The Local Authority and Hampshire Constabulary are also leading plans to develop an integrated CSE team (known as the CSE Hub) to compliment the MASH. Specific Work including the development of a CSE hub to include missing person coordinators.

In quarter 4 the Local Authority reported the Number of Children Looked After missing for 24 hours or more as 1 child, in quarter 3 this was 5. This reduction is positive and is explained as due to increased support to looked after children and young people that are at risk of repeatedly going missing. The LSCB would clearly like to see the figure as 0 but are assured that the LA has the processes in place to monitor and respond to these issues. Below demonstrates the number of reports of missing children to Police in 2014-15. This is the number of reports rather than the number of individual children.

*Barnardo's deliver a return 'safe and well' service for Southampton children and young people – where a child returns from going missing.*



Barnardo's deliver a return 'safe and well' service for Southampton children and young people – where a child returns from going missing, Barnardo's are notified and then contact that child / young person to identify any issues or concerns that are ongoing for them. Information on this is then passed to the relevant 'lead professional' via the MASH and this is

*Work is under way to understand the impact of E safety and to coordinate responses. This is an area also for development by the LSCB.*

used to help inform future safety planning and protection planning where relevant. The LSCB is aware through information from the Ofsted Review this year and that gathered by the MET group that this can be a problematic process and is seeking assurance from the services and the commissioner (the Local Authority) in more detail to ensure the process is working.

The Police report the number of new referrals of child sexual exploitation made to them to the MET group for q3 and q4. The figure was 14 and then 13 respectively. IN addition the Police report to the MET group regarding the number of cases of CSE that they are aware of for quarter 4 as 40 – in addition the same is reported by Children’s Services -37 in Q4 and 29 in Q3. This gives some indication of the extent of the issue however the quality of this data is questionable given the overlap in cases that services are working with. In addition it does not indicate the level of risk posed to the young people involved and so cannot necessarily inform understanding about the nature and extent of the issue in Southampton.

In addition the LSCB receives police information regarding the % of sexual offences that are committed against those under 18, this gives some indication of the level of sexual violence and abuse against children. This has varied quarterly between 28% and 47% (of 83-128 offences). Whilst this provides some indication it is not clear where this relates to CSE or other ‘types’ of Sexual Abuse. Again further detail and analysis will be sought to inform future work in this area.

*The links for the LSCB with the Prevent Agenda have been reinforced.*

In terms of exploitation work is also under way to understand the impact of E safety and to coordinate responses. This is an area also for development by the LSCB.

The Trafficking agenda in terms of children and young people is also an area for development. The MET Group receives information in terms of assurance of responses from local providers – including Barnardo’s and Love 146. The number of young people who are suspected or identified as being trafficked in to the Southampton each quarter (referred to Barnardo’s from all agencies) varies from 2 to 15 children. This gives some insight into the figures and quality of responses but again needs further work.

## **Preventing Violent Extremism**

The links for LSCB’s with the Prevent Agenda have been reinforced this year with the introduction of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2014 and association guidance. The LSCB has introduced an indicator to its data set to identify any children or young people involved or referred to the local Channel process. To date numbers are low at 1 or 0.

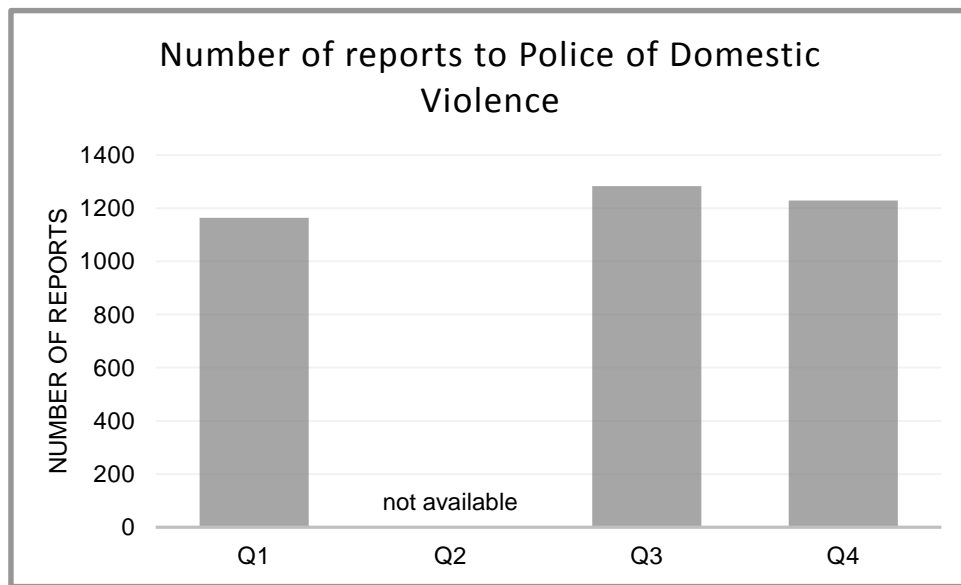
The LSCB has run workshops for local multi agency professionals which were very well evaluated and will continue in the city this coming year. This is a developing area for the LSCB to monitor and links again with Southampton Safe City Partnership and the lead officers in

the Local Authority will be strengthened in this area to ensure strategic coordination and input in terms of the safeguarding agenda.

### Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA)

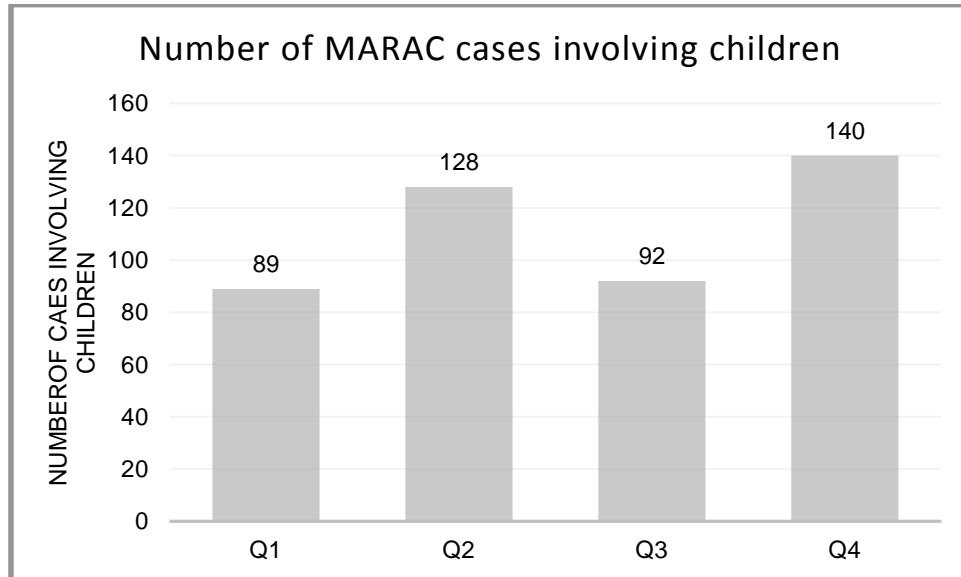
This was a priority area for the LSCB this year, and it remains a significant area of concern for the City to focus on. The rate of reporting of domestic violence issues is demonstrated below – the figure remains steady where the data is available at around the 1,200 number.

*The rate of reporting of domestic violence issues remains steady.*



The number of MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) cases involving children as reported to the LSCB showed an increase during this period as highlighted below. The LSCB is very aware of the continuing threat that DVA poses to the safety of children and young people in the city and this will remain a priority area of work. Plans are in place to integrate and improve the responses to DVA in the city – as detailed on the recently agreed DV strategy for Southampton. This work will continue under the umbrella of the Safe City Partnership with assurance continuing to be sought by the LSCB on the responses linked to Safeguarding Children.

*The number of MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) cases involving children showed an increase during this period.*



### Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The LSCB is seeking assurance from local services that responses are coordinated and appropriate to FGM in Southampton. The LSCB has begun this work via a specific cross partnership task group including public health, health service providers, children and adults services, police and workers that link to our local communities. The LSCB will continue to develop this until clear mechanisms for scrutinising responses are in place. The Group has reviewed current guidance, local work and research on this issue and is working on an action plan that includes:

- Provision of clear guidance and training for workers and volunteers on this issue and legal reforms as they develop. Ensuring awareness across services as well as specific work with professionals involved in child protection
- Making the most of existing community awareness raising activities, continuing and building on this in future
- Collation of relevant data and information for LSCB to gain assurance regularly on this issue

The nature and extent of FGM and the risks to children in Southampton is not clear, the group has been reviewing evidence from national guidance and research to inform its work drawing on local expertise and knowledge to future plan. The group will continue and will report in to the LSCB on its progress during 2015-16.

## LSCB Priorities 2015-18

The LSCB has considered the range of learning and information presented during the year and summarised in this Annual Report and has agreed to revise its Business Plan to reflect current needs and pressures as a result. In order for this work to be sustained and to allow for time to embed these actions the LSCB has taken the decision to agree a Business Plan that covers a 3 year period.

The table below summarises revised its overarching priority areas that will be progressed. The detail of action to be taken under these headings is given in the Board Business Plan (see [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk) ). The group leading implementation of the priority area is indicated below.

	Summary of Priority Areas	Lead /s
1.	Ensure Safeguarding is a whole city theme	CEA / L&D
2.	Manage and monitor the impact of austerity measures, increasing demand and changes to service provision on safeguarding outcomes for children and young people.	M&E
3.	Coordinate and quality assure responses to prevent and disrupt the exploitation and victimisation of children and young people	MET
4.	Embed key learning from case reviews (including SCR's) and audits into local practice	SCR / M&E / L&D
5.	Ensure a focus on building resilience and raising the aspirations of children and young people in Southampton.	LSCB

*Key: L&D: Learning and Development Group, M&E: Monitoring & Evaluation Group, CEA: Community Engagement & Awareness Group, P&P: Practice & Policy Group, SCR: Serious Case Review Group, MET: Missing, Exploited & Trafficked Group*

Individual Board Members and other partnership and strategic boards will also support the delivery and quality assurance of these priority areas where relevant.

Learning from Case Reviews, Audits, the LSCB Annual Report and other business as usual quality assurance work will influence a review of these priorities as required during the period covered and this will take place at least annually.

## LSCB Arrangements

### Budget

Contributions from LSCB partners to the LSCB in 2014-15 are detailed below, and agreed in a Pooled Budget Agreement between partners:

Agency	Estimated Financial Contribution 2014/2015 (£)	Financial Contribution As A Percentage Of The Total Budget (%)
Southampton City Council	76,014	61.16%
Southampton Clinical Commissioning Group	32,388	26.05%
Hampshire Constabulary	12,770	10.27%
Hampshire Probation Service	2,552	2.05%
Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service	560	0.45%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£124,284</b>	<b>100%</b>

In addition to the above the LSCB via the Local Authority funds Child Death Overview Panel. All sub group activities and statutory LSCB functions are delivered within the budget. During the 2014-15 year additional contributions were made by the funding agencies for Learning and Development and the delivery of Serious Case Reviews.

### Support

The LSCB is chaired by Keith Makin. It is supported by the recently established Local Safeguarding Boards Team, shared with the Local Safeguarding Adults Board. This team includes a Board Manager and Coordinator role dedicated to the Board. It also benefits from support from the Local Authority Democratic and Legal Services supporting functions of the LSCB.

## Contact Information

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Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board

Tel 023 8083 2995

Email [lscb@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:lscb@southampton.gov.uk)

[www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk)



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# Business Plan 2015-18

Agenda Item 7  
Appendix 3

# Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

## Introduction

This Business Plan outlines the work to be undertaken by Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board during a three year period of 2015-2018. The Board has taken the step of developing a three year plan to enable a wider focus on work impacting on the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in the city and the embedding of its key priorities into the business of the LSCB. This document will be reviewed for progress as set out in the information below and actions will be updated annually. It demonstrates a commitment by the LSCB to a journey of continuous improvement, and a strong will of partners to move to a position of Good and ultimately Outstanding practice in the LSCB work and through this to influence the work of the LSCB members. The LSCB will continue to improve and assist in providing the best outcomes for children, young people and their families in Southampton.

This plan is based on analysis of the 'journey' through safeguarding services in Southampton and the outcomes for children, young people and their families in Southampton – presented to the LSCB throughout the financial year 2014-15 as reported in the Annual Report for that year. This can be viewed for further context on the LSCB website: [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk).

This plan also integrates the outstanding actions required to implement:

- Findings from local Serious Case Reviews, partnership reviews and multi-agency audits
- Ofsted's review of the LSCB in July 2014
- LSCB Business Plan from the previous period.

## 'Business as Usual':

This document gives detail of the work that will take place to achieve improved outcomes, against key priorities for the LSCB for this period. In addition to these the LSCB delivers much 'business as usual' according to its statutory role set out in Working Together 2015, which is broadly set out below. The LSCB has a set of Key Documents and Policy and Procedures which detail how this business as usual will take place as referenced below, these can be reviewed for further details, online at [www.southamptonlscb.co.uk](http://www.southamptonlscb.co.uk);

**Case Reviews:** As Working Together 2015 states: *“Professionals and organisations protecting children need to reflect on the quality of their services and learn from their own practice and that of others. Good practice should be shared so that there is a growing understanding of what works well. Conversely, when things go wrong there needs to be a rigorous, objective analysis of what happened and why, so that important lessons can be learnt and services improved to reduce the risk of future harm to children”*. The LSCB has developed a Learning and Improvement which is shared across local organisations who work with children and families. This framework enables organisations to be clear about their responsibilities, to learn from experience and improve services as a result. The Learning and Improvement work is led by the LSCB's Serious Case Review Group.

**Quality Assurance:** as detailed in its Quality Assurance Framework the LSCB will carry out a range of activities to ensure that local safeguarding services are safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. This will be done by such means as Section 11 (of the Children Act) reviews, multi-agency audits relating to key safeguarding themes and regular quality assurance reports to the LSCB's Monitoring and Evaluation Group and Main Board.

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

The LSCB also collates a range of key service level information and data regarding local safeguarding services which is scrutinised at the Main Board meetings. The LSCB also collates and publishes a 'challenge log' of issues raised through the board's work. This is published on the LSCB website.

**Community Engagement:** as detailed in the Communication and Awareness Strategy that is published on the LSCB website, this work is part of key priority areas for the LSCB as detailed in this plan and is business as usual for the LSCB. The work is led by the Community Engagement and Awareness Group which is shared with the Local Adults Board (LSAB).

**Learning and Development:** The LSCB has an agreed Learning and Development Strategy published on the LSCB website and an annual delivery plan. This work is flexible to adapt to learning opportunities and themes identified in case reviews and quality assurance work. The LSCB focus is on the delivery of multi-agency safeguarding training for professionals as well as the quality assurance of single agency learning and development opportunities. This area is led by the Learning and Development Sub Group which is shared with the Local Safeguarding Adult Board (LSAB).

### **Monitoring of Success:**

Progress against this plan will be reviewed and monitored by the Executive Group, with Chairs of the relevant sub groups leading on key actions reporting on progress against their actions to this group. Where necessary and appropriate the Executive Group will highlight areas of concern and good practice to the full board meetings for further action.

### **Key to abbreviations:**

Board: The full board / LSCB  
Exec: Executive  
L&D: Learning and Development Group  
M&E: Monitoring & Evaluation Group  
CEA: Community Engagement & Awareness Group  
P&P: Practice & Policy Group  
SCR: Serious Case Review Group  
MET: Missing, Exploited & Trafficked Group  
MASH: Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub  
4LSCB: Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth & Southampton  
CDOP: Child Death Overview Panel  
HWBB: Health & Wellbeing Board  
DVA: Domestic Violence and Abuse  
FGM: Female Genital Mutilation  
CLA: Children Looked After  
SBT: Safeguarding Boards Team.

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

### Key Priority Issues for 2015-18

The LSCB will focus on the areas below in its work. The LSCB will take a leadership role in delivery and quality assurance of partnership work in these areas. The table below summarises the action that will be taken and also indicates who is responsible for leading the action on the priority areas. Individual Board Members and other partnership and strategic boards will also support the delivery and quality assurance of these. Where relevant the sub groups of the LSCB group will develop detailed work plans to implement these priorities alongside other relevant actions that are agreed during the period covered by the Plan. Learning from Case Reviews, Audits, the LSCB Annual Report and other business as usual quality assurance work will influence a review of these priorities as required, this will take place at least annually.

	<b>Summary of Priority Areas</b>	<b>Lead /s</b>
1.	Ensure Safeguarding is a whole city theme	CEA / L&D
2.	Manage and monitor the impact of austerity measures, increasing demand and changes to service provision on safeguarding outcomes for children and young people.	M&E
3.	Coordinate and quality assure responses to prevent and disrupt the exploitation and victimisation of children and young people	MET
4.	Embed key learning from case reviews (including SCR's) and audits into local practice	SCR / M&E / L&D
5.	Ensure a focus on building resilience and raising the aspirations of children and young people in Southampton.	LSCB

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

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<b>Priority 1: Ensure Safeguarding is a whole city theme</b>				
<b>OUTCOME</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>BY WHO</b>	<b>BY WHEN</b>	<b>MEASURE OF SUCCESS</b>
A coordinated city wide response ensures children and young people are protected from harm as early as possible.	Identify key priority areas for awareness raising using evidence from local data and learning from 4LSCB area CDOP findings, Case Reviews and other learning opportunities.	CEA	July 2015	Increase in the number of campaigns delivered that are linked to findings from learning opportunities. Reduction in levels of incidents linked to themes.
	Link to 4LSCB work to raise awareness of the dangers of co sleeping	CEA	December 2015	Reduced number of incidents and child deaths relating to co sleeping
	Deliver a regular survey of children and young people and their families to identify safety issues and concerns, as well as measuring knowledge of key issues. Explore links to Safe City Partnership annual survey.	CEA	October 2015	Increase in the number of LSCB actions and challenges which include reference to the voices of children, young people and their families, and it is clear that priority setting reflects this.
	Identify a calendar of engagement opportunities with Children, Young People and their Families	CEA	July 2015	
	Ensure Community Engagement work is reflective of our population and that targeted activities happen to engage with 'diverse' groups.	CEA	April 2016	Increase in the number of LSCB actions and challenges which include reference to the voices of children, young people and their families from 'diverse' communities, and it is clear that priority setting reflects this.
	Deliver a local campaign identifying what to do if you are worried about a child or young person.	CEA	April 2016	Regular survey of children, young people and their families reflect an increase in knowledge of what to do if worried about a child or young person.
	Establish robust links with other key partnerships including; Local Safeguarding Adults Board, Safe City Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board and Scrutiny Panels run by the Local Authority to ensure cross partnership commitment to Safeguarding issues and close scrutiny of LSCB work.	Chair / SBT	October 2015	Increase in the number of appropriate cross partnership challenges (measured in challenge Log for challenges to the LSCB) increases.
	Seek assurance from Safe City Partnership / Health and Wellbeing Board of current work to reduce the number of children killed or seriously injured in road accidents in the city	Chair / LSCB	January 2016	A clear plan of action is in place impacting on improvements to the number of children affected by road accidents.

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

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	Engage with local media, including community radio and press to help promote awareness of key safeguarding issues and aid in promoting engagement opportunities	CEA	April 2016	Regular survey of children, young people and their families reflect an increase in knowledge of what to do if worried about a child or young person.
	Ensure links to the local authority 'voice of the child' strategy and developments	CEA	October 2016	Number of LSCB actions and challenges which include reference to the voices of children, young people and their families, and it is clear that priority setting reflects this.
	Recruit a lay member to link with children and young people to help inform LSCB work	Chair / SBT	September 2016	Number of LSCB actions and challenges which include reference to the voices of children, young people and their families, and it is clear that priority setting reflects this.
	Deliver an Annual Conference focussing on an area of cross partnership concern	L&D	April 2016	Number of joined up priorities within key partnership plans.
	Positively promote Safeguarding Services and successes including consideration of 'Southampton Safeguarding Awards'	Chair / SBT	July 2016	Improved vacancy and retention rates of staff in key safeguarding services.
	Deliver a survey of professionals working in Southampton to evaluate success of LSCB activity and knowledge	L&D	July 2015	Survey delivered and results reported to the LSCB.

**Priority 2: Manage and monitor the impact of austerity measures, increasing demand and changes to service provision on safeguarding outcomes for children and young people.**

OUTCOME	ACTION REQUIRED	BY WHO	BY WHEN	MEASURE OF SUCCESS
Changes to provision impact positively to ensure children and young people are protected from	Deliver an audit of Early help cases to evaluate success of current model of provision and inform future work. Focussing on application of thresholds document and management of cases.	M&E	April 2016	Improvements to provision and application of threshold demonstrated in LSCB data and qualitative reports to LSCB.
	Review quality assurance mechanisms to ensure they can clearly demonstrate the impact of service changes on outcomes (section 11 reviews, reports to LSCB)	M&E	October 2015	Increase in cross service challenges demonstrated in the LSCB Challenge Log.

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

<b>Priority 2: Manage and monitor the impact of austerity measures, increasing demand and changes to service provision on safeguarding outcomes for children and young people.</b>				
<b>OUTCOME</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>BY WHO</b>	<b>BY WHEN</b>	<b>MEASURE OF SUCCESS</b>
harm earlier in their experiences.	Develop use of multi-agency safeguarding data for the LSCB to further facilitate challenges, including a 'dashboard' linked to priorities and success measures for the LSCB	Chair / Safeguarding Boards Team	December 2015	
	Develop targets within the data set and dashboard to identify clearly what success will look like in terms of outcomes where this is not already identified.	Chair / Safeguarding Boards Team	December 2015	
	Ensure LSCB annual report includes review of audits and reports to LSCB during the year to demonstrate the child's "journey" through the safeguarding system.	Chair / Safeguarding Boards Team	September 2015 / 16 / 17	Data and findings from activities carried out by LSCB during the year are reflected in Annual Report and this influences priority setting and action for the coming year.
	Review contents and publish the LSCB Challenge Log on a quarterly basis to ensure responses to challenges made in main board and sub groups are delivered.	Exec	Quarterly	Increase in number of completed actions following challenges demonstrated in the challenge log.
	Input to a regular meeting 'system chiefs' to provide a cross service opportunity for innovation and development as well as overview and scrutiny of service provision	Chair / Exec	December 2015	Innovation driving changes within services to mitigate any negative impact on children and young people's outcomes

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

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<b>Priority 3: Ensuring the prevention and disruption of the exploitation and victimisation of children and young people</b>				
<b>OUTCOME</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>BY WHO</b>	<b>BY WHEN</b>	<b>MEASURE OF SUCCESS</b>
Children and young people are prevented from being affected by exploitation and victimisation. Those that experience these issues are protected from harm at the earliest opportunity.	Ensure delivery of the Missing Exploited and Trafficked Action Plan	LSCB	April 2016	Number of actions completed or on target within MET action plan
	Seek assurance of the responses to children and young people that go missing – include the feed in to services from return / safe and well visits. Identify any issues to feed into commissioning cycle for external services as well as improvements to statutory provision.	MET	September 2015	Improvement in identification of risk and this influences assessment and planning in cases where there are repeat episodes of ‘missing from home or care’.
	Ensure MET operational group continues to share case level information, risk assessment and response planning.	MET	April 2016	Improved response to children and young people at risk of MET issues due to clearer identification of issues and this influencing risk assessment and safety / action planning by multi agency partners.
	Deliver a quarterly audit of MET cases to scrutinise and seek assurance of responses, report findings and lead improvements to provision as required. Develop action plans as necessary and regularly monitor progress.	MET	April 2016	Number of audits delivered and actions completed that improve quality of provision.
	Link to developments in 4LSCB area regarding trafficking and modern slavery prevention	MET	April 2016	Clarity by partners across 4LSCB area on strategic leadership for trafficking and modern slavery.
	Link to local (e.g. Head start) and other key initiatives nationally to coordinate E Safety work to prevent online exploitation of children and young people	MET	April 2016	Coordinated approach by partner agencies, resulting in clearer identification of and ultimately a reduction of children and young people exploited on line
	Seek assurance of local arrangements to ensure a joined up response to Prevent (Violent Extremism) and represent the safeguarding issues for Children and Young People in this	Chair / LSCB	April 2016	Clarity by partners in Southampton regarding strategic leadership and coordination of responses to prevent violent extremism.
	Lead delivery of a plan to improve and coordinate responses to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)	P&P	January 2016	Coordinated approach by partner agencies, resulting in clearer identification of and ultimately a reduction of individuals at risk of FGM.
	Review 4LSCB procedures relating to FGM to ensure alignment with current best practice	P&P	April 2016	



Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

	Identify key group of professionals for targeted workforce development and deliver appropriate level of FGM awareness training	P&P / L&D	January 2016	
	Develop tools to aid workers in identifying risks and responding to FGM.	P&P	January 2016	

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

<b>Priority 4: Embed key learning from case reviews (including SCR's) and audits into local practice</b>				
<b>OUTCOME</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>BY WHO</b>	<b>BY WHEN</b>	<b>MEASURE OF SUCCESS</b>
Improvements to practice are swiftly made based on learning from reviews and audits to ensure children and young people are safeguarded.	Ensure learning and improvement plans are clear from case reviews and these are integrated in to overall plans for the LSCB and its partner agencies. Clearly monitor actions until completion as identified in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family A</li> <li>• Child I and Child M</li> <li>• Child L</li> <li>• Child K</li> <li>• Partnership reviews</li> <li>• Multi Agency Audits</li> </ul>	SCR / M&E	<b>Quarterly</b> review of action plans	Increase in % of SCR and Partnership Review actions completed Increase in % of actions identified in audits completed.  Reduction in number of recommendations returning to future audits / reviews
	Continue 6 monthly oversight of progress of the MASH and Early Help services – ensuring attendance at MASH includes adult focussed services	Chair / LSCB	April 2016	Improvements to provision and application of threshold demonstrated in LSCB data and qualitative reports to LSCB.
	Promote whole family approach – identifying further areas for joint development work and informing of transformation plans by the Local Authority	LSCB	April 2016	Services provide holistic assessment and planning for safeguarding children and young people and their families
	Monitor effectiveness of the 4LSCB Joint Working Protocols between adult and children / family services	M&E	April 2016	
	Receive findings of a dual service audit of cases where there is joint working between maternity and children's services – gain 6 monthly update of progress on actions identified	Chair / LSCB	December 2015	Earlier identification, assessment and planning where unborn babies are in need of safeguarding.
	Ensure effectiveness of Rapid Response to Child Death & CDOP arrangements for Southampton	Chair / LSCB	October 2015	Clear guidelines and processes to ensure safe response to child death and to learn from identified themes where modifiable factors are present.
	Request assurance of safe pathways for safeguarding children and young people that are Electively Home Educated – ensuring that safeguarding concerns can be identified and acted upon.	Chair / LSCB	September 2015	Clear guidance and pathway for responding to EHE and safeguarding concerns improves coordinated responses.

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

	Implement local multi agency action plan to respond to Neglect to include revised Neglect Toolkit.	P&P	October 2015	Professionals and managers are clearly identifying, assessing and responding to Neglect
	Reinforce links to dental care in identifying abuse and neglect	P&P	October 2015	
	Oversee implementation of the Southampton Against Domestic Violence and Abuse Plan 2015-17 in order to fully integrate a coordinated community response to the issue	DVA / LSCB	October 2015	Professionals and managers are clearly identifying, assessing and responding to DVA
	Build on existing workforce development opportunities to highlight the impact of domestic violence and abuse on children and young people	DVA / L&D	October 2015	
	Regularly review data relating to domestic violence and abuse and gender based violence issues to monitor trends and arising issues	DVA / L&D	November 2015	
	Regularly review education settings (including schools and preschools) safeguarding requirements under Section 156 of the Children Act	M&E	December 2015	% of schools and education settings completing self-audit Increase in number of schools reporting good levels of safeguarding activity LSCB regularly assured of responses in this sector.
	Seek assurance that Agencies have taken required action in terms of individuals, teams or safeguarding practice generally in learning from SCR's	Chair / LSCB	September 2015	Professionals and managers aware of learning from reviews and impact of previous issues on outcomes for children, young people and their families – measured in the Survey of Professionals
	Thread diversity issues, and ensure a focus on diversity as appropriate through the learning and development work of the LSCB	L&D	December 2015	Increase awareness of diversity issues demonstrated in the Survey of Professionals.

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

**Priority 5:** Ensure a focus in Southampton on building resilience and raising the aspirations of children and young people.

OUTCOME	ACTION REQUIRED	BY WHO	BY WHEN	MEASURE OF SUCCESS
Children and young people's wellbeing, achievement in education and safety outcomes are improved.	Monitor school attendance rates – identify issues regarding Children Missing from Education and seek assurance of an action plan to address this	LSCB	April 2016	Clear understanding by LSCB of attendance rates, and actions to address this leading to a reduction in
	Identify through data and dashboard reports to the LSCB the attainment levels for all children and young people at Key Stages in Education, including all school levels and Further and Higher Education	LSCB	October 2015	Improved levels of attainment at all key stages
	Seek assurance on partners work to address the rate of children Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	LSCB	November 2014	Reduction of children and young people that are NEET
	Identify through data and dashboard reports to the LSCB the attainment levels for Children Looked After (CLA) including all school levels and Further and Higher Education	LSCB	October 2015	Improved levels of attainment at all key stages for CLA
	Seek assurance of action plan to address attendance rates and attainment – where information demonstrates 'gap' against national averages and for priority groups including CLA.	LSCB	April 2016	
	Seek assurance from Board members and other key partnerships regarding current work to improve the mental health of children and young people and similarly in reducing self-harm, and take action to address any gaps in this.	LSCB	January 2016	Reduction in hospital admissions for children and young people who experience mental health problems and a reduction in hospital admissions for children and young people that self-harm as reported in the Child Health Profile of the City.
	Receive findings of a review of cases of teenage conception in the city and a partnership action plan to address this	LSCB	July 2015	Improved awareness and identified strategic lead for this issue.
	Monitor actions identified in this review and feedback progress to the LSCB	M&E	September 2015	Improvement in the rate of under 18 conceptions as reported in the Child Health Profile for the City.

## Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2015-18

	Seek assurance from Board members and other key partnerships regarding current work to improve the mental health of children and young people and similarly in reducing self-harm, and take action to address any gaps in this.	LSCB	January 2016	Reduction in hospital admissions for children and young people due to alcohol specific conditions as reported in the Child Health Profile annually.
	Seek the views of children and young people in designing work to raise aspirations and build resilience in this area – linked to existing consultation opportunities within the LSCB, the Head Start programme and wider Southampton partnerships.	CEA	April 2016	Improvements in the key indicators as reported in the LSCB Data set and the Child Health Profile for the City.

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# Agenda Item 10

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	OUTCOMES FOR CARE LEAVERS		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	22nd OCTOBER 2015		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	SERVICE DIRECTOR - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Robert South	<b>Tel:</b> 023 8083 3939
	<b>E-mail:</b>	Robert.south@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>Director</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Kim Drake	<b>Tel:</b> 023 8083 4899
	<b>E-mail:</b>	Kim.drake@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
None			
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>			
The attached appendices to this report provide an update in relation to the core outcomes for young people within the current cohort of care leavers in Southampton.			
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>			
	(i)	That the Panel consider the outcomes for care leavers in Southampton.	
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
1.	Regular report required to ensure that the corporate parenting role, responsibility and scrutiny is robustly undertaken.		
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>			
2.	None.		
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>			
3.	Attached as Appendix 1 is a briefing report that provides an update in relation to the core outcomes for young people within the current cohort of care leavers in Southampton.		
4.	Attached as Appendix 2 is an anonymised breakdown of individual colleges and training/employment activities being pursued by the current year 12 cohort of looked after children. Only 2 of the present 34 cohort of year 11 school leavers are NEET but these young people are being actively worked with in order to develop their participation and engagement in positive activities.		
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>			
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>			
5.	Within existing budgets.		
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>			
6.	None		

<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>		
<b>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</b>		
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.	
<b>Other Legal Implications:</b>		
8.	None	
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>		
9.	None	
<b>KEY DECISION</b>		No
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>		None directly as a result of this report
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>		
<b>Appendices</b>		
1.	Briefing Paper – Outcomes for Care Leavers	
2.	Destination of year 12 cohort 2015/16	
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>		
1.	None	
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out.		No
<b>Privacy Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to be carried out.		No
<b>Other Background Documents</b>		
<b>Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>		
The Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000		
Care Leaver Strategy: A cross-departmental strategy for young people leaving care HM Government October 2013		
Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None	

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**SUBJECT:** Outcomes for Care Leavers  
**DATE:** 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015  
**RECIPIENT:** Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

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**BRIEFING DETAILS:**

1. This report provides an update in relation to the core outcomes for young people within the current cohort of care leavers in Southampton.

**Background and National Context**

2. The term 'care leaver' refers to a Looked after Child/young person aged 16+ who is transitioning from childhood into adulthood. Every year around 10,000 16 to 18 year-olds leave foster or residential care in England.
3. In 2013-14, 10,310 young people aged over 16 left care, an increase of almost 50% since 2003-04. This increase is due to an increase in the care population as a whole; an increase in the number of older children coming into care; and 16 and 17 year-olds presenting as homeless and becoming looked-after. At the end of March 2014, 1 in 75 of all 19-year-olds was a care leaver.
4. The Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 introduced strengthened requirements on local authorities to plan for looked after children so that they have the support they need as they make their transition to the responsibilities of adulthood.
5. Children in care must leave local authority care by their 18th birthday. Local authorities have a statutory obligation to support care leavers until they are 21 years old (or 25 if they are in education or training). On leaving care, some young people return home to their families but many start to live independent lives.
6. A child/young person may have become looked after (i) because of temporary or permanent problems facing their parents, (ii) as a result of abuse or neglect, (iii) because of challenging behaviour or (iv) because they have no-one to care for them. Looked after children and care leavers face a variety of unique challenges as they grow up and transition into adulthood. For example, they are at greater risk of experiencing social exclusion because moving away from the family home can often break social networks, which in turn can induce strong feelings of loss and separation.

# BRIEFING PAPER

## Southampton Current Context

7. As of October 2015 there are 247 young people allocated within the Southampton Children's Services Pathways Team. Of these, 108 are children under 18 years of age who are looked after and 139 are over 18 year old care leavers.
8. Each child or young person has a social worker or personal advisor allocated to them to support them and develop and implement individual care/pathway plans. Social worker caseloads across the service area (Pathways) are currently approximately 20 individual young people per full time practitioner.
9. The Pathway Plan and the needs assessment is reviewed by a statutory review chaired by the young person's IRO within 3 months of their 16th birthday and thereafter every 6 months or sooner if required. The partnership working between social worker, family members, carers, Virtual School, designated LAC nurse, and other relevant professionals is vital if actions and outcomes are to be achieved.
10. The key focus of work with the care leaver cohort cover the following areas:
  - Clear and regular transitional planning
  - Emotional and physical health and development
  - Education, training and employment
  - Identity support
  - Work on family and social relationships
  - Practical skills necessary for independent living
  - Financial arrangements
  - Suitability of accommodation

## Accommodation

11. The city has developed a strategic approach to finding and accessing suitable accommodation for young care leavers and a wide range of options are available including a "staying put" offer for care leavers to continue to reside with their current foster carer(s). Steps have been taken to improve the joint working between the Care Leavers/Pathways Team and the Housing Needs Team. This will ensure the most appropriate housing and support is identified as part of the young person's Pathway Plan, including access to a secure tenancy with SCC or one of our Housing providers, if that is the most appropriate accommodation for the young person. A formal agreement, or joint protocol, between the relevant agencies to ensure all partners understand their roles and engage in effective joint working, which will lead to better outcomes for young people. The protocols will set out the arrangements to ensure young people experience a planned and supported transition to independent living, and importantly, includes a shared commitment by agencies to adopt a 'corporate parenting' approach for care leavers.

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12. Other improvements include 5 accommodation units at Defender Rd dedicated to care leavers. This provision has been consistently occupied and young people have successfully moved on from them to either privately rented or SCC properties depending on individual circumstances. Very recently, SCC Housing Department has agreed that 5 properties will be set aside in general stock for care leavers.
13. In September 2015 80% of care leavers who were in contact were in suitable accommodation and highlights an upward trend in performance of 10% since March 2014. This compares to a national rate of 78% and outcomes in the area continue to rise although the service recognises that activity in this area must continue to drive improvement up to statistical neighbour rates of 88% and beyond. Latest information from within the pathways team indicates that the figure has increased to 91% over the past few weeks as a result of targeted work with the current cohort of young people.

## Health

14. The health needs of care leavers is being better addressed through increased contact and engagement with LAC nurses and “drop in” visit arrangements. As per the wider group of children in care, care leavers engagement with the health assessment process has shown significant improvement. In total 85% of health assessments are completed on time (compared to 50% 12 months ago) and the quality of these assessments is thoroughly audited by the LAC Health Team. The named nurse for looked after children is engaged with relevant care leaver groups and is processing a regular pattern of consulting with them in relation to health matters. Some care leavers are even choosing to continue health assessments beyond their 18th birthdays.
15. Priorities going forward include the development and introduction of a health “passport” for all care leavers which is given to young people when they leave care. The health passports for all LAC will contain key health information about all children throughout their formative years and provide young people with a complete health history which is crucial in promoting and managing individual health needs.
16. Other work will focus on ensuring that the Local Authority better understands the emotional and mental health needs of young people prior to, and after they leave care, and ensure that services consistently meet identified needs, and promote services designed to address such needs.

## Education, Training and Employment

17. Education, training and employment work with care leavers is receiving intensive work. Quarter 1 2015/16 data for the percentage of care leavers not in

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contact or NEET is 64% which is higher than both the national figure (55%) and statistical neighbour (41%). Recent focussed activity appears to have begun to address this situation and there is likely to be a fall in the NEET numbers in the next quarter of reporting.

18. Catch 22 are providing apprenticeship and employability support in the city and have committed to prioritising Southampton care leavers and City Deal have provided a part time worker to assist in this area. The City Deal worker dedicated to care leavers is at full capacity for referrals and the service is exploring access via other City Deal resources. Action is also required to further “join-up” services in as cohesive a manner as possible in order cover service gaps and deliver timely interventions.
19. A practitioners group is beginning to share experiences of best and most effective practice approaches to addressing current take up of opportunities in this area. Furthermore, a panel is to be formed to track the progress of individual young people who are NEET and allocate resources effectively.
20. In contrast, only 2 of the present 34 cohort of year 12 school leavers (LAC) are NEET and the service will work in a structured and systematic manner to ensure that these and future groups of year 12 young people are supported to remain in appropriate positive education, training and employment settings.
21. Of the current Year 11 cohort, 14 of the 31 children/young people have current Personal Education Plans (PEPs) in place. This matter is far from satisfactory and the responsible social care staff and the virtual head teacher are putting plans in place to ensure that the outstanding PEPs are put in place as a matter of urgency and then updated against a new process.

## **Participation and Engagement**

22. The active participation of children and young people is a key priority for Children’s Services, as well as all other relevant partners. Our Corporate Parenting Strategy sets out a clear vision for practice.
23. The Children in Care Council directly supports the Corporate Parenting Board to measure and monitor the effectiveness and quality of ‘Corporate Parenting’ to children and young people; according to the views and experiences of the children who are in care. The board remains fully committed to listening to the voice of service users and the active involvement of children and young people within the decision-making processes.
24. The Young People in Care Council (YPICC) has had a fluctuating membership in the past year but consists currently of about 10 young people aged 16-21. The group meets on a monthly basis with an agenda negotiated between them and officers, and the Chair and Vice Chair also attend and participate at some

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Corporate Parenting meetings. The Lead Councillor for Children's Services continues to attend some of the YPICC meetings, as have the Principal Officer and Head of Children's services.

25. The group has worked at developing its own identity this year and is currently focused on encouraging increased participation from younger looked after children especially. The group's overall aim is to provide a voice for the wider population of looked after children and care leavers and to influence service development as a result.
26. An annual awards ceremony recognises the achievements and contribution of children and young people looked after.

**Further Information Available From:**      **Name:**      Robert South  
**Tel:**      Ext: 3939  
**E-mail:**      [robert.south@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:robert.south@southampton.gov.uk)

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### Destination of Year 12 cohort 2015/16

Individual Young People	PROVISION (if any)
1	Bitterne Park School
2	EOTAS
3	Headstart
4	Hill House School
5	Totton College
6	St Catherine's School
7	St Edward's RC & CE
8	St Edward's School
9	The Arnewood School Academy
10	The Arnewood School Academy
11	Thornby Hall School
12	Itchen College
13	Carillion Apprenticeship
14	City College
15	City College
16	Apprenticeship
17	Not ours yet
18	CMAST
19	Eastleigh College
20	NEET
21	B.C.O.T. College
22	Poole/Bournemouth College
23	Richard Taunton's
24	Richard Taunton's
25	Eastleigh College
26	Prince's Trust Course
27	Apprenticeship
28	Eastleigh College
29	City College
30	Chichester College
31	Apprenticeship
32	Sparsholt College
33	NEET
34	Working

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# Agenda Item 11

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	22nd OCTOBER 2015		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Mark Pirnie	<b>Tel:</b> 023 8083 3886
	<b>E-mail:</b>	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>Director</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Dawn Baxendale	<b>Tel:</b> 023 8083 2966
	<b>E-mail:</b>	Dawn.baxendale@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
None			
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>			
This item enables the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel to monitor and track progress on recommendations made at previous meetings.			
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>			
	(i)	That the Panel considers the responses to recommendations from previous meetings and provides feedback	
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
1.	To assist the Panel in assessing the impact and consequence of recommendations made at previous meetings.		
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>			
2.	None.		
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>			
3.	Appendix 1 of the report sets out the recommendations made at previous meetings of the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel. It also contains summaries of any action taken in response to the recommendations.		
4.	The progress status for each recommendation is indicated and if the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel confirms acceptance of the items marked as completed they will be removed from the list. In cases where action on the recommendation is outstanding or the Panel does not accept the matter has been adequately completed, it will be kept on the list and reported back to the next meeting. It will remain on the list until such time as the Panel accepts the recommendation as completed. Rejected recommendations will only be removed from the list after being reported to the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel.		
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>			
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>			
5.	None.		
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>			
6.	None.		

<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>		
<b>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</b>		
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.	
<b>Other Legal Implications:</b>		
8.	None	
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>		
9.	None	
<b>KEY DECISION</b>		No
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>		None directly as a result of this report
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>		
<b>Appendices</b>		
1.	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations – 22nd October 2015	
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>		
1.	None	
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out.		No
<b>Privacy Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to be carried out.		No
<b>Other Background Documents</b>		
<b>Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>		
Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None	

# Children and Families Scrutiny Panel – Monitoring report

Scrutiny Monitoring – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015

Date	Title	Recommendation	Action Taken	Progress Status
03/09/15	Children and Families Performance	1) That officers give consideration as to how elected members can be engaged in the campaigns to promote fostering and adoption in Southampton. This should include ensuring that Councillors have contact details enabling them to signpost interested people to the appropriate first point of contact.	An email is to be sent to all elected members with details as to how they can be actively involved in ongoing campaigns to promote fostering and adoption in Southampton. This information will be sent to all elected members via email during the W/C 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2015. The coordinator of this work is Greg Allen, Recruitment Officer.	
		2) That, to increase awareness of, and interest in, fostering and adoption in Southampton, SCC attends Hampshire Constabulary's Families Day in Netley in June 2016 to promote the opportunities available.	Greg Allen, Recruitment Officer has placed the Family Day event in the recruitment and assessment team calendar for June 2016. He will formally liaise with Hampshire Constabulary to secure promotional opportunities preceding and during the day via an information stall and other methods of promotion such as social media.	
03/09/15	Educational Attainment in Southampton	1) That, when agenda planning, the Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Social Care ensures that the Corporate Parenting Committee prioritises the educational attainment of Looked After Children (LAC) and ensuring that Personal Education Plans are in place for all LAC, as appropriate.	A response will be provided at the Panel meeting.	
		2) That Councillors are provided with information on the performance of schools within their ward.	A response will be provided at the Panel meeting.	
		3) That a breakdown of the destination in 2015 of LAC post KS4 and KS5 is circulated to the Panel.	A response will be provided at the Panel meeting.	
		4) That the published breakdown of KS4 and KS5 results is circulated to the Panel when it is available in October 2015 to enable appropriate reports to be developed for the 9 December 2015 Panel meeting.	A response will be provided at the Panel meeting.	
10/09/15	Council	1) That, at the 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2015 meeting of the	There are two DfE measures for young people	

Date	Title	Recommendation	Action Taken	Progress Status
	Performance – Q1 2015/16 (OSMC)	Children and Families Scrutiny Panel, an explanation is provided reconciling the quarter 1 NEET figure with information provided to the Panel Chair at the 3 <sup>rd</sup> September meeting.	<p>aged 16 and over: the NEET figure, which indicates the percentage of young people in education, employment and training and the Participation indicator, which measures whether the young person is in state funded education or training. Southampton has significantly reduced the NEET percentage, and continues to out-perform statistical neighbours and core cities. In terms of Participation, Southampton ranks lower, due to a higher number of young people who are in employment without state-funded training. The following information gives the details for Southampton 16 and 17 year olds in June 2015, when the last Participation data was released. Of a cohort total of 4590, the figures below give a breakdown of percentages and numbers engaged in each activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participating in Education and Training including further education, apprenticeships, work based learning and employment with accredited training = 85.4% (3920)</li> <li>• Employment with non-accredited training (eg in-house training schemes) = 5.5% (244)</li> <li>• Employment without training = 1.1% (48)</li> <li>• NEET = 4.1% (188)</li> <li>• Unknown = 3.9% (190)</li> </ul> <p>Of the 244 who were in employment with non-accredited training, 186 (76%) had started at college at 16, but not continued.</p> <p>The City Council and partners are continuing to promote progression to formal learning post-16 through activities to raise awareness and aspiration and, particularly through the Apprenticeship Action Plan activities, raising employer awareness and take up of accredited training opportunities.</p>	