



Children & Learning Performance Report

May 2023

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The data referenced in this report is a 'snap shot' at the end of each month. For further information please contact Laura Trevett, Strategic Performance Lead, laura.trevett@southampton.gov.uk.



Performance

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Demand Analysis

Indicator	Peak	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	Trend
Number of contacts in the month		1959	1789	1488	1794	1428	1839	1598	2023	1526	↓
Number of referrals in the month		286	314	276	396	298	343	330	433	278	↓
Number of referrals into Early Help		196	187	183	161	179	220	172	183	131	↓
Number of Early Help assessments		99	106	92	155	84	101	113	100	61	↓
Number of C&F assessments		369	380	289	356	326	322	317	400	309	↓
Number of Strategy discussions held		183	198	164	288	191	200	196	217	171	↓
Number of S47 investigations		134	158	114	193	139	103	158	169	119	↓

Analysis:

It is important to understand the context of performance in light of the levels of demand on the service areas.

During April, all areas of demand were reduced across the service. This is likely due to the Easter Holidays, and the pattern of a busy March followed by a less busy April can be tracked annually. Given this pattern, and how it can be reflected in the November to January data due to the Christmas holidays, the service will better plan for these expected times of increased demand so that performance is not impacted as it has been.



Trends across the service areas

Indicator	Peak	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Number of children open to the service (CIN, CP, CLA, Assessment)		2417	2362	2327	2404	2363	2401	2402	2425	2326	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of children open for assessment		c	o	m	i	n	g		s	o	o	n					
Number of children with Child in Need Plan (not CWD)		618	621	621	642	648	584	538	535	518	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of children subject to CP Plan at end of month		389	355	315	301	302	288	301	315	341	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rate of children subject to CP Plans		79	72	64	61	61	58	61	64	69	60	🟡	⬇️	91.7	59.2	43.1	42.1
Number of CLA at the end of the month (ex UASC)		527	521	521	522	508	516	508	499	466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rate of CLA per 10,000		112	111	112	113	110	112	111	109	102	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of CLA at the end of the month who are UASC		24	27	31	36	35	37	37	40	38	-	-	-	20	23	820	4070
Number of care leavers (inc UASC)		212	221	204	249	252	252	279	282	289	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analysis:

The number of children in our care excluding UASC has continued to reduce, this is due to children being placed for adoption (24%), returning home to family (24%), or being granted a CAO or SGO (18%).

Children subject to CP planning increased following a significant increase in March of children being presented to ICPC. This can be linked to the increase in demand impacting on the capacity to undertake more intensive work alongside the assessment process.

Children subject to CIN planning (not open to CWD) have been reducing consistently since the end of 2022.



Performance linked to priorities

Indicator	Peak	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Percentage of re-referrals within 12m		28%	30%	27%	26%	30%	27%	25%	28%	27%	23%	●	↑	27%	21%	26%	21%
Number of Early Help assessments		99	106	92	155	84	101	113	100	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of referrals leading to NFA		1%	4%	3%	5%	4%	6%	5%	8%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of C&F assessments completed within 45 working days		78%	61%	70%	70%	78%	86%	84%	78%	85%	90%	●	↑	86%	87%	89%	88%
Percentage of C&F assessments with NFA		56%	57%	51%	45%	56%	53%	48%	42%	63%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of S47 (not CP or CLA) ended with NFA		72%	65%	78%	75%	84%	78%	79%	63%	79%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of ICPCs held in 15 working days of SD		67%	97%	60%	63%	52%	83%	34%	70%	77%	95%	●	↑	-	-	-	-
Percentage of children subject to 2nd or more CP plan		28%	30%	31%	32%	32%	33%	32%	32%	33%	24%	●	↓	24%	24%	24%	23%

Analysis:

Our priority of providing the right service at the right time focusses on ensuring families receive support as early as possible to resolve issues and achieve positive changes for children. If we can provide effective services, we should see a reduction in families being re-referred for a statutory service.

The aim is for more families to receive a service from Early Help. The work promoting Family Hubs should result in an increase in referrals and assessments in the coming months.

The number of referrals accepted through CRS that result in no service including assessment being offered has increased to 9%. It would be interesting to look into these to establish if there is any insight or learning here. concluding NFA.

With the reduction in activity in April, there has been an improvement in the timeliness of assessments being completed, but a greater percentage concluding with NFA.



Performance linked to priorities

Indicator	Peak	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Percentage of children with an active Child in Need Plan (not CWD) visited within last 6 weeks (CIN*)		95%	94%	95%	97%	95%	98%	98%	97%	97%	90%	●	➔
Percentage of children with CIN plan allocated to CWD with visits in agreed timescales		84%	88%	89%	86%	85%	89%	92%	86%	84%	90%	●	⬇
Percentage of children subject to Child Protection Plan visited within last 10 working days		82%	94%	87%	91%	94%	95%	93%	87%	90%	95%	●	⬆
Percentage of children subject to Child Protection Plan visited within last 4 weeks		98%	98%	97%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	97%	95%	●	⬇

Analysis:

In terms of visiting for children on CIN plans, this is consistently above 90% for those outside of CWD.

Children on CP plans are moving in the right direction in terms of meeting our own expectations (visits every 10 working days), but are exceeding the target for statutory timescales. When performance is consistently good in terms of recording visits, the next step is to look at the quality of the visits and what impact they are having on the implementation of plans and creating safety and improving wellbeing for children.

Management Support for Better Practice

Indicator	Peak	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Percentage of open children who had their supervision and within the timescales		72%	69%	71%	75%	79%	82%	80%	74%	86%	80%	●	↑
Percentage of children with an active Child in Need Plan (not CWD) who had their supervision within timescales		80%	78%	84%	90%	86%	93%	90%	89%	88%	90%	●	↓
Percentage of CPP who had their supervision and within timescales		89%	85%	88%	95%	94%	93%	96%	86%	90%	95%	●	↑
Percentage of CLA who had their supervision and was within the timescale		81%	78%	76%	73%	76%	86%	86%	78%	77%	95%	●	↓
Percentage of Care Leavers who had their supervision and was within the timescale		78%	39%	44%	51%	60%	45%	86%	81%	83%	90%	●	↑

Analysis:

Overall supervision performance improved in April, Supervision within the Pathways service was impacted by staff sickness and leave, and from assurance clinics the service is focused on how children's plans and experiences can have management oversight and supervision recorded whilst staff are off for longer periods of time.

Partnership working for good outcomes

Indicator	Peak	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Percentage of Child In Need meetings held in timeliness		c	o	m	i	n	g		s	o	o	n					
Percentage of children subject to CPP with a recent core group held in timescales		73%	82%	84%	90%	77%	76%	76%	78%	61%	95%	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of initial health assessments within 20 working days of child became looked after.		9%	23%	25%	74%	28%	26%	5%	31%	0%	90%	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of children in care for >12 months with health assessment in timescales		78%	80%	81%	85%	85%	87%	86%	80%	76%	95%	●	↓	83%	93%	89%	91%

Analysis:

The data collection around core group activity has changed, and now considers all children subject to CP planning and whether their last core group has been held in timescales. Performance in April is below expectations, but the Easter holidays would make it more difficult for core groups to be held where schools are key partners. Given the additional demand in March, it would have put considerable pressure on teams to hold core groups early.

3 children became looked after in April, and none were able to have their initial health assessments within 20 working days. This is an area of scrutiny with health, as the local authority can only refer for a medical within timescales.

Robust Corporate Parenting

Indicator	Peak	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbour	South East	England
Rate of CLA per 10,000		112	111	112	113	110	112	111	109	102	100	●	↑	96	100	53	67
Percentage of CLA for whom a visit has taken place within timescales		64%	66%	70%	73%	75%	75%	78%	85%	86%	95%	●	↑	-	-	-	-
Percentage of CLA children with an up to date review		99%	100%	99%	99%	98%	99%	98%	98%	97%	95%	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of CLA in care for 12m+ with the same SW for the last 6m		not measured	not measured	not measured	55%	56%	54%	50%	49%	47%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of CLA at end of month with 3+ placements during the year		25%	24%	23%	21%	20%	17%	16%	14%	15%	11%	●	↓	14%	10%	11%	9%
Percentage of CLA placed <20 miles		70%	69%	69%	70%	69%	69%	68%	68%	67%	76%	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Percentage of CLA placed in IFA		25%	25%	26%	26%	28%	25%	26%	27%	29%	<36%	●	↓	-	-	-	-

Analysis:

Our rate of looked after children continues to reduce and we are heading towards the target. There is a concerted focus on reunifications for children that may be able to return to family in a planned and safe way.

The visiting for children in our care has improved again, and we remain above target for children having their care plan reviews in timescales.

The service would like to get a sense of how many children have a plan for permanence within 6 months of becoming accommodated, and hopefully we will have the data for June.

Placement stability has improved until April, but consistency in social work will take some time as permanent staff are recruited and come into post. There will therefore be a delay in seeing these figures improve as they measure a 6 month period.

Initial Health Assessments (March '23)



Initial Health Assessment:

14 children needed an IHA in the month of March (19 in February).

8 children (57%) were offered an IHA within timescales (2 (11%) in February).

5 children (36%) had their IHA within timescales (only 2 (11%) in February).

Of the 9 who didn't:

- 1 (7%) was late cancellation by the foster carer;
- 1 (7%) was due to the child being ill and unable to attend the appointment;
- 3 (21%) capacity issues within Health;
- 4 (28%) out of area placements, breach by provider.

Analysis:

Of note, in March, we completed all referrals for IHAs within timescales meaning none of the IHAs out of timescales are as a result of Children Social Care not completing the referrals in time (this has been a significant issue for us which is reflected in the extremely poor performance in the previous months). In February, we were responsible for 10 IHAs out of timescales due to the referrals not being completed in time (19 children were due an IHA in February).

Overall, last month's performance is much improved compared to the previous month but still not where it needs to be. IHA performance has specific Service Lead oversight who is working with health around the challenges to holding in timescales.

A data issue has been identified where health information does not match the locally held data. This has been reviewed with health, and they are clarifying as 2 additional children were identified as being due health assessments in March that did not show on health data.



Quality Assurance

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Quality Assurance - Audit Summary

January 2023

Service Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Total Audits
C&FF	0	0	6	0	6
BIT	0	4	2	0	6
SWF	1	4	4	0	9
PTC	0	1	3	0	4
JIGSAW	1	2	1	0	4
ADOPTION	0	1	0	0	1
FOSTERING	0	1	3	0	4
ICAS	0	3	1	0	4
YPS	0	0	1	1	2
TOTAL	2	16	21	1	40

February 2023

Service Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Total Audits completed
C&FF	0	1	3	0	4
BIT	0	2	3	0	5
SWF	1	3	4	0	8
PTC	0	1	1	1	3
JIGSAW	0	1	0	0	1
ADOPTION	0	1	0	0	1
FOSTERING	0	3	1	0	4
ICAS	2	1	1	0	4
YPS	0	0	1	1	2
Total	3	13	14	2	32

March 2023

Service Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Total Audits
C&FF	0	2	2	1	5
BIT	0	3	1	0	4
SWF	0	2	2	1	5
PTC	0	2	4	0	6
JIGSAW	0	0	0	0	0
ADOPTION	1	0	0	0	1
FOSTERING	0	2	2	0	4
ICAS	0	1	3	0	4
YPS	0	0	0	2	2
Total	1	12	14	4	31

January to March 2023

- 103 Audits completed
- 6% Outstanding
- 40% Good
- 47% Requires improvement
- 7% Inadequate
- Audit compliance 83%



KPI Dashboard updates

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CSC KPI Dashboard Updates



1. Care leavers historical trend data is now available
2. The April dataset has additional KPIs:
 1. % of referrals into Early Help that were stepped down from CSC
 2. Rolling rates – sum of 12 months of rates for contact, referrals, assessments, S.47s, children subject to ICPC.
 3. Children open to assessments supervision percentage
 4. % of CLA ceased in month – with outcomes of adoption, CAO/SGO, and returned home
3. Changes made to:
 1. Core group meeting KPI now looks at all children subject to CP planning and whether they have a current core group in timescale.
 2. Seen alone – now looks at all visits in the last 4 weeks, not just the latest visit.
 3. CWD visiting now applied RAG rating to visits for CIN plans.
 4. CLA visiting pattern now linked to frequency agreed in Care Plan Review
 5. All open children – removed children open to adoption that have an adoption order.
 6. Number of CLA with the same social worker in last 6 months – only measured from November 22 due to issues with migrated data from PARIS
4. Removed:
 1. All open children supervision rates

