



**CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – PERFORMANCE REPORT**  
**SEPTEMBER 2017**

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with the most up to date performance overview in relation to Children in Care and to highlight results from October 2016 to March 2017.

Area / Indicator	Statistical Neighbour Average	Out-turn 15/16	Out-turn 16/17	Service commentary
Number of children in care as at September 2016. (rate per 10,000)	797.3 (96.3)	588 (90.5)	<b>623</b> <b>(94.5)</b>	We are currently above our target of 90 per 10,000. Demand for Social Care services remains high, with a significant number of requests for children to become Looked After in Q4. CAFCAS have stated that last year's national 30 year high in terms of children coming into care / court activity has been exceeded in 2016. High quality support interventions with identified families are supporting some of our children on the edge of care to remain at home with their families. Exit planning continues to be a key focus. At 94 per 10,000 our data is better than that of similar Councils, comparing to 96 per 10,000 with our statistical neighbours. The monthly children in care analysis meeting provides further focus on our looked after children cohort, in terms of exit planning and monitoring. Our weekly Placement Panel also continues to examine all purchased placements; we reduced the number of high cost external residential placements by nine in the previous financial year.
Fostering & Adoption	The new Fostering manager took up his post in January 2017. There is significant activity at the moment in relation to carer recruitment, which we hope will yield additional fostering households in Q1 and Q2 of the new 17/18 financial year. Additional events are being held in schools and with faith groups across the City. Carers contributed to evidence gathering for the commons select committee, which is looking at challenges around fostering recruitment and retention. Extra funding of over £100,000 has been agreed to assist with the recruitment of Foster Carers in 17/18. The Fostering and Adoption Service performed well in the January 2017 Ofsted pilot inspection. There were 144 active Fostering Households at the end of Q4:			
	Year	Actual	Target	Comments
	14/15	135		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start of political term</li> <li>Baseline + 20% increase by the end of the political term</li> <li>On average an incremental increase of 6.5 households per year</li> </ul>
	15/16	129	142	
	16/17	144	148	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>144 figure as at June 2017</li> </ul>
	17/18	~	155	
	18/19	~	162	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>End political of term</li> </ul>
	Adoption activity continues to be strong, with the service also performing well in the Ofsted pilot inspection. Regional adoption discussions continue; the D2N2 permanence hubs have been discussed and are being implemented. The Department for Education have now ceased support for inter-agency adoption payments. We claimed over £250,000 from that fund last year, and tightened the criteria for adoption support fund therapy financial support.			
	End of year figures conclude that 48 children were adopted, 10 placed on Special Guardianship Orders and 15 on Child Arrangement Orders, providing a total of 73 former children in our care provided with permanent homes.			
Children's Homes	All seven of our regulated children's homes have had their Ofsted main interim follow up in the round of 16/17 inspections. As at March 2017, all homes are showing improved or sustained effectiveness by way of Ofsted judgements. This is a strong performance under a new, tougher inspection framework. Our five semi-independent (unregistered) homes now have their own monitoring framework in place.			
Regulation 44	<p>We are compliant with statutory regulations and DFE requirements.</p> <p>Our Regulation 44 inspectors constitute a wide range of professionals, who offer independence in their inspections of our homes. These include professionals from a number of settings within the Council, including the Portfolio Holder for Early Intervention and Early Years.</p> <p>Written reports are forwarded to Ofsted in line with statutory requirements. We have recently received positive feedback from Ofsted in relation to our compliance with the notification framework.</p> <p>We have now introduced similar quality assurance visits to our semi-independent homes that are not registered with Ofsted.</p>			
Health	The percentage of Children in Care with an up to date Health Assessment stands at 89% YTD. Additionally, 83% of our children have an up to date dental check and 92% have received relevant immunisations. At the end of Q4, 63% of Children in Care who had been in care for 12 months or more had an up to date SDQ on file. Administration systems have been changed to provide a focus on these requests and appointments, as we are still below our target.			
Youth Offending	At the end of Q4 children looked after for 12 months or more, aged 10 or over, accounted for 4.6% (15 children) having a conviction or subject to a youth caution (including a youth conditional caution) under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 during the year for an offence committed while being looked after. This is historically good performance for the City and better than similar cities or national averages. The continued support of the Council in part funding the Children in Care Police Officer post has been a significant contribution in this area.			
Self-Assessment on Inspection Readiness	<p>Work is taking place in relation to exit planning and reducing delays in the effective care planning for Children in Care. We are working with Business Support and Social Work Teams to improve the administration of health and dental checks, including SDQs, to improve data related to these key indicators.</p> <p>Resources in the Leaving Care Service are being reviewed post-inspection, with a focus on safeguarding for our older young people. Great Workforce leads from HR are actively involved in all Children in Care Teams.</p> <p>The Adoption scorecard is a significant measure of our ability to manage Adoption Services. We have improved our timelines. Performance in this area is improving in terms of timeliness, and we are on track to meet our target for the number of children progressing to adoption. Residential inspection outcomes are positive in terms of our profile as a Local Authority. Regular performance meetings are taking place in relation to Children in Care data.</p>			
The percentage of applicable (Eligible, Relevant and Former relevant) young people with a Pathway Plan completed/authorised in the preceding 6 months	Not collected nationally.	<b>Out-turn</b> 80.8%		Below our tougher annual target awaiting development of data capture on liquid logic, our target is to achieve 97%.  We have already improved currently at 84.5 % at the end of June 2017.
The percentage of Children in Care with a completed Personal Education Plan (PEP)	Not collected nationally.	<b>Target</b> 95%		80% of Children in Care had a PEP in place at the end of Q4. The new Virtual School Head is currently gathering information and conducting an audit of data regarding PEPs, the governing body and the Virtual School PEP co-ordinator continue to hold regular meetings with the Children in Care management team to discuss the PEP completion rate and identify where they are incomplete. Under the latest Department for Education conditions of offer, the Virtual School Head will expect all schools to demonstrate how they will use the new Pupil Premium funding to close the gap for all LAC pupils. One-to-one tuition for pupils in Year 6 and Year 11 will continue, with an increased focus on analysis of impact. The Virtual School Head continues to drive PEPs and we are confident that we will continue to make progress towards all children having their PEP. The Virtual School Governing body chaired by the Lead Member also robustly monitors shortfalls in this data.

The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation (17-21 years old)	<b>Statistical Neighbour Average</b> 81.1%	<b>Target</b> 89.6%	<b>Out-turn</b> 83.3%	The focus on preparing our young people for independence continues, this cohort measured of 65 is impacted upon by small movements, because some of our young people have returned to parents, impacting on this indicator, alongside some entries to custody. Challenges in the wider housing market do impact on availability of suitable homes for our young people but our strong links with Nottingham City Homes help in reducing the challenges.
The percentage of care leavers in employment, education or training (17-21 years old)	<b>Statistical Neighbour Average</b> 48.8%	<b>Target</b> 65.9%	<b>Out-turn</b> 70.7%	This is good performance that exceeds both statistical neighbours significantly and our own target by 5%. Our current measure is 70%. The focus is to continue to support more of our young people into education and employment.