

Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Thursday, 17th June, 2021
at 5.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

Council Chamber - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

Members

Councillor Guthrie (Chair)
Councillor Bell
Councillor Laurent
Councillor Mitchell
Councillor Paffey

Appointed Members

Nicola Brown, Primary Parent Governor
Catherine Hobbs, Roman Catholic Church
Francis Otieno, Primary Parent Governor
Claire Rogers, Secondary Parent Governor
Rob Sanders, Church of England

Contacts

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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.

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

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.

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. By entering the meeting room you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those images and recordings for broadcasting and or/training purposes. The meeting may be recorded by the press or members of the public. Any person or organisation filming, recording or broadcasting any meeting of the Council is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them doing so. Details of the Council's Guidance on the recording of meetings is available on the Council's website.

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.

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

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: Corporate Plan 2020-2025 sets out the four key outcomes:

- Communities, culture & homes - Celebrating the diversity of cultures within Southampton; enhancing our cultural and historical offer and using these to help transform our communities.
- Green City - Providing a sustainable, clean, healthy and safe environment for everyone. Nurturing green spaces and embracing our waterfront.
- Place shaping - Delivering a city for future generations. Using data, insight and vision to meet the current and future needs of the city.
- Wellbeing - Start well, live well, age well, die well; working with other partners and other services to make sure that customers get the right help at the right time.

Dates of Meetings: Municipal Year

2021	2022
17 June	27 January
22 July	31 March
30 September	
25 November	

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

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 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

To elect the Vice Chair for the Municipal Year 2021/22.

3 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

4 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.

5 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.

6 STATEMENT FROM CHAIR (Pages 1 - 2)

7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING) (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings held on 25 March 2021 and to deal with any matters arising, attached.

8 CHILDREN AND LEARNING - PERFORMANCE (Pages 7 - 28)

Report of the Service Director - Legal and Business Operations, recommending that the Panel consider and challenge the performance of Children and Learning Services in Southampton.

9 MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS (Pages 29 - 36)

Report of the Service Director - Legal and Business Operations, enabling the Panel to monitor and track progress on recommendations made at previous meetings.

10 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - EXEMPT 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 exempt report and appendices to the following Item

The report and appendices are considered to be exempt from general publication based on Category 7 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. It is not the public interest to disclose this because it is subject to an obligation of confidentiality.

The Ofsted Southampton Focused Visit letter will not be published by Ofsted until 18 June 2021. As the content of the report and appendices relate to the Ofsted Focused Visit letter the Council has a duty of confidentiality to Ofsted until the date of publication.

11 OFSTED - SOUTHAMPTON FOCUSED VISIT (Pages 37 - 68)

Report of the Executive Director for Children and Learning briefing the Panel on the Ofsted Focused Visit inspection that was undertaken between 20th April and 6th May 2021.

Wednesday, 9 June 2021

Service Director – Legal and Business Operations

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 MARCH 2021

Present: Councillors Taggart (Chair), Mitchell (except items 39 to 41) (Vice-Chair), J Baillie (except items 38 to 41), Chaloner, Guthrie, Laurent and Mintoff
Appointed Member: Rob Sanders

35. **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Paffey back from paternity leave and thanked Councillors Fielker and Barnes-Andrews for their support and contribution during his absence.

The Panel in turn thanked the Chair for the work that she has carried out during her term of office, this being the last meeting of the municipal year and Councillor Taggart will not be standing for election this year.

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th February, 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record.

37. **CHILD FRIENDLY CITY**

The Panel considered the report of the Executive Director – Children and Learning which recommended that the Panel noted the progress and commented on the Child Friendly City vision for Southampton.

Councillor Paffey, Cabinet Member for Children and Learning and Robert Henderson, Executive Director Wellbeing (Children and Learning), Southampton City Council, were present and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the Panel.

In discussions with the Cabinet Member and officers, the Panel noted the following:

- The Council was working closely with UNICEF to understand fully the needs of young people, ensuring they have access to advocacy services across the whole of the Council.
- There was a commitment to ensure those not in education or training (14-25 year olds) were included.
- The City of Culture Bid was a prime example of how all schools could engage with the project, including those children in care.
- Planning across all Council services was taking place for more facilities for families and young people targeting specifically mental health coming out of the pandemic, prevention and engagement with those at risk of exploitation, offending and gang activity.

- Budget and resources were being aligned with commitments by schools, the Police and other agencies, for all children in the City.

RESOLVED to receive a further progress report in 6 months' time.

38. **SERVICE RESPONSE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN REPORT ON THE EXPERIENCES OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

The Panel considered the report of the Executive Director – Children and Learning which recommended that the Panel note and challenge the current service response to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman report on the experiences of Looked After Children and consider the opportunities identified for future scrutiny.

Councillor Paffey, Cabinet Member for Children and Learning and Robert Henderson, Executive Director Wellbeing (Children and Learning), Southampton City Council, were present and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the Panel.

In discussions with the Cabinet Member and officers, the Panel noted the following:

- Unregulated placements were taken up by 16 or 17 year olds. Risk was assessed and placements were made for those who struggled with foster homes that were found challenging for any particular child. Not considered to be a problem in Southampton at this time.
- Foster placements had been difficult to achieve during the pandemic, however the courts had awarded 10 secured adoptions in February and it was hoped these placements would be returning to normality as the lockdown eased.
- The Council had a duty and obligation to have children's homes in the area. Some young people will choose a residential home over foster homes.
- The challenges of moving children during a period of online learning.
- Provision of extra support for Foster Carers to permanently adopt.

RESOLVED:

- (i) The Panel to receive information of how many children had been moved during the period of online learning.
- (ii) Further scrutiny be programmed to enable a consideration of the sufficiency of placements, looked after children's mental health together with the Child Protection Chairs report to provide further context.
- (iii) Executive Director to provide details on waiting times for children with special education needs seeking a new school.

39. **PARTICIPATION ACTIVITY WITH LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS**

The Panel considered the report of the Executive Director – Children and Learning which recommended that the Panel reviews and comments on the initiatives outlined in the report.

Councillor Paffey, Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, Robert Henderson, Executive Director Wellbeing (Children and Learning), Southampton City Council and Jenny Malloy, Voice of the Child Programme Lead, Southampton City Council, were present and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the Panel.

In discussions with the Cabinet Member and officers, the Panel noted the following:

- There was a need for improvement, despite children in Southampton having a strong identify with the Council being 'their parent' more work was needed.
- 23 children were engaged at present with capacity for more to join.
- Whilst online connection had been a necessity the return to face to face engagement was welcomed.
- Expectation that corporate parents and Council staff undertake the Total Respect training.

RESOLVED to undertake the Total Respect training and encourage other agencies to do the same.

40. **CHILDREN AND LEARNING - PERFORMANCE**

The Panel received the report of the Director, Legal and Governance which provided an overview of performance across Children and Families Services since December 2020.

Robert Henderson, Executive Director Wellbeing (Children and Learning), Southampton City Council; Phil Bullingham, Head of Service: Children's Social Care, Southampton City Council; and, Julian Watkins, Head of Service: Safeguarding, Southampton City Council were present and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the Panel.

In discussions with the officers, the Panel noted the following:

- Decrease in demand by 11% received in MASH.
- Conscious of the potential for hidden harm during a period of school closures and online learning. There had been an increase in educational welfare activity which captured vulnerable children, helped by keeping children's centres open providing food parcels and safe places for children to go.
- Early assessments are helping to reduce new referrals to MASH.
- Child Protection orders had reduced by 19% which was a continuing trend.
- There was a reduction in Foster Carers and this would be further scrutinised in the coming months. There was a known natural retirement age for some of the carers.
- Staff sickness had reduced slightly.
- There were still 70 agency staff employed.

RESOLVED that the Child Sexual Exploitation indicator was reviewed at the June 2021 meeting.

41. **MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Panel noted the report of the Director, Legal and Business Operations which enabled the Panel to monitor and track progress on recommendations made at previous meetings.

The Panel noted that all the requested information had been provided and utilised to inform the discussion of the agenda items.

Agenda Item 8

DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL
SUBJECT:	CHILDREN AND LEARNING - PERFORMANCE
DATE OF DECISION:	17 JUNE 2021
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Deputy Chief Executive	
	Name:	Mike Harris	Tel: 023 8083 2882
	E-mail	Mike.harris@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None

BRIEF SUMMARY

Attached as Appendix 1 are the key datasets for Children's Services and Learning up to the end of May 2021. At the meeting the Cabinet Member and senior managers from Children's Services and Learning will be providing the Panel with an overview of performance across the division since March 2021.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- | | | |
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| | (i) | That the Panel consider and challenge the performance of Children's Services and Learning in Southampton. |
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REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | To enable effective scrutiny of Children's Services and Learning in Southampton. |
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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- | | |
|----|-------|
| 2. | None. |
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DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

- | | |
|----|---|
| 3. | To enable the Panel to undertake their role effectively members will be provided with performance information on a monthly basis and an explanation of the measures. |
| 4. | Performance information up to 31 May 2021 is attached as Appendix 1. An explanation of the significant variations in performance will be provided at the meeting. |
| 5. | The Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, and representatives from the Children's Services and Learning Senior Management Team, have been invited to attend the meeting to provide the performance overview. |

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue/Property/Other

6.	None directly as a result of this report.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
8.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
9.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
10.	The Corporate Plan 2020 sets out the following regarding the wellbeing of children in the city: "Working with partners to deliver the ambitions set out in the five-year Health and Wellbeing Strategy, this area looks at wellbeing across the city, with a focus on adults and children's social care, education and public health. We work closely with partners to help safeguard vulnerable people across the city. We are focused on delivering strong customer experience across the Adults and Children & Families services. We want Southampton to be a city that is recognised for its proactive approach to preventing problems and intervening early, as well being a 'Child Friendly City' where children and young people have great opportunities and an aspiration to achieve. We want our residents to have the information and support they need to lead safe, active, healthy lives and to be able to live independently for longer."

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Children and Families Monthly Dataset – May 2021
2.	Glossary of terms

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
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Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	No
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Data Protection Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	No
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Other Background Documents

Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules /
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		Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None	

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Qualitative measures:			Key to direction of travel:				
Positive	Similar	Negative	Increase 10% or more	Similar	Decrease 10% or more		
			↑	→	↓		

Benchmarking 2019-20		
SN	ENG	SE region

Ref.	Indicator	Owner/ Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	% change from Apr-21	% change from May-20	Preferred DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	SN	ENG	SE region	Commentary (May-21):
M1	Number of contacts received (includes contacts that become referrals)	Julian Watkins	There is an effective 'front door' with which anyone with a concern about a child can engage and receive appropriate advice, support and action.	1147	1172	1403	1493	1343	1607	1555	1787	1507	1464	1297	1886	1630	1801	↑ 10%	↑ 54%		1564	1886	Local	Local	Local	There has been an increase in Contacts received during May 21 by 10% compared to last month and the figure is close to the 12 month maximum of 1886. The figure is nearly 700 more Contacts than we received in May 2020. We continue to see the impact of Lockdown and the increasing issues for children and young people.
M2	Number of new referrals of Children In Need (CIN)	Julian Watkins	Referrals for children in need of help and support are accepted appropriately by the service.	286	270	342	388	263	357	368	449	351	271	244	460	334	442	↑ 32%	↑ 64%		356	460	368	353	502	In line with the high level of Contacts received there is also a 32% increase in the number of new referrals of Children in Need. This figure is also close to the 12 month maximum of 460 and is 172 more than the number in May 20. The figure is higher than statistical neighbours and England, but lower than the South East Region.
M3	Percentage of all contacts that become new referrals of Children In Need (CIN)	Julian Watkins	Children and families receive the help they need at the right time, and from the best possible resource - in line with the established continuum of need.	25%	23%	24%	26%	20%	22%	24%	25%	23%	19%	19%	24%	20%	24%	↑ 16%	→ 3%		23%	26%	Local	Local	Local	The conversion rate from Contact to Referral has risen by 4% compared to April 21, but only 1% increase from May 20.
M2-NI	Number of new referrals of Children in Need (CIN) rate per 10,000 (0-17 year olds)	Julian Watkins	Referrals for children in need of help and support are comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	56	53	67	76	52	70	72	88	69	53	48	90	66	87	↑ 32%	↑ 64%		70	90	Local	Local	Local	The Number of new referrals of Children in Need rate per 10,000 0-17 years olds has seen an increase of 32%. This figure remains a concern and whilst we would expect the needs of the City to increase following the Lockdown, we need to question the impact that Early Help services are having.
M8-QL	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	Julian Watkins	The safety of children is supported by referrals being dealt with in a timely manner.	98%	99%	99%	98%	99%	94%	98%	98%	99%	99%	98%	99%	98%	99%	→ 1%	→ 0%	▲	98%	99%	Local	Local	Local	Despite the continuing number of Contacts coming into MASH the performance against the Working Together 1 working day decision making remains high and sits at 99% for May 21.
M6-QL (val)	Number of referrals which are re-referrals within one year of a closure assessment	Julian Watkins	The service is effective in helping children and families address their issues, and where there is a re-referral, the issues are understood.	10	25	17	15	19	23	27	37	32	8	10	28	17	38	↑ 124%	↑ 52%	▼	23	38	Local	Local	Local	This is a significant rise and needs further analysis.
M6-QL	Percentage of referrals which are re-referrals within one year of a closure assessment	Julian Watkins	The service is effective in helping children and families address their issues, and where there is a re-referral, the issues are understood.	3%	9%	5%	4%	7%	6%	7%	8%	9%	3%	4%	6%	5%	9%	↑ 80%	→ 0%	▼	6%	9%	27%	23%	26%	As above,
M4	Number of new referrals of children aged 13+ where child sexual exploitation (CSE) was a factor	Julian Watkins	The needs and safety of children at risk of child sexual exploitation are responded to effectively.	1	3	4	7	7	15	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	↓ -67%	↓ -67%		4	15	Local	Local	Local	Much more accurate data currently available through CERAF reports as well as monthly inter-agency MET review of high risk CCE & CSE. MET manager has produced monthly performance briefing. MET KPI will be reviewed in July 2021.

Ref.	Indicator	Owner/Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	% change from Apr-21	% change from May-20	Pref erred DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	SN	ENG	SE region	Commentary (May-21):
M5	Number of children receiving Early Help services who are stepped up for Children In Need (CiN) assessment	Sean Holehouse Julian Watkins	<i>The needs and safety of children at risk of child sexual exploitation are responded to effectively.</i>	1	10	1	13	4	7	14	17	0	4	5	10	5	8	↑ 60%	↓ -20%		7	17	Local	Local	Local	Early Help Locality Teams continue to work with families to prevent escalation of need, & to refer appropriately where children are at immediate risk and in need of protection. The Early Help Hub Rapid Response Team continue to work with new referred high-end early help cases preventing escalation into Social Care. EH Locality cases are RAG rated and new EH SW team is being implemented. The number of CSC 'step up' cases in April was above average with 8 recorded.
EH2	Number of Children In Need (CiN) at end of period (all open cases, excluding EHPs, EHAs, CPP and LAC)	Sarah Ward Julian Watkins	<i>Children in need of help and support receive a consistent and effective service.</i>	1292	1311	1313	1313	1232	1251	1305	1348	1226	1162	1109	1218	1151	1217	→ 6%	→ -7%	▼	1,237	1,348	Local	Local		This has increased since last month. This is probably due to 3 things - an increase in children being removed from cp plans, an increase in cases transferring from the assessment team following an increase in referrals to Children's Services, and a decrease in the work flow in PACT due to staffing issues. PACT now have CIN trackers whereby cases which have been open for over 6 months are reviewed more thoroughly. This has shown that there is some current delay in work flow to close, transfer or step down CIN cases. PACT is currently short staffed with social workers and managers and this results in cases with less or no safeguarding issues not progressing as well. It has just been agreed that recruitment for an ATM for 3 months can be undertaken to assist in this area of work.
EH5-QL	Number of children open to the authority who have been missing at any point in the period (count of children)	Simon Dennison Julian Watkins	<i>The needs and safety of children who have been missing are responded to robustly.</i>	50	64	57	83	59	72	69	78	53	49	69	75	64	77	↑ 20%	↑ 20%	▼	67	83	Local	Local	Local	Monthly levels consistent with pre-covid rates - no comparative data available from other LAs or SNs - all children offered RHI & 80-90% accepted & successfully undertaken.
EH3	Number of Single Assessments (SA) completed	Jacqui Schofield Julian Watkins	<i>Children receive a comprehensive assessment of their needs; with strengths and areas of risk identified to inform evidence-based planning.</i>	259	247	265	326	248	243	285	346	410	305	304	288	293	321	↑ 10%	↑ 30%		303	410	354	365	485	The number of single assessments completed during May 21 has increased by 10% compared to April 21. This is also an increase of 74 compared to May 20 which correlates with the increasing number of referrals of Children in Need.
EH3a%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 10 days	Jacqui Schofield Julian Watkins	<i>Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.</i>	13%	14%	6%	12%	4%	9%	12%	14%	16%	10%	12%	15%	13%	13%	→ -2%	↓ -10%	▲	11%	16%	11%	12%	13%	The percentage of single assessments completed within 10 days for May 21 remains at 13% and is line with the South East region.
EH3b%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 11-25 days	Jacqui Schofield Julian Watkins	<i>Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.</i>	43%	49%	44%	40%	32%	26%	32%	31%	31%	27%	35%	26%	43%	33%	↓ -24%	↓ -33%	▲	33%	44%	Local	Local	Local	The percentage of single assessments completed within 11-25 days is 33%. This is not necessarily significant.
EH3c%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 26-35 days	Jacqui Schofield Julian Watkins	<i>Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.</i>	15%	11%	20%	18%	28%	21%	16%	15%	19%	18%	13%	28%	20%	19%	→ -4%	↑ 81%	▲	20%	28%	Local	Local	Local	The percentage of single assessments completed within 26-35 days is 19%. This is not necessarily significant.
EH3d%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 36-45 days	Jacqui Schofield Julian Watkins	<i>Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.</i>	8%	13%	15%	23%	24%	30%	22%	19%	24%	28%	14%	14%	14%	22%	↑ 56%	↑ 68%	▲	21%	30%	Local	Local	Local	The percentage of single assessments completed within 36-45 days is 22% seeing an increase of 56% compared to April 21. This is not necessarily significant.
EH3e%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed over 45 days	Jacqui Schofield Julian Watkins	<i>Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.</i>	21%	14%	15%	7%	11%	13%	18%	21%	11%	16%	26%	16%	10%	14%	↑ 33%	→ -1%	▼	15%	26%	15%	16%	15%	There is an increase of 33% of single assessments completed over 45 days. This is not representative of the performance within the Assessment Service. The data is drawn from all single assessments completed throughout Children's Services.
EH4 (val)	Number of Single Assessments (SA) completed in 45 working days	Jacqui Schofield Julian Watkins	<i>Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.</i>	204	213	225	303	221	211	235	272	366	255	226	241	263	285	→ 8%	↑ 34%	▲	259	366				The number of single assessments completed in 45 working days is 285 for May 21 with a slight increase on April 21
EH4-QL	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed in 45 working days	Jacqui Schofield Julian Watkins	<i>Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.</i>	79%	86%	85%	93%	89%	87%	82%	79%	89%	84%	74%	84%	90%	86%	→ -4%	→ 0%	▲	85%	93%				There is a decrease of 4% of single assessments completed 45 days. This is not representative of the performance within the Assessment Service. The data is drawn from all single assessments completed throughout Children's Services.

Ref.	Indicator	Owner Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	% change from Apr-21	% change from May-20	Pref erred DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	SN	ENG	SE region	Commentary (May-21):
CP1	Number of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started	Julian Watkins	Jacqui Schofield <i>Where there are concerns about a child's safety, there is a robust assessment of risk.</i>	104	112	138	121	81	126	121	167	149	91	91	174	117	158	↑ 35%	↑ 41%		128	174	119	110	155	The number of section 47 enquiries started has seen an increase of 35%. Whilst you may expect an increase in section 47 enquiries in line with an increase in referrals, this remains higher than statistical neighbours.
CP1-NI	Rate of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started per 10,000 children aged 0-17	Julian Watkins	Jacqui Schofield <i>Safeguarding investigations undertaken by the service are at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.</i>	20	22	27	24	16	25	24	33	29	18	18	34	23	31	↑ 35%	↑ 41%		25	34	19	14	15	The rate of section 47 enquiries per 10,000 children 0-17 is significantly higher than statistical neighbours, south east region and England. This shows a risk averse service and too many children are being subject to this level of enquiry who may not need it.
CP6B	Number of children with a Child Protection Plan (CPP) at the end of the month, excluding temporary registrations	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb <i>Child Protection Plans are in place for children where it has been assessed that multi-agency intervention is required to keep them safe.</i>	399	418	407	426	415	393	389	394	399	400	358	313	337	355	→ 5%	↓ -15%		382	426	350	339	427	The number and rate per 10,000 of children subject to CPP aligns with the increase in contacts and section 47 activity in the past month. However, the level of section 47 activity in Southampton remains very high in Southampton.
CP6B-NI	Rate of children with Child Protection Plan (CPP) per 10,000 (0-17 year olds) at end of period	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb <i>The number of children who require Child Protection Plans is at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.</i>	78	82	80	84	82	77	77	78	78	79	70	62	66	70	→ 6%	↓ -15%		75	84	53	43	41	The number and rate per 10,000 of children subject to CPP aligns with the increase in contacts and section 47 activity in the past month. However, the level of section 47 activity in Southampton remains very high in Southampton.
CP2	Number of children subject to Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs), excluding transfer-ins and temporary registrations	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb <i>Where it has been assessed that multi-agency intervention is required to keep a child safe, the case is progressed to Initial Child Protection Conference.</i>	27	52	36	72	22	24	43	56	48	56	20	38	45	49	→ 9%	→ -6%		42	72	43	42	53	Southampton remains an outlier in respect of the number and rate of ICPCs, corresponding with the high level of sec.47 activity and referral activity overall. Data trends suggest a risk adverse culture, which was substantiated by Ofsted findings in the focused visit in May 2021.
CP2-NI	Rate per 10,000 Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb <i>The rate of Initial Child Protection Conferences is at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.</i>	5	11	7	14	5	6	8	12	10	11	4	8	9	10	→ 9%	→ -9%		9	14	7	5	5	Southampton remains an outlier in respect of the number and rate of ICPCs, corresponding with the high level of sec.47 activity and referral activity overall. Data trends suggest a risk adverse culture, which was substantiated by Ofsted findings in the focused visit in May 2021.
CP4 (val)	Number of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) resulting in a Child Protection Plan (CPP) (based on count of children)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb <i>Decisions made at Child Protection Conferences will result in appropriate, evidence-based plans for children that respond to, and meet their level of risk and need.</i>	25	50	35	58	17	22	38	52	42	53	18	31	40	45	↑ 13%	↓ -10%		38	58				The % conversion from ICPC to plan is in line with the SN average and slightly higher than regional and national averages. However, we know from the recent Ofsted focused visit that Ofsted are of the view that Southampton's sec.47 activity is too high and our data shows that the average rate per 10,000 sec.47 is notably higher in Southampton. This suggests that although there is nothing remarkable in respect of ICPC decision making, there are potential opportunities to intervene with some families in a different way.
CP4	Percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) resulting in a Child Protection Plan (CPP) (based on count of children)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb <i>Decisions made at Child Protection Conferences will result in appropriate, evidence-based plans for children that respond to, and meet their level of risk and need.</i>	93%	96%	97%	81%	77%	92%	88%	93%	88%	95%	90%	82%	89%	92%	→ 3%	→ -4%	▲	89%	97%	90%	87%	86%	The % conversion from ICPC to plan is in line with the SN average and slightly higher than regional and national averages. However, we know from the recent Ofsted focused visit that Ofsted are of the view that Southampton's sec.47 activity is too high and our data shows that the average rate per 10,000 sec.47 is notably higher in Southampton. This suggests that although there is nothing remarkable in respect of ICPC decision making, there are potential opportunities to intervene with some families in a different way.
CP2b	Number of transfer-ins	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb <i>Children moving into Southampton receive a good standard of service and protection.</i>	0	3	0	0	1	7	0	5	3	1	0	1	1	1	→ 0%	↓ -67%		2	7	Local	Local	Local	One child was transferred in. In all cases the service manager checks that local processes were complied with.
CP2b %	Percentage of transfer-ins where child became subject to a CP Plan during period	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb <i>Children moving into Southampton receive a good standard of service and protection.</i>	-	100%	-	-	0%	100%	-	80%	100%	100%	-	0%	100%	100%	→ 0%	→ 0%		73%	100%	Local	Local	Local	One child was transferred in. In all cases, the service manager checks that local processes were complied with.
CP3-QL (val)	Number of children subject to Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) which were held within timescales (excludes transfer-ins)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb <i>Child Protection planning is timely, ensuring that the risks to children are discussed and responded to expediently.</i>	18	47	34	50	16	19	15	32	13	40	14	23	20	42	↑ 110%	↓ -11%	▲	27	50	34	33	40	ICPC timeliness has improved in comparison to the previous month and is higher than SN, regional and national averages. However, the local 12 m average is notably lower than the SN average and remains susceptible to capacity issues in the assessment, PACT and Jigsaw teams.

Ref.	Indicator	Owner Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	% change from Apr-21	% change from May-20	Preferred DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	SN	ENG	SE region	Commentary (May-21):
CP3-QL	Percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) held within timescales (based on count of children)	Phil Bullingham Stuart Webb	Child Protection planning is timely, ensuring that the risks to children are discussed and responded to expediently.	67%	90%	94%	69%	73%	79%	35%	57%	27%	71%	70%	61%	44%	86%	↑ 93%	→ -5%	▲	64%	94%	81%	78%	76%	ICPC timeliness has improved in comparison to the previous month and is higher than SN, regional and national averages. However, the local 12 m average is notably lower than the SN average and remains susceptible to capacity issues in the assessment, PACT and Jigsaw teams.
CP8-QL	Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan seen in the last 15 working days.	Phil Bullingham Sarah Ward	The service is in regular contact with children subject to Child Protection planning to ensure that there is ongoing assessment of risk and opportunities to intervene effectively.	40%	72%	75%	75%	85%	62%	85%	92%	87%	88%	89%	88%	100%	83%	↓ -17%	↑ 15%	▲	84%	100%	Local	Local	Local	There has been a decrease in this since last month which is largely due to recording issues as overtime due to ofsted was offered last month. Caseloads in PACT have also increased over the last few weeks due to staff leaving/ HR issues with staff, challenges in recruiting staff, holiday period, and increased number of cases transferring into PACT. This has resulted in workers struggling to prioritise work within timescales.
CP5-QL (val)	Number of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time	Phil Bullingham Stuart Webb	The service is effective in managing the risks experienced by children and within families and where there is re-referral the issues are understood.	4	13	5	5	2	13	14	17	11	19	0	5	7	6	↓ -14%	↓ -54%	▼	9	19	9	8	11	Although data over the past four months shows a trend of a lower rate of repeat CPP in Southampton, the 12m trend more closely aligns with the SN, regional and national averages.
CP5-QL	Percentage of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time	Phil Bullingham Stuart Webb	The service is effective in managing the risks experienced by children and within families and where there is re-referral the issues are understood.	16%	24%	14%	9%	12%	41%	37%	30%	24%	36%	0%	16%	17%	13%	↓ -24%	↓ -45%	▼	21%	41%	24%	22%	23%	Although data over the past four months shows a trend of a lower rate of repeat CPP in Southampton, the 12m trend more closely aligns with the SN, regional and national averages.
CP9	Number of children subject to Review Child Protection Conferences (RCPCs) in the month	Phil Bullingham Stuart Webb	Where children are subject to Child Protection planning, their cases are reviewed regularly to identify progress and any barriers.	71	72	135	101	73	123	112	86	70	115	95	173	45	65	↑ 44%	↓ -10%	▼	99	173	Local	Local	Local	An increase in the number of RCPC is evident in comparison to last month and this has impacted upon the number of CPP ending. However, the number of reviews is 10% lower than the same time last year. Review CPC are rescheduled if reports are not available from the caseholding teams, and this is assessed to have an impact.
CP7	Number of ceasing Child Protection Plans (CPP), excluding temporary registrations	Phil Bullingham Stuart Webb	Where it is assessed that risks to a child have reduced there is a review of risk and the case is stepped down effectively.	25	34	48	38	25	53	42	47	37	54	61	74	19	28	↑ 47%	↓ -18%	▲	44	74				An increase in the number of RCPC is evident in comparison to last month and this has impacted upon the number of CPP ending. However, the number of reviews is 10% lower than the same time last year. Review CPC are rescheduled if reports are not available from the caseholding teams, and this is assessed to have an impact.
LAC1	Number of Looked after Children at end of period	Julian Watkins Mary Hardy	Where it is assessed that there is no safe alternative, the local authority will take children into its care for their welfare and protection.	487	488	488	512	493	485	492	503	499	508	507	495	490	499	→ 2%	→ 2%	▼	498	512	496	527	550	At end of May the number of children in our care had risen by 2% on the previous month to 499, going against the downward trend we have seen for the past 4 months consecutively. This rise correlates with a marked increase in the number of contacts and referrals in for May.
LAC1-NI	Looked after Children rate per 10,000	Julian Watkins Mary Hardy	The level of children in care is at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	96	96	96	101	97	95	97	99	98	100	100	97	96	98	→ 2%	→ 2%	▼	98	101	89	67	53	As we would expect the increased number of children in our care has caused a correlating increase in the rate per 10,00 of population from 96 at end of April to 98 at end of May.
LAC2	Number of new Looked after Children (episodes)	Julian Watkins Mary Hardy	Where children meet the threshold and there are no alternatives, they will be safe and have their welfare needs addressed through accommodation by the local authority.	7	7	10	29	9	8	23	25	11	23	13	6	8	15	↑ 88%	↑ 114%	▼	15	29	47	44	46	15 children were new in to our care in May, this is the highest it has been since last November and is the rate for the annual average but is much lower than the annual maximum of 29 and significantly lower than our benchmarking comparators. This increase is likely a reflection of the raised rate of referrals, as mentioned above, that are currently warranting assessment and intervention to safeguard children.
LAC3	Number of ceasing Looked after Children (episodes)	Julian Watkins Mary Hardy	Children will leave care in a planned way with clear networks of support around them.	6	6	9	6	24	17	16	14	12	14	21	17	15	6	↓ -60%	→ 0%	▲	14	24	16	16	19	Just 6 children have ceased to be in our care throughout May, this is the joint lowest it has been for a year (also achieved last July) and as such is less than half the monthly average and just a quarter of the maximum for the past year (at 24 last July).
LAC6 (val)	Number of adoptions (E11, E12)	Julian Watkins Martin Smith	Children who are being adopted will receive timely and effective support.	0	0	2	0	4	4	4	1	4	1	10	1	3	1	↓ -67%	- n/a	▲	3	10				

Ref.	Indicator	Owner Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	% change from Apr-21	% change from May-20	Pref erred DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	SN	ENG	SE region	Commentary (May-21):
LAC6 (%)	Percentage of adoptions (E11, E12)	Julian Watkins	Martin Smith <i>Children who are being adopted will receive timely and effective support.</i>	0%	0%	22%	0%	17%	24%	25%	7%	33%	7%	48%	6%	20%	7%	↓ -67%	- n/a		18%	48%				
LAC12 (val)	Number of Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) (E43, E44)	Julian Watkins	Martin Smith <i>Children subject to Special Guardianship Orders will receive timely and effective support.</i>	0	0	1	0	6	4	4	4	1	5	1	4	3	0	↓ -100%	- n/a		3	6	Local	Local	Local	
LAC12 (%)	Percentage of Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) (E43, E44)	Julian Watkins	Martin Smith <i>Children subject to Special Guardianship Orders will receive timely and effective support.</i>	0%	0%	11%	0%	25%	24%	25%	29%	8%	36%	5%	24%	20%	0%	↓ -100%	- n/a		17%	36%	1%	1%	1%	
LAC7-QL	Percentage of Looked after Children visited within timescales	Julian Watkins	Mary Hardy <i>The service is in regular contact with Looked after Children to ensure that there is ongoing assessment of risk and opportunities to intervene effectively.</i>	50%	39%	78%	75%	73%	70%	80%	75%	85%	84%	90%	88%	69%	80%	↑ 17%	↑ 106%	▲	79%	90%	Local	Local	Local	As predicted last month visits in timescales have increased this month and are back at 80% for May as the expectation returns for social workers to see all children face to face again as Covid lockdowns ease. Next month should see a further rise as more visits have been booked throughout June to see the last of the children still not yet seen.
LAC10 (%)	Percentage of Looked after Children with an authorised CLA plan	Julian Watkins	Mary Hardy <i>Children have good quality care plans, to which they have contributed, and which meet their needs.</i>	95%	96%	96%	95%	96%	96%	98%	97%	97%	96%	94%	96%	96%	96%	→ 0%	→ 0%	▲	96%	98%	Local	Local	Local	No change again as performance for this indicator is again at 96%.
LAC10-QL	Number of Looked after Children with an authorised CLA Plan	Julian Watkins	Mary Hardy <i>Children have good quality care plans, to which they have contributed, and which meet their needs.</i>	461	469	467	487	473	467	480	486	482	489	477	477	470	478	→ 2%	→ 2%	▲	478	489	Local	Local	Local	As above although performance is actually better as it is the same % of a cohort that has 8 more children in it than last month.
LAC13	Number of current unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) looked after at end of period	Julian Watkins	Mary Hardy <i>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children are identified and supported by the local authority.</i>	13	12	12	11	11	10	11	16	18	21	21	20	20	18	↓ -10%	↑ 50%		16	21	25	21	35	A drop in the number of asylum seeking minors in our care at the end of May from 20 last month to 18 this month, but at 18 that is 50% higher than it was in May last year.
LAC14	Number of new unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)	Julian Watkins	Mary Hardy <i>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children are identified and supported by the local authority.</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	3	1	1	1	0	↓ -100%	- n/a		1	3	Local	Local	Local	There have been no new asylum seeking minors throughout May coming in to our care but what will happen to this indicator in coming months is difficult to forecast with so many influencing variables at play.
LAC11-QL	Number of Looked after Children aged 16+ or open Care Leavers with an authorised Pathway Plan	Julian Watkins	Mary Hardy <i>Care Leavers have a good quality Pathway Plans, to which they have contributed, and which meets their needs.</i>	161	166	171	174	171	178	173	176	179	177	179	188	187	187	→ 0%	↑ 13%	▲	178	188	Local	Local	Local	No change in Pathway Plan performance again this month so it remains at 187, and 94% of the care leaver cohort, as it was in April. New staff are due to start in June to increase the numbers of personal advisers to work with this group and produce PP with them and as they settle in to the role I would expect that performance will improve for this indicator.
LAC11-QL (%)	Percentage of Looked after Children aged 16+ or open Care Leavers with an authorised Pathway Plan	Julian Watkins	Mary Hardy <i>Care Leavers have a good quality Pathway Plans, to which they have contributed, and which meets their needs.</i>	95%	96%	96%	96%	94%	96%	98%	98%	97%	97%	97%	96%	94%	94%	→ 0%	→ -2%	▲	96%	98%	Local	Local	Local	As above.
NI147	Percentage of Care Leavers in contact and in suitable accommodation	Julian Watkins	Mary Hardy <i>Care Leavers are in accommodation that is safe and secure.</i>	81%	83%	86%	86%	84%	85%	85%	85%	83%	82%	84%	82%	85%	85%	→ 0%	→ 2%	▲	84%	86%	85%	94%	91%	No change for this indicator from April to May, so we still have 85% of our care leavers in contact and in suitable accommodation. Again I would expect performance for this indicator to improve as new staff join and settle into the team, increasing our capacity to improve the numbers of care leavers we are in touch with and actively supporting to ensure they have maximum opportunities to access and maintain suitable accommodation.
LAC9 (val)	Number of Looked after Children (LAC) placed with IFAs at end of period	Julian Watkins	Martin Smith <i>Our Looked after Children will benefit from high quality fostering provision, with our own carers wherever possible.</i>	144	143	139	140	142	140	143	150	150	156	160	156	151	154	→ 2%	→ 8%	▼	148	160	Local	Local	Local	
LAC9	Percentage of IFA placements (of all looked after children)	Julian Watkins	Martin Smith <i>Our Looked after Children will benefit from high quality fostering provision, with our own carers wherever possible.</i>	30%	29%	28%	27%	29%	29%	29%	30%	30%	31%	32%	32%	31%	31%	→ 0%	→ 5%	▼	30%	32%	Local	Local	Local	

Ref.	Indicator	Owner Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	% change from Apr-21	% change from May-20	Preferred DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	SN	ENG	SE region	Commentary (May-21):	
LAC16	Number of in-house foster carers at the end of period	Martin Smith Julian Watkins	Our Looked after Children will benefit from high quality fostering provision, with our own carers wherever possible.	166	165	164	165	161	161	160	159	153	152	153	155	156	155	-1%	-6%	▲	158	165	Local	Local	Local		
EH1a	Number of Early Help Assessment (EHA) started in the month	Sean Holehouse Phil Bullingham	Children and families benefit from an early help offer that is rooted in a good understanding of their needs.	79	79	96	139	132	124	124	127	112	117	125	190	199	138	-6%	75%		135	199	Local	Local	Local	The number of EHA's started reflects the referral demand which remains high at slightly above the rolling monthly average, although a drop from the peak of the previous 2 months.	
EH1c	Number of Early Help Assessment (EHA) completed in the month INCLUDING adults aged 21+	Sean Holehouse Phil Bullingham	Assessments are completed for adult family members where a need for support is identified.	182	182	258	278	263	250	308	265	221	223	352	381	416	-	n/a	-	n/a		292	416	Local	Local	Local	No May data to comment upon
EH1b	Number of Early Help Plans (EHPs) opened in the month (includes EHPs completed, and those still open at end of period)	Sean Holehouse Phil Bullingham	Children and families benefit from early help plans that meet their presenting needs.	219	219	233	339	280	252	338	275	208	197	376	315	433	317	n/a	45%	▲	297	433	Local	Local	Local	The rate of EHP's remains higher than the rolling monthly average. Teams continue to focus on timeliness standards and case closures to support families self reliance and case throughput. EH locality case holding (Snr FSW) service capacity has been interirly increased to support swift allocation of new cases & avoid waiting lists. Outcome Star no longer mandated tool as part of EHA.	
EH14b	Number of Early Help Assessment (EHA) completed, EXCLUDING adults aged 21+	Sean Holehouse Phil Bullingham	Assessments are completed for a children where a need for early help support is identified..	122	122	192	186	177	175	204	183	159	164	231	255	267	-	n/a	▼	-100%		199	267	-	-	-	No May data to comment upon
CIN5	Number of all Children in Need (CiN) (including Child Protection (CP) / Looked after Children (LAC) / Care Leavers	Stuart Webb Phil Bullingham	Children and families receive support safely, at the right threshold and in a timely manner; supported by the interface between Early Help and Social Care.	2345	2345	2339	2363	2256	2250	2301	2367	2247	2193	2101	2159	2119	-	n/a	▼	-100%		2245	2367	Local	Local	Local	Small reduction in Children in Need numbers overall and 9.6% reduction in numbers from May 2020. Data review continues, which will provide better understanding of CIN trends. As the service's Early Help offer becomes more robust, CIN numbers will reduce.
LSCB17a	Percentage of 16-17 year olds in NEET or whose activity is not known	Debbie Blythe Derek Wiles	Young people benefit from an effective work to engage them in education, training and employment.														-	n/a	▼	-	0	-	-	-			
YO2	Number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System per 100,000 10-17 year olds in period	Debbie Blythe Phil Bullingham	Young people are appropriately diverted from entry into the criminal justice system through the local diversion / prevention offer.														tb	n/a	▼	-	0	417	327	256			
FM011	Families attached per quarter	Sean Holehouse Phil Bullingham	Families benefit from a robust local Troubled Families offer. (Families Matter)			44	39	28	34	36	22	23						n/a	n/a	▲	32	44	-	-	-	NA as month 1. Qtr 1 prediction is 150 families. Currently tracking ~1,000 families.	
FM012	Payment per result (PBR) claims attached per quarter	Sean Holehouse Phil Bullingham	Family engagement in the Families Matter programme translates into PBR, for further investment into the programme.															n/a	n/a	▲	43	51	-	-	-	NA as month 1. Qtr 1 prediction is ~100 PBR.	

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES GLOSSARY

<i>Abuse</i>	3
<i>Advocacy</i>	3
<i>Agency Decision Maker</i>	3
<i>Assessment</i>	3
<i>CAFCASS</i>	4
<i>Care Order</i>	4
<i>Categories of Abuse or Neglect</i>	4
<i>Child in Need and Child in Need Plan</i>	4
<i>Child Protection</i>	4
<i>Child Protection Conference</i>	5
<i>Children's Centres</i>	5
<i>Child Sexual Exploitation</i>	5
<i>Corporate Parenting</i>	5
<i>Criteria for Child Protection Plans</i>	5
<i>Director of Children's Services (DCS)</i>	5
<i>Designated Teacher</i>	5
<i>Discretionary Leave to Remain</i>	5
<i>Duty of Care</i>	5
<i>Early Help</i>	6
<i>Every Child Matters</i>	6
<i>Health Assessment</i>	6
<i>Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR)</i>	6
<i>Independent Reviewing Officer</i>	6
<i>Independent Domestic Violence Advisor</i>	7
<i>Initial Child Protection Conference</i>	7
<i>Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)</i>	7
<i>Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB)</i>	7
<i>Looked After Child</i>	7
<i>Neglect</i>	8
<i>Parental Consent to Adoptive Placement</i>	8
<i>Parental Responsibility</i>	8

<i>Pathway Plan</i>	8
<i>Permanence Plan</i>	8
<i>Personal Education Plan</i>	9
<i>Person Posing a Risk to Children (PPRC)</i>	9
<i>Placement at a Distance</i>	9
<i>Principal Social Worker - Children and Families</i>	9
<i>Private Fostering</i>	9
<i>Public Law Outline</i>	10
<i>Referral</i>	10
<i>Relevant Young People, Former Relevant, and Eligible</i>	10
<i>Review Child Protection Conference</i>	10
<i>Section 20</i>	11
<i>Section 47 Enquiry</i>	11
<i>Separated Children</i>	11
<i>Special Guardianship Order</i>	11
<i>Strategy Discussion</i>	11
<i>Statement of Special Education Needs (SEN)</i>	11
<i>Staying Put</i>	12
<i>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker</i>	12
<i>Virtual School Head</i>	12
<i>Working Together to Safeguard Children</i>	12
<i>Young Offender Institution (YOI)</i>	12
<i>Youth Offending Service or Team</i>	12
<i>Sources</i>	12

Abuse

Abuse is the act of violation of an individual's human or civil rights. Any or all types of abuse may be perpetrated as the result of deliberate intent, negligence or ignorance. Different types of abuse include: Physical abuse, Neglect/acts of omission, Financial/material abuse, Psychological abuse, Sexual abuse, Institutional abuse, Discriminatory abuse, or any combination of these.

Advocacy

Advocacy helps to safeguard children and young people, and protect them from harm and neglect. It is about speaking up for children and young people and ensuring their views and wishes are heard and acted upon by decision-makers. LAs have a duty under The Children Act to ensure that advocacy services are provided for children, young people and care leavers making or intending to make a complaint. It should also cover representations which are not complaints. Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO) should also provide a child/young person with information about advocacy services and offer help in obtaining an advocate.

Agency Decision Maker

The Agency Decision Maker (ADM) is the person within a fostering service and an adoption agency who makes decisions on the basis of recommendations made by the Fostering Panel (in relation to a fostering service) and the Adoption Panel (in relation to an adoption agency). The Agency Decision Maker will take account of the Panel's recommendation before proceeding to make a decision. The Agency Decision Maker can choose to make a different decision.

The National Minimum Standards for Fostering 2011 provide that the Agency Decision Maker for a fostering service should be a senior person within the fostering service, who is a social worker with at least 3 years post-qualifying experience in childcare social work and has knowledge of childcare law and practice (Standard 23).

The National Minimum Standards for Adoption 2011 provide that the Agency Decision Maker for an adoption agency should be a senior person within the adoption agency, who is a social worker with at least 3 years post-qualifying experience in childcare social work and has knowledge of permanency planning for children, adoption and childcare law and practice. Where the adoption agency provides an inter country adoption service, the Agency Decision Maker should also have specialist knowledge of this area of law and practice. When determining the disclosure of Protected Information about adults, the Agency Decision Maker should also understand the legislation surrounding access to and disclosure of information and the impact of reunion on all parties (Standard 23).

Assessment

Assessments are undertaken to determine the needs of individual children; what services to provide and action to take. They may be carried out:

- To gather important information about a child and family;
- To analyse their needs and/or the nature and level of any risk and harm being suffered by the child;
- To decide whether the child is a Child in Need (Section 17) and/or is suffering or likely to suffer Significant Harm (Section 47); and
- To provide support to address those needs to improve the child's outcomes to make them safe.

With effect from 15 April 2013, Working Together 2013 removes the requirement for separate **Initial Assessments** and **Core Assessments**. One Assessment – often called Single Assessment - may be undertaken instead.

CAFCASS

Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS) is the Government agency responsible for Reporting Officers, Children's Guardians and other Court officers appointed by the Court in Court Proceedings involving children. Also appoints an officer to witness when a parent wishes to consent to a child's placement for adoption.

Care Order

A Care Order can be made in Care Proceedings brought under section 31 of the Children Act if the Threshold Criteria are met. The Order grants Parental Responsibility for the child to the local authority specified in the Order, to be shared with the parents.

A **Care Order** lasts until the child is 18 unless discharged earlier. An **Adoption Order** automatically discharges the Care Order. A **Placement Order** automatically suspends the Care Order, but it will be reinstated if the Placement Order is subsequently revoked.

All children who are the subject of a Care Order come within the definition of Looked After and have to have a Care Plan. When making a Care Order, the Court must be satisfied that the Care Plan is suitable.

Categories of Abuse or Neglect

Where a decision is made that a child requires a Child Protection Plan, the category of abuse or neglect must be specified by the Child Protection Conference Chair.

Child in Need and Child in Need Plan

Under Section 17 (10) of the Children Act 1989, a child is a Child in Need (CiN) if:

- He/she is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for him/her of services by a local authority;
- His/her health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for him/her of such services; or
- He/she is disabled.

A **Child in Need Plan** should be drawn up for children who are not Looked After but are identified as Children in Need who requiring services to meet their needs. It should be completed following an Assessment where services are identified as necessary.

Under the Integrated Children's System, if a Child is subject to a Child Protection Plan, it is recorded as part of the Child in Need Plan.

The Child in Need Plan may also be used with children receiving short break care in conjunction with Part One of the Care Plan.

Child Protection

The following definition is taken from Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010, paragraph 1.23.:

Child protection is a part of Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children. This refers to the activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or are likely to suffer, Significant Harm.

Child Protection Conference

Child Protection Conferences (Initial – **ICPC** and review – **RCPC**) are convened where children are considered to be at risk of Significant Harm.

Children's Centres

The government is establishing a network of children's centres, providing good quality childcare integrated with early learning, family support, health services, and support for parents wanting to return to work or training.

Child Sexual Exploitation

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

Corporate Parenting

In broad terms, as the corporate parent of looked after children, a local authority has a legal and moral duty to provide the kind of loyal support that any good parent would provide for their own children.

Criteria for Child Protection Plans

Where a decision is made that a child requires a Child Protection Plan, the Conference Chair must ensure that the criteria for the decision are met, i.e. that the child is at continuing risk of Significant Harm.

Director of Children's Services (DCS)

Every top tier local authority in England must appoint a Director of Children's Services under section 18 of the Children Act 2004. Directors are responsible for discharging local authority functions that relate to children in respect of education, social services and children leaving care. They are also responsible for discharging functions delegated to the local authority by any NHS body that relate to children, as well as some new functions conferred on authorities by the Act, such as the duty to safeguard and protect children, the Children and Young People's Plan, and the duty to co-operate to promote well-being.

Designated Teacher

Schools should all appoint a Designated Teacher. This person's role is to co-ordinate policies, procedures and roles in relation to Child Protection and in relation to Looked After Children.

Discretionary Leave to Remain

This is a limited permission granted to an Asylum Seeker, to stay in the UK for 3 years - it can then be extended or permission can then be sought to settle permanently.

Duty of Care

In relation to workers in the social care sector, their duty of care is defined by the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) as a legal obligation to:

- Always act in the best interest of individuals and others;

- Not act or fail to act in a way that results in harm;
- Act within your competence and not take on anything you do not believe you can safely do.

Early Help

Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years.

Effective early help relies upon local agencies working together to:

- Identify children and families who would benefit from early help;
- Undertake an assessment of the need for early help;
- Provide targeted early help services to address the assessed needs of a child and their family which focuses on activity to significantly improve the outcomes for the child.

Local authorities, under section 10 of the Children Act 2004, have a responsibility to promote inter-agency cooperation to improve the welfare of children.

Every Child Matters

Every Child Matters is the approach to the well-being of children and young people from birth to age 19, which is incorporated into the Children Act 2004. The aim is for every child, whatever their background or their circumstances, to have the support they need to:

- Be healthy;
- Stay safe;
- Enjoy and achieve;
- Make a positive contribution and;
- Achieve economic well-being.

This means that the organisations involved with providing services to children are teaming up, sharing information and working together, to protect children and young people from harm and help them achieve what they want in life.

Health Assessment

Every Looked After Child (LAC or CLA) must have a Health Assessment soon after becoming Looked After, then at specified intervals, depending on the child's age.

Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR)

When an Asylum Seeker is granted ILR, they have permission to settle in the UK permanently and can access mainstream services and benefits.

Independent Reviewing Officer

If a Local Authority is looking after a child (whether or not the child is in their care), it must appoint an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) for that child's case.

From 1 April 2011, the role of the IRO is extended, and there are two separate aspects: chairing a child's Looked After Review, and monitoring a child's case on an ongoing basis. As part of the monitoring function, the IRO also has a duty to identify any areas of poor practice, including general concerns around service delivery (not just around individual children).

IROs must be qualified social workers and, whilst they can be employees of the local authority, they must not have line management responsibility for the child's case. Independent Reviewing Officers who chair Adoption Reviews must have relevant experience of adoption work.

Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (IDVA) are specialist caseworkers who focus on working predominantly with high risk victims (usually but not exclusively with female victims). They generally are involved from the point of crisis and offer intensive short to medium term support. They work in partnership with statutory and voluntary agencies and mobilise multiple resources on behalf of victims by coordinating the response of a wide range of agencies, including those working with perpetrators or children. There may be differences about how the IDVA service is delivered in local areas.

Initial Child Protection Conference

An Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC) is normally convened at the end of a Section 47 Enquiry when the child is assessed as either having suffered Significant Harm or to be at risk of suffering ongoing significant harm.

The Initial Child Protection Conference must be held within 15 working days of the Strategy Discussion, or the last strategy discussion if more than one has been held.

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

A designated officer (or sometimes a team of officers), who is involved in the management and oversight of allegations against people that work with children.

Their role is to give advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations; liaise with the Police and other agencies, and monitor the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible consistent with a thorough and fair process. The Police should also identify an officer to fill a similar role.

Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB)

LSCBs have to be established by every local authority as detailed in Section 13 of The Children Act 2004. They are made up of representatives from a range of public agencies with a common interest and with duties and responsibilities to children in their area. LSCBs have a responsibility for ensuring effective inter-agency working together to safeguard and protect children in the area. The Boards have to ensure that clear local procedures are in place to inform and assist anyone interested or as part of their professional role where they have concerns about a child.

The functions of the LSCB are set out in chapter 3 of Working Together to Safeguard Children.

See <http://southamptonlscb.co.uk/> for Southampton LSCB.

Looked After Child

A Looked After Child is a child who is accommodated by the local authority, a child who is the subject to an Interim Care Order, full Care Order or Emergency Protection Order; or a child who is remanded by a court into local authority accommodation or Youth Detention Accommodation.

In addition where a child is placed for Adoption or the local authority is authorised to place a child for adoption - either through the making of a Placement Order or the giving of Parental Consent to Adoptive Placement - the child is a Looked After child.

Looked After Children may be placed with family members, foster carers (including relatives and friends), in Children's Homes, in Secure Accommodation or with prospective adopters.

With effect from 3 December 2012, the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 amended the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 to bring children who are remanded by a court to local authority accommodation or youth detention accommodation into the definition of a Looked After Child for the purposes of the Children Act 1989.

Neglect

Neglect is a form of Significant Harm which involves the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect can occur during pregnancy, or once a child is born.

Parental Consent to Adoptive Placement

Parental consent to a child's placement for adoption under section 19 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 must be given before a child can be placed for adoption by an adoption agency, unless a Placement Order has been made or unless the child is a baby less than 6 weeks old and the parents have signed a written agreement with the local authority. Section 19 requires that the consent must be witnessed by a CAFCASS Officer. Where a baby of less than 6 weeks old is placed on the basis of a written agreement with the parents, steps must be taken to request CAFCASS to witness parental consent as soon as the child is 6 weeks old. At the same time as consent to an adoptive placement is given, a parent may also consent in advance to the child's adoption under section 20 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 either with any approved prospective adopters or with specific adopters identified in the Consent Form.

When giving advanced consent to adoption, the parents can also state that they do not wish to be informed when an adoption application is made in relation to the child.

Parental Responsibility

Parental Responsibility means all the duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which a parent has by law in relation to a child. Parental Responsibility diminishes as the child acquires sufficient understanding to make his or her own decisions.

A child's mother always holds Parental Responsibility, as does the father if married to the mother.

Unmarried fathers who are registered on the child's birth certificate as the child's father on or after 1 December 2003 also automatically acquire Parental Responsibility. Otherwise, they can acquire Parental Responsibility through a formal agreement with the child's mother or through obtaining a Parental Responsibility Order under Section 4 of the Children Act 1989.

Pathway Plan

The Pathway Plan sets out the route to the future for young people leaving the Looked After service and will state how their needs will be met in their path to independence. The plan will continue to be implemented and reviewed after they leave the looked after service at least until they are 21; and up to 25 if in education.

Permanence Plan

Permanence for a Looked After child means achieving, within a timescale which meets the child's needs, a permanent outcome which provides security and stability to the child throughout his or her childhood. It is, therefore, the best preparation for adulthood.

Wherever possible, permanence will be achieved through a return to the parents' care or a placement within the wider family but where this cannot be achieved within a time-scale appropriate to the child's needs, plans may be made for a permanent alternative family placement, which may include Adoption or by way of a Special Guardianship Order.

By the time of the second Looked After Review, the Care Plan for each Looked After Child must contain a plan for achieving permanence for the child within a timescale that is realistic, achievable and meets the child's needs.

Personal Education Plan

All Looked After Children must have a Personal Education Plan (PEP) which summarises the child's developmental and educational needs, short term targets, long term plans and aspirations and which contains or refers to the child's record of achievement. The child's social worker is responsible for coordinating and compiling the PEP, which should be incorporated into the child's Care Plan.

Person Posing a Risk to Children (PPRC)

This term replaced the term of 'Schedule One Offender', previously used to describe a person who had been convicted of an offence against a child listed in Schedule One of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933.

'Person Posing a Risk to Children' takes a wider view. Home Office Circular 16/2005 included a consolidated list of offences which agencies can use to identify those who may present a risk to children. The list includes both current and repealed offences, is for guidance only and is not exhaustive - subsequent legislation will also need to be taken into account when forming an assessment of whether a person poses a risk to children. The list of offences should operate as a trigger to further assessment/review to determine if an offender should be regarded as presenting a continued risk of harm to children. There will also be cases where individuals without a conviction or caution for one of these offences may pose a risk to children.

Placement at a Distance

Placement of a Looked After child outside the area of the responsible authority looking after the child and not within the area of any adjoining local authority.

This term was introduced with effect from 27 January 2014 by the Children's Homes and Looked after Children (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2013.

Principal Social Worker - Children and Families

This role was borne out of Professor Munro's recommendations from the Munro Review of Child Protection (2011) to ensure that a senior manager in each local authority is directly involved in frontline services, advocate higher practice standards and develop organisational learning cultures, and to bridge the divide between management and the front line. It is typically held by a senior manager who also carries caseloads to ensure the authentic voice of practice is heard at decision-making tables.

Private Fostering

A privately fostered child is a child under 16 (or 18 if disabled) who is cared for by an adult who is not a parent or close relative where the child is to be cared for in that home for 28 days or more. Close relative is defined as "a grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt (whether of the full blood or half blood or by marriage or civil partnership) or step-parent". A child who is Looked After by a local authority or placed in a children's home, hospital or school is excluded from the definition. In a private

fostering arrangement, the parent still holds Parental Responsibility and agrees the arrangement with the private foster carer.

A child in relation to whom the local authority receives notification from the prospective adopters that they intend to apply to the Court to adopt may have the status of a privately fostered child. The requirement to notify the local authority relates only to children who have not been placed for adoption by an adoption agency. On receiving the notification, the local authority for the area where the prospective adopters live becomes responsible for supervising the child's welfare pending the adoption and providing the Court with a report.

Public Law Outline

The Public Law Outline: Guide to Case Management in Public Law Proceedings came into force on the 6th April 2010. An updated Public Law Outline (PLO) came into effect on 22nd April 2014, alongside the statutory 26-week time-limit for completion of care and supervision proceedings under the Children and Families Act 2014.

The Public Law Outline sets out streamlined case management procedures for dealing with public law children's cases. The aim is to identify and focus on the key issues for the child, with the aim of making the best decisions for the child within the timetable set by the Court, and avoiding the need for unnecessary evidence or hearings.

Referral

The referring of concerns to local authority children's social care services, where the referrer believes or suspects that a child may be a Child in Need, including that he or she may be suffering, or is likely to suffer, Significant Harm. The referral should be made in accordance with the agreed LSCB procedures.

Relevant Young People, Former Relevant, and Eligible

- **Relevant Young People** are those aged 16 or 17 who are no longer Looked After, having previously been in the category of Eligible Young People when Looked After. However, if after leaving the Looked After service, a young person returns home for a period of 6 months or more to be cared for by a parent and the return home has been formally agreed as successful, he or she will no longer be a Relevant Young Person. A young person is also Relevant if, having been looked after for three months or more, he or she is then detained after their 16th birthday either in hospital, remand centre, young offenders' institution or secure training centre. There is a duty to support relevant young people up to the age of 18, wherever they are living.
- **Former Relevant Young People** are aged 18 or above and have left care having been previously either Eligible, Relevant or both. There is a duty to consider the need to support these young people wherever they are living.
- **Eligible Young People** are young people aged 16 or 17 who have been Looked After for a period or periods totaling at least 13 weeks starting after their 14th birthday and ending at least one day after their 16th birthday, and are still Looked After. (This total does not include a series of short-term placements of up to four weeks where the child has returned to the parent.) There is a duty to support these young people up to the age of 18.

Review Child Protection Conference

Child Protection Review Conferences (RCPC) are convened in relation to children who are already subject to a Child Protection Plan. The purpose of the Review Conference is to review the safety, health and development of the child in view of the Child Protection Plan, to ensure that the child continues to

be adequately safeguarded and to consider whether the Child Protection Plan should continue or change or whether it can be discontinued.

Section 20

Under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989, children may be accommodated by the local authority if they have no parent or are lost or abandoned or where their parents are not able to provide them with suitable accommodation and agree to the child being accommodated. A child who is accommodated under Section 20 becomes a Looked After Child.

Section 47 Enquiry

Under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989, if a child is taken into Police Protection, or is the subject of an Emergency Protection Order, or there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer Significant Harm, a Section 47 Enquiry is initiated. This enables the local authority to decide whether they need to take any further action to safeguard and promote the child's welfare. This normally occurs after a Strategy Discussion.

Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Emotional Abuse and Neglect are all categories of Significant Harm.

Section 47 Enquiries are usually conducted by a social worker, jointly with the Police, and must be completed within 15 days of a Strategy Discussion. Where concerns are substantiated and the child is judged to be at continued risk of Significant Harm, a Child Protection Conference should be convened.

Separated Children

Separated Children are children and young people aged under 18 who are outside their country of origin and separated from both parents, or their previous legal/customary primary caregiver. Some will be totally alone (**unaccompanied**), while others may be accompanied into the UK e.g. by an escort; or will present as staying with a person who may identify themselves as a stranger, a member of the family or a friend of the family.

Special Guardianship Order

Special Guardianship Order (SGO) is an order set out in the Children Act 1989, available from 30 December 2005. Special Guardianship offers a further option for children needing permanent care outside their birth family. It can offer greater security without absolute severance from the birth family as in adoption.

Special Guardianship will also provide an alternative for achieving permanence in families where adoption, for cultural or religious reasons, is not an option. Special Guardians will have Parental Responsibility for the child. A Special Guardianship Order made in relation to a Looked After Child will replace the Care Order and the Local Authority will no longer have Parental Responsibility.

Strategy Discussion

A Strategy Discussion is normally held following an Assessment which indicates that a child has suffered or is likely to suffer Significant Harm. The purpose of a Strategy Meeting is to determine whether there are grounds for a Section 47 Enquiry.

Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)

From 1 September 2014, Statements of Special Educational Needs were replaced by Education, Health and Care Plans. (The legal test of when a child or young person requires an Education, Health and Care Plan remains the same as that for a Statement under the Education Act 1996).

Staying Put

A Staying Put arrangement is where a Former Relevant child, after ceasing to be Looked After, remains in the former foster home where they were placed immediately before they ceased to be Looked After, beyond the age of 18. The young person's first Looked After Review following his or her 16th birthday should consider whether a Staying Put arrangement should be an option.

It is the duty of the local authority to monitor the Staying Put arrangement and provide advice, assistance and support to the Former Relevant child and the former foster parent with a view to maintaining the Staying Put arrangement (this must include financial support), until the child reaches the age of 21 (unless the local authority consider that the Staying Put arrangement is not consistent with the child's welfare).

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker

A child or young person under the age of 18 who has been forced or compelled to leave their home country as a result of major conflict resulting in social breakdown or to escape human rights abuse. They will have no adult in the UK exercising Parental Responsibility.

Virtual School Head

Section 99 of the Children and Families Act 2014 imposes upon local authorities a requirement to appoint an officer to promote the educational achievement of Looked After children - sometimes referred to as a 'Virtual School Head'.

Working Together to Safeguard Children

Working Together to Safeguard Children is a Government publication which sets out detailed guidance about the role, function and composition of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs), the roles and responsibilities of their member agencies in safeguarding children within their areas and the actions that should be taken where there are concerns that children have suffered or are at risk of suffering Significant Harm.

Young Offender Institution (YOI)

The Youth Justice Board (YJB) is responsible for the commissioning and purchasing of all secure accommodation for under 18-year-olds ('juveniles'), whether sentenced or on remand. Young offender institutions (YOIs) are run by the Prison Service (except where contracted out) and cater for 15-20 year-olds, but within YOIs the Youth Justice Board has purchased discrete accommodation for juveniles where the regimes are specially designed to meet their needs. Juvenile units in YOIs are for 15-17 year-old boys and 17-year-old girls.

Youth Offending Service or Team

Youth Offending Service or Team (YOS or YOT) is the service which brings together staff from Children's Social care, the Police, Probation, Education and Health Authorities to work together to keep young people aged 10 to 17 out of custody. They are monitored and co-ordinated nationally by the Youth Justice Board (YJB).

Sources

Tri.x live online glossary: <http://trixresources.proceduresonline.com/> - a free resource, available to all which provides up to date keyword definitions and details about national agencies and organisations.

Southampton Local Safeguarding Board <http://southamptonlscb.co.uk/>

DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL
SUBJECT:	MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS
DATE OF DECISION:	17 JUNE 2021
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None	
BRIEF SUMMARY	
This item enables the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel to monitor and track progress on recommendations made at previous meetings.	
RECOMMENDATIONS:	
	(i) That the Panel considers the responses to recommendations from previous meetings and provides feedback.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	To assist the Panel in assessing the impact and consequence of recommendations made at previous meetings.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	None.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
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.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	

<u>Capital/Revenue/Property/Other</u>	
5.	None
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
6.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
7.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
8.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
9.	None
KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations – 17 June 2021
2.	MET summary
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	No
Other Background Documents	
Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
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

Scrutiny Monitoring – 17 June 2021

Date	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status										
01/10/20	Children's Services - Performance	1) That the planned threshold review is considered at a future meeting of the Panel.	The threshold review is underway. It is recommended that the document is presented at the next Scrutiny Panel.	Recommend review in July 2021										
01/10/20	Recruitment of In-House Foster Carers	1) That consideration be given to providing full time funding for the proposed specialist foster carers.	The funding for specialist foster carers sits within the fostering recruitment budget and therefore provides the service with the capacity to grow the specialist offer.	Recommend review in July 2021										
		2) That examples of the feedback provided by enquirers who did not progress to become foster carers is circulated to the Panel.	Recommendation that this is rescheduled as part of a broader fostering discussion.	Recommend review in July 2021										
25/03/21	LGSCO Report – Looked After Children	1) That placement sufficiency, including fostering and an audit of the use of unregulated provision is considered at the 17 June meeting of the Panel.	Placement sufficiency is scheduled for discussion at the Panel in July 2021. The service has produced a report on the use of unregulated provision, which is appended to the Ofsted Focused Visit report.											
		2) That the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Annual Report is presented to the Panel at the 25 November 2021 meeting of the Panel alongside a report from the Child Protection Conference Chairs.	Provisionally identified for discussion at the January 2022 meeting of the Panel as part of a Quality Assurance focused meeting.											
		3) That the Panel are provided with the range of days that Southampton Children in Care with SEND have to wait for a school place, if a new school is required, following a placement move.	The most recent data available is from the Easter 2021.											
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Total number of pupils requiring a school move since 01/09/20 to 1st April</th> <th>Number of mainstream pupils placed in a new school within 20 days from 01/09/20 to 1st April</th> <th>Number of mainstream pupils not placed in a new school in 20 days from 01/09//20 to 1st April</th> <th>Number of SEND pupils placed in 20 days from 01/09/20 to 1st April</th> <th>Number of SEND pupils not placed in 20 days, and had an education online/ remote learning offer from 01/09/20 to 1st April</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>129</td> <td>97</td> <td>2</td> <td>0</td> <td>30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Total number of pupils requiring a school move since 01/09/20 to 1 st April	Number of mainstream pupils placed in a new school within 20 days from 01/09/20 to 1 st April	Number of mainstream pupils not placed in a new school in 20 days from 01/09//20 to 1 st April	Number of SEND pupils placed in 20 days from 01/09/20 to 1 st April	Number of SEND pupils not placed in 20 days, and had an education online/ remote learning offer from 01/09/20 to 1 st April	129	97	2	0	30	
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Date	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
			<p>Those placed out of city and those who have experienced placement breakdown and move between LA's can experience delays in getting the SEND support they need. Where the virtual school has concerns about this, they readily fund schools and settings above and beyond what is ordinarily available to provide for identified interventions and provision. The Head of Virtual School the Service Manager for SEND will discuss and agree to carry out our own EHC Assessment where this would be delayed if reliant on the host LA. Southampton SEND have been 100% in statutory timescales for 18 months and the virtual school appoint an EP to specifically support children with SEND. The virtual school fund an honorarium for a SEN Officer to have a specific responsibility for CLA in order to ensure there is robust and consistent practice that ensuring collaborative working.</p>	
25/03/21	Children's Services Performance	1) That the Child Sexual Exploitation indicator is reviewed for the June 2021 meeting.	<p>The MET Hub manager has produced a performance briefing paper for the Scrutiny Panel attached as Appendix 2.</p> <p>The review of the Children and Learning Service core data set is scheduled to conclude in July 2021.</p>	

MET Performance Briefing for the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Summary headlines:

Southampton's responses to MET issues continues to strengthen.

- Performance of the Missing/Return Home Interview service remains very strong, with 100% of RHI's being offered to children who have been reported missing (where this is deemed appropriate) and children taking this offer up between 84% - 87% of the time in the last 3 months. During the recent Ofsted focussed visit this was acknowledged as being a very strong performance in comparison to the national picture.
- Ofsted also commended the effective analysis of push and pull factors for missing episodes – this is strengthened by Southampton providing a service of specialist MET Workers completing the majority of RHI's. This sets us apart from other LA's in the pan-Hampshire area and contributes to us continuing to achieve significantly higher success rates for RHI's, ensuring children and parent/carers experiences of missing episodes are analysed and amplified to inform further support and planning.
- Last month there were 61 missing episodes for 40 children. This is fairly typical, with the average number of monthly missing episodes for the last 6 months being 68. 15 of these missing episodes were for 7 children looked after (CLA). The vast majority of children returned within 1 day (52 episodes), with 4 episodes lasting between 2-3 days and 1 episode lasting 12 days.
- The monthly MET Case Review meeting with partners continues to have oversight of our children at highest risk of exploitation. Partner feedback on this meeting is positive in that it allows a meaningful level of oversight and scrutiny of these children's circumstances and acts as an additional layer to identify disruptive actions which can be taken against potential perpetrators through discussion with our Police colleagues from the MET Team and High Harm Team.
- Capacity within the MET Hub continues to limit the level of oversight of children at lower risk however the majority of these children/families have direct input from Early Help or Social Care. MET Workers tend to work with around a third of medium risk children and offer consultation to any professional working with any children at risk/vulnerable to exploitation.

MET activity 2020 / 21:

- Southampton continues to experience issues with both county lines and local drug networks which at times impacts on our children and vulnerable adults. This remains a particularly challenging area to tackle. There is an increasingly normalised and glamourised view from young people about 'trapping' (supplying drugs) which is largely due to the impact of music and social media.
- During early 2021 there was a noted increase in cannabis farms being located by Police in the West of Southampton and Vietnamese child/adult victims of modern slavery within these.
- Where sexual exploitation risks are identified these remain largely opportunistic and usually involving individuals – they are more quickly disrupted when compared with criminal exploitation risks.

Impact of Covid –

- The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in significantly reduced contact between children and professionals and a drastically reduced availability of positive activities.
- In some instances risk was seen to have reduced for children who were staying at home more, for others we saw risks increase due to spending more time out of home where there was reduced community oversight due to the restrictions. Overall we saw a reduction in number of children identified as high risk over the course of the lockdowns.
- Largely visiting has now resumed (with PPE/social distancing) which has been positive for meaningful engagement with YP.
- We have noted children struggling to resume their education provision and there is a need for education providers to think creatively about how these children are supported.

Partnership working –

- There has been some brilliant partnership working during this difficult period including:
- SCC MET Hub supported two joint operations by Police High Harm Team and British Transport Police at Southampton Central Train Station to tackle County Lines drug trafficking and identify and engage with young people exploited through this.
- SCC MET Hub delivered to our two primary commissioned supported accommodation providers for young people (YMCA and Two Saints) on MET issues to promote their confidence in identifying and responding to these issues. We've seen both organisations increase their level of intelligence sharing since this training and some very positive partnership working for individual young people.
- There an ongoing multi-agency working group identifying earlier intervention opportunities where a child's phone number is identified as being connected to a drug line number through the Police County Lines Team (Monument).
- Greater join up to consider Other Local Authority children looked after placed in Southampton where there are exploitation risks. Also joint working with Hampshire County Council to upskill unregulated placement providers in Southampton (who are used to accommodating a large number of Hampshire's children placed in our area, many of whom go missing or are at risk of exploitation).
- Development of an information sharing protocol with University Hospital Trust, Minor Injury Unit and Public Health Nursing to share details of Southampton children at high risk of CSE/CCE, should they present in their settings.
- Partnership working could be strengthened further with increased co-location/integration opportunities in the future, particular with our Police MET Team.

An emphasis on accessible training has also led to several e-learning and webinars being developed/delivered including:

- MET e-learning developed for SCC staff
- Pan-Hampshire Missing Child training
- Pan-Hampshire CERAF webinars and a SCC developed video tutorial/guidance available on SSP website.
- Trafficking and modern slavery briefings and e-learning
- Victim blaming workshops
- Child Criminal Exploitation - reframing our perspective workshop

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