

Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Thursday, 23rd November,
2023
at 5.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

Conference Room 3 - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

Members

Councillor A Bunday(Chair)
Councillor J Baillie
Councillor Barnes-Andrews
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Lambert
Councillor Mintoff
Councillor Quadir

Appointed Members

Catherine Hobbs, Roman Catholic Church
Francis Otieno, Primary Parent Governor
Vacancy - 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 or other IT 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 2022-2030 sets out the four key goals:

- Strong Foundations for Life.- For people to access and maximise opportunities to truly thrive, Southampton will focus on ensuring residents of all ages and backgrounds have strong foundations for life.
- A proud and resilient city - Southampton’s greatest assets are our people. Enriched lives lead to thriving communities, which in turn create places where people want to live, work and study.
- A prosperous city - Southampton will focus on growing our local economy and bringing investment into our city.
- A successful, sustainable organisation - The successful delivery of the outcomes in this plan will be rooted in the culture of our organisation and becoming an effective and efficient council.

Dates of Meetings: Municipal Year

2023	2024
16 June	25 January
20 July	28 March
28 September	
23 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 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 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.

3 DECLARATIONS OF SCRUTINY INTEREST

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

4 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.

5 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

6 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING) (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings held on 28 September 2023 and to deal with any matters arising, attached.

7 BUILDING FOR BRILLIANCE (Pages 5 - 74)

Report of the Executive Director, Children and Learning, providing an overview of the revised service improvement arrangements.

8 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 appendices to the following item

The appendices 3 and 4 are considered to be exempt from general publication based on Category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. The information is exempt from publication because it relates to the financial and business affairs of both the Council and specified third parties and is commercially sensitive.

9 SEND AND HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT (Pages 75 - 114)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager recommending that the Panel consider the appended information on SEND pressures, the SEND Capital Programme and home to school transport and the approaches proposed to address the identified challenges.

10 CHILDREN AND LEARNING - PERFORMANCE (Pages 115 - 152)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager recommending that the Panel consider and challenge the performance of Children's Services and Learning in Southampton.

11 MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS (Pages 153 - 162)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager recommending that the Panel considers the responses to recommendations from previous meetings and provides feedback.

Wednesday, 15 November 2023

Director – Legal, Governance and HR

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2023

Present: Councillors T Bunday (Chair), Barnes-Andrews (Vice-Chair), J Baillie, Chapman, Lambert, Mrs Mintoff and Webb
Appointed Members: Rob Sanders

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

RESOLVED: that the minutes for the Panel meetings held on 6 July 2023 and 20 July 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

13. **CHILDREN AND LEARNING - PERFORMANCE**

The Panel considered the report of the Scrutiny Manager recommending that the Panel consider and challenge the performance of Children's Services and Learning in Southampton.

Councillor Winning - Cabinet Member for Children and Learning; Steph Murray - Deputy Director of Children & Learning; and, Laura Trevett - Strategic Performance Manager were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Panel discussed a number of points including:

- The link between the reduction in contacts and re-referrals in August and the school holidays.
- The suitability and use of unregistered / unregulated settings and associated risk assessments.
- Progress on the proposed new children's homes in the city.
- The performance of the Fostering Service and recruitment activity
- Staff absence
- Missing data relating to health assessments for looked after children.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That information highlighting the performance of the fostering service and the recruitment of foster carers is attached to the performance dataset for 23 November Panel meeting.
- 2) That, following a spike in sickness absence, the latest HR report summarising the reasons for staff absence in Children's Services is circulated to the Panel.
- 3) That, reflecting concerns about health assessment performance, the indicator is returned to the performance dataset for the November meeting.

14. **MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Panel received and noted the report of the Scrutiny Manager which enabled the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel to monitor and track progress on recommendations made at previous meetings.

15. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - EXEMPT PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

The Chair moved that if members did not have any specific matters for consideration in respect of the exempt Appendices 2, 3, and 5 the following agenda item could be considered without disclosing information that was subject to an obligation of confidentiality and therefore it would not be necessary to exclude the press and the public from the following agenda item.

RESOLVED that the Panel would consider the following agenda item without reference to the exempt appendices and therefore the press and the public would not be excluded from the following agenda item.

16. **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN SOUTHAMPTON**

The Panel considered the report of the Scrutiny Manager recommending that the Panel consider the provisional key stage results and supplementary information, as detailed in the appendices, and discuss with the Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, and invited officers, educational attainment in Southampton.

Councillor Winning – Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, Derek Wiles – SCC Divisional Head of Education and Learning, Kerica Hunt – SCC Service Manager for the Education Welfare Service, Bryn Roberts – SCC Service Manager for Inclusion and Clodagh Freeston – SCC Service Manager for Education Strategy, Planning and Improvement were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Panel discussed a number of points including:

- The impact of Covid and deprivation on Key Stage exam results in Southampton, and concerns that the attainment gap between Southampton and the national average is increasing.
- The rise in the number of children entitled to free school meals in Southampton.
- The links between attainment and attendance and the efforts to reduce absence levels across schools in the city.
- The rise in the number of children being home educated nationally, and in Southampton, and the actions being undertaken by the Council to engage with this cohort and monitor risk.
- Trends relating to NEET levels in Southampton and the focus on supporting looked after children into education, employment or training.
- The reliance placed on partners who are struggling to access funding.
- Concerns relating to the adequacy of staffing resources to enable the Council to adopt a proactive approach to reducing NEETs, absence and the number of children being educated at home in the city.

RESOLVED that

1. That the school absence spreadsheet, detailing absence levels for each secondary school in the City, is circulated to the Panel.
2. That free school meals trend data, broken down by secondary school, is circulated to the Panel.

3. That information detailing the link between school absence and the Elective Home Education cohort in Southampton is provided to the Panel.
4. That the NEET level for Southampton's Looked After Children cohort is provided to the Panel.
5. That, to help develop Panel Members understanding of the school system in the City, the Panel are provided with a table classifying Southampton schools by type e.g. whether it was an Academy, Trusts, or a Maintained establishment.

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DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL
SUBJECT:	BUILDING FOR BRILLIANCE
DATE OF DECISION:	23 NOVEMBER 2023
REPORT OF:	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND LEARNING

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director Children and Learning	
	Name:	Rob Henderson	Tel: 023 8083 4899
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Author:	Title	Head Of Quality Assurance	
	Name:	Stuart Webb	Tel: 023 8083 4102
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

BRIEF SUMMARY

This item outlines how Southampton’s Children and Learning Service is continuing its improvement journey, after the Ofsted, ‘Good with Outstanding Leadership’ inspection judgement in June 2023.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- | | | |
|--|-----|---|
| | (i) | That the Panel note the revised service improvement arrangements. |
|--|-----|---|

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS


- | | |
|----|---|
| 1. | The Children and Families Scrutiny Panel provides support and challenge in relation to the service’s improvement journey and financial stability. |
|----|---|

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- | | |
|----|----------------|
| 2. | Not applicable |
|----|----------------|

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

- | | |
|----|--|
| 3. | After Southampton’s Inspection of Local Authority Children’s Services (ILACS) in 2019 and Ofsted’s ‘requires improvement’ judgement, the Children and Learning Service created an improvement board which had oversight of its improvement activity. In July 2023, after the ‘Good with Outstanding Leadership’ ILACS judgement the improvement board was disbanded. |
| 4. | Service improvement is now overseen by the Building for Brilliance Board. Formerly, this board coordinated the service’s Destination 22 service redesign. It now focuses on six core priorities, which service data and intelligence tells us will make the most difference for children and families, create a sustainable service for the future and successfully address the following core challenges: |

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory demand remains high, including the number of children in care • Budget situation – increasingly challenging • Sufficiency – fostering and residential • Many of our social workers and first line managers are inexperienced.
5.	<p>The Building for Brilliance priorities are:</p>  <p>The infographic features a central blue header with a brick icon and the text: "Building for Brilliance; Building for Sustainability; Building for Families, with Families". Below this are six horizontal bars, each with an icon and a text box:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red bar: Icon of a stopwatch. Text: "Ensure that children get the right support at the right time, meeting need early, reducing demand and spend on statutory services" Green bar: Icon of a location pin. Text: "Develop strong, vibrant localities where families can receive the help they <u>need</u> and practitioners can share their knowledge and expertise" Purple bar: Icon of a family. Text: "Support children to remain within, or return to, their birth families, seeking out and reuniting family members, reducing care costs and freeing up placements for other children." Light blue bar: Icon of a house with a heart. Text: "Promote permanence and placement stability, creating strong forever families and reducing increasingly costly alternatives" Orange bar: Icon of a person with a checklist. Text: "Build a permanent, stable, energised workforce, increasing consistency for children and reducing agency spend" Dark blue bar: Icon of a circular arrow. Text: "Embed our practice framework and practice standards across the whole service, doing the basics brilliantly and being ambitious in our practice expectations"
6.	<p>The terms of reference for the board and the draft improvement plan are appended for the Panel’s attention. The improvement plan has been developed with the support of our Department for Education advisor. The service was allocated an advisor when it was ‘requiring improvement’ and advocated to keep this support for the full term (until the end of March 2024) so that we have a continued focus on improvement.</p>
7.	<p>The Building for Brilliance Board oversees the quality of practice and its performance against key service delivery and finance indicators and priorities. Sitting beneath the board is a mature quality assurance and performance framework. Appended for the Panel’s attention are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An example of a finance report presented to board (the performance report mirrors the performance information presented to the Panel) • An example assurance clinic report • An example audit report. <p>Every two months, the board has oversight of the delivery plans for the service’s cost reduction targets.</p>

8.	<p>The following projects form part of the Building for Brilliance Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Safeguarding Model: A project to implement the Family Safeguarding Model, a whole family approach to working with children and families which supports parents to create sustained change for themselves and for their family. • Childrens Residential Homes: A project to create long term residential children's homes including gaining capital budget to secure children's homes to provide long term care (refurb or new build), to recruit and train staff and transfer children to the homes. <p>Other projects/ areas of work that are overseen by the Building for Brilliance board are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Hubs: A project to launch the Family Hubs model in Southampton, building upon the existing Sure Start infrastructure, according to the Family Hubs and Start for Life programme guide and associated funding. • Amazon Translate pilot: A project to implement 'Amazon Translate', a new translation system within the Children and Learning Service to reduce costs and time on the translating of documents from English to other languages for residents in the city. • Rapid Service Redesign/ Business support review: the Children and Learning component of the corporate rapid service redesign. <p>The service can provide more detailed updates on any of these areas, upon request.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
9.	The service has a £600k cost reduction target for its rapid service redesign. The residential project progress and investment is reviewed through Capital Board.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
10.	The residential project progress and investment is reviewed through Capital Board.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
11.	Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations Volume 2: care planning, placement and case review and The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations Volume 3: planning transition to adulthood for care leavers.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
12.	N/A
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
13.	The projects and change team supports the oversight and risk analysis of the Building for Brilliance project workstreams.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	

14.	The 2022-2030 Corporate Plan includes, as one of its four goals, strong foundations for life where people are able to access and maximise opportunities to truly thrive, Southampton will focus on ensuring residents of all ages and backgrounds have strong foundations for life.
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KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Terms of reference
2.	Finance report
3.	Draft Improvement Plan
4.	Sample assurance clinic report
5.	Sample audit report

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	NA
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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 / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	N/A

Destination 22 Programme Board Terms of Reference

Any decision making must be in accordance with Southampton City Council's constitution, i.e. through Council, Cabinet, or powers formally delegated to officers. Please refer to the Service Director for Legal & Governance for further advice.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Board is to ensure there is a shared, continued, and focused effort to design and deliver the actions, outputs, and outcomes for the Destination 22 Programme. This Board will oversee the planning, progress, risks, issues, and dependencies associated with this programme.

2. Role

This Board will provide oversight and scrutiny for this programme to ensure that outcomes and benefits are identified and realised within the agreed parameters. The Board will be responsible for, and receive regular reports and updates from lead officers from the following areas:

- Progress of key work areas against agreed parameters via highlight reporting
- Resolving any conflicts or dependencies between the projects within the programme
- Support the identification of synergies/potential economies of scale across the programme
- Identification of, and progress towards, benefits and outcomes, against targets
- The ongoing identification, review, analysis and mitigation of issues and risks
- Making decisions on behalf of the service areas in relation to the programme, within agreed levels of delegated authority
- Changes and additions to the scope and plan that are proposed, subject to an agreed change control process
- Progress against the programme timeline
- Track, manage and comply with financial governance

The Board will act as a decision-making authority, within its level of delegated authority for the programme.

Decisions required outside the delegated authority of this Board, and/or decisions that will impact other programmes across the council and/or impact other partner organisations, will be escalated as appropriate within the agreed governance of the programme or partnership arrangements.

3. Governance

The Board Chair has the authority to make decisions to ensure that the roles and responsibilities of the Board are met within agreed parameters, including the authority to:

- Chair meetings of the Board

- Use discretion to make all decisions required at the Board within the time, cost, and quality remit of the programme and the Board's associated delegated authority
- Review and approve change requests within agreed parameters, those requests falling outside of these parameters being escalated as appropriate
- Represent the Board at other meetings associated with the programme, for example to ensure that decisions that significantly impact other services areas and/or projects and programmes are discussed appropriately, and to deliver progress reports as required via agreed escalation channels.
- Communicate effectively with all stakeholders and provide sign off on key comms

The Board will feedback progress and escalate key issues as agreed at each meeting and as appropriate to:

- Change Authority Board
- Cabinet and EMB
- Overview and Scrutiny
- Full Council
- Appropriate project/programme/organisational/service area boards, leaders, and/or meetings e.g. Corporate Parenting Committee, Multi Agency Childrens Board, Safeguarding Children's Partnership, CCM (Care Director) Programme Board.

4. Membership & frequency

The Board will meet on a monthly basis. The frequency and timetable for meetings is subject to change as necessitated by the timelines and decisions required by the programme.

Core membership is as below:

- Chair, Programme Sponsor
- Notes/minutes and actions taker
- Programme manager
- Project sponsors
- HR Lead
- Finance Lead
- Project/ workstream leads (as appropriate)
- Project/ workstream team members (as appropriate)
- Comms leads

Members to be Invited when required:

- Health Commissioning
- Health Providers

Individual group members are responsible for communicating the information and decisions made by the Board to their service areas and teams, and for providing feedback to the Board from their service areas and teams in return. Group members are also responsible for communicating and co-ordinating outcomes within their workstreams.

5. Duration and administration

Meetings of the Board will be scheduled for one and a half hours but may change subject to the requirements of the programme.

The Board will be supported by a programme officer for the purposes of scheduling, organisation, and collating and distributing agendas, minutes, actions, and decisions. Papers and agendas for Board meetings will be distributed two working days before the Board meeting.

6. Confidentiality

Any confidential items discussed during these meetings will be highlighted as such and Board attendees will be given guidance regarding the handling and dissemination of confidential information as appropriate.

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Document is Confidential

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Southampton Children and Learning Service

Improvement Plan

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Making a difference



SOUTHAMPTON
CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item 7
Appendix 3



Building for **Brilliance**; Building for **Sustainability**; Building for **Families, with Families**

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Ensure that children get the **right support at the right time**, meeting need early, reducing demand and spend on statutory services



Develop **strong, vibrant localities** where families can receive the help they need and practitioners can share their knowledge and expertise



Support children to **remain within, or return to, their birth families**, seeking out and reuniting family members, reducing care costs and freeing up placements for other children.



Promote **permanence and placement stability**, creating strong forever families and reducing increasingly costly alternatives



Build a **permanent, stable, energised workforce**, increasing consistency for children and reducing agency spend



Embed our **practice framework and practice standards** across the whole service, doing the basics brilliantly and being ambitious in our practice expectations

Ofsted Recommendations

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Ofsted Recommendations

Judgement	Grade
The impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families	Outstanding
The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection	Good
The experiences and progress of children in care	Good
The experiences and progress of care leavers	Good
Overall effectiveness	Good

- An increase in placement sufficiency, including short-breaks provision for disabled children
- Ongoing work with health partners to improve the timeliness of initial health assessments and dental checks for children in care
- The quality and effectiveness of support to unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, as well as housing, education, employment and training for all care leavers
- Identification, assessment and support for children in private fostering arrangements

Improvement Plan

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Cross cutting themes

- 1. Collaborative working relationships & creatively seeking support for C&YP**
- 2. Build resilience of our C&YP and families we work with**
- 3. Consistent approach to practise across the services**

Priority 1:

Ensure that children get the right support at the right time, meeting need early, reducing demand and spend on statutory services

Demand and activity (How much are we doing?)

Indicator	Jul-22	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbour	South East	England
Number of referrals into Early Help	149	172	183	131	181	154	172		-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of Early Help assessments started	130	89	110	73	74	82	110		-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of contacts in the month	1594	1598	2023	1544	1828	1948	1804		-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of referrals into statutory service in the month	318	330	433	282	301	285	310	273	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Number of C&F assessments completed	291	317	400	309	425	283	292	274	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Number of children with Child in Need Plan (not CWD)	690	538	535	639	524	493	467	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of children with Child in Need Plan (CWD)	268	243	222	209	203	226	208	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of children subject to CP Plan at end of month	389	301	315	347	355	351	345	295	●	↑	-	-	-	-
Rate of children subject to CP plans	79	61	64	70	72	71	70	60	●	↑	-	-	-	-
Number of children in our care	554	545	539	505	517	518	510	495	●	↑	497	640	10480	80850
Rate of children in our care per 10,000	112	111	109	102	105	105	103	100	●	↑	96	100	53	67
Number of children open to the service (Assessment, CIN, CP, CLA, CL)	2444	2402	2425	2326	2304	2297	2266	-	-	-				

Recommended baseline data

Statutory Social work activity in comparison with statistical neighbours.

% audits graded good or outstanding for assessment & planning to >80%.

Rate per 1000 C&YP service serving custodial sentences.
 Number C&YP being supported in the prevention service.
 Number C&YP receiving statutory Youth Justice Interventions.
 Number C&YP having three or more rounds of ROTH planning.
 Rate per 10,000 first-time entrants to Youth Justice System.

Number of judicial challenge on age assessments.
 % of age assessments are completed in timescales.

% partnership audits graded good or outstanding for quality of referral and decision making.

Rate per 10,000 EHCP's.
 School attendance of pupils with SEND.
 Exclusions OF pupils with SEND.



Priority 1:

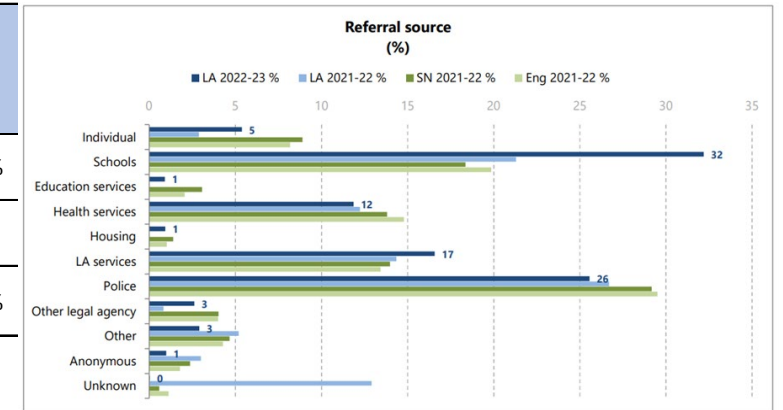
Ensure that children get the right support at the right time, meeting need early, reducing demand and spend on statutory services

Service Area	Action	Outcome	By April 2025 we will have: (How we will know we are making a difference?)
Children & Families First	Ensure that families are directed into early help services & away from statutory social work intervention when it is appropriate & safe to do so.	Families get proactive strengths-based support & only receive statutory SW intervention when absolutely necessary.	Statutory Social work activity is consistent with statistical neighbours.
Safeguarding	The CRS will respond in a skilled & timely way to referrals.	Children in need of help & protection will benefit from accurate risk assessments & robust risk management plans.	Increased number of CRS audits graded good or outstanding for assessment & planning to >80%.
Young People	To maintain, enhance & build capacity within preventative services, with the aim of reducing demand for statutory social work & youth justice involvement, by building resilience within young people, families & the local system.	To reduce impact of exploitation, enable learning & maintain positive family relationships. Within this priority reducing disproportionality in the criminal justice system & in school exclusions is a focus.	20% more C&YP being supported in the prevention service.
Pathways through care & resources	Development of a UASC Service to ensure specialised provisions in place. Delivery of bespoke training to develop team confidence to assess vulnerabilities, undertake age assessments, & understand C&YP's health & therapeutic needs.	UASC receive appropriate support & intervention in respect to their accommodation, health & educational needs. Merton compliance age assessments are completed in a timely way.	We will have agreed and implement KPI's to demonstrate age assessments are completed in timescales.
Quality Assurance	Increase partnership awareness of and confidence in applying local thresholds.	Children & families will benefit from proportionate responses to their level of need.	Embedded regular partnership audits; with >80% graded good or outstanding for quality of referral and decision making.
SEND	Develop a mechanism that enables schools to access earlier in a C/YP educational journey, leading to a system where schools are jointly accountable for the High Needs Budgets, & children's needs are met sooner.	More children with SEND will have their needs met without the need for an Education, Health and Care Plan. The child & parent experience will be improved.	Improvement in attendance for pupils with SEND.

Priority 2: Develop strong, safe and vibrant localities where families can receive the help they need and practitioners can share their knowledge and expertise

Demand and activity (How much are we doing?)

Indicator	Jul-22	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Percentage of re-referrals within 12 months	26%	25%	28%	27%	25%	35%	26%	23%	●	↑	27%	21%	26%	21%
Percentage of referrals leading to NFA	1%	5%	8%	7%	5%	8%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of children subject to 2nd or more CP plan	28%	32%	32%	33%	34%	33%	33%	24%	●	→	24%	24%	24%	23%
Percentage of children subject to child protection plans with recent core group held in home	79%	76%	78%	77%	85%	83%	65%	95%	●	↓	-	-	-	-



Baseline data

Number of parents attending groups at family hubs.	Timeliness of health assessments & dental checks for C&YP. C&YP participating in SVU & CL forums.
% of children from mixed ethnicity backgrounds to a level that is representative of their % of the City's population of children as a whole.	Number of 'high need' localities with data profiles.
Referrals to statutory social work services from schools involved in TAS.	Number of referrals to CWD.



Priority 2: **Develop strong, safe and vibrant localities where families can receive the help they need and practitioners can share their knowledge and expertise**

Service Area	Action	Outcome	By April 2025 we will have: (How we will know we are making a difference?)
Children & Families First	Continue to develop family hub services in the City in line with the DLUC programme guide. Increase footfall into Family Hubs.	More parents will understand what services are available in their local hub.	Increased the number of parents attending groups by 20%.
Safeguarding	Disproportionality	Children & families from BAME backgrounds will receive a service where the needs of their communities have been more fully explored.	Reduce the % of children from mixed ethnicity backgrounds to a level that is representative of their % of the City's population of children as a whole.
Young People Page 34	To maintain 3 Team Around the School Partnerships with the aim of improving coordination and communication between locality services to provide a local response to the school community's needs.	Effective local partnerships which are dealing with needs earlier & more effectively reducing the need for statutory social work intervention. Enhanced communication & relationships through the development of a smaller consistent network of named professionals working with each of TAS Partnerships. Each TAS partnership to have dynamic SMART Action Plans to tackle local needs & risks.	15% reduction of referrals to statutory social work services from schools involved in TAS.
Pathways through care & resources	Develop & improve relationships with support organisations, including health partners. Implement drop in hubs for care leavers, support groups for foster carers & provide consistent approaches to our practice.	Improved access to local services & support for our C&YP, to include improved timeliness of health assessments & dental checks. Increased participation events for C&YP. Skilled Foster carers that feel supported to care for our C&YP.	Improve timeliness in health assessments & dental checks for &YP. Increase C&YP participating in SVU & CL forums.
Quality Assurance	Develop more sophisticated data focused on the needs of communities across Southampton.	There will be a better partnership understand of the levels and types of need within specific localities in Southampton.	Each locality identified as 'high need' will have its own data profile that is updated every six months.
SEND	Deliver a consistent consultation model from Jigsaw (CWD) to Children & Families First.	Staff in C&FF will have more knowledge & expertise is supporting families of children with SEND, reducing the need for referral to specialist services. Families will therefore receive support sooner.	Reduction in referrals to CWD.

Priority 3: Support children to remain within, or return to, their birth families, seeking out and reuniting family members, reducing care costs and freeing up placements for other children.

Demand and activity (How much are we doing?)

Indicator	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Number of children in our care	554	551	548	552	543	543	553	545	539	505	517	518	510	495	●	↑
Rate of children in our care per 10,000	112	112	111	112	113	110	112	111	109	102	105	105	103	100	●	↑
Number of new CLA in month		14	11	17	24	16	23	19	14	3	31	17	10			
Number of new CLA in month who are UASC		3	3	5	6	3	4	4	5	1	2	2	2			
Number of Ceased CLA in the month excluding UASC		18	13	12	18	27	10	23	18	34	15	18	13			
Percentage of CLA ceased in the month - adopted		28	0	23	0	19	0	22	0	24	5	5	33			
Percentage of CLA ceased in the month - CAO or SGO		6	31	31	16	19	42	22	15	19	26	21	13			
Percentage of CLA ceased in the month - returned home as part of care planning		0	31	0	63	19	0	7	25	24	16	26	20			
Number of CLA placed with parents at the end of the month		50	59	59	52	46	48	48	48	42	48	44	39			
Number of CLA placed in Connected Carer placements at the end of the month		67	63	59	64	61	60	56	59	54	52	50	47			

Baseline data

Audit activity - completion level of cultural genograms.
Number of YP supported by YPS who enter care & remain in care for longer than 21 days.
Placement costs, where care orders are discharged, & the impact on our children in care figures.
IRO case notes evidencing oversight.
% use of specialist residential settings.



Priority 3: Support children to remain within, or return to, their birth families, seeking out and reuniting family members, reducing care costs and freeing up placements for other children.

Service Area	Action	Outcome	By April 2025 we will have: (How we will know we are making a difference?)
Children & Families First	Ensure that all assessments & subsequent planning includes pro-active & creative seeking of support available from the widest network possible (including non-resident parents) & not over-rely on immediate family members.	Family support plans include everyone significant in the child's network to support the family.	50% of families open to Children & Families First have cultural genograms on file.
Safeguarding	Cultural Genograms will be promoted as part of systemic practice within the SWF teams. Service Leads Panel and Legal Planning meeting will be rigorous in their expectations of Cultural Genograms, Reflecting Teams and Family Group Conferences being maximised in Social Work Practice to keep families together.	The safeguarding teams will work creatively and use resources effectively to prioritize children's permanence being within their birth family whenever achievable.	Audit activity will demonstrate increase in completion of cultural genograms.
Young People	To enable C&YP to successfully and safely live within their family and friend's network.	There is a significant increase in the confidence in the local criminal justice system to use Intensive Support & Supervision (ISS) as an alternative to custody. Safe family solutions are created & enabled for young people impacted by either criminal or sexual exploitation.	There are no young people supported by YPS who enter care & remain in care for longer than 21 days.
Pathways through care & resources	Permanency planning & tracking to be reviewed monthly; consider reunification for all children as part of this process with an aim to assess family members & other naturally connected people known to the child.	Children's permanence plans are regularly reviewed to consider possibilities of children returning to their family or naturally connected people. Where these are identified, clear plans to be developed & timescales for assessment & reunification.	Potential reduction in placement costs, where care orders are discharged, we will see a reduction in our children in care figures.
Quality Assurance	IROs will ensure that where there is a plan for reunification or step across, children's care plans are tracked robustly.	Children's care plans will be progressed more swiftly as a result of more effective management oversight.	IRO case notes will evidence oversight.
SEND	Recruitment &/or development of specialist foster carers for children with complex needs.	More children with SEND will be placed within family homes.	Reduction in use of specialist residential settings.

Priority 4: Promote permanence and placement stability, creating strong forever families and reducing increasingly costly alternatives

Demand and activity (How much are we doing?)

Indicator	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Number of children in our care	554	551	548	552	543	543	553	545	539	505	517	518	510	495	●	↑
Percentage of CLA at end of month with 3 or more placements during the year		19	18	18	17	16	15	15	14	15	15	14	16	12	●	↓
Number of CLA placed in IFA placements as at the end of the month		126	126	131	131	134	136	137	139	140	144	146	151	100	●	↓
Percentage of CLA placed in IFA placements as at the end of the month		22	22	23	23	24	24	24	25	27	27	27	29			
Number of CLA placed in Residential placements including semi-independent		66	66	66	71	73	74	71	75	71	70	70	75	60	●	↓
Number of CLA placed in residential - Independent Sector	49	47	46	44	43	42	42	43	42	42	43	43	42	41	●	↑
Percentage of CLA placed in Residential placements - independent sector		9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8			
Number of CLA placed in unregulated/unregistered settings at the end of the month		23	23	26	30	30	31	29	33	30	30	36	42	20	●	↓
Percentage of CLA placed in unregulated/unregistered settings at the end of the month		4	4	5	5	6	6	5	6	6	6	7	8			
Number of CLA placed for adoption at period end		45	45	41	42	36	36	30	30	20	19	19	13			
Number of children placed with SCC foster carers (including connected carers)		241	229	229	232	224	228	230	214	202	206	203	190	285	●	↓
Percentage of children placed with SCC foster carers (including connected carers)		44	42	41	42	41	41	42	40	40	40	39	37			

Baseline data

Group activity family hubs that focus on the first 1001 days.

Annual private fostering audit.

% of 7–13-year-olds entering care as a result of the BIT hubs refocus on this area of Edge of Care Work.

Initial enquiries data, applications, assessments & overall number of fostering households.

Placement moves, number of children matched to their carers, crisis intervention, & children being moved in a planned way.

Number of family & placement breakdowns.

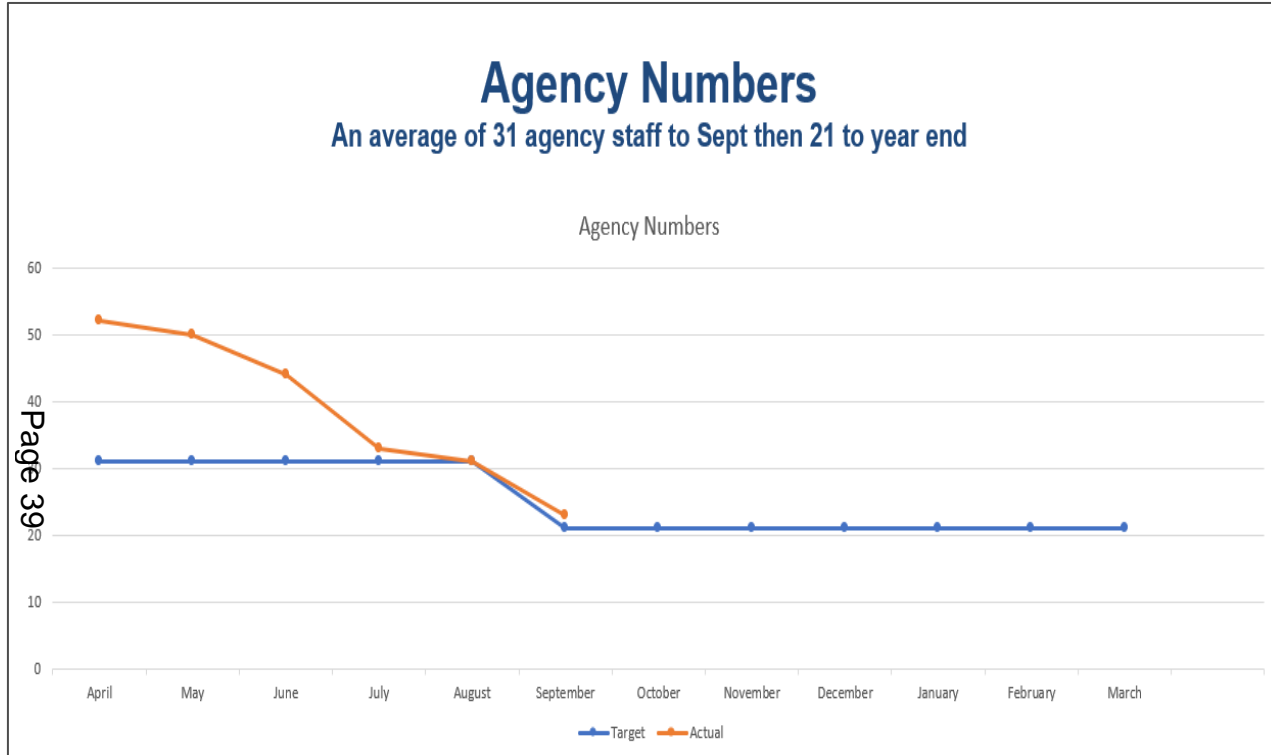


Priority 4: Promote permanence and placement stability, creating strong forever families and reducing increasingly costly alternatives

Service Area	Action	Outcome	By April 2025 we will have: (How we will know we are making a difference?)
Children & Families First	Promote opportunities for early attachment and support for families before issues escalate to increase resilience & reduce the need for more costly intervention later in life through our family hub programme of support.	Increase the breadth & range of evidence-based group work. Families would have more opportunities to develop positive attachment & attunement with babies.	10% increase in group activity family hubs focusing on the first 1001 days.
Safeguarding	Private Fostering SWF will identify Private Fostering champions who will develop expertise in working with children who are privately fostered. These workers will work closely with the Connected Carers Team, who will be directly supporting the Private Foster Carers.	Safeguarding teams will build protective & sustainable systems around children who cannot safely live with their parents. Social workers will build strong committed relationships with carers & their support networks at the earliest opportunity to achieve stability.	Annual private fostering audit, Target - good or outstanding in 90% of cases.
Young People	Development of Intensive Support Service within ICAS to enable increased placement support resulting increased foster care placement stability. ICAS to embolise recourses to support reunifications from care. BIT hub refocusing resources to provide intensive support as an edge of care service offer to children aged 7 to 13.	Less children entering residential care as result of foster placements being more resilient due to intensive support being available when needed. Less children in care due to effective support and coordination of reunifications resulting in more placement choice. The BIT hub's focus on providing intensive for support families with children aged 7 –13 where there is a risk of entry to care.	35% per annum reduction in 7–13-year-olds entering care as a result of the BIT hubs refocus on this area of Edge of Care Work.
Pathways through care & resources	Implement a recruitment & retention strategy for foster carers, review finance packages & skill level expectations.	Increased number of Foster carers households. Carer support & early intervention for Carers will stabilise the placement for C&YP.	Overall increase of number of fostering households.
Quality Assurance	IRO's quality assure that the child's needs are matched & met within their placement & ensure permanency is achieved. IRO's to ensure there is a clear contingency plan for placement disruptions.	Children experience stable placements & reduced placement breakdowns, through increased number of children matched to their carers, less crisis intervention & children being moved in a planned way.	Reduced placement moves.
SEND	Review of specialist short breaks.	Enhanced offer of Short Breaks for C/YP with disabilities and complex needs, including weekend, holiday and overnights.	Reduction in family and placement breakdown.

Priority 5:

Build a permanent, stable, energised workforce, increasing consistency for children and reducing agency spend



Baseline data
Systemic supervision sessions per year.
Evidence of group reflective supervision been delivered by managers, this could be measured via audit activity.
Number of YPS team will be undertaking the accredited Systemic Practitioner Training. % of YPS Staff turnover. % of posts occupied by permanently employed workers. Caseload numbers for practitioners in YJS and YPS.
KPI's. % of PTC Staff turnover. Audit outcomes. Feedback from YP.
% of ASYE retained after first 12 months
% of SEND staff turnover.

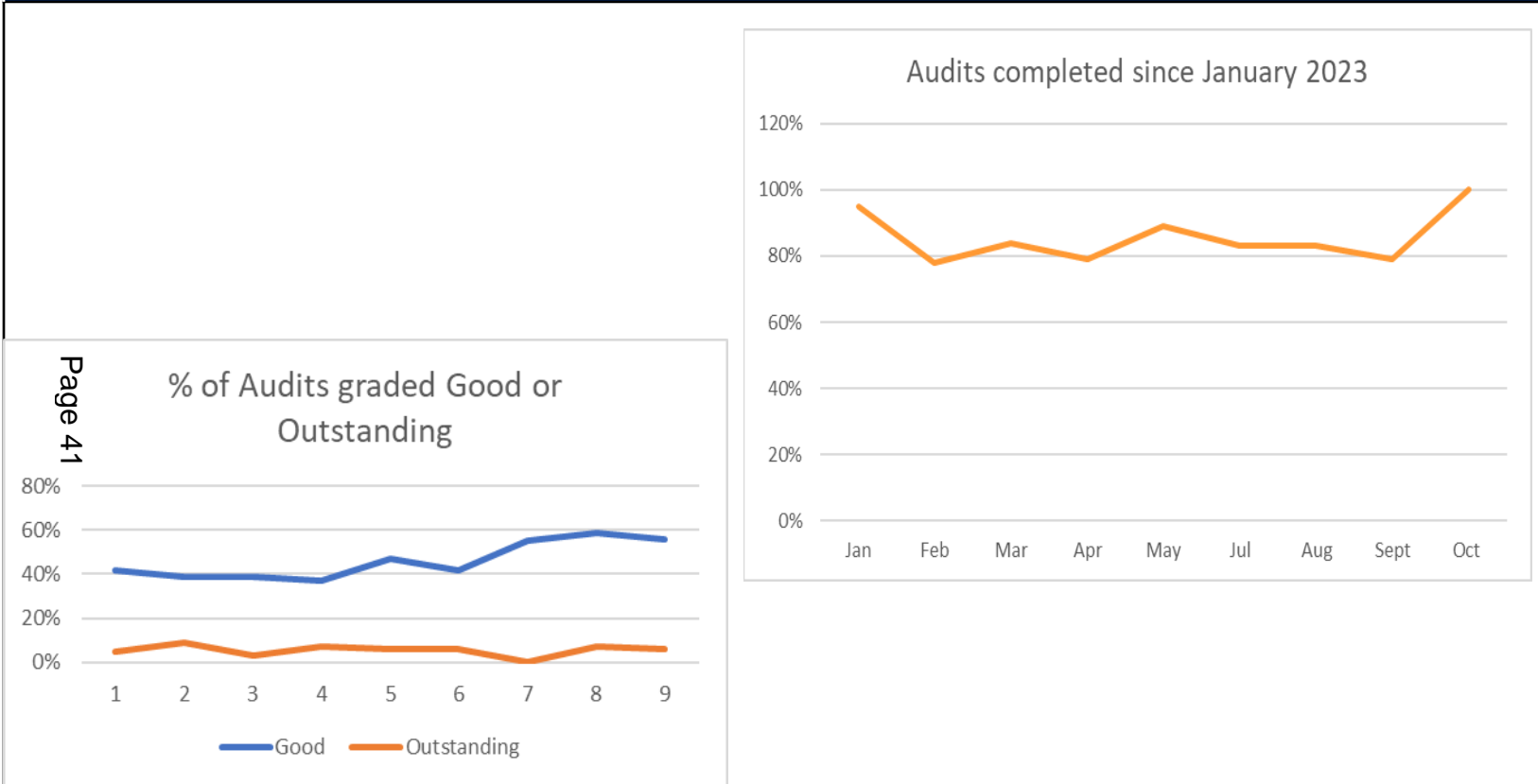


Priority 5: Build a permanent, stable, energised workforce, increasing consistency for children and reducing agency spend

Service Area	Action	Outcome	By April 2025 we will have: (How we will know we are making a difference?)
Children & Families First	Continue journey of embedding systemic practice within the teams while maintaining 90% permanent workforce and 0% agency use.	Each team receiving group systemic supervision monthly & systemic consultation being available to all staff. Practise would be systemically informed & strengths based.	Each team having 12 systemic supervision sessions per year.
Safeguarding	Retention & succession plan.	We will invest in our workforce, promoting CPD at every opportunity. We will provide a working culture that listens to our staff, so that every employee feels valued, respected & part of the Southampton family.	Evidence of group reflective supervision been delivered by 90% of the managers, this would be measured via audit activity.
Young People Page 40	To evaluate the effectiveness of the Young People's Service against national best practice & statistical neighbours, ensuring the service has sufficient capacity & expertise to respond to local demand & complexity.	YPS is consistently meeting performance targets. Caseloads are at a manageable level. YP have a coordinated & effective small team of professionals meeting their needs & keeping them safe. Systemic Practice is embedded across the service and is explicitly evident in the case work and supervision within the service. Case Holding by otherwise qualified members of staff will be embedded & evaluated.	Staff turnover will have reduced by 50%.
Pathways through care & resources	Develop a performance management culture with shared vision & goals. Practice & policy development, to support guidance. Provide training & learning opportunities to develop confidence in workforce.	Improved quality of care plans, life story work & supervision. A more confident & stable workforce that specialises in children in care, care leavers & fostering, will deliver consistent practise, direct work & intervention with children & their carer, promoting positive outcomes. Confident & skilled practitioners in their field of work.	Reduction in staff turnover.
Quality Assurance	Embed extended two-year ASYE 'make the difference' graduate programme, which incorporates additional support & case load monitoring for those in their first-year post ASYE	Social workers will be more likely to stay in Southampton and deliver good practice; so, children will benefit from long lasting and effective relationships.	Retention of social workers past their 12-month official ASYE term will increase.
SEND	Development of SEND Career Pathway.	Increased retention of staff from bespoke career programme offer.	Reduction in staff turnover.

Priority 6: Embed our practice framework and practice standards across the whole service, doing the basics brilliantly and being ambitious in our practice expectations

Demand and activity (How much we are doing)



Baseline data

Measure on the PowerBi dashboard & all relevant service KPI's will be met.

Increase in direct work with families.

Number of child protection plans.
Engagement & outcomes for families.
Increased direct work with families.

% of ROTH conferences about peer groups/places/spaces
% of YP having 3+ rounds of ROTH planning.
% of C&YP have high risk CERAFs.
% of missing episodes per annum.
% of C&YP have 3+ missing episodes in 90 days.

Feedback from C&YP & team around them.
Feedback from FC Annual reviews.
Audit activity will show increase in 'good' & 'outstanding' grading.

% of appropriate cases audited will evidence application of the Family Safeguarding Model

Audit activity will demonstrate consistently high-quality direct work & the views of the C&YP.

Priority 6: Embed our practice framework and practice standards across the whole service, doing the basics brilliantly and being ambitious in our practice expectations

Service Area	Action	Outcome	By April 2025 we will have: (How we will know we are making a difference)
Children & Families First	Achieve compliance with assessments, visiting & supervision expectations. Clinical Leads in strategic places.	Families needs are understood in a timely way. Staff are able to build positive relationships with C&F. Robust management oversight of risk & plans.	We measure on the PowerBi dashboard & all relevant service KPI's will be met.
Safeguarding	Family Safeguarding Model. The SWF workforce will be trained in FSG & Motivational interviewing to deliver family safeguarding work, working in a relational way promoting systemic practise with families, using solution focused intervention.	The FSM will be implemented by June 2024. We will see a reduction in children coming into SCC care, more sustainable outcomes leading to a reduction in repeat CP plans, positive feedback from parents about the model supporting them achieve change & keep their children safer.	Increase in direct work with families.
Young People	To establish national best practice in managing risks outside the home & significant harm for vulnerable adolescents. Within this priority there will be focus on making places & spaces across the city safer & managing safety for peer groups, as well as individual YP.	Increased number of ROTH conferences, responding to risk connected to, peer groups, places & spaces across the city. New missing pod to support reduction in number of missing episodes. The needs of vulnerable adolescents will be responded to with a coherent approach.	25% of ROTH conferences will be about peer groups/places/spaces, rather than individual YP.
Pathways through care & resources	Reflective teams to be widely embedded to build on practice, ensuring a consistent approach is delivered across the services.	Meaningful relationships with C&YP and Carers. Confident & skilled practitioners in their field of work. Confident use of systemic approaches.	Audit activity will show increase in 'good' & 'outstanding' grading.
Quality Assurance	Child protection conference chairs will act as system leaders for Family Safeguarding Model implementation.	Core groups will be supported to apply the FSM principles to their work with children who meet the child protection threshold.	Application of the FSM will be evident in >80% of appropriate cases audited.
SEND	Support wider service knowledge of responsibilities & best practice. Voice of child – best practice in Jigsaw.	Teams across children's services will record outstanding direct work & skills in eliciting the child's voice.	Audit activity will demonstrate consistently high-quality direct work.

Service Delivery Plans

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Children
& Learning
Making a difference



SOUTHAMPTON
CITY COUNCIL

Safeguarding

Priorities	Action	Additional detail
Priority 1: Right Service, Right Time	The CRS will respond in a skilled & timely way to referrals.	
Priority 2: Localities	Disproportionality	
Priority 3: Reunification	Cultural Genograms will be promoted as part of systemic practice within the SWF teams.	Service Leads Panel and Legal Planning meeting will be rigorous in their expectations of Cultural Genograms, Reflecting Teams and Family Group Conferences being maximised in Social Work Practice to keep families together.
Priority 4: Permanence and Stability	Private Fostering	SWF will identify Private Fostering champions who will develop expertise in working with children who are privately fostered. These workers will work closely with the Connected Carers Team, who will be directly supporting the Private Foster Carers.
Priority 5: Recruitment and Retention	Retention and succession plan	We will invest in our workforce, promoting CPD at every opportunity. We will provide a working culture that listens to our staff, so that every employee feels valued, respected & part of the Southampton family.
Priority 6: Practice Framework	Family Safeguarding Model	The leadership & management team will provide a High support/ High Challenge culture to support social workers successfully meet our practice standards. We will work in a relational way to promote systemic practice in our day-to-day work with families, partner agencies & each other, using solution focused intervention. Improved engagement & outcomes for families. Reduction in child protection plans.



Young People

Priorities	Action	Additional detail
Priority 1: Right Service, Right Time	To maintain, enhance & build capacity within preventative services, with the aim of reducing demand for statutory social work & youth justice involvement, by building resilience within young people, families & the local system.	25% less C&YP service serving custodial sentences. 10% less C&YP receiving statutory Youth Justice Interventions. 25% less C&YP having three or more rounds of ROTH planning. 5% decrease of first-time entrants to Youth Justice System.
Priority 2: Localities	To maintain 3 Team Around the School Partnerships with the aim of improving coordination and communication between locality services to provide a local response to the school community's needs.	15% reduction of referrals to statutory social work services from schools involved in TAS.
Priority 3: Reunification	To enable C&YP to successfully and safely live within their family and friend's network.	YP are extensively supported & enabled to live within their family or their family & friends' network. There will be no more than 2 young people per annum who enter care as a result of being remanded to custody.
Priority 4: Permanence and stability	Development of Intensive Support Service within ICAS to enable increased placement support resulting increased foster care placement stability. ICAS to embolise recourses to support reunifications from care. BIT hub refocusing resources to provide intensive support as an edge of care service offer to children aged 7 to 13.	Measures - 20% reduction of children entering residential care per annum as a result of foster care disruption. 2.5% reduction in the number Children of Care as result of an effective approach to reunifications from care.
Priority 5: Recruitment and Retention	To evaluate the effectiveness of the Young People's Service against national best practice & statistical neighbours, ensuring the service has sufficient capacity & expertise to respond to local demand & complexity. The high volume of demand & complexity in the city is responded to in a considered, creative & structured way. With evidence-based practice & reflective supervision at the heart of every response.	Measures - 2 of YPS team will be undertaking the accredited Systemic Practitioner Training. Staff turnover will have reduced by 50%. 100% of posts will be occupied by permanently employed workers. Caseloads do not exceed 12 for practitioners in YJS and YPS.
Priority 6: Practice Framework	To establish national best practice in managing risks outside the home & significant harm for vulnerable adolescents. Within this priority there will be focus on making places & spaces across the city safer & managing safety for peer groups as well as individual young people. Development of a Missing Pod, aiming to reduce number of missing episodes as a result of more focused support.	To have coherent approach to responding to the needs of vulnerable adolescents & ensure clear interconnectivity between ROTH, Systemic Practice & Focused Deterrent. Measures - 25% less YP having 3+ rounds of ROTH planning. 10% less C&YP have high risk CERAFs. 15% less missing episodes per annum. 20% less C&YP have 3+ missing episodes in 90 days.

Pathways Through Care & Resources

Priorities	Action	Additional detail
Priority 1: Right Service, Right Time	Development of a UASC Service to ensure specialised provisions in place. Delivery of bespoke training to develop team confidence to assess vulnerabilities, undertake age assessments, & understand C&YP's health & therapeutic needs.	PTC will have an established UASC team who are specialised in working with this cohort of YP to achieve positive outcomes & stability in their life. Measure - Reduced number of judicial challenge on age assessments.
Priority 2: Localities	Develop & improve relationships with support organisations. Implement drop in hubs for care leavers, support groups for foster carers & provide consistent approaches to our practice.	Collaborative joint working with partner agencies. Proactive participation service that provides opportunities for our C&YP to share their experiences in order to improve service delivery. Clear & consistent approaches within the fostering service. Carers feel well supported & are provided with opportunities to develop their knowledge & skills. YP & Foster Carers feedback & increased FC participation at FC forums.
Priority 3: Reunification	Permanency planning & tracking to be reviewed monthly; consider reunification for all children as part of this process with an aim to assess family members & other naturally connected people known to the child.	Children's permanence plans are regularly reviewed to consider possibilities of children returning to their family or naturally connected people. Where these are identified, clear plans to be developed & timescales for assessment & reunification. Reunification tracker to identify number of children successfully returning to the care of their wider network.
Priority 4: Permanence and stability	Implement a recruitment & retention strategy for foster carers, review finance packages & skill level expectations. Weekly placement stability meetings to reduce placement breakdowns, stabilise placements by providing early intervention to support carers & reducing the number of placement moves. Review children's referral forms to ensure appropriate identification & matching. Work collaboratively across PTC, Fostering & Placement team.	Increase number of Foster carers households, create bespoke advertising campaigns & update fostering policies to ensure financial packages & fostering support are implemented as part of the retention strategy. We will have active fostering households, placement sufficiency, standardised payment structure & skill levels. Carers are provided with a bespoke package of support & early intervention to stabilise the placement. Embedded practise around learning from placement breakdown to inform future stability for the child. Measure - Improved data on initial enquiries, applications & assessments.
Priority 5: Recruitment and Retention	Development of practice & policies, to support the workforce in their day-to-day work. Develop a performance management culture with shared vision & goals.	Embed annual team away days to support staff stability & a learning environment; providing training to develop confidence in workforce, to deliver direct work & intervention to children & their carer to promote positive outcomes. Alongside, improving quality of care plans, life story work & supervision recording. Measure - Improved KPI's, improved outcomes & feedback from YP.
Priority 6: Practice Framework	Reflective teams to be widely embedded to build on practice, ensuring a consistent approach is delivered across the services.	Embedded use of reflective teams to develop knowledge & skills. Opportunities for collaborative thinking & learning. Measure - Feedback from C&YP & team around them & feedback from FC Annual reviews.

SEND

Priorities	Action	Additional detail
Priority 1: Right Service, Right Time	The SEND Team is developing, alongside schools & key stakeholders, a mechanism that enables schools to access earlier in a C/YP educational journey, leading to a system where schools are jointly accountable for the High Needs Budgets, & children's needs are met sooner.	Measures - Reduction in EHCP's. Reduction in exclusions for pupils with SEND.
Priority 2: Localities	Deliver a consistent consultation model from Jigsaw (CWD) to Children & Families First.	Measures - Increase in staff confidence in support parents of C&YP with SEND. Families will report higher level of confidence in targeted services.
Priority 3: Reunification	Recruitment &/or development of specialist foster carers for children with complex needs.	
Priority 4: Permanence and stability	Review of specialist short breaks.	
Priority 5: Recruitment and Retention	Development of SEND career pathway.	Staff appointed to the SEND Team will have opportunities to follow a bespoke career programme, enabling them opportunities to develop specialisms, increasing their opportunities to progress.
Priority 6: Practice Framework	Support wider service knowledge of responsibilities & best practice.	Voice of child – best practice in Jigsaw.

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Assurance Clinic - Safeguarding

August 2023

Context of Demand

Indicator	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Trend
Number of contacts in the month	1594	1959	1789	1488	1794	1428	1839	1598	2023	1544	1828	1948	1804	↓
Number of referrals into Early Help	149	196	187	183	161	179	220	172	183	131	181	154	172	↑
Number of Early Help assessments started	130	126	111	118	100	102	112	89	110	73	74	82	110	↑
Number of referrals into statutory service in the month	318	286	314	276	396	298	343	330	433	282	301	285	310	↑
Number of strategy discussions held	224	183	198	164	288	191	200	196	217	184	185	207	132	↓
Number of Section 47 enquiries completed	168	134	158	114	193	139	103	158	169	138	126	124	118	↓
Rolling rate of Section 47 enquiries per 10,000 of children	357	368	371	360	368	364	351	353	356	359	353	354	343	↓
Number of C&F assessments completed	291	369	380	289	356	326	322	317	400	309	425	283	292	↑

Context of Demand

Indicator	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Number of children open to the service (Assessment, CIN, CP, CLA, CL)	2444	2417	2362	2327	2404	2363	2401	2402	2425	2326	2304	2297	2266	-	-	-
Number of children open to Early Help	827	924	969	959	928	890	919	920	913	870	880	845	793			
Number of children with Child in Need Plan (not CWD)	690	618	621	621	642	648	584	538	535	639	524	493	467	-	-	-
Number of children with Child in Need Plan (CWD)	268	270	263	256	252	249	244	243	222	209	203	226	208	-	-	-
Number of children subject to CP Plan at end of month	389	389	355	315	301	302	288	301	315	347	355	351	345	-	-	-
Rate of children subject to CP plans	79	79	72	64	61	61	58	61	64	70	72	71	70	60	●	↑
Number of children in our care	554	551	548	552	543	543	553	545	539	505	517	518	510	-	-	-
Rate of children in our care per 10,000	112	112	111	112	113	110	112	111	109	102	105	105	103	100	●	↑

Caseloads

20+ Caseloads

No. of Allocations	Qualifying Status	Allocated_Team
30	SW	SWF West 1
27	SW	SWF East 2
26	SW	SWF East 2
26	SW	SWF East 2
26	SW	SWF East 1
26	SW	SWF East 3
26	SW	SWF East 1
26	SW	SWF East 2
26	SW	SWF East 3
25	NQSW	SWF East 1
24	SW	SWF East 1
24	SW	SWF West 1
24	SW	SWF West 1
23	SW	BIT Central 1
23	SW	BIT Central 1
23	SW	SWF Central 2
23	SW	Frontline Team
23	SW	BIT Central 1
21	NQSW	BIT East 1
21	NQSW	SWF West 3
21	SW	SWF Central 2
21	SW	SWF Central 2
21	SW	SWF West 4
21	SW	SWF West 2
20	SW	BIT East 1
20	SW	BIT East 1

Caseloads in BIT – highlighting those at 20 or over

No. of Allocations	Qualifying Status	Allocated_Team
23	SW	BIT Central 1
23	SW	BIT Central 1
23	SW	BIT Central 1
15	SW	BIT Central 1
2	SW	BIT Central 1
21	NQSW	BIT East 1
20	SW	BIT East 1
20	SW	BIT East 1
19	SW	BIT East 1
18	SW	BIT East 1
17	SW	BIT East 1
16	SW	BIT East 1
16	SW	BIT East 1
14	SW	BIT East 1
19	SW	BIT West 1
18	NQSW	BIT West 1
16	SW	BIT West 1
15	SW	BIT West 1
15	NQSW	BIT West 1
14	SW	BIT West 1
13	SW	BIT West 1
11	NQSW	BIT West 1
6	ASYE	BIT West 1

Caseloads - SWwF

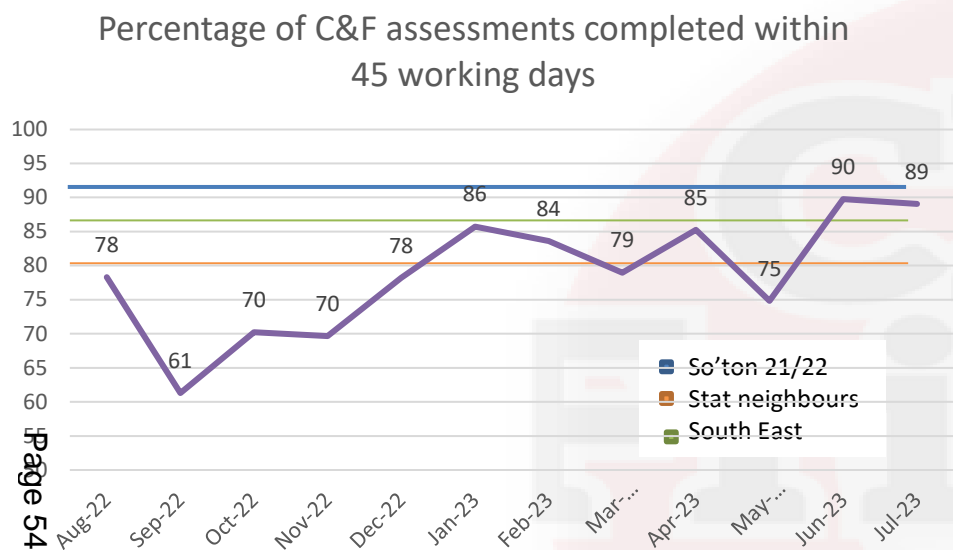
No. of Allocations	Qualifying Status	Allocated_Team
18	SW	SWF Central 1
16	NQSW	SWF Central 1
15	NQSW	SWF Central 1
13	NQSW	SWF Central 1
23	SW	SWF Central 2
21	SW	SWF Central 2
21	SW	SWF Central 2
16	SW	SWF Central 2

No. of Allocations	Qualifying Status	Allocated_Team
26	SW	SWF East 1
26	SW	SWF East 1
25	NQSW	SWF East 1
24	SW	SWF East 1
17	NQSW	SWF East 1
5	SW	SWF East 1
27	SW	SWF East 2
26	SW	SWF East 2
26	SW	SWF East 2
26	SW	SWF East 2
15	SW	SWF East 2
26	SW	SWF East 3
26	SW	SWF East 3
18	NQSW	SWF East 3
16	NQSW	SWF East 3
16	NQSW	SWF East 3

No. of Allocations	Qualifying Status	Allocated_Team
30	SW	SWF West 1
24	SW	SWF West 1
24	SW	SWF West 1
8	ASYE	SWF West 1
21	SW	SWF West 2
16	SW	SWF West 2
15	SW	SWF West 2
13	NQSW	SWF West 2
11	NQSW	SWF West 2
21	NQSW	SWF West 3
19	SW	SWF West 3
18	NQSW	SWF West 3
18	SW	SWF West 3
11	SW	SWF West 3
1	SW	SWF West 3
21	SW	SWF West 4

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% of Single Assessments within 45 and 20 working days



Completed within 20 days

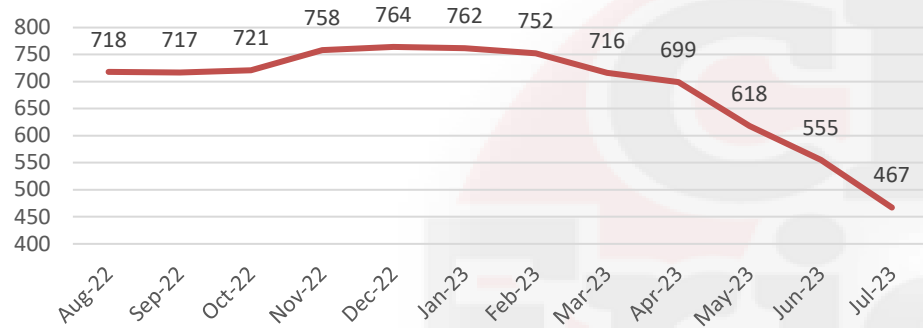
Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team Central 1	18	1	5.6%
Brief Intervention Team East 1	29	2	6.9%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	29	9	31.0%
SWF Central 1	9	3	33.3%
SWF East 1	13	6	46.2%
SWF East 2	14	2	14.3%
SWF East 3	12	6	50.0%
SWF West 1	7	4	57.1%
SWF West 2	1	1	100.0%
SWF West 3	3	3	100.0%
Total	135	37	27.4%

Completed within 45 days

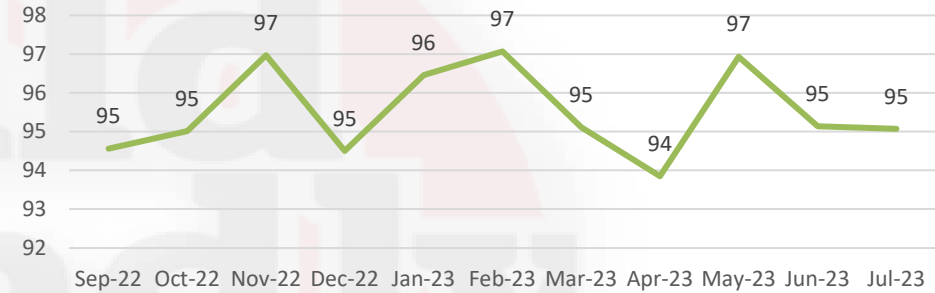
Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team Central 1	34	34	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team East 1	91	77	84.6%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	73	71	97.3%
SWF Central 1	11	8	72.7%
SWF East 1	9	5	55.6%
SWF East 2	10	10	100.0%
SWF East 3	10	8	80.0%
SWF West 1	1	1	100.0%
SWF West 2	1	1	100.0%
SWF West 3	1	1	100.0%
Total	241	216	89.6%

CIN Performance

Number of children with an active Child in Need Plan not allocated to CWD (CIN*)



Percentage of children with an active Child in Need Plan not allocated to CWD for whom a visit has taken place within last 6 weeks



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% of CIN visits within last 6 weeks

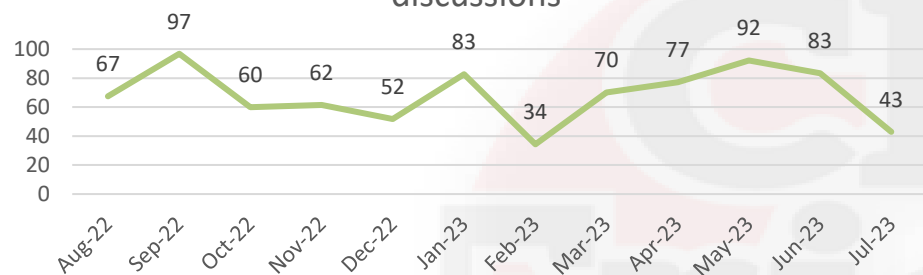
Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team Central 1	15	15	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team East 1	20	20	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	41	38	92.7%
Frontline Team	4	4	100.0%
SWF Central 1	42	40	95.2%
SWF Central 2	45	44	97.8%
SWF East 1	41	40	97.6%
SWF East 2	49	49	100.0%
SWF East 3	47	46	97.9%
SWF West 1	36	36	100.0%
SWF West 2	29	28	96.6%
SWF West 3	25	25	100.0%
Total	394	385	97.7%

% of Supervisions in timescales for children with CIN plans

Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team Central 1	15	15	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team East 1	20	14	70.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	41	36	87.8%
Frontline Team	4	4	100.0%
SWF Central 1	42	38	90.5%
SWF Central 2	45	37	82.2%
SWF East 1	41	13	31.7%
SWF East 2	49	39	79.6%
SWF East 3	47	47	100.0%
SWF West 1	36	25	69.4%
SWF West 2	29	29	100.0%
SWF West 3	25	24	96.0%
Total	394	321	81.5%

ICPC timeliness

Percentage of children for whom ICPC was held in the month within 15 working days of the Strategy discussions



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% of repeat CPP

Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team East 1	2	0	0.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	2	1	50.0%
Frontline Team	7	2	28.6%
SWF Central 1	21	9	42.9%
SWF Central 2	18	3	16.7%
SWF East 1	57	27	47.4%
SWF East 2	46	21	45.7%
SWF East 3	34	16	47.1%
SWF West 1	27	0	0.0%
SWF West 2	40	8	20.0%
SWF West 3	48	16	33.3%
Total	302	103	34.1%

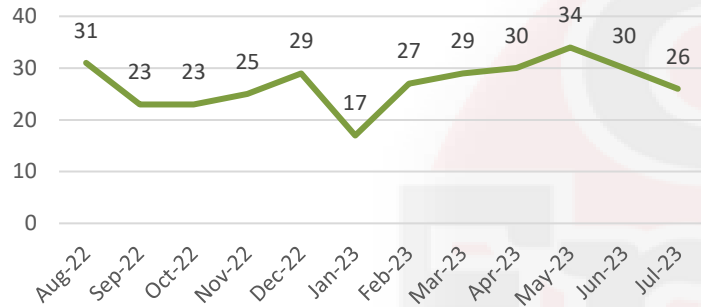
% ICPCs held in 15 working days of strat

Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team East 1	2	0	0.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	2	2	100.0%
CWD	11	0	0.0%
Frontline Team	1	0	0.0%
SWF Central 1	5	3	60.0%
SWF Central 2	1	0	0.0%
SWF East 1	10	5	50.0%
SWF East 2	4	1	25.0%
SWF East 3	5	4	80.0%
SWF West 1	4	4	100.0%
SWF West 3	3	2	66.7%
Young People Team 3	1	0	0.0%
Total	49	21	42.9%

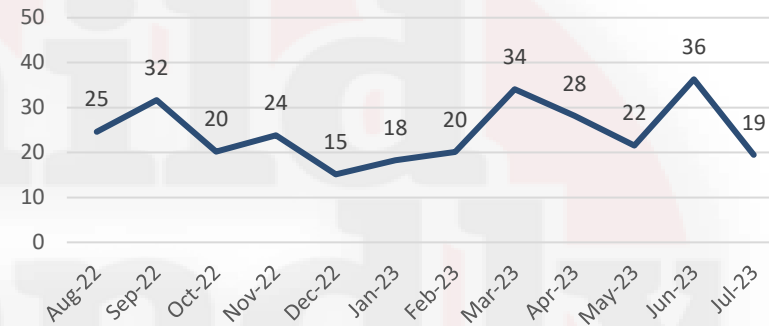
CP performance – duration and visits

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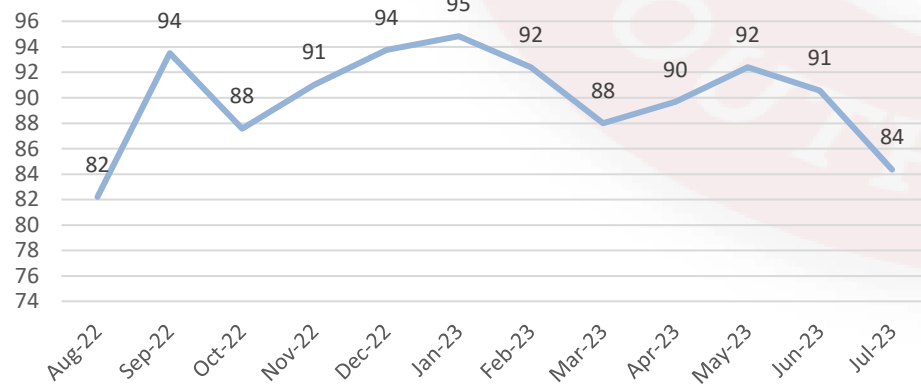
Number of current Child Protection Plans lasting 18 months or more



Percentage of completed S47 enquiries in the month with an outcome of ICPC



Percentage of children subject to Child Protection Plan for whom a visit has taken place within last 10 working days



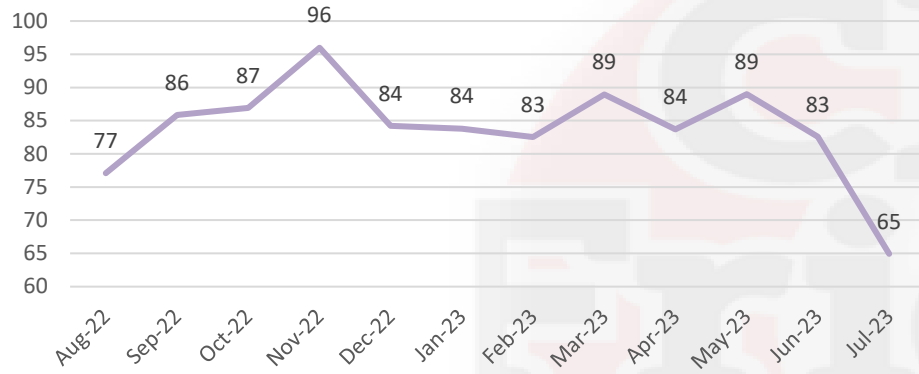
% of CP visits in 10 days

Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team East 1	2	2	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	2	2	100.0%
Frontline Team	7	7	100.0%
SWF Central 1	21	13	61.9%
SWF Central 2	18	14	77.8%
SWF East 1	57	52	91.2%
SWF East 2	46	39	84.8%
SWF East 3	34	23	67.6%
SWF West 1	27	27	100.0%
SWF West 2	40	38	95.0%
SWF West 3	48	45	93.8%
Total	302	262	86.8%

CP performance – core groups and supervision

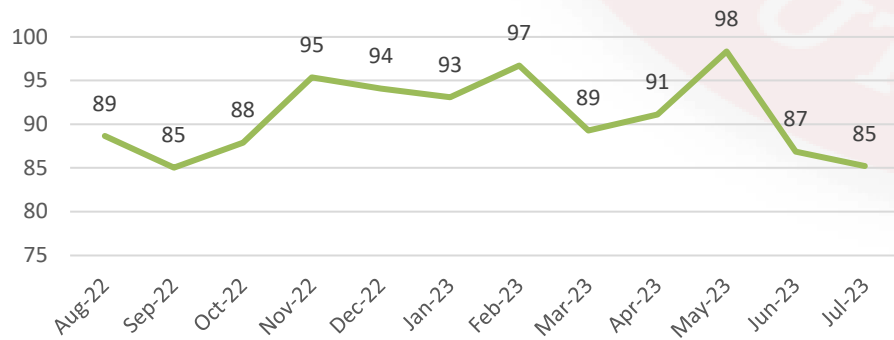
Percentage of children subject to Child Protection Plan for whom the Core Group Meeting is in time

Core group



Percentage of CPP who had their supervision and was within the timescale

Supervision

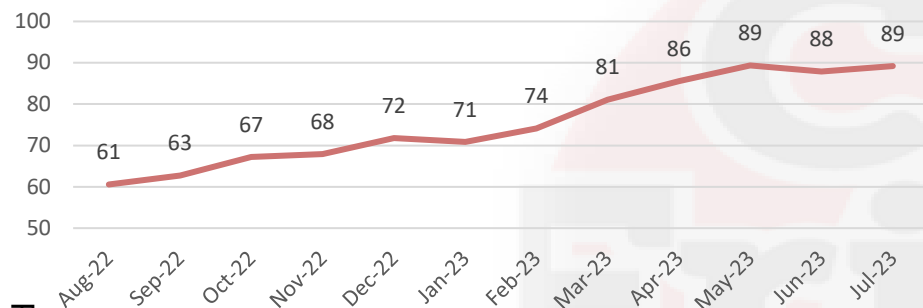


Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team East 1	2	2	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	2	2	100.0%
Frontline Team	7	7	100.0%
SWF Central 1	21	17	81.0%
SWF Central 2	18	9	50.0%
SWF East 1	57	39	68.4%
SWF East 2	46	42	91.3%
SWF East 3	34	13	38.2%
SWF West 1	27	3	11.1%
SWF West 2	40	40	100.0%
SWF West 3	48	38	79.2%
Total	302	212	70.2%

Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team East 1	2	2	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	2	2	100.0%
Frontline Team	7	7	100.0%
SWF Central 1	21	21	100.0%
SWF Central 2	18	18	100.0%
SWF East 1	57	41	71.9%
SWF East 2	46	35	76.1%
SWF East 3	34	34	100.0%
SWF West 1	27	16	59.3%
SWF West 2	40	40	100.0%
SWF West 3	48	47	97.9%
Total	302	263	87.1%

Children in our Care visits performance

Percentage of CLA for whom a visit has taken place within agreed timescales (as at latest CLA review)



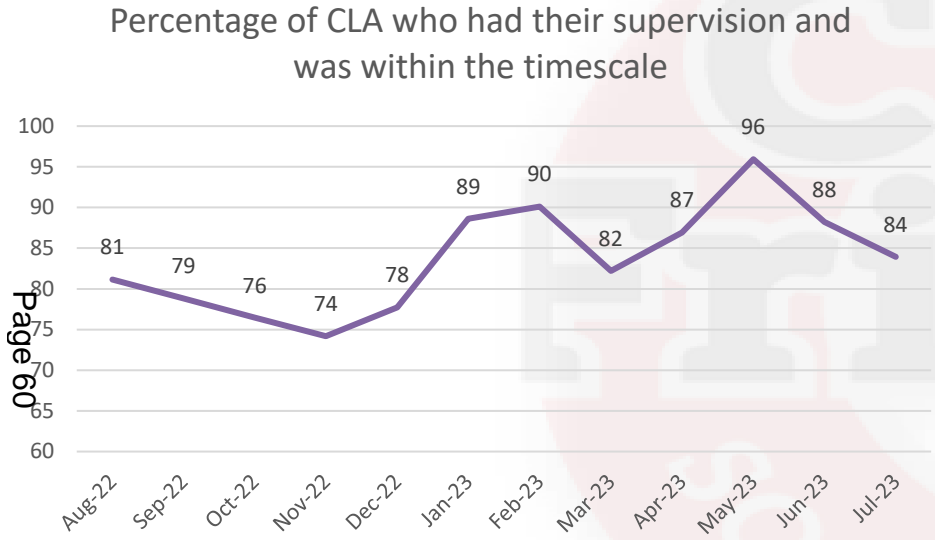
Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team Central 1	1	1	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	5	0	0.0%
Frontline Team	1	1	100.0%
SWF Central 1	6	6	100.0%
SWF Central 2	14	14	100.0%
SWF East 1	10	6	60.0%
SWF East 2	7	7	100.0%
SWF East 3	12	11	91.7%
SWF West 1	11	9	81.8%
SWF West 2	12	10	83.3%
SWF West 3	18	14	77.8%
Total	97	79	81.4%

Visits in time

Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team Central 1	1	1	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	5	5	100.0%
Frontline Team	1	1	100.0%
SWF Central 1	6	5	83.3%
SWF Central 2	14	14	100.0%
SWF East 1	10	10	100.0%
SWF East 2	7	6	85.7%
SWF East 3	14	14	100.0%
SWF West 1	11	11	100.0%
SWF West 2	12	12	100.0%
SWF West 3	18	16	88.9%
Total	99	95	96.0%

Care Planning up to date

Children in our Care performance - Supervision



Team/Locality	Denominator	Numerator	%
Brief Intervention Team Central 1	1	1	100.0%
Brief Intervention Team West 1	5	5	100.0%
Frontline Team	1	1	100.0%
SWF Central 1	6	6	100.0%
SWF Central 2	14	13	92.9%
SWF East 1	10	10	100.0%
SWF East 2	7	6	85.7%
SWF East 3	14	14	100.0%
SWF West 1	11	8	72.7%
SWF West 2	12	12	100.0%
SWF West 3	18	16	88.9%
Total	99	92	92.9%



Southampton City Council

Children and Learning Service

Quality Assurance Unit



Monthly Analysis Report of Practice Managers' Audits
September 2023

Content

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Audit grades by Service area	5
Areas of good practice & areas of improvement, by Service Area (including performance on Focus 5 for case holding teams)	6
Summary of findings in relation to September's audit theme of 'Reunifications'.	13

September 2023 - Audit Overview

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**34 Audits allocated
across 9 service
areas**

(Adoption:1, BIT:5, SWF:6,
C&FF:6, CWD:4, Fostering:2,
ICAS:4, PTC:5 & YPS:2)

**27
audits
completed**

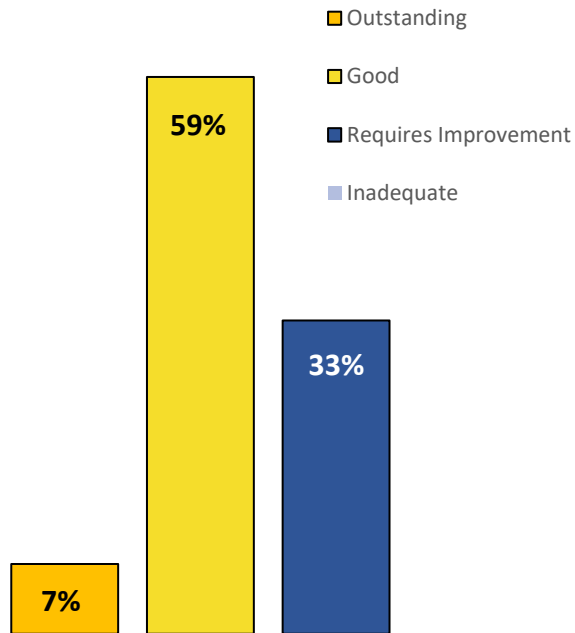
**7
audits not
completed**

79% completion rate
(similar to previous month, 6%
down on July)

**70% of auditors held
discussions with
practitioners/case
managers as part of the
audit process**
(7% increase on the figure for
previous month)

Overall Audit Outcome

September Audit Grades



➤ Outstanding	2
➤ Good	16
➤ Requires Improvement	9
➤ Inadequate	0

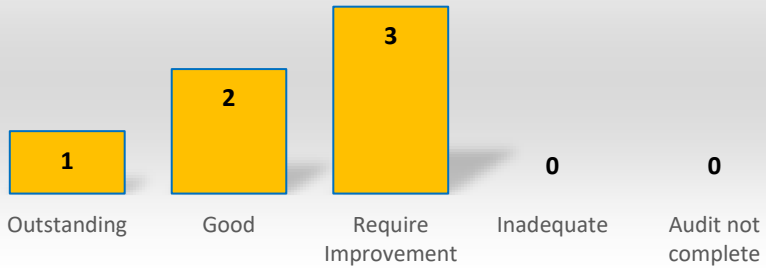
Over 50% of the audits have been graded 'Good' for the last 2 months (August 55% and September 59%). Prior to this (since January 2023) 'Good' graded audits ranged from 39% - 47%.

The 'audits graded as 'requiring improvement' are reducing & at their lowest this year, with only 33% this month requiring improvement. There are two audits graded 'outstanding' this month (two up on last month). There were no inadequate audits again this month, there have been no inadequate audits in the last 3 months.

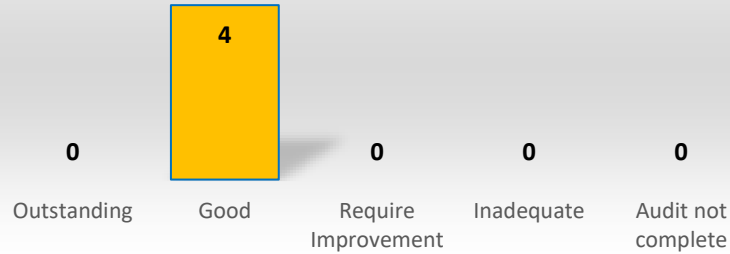
This data continues to suggest the quality of work is on an upward trajectory.

Audit Grades by Service Area

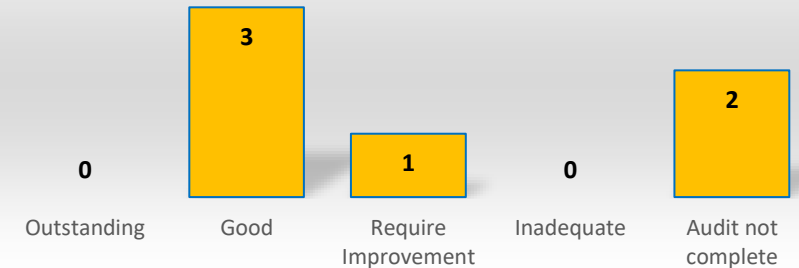
C&FF



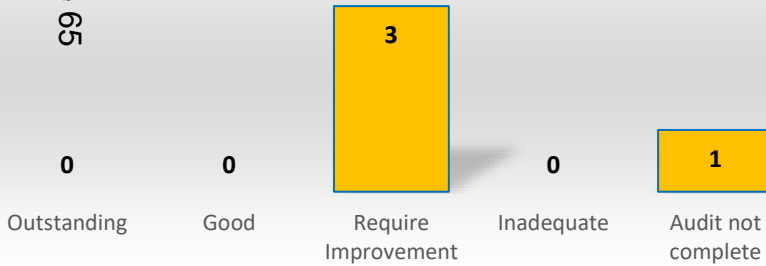
BIT



SWF



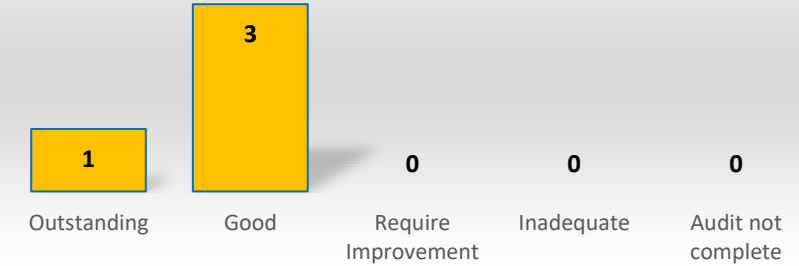
CWD



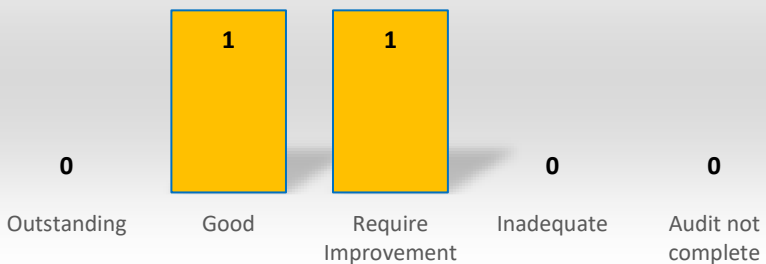
PTC



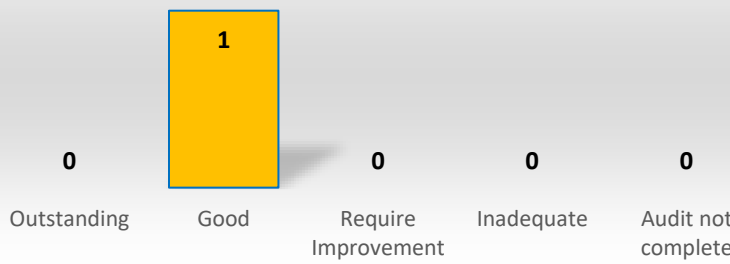
ICAS



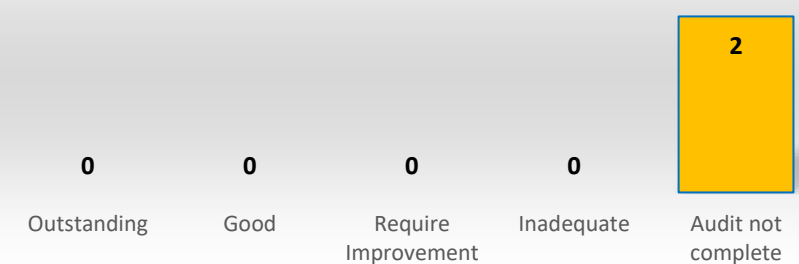
Fostering



Adoption



YPS



Children & Families First (C&FF)

Areas of good practice

- 100% of cases in this audit sample (6), confirmed intervention offered was evidence based & bespoke to match child/family's needs
- Majority of cases audited evidenced children were spoken to alone during visits
- Majority of cases evidenced direct work with the child
- For 83% of assessments young people were seen (slight increase on last month), & for the majority, the child's voice informed the assessment

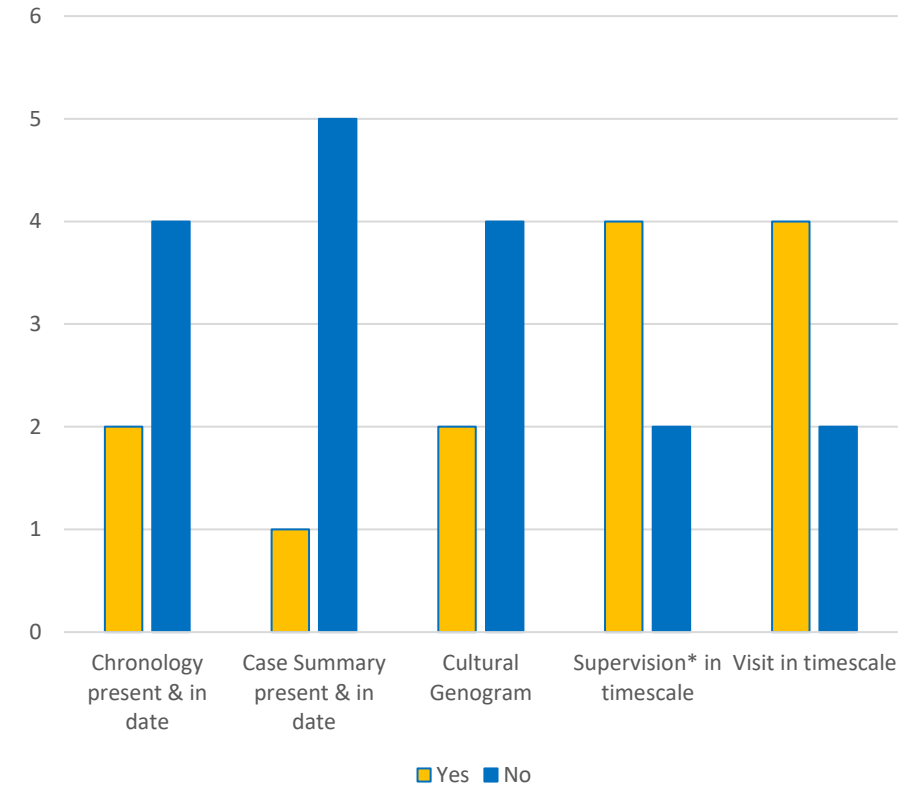
Other areas of good practice included;

- Very good assessment, no drift, direct work, exploring areas of concern, demonstrating strengths-based approach, clear plan & clear impact on family (CD490004)
- Demonstrates good understanding of case & child's experience, offering targeted input & involving the right services (CD347435)
- Clear timely management oversight evidenced (CD347435 & CD218467)
- Clear case recordings, timely EHA, decisions have been made swiftly at time of case allocation & evidenced in management oversight (CD442278)
- Delivered on agreed targets/actions to achieve positive outcomes for family, using good case knowledge & family's needs & strengths (CD218467)
- Evidence of excellent recording skills & positive engagement & relationship building skills (CD218467)
- Direct work tools were used to engage the children (CD392322)
- Persistent communication & clear consistent messages given to parent, still supportive but also challenging the behaviours whilst trying to resolve some of the challenges & stabilising the family living arrangements (CD611237)

Areas for improvement

- Prioritise timely updating of chronologies, case summaries, cultural genograms & focus on writing to child
- Ensure records are updated to reflect delay in allocation, family decline of service involvement & give clarity of C&FF involvement
- Management oversight to give summary and direction - what has been done, what are we doing now and next steps, for example: explain reason for lack of visits
- Focus on timely reviews of EHA, EHP & TAF meetings to reflect progress or reasons for lack of progress

C&FF Focus 5



Brief Intervention Team (BIT)

Areas of good practice

- In 100% of this audit sample (4), supervision took place in timescale
- Evidence of supervision & management oversight giving clear direction (CD256230, CD304480)
- The majority of assessments were completed within timescale, evidencing a chronology
- 75% of visits were in timescale & evidenced strengths, risks & robust analysis
- 75% captured the voice of the child & the voice of the parent/carer
- 75% of cases evidenced professionals' contributions in the assessment

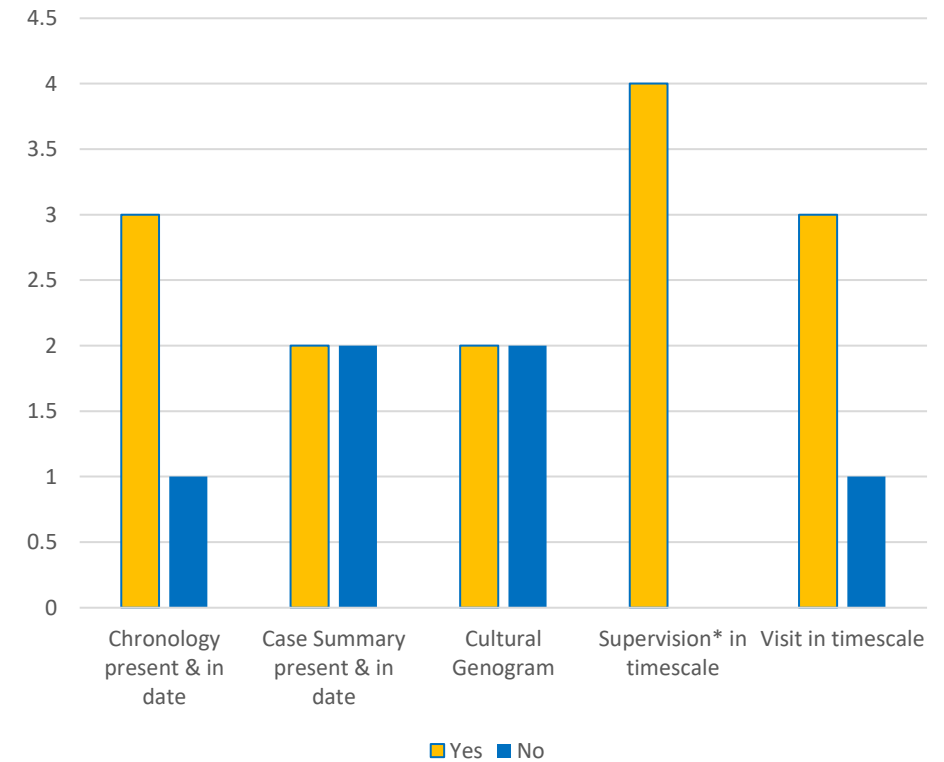
Other areas of good practice included;

- Very good recording of visit, the young person engaged very well with social worker who showed understanding & compassion, the SW & FEW worked hard to engage the young person alongside the police with management oversight & supervision centred around the child (CD304480)
- Significant attempts were made to engage the family who were not happy for children's services involvement (CD346547)
- Great quality assessment with section titled, "views of the children" to ensure they are captured, alongside timely visits & evidence of management oversight (CD256230)
- Good assessment written to the family (CD216633)

Areas for improvement

- Direct work with children to continue to be consistent across service
- Concentrate on detail in visit recordings
- Ensure recording of attempted visits & communications prior to the initial visit
- More focus on reflective supervision consistent across all audits
- Focus on consistency with case summaries
- Cultural Genogram improvements in quality and consistency

BIT Focus 5



Social Work with Families (SWF)

Areas of good practice

- 100% of cases have chronologies & cultural genograms on file
- The majority of cases have case summaries
- 100% of children (if not too young) were seen within timescale (3 days) & alone
- In most cases audited, the voice of the child & the voice of the parent/carer informed the assessment
- 100% of cases had input from involved professionals
- 100% of cases evidenced clear strengths, risks & evidenced robust analysis
- Some evidence of direct work with the child

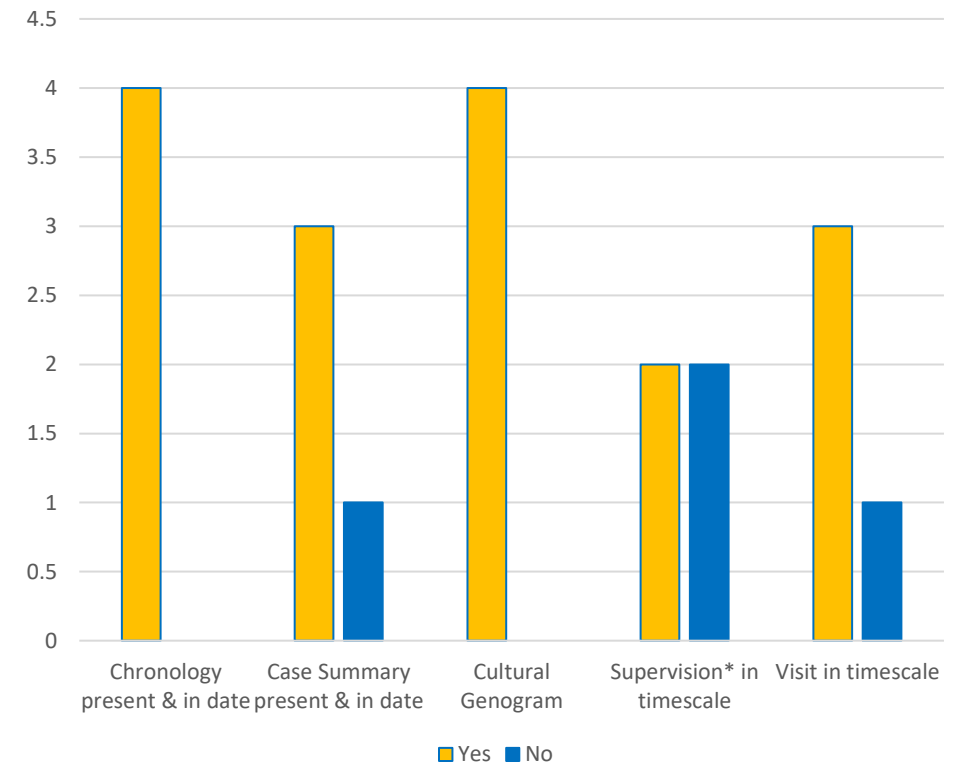
Other areas of good practice included;

- Evidence of good interventions with both parents, lots of support given & good outcome with baby staying with Mother (CD605779)
- The worker evidenced excellent understanding of case, setting boundaries to support YP to move into a safer place. This YP has now returned to her Mother. This was a process which involved professional support with consideration given to culture differences (CD608566)
- Good relationship built between worker & child & child's view sought, alongside good working relationship with key adult's child's life (CD376399)
- Care plan reflects progress & child's voice, alongside updated case summary & chronology (CD340427)

Areas requiring improvement

- Focus on improving supervision taking place in timescale
- Maintain timely frequency of visits with children
- Consistently use SMART plans that with timely and specific actions
- Ensure correct forms are used to evidence focused plan for child & ensure forms are uploaded & meetings are recorded on CD
- Increase analysis & reflection, what this means for the child, their identity & impact on their progress
- Focus on carrying out direct work & life story work with children & record clearly
- Timely review of level on contact to help with child's understanding of long-term plans decisions
- Case Summaries, chronologies & cultural genograms still need work on updating, quality & consistency

SWF Focus 5



Children with Disabilities (CWD)

Areas of good practice

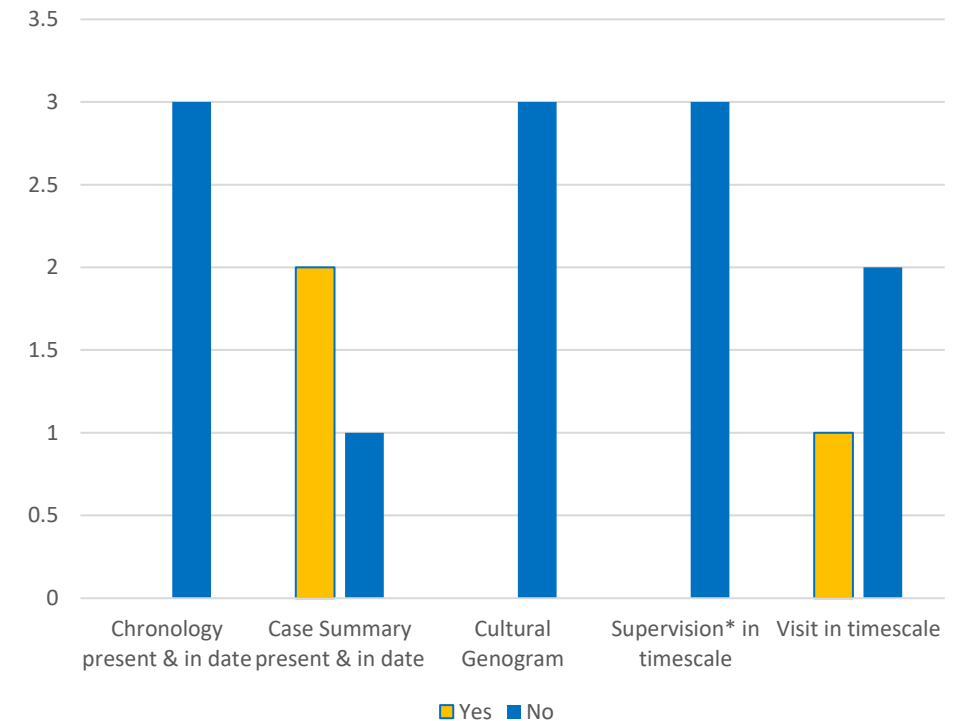
- Evidence of an in depth understanding of child's support needs, health & disability related needs, clearly documented within the assessment, includes impact on parents & their capacity to provide care, with parents' views clearly recorded (CD308158)
- Evidence of management oversight with clear work plan (CD308158)
- Visits give clear, detailed view of what life is like for the child, capturing a child-focused view on their views/wishes & how parents interact with them (CD308158)
- Plan demonstrates progress & visits were timely (CD489833)
- Evidence of assessment providing a thorough overview of the child's developmental needs, giving a good understanding of the child and his family. Risks are identified alongside strategies & plans for managing the risks, for example, in order to maintain his safety, identifying interventions (CD364888)
- Interactions in visit resulted in positive experience for child (CD364888)

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Areas for improvement

- Prioritise completion of chronologies, cultural genograms & updated case summaries, to provide clear insight into children's journeys and key arrangements in place for children
- Ensure visits are in timescale with timely recording on child's file
- Focus on direct work - wishes, views & feelings of the child to be evidenced
- Timely review in CIN plans & ensure SMART objectives are used, giving clear timeframe to prioritise & identify how the child's needs can best be met
- Evidence direct work undertaken with child
- More focus on reflective discussions between SW & line Manager
- Improvement to minimise delay & overdue tasks to reduce impact for child/family, for example, when the delays are a consequence of when workers leave the team
- Consider processes for SW's leaving service in absence of line Manager to ensure necessary actions are taken

CWD Focus 5



Pathways Through Care (PTC)

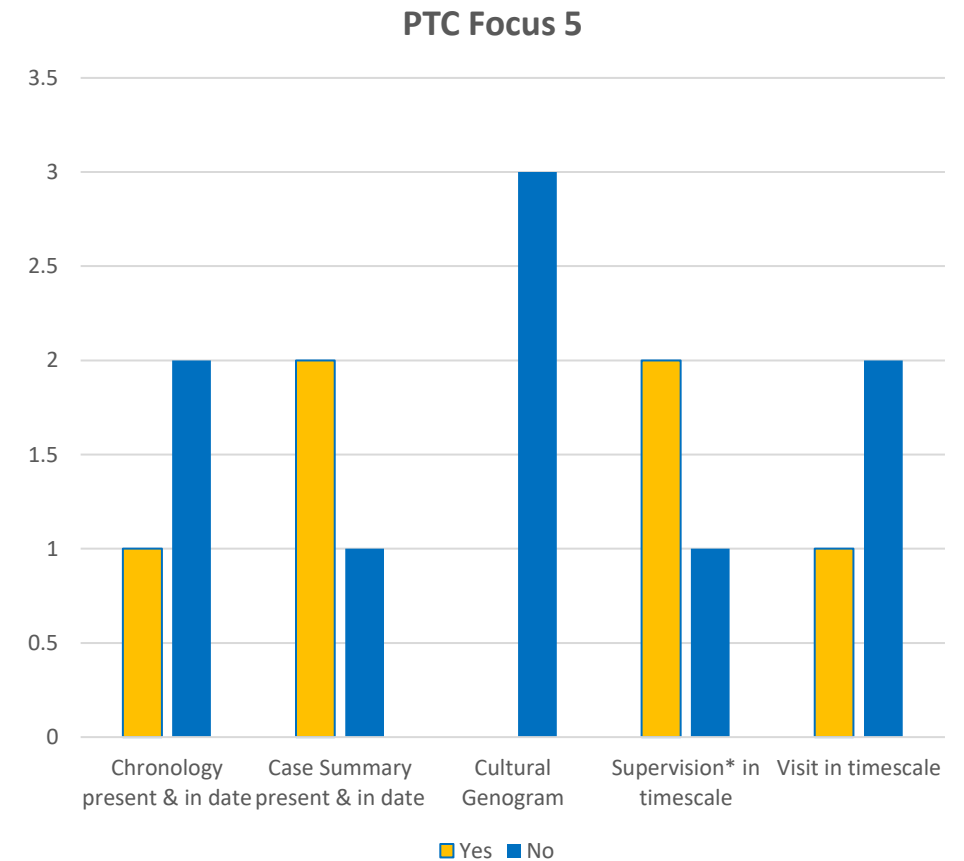
Areas of good practice

- Care plan and case summary in timescale & evidences good detail, management oversight is evidenced in care plan (CD255980)
- Visits have been more frequent than plan, very detailed, recorded on correct template & most include detail of direct work (CD255980)
- Young person has overnight stays with family members with future plan for YP to return to Father's care (CD255980)
- Good communication, support and management oversight relating to YP's accommodation needs & assessments in process. PA has offered support despite YP declining at this time (CD229862)
- Supervision is reflective & focused and in timescales for care leavers (CD229862)
- Records evidence this YP is clearly much happier at home than they were in residential care (CD337778)

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Areas for improvement

- Prioritise completion of chronologies & cultural genograms, to provide clear insight into children's journeys
- Focus on case summaries being present & in date to evidence key detail for children
- Prioritise visits in timescale
- Regular & timely supervision to take place with reflective discussions evidenced
- Work on supervision discussions including the views of the YP & timely visits to YP
- Improve on evidence of life story work
- Evidence of accommodation risk assessment & authorisation to be clearly evidenced on file
- Consider when cases would benefit from earlier planning around transitions, particularly when reunification breakdown. Timely allocation of PA's would enable better understanding of adult services role & contingency planning for accommodation



Intervention & Complex Assessment Service (ICAS)

Areas of good practice

- Clear Evidence of good management oversight & timely supervision taking place across the cases (4) audited, tracking progress of the intervention & review work undertaken
- Clear work plan on the referrals
- case notes with evidence of work undertaken are evident in the cases audited
- Outstanding, timely allocation, goal setting, writing to child, clear evidence of interventions being completed with family & excellent closure summary (CD461973)
- Informative case notes and ensure that the conversations with the parents always link back to the children & use of many visual tools to support parents potential learning needs (CD411647)
- Consideration of parent's heritage & impact on assessment process & application of the social graces and consideration given to learning needs/interpreters (CD436572)
- Reunification assessment includes detailed & in-depth work undertaken, theory to support analysis & recommendations for the family, alongside reflection on extensive history in terms of health, domestic abuse, neglect & impact this had on child's needs (CD436572)
- Regular reunification meetings involving the network & clear case notes with evidence of work undertaken (CD384905)

Areas for improvement

- **Ensure clear analysis for the reader to understand the concerns from a professional perspective**
- **Supervision notes & closure summary to be written to the child, adding Managers comment**
- **Ensure all case notes are put onto CD, use specific ICAS case notes to structure recordings**
- **Timely authorisation of case notes & assessment sessions**
- **Early involvement/views of the IRO at the beginning of assessment**
- **Practise consistently writing to the child in all areas of the case note, not just the observations of the child**
- **Timely allocations**

Fostering, Adoption & Placements Teams

Areas of good practice

- Review has taken place in last 12 months with both carers attending, presented to panel in timescales & visits were held in timescale (CD350282)
- Personal development plan, mandatory training & supervision all in date (CD350282)
- Supervision evidences a good amount of detail to enable reader to gain an overall view of the placement for the child (CD350282)
- Safer caring training has taken place & safer caring plan was updated in the last 12 months or in accordance with change in circumstance
- Foster carers have received regular support by FEW & a cover SSW, in absence of the allocated SSW (CD350282)
- Assessment clearly written & timescales met (CD20852)

Areas for improvement

- Timely completion & updating of case summary & chronology
- Timely recording of supervision & management oversight
- Consistency in supervision, to focus on strengths/weakness/ concerns and the impact for the children in placement, with analysis reflecting the outcome for the child
- Ensure necessary foster carer agreements are completed

Adoption:

The case (CD396511) demonstrates “Good social work practice... including lots of lovely examples of direct work.” The case audited evidences a clear plan of case progression & next steps & additional management oversight during the S.47.

The Court's decision caused unnecessary delay for the child; however, this has given time to form a good relationship. Matches are currently being explored.

There is evidence of timely, effective monthly supervision, with case summaries and chronology updated 3 monthly. The child's profile is to be added to CD from the family finding event.

Service Overview – ‘Reunifications’

September’s audit focus theme was ‘Reunifications’.

Areas of good practice

Several interventions within the teams evidenced detail on how they were supporting the young people with ‘reunification’ to family members.

Here are a few of the examples from different services highlighting the good work that is taking place with young people on a day-to-day basis:

- ICAS have evidenced reunification assessment detail, recording in-depth work that has been undertaken, theory to support analysis & recommendations for the family, alongside reflection on extensive history in terms of health, domestic abuse, neglect & listening to the YP’s views/concerns & the impact this had on the YP’s needs (CD436572, ICAS)
- There is clear evidence of direct work with the YP through discussions, this young person has now returned to their Mother. This was a process which involved professional support with consideration given to culture differences, the worker was able to set boundaries with YP & support moving into a safer place with regular communication. ICAS have supported with the reunification plan for this YP and have continued to offer support around sustaining this relationship. The MET hub have also offered support (CD608566, SWF)
- Clear multi agency working in the best interest of the young person, the SW managed initial concerns very well, young person was refusing to return home and the SW managed to support return to parents successfully to keep them safe at home (CD304480, BIT)
- Reunification assessment was undertaken during proceedings while mother & child were together living in a parent and child foster placement. Direct work undertaken with families and carers & there has been multi-agency support in this reunification with both parents. Support for family's post-reunification recorded on file (CD605779, SWF)

Areas for improvement

- Cases would have benefited from earlier planning around transitions after unsuccessful reunification
- Early allocation of worker would have enabled a better understanding of the role of adult services and contingency planning for accommodation for the young person
- To ensure management oversight and IRO oversight are recorded on CD

YP is much happier at home than they were in residential care (CD337778, PTC)

SW – “It was lovely to work with this YP; he was really clear on his views and motivation. They’ve had a really positive experience in care; the carers have offered lots of care and stability and now they have a life-plan/know what they want to achieve” (CD436572, ICAS)

“Clear targeted interventions based on the family’s needs, very strengths-based approach, clear impact on family” (CD490004, C&FF)

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DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL
SUBJECT:	SEND AND HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT
DATE OF DECISION:	23 NOVEMBER 2023
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
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Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
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	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 are not for publication by virtue of category 3 paragraph 10.4 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules as set out in the Council’s Constitution. The information is exempt from publication because it relates to the financial and business affairs of both the Council and specified third parties and is commercially sensitive.	
BRIEF SUMMARY	
Appendices attached to this report identify the increasing number of children in Southampton with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and the challenges associated with transporting children with SEND to school and providing sufficient SEND places in schools within the city.	
RECOMMENDATIONS:	
(i)	That the Panel consider the appended information on SEND pressures, the SEND Capital Programme and home to school transport and the approaches proposed to address the identified challenges.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	To enable effective scrutiny of Children’s Services and Learning in Southampton.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	None.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	At the 23 November meeting of the Panel the issues of SEND and home to school transport will be considered. The information provided should be seen within the context of Southampton’s SEND Strategy 2022/2027: Southampton’s Children and Young People’s SEND Strategy 2022/27
4.	Attached as Appendix 1 is the SEND Annual Review of current and future needs. This review is developed to help inform decisions associated with SEND provision.

5.	Attached as Appendix 2 is a briefing paper considered at the 25 September 2023 meeting of the Strategic Capital Board on the SEND Capital Programme.
6.	Attached as Appendix 3 is a presentation delivered in April 2023 on the outcomes of a review of the Council's Home to School Transport Service.
Glossary of terms	
7.	<p>The appended papers contain a number of acronyms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND – Special educational needs and disabilities • EHCP – Education, health and care plan • SEN K – Special educational needs support required • ASD – Autistic spectrum disorder • SEMH – Social, emotional and mental health needs • MLD – Moderate learning difficulties • SLCN – Speech, language and communication needs • SLD – Severe learning difficulties • PD – Physical development difficulties • PMLD – Profound and multiple learning difficulties • HI – Hearing impaired • VI – Visually impaired • MSI – Multi-Sensory impairment • RIBA – Royal Institute of British Architects • Passivhaus – Buildings created to rigorous energy efficient design standards.
8.	The Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, and representatives from the Children's Services and Learning Senior Management Team and the Place Directorate, have been invited to attend the meeting to provide an overview of the key issues and to answer questions from the Panel.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue/Property/Other</u>	
9.	An overview is provided within the attached appendices.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
10.	SEND Code of Practice Children and Families Act 2014
11.	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>	
12.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
13.	There are risks related to the adequacy of sufficient SEND provision, the affordability of future provision and associated home to school transport costs. Through the implementation of the SEND Strategy, the SEND Capital Programme and the review of home to school transport the Council is seeking to mitigate these risks.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
14.	<p>The 2022-2030 Corporate Plan includes, as one of its four goals, strong foundations for life where people are able to access and maximise opportunities to truly thrive, Southampton will focus on ensuring residents of all ages and backgrounds have strong foundations for life.</p> <p>By delivering consistently good outcomes for the city's children and young people, Southampton's Children's Services and Learning Department will contribute to achieving this objective.</p>

KEY DECISION?	No
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WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	Send Annual Review of Current and Future Needs to Inform Provision
2.	Exempt – SEND Capital Programme Briefing Paper
3.	Exempt - Home to School Transport Service Review

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 / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	Southampton's Children and Young People's SEND Strategy 2022/27

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SEND ANNUAL REVIEW OF CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS TO INFORM PROVISION

Purpose

- To forecast future need to inform educational, health and social care provision and school place planning
- To monitor change over time in the prevalence and type of SEND
- To analyse the differences between predictions and actual to understand the reasons behind the variances to inform more accurate predictions, manage demand and plan provision.

Timescales

The annual review will be undertaken in July of each year following DfE statistical releases of January census data and SEN2 return data.

The review will consider data collected as at January of the same year and will be compared with forecasts made the previous year and longer term forecast trajectories.

Following the review forecasts will be amended and future provision considered.

Process

Data will be collated by the SEND Team in partnership with the SCC Data and Information Team, in July of each year, based on a set proforma to allow year on year comparisons to be undertaken. This will include data provided by partner agencies.

Data sources will include:-

- Hampshire Small Area Population Forecasts
- DfE statistical releases
- SEN2 returns
- Previous annual reviews
- Health data
- Social care data

Initial analysis will be undertaken by the SEND Head of Service and reported to the September Southampton Partnership Forum for discussion, further analysis and agreement, regarding changes to future forecasts, demand management actions and any changes to future provision. This will be reflected in a refreshed SEND Action Plan.

Factors affecting need and provision

The analysis and discussion will need to take into consideration the following factors:-

- Population changes
- Changes across age groups
- Numbers of children currently identified compared to published prevalence data

- Expected changes in prevalence
- Improvements in awareness, identification and classification
- Changes in primary and secondary needs
- The impact of increasing statutory protection to 25 years
- Parental preferences
- Changes in societal attitudes
- Changes in curriculum / educational practice / health practice / social care practice / funding

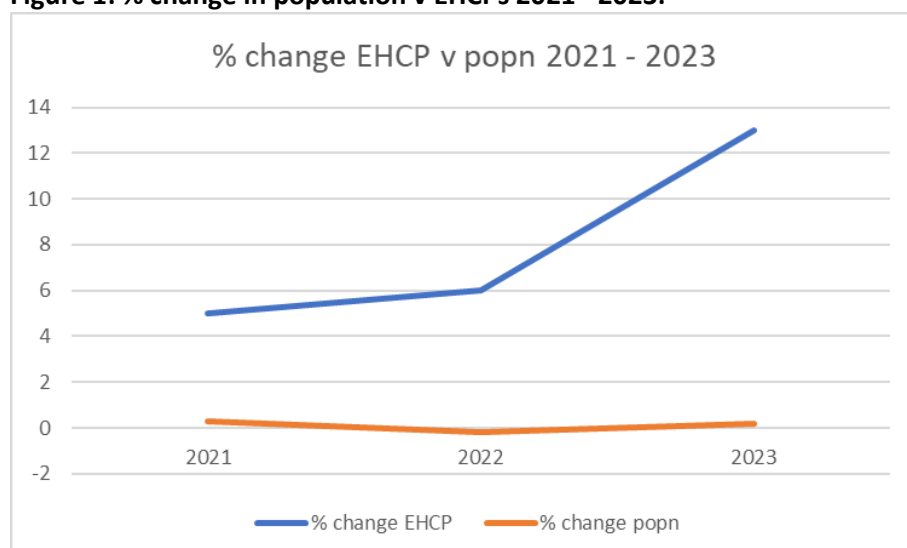
Table 1: Population data 2020 - 2023 (Source: HCC SAPF)

Age range	No of years	Southampton population				% change 2022 - 2023
		2020	2021	2022	2023	
0-4	5 years	14,369	14,410	14,144	13,816	↓ 2.3
5-11	7 years	20,942	20,900	20,642	20,389	↓ 1.24
12-16	5 years	12,380	12,889	13,334	13,851	↑ 3.88
17-19	3 years	15,695	15,802	15,898	16,218	↑ 2.01
20-24	5 years	30,528	30,718	30,509	30,428	↓ 0.26
Total		93,914	94,719	94,527	94,702	↑ 0.19

The small area population forecasts should be used with caution. The data is based on financial year (April-March) which doesn't correlate with the academic year (Sept – August). Also the data has not been very accurate historically

Analysis: Overall population has increased slightly but with 0-4's and 5-11 seeing reductions, with this expecting to be the trend in the coming years. The most significant increase is in the secondary age population with this bulge now beginning to hit the post 16 population with this expected to continue for the next 5 years (The Post 19 populations are skewed by the student population). It will be 2024 before the secondary age population starts to reduce. There will then be a number of years of falling population.

Figure 1: % change in population v EHCPs 2021 - 2023:



Analysis: Rates of EHCP increases is outstripping rates of population growth.

Question: Why is the rate of EHCP Growth Outstripping population growth? What factors are leading to this?

Implications: All phases will continue to see a rise in the % of pupils with EHCP’s as compared to their whole school population. The expected overall falling numbers seen in primary schools is releasing capacity for resourced provisions. Nine primary schools have been identified with numbers reduced by 30+ pupils. There is no capacity currently in secondary schools although we are likely to begin to see a drop in admission numbers from 2024 which will increase opportunities to develop SEND Units and Resourced Provisions in secondary schools.

The special school expansion programme is aimed at increasing secondary and Post 16 capacity but will not be available until 2026. Interim plans are underway to create much needed additional secondary specialist provision between now and 2026. Phase 1 Great Oaks expansion was completed in September 2021 with further works on the Green Lane site taking place over the 2023 summer period.

Table 2: Overall number of EHCPs maintained by Southampton City Council 2012 – 2023

(This includes Southampton children who are in Southampton schools and in schools out of city, whether maintained mainstream, special or independent)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number	634	655	701	803	1021	1181	1387	1522	1736	1826	1938	2184
% change from prev year	7%	3%	7%	15%	27%	16%	17%	10%	14%	5%	6%	11%

Source: DfE SEN 2 Return

Table 3: Initial forecast number of EHCPs maintained by SCC 2020 – 2029 (forecast in 2019)

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
1674	1842	2026	2228	2451	2623	2806	3003	3213	3438
10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%

Figure 2: % change children with EHCPs 2012 – 2023

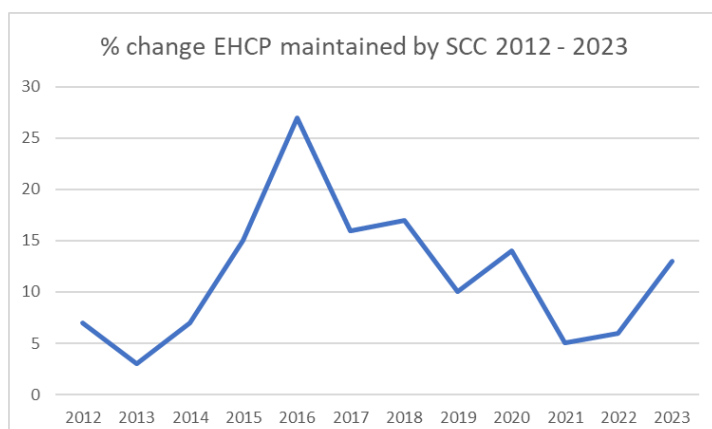


Figure 3: % children with EHCPs 2020 – 2023

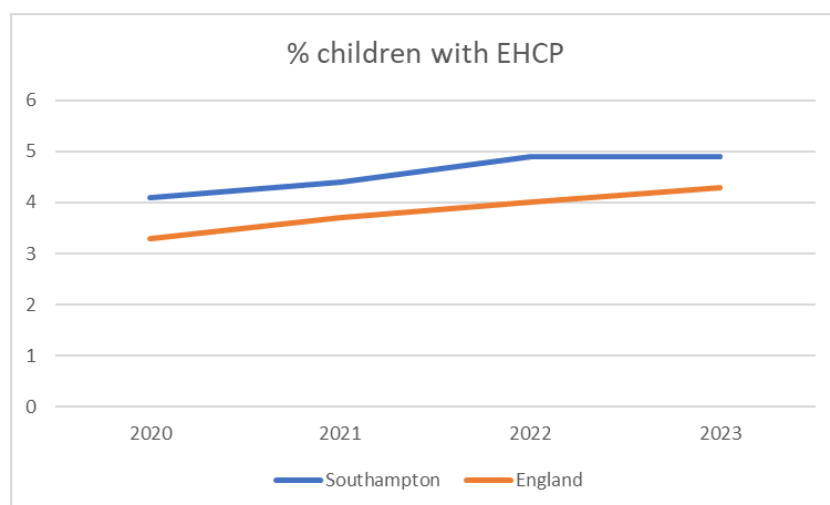


Figure 4: % children on SEN Support 2020-2023

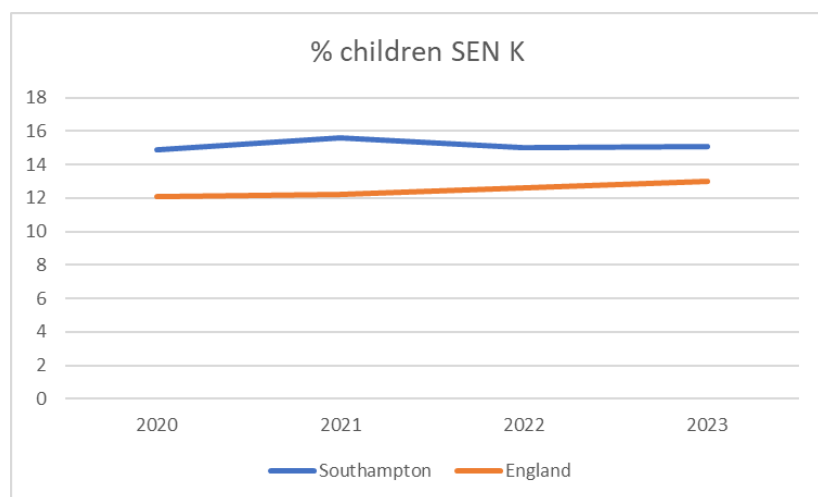


Table 4: EHC plans per age banding; with national comparisons

Education, health and care plans – DfE Statistical Release 2022

	Number of EHC plans in 2022						Percentage of age bands with EHC plans in 2022					
	Under 5	Age 5 to 10	Age 11 to 15	Age 16 to 19	Age 20 to 25	Total	Under 5	Age 5 to 10	Age 11 to 15	Age 16 to 19	Age 20 to 25	Total
Eng	18,054	154,940	167,305	98,647	34,309	473,255	3.8%	32.7%	35.4%	20.8%	7.2%	100.0%
Soton	89	785	725	290	49	1,938	4.6%	40.5%	37.4%	15.0%	2.5%	100.0%

	Number of EHC plans in 2023						Percentage of age bands with EHC plans in 2023					
	0-4	5-10	11-15	16-18	19-25	Total	0-5	5-10	11-15	16-18	19-25	Total
Eng	17294	160672	159841	22729	167	360703	4.7	44.7	44.2	6.3	0	100
SCC	119	806	766	67	0	1758	6.8	45.9	43.5	3.8	0	100

Analysis: The SEND Strategic Review 2017/18 predicted that EHCP numbers would continue to increase before beginning to plateau once the reforms were fully embedded. The increases initially seen up until 2020, exceeded that forecast, with 2021 and 2022 seeing 0.5 and 0.4 percentage gaps below the forecasted numbers. This increased up to 11% again last year, meaning that across the last 5 years we have averaged a 9% increase.

It is important to recognise that there has been concerted effort over the past 3 years to ensure the EHC Plans for pupils who have moved onto their next stage of life go through the cessation process. It is possible that “old” plans were still in the system, meaning that higher numbers have ceased in this time. Equally, we are now 9 years into the reforms, meaning that the first group of 16 year olds who had their statutory entitlement extend to 25 will be “aging out” which may in turn mean higher volumes of cease activity.

Question: Why have we seen this fluctuation over the last 4 year period? What factors could have led to this? How might this be moving forward?

Do we need to readjust our forecast to reduce this to 9%? Will we reach the initially forecast plateau of 7% by 2025?

Implications: Numbers are predicted to continue to increase. It is anticipated that pressure on special school places across all age groups and areas of need will continue. This has been factored into the Special School expansion programme with increases in places planned for primary SEMH (Social, Emotional and Mental Health), secondary complex needs and Post 16 complex needs.

Priority focus for development of provision are:

- Demand for secondary SEMH – specifically for girls. A Free School application was made in the most recent wave for a co-ed secondary SEMH school. This application was rejected. Redbridge Community school have opened a small-scale SEN Unit for pupils with SEMH, which the school are investing heavily to enable expansion of numbers. The SEND Service are also in discussions with Woodlands Community College about a similar provision on the East of the City.
- Demand on places between now and 2026 - we will need creative solutions to support us to house growing numbers until the expansion programme is complete.

There will also be more children with Education, Health and Care Plans in mainstream schools - we need to ensure that there is high quality inclusive educational provision consistently available across the city, with an ever increasing need to offer flexible and creative packages of provision alongside the development of SEN Units and resourced provisions.

Table 5: Number of children with SEND in Southampton schools 2021 - 2023, compared to national

	Southampton 2021		Southampton 2022		Southampton 2023		Comparison to national		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	2021	2022	2023
EHCP	1534	4.4	1711	4.9	1853	5.2	3.7	4	4.3
SEN K	5384	15.6	5253	15	5357	15.1	12.2	12.6	13
TOTAL	6918	20	6964	19.9	7210	20.3	15.9	16.6	17.3

Analysis:

As above the numbers of children with an EHCP continues to increase in Southampton and nationally. Having been below national and statistical neighbours in 2012, Southampton is now above all statistical and national averages.

The numbers of children with SEN Support saw a slight increase in Southampton in 2021, falling slightly in 2022 and increasing again in 2023. The increase nationally is greater than that seen in Southampton.

Questions:

Why is our EHCP Growth higher?

Why is our SEN K growth lower?

Is this increased complexity or EHC thresholds?

Are there other factors leading to increased demand?

Table 6: EHCP / SEN Support in Primary and Secondary phase cohorts; with national and regional comparisons

Special educational needs in England (Spring 2023) – DfE Statistical Release 2023

		Total Pupils	Pupils with SEN support	Total pupils with SEN	
			Number	Number	%
Primary (Age 5-10)	Southampton	17,196	2,757	3,563	21%
	South East	628,789	87,975	115,426	18%
	England	3,909,035	565,402	726,073	18.5%
Secondary (Age 11-15)	Southampton	13,147	2,028	2,794	21%
	South East	512,930	66,162	93,616	18%
	England	3,198,697	417,595	577,436	18%

Table 7: EHC plans per age banding; with national comparisons

Education, health and care plans – DfE Statistical Release 2022

	Number of EHC plans in 2022						Percentage of age bands with EHC plans in 2022					
	Under 5	Age 5 to 10	Age 11 to 15	Age 16 to 19	Age 20 to 25	Total	Under 5	Age 5 to 10	Age 11 to 15	Age 16 to 19	Age 20 to 25	Total
England	18,054	154,940	167,305	98,647	34,309	473,255	3.8%	32.7%	35.4%	20.8%	7.2%	100.0%
Soton	89	785	725	290	49	1,938	4.6%	40.5%	37.4%	15.0%	2.5%	100.0%

	Number of EHC plans in 2023						Percentage of age bands with EHC plans in 2023					
	0-4	5-10	11-15	16-18	19-25	Total	0-5	5-10	11-15	16-18	19-25	Total
Eng	17294	160672	159841	22729	167	360703	4.7	44.7	44.2	6.3	0	100
SCC	119	806	766	67	0	1758	6.8	45.9	43.5	3.8	0	100

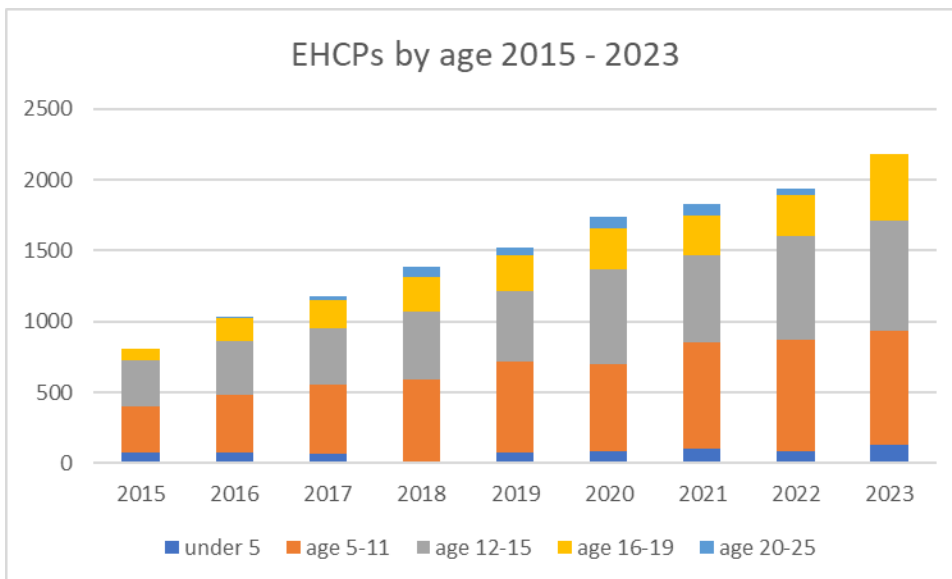
Source: <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-tables/special-educational-needs-in-england>

Table 8: Number of children with an EHCP (as at January each year) maintained by Southampton by age
(Source: SEN2 Return)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<5	45	79	74	69	12	77	87	100	89	127
5-10	301	322	410	487	580	643	612	751	785	811
11-15	317	324	379	400	473	495	668	616	725	774
16-19	38	78	157	199	248	249	289	277	290	472
20-25		0	1	26	74	58	80	82	49	Inc in the 16-19 fig
Total	701	803	1021	1181	1387	1522	1736	1826	1938	2184

Figure 5: EHCPs by age maintained by SCC 2015-2023

(note: data for 2023 has amalgamated 16-19 block with the 20-25 block owing to reporting changes)



Source SEN2 return 2023

Analysis: The numbers of preschool children with an EHCP has increased by 42%. The numbers with an EHCP at primary level only increase by 3.3% whilst secondary have increased by 6.7%.

Question: What is behind the increase in early years plans?

The numbers in Post 16 has increased by 39%. One of the causations for this will be the secondary age population bulge now moving into post 16.

Implications: With increasing numbers of young people Post 16 with EHCPs it is vital that there is a robust review at Yr9, Yr11 and Yr13 to ensure that the EHCP is still required, has clear outcomes and set timescales for the achievement of those outcomes. Parents will need supporting to consider their child’s needs moving on into adulthood and prepared for the cessation of plans where appropriate.

A comprehensive Post 16 offer will need to be developed to ensure appropriate college pathways for the population of YP feeding through the system.

Questions: What are the implications of the increases at these different age phases on wider services including health and social care?

Table 9: Number of new EHCPs 2013 – 2022

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
U5	48	74	51	65	68	67	106	91	85	116
5-10	35	39	99	113	109	83	91	98	107	109
11-15	23	14	50	43	39	31	47	56	48	57
16-19	1	0	4	12	8	4	8	7	8	10
20-25	0	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	0
Total	107	127	204	241	224	185	253	252	248	292

Source: SEN2

Table 10: Number of discontinued EHCPs 2013 – 2022

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Transferred to another LA	11	15	14	8	64	0	7	12	0	36
Needs met without an EHCP	1	0	1	0	43	2	2	0	0	
EHCP discontinued as YP left school	5	18	3	0	76	67	59	114	48	Pre 2022 figs only
Other	3	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	2 + 48 no longer wish to engage
Total	20	37	18	9	185	69	68	126	48	86

Source: SEN2

Analysis:

The peak of requests for an EHC needs assessment is in Year R-1 when the majority of children with SEND will have been identified and concerns regarding school placement and provision are being raised. There is a smaller peak in secondary but the figures do suggest that identification of needs happens earlier.

Table 11: Percentage of SEND pupils by primary need - January 2021 compared to 2023

	Number of children with an EHCP				Number of children on SEN Support			
	2021	2022	2023	% of 2023 total	2021	2022	2023	% of 2023 total
ASD	446	512	580	32.9%	499	572	754	14.6%
SEMH	236	271	277	15.7%	1,213	1115	1120	21.7%
MLD	181	184	177	10%	1,350	1276	1137	22.1%
SLCN	234	274	321	18.2%	1,158	1118	1190	23.1%
SLD	133	121	120	6.8%	6	12	8	0.1%
PD	63	67	72	4%	129	128	125	2.4%
PMLD	65	71	67	3.8%	12	5	8	0.1%
Specific Learning Difficulty	61	63	59	3.3%	512	535	507	9.8%
Other	44	40	37	2.1%	75	74	92	1.8%
HI	30	30	29	1.6%	66	74	83	1.6%
VI	16	17	18	1%	45	48	49	0.9%
MSI	3	2	1	0.05%	8	6	5	0.09%
TOTAL	1,512	1652	1758		5,149	5026	5143	

(Source: <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-tables/special-educational-needs-in-england>)

Analysis:

The most common type of need for pupils with an EHCP is autism (32.9). This is line with national data (32.1%). The next most common locally and nationally is SLCN (18.2% locally and 18.3% nationally). The most common type of need for pupils on SEN Support is SLCN (23.1%). Nationally it is also SLCN (25.4%). SEMH is the next highest type of need for both pupils with an EHCP (15.7% locally vs 15.1% nationally) and those on SEN Support (21% nationally and 21.7% locally).

Southampton for the first time is appearing consistently in line with national averages in relation to primary area of need.

(NB: It should be noted that the type of need data above is taken from the January census which is provided by schools. The accuracy of the data is therefore subject to the understanding of SEN within the school and the frequency of review and updating of the primary need code. The data also does not reflect the complexity of a child’s needs allowing only one primary need code to be reported for each child)

Implications:

Autism is the primary need of pupils with EHCP’s. It should be noted that random audits of pupils with SLCN (second highest category of need for EHCP and highest for SEN K) reveals that the majority of these children are highly likely to be on the autism spectrum for whom the SEN Register has not yet been updated or the child is awaiting diagnosis, meaning that the real figure of pupils with ASC is likely higher than that presented in this table, both locally and nationally. Autism is consistently the type of need that schools find difficult to manage and feedback from parents is that the offer in mainstream schools is not consistent.

Work currently in progress to ensure the best support for this category of need:

- The All Age Autism Strategy is to be refreshed informed by the 0-25 Autism Strategy.
- The ASD and ADHD Assessment Pathways have been improved to address the significant increase in referrals for ASD and ADHD assessments and long waiting times for assessments
- The Autism in Schools project is to be delivered to all schools in the city.
- The Early Bird Training Package for parents launched last year. Early Bird Plus and Cygnet are launching in the autumn term via Reminds, as part of the DVB programme.
- We have extended the support for autism champions in schools

Questions:

Are there any surprises in this data?

What other information would it be useful to collate? What other information do agencies hold?

Where are the children with ADHD in the figures above?

How are we supporting pupils with SEMH?

Table 11: Number of children with an EHCP or SEN Support by school type and type of need 2022/23

(Source: <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-tables/special-educational-needs-in-england>)

	Primary schools		Secondary schools		Special schools	
	EHCP	SEN K	EHCP	SEN K	EHCP	SEN K
ASD	213	419	134	332	229	2
HI	16	44	7	38	6	No data
MLD	28	678	52	458	97	No data
MSI	No data	4	1	1	No data	No data
Other	11	54	8	38	18	No data
PD	25	70	11	53	36	2
PMLD	5	No data	No data	No data	62	8
SLD	5	3	No data	1	115	4
SEMH	62	547	79	550	122	1
SpLD	21	150	12	353	26	1
SL and CN	135	935	52	250	132	2
VI	8	31	5	17	5	1
SEN support but no specialist assessment		54		11		No data
TOTAL	529	2989	361	2102	848	21

Analysis:

51% of children with an EHCP are in a mainstream school (an increase of 1.1% on last year) and 49% are in a special school.

Of those children in mainstream school, 59.4% are in primary (less than last year) and 41.6% are in secondary (more than last year). This movement is in line with expectations as per the expected population changes moving through the system.

Of children on SEN Support there is a significant drop in numbers of those with SLCN at secondary level.

Question: Does this mean that their needs have resolved (in line with research) or is this a consequence of recording for pupils with suspected ASC? Or both?

As expected the number of children on SEN Support for specific learning disability is significantly higher at secondary level than primary level.

Implications:

Schools should be congratulated on the high number of children, especially with ASC, SEMH, MLD that they are supporting within their own resources. It will be important to monitor how this changes year on year and how certain strategies (e.g. Ordinarily available provision) impact on the capacity and capability of schools to support ever increasing numbers and complexity of children.

Figure 6: EHCP Gender split as at January 2023 (Source NEXUS/SEN 2)

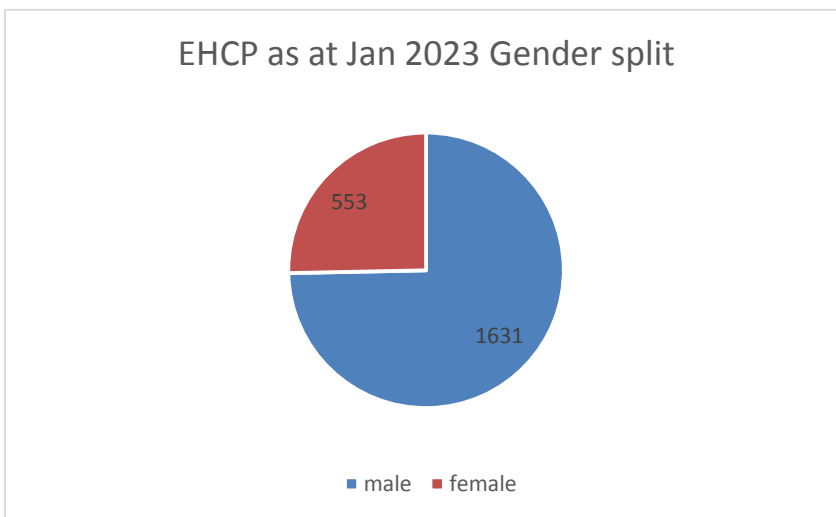


Figure 7: EHCP Gender split by placement as at January 2023 (source NEXUS/SEN 2)

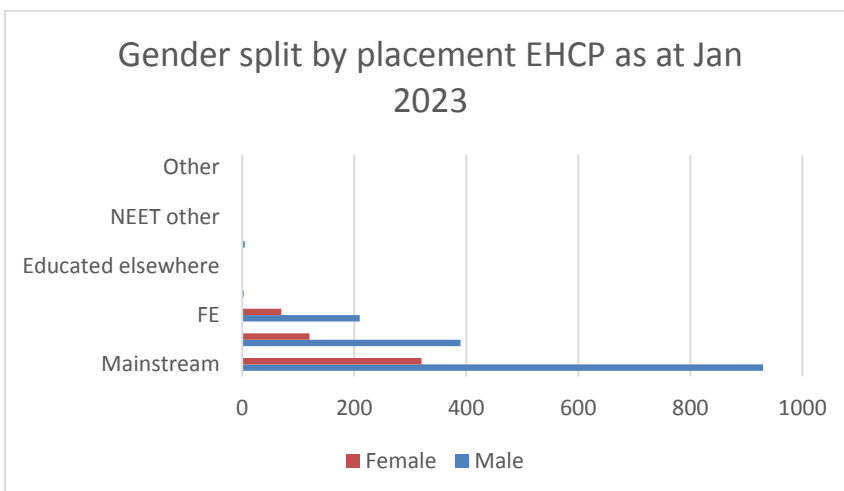
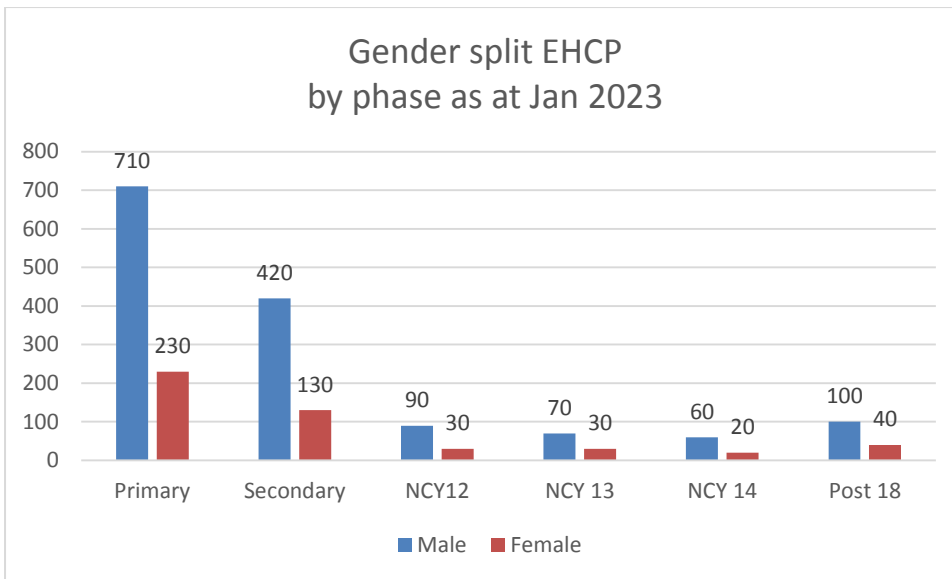
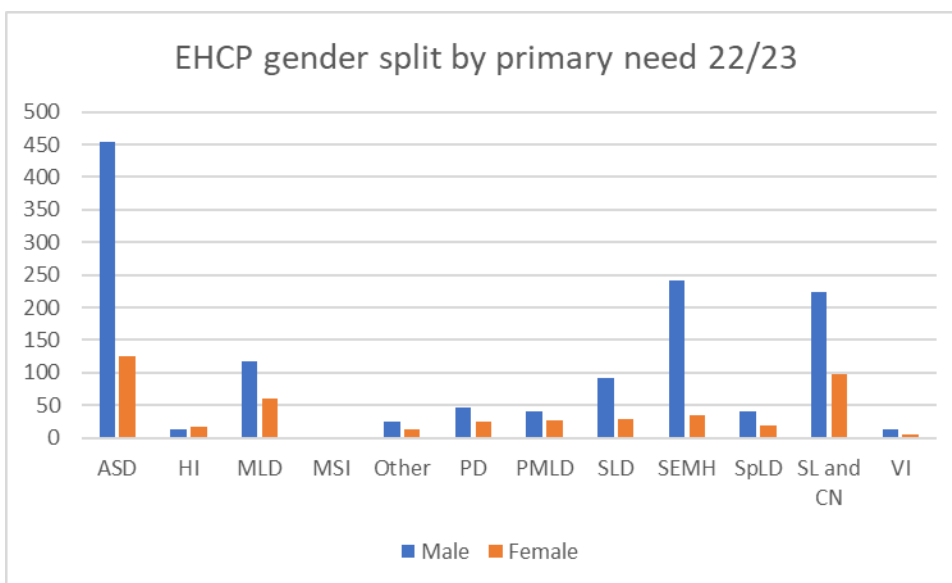


Fig 8: Gender split by phase as at January 2023 (Source NEXUS/SEN2)



EHCP gender split by primary need 2022/23

(Source: <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-tables/special-educational-needs-in-england>)



Analysis:

The split of EHCPs across boys and girls is 74.6%: 25.3% or roughly 3:1 and is the same across all age phases. The percentage of girls is slowly increasing year on year.

Relatively fewer girls have a primary need of autism and SEMH compared to boys probably due to the difference in how these needs present in girls.

Implications

Schools and agencies must work together to ensure that girls with autism and SEMH must be identified earlier to ensure that their needs are met.

Question: What support do we have in place to enhance early identification of needs in girls?

Questions from previous SEND Annual Reviews

1. What evidence do we have of any potential increases in need in the future?
 - a. Changes in neonatal provision affecting survival rates of premature or highly complex births
 - b. Changes in the number of babies born with specific conditions e.g. hearing impairment, visual impairment, physical disability etc
 - c. Changes in the management or provision of specific needs e.g. cochlear implants
 - d. Predicted increase in autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders
 - e. Understanding of and early intervention for children with SEMH
2. Are there other groups that we should be considering and collating data on
 - a. Looked After CYP
 - b. LAC asylum seekers as these require additional time and are increasing in numbers.
3. What changes are other agencies seeing that could inform future planning and provision for children with SEND?

Highlights from 2023 SEND Annual Review. What do they mean in relation to future need and planning future provision?

- The pupil population is expected to decrease over the next 5 years but the bulge of previous increases is still working its way through secondary and post 16 settings.
- The population at primary is predicted to reduce quite significantly.
- The numbers of pupils requiring an EHCP is expected to continue to increase but are we now likely to see a more consistent pattern?
- The % of children with SEN Support has seen a marginal increase but this increase is lower than local and national increases. Why is this?
- The figures suggest strong identification of needs in the early years. This is supported through the early years panel. Are we seeing similar increases again so far this year?
- The numbers of young people with an EHCP Post 16 and Post 19 is likely to increase as EHCPs continue to be maintained and the current secondary school bulge moves through the system. Are colleges prepared for this increase?
- Numbers of children diagnosed with autism is expected to continue to increase up to prevalence level of 1.1% and in line with statistical neighbours then to plateau?
- Pressure on special school places likely to continue.
- Need to improve mainstream provision for children with autism
- Need to ensure there is robust mainstream support for children with SEMH
- Need to do more work to establish the population of SLCN vs ASC – how do we know that those with SLCN are getting effective support?
- The role and remit of all provisions needs to be discussed and agreed to ensure that as a whole Southampton is able to respond to demand in the future and plan places accordingly.

- Parents need access to support, advice and information to help them make informed choices and engage in the process as equal partners
- Increasing understanding and acceptance of disability within society will support and be supported by the inclusion agenda
- The ordinarily available provision guidance will support greater understanding of expectations within a schools core budget. We this impact the number of EHC Applications?

Changes required in provision based on predicted need – Taken from 2019 SEND Annual review – Do they still apply? What else do we need to consider to better support children and families in the future?

- With SEND Reforms now embedded the focus of the SEND Team, Health and Social Care partners should be to:
 - Ensure assessment process is efficient and meets statutory timelines
 - Improve quality of evidence supporting request for assessment and assessment process
 - Develop clear threshold for an EHCP with robust assessment of requests
 - Cease all EHCPs no longer required
- Need to continue drive to increasing inclusion
 - Inclusion Charter and audit
- Need to increase capacity and capability of mainstream schools to take pupils with SEND
 - Guidance on ordinarily available provision
 - Training offer
 - Review outreach offer
- Need to increase capacity of specialist provision especially at secondary level
 - Programme of expansion and reconfiguration underway
- Need to reduce the number of children in out of city independent special schools and reinvest savings in the city
 - Special schools to take children with more complex needs
 - Development of SEND Units and Resourced provisions to ensure a continuum of offer
- Need to identify needs and intervene earlier within the context of graduated continuum of provision to minimise school moves by providing better support to mainstream schools
- Need to reduce children entering special school in the first place

Summary of discussion – SEND Partnership Forum – 12.09.2023

RESOURCES

SEN 2 Return

DfE Statistics - <https://www.gov.uk/statistics/special-educational-needs-in-england>

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-tables/special-educational-needs-in-england>

Tammy Marks Head of SEND and CWD August 2023

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DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL
SUBJECT:	CHILDREN AND LEARNING - PERFORMANCE
DATE OF DECISION:	23 NOVEMBER 2023
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
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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 is a summary of performance for Children’s Services and Learning up to the end of October 2023. 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.	
RECOMMENDATIONS:	
(i)	That the Panel consider and challenge the performance of Children’s Services and Learning in Southampton.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	To enable effective scrutiny of Children’s Services and Learning in Southampton.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	None.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	To enable the Panel to undertake their role effectively members will be provided with monthly performance information and an explanation of the measures.
4.	Performance information up to 31 October 2023 is attached as Appendix 1. An explanation of the significant variations in performance has been included.
5.	The Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, 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	
<u>Capital/Revenue/Property/Other</u>	
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.	<p>The 2022-2030 Corporate Plan includes, as one of its four goals, strong foundations for life where people are able to access and maximise opportunities to truly thrive, Southampton will focus on ensuring residents of all ages and backgrounds have strong foundations for life.</p> <p>By delivering consistently good outcomes for the city's children and young people, Southampton's Children's Services and Learning Department will contribute to achieving this objective.</p>

KEY DECISION?	No
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WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	Summary of performance and commentary – October 2023
2.	Children and Learning Glossary

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 / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None

Children & Learning Service Performance Report

November 2023

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Children
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Making a difference



SOUTHAMPTON
CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item 10
Appendix 1

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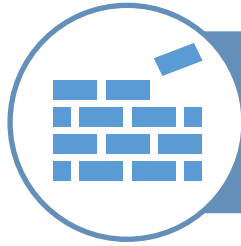
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Purpose

In order to evidence that **Children & Learning Services** are making a **positive difference for children in the city**, we consider our monthly performance data that is linked to the key outcomes of our governing strategy, **Building for Brilliance 2023**.

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Building for Brilliance; Building for Sustainability; Building for Families, with Families



Ensure that children get the **right support at the right time**, meeting need early, reducing demand and spend on statutory services



Develop **strong, vibrant localities** where families can receive the help they need and practitioners can share their knowledge and expertise



Support children to **remain within, or return to, their birth families**, seeking out and reuniting family members, reducing care costs and freeing up placements for other children.



Promote **permanence and placement stability**, creating strong forever families and reducing increasingly costly alternatives



Build a **permanent, stable, energised workforce**, increasing consistency for children and reducing agency spend



Embed our **practice framework and practice standards** across the whole service, doing the basics brilliantly and being ambitious in our practice expectations



Children & Learning
Making a difference



Right support at the right time

Indicator	Oct-21	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbourhoods	South East	England
Number of referrals into Early Help	99	183	161	179	220	172	183	131	181	154	172	162	109	137		-	↑	-	-	-	-
Number of referrals that were stepped down from CSC (no assessment required)		48	25	61	37	40	33	28	35	35	21	46	27	16			↓				
Number of Early Help assessments started	197	118	100	102	112	89	110	73	74	82	119	71	66	84		-	↑	-	-	-	-
Number of contacts in the month	1759	1488	1794	1428	1839	1598	2023	1544	1828	1948	1804	1471	1532	1922		-	↓	-	-	-	-
Rate of contacts per 10,000 population under 18 years old		4266	4267	4233	4222	4240	4289	4265	4213	4229	4272	4173	4123	4211			↓				
Number of referrals into statutory service in the month	397	276	396	298	343	330	433	282	301	285	310	263	267	277	273	●	↓	-	-	-	-
Rate of referrals per 10,000 population under 18 years old		772	770	749	751	753	777	780	770	762	761	760	754	756	647	●	↓	702.6	638.8	625.5	537.7
Number of C&F assessments completed	308	289	356	326	322	317	400	309	425	283	292	259	231	221	174	●	↑	-	-	-	-
Rate of assessments per 10,000 population under 18 years old		775	784	783	784	788	804	800	830	827	829	807	776	763	637	●	↑	690.1	638.7	599.9	533.4
Number of children with Child in Need Plan (not CWD)	36	621	642	648	584	538	535	639	524	493	467	462	433	388	-	-	↑	-	-	-	-
Number of children with Child in Need Plan (CWD)		223	215	222	222	227	231	233	238	244	254	243	243	233	-	-	↑	-	-	-	-
Number of strategy discussions held		164	288	191	200	196	217	184	185	207	144	161	152	145	-	-	↑	-	-	-	-
Number of Section 47 enquiries completed		114	193	139	103	158	169	138	126	124	121	86	81	130	-	-	↓	-	-	-	-
Rate of Section 47 enquiries completed		360	368	364	351	353	356	360	356	355	346	336	320	325	260	●	↓	338.6	248.0	208.1	180.1
Percentage of Strategy discussions resulting in Section 47		70	67	73	52	81	78	75	68	60	84	53	53	90							
Number of children subject to CP Plan at end of month	391	315	301	302	288	301	315	347	355	351	345	346	318	314	295	●	↑	-	-	-	-
Rate of children subject to CP plans	79	64	61	61	58	61	64	70	72	71	70	70	64	64	60	●	→	-	-	-	-
Number of children in our care	525	548	552	543	543	553	545	539	505	517	518	507	510	504	495	●	↑	497	640	10480	80850
Rate of children in our care per 10,000	106	111	112	113	110	112	111	109	102	105	105	103	103	102	100	●	↑	96	100	53	67
Number of children open to the service (Assessment, CIN, CP, CLA, CL)	2184	2362	2327	2404	2363	2401	2402	2425	2326	2304	2297	2259	2112	2077	-	-	↑				

Right support at the right time

Desired outcome

Improved shared understanding of thresholds resulting in less contacts a month, an increase in referrals and assessments for Early Help, a reduction in statutory referrals and assessments and children open to statutory services. This will result in more focused and intensive work with families requiring statutory services resulting in less children subject to CP planning and coming into our care.

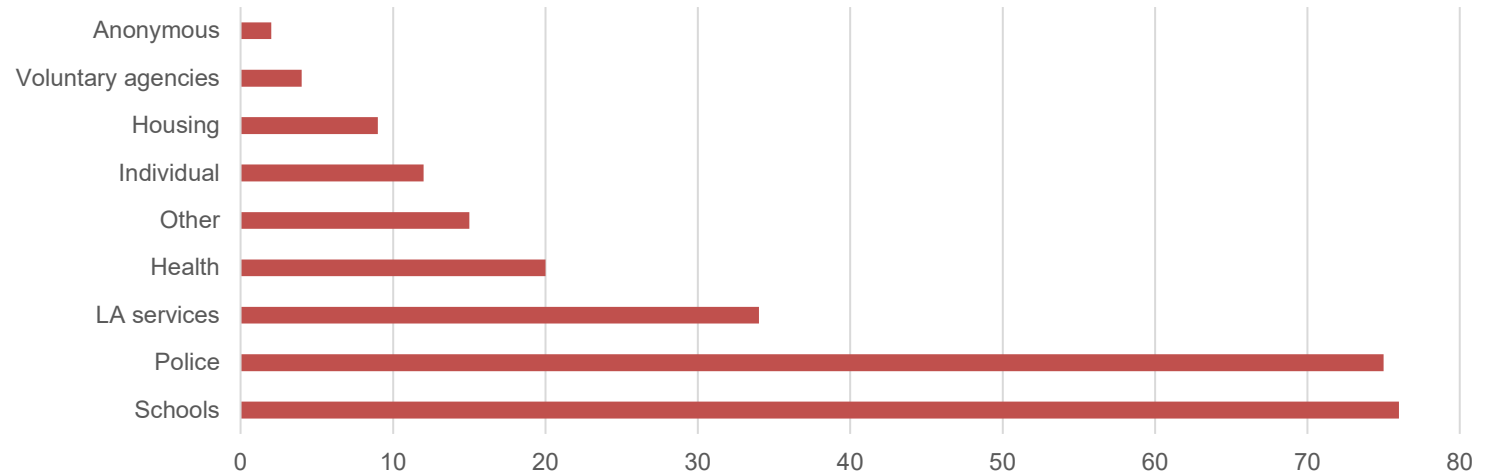
Progress analysis

- The number of referrals into Children & Family First have increased by 26% from September.
- October has provided further evidence of the increased scrutiny and application of threshold within the Childrens Resource Hub. Despite an increase in Contacts of 25% to 1922, the number of referrals accepted only increased by 4%. There is significant work going in to working with the professional network to work with families prior to requiring a statutory service.
- Children with a Child In Need plan had reduced by 38% since October 2022, down to 388.
- Children with disabilities meeting the threshold for Child In Need plans have increased in the last year by 25% to 243.
- Whilst the number of strategy discussions continued the overall downward trend, the number of Section 47s took a sharp increase of 60%, with 90% of strategy discussions resulting in a Section 47 enquiry. This is the highest conversion rate of the year and suggests that the nature of concerns being discussed have reflected a period of increased risk for children.
- The rate of Children subject to Child Protection Planning and the rate of children in our care have both continued to trend towards the target.



Strong, safe & vibrant localities

Referral Source - October 2023



Indicator	Page 122												Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England	
	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23								Oct-23
Percentage of re-referrals within 12 months	27%	26%	30%	27%	25%	28%	27%	25%	35%	26%	19%	21%	21%	23%	●	→	27%	21%	26%	21%
Percentage of referrals leading to NFA	3%	5%	4%	6%	5%	8%	7%	5%	8%	9%	10%	10%	9%	-	-	↑	-	-	-	-
Percentage of children subject to 2nd or more CP plan	31%	32%	32%	33%	32%	32%	33%	34%	33%	33%	31%	31%	32%	24%	●	→	24%	24%	24%	23%
Percentage of children subject to child protection plans with recent core group held in time	84%	90%	77%	76%	76%	78%	77%	85%	83%	79%	69%	85%	78%	95%	●	↑	-	-	-	-
Percentage of children with Child in Need Plan (not CWD) with CIN review within last 12 weeks	80%	87%	88%	84%	83%	83%	79%	84%	83%	86%	79%	80%	83%	95%	●	↓	-	-	-	-



Strong, safe & vibrant localities

Outcomes

Stronger partner relationships will lead to a better understanding of referral thresholds. Multi-agency plans will be effective at increasing the safety and wellbeing of children. This will lead to a reduction in the referrals from schools, increase in partner agency led Team Around the Family plans, timeliness of Core Group activity, decrease in children with more than one period of CP planning, and increase in Child In Need Plans concluding within 6 months.

Progress analysis

- The Child in Need Census for 2022/23 highlighted that referrals from schools accounted for 32% of all referrals received. This is significantly higher than the previous year and above the statistical neighbours.
- In October, 31% of our referrals came from schools. This is a positive reduction in number and proportion. There was a significant increase in the referrals from the police, accounting for a third of the referrals last month.
- Re-referrals remain below the target and in line with the statistical neighbour average.
- 78% of children with a child protection plan had a core group meeting recorded. This is likely to be lower than the number of core groups that took place due to the challenges workers have in recording the meeting. This can be seen in the September data, which was previously 75%, and is now 85%. It is a similar issue for Child In Need review meetings, 83% are recorded, but more are likely to be taking place.



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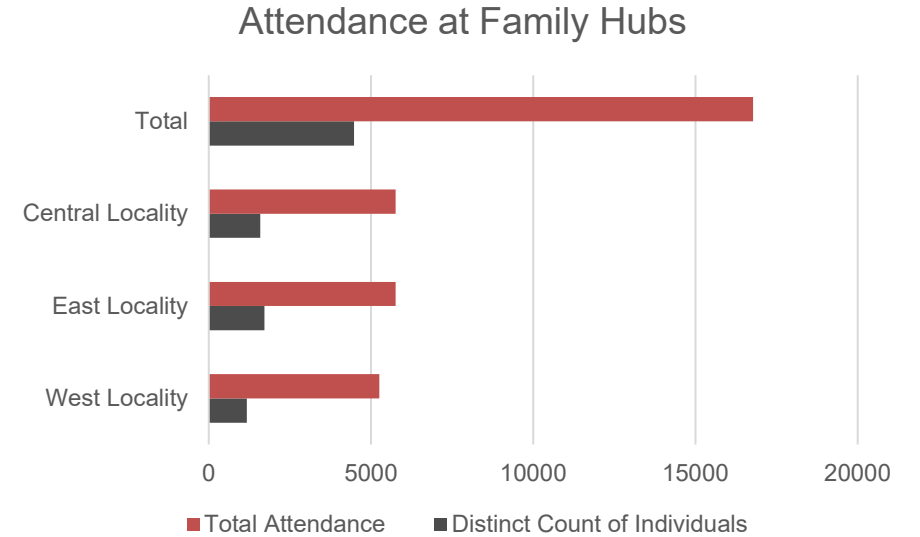
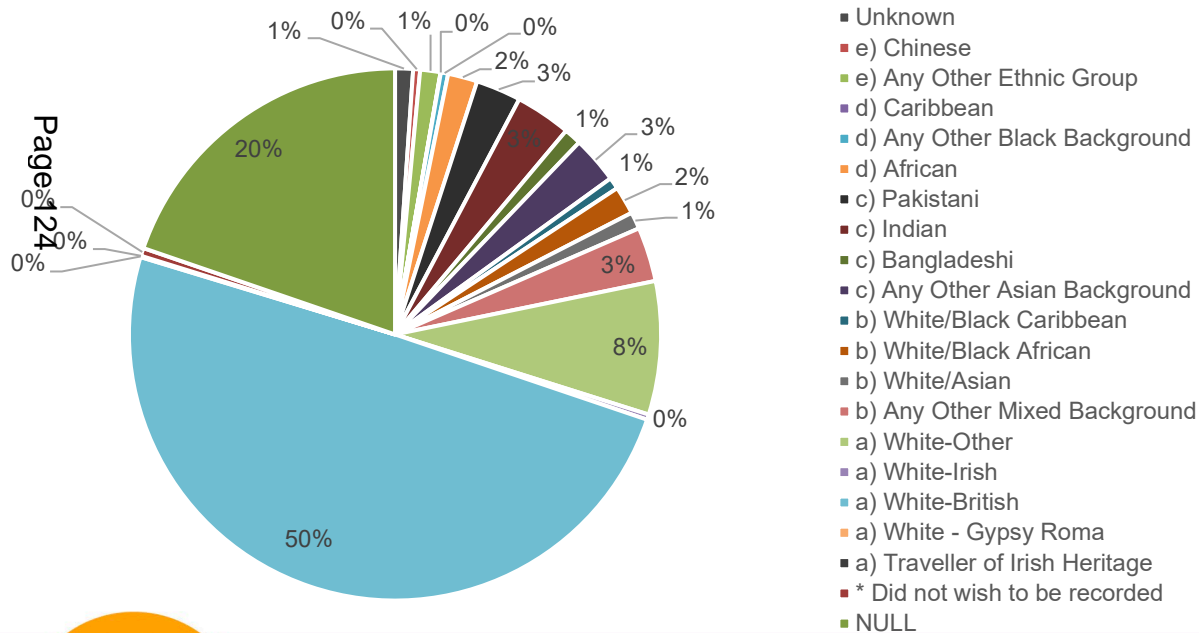


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Strong, safe & vibrant localities

Attendance at Family Hubs

- 4964 distinct individuals have attended Family Hubs in 2023
- They have attended a total number of 17,651 times
- 167 children out of 2157 on Child In Need plans have attended a Hub
- 19 children out of 252 on Child Protection Plans have attended a Hub



50% of individuals using the Hubs are White British, 20% do not have an ethnicity recorded. 8% are White Other, 3% are Indian, 3% are Asian Other, 3% are Any Other Mixed, 2% are White/Black African, 2% are African.



Children remain within or return to their birth families

Indicator	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Number of children in our care	552	543	543	553	545	539	505	517	518	507	510	505	504	495	●	↑	497	640	10480	80850
Rate of children in our care per 10,000	112	113	110	112	111	109	102	105	105	103	103	102	102	100	●	→	96	100	53	67
Number of new CLA in month	17	24	16	23	19	14	3	31	17	10	17	15	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of new CLA in month who are UASC	5	6	3	4	4	5	1	2	2	2	3	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of Ceased CLA in the month excluding UASC	12	18	27	10	23	18	34	15	18	13	14	17	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of CLA achieved CAO or SGO	4	3	5	4	5	3	6	4	4	2	3	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of CLA returned home as part of care planning	0	11	5	0	2	5	8	2	5	3	5	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of CLA placed with parents at the end of the month	59	52	46	48	48	48	42	48	44	39	39	34	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of CLA placed in Connected Carer placements at the end of the month	59	64	61	60	56	59	54	52	50	47	40	42	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Children & Learning
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Promote permanence and placement stability

Indicator	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel	So'ton 21/22	Statistica - Neighb South East	England	
Number of children in our care	552	543	543	553	545	539	505	517	518	507	510	505	504	495	●	↑	497	640	10480	80850
Percentage of CLA at end of month with 3 or more placements during the year	18	17	16	15	15	14	15	15	14	16	18	17	18	12	●	↑				
Number of CLA placed in IFA placements as at the end of the month	131	131	134	136	137	139	140	144	146	141	147	142	141	100	●	↑				
Percentage of CLA placed in IFA placements as at the end of the month	23	23	24	24	24	25	27	27	26	27	29	28	28							
Number of CLA placed in Residential placements including semi-independent	66	71	73	74	71	75	71	70	70	75	76	76	80	60	●	↓				
Number of CLA placed in residential - Independent Sector	44	43	42	42	43	42	42	43	43	42	43	43	39	41	●	↓				
Percentage of CLA placed in Residential placements - independent sector	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8							
Number of CLA placed in unregulated/ unregistered settings at the end of the month	26	30	30	31	29	33	30	30	36	42	42	44	48	20	●	→				
Percentage of CLA placed in unregulated/ unregistered settings at the end of the month	5	5	6	6	5	6	6	6	7	8	8	8	10							
Number of CLA placed for adoption at period end	41	42	36	36	30	30	20	19	19	13	15	15	17							
Number of children placed with SCC foster carers (including connected carers)	229	232	224	228	230	214	202	213	206	195	193	198	201	285	●	↓				
Percentage of children placed with SCC foster carers (including connected carers)	41	42	41	41	42	40	40	40	39	38	38	39	40							

Indicator	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23
Percentage of initial health assessments delivered within 20 working days of date child became looked after.	25	74	28	32	15	31	22	60	50	76	30	57	10
Percentage of children in care for at least 12 months for whom health assessments are up to date.	84	88	88	90	91	89	88	86	84	84	81	80	78



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SOUTHAMPTON
CITY COUNCIL

Children remain within or return to their birth families

Outcomes – Children in our care return to live with their birth families, and more children are enabled to remain with their birth families so we bring less children into our care through intensive working with families at child in need and child protection.

Progress analysis –

- The rate of children in our care is down to 102 from 112 in October 2022. We are closer to our target of 100, which is linked to the statistical neighbour average.
- Of the 13 children that ceased being looked after in October, 9 achieved permanence within their immediate or wider network through a Child Arrangement Order, Special Guardianship Order, or their Care Order being discharged.
- There are currently 33 children subject to pre-proceedings within the Public Law Outline. Within this process, interventions and assessments are provided to prevent, where possible, children entering the court process and being removed from their parents. The work also explores family options so that children can remain within their network where possible.
- A specific crisis team is being developed to support families where children are on the edge of becoming looked after and increase placement stability for those in care.
- A systemic approach is being used to review the extended families of children placed in residential homes to consider if there are opportunities to step-children across into safe family care arrangements with a needs assessment informing family support packages.



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Promote permanence and placement stability

Outcomes

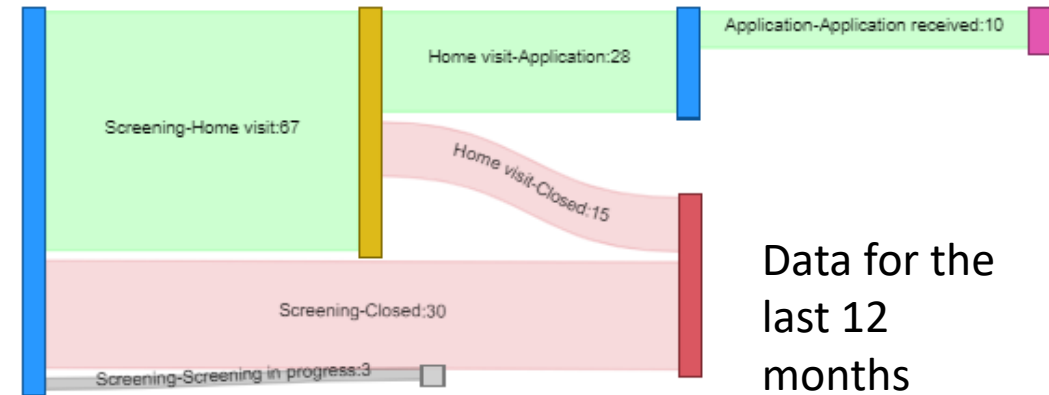
Children remaining in our care will have long term, stable placements with less children in residential and unregulated placements. Children will be placed with in house carers rather than independent fostering agency placements as we grow our resources.

Progress analysis

- The net reduction in children in our care was 5 for September.
- 5 less children were placed in IFA placements than August, but this is still 42 above the target of 100.
- We still have 42 placed in residential placements, and there is work being led by the Head of Practice to review the family networks with workers to review alternatives.
- The number of children in unregulated and unregistered settings increased to 44 from 42, this is up from 23 in September 2022.
- Placement stability has reduced to 17% from the 18% high in August but remains above the target of 10%.
- For the 13 children that came into care in October, only 10% received an initial health assessment within the initial 20 working days. 78% of children that have been in care for more than 12 months have an up-to-date health assessment.

Fostering recruitment

- In October, there were 12 screening, 9 resulted in a home visit and of these 6 application forms were sent. 1 application form has subsequently been received.
- In the last 3 months, 33 screening were completed, resulting in 28 home visits. 17 applications forms were provided, of which 3 have been received back.



Promote permanence and placement stability

Education

There are 29 looked after children (5.7%) currently out of education. 19 of these children are 16 and 17 years old, 5 are 15 years old. 2 of these young people are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children that are only recently in our care.

5 of these children have only been in care for less than a month, and none have a personal education plan recorded yet.

9 of these children have Special Educational Needs.

4 children have had more than 1 school place, with 1 child having 11, and another 9 places. These two children have had 44 placements between them, suggesting that some school places have been able to be maintained whilst they have moved between homes. All four of these children have special education needs.



Permanent, stable workforce

Indicator	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Average number of children per primary caseholder (based on 1 FTE)	-	13.97	14.92	14.92	15.88	15.43	15.31	16.19	15.87	16.40	15.64	14.50	14.21			↑
Average number of children per qualified Social Worker (1 FTE)	-	15.75	15.75	15.75	16.65	15.80	15.66	16.38	15.76	16.67	16.46	14.98	14.76			↑
Total number of case holders with 20+ children	-	37	45	47	48	54	53	50	43	47	36	37	34			↑
Average number of children per worker with 20+ children (1 FTE)	-	22.08	22.31	22.55	23.27	22.72	23.15	22.76	22.65	22.74	22.88	22.30	21.53			↑
Average number of children per worker in top 40	-	21.85	22.55	22.98	23.93	23.68	24.05	23.45	22.85	23.23	22.40	22.05	21.15			↑
Percentage of CLA that have been in care for 12+m, with same social worker for last 6 months	64	55	56	54	50	49	47	59	62	68	74	75	80	80	●	↑
Percentage of children open for 6+ months that have had 2 or more social workers in the last 6 months	31%	34%	36%	38%	38%	37%	36%	34%	35%	33%	32%	39%	38%	25	●	↑



Children & Learning
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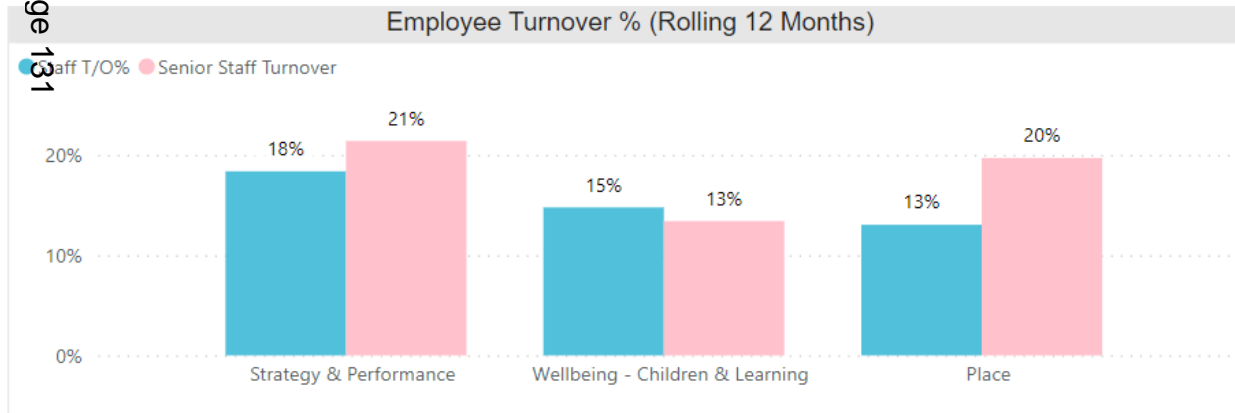


Permanent, stable workforce

Progress analysis

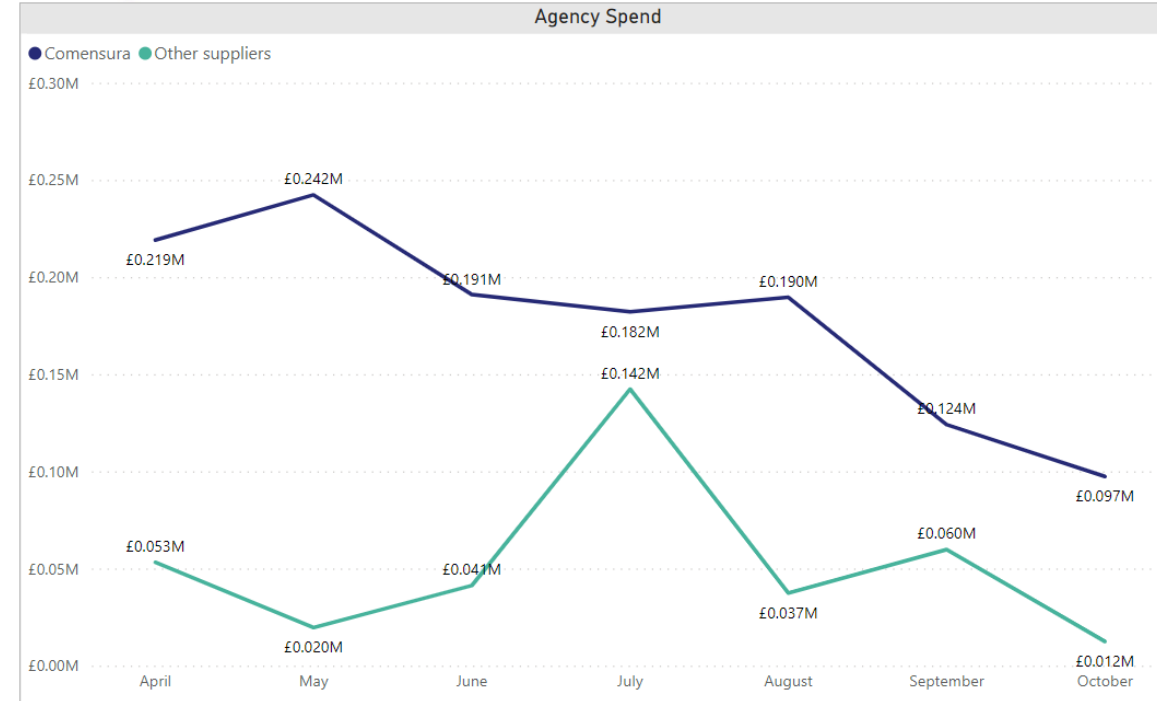
- The number of agency staff has continued to reduce and has by passed the target of 21, with the current level of 19.
- Staff stability within the pathways through care service has resulted in the consistent increase in duration of relationships for children in care with their social workers and has already reached the target of 80%.
- We currently have 97% permanent social work workforce, and 100% permanent and stable leadership.

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Outcomes

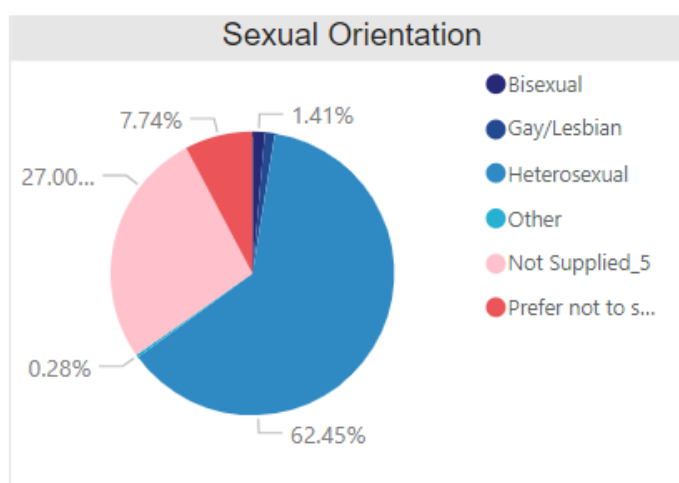
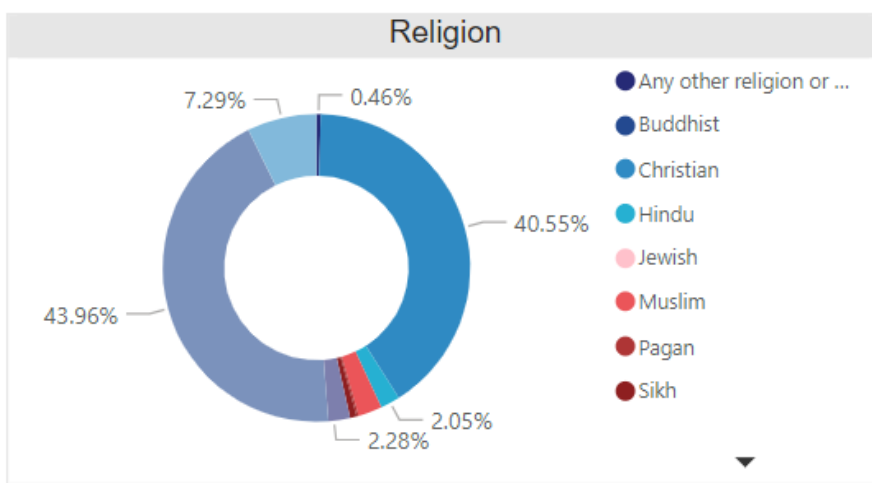
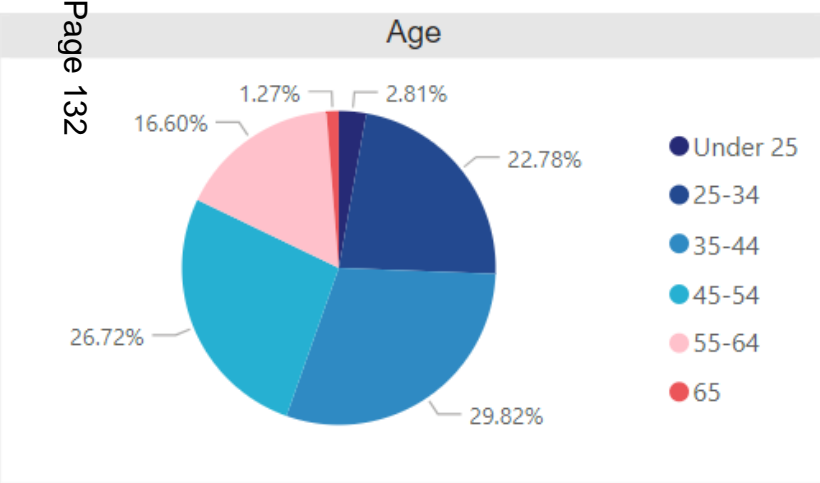
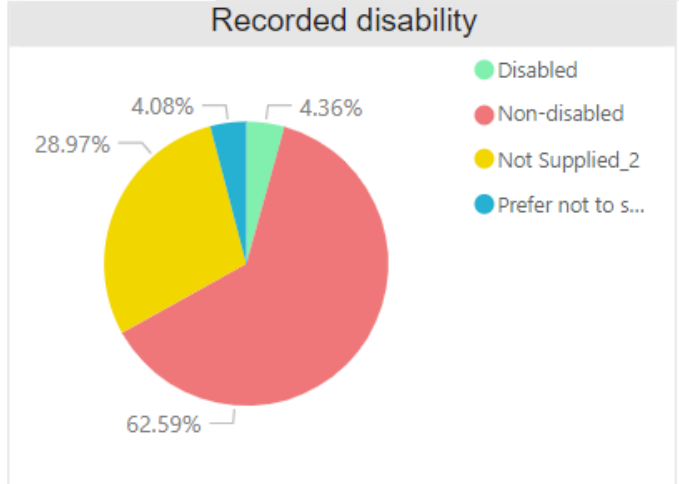
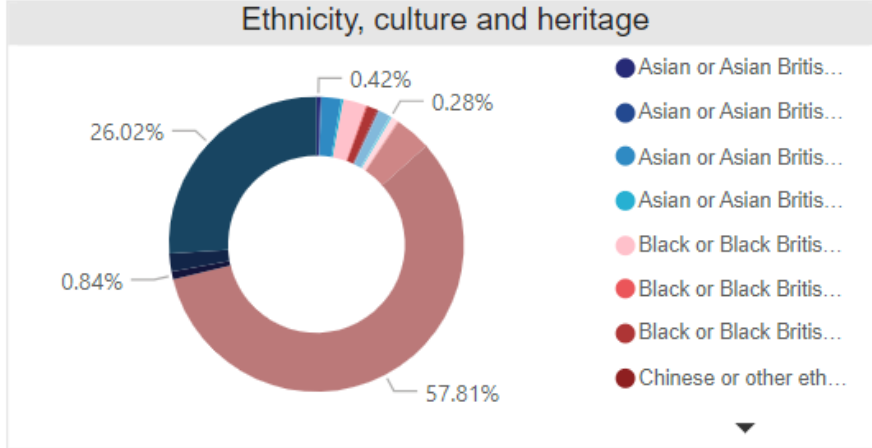
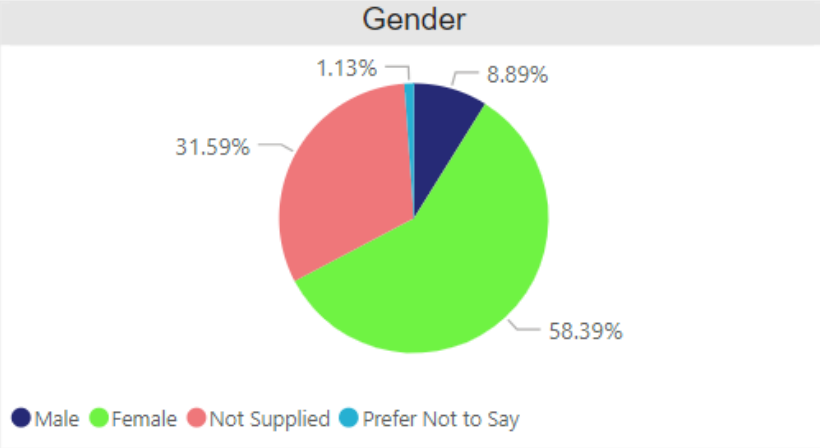
Children and families maintain working relationships with consistent practitioners, who benefit from stable management support and oversight. Agency staff numbers will reduce contributing towards financial responsibility.



Children & Learning
Making a difference



Diversity & Inclusion of staff



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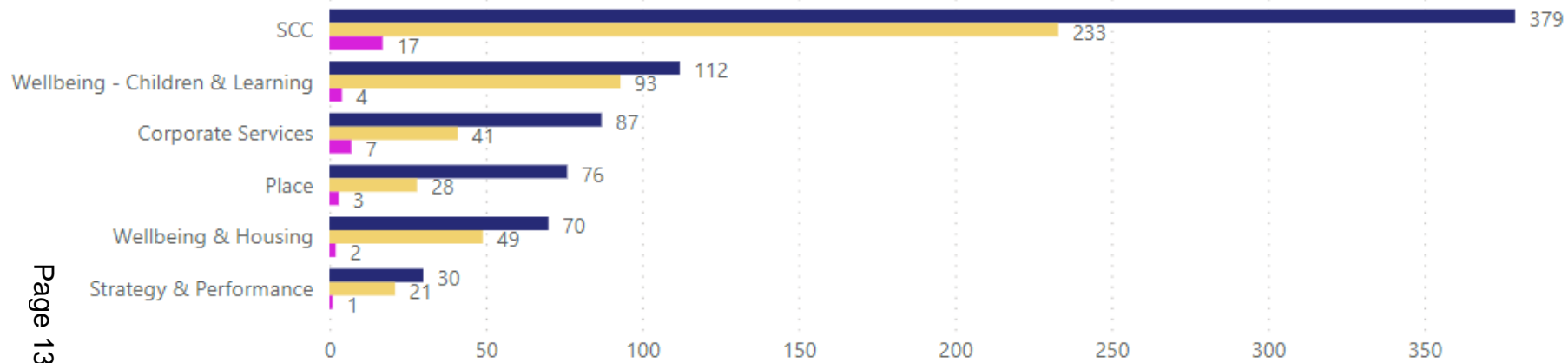




Diversity & Inclusion in Senior Roles

Women & ethnic minorities in senior roles

● No. of Senior Roles ● No. of Women in Senior Roles ● No. of Ethnic Minorities in Senior Roles



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Gender Pay Gap 2022

Mean Gender Pay Gap - 2.7%

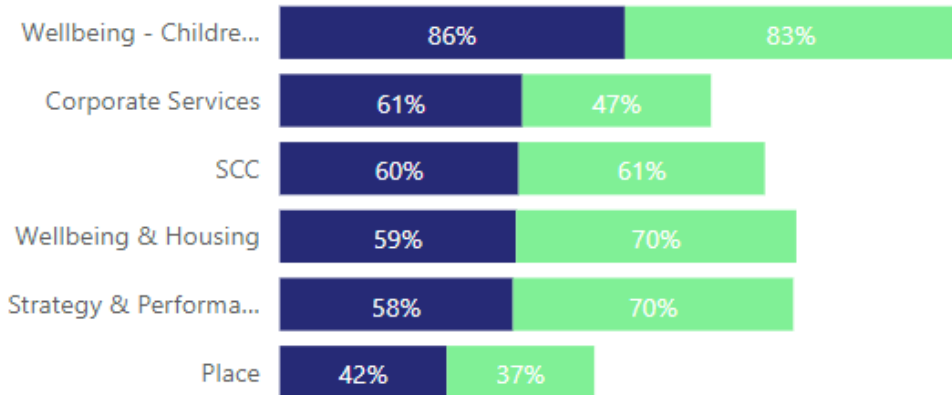
Median Gender Pay Gap - 2.8%

Mean Ethnicity Pay Gap - 6.4%

Median Ethnicity Pay Gap - 5.5%

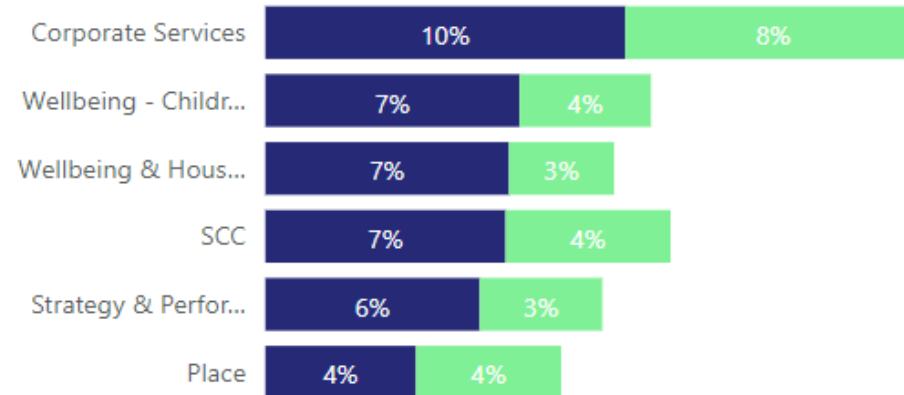
% of women in the organisation vs those in senior roles

● % of Women ● % of Women in Senior Roles



% of ethnic minorities vs those in senior roles

● % of Ethnic Minorities ● % of Ethnic Minorities in Senior Roles



Embedding Practice Framework and Standards

Outcomes –

Audits will evidence

- An improved quality of supervision and standard of practice.
- Contingency planning will be clear in all plans from the beginning of interventions and involvements.
- Systemic practice will be evidenced in care recording audits of visits, assessments, plans, supervisions, chronologies.
- Safe & Together will be evident in work with families increasing involvement of perpetrators, partnering with survivors and achieving long term safety for children.

Progress analysis – September Audit overview:

- 34 audits allocated across 9 service areas, 27 (79%) completed – down 6% on July.
- Outstanding (7.4%), Good (59.3%), Requires Improvement (33.3%), Inadequate (0%)
- Highlights of good practice:
 - 100% of Children & Family First confirmed intervention offered was evidence base and bespoke to needs of child/family.
 - 100% of BIT audits had supervision within timescales, evidence of supervision and manager oversight giving clear direction
 - 100% of SWF have chronologies and cultural genograms on file, the majority have case summaries
 - CWD – evidence of an in depth understanding of child's support needs, health & disability related needs clearly recorded.
 - PTC – Care plan and case summary in timescales and evidences good detail and management oversight.
 - ICAS – outstanding audit showed timely allocation, goal setting, writing to child, clear evidence of interventions bring completed with family and excellent closure summary.
 - Fostering – Review has taken place in last 12 months with both carers attending, presented to panel in timescales.
- Highlights of areas for improvement:
 - Children & Family First – prioritise timely updating of chronologies, case summaries, cultural genograms & writing to child
 - BIT – Direct work with children to be consistent across the service, concentrate of detail in visit recordings
 - SWF – Focus on improving timeliness of supervision and recording timeframes for actions
 - CWD – Completion of chronology, case summary and cultural genogram
 - PTC – Prioritise completion of chronologies and cultural genograms
 - ICAS – ensure clear analysis for the reader to understand the concerns from a professional perspective
 - Fostering – Timely completion & updating of case summary and chronology



Performance - Visiting

Progress analysis

All visiting patterns improved towards or maintained at the target other than 10 working day visits to children subject to child protection planning that reduced to 88%.

Visiting remains a key focus in assurance clinics.

Indicator	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Percentage of children open to Early Help with a visit in the last 4 weeks	51%	60%	57%	54%	66%	62%	71%	61%	60%	66%	67%	58%	71%	95%	●	↑
Percentage of children with an active Child in Need Plan (not CWD) visited within last 6 weeks	95%	97%	95%	98%	98%	97%	96%	98%	95%	96%	94%	96%	96%	95%	●	→
Percentage of children with an active Child in Need Plan (not CWD) visited within last 3 weeks	76%	79%	83%	80%	81%	77%	84%	81%	74%	77%	77%	77%	86%	90%	●	↑
Percentage of children with an active Child in Need Plan (CWD) visited within agreed timescales	89%	86%	85%	89%	92%	86%	85%	86%	95%	88%	77%	73%	80%	95%	●	↑
Percentage of children subject to Child Protection Plan visited within last 10 working days	87%	91%	94%	95%	93%	87%	90%	92%	90%	84%	86%	90%	88%	95%	●	↓
Percentage of children subject to Child Protection Plan visited within last 4 weeks	97%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	97%	98%	98%	97%	96%	98%	97%	95%	●	↓
Percentage of CLA for whom a visit has taken place within agreed timescales	86%	89%	86%	81%	79%	86%	89%	92%	89%	89%	83%	81%	81%	95%	●	→



Performance - Supervision

Progress analysis

- Supervision for children open to statutory improved in all levels.
- The only reduction was for children open to Early Help, which reduced from 82% to 81%.
- Supervision is one element of management oversight and decision making for children and families.

Indicator	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Target	RAG	Direction of travel
Percentage of children open to Early Help with supervision in timescales	63%	78%	72%	67%	87%	74%	78%	82%	72%	82%	89%	82%	81%	95%	●	↓
Percentage of children open for assessment who had supervision in timescales	94%	95%	96%	96%	93%	93%	93%	91%	91%	97%	94%	94%	96%	95%	●	↑
Percentage of children with a Child in Need Plan (not CWD) who had supervision within timescales	84%	90%	86%	93%	90%	89%	90%	96%	85%	79%	84%	86%	90%	95%	●	↑
Percentage of children with a Child in Need Plan (CWD) who had their supervision within timescales	99%	99%	99%	100%	99%	98%	96%	86%	84%	79%	77%	77%	83%	95%	●	↑
Percentage of CPP who had their supervision and within timescales	88%	95%	94%	93%	96%	86%	91%	98%	87%	85%	89%	93%	95%	95%	●	↑
Percentage of CLA who had their supervision and was within the timescale	76%	73%	76%	86%	86%	78%	85%	94%	88%	90%	78%	73%	75%	95%	●	↑
Percentage of Care Leavers who had their supervision and was within the timescale	44%	51%	60%	45%	86%	81%	86%	92%	92%	88%	83%	79%	83%	95%	●	↑



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES GLOSSARY

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Acronyms

ADM	Agency decision maker
ASYE	Assessed and Supported Year in Employment
BIT	Brief Intervention Team
C&FF	Children and Family First (Early Help service)
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CiC	Children in Care
CLA	Children Looked After
CP	Child Protection
CRS	Childrens Resource Service
CYP	Children and Young People
EH	Early Help
FEW	Family Engagement Worker
HoS	Head of Service
ICAS	Intervention and Complex Assessment Service
ICAT	Intervention and Complex Assessment Team
Jigsaw	Children with Disabilities Team
KCSiE	Keeping Children Safe in Education (safeguarding legislation and guidance for education settings)
ROTH	Risk Outside the Home
PM	Practice Manager
PTC	Pathways through Care
SL	Service Lead
SW	Social Worker
SWF/SWWF	Social Work with Families
YJS	Youth Justice Service
YPS	Young Person Service

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.

Brief Intervention Team

Brief Intervention Service undertakes S47 Child Protection Investigations and S17 Single Assessments. They work towards five different outcomes for families.

1. If there are no identified concerns then the case can close.
 2. If the family require ongoing support at an early help level then the social worker will present the case at Step Down Panel in order to access Children and Families First and Universal Services.
 3. Children who require ongoing support with social worker intervention can be made subject to a Child In Need Plan.
 4. Children considered to be at risk of significant harm can be made subject to a Child Protection Plan.
 5. The service are also active in some initial court proceedings.
- The Brief Intervention Service do not hold cases long term therefore when a plan is identified that case will transfer to the appropriate team. All CIN plans and CP plans transfer to the Social Work with Families Service.

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 Arrangement Order

Child Arrangements Orders replace residence orders and contact orders. Child Arrangements Orders are governed by section 8 of the Children Act 1989. A Child Arrangements Order decides where a child lives, when a child spends time with each parent and when and what other types of contact take place (phone calls, for example). Each Child Arrangements Order is decided on the circumstances of the individual family and on what is in the best interests of that particular child.

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.

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.

Children and Families First

Parents or professionals can referral for Children and Families First case holding services through the Children's Resource Service. Families can access our family hubs by contacting us directly in the community. The Children and Families First Case holding locality teams provide the right support to families, at the right time, to achieve change that lasts. It can be provided at any stage in a child or young person's life, from pre-birth through to teenage years.

The service provide targeted intervention using a multi-disciplinary approach that can be delivered to parents, children, or whole families, but the focus is to improve outcomes for children and help prevent any situation from escalating, or further problems arising.

Families should be enabled and supported to have the right conversations, with the right people and at the right time about their needs or concerns, so that statutory interventions can be avoided where this is appropriate. Intervening as early as possible, regardless of the age of the child or young person, can positively improve their outcomes.

Targeted support through Children and Families First is voluntary and consent from children, young people, and their families to work with them should always be sought.

Children with Disabilities

According to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), children with disabilities "include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis".

JIGSAW (Children with Disabilities Team) is a specialist and statutory multi-agency health and social care service in Southampton that undertakes assessments and provides services at the complex level of needs.

The Team supports disabled children, young people and their families whose main need for service arises from their disability or their intrinsic condition, and where these conditions have a complex impact on the quality of the child's life or/and the lives of their families.

The Service intervenes where their needs cannot be fully met by universal and targeted services alone.

Children are defined as 'children in need' by the Children Act 1989 because of their disability. Some of those children are also assessed as having complex needs that may require specialist support from JIGSAW (Children with Disabilities Team), in addition to universal and targeted services, because they have disabilities or illnesses that are severe and enduring, including one or more of the following;

- Learning disabilities within the moderate, severe or profound range.
- A severe physical (including visual and hearing) health condition or impairment which is life limiting, or significantly affects, or is predicted to affect, everyday life functioning or a child's access to education (e.g. in a wheelchair, has adapted living, requires total personal care support, requires communication aids) and their ability to achieve outcomes appropriate to their age related potential. These children are likely to be subject to Children's Continuing Care Arrangements because of the complexity of their health needs or an Advance Care Plan. They may also have Autism, and their behaviour is likely to present a serious risk of harm to self or others.

Other disabled children may have additional needs but the impact of their disability on their day to day living arrangements means that they do not require specialist statutory support and their needs can be met appropriately with additional support from universal and targeted services, including mainstream Children's Services.

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.

Children's Social Care

Children's services used to be called 'social services'. Children's services/social care are responsible for supporting and protecting vulnerable children. This includes providing children and their families with extra help. Where children are thought to be at risk of harm, children's services will take steps which aim to make sure they are kept safe. The 2004 Children Act made local authorities responsible for ensuring and overseeing the effective delivery of services for children, working closely with others. They must also promote children's welfare and well-being as defined by the five outcomes. In Southampton all services for children come under the umbrella of the Children and Learning Service.

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.

Intervention and Complex Assessment Service

The services provided by IACS are:

The Brief Intervention Hub is a team who work intensively with children, young people and their families to support them in making and sustaining positive change, so that needs are met, children and young people are safe and to prevent children needing to enter local authority care unnecessarily.

The Family Drug and Alcohol Court (FDAC) is a multi-disciplinary team who work with families whose issues with substance abuse has led to the local authority issuing Care Proceedings. FDAC is an alternative approach to proceedings, with a problem-solving focus, working intensively with parents to try and tackle their substance addictions and have children safely in their care.

The Specialist Assessment Team works with parents to complete complex assessments, interventions and reunification work, in particular when families are involved in Care Proceedings, Public Law Outline (PLO) or Child Protection.

The Phoenix Team is working in collaboration with Pause, a National Charity and are the Phoenix Team @ Pause Southampton. This is a multidisciplinary team of professionals which support mothers post Care Proceedings who have had their children (two or more of) permanently removed from their care within the past two years. The team work intensively with women and support them in all areas of their lives. The ultimate aim is to prevent recurrent removals of children and subsequent Care Proceedings.

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.

Pathways Through Care

The Pathways Through Care team complete statutory duties on behalf of the Local Authority as pathways Through Care to looked after children and care leavers. For looked after children, the aim of the social workers is to establish trusting relationships with the children in order to gain their wishes and feelings so that their voice is heard in their future planning. The aim is for children to be in stable placements, to be achieving academically, to have consistent contact with significant others that is right for them, for them to have support with their past traumas and to understand their journey in to and through care. Where appropriate, we aim to reunite children with their birth families. We also work with care experienced young people and adults up to the age of 25 years old.

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.

SENCO

A SENCO, or Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, is a qualified school teacher who is responsible for assessing, planning and monitoring the progress of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). They are a key point of contact for colleagues and can offer support and advice for the identification of needs and suitable provision to meet those needs.

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.

Social Work with Families

The Social Work with Families Service is a frontline service which supports vulnerable children. They work closely with children, families and different agencies to undertake assessments and intervention and work with children subject to child in need plans, child protection plans and court proceedings.

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 Education 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 Children

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. While their claim is processed, they are cared for by a local authority.

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/>

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DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL
SUBJECT:	MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS
DATE OF DECISION:	23 NOVEMBER 2023
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Resources	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
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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 a summary of 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 – 23 November 2023
2.	Staff Absence information
3.	Southampton Schools list
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 – 23 November 2023

Date	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status																																																																									
28/09/23	Children and Families Performance	1) That information highlighting the performance of the fostering service and the recruitment of foster carers is attached to the performance dataset for 23 November Panel meeting.	Performance report updated	Complete																																																																									
		2) That, following a spike in sickness absence, the latest HR report summarising the reasons for staff absence in Children’s Services is circulated to the Panel.	Attached as Appendix 2	Complete																																																																									
		3) That, reflecting concerns about health assessment performance, the indicator is returned to the performance dataset for the November meeting.	Performance report updated	Complete																																																																									
28/09/23	Educational Attainment	1) That the school absence spreadsheet, detailing absence levels for each secondary school in the city, is circulated to the Panel.	Circulated by Scrutiny Manager – 29/09/23	Complete																																																																									
		2) That free school meals trend data, broken down by secondary school, is circulated to the Panel.	<p align="center">FSM Secondary Summary 2021-2023 (January Census)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>DfE</th> <th>School</th> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> <th>2023</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>4003</td><td>Oasis Academy Sholing</td><td>27.6%</td><td>30.8%</td><td>31.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>4262</td><td>Regents Park Community College</td><td>27.3%</td><td>28.1%</td><td>31.7%</td></tr> <tr><td>4270</td><td>Redbridge Community School</td><td>43.6%</td><td>46.9%</td><td>49.1%</td></tr> <tr><td>4004</td><td>Weston Secondary School</td><td>46.7%</td><td>50.8%</td><td>51.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>4275</td><td>Upper Shirley High School</td><td>20.3%</td><td>24.4%</td><td>27.4%</td></tr> <tr><td>4278</td><td>Bitterne Park School</td><td>22.2%</td><td>23.6%</td><td>26.4%</td></tr> <tr><td>4306</td><td>Woodlands Community College</td><td>44.5%</td><td>49.7%</td><td>50.8%</td></tr> <tr><td>4311</td><td>Cantell School</td><td>29.2%</td><td>33.5%</td><td>34.7%</td></tr> <tr><td>5415</td><td>Saint George Catholic College</td><td>12.4%</td><td>14.5%</td><td>13.3%</td></tr> <tr><td>5417</td><td>St Anne's Catholic School</td><td>20.2%</td><td>22.5%</td><td>24.2%</td></tr> <tr><td>6905</td><td>Oasis Academy Lord's Hill</td><td>40.2%</td><td>41.1%</td><td>43.3%</td></tr> <tr><td>6906</td><td>Oasis Academy Mayfield</td><td>30.2%</td><td>35.7%</td><td>37.8%</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Southampton</td><td>28.5%</td><td>31.6%</td><td>33.6%</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>National</td><td>18.9%</td><td>20.9%</td><td>22.7%</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>St Marks had their first secondary year group in 2022/23. The overall FSM eligibility for the school at the Spring Census 2023 was 38.9%</p>	DfE	School	2021	2022	2023	4003	Oasis Academy Sholing	27.6%	30.8%	31.0%	4262	Regents Park Community College	27.3%	28.1%	31.7%	4270	Redbridge Community School	43.6%	46.9%	49.1%	4004	Weston Secondary School	46.7%	50.8%	51.0%	4275	Upper Shirley High School	20.3%	24.4%	27.4%	4278	Bitterne Park School	22.2%	23.6%	26.4%	4306	Woodlands Community College	44.5%	49.7%	50.8%	4311	Cantell School	29.2%	33.5%	34.7%	5415	Saint George Catholic College	12.4%	14.5%	13.3%	5417	St Anne's Catholic School	20.2%	22.5%	24.2%	6905	Oasis Academy Lord's Hill	40.2%	41.1%	43.3%	6906	Oasis Academy Mayfield	30.2%	35.7%	37.8%		Southampton	28.5%	31.6%	33.6%		National	18.9%	20.9%
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Date	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
		3) That PRMA (Parental Responsibilities Measures for Attendance) for the 2022/23 academic year are circulated to the Panel.	Service Manager: EWS in the process of collecting the PRMA data for 2022/23 to submit to Department for Education in accordance with their deadline: Friday 20th October 2023 and Service Manager EWS will send a copy of the submission on/after this date.	Complete
		4) That information detailing the link between school absence and the Elective Home Education cohort in Southampton is provided to the Panel.	Update from Children not in School Manager: The current data that we hold might suggest a link between poor attendance and a subsequent decision to electively home educate, however, we are in the process of requesting that our IT colleagues build a report to allow this to be investigated in more detail. In the past, last attendance was not obtained for all EHE children, but this is information which is now being collated.	Partially complete
		5) That the NEET level for Southampton's Looked After Children cohort is provided to the Panel.	August 2023, number was 12 out of 61 (19.7%). This includes UASC newly arrived. September register there are 119 year 12 and 13 and 23 flagged as NEET. (19.3%) October: 115 Year 12 and 13 19 flagged as NEET (16.5%). This includes UASC (3), New to care (2) and New parent (1)	Complete
		6) That, to help develop Panel Members understanding of the school system in the city, the Panel are provided with a table classifying Southampton schools by type – eg Trust, Maintained etc	Schools List attached as Appendix 3	Complete

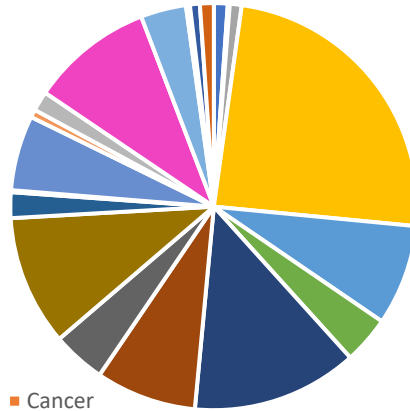
Absence Reasons

The table below shows the absence reasons across Children & Learning over the last rolling 12 x months. The %'s represent the absence reasons by occasions of absence and number of days lost. For example, there may be more occasions of absence due to colds (e.g. lots of single day absences) but there may be more days lost due to psychological absences (e.g. longer term absences due to stress).

Absence Reason	Occasions of Absence	No. of Days Lost
Bereavement	1%	3%
Cancer	0%	1%
Cardiac	1%	0%
Cold/Cough/Flu	24%	9%
Covid	8%	5%
Ear, Nose, Throat & Dental	4%	1%
Gastrointestinal	13%	7%
General/Other	8%	16%
Genitourinary & Gynaecological Disorders	4%	3%
Headaches/Migraines	10%	4%
Infectious Diseases	2%	1%
Menopause	0%	0%
Musculoskeletal	6%	14%
Neurological	1%	0%
Pregnancy	2%	1%
Psychological	10%	31%
Respiratory	4%	2%
Skin	0%	0%
Unrecorded	1%	1%
Vision	1%	1%

Absence reasons pie chart by occasions

Absence Reasons (By occasions)

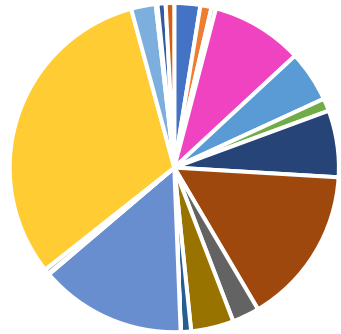


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- Bereavement
- Cancer
- Cardiac
- Cold/Cough/Flu
- Covid
- Ear, Nose, Throat & Dental
- Gastrointestinal
- General/Other
- Genitourinary & Gynaecological Disorders
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- Infectious Diseases
- Menopause
- Musculoskeletal
- Neurological
- Pregnancy
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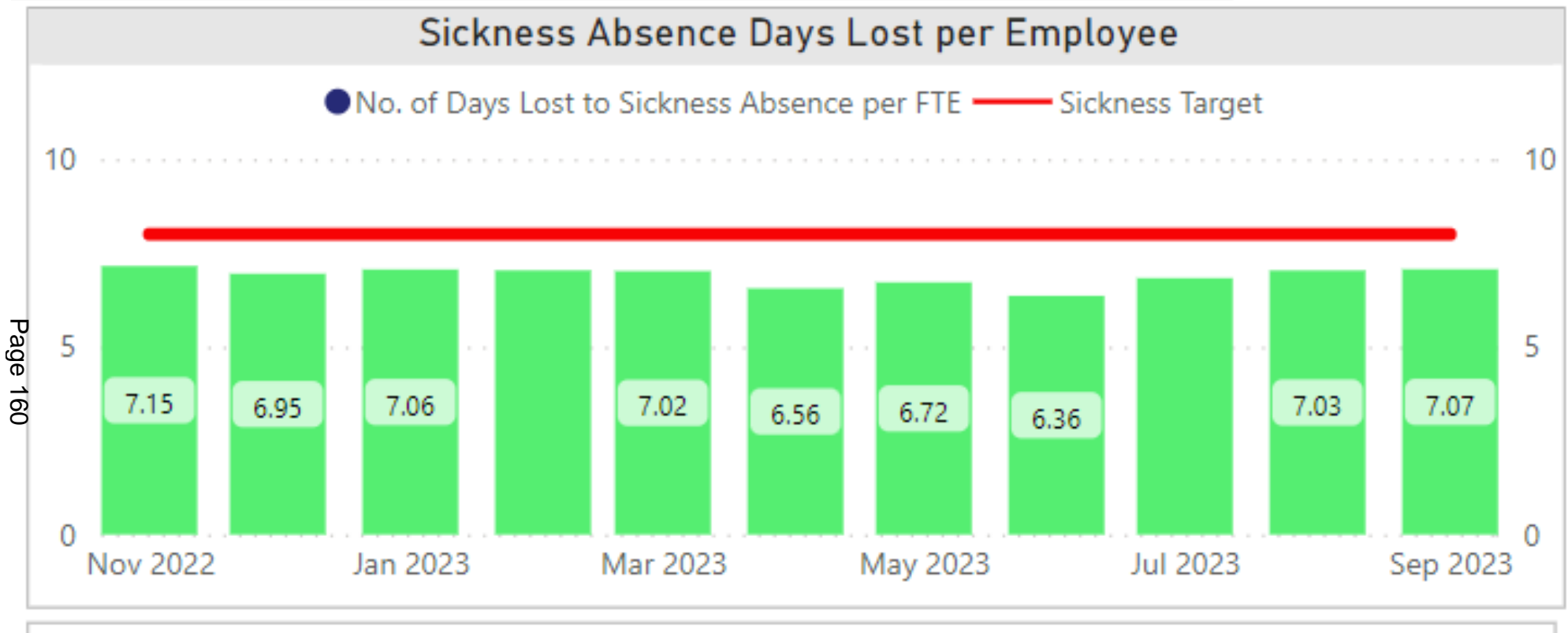
Absence reasons pie chart by days lost

Absence Reasons (By days lost)



- Bereavement
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- Neurological
- Psychological
- Skin
- Vision

Sickness absence trend – C&L



MAINTAINED NURSERY SCHOOLS								
DfE	School	Type	Area	Headteacher	Address	Postcode	Phone	Email
1002	Hardmoor Early Years Centre	Community	East	Gerida Montague (Exec Head)	Leaside Way	SO16 3EP	023 8055 2220	reception@hardmoor.co.uk
INFANT SCHOOLS								
DfE	School	Type	Area	Headteacher	Address	Postcode	Phone	Email
2754	Fairisle Infant & Nursery School	Co-op Trust (Bridge)	West	Juliette Owens	Fairisle Road	SO16 8BY	023 8073 1199	info@fairisle-inf.co.uk
2437	Glenfield Infant School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Rosalind Stamper	Rossington Way	SO18 4RN	023 8022 7966	info@glenfieldschool.co.uk
2458	Hollybrook Infant School	Academy (Hamwic)	West	Marcella Dobson	Seagarth Close	SO16 6RN	023 8077 1528	info@hollybrookinfant.co.uk
2419	Ludlow Infant Academy	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Beverley Corbin	Ludlow Road	SO19 2EU	023 8043 3422	info@ludlowlive.net
2410	Maytree Nursery & Infants School	Co-op Trust (Aspire)	Central	Emma Kerrigan-Draper (Exec Head)	Derby Road	SO14 0DY	023 8063 0522	info@maytreeshool.co.uk
2426	Shirley Infant School	Academy (Hamwic)	West	Cate Gregory	Wilton Road	SO15 5LA	023 8077 5057	office@shirleyschools.co.uk
2430	Sholing Infant School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Lisa Houghton	Heath Road	SO19 2QF	023 8044 7447	info@sholinginfantschool.org.uk
2461	Townhill Infant School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Beverley Corbin	Benthams Road	SO18 2FG	023 8047 4835	info@townhill-inf.net
2462	Weston Shore Infant School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	James Wiltshire (Exec Head)	Foxcott Close	SO19 9JQ	023 8039 0399	info@westonshore.co.uk
2432	Woolston Infant School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Simon Arthur (Acting Head)	Florence Road	SO19 9DB	023 8044 4447	info@woolstoninfantschool.co.uk
JUNIOR SCHOOLS								
DfE	School	Type	Area	Headteacher	Address	Postcode	Phone	Email
2404	Beechwood Junior School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Lucy Phillips	Juniper Road	SO18 4EG	023 8022 7692	info@beechwoodjuniorschool.co.uk
2757	Fairisle Junior School	Co-op Trust (Bridge)	West	Peter Howard	Fairisle Road	SO16 8BY	023 8073 3415	info@fjslive.net
2005	Hollybrook Junior School	Academy (Hamwic)	West	Marcella Dobson	Seagarth Lane	SO16 6RL	023 8077 2781	info@hollybrookjunior.co.uk
2418	Ludlow Junior School	Academy (Standalone)	East	Simon Watkins	Pevevil Road	SO19 2DW	023 8044 7885	info@ludiowjunior.org.uk
2409	Mount Pleasant Junior School	Co-op Trust (Aspire)	Central	Emma Kerrigan-Draper (Exec Head)	Mount Pleasant Rd	SO14 0WZ	023 8022 3634	info@mpjs.org.uk
2425	Shirley Junior School	Academy (Hamwic)	West	Annette Hixon	Bellemoor Road	SO15 5XE	023 8077 1434	office@shirleyschools.co.uk
2429	Sholing Junior School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Matt Abbott	Middle Road	SO19 8PT	023 8044 7448	info@sholing-jun.co.uk
2463	Townhill Junior School	Co-op Trust (Reach)	East	Sian Carr (Exec Head)	Benhams Road	SO18 2NX	023 8047 3611	info@townhilljuniorschool.co.uk
PRIMARY SCHOOLS								
DfE	School	Type	Area	Headteacher	Address	Postcode	Phone	Email
2440	Banister Primary School	Co-op Trust (SCLT)	Central	Kate Vincent	Archers Road	SO15 2LX	023 0830 3313	info@banisterschool.co.uk
2000	Bassett Green Primary School	Co-op Trust (Aspire)	Central	Charlotte Stillwell	Honeysuckle Road	SO16 3BZ	023 8067 6262	info@bassettgreen.net
2405	Bevois Town Primary School	Co-op Trust (Aspire)	Central	Sarah Sadler	Cedar Road	SO14 6RU	023 8022 1467	info@bevoistown.co.uk
3200	Bitterne CE Primary School	Community CE (VC)	East	Jen Johnson	Brownlow Ave	SO19 7BX	023 8049 9494	info@bitterneprimary.net
2406	Bitterne Manor Primary School	Co-op Trust (Reach)	East	Mike Adams	Quayside Road	SO18 1DP	023 8022 7596	admin@bitternemanor.net
2407	Bitterne Park Primary School	Community	East	Gerida Montague (Co-Exec Heads) Caroline Firman	Manor Farm Road	SO18 1NX	023 8055 4541	info@bppsive.net
2769	Foundry Lane Primary School	Co-op Trust (SCLT)	West	Sean Taylor	Foundry Lane	SO15 3JT	023 8077 4814	info@foundrylaneprimary.co.uk
3202	Freemantle CE Community Academy	Academy (Standalone)	Central	Nina Myszkowski	Mansion Road	SO15 3BQ	023 8022 7925	info@freemantleschool.co.uk
3659	Harefield Primary School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Sian Carr (Exec Head)	Yeovil Chase	SO18 5NZ	023 8046 3240	info@hpslive.net
3655	Highfield CE Primary School	CE(VA)	Central	Rosie Walford	Hawthorn Road	SO17 1PX	023 8055 5793	info@highfieldschool.co.uk
2006	Hightown Primary School	Academy (Inspire)	East	Hayley Jakimavicius	Tunstall Road	SO19 6AA	023 8040 3536	info@hightownsch.net
3657	Holy Family Catholic Primary School	RC(VA)	West	Gerida Montague (Co-Exec Heads) Sarah Hendricks	Mansel Road West	SO16 9LP	023 8077 3264	info@holylive.net
2008	Hope Community School	Free School (Academy)	Central	Steve Wright	St Mary Street	SO14 1NF	023 8038 5122	southampton@hopecommunityschool.org
2460	Kanes Hill Primary School	Academy (Inspire)	East	Lisa Marshall (Exec Principal)	Fairfax Court	SO19 6FW	023 8046 3737	info@kaneshillsch.net
2441	Mansbridge Primary School	Co-op Trust (Aspire)	Central	Kate Brosnan	Octavia Road	SO18 2LX	023 8055 6691	info@mansbridgepri.net
2401	Mansel Park Primary School	Community	West	Gerida Montague, Caroline Firman (Co-exec Heads) Paul Lodge (Principal)	Culver Close	SO16 9HZ	023 8077 6162	info@manselpark.net
2771	Mason Moor Primary School	Community	West	Daniel Constable-Phelps (Exec Head)	Helvellyn Road	SO16 4AS	023 8039 0140	info@masonmoorprimary.co.uk
2455	Moorlands Primary School	Co-op Trust (Reach)	East	David-Guy Parkin	Kesteven Way	SO18 5RJ	023 8046 4404	info@moorlandsprimary.net
2003	Newlands Primary School	Co-op Trust (Bridge)	West	Karen Mellor	Windermere Ave.	SO16 9EA	023 8077 3363	info@newlandsprimary.co.uk
2471	Oakwood Primary School	Co-op Trust (Bridge)	West	Maria Whitmarsh	Sandpiper Road	SO16 8FD	023 8074 2345	info@oakwoodlive.net
2421	Portswood Primary School	Academy (HiSP)	Central	Tony Head	Somerset Road	SO17 3AA	023 8055 5885	info@portswood.southampton.sch.uk
2448	Redbridge Primary School	Co-op Trust (Bridge)	West	Anna Payne (Acting Head)	Studland Road	SO16 9BB	023 8077 6379	info@redbridgeprimary.org.uk
2770	Shirley Warren Primary and Nursery School	Co-op Trust (Bridge)	West	Zoe Newton	Warren Crescent	SO16 6AY	023 8077 3975	info@shirleywarren.co.uk

2004	Sinclair Primary and Nursery School	Community	West	Gerida Montague (Co-Exec Heads) Sarah Hendricks	Sinclair Road	SO16 8GF	023 8073 6663	info@sinclairlive.net
3656	Springhill Catholic Primary School	Academy (Standalone)	Central	Roxy Ashworth	Milton Road	SO15 2HW	023 8033 3954	info@springhillcatholic.net
2423	St Denys Primary School	Co-op Trust (Reach)	Central	Amanda Talbot-Jones	Dundee Road	SO17 2ND	023 8055 6982	info@stdenysprimary.co.uk
2424	St John's Primary and Nursery School	Co-op Trust (SCLT)	Central	Kirsten Buist	French Street	SO14 2AU	023 8022 6545	info@st-johnsschool.net
3205	St Mary's C of E (VC) Primary School	CE(VC)	Central	Daniel Constable-Phelps (Exec Head)	Ascupart Street	SO14 1LU	023 8022 3930	info@st-marys-pri.southampton.sch.uk
2011	St Monica Primary School	Academy (Inspire)	East	Lisa Marshall (Exec Principal)	Bay Road	SO19 8EZ	023 8039 9870	info@stmonicapriamry.co.uk
3658	St Patrick's Catholic Primary School	RC(VA)	East	Michael Lobo	Fort Road	SO19 2JE	023 8044 8502	info@st-patricks.southampton.sch.uk
2431	Swaythling Primary School	Co-op Trust (Aspire)	Central	John Draper	Mayfield Road	SO17 3SZ	023 8055 2252	info@swaythlingprimary.org
2007	Tanners Brook Primary School	Academy (HISP)	West	Jess Paul (Exec Head) Ingrid Dowse (Head of School)	Elmes Drive	SO15 4PF	023 8077 1659	ingrid.dowse@tannersbrookpri.org.uk
2002	Thornhill Primary School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Lucy Carroll	Byron Road	SO19 6FH	023 8044 9595	info@thornhillsch.net
2001	Valentine Primary School	Community	East	Daniel Constable-Phelps (Exec Head) Steve Summerton (Head of School)	Valentine Avenue	SO19 0EQ	023 8044 8944	info@valentineprimary.co.uk
2009	Weston Park Primary School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	James Wiltshire (Exec Head)	Newtown Road	SO19 9HX	023 8044 8962	info@weston-park.org.uk
2452	Wordsworth Primary School	Academy (Hamwic)	West	Julie-Anne Palfrey	Victor Street	SO15 5LH	023 8077 6397	info@wordsworthprimary.co.uk

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

DfE	School	Type	Area	Headteacher	Address	Postcode	Phone	Email
4278	Bitterne Park School	Co-op Trust (Reach)	East	Stewart Roderick	Copsewood Road	SO18 1BU	023 8032 5200	info@bitterneparkschool.org.uk
4311	Cantell School	Co-op Trust (Aspire)	Central	Harry Kutty	Violet Road	SO16 3GJ	023 8032 3111	info@cantellschool.lpplus.net
6905	Oasis Academy Lord's Hill	Academy (Oasis)	West	Benjamin Bond (Exec Principal) Karen Riding (Head of School)	Romsey Road	SO16 9RG	023 8039 3660	info@oasislordshill.org
6906	Oasis Academy Mayfield	Academy (Oasis)	East	Claire Taylor	Ashley Crescent	SO19 9NA	023 8032 8128	info@oasismayfield.org
4003	Oasis Academy Sholing	Academy (Oasis)	East	Martin Brown	Middle Road	SO19 8PH	023 8044 8861	info@oasissholing.org
4270	Redbridge Community School	Co-op Trust (Reach)	West	Jason Ashley	Cuckmere Lane	SO16 9RJ	023 8077 1381	head@redbridgeschool.co.uk
4262	Regents Park Community College	Co-op Trust (SCLT)	West	Samantha Barnes	King Edward Avenue	SO16 4GW	023 8032 5444	info@regentspark.southampton.sch.uk
5417	St Anne's Catholic School	Academy (Standalone)	Central	Lyn Bourne (Exec Head) James Rouse (Headteacher) Julian Waterfield (Acting Head)	Carlton Road	SO15 2WZ	023 8032 8200	info@st-annes.uk.com
5415	St George Catholic College	RC(VA)	Central	James Habberley	Leaside Way	SO16 3DQ	023 8032 2603	head@stgcc.co.uk
4275	Upper Shirley High School	Academy (Hamwic)	West	Christopher Sykes	Bellemoor Road	SO15 7QU	023 8032 5333	info@ushschool.org
4004	Weston Secondary School	Academy (Hamwic)	East	Louisa Paston	Tickleford Drive	SO19 9QP	023 8044 7820	info@westonsecondary.co.uk
4306	Woodlands Community College	Co-op Trust (Reach)	East	Jim Henderson	Minstead Avenue	SO18 5FW	023 8046 3303	info@woodlands.southampton.sch.uk

ALL-THROUGH SCHOOLS

DfE	School	Type	Area	Headteacher	Address	Postcode	Phone	Email
3203	St Mark's Church of England School	Co-op Trust (SCLT) CE (VC)	Central	Stephanie Bryant (Exec Head) Lorraine Hoad (Head of Primary)	Stafford Road	SO15 5TE	023 8077 2968	info@st-marks-southampton.org.uk

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

DfE	School	Type	Area	Headteacher	Address	Postcode	Phone	Email
7036	Great Oaks School	Academy (Specialist Schools Trust)	West	Andy Evans	Vermont Close	SO16 7LT	023 8076 7660	info@greatoaks.school
7035	Springwell School	Community	East	Lisa Needham & Maria Burrows (Co-Headteachers)	Hinkler Road	SO19 6DH	023 8044 5981	info@springwellschool.net
7037	The Cedar School	Community	West	Neil Revell	Redbridge Lane	SO16 0XN	023 8073 4205	info@cedarschool.co.uk
7039	The Polygon School	Co-op Trust (SCLT)	Central	Ben Penfold	Handel Terrace	SO15 2FH	023 8063 6776	info@polygon.southampton.sch.uk
7040	Vermont School	Co-op Trust (Aspire)	West	Matthew McLoughlin-Parker	Vermont Close	SO16 7LT	023 8076 7988	info@vermont.southampton.sch.uk
7050	Rosewood Free School	Free School (Academy)	West	Zoe Evans	Aldermoor Road	SO16 5NA	023 8057 1050	info@rosewoodfreeschool.org.uk

ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

DfE	School	Type	Area	Headteacher	Address	Postcode	Phone	Email
1100	Compass School	Community	West	Debbie McKenzie	Green Lane	SO16 9FQ	023 8021 5320	info@compass-school.net
1115	Southampton Hospital School	Academy (Hamwic)	West	Nell Giles	Bursledon House	SO16 6HU	023 8120 6667	info@southamptonhospitalschool.co.uk