

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

Benchmarking		
(Updated Mar-19, using 17-18 data)		
Stat. Neighbour	England	SE region

Ref.	Indicator	Owner	Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Key to direction of travel:												% change from previous month	% change from same month prev. yr	DoT	12 month average	12-mth max value	Percentage?	Benchmarking			Target 18-19	Target 19-20	Commentary (Aug-19):			
					Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19							Aug-19	Stat. Neighbour	England				SE region		
M1	Number of contacts received (includes contacts that become referrals)	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	There is an effective 'front door' with which anyone with a concern about a child can engage and receive appropriate advice, support and action.	1754	1441	1620	1871	1598	1715	1463	1704	1572	1747	1660	1861	1377	↓	-26%	↓	-21%		1636	FALSE	-	Local	Local	Local			The number of contacts has reduced during the month of August. A contributing factor is the schools having their summer break. The Rpi Response Team within the Early Help Hub will also be picking up cases on the edge of social care which may have previously been closed and then re-referred due to escalating concerns. MASH has a 90% compliance rate for contact to referral within 24 hours for the month of August. Partner agencies continue to work together to ensure information is shared and children receive the appropriate service to meet their needs. We now have a 'Drop-In' session the first Tuesday of every month for Partner agencies to come along and discuss how we work together and build on our working relationships. It is also an opportunity to discuss any issues which may have arisen and support can be provided for professionals working with children and YP in the community under Universal services.
M2	Number of new referrals of Children In Need (CIN)	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	Referrals for children in need of help and support are accepted appropriately by the service.	262	226	235	240	192	286	378	577	488	522	542	612	459	↓	-25%	↑	75%		396	612	-	383	359	468			This figure has dipped, although the amount of contacts has reduced for the month of August. The figure is in-line with SE region, but remains higher than statistical neighbours. The Improvement Team have reviewed MASH again to provide an update from the previous findings in February 2019. It was reported that the Threshold is being consistently applied. The Continuum of Need requires updating and there is a multi-agency working party in place to do this. The Early Help Hub Rapid Response Team have been working with cases on the edge of social care which may have also impacted on the number being converted to CIN.
M3	Percentage of all contacts that become new referrals of Children In Need (CIN)	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	Children and families receive the help they need at the right time, and from the best possible resource - in line with the established continuum of need.	14.9%	15.7%	14.5%	12.8%	12.0%	16.7%	25.8%	33.9%	31.0%	29.9%	32.7%	32.9%	33.3%	⇒	1%	↑	123%		24.3%	33.9%	P	Local	Local	Local			The Improvement Team have reviewed MASH again to provide an up-date from the previous findings in February 2019. It was reported that the threshold is being consistently applied and decision making was sound. The Continuum of Need requires updating and there is a multi-agency working party in place to do this. The Early Help Hub Rapid Response Team have been working with cases on the edge of social care which may have also impacted on the number being converted to CIN.
M2-NI	Number of new referrals of Children in Need (CIN) rate per 10,000 (0-17 year olds)	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	Referrals for children in need of help and support are comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	52	45	47	48	38	57	75	115	97	104	108	122	90	↓	-26%	↑	73%		79	122	-	58	46	46			The Improvement Team have reviewed MASH again to provide an up-date from the previous findings in February 2019. It was reported that the threshold is being consistently applied and decision making was sound. The Continuum of Need requires updating and there is a multi-agency working party in place to do this. The Early Help Hub Rapid Response Team have been working with cases on the edge of social care which may have also impacted on the number being converted to CIN.
M8-QL	Percentage of referrals dealt with by MASH where time from referral received / recorded to completion by MASH was 24 hours / 1 working day or less	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	The safety of children is supported by referrals being dealt with in a timely manner.	78.0%	98.0%	76.0%	98.0%	89.0%	99.0%	89.0%	59.0%	83.0%	94.0%	93.0%	86.0%	90.0%	⇒	5%	↑	15%	▲	87.8%	99.0%	P	Local	Local	Local			MASH continue to be one Working Day compliant in the majority of cases. Contacts are dealt with in live time lowering the risk to children and their families. Compliance is monitored on a daily basis to ensure that we continue with the high standards we have set for ourselves and the children of Southampton.
M6-QL (val)	Number of referrals which are re-referrals within one year of a closure assessment	Sharon Hawkins	Sarah Ward	The service is effective in helping children and families address their issues, and where there is a re-referral, the issues are understood.	34	24	13	13	5	7	24	29	40	32	32	17	8	↓	-53%	↓	-76%	▼	20	40	-	Local	Local	Local			The drop in August is linked to the schools being closed for the summer hence fewer referrals or re-referrals. The step down panel and project has supported with some families receiving ongoing support in specific areas where there are no safeguarding issues. The increase over the last few months is reflective of the pressures on the service and the overall increase in referrals.
M6-QL	Percentage of referrals which are re-referrals within one year of a closure assessment	Sharon Hawkins	Sarah Ward	The service is effective in helping children and families address their issues, and where there is a re-referral, the issues are understood.	13.0%	11.0%	6.0%	5.0%	3.0%	2.0%	6.0%	5.0%	8.0%	6.0%	6.0%	3.0%	2.0%	↓	-33%	↓	-85%	▼	5.3%	11.0%	P	23.9%	21.9%	26.2%			As above (M6-QL (val))
M4	Number of new referrals of children aged 13+ where child sexual exploitation (CSE) was a factor	Sharon Hawkins	Simon Denton	The needs and safety of children at risk of child sexual exploitation are responded to effectively.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	3	1	8	9	9	2	↓	-78%	⇒	0%		5	9	-	Local	Local	Local			After several months of increased numbers - numbers have dropped again - this may be linked to identification - further investigation needed.
M5	Number of children receiving Early Help services who are stepped up for Children In Need (CIN) assessment	Sharon Hawkins	Brian Holthouse	The needs and safety of children at risk of child sexual exploitation are responded to effectively.	1	2	0	3	2	3	0	2	5	-	5	7	8	↑	14%	↑	700%		3	8	-	Local	Local	Local			This month's figure is the highest this year to date. Improved data, analysis of the cohort and embedding of practice standards are expected to support an increase in numbers of cases stepping up. Interface between Early Help and Social Care has been strengthened through the development of the Early Help Hub and a nominated EH manager attending the Assessment Improvement Board.
EH2	Number of Children In Need (CIN) at end of period (all open cases, excluding EHPs, EHAs, CPP and LAC)	Sharon Hawkins	Sarah Ward	Children in need of help and support receive a consistent and effective service.	984	1087	1099	1068	1050	998	1083	1355	1431	1543	1783	1948	1864	⇒	-4%	↑	89%		1359	1948	-	Local	Local	Local			The decrease in August is linked to the schools being closed for the summer. There is a rise in numbers from the previous year, which is reflective of the overall increase in referrals to the service.
EH5-QL	Number of children open to the authority who have been missing at any point in the period (count of children)	Sharon Hawkins	Simon Denton	The needs and safety of children who have been missing are responded to robustly.	45	54	38	48	51	45	54	52	63	80	100	80	56	↓	-30%	↑	24%	▼	60	100	-	Local	Local	Local			Reduction in August appears to be an annual pattern - theory likely linked to reduced vigilance from schools and parents during the long holidays. Successful Return Home interview rate continues to be very strong at 80% from the MET Hub.
EH3	Number of Single Assessments (SA) completed	Sharon Hawkins	Keith Courtman	Children receive a comprehensive assessment of their needs, with strengths and areas of risk identified to inform evidence-based planning.	198	112	158	184	139	266	182	196	286	267	192	363	428	↑	18%	↑	116%		231	428	-	183	346	448			The thresholds applied in the MASH have been fully explored by the improvement team, who found thresholds to be correct, so we are confident we are undertaking assessments on the right children. SAs take considerable social work time to complete. The Council has employed additional social workers and managers to undertake this and other essential statutory work. It is expected that the number of SAs being undertaken will remain at this level, and may rise still further as these additional workers complete their assessments. There is weekly senior management oversight through our Assessment Performance Improvement Board.
EH3a%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 10 days	Sharon Hawkins	Keith Courtman	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	10.1%	8.0%	7.6%	9.8%	7.9%	6.8%	7.7%	11.2%	4.2%	7.9%	14.1%	9.6%	9.6%	⇒	-1%	⇒	-5%	▲	8.7%	14.1%	P	Local	Local	Local			The percentage of single assessments completed within 10 days has been maintained over the past two months and is higher than the 12 month average. The Council has successfully recruited additional staff to undertake this work, which will help performance in this area over time.
EH3b%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 11-25 days	Sharon Hawkins	Keith Courtman	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	15.7%	19.6%	28.5%	26.6%	26.6%	15.8%	24.2%	34.7%	29.7%	30.3%	14.1%	16.8%	16.1%	⇒	-4%	⇒	3%	▲	23.6%	34.7%	P	Local	Local	Local			Performance has declined, but not at a level that is statistically significant. The Council has had some success in recruiting additional staff to undertake this work, and measures are in place to further strengthen recruitment and retention of qualified social workers and managers.

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EH3c%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 26-35 days	Sharon Hawkins	Karin Courtman	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	14.6%	7.1%	14.6%	13.0%	10.1%	11.3%	14.3%	14.3%	26.2%	9.0%	11.5%	9.4%	10.3%	↑ 10%	↓ -30%	▲	12.6%	26.2%	P	Local	Local	Local			A greater percentage of SA have been completed within this timeframe. This is directly attributable to an increase in the number of SAs needing to be undertaken. The Council has had some success in recruiting additional staff to undertake this work, and measures are in place to further strengthen recruitment and retention of qualified social workers and managers.
EH3d%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 36-45 days	Sharon Hawkins	Karin Courtman	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	22.7%	31.3%	24.1%	16.3%	16.5%	23.3%	19.2%	29.6%	21.7%	27.0%	18.2%	12.1%	22.4%	↑ 85%	→ -1%	▲	21.8%	31.3%	P	Local	Local	Local			A greater percentage of SA have been completed within this timeframe. This is directly attributable to an increase in the number of SAs needing to be undertaken. The Council has had some success in recruiting additional staff to undertake this work, and measures are in place to further strengthen recruitment and retention of qualified social workers and managers.
EH3e%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed over 45 days	Sharon Hawkins	Karin Courtman	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	36.9%	33.9%	25.3%	34.2%	38.8%	42.9%	34.6%	10.2%	18.2%	25.8%	42.2%	52.1%	41.6%	↓ -20%	↑ 13%	▼	33.3%	52.1%	P	79.9%	82.7%	82.9%			Performance in this area has declined and is expected to fall further as the legacy single assessments - those that it has not been able to allocate in a timely way due having insufficient suitably qualified staff to undertake the work - are completed by the additional supernumerary staff joining the Council to assist with this work.
EH4 (val)	Number of Single Assessments (SA) completed in 45 working days	Sharon Hawkins	Karin Courtman	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	125	74	118	121	85	152	119	176	234	198	111	174	250	↑ 44%	↑ 100%	▲	151	250	-	273	286	372			The number of SAs being completed is rising, as we work through outstanding cases, alongside new referrals. The strategy of bringing in additional capacity and in supporting staff to undertake additional work will have a further impact. We have introduced a peripatetic team to 'follow' the cases through the system. As recruitment and retention continue to improve as expected, timeliness will improve. Currently, there is weekly senior manager oversight through the Assessment Improvement Board.
EH4-QL	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed in 45 working days	Sharon Hawkins	Karin Courtman	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	63.0%	66.0%	75.0%	66.0%	61.0%	57.0%	65.0%	90.0%	82.0%	74.0%	58.0%	48.0%	58.0%	↑ 21%	→ -8%	▲	66.7%	90.0%	P	79.9%	82.7%	82.9%			Performance has improved after the low percentage in July; as a result of rigorous management oversight and recruitment of temporary staff. Weekly review through the Performance Improvement Board will ensure ongoing traction for our improvement activity.
CP1	Number of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started	Sharon Hawkins	Karin Courtman	Where there are concerns about a child's safety, there is a robust assessment of risk.	71	87	115	99	66	96	106	152	101	124	156	182	101	↓ -45%	↑ 42%		115	182	-	96	97	126			It is usual for the number S.47s triggered to be lower over the school summer holidays (a similar trend is noticed for the same period last year). It is expected that this number will rise again now that the schools are back. The amended more child friendly child safety plan is with the leadership team for sign off and will be implemented thereafter.
CP1-NI	Rate of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started per 10,000 children aged 0-17	Sharon Hawkins	Karin Courtman	Safeguarding investigations undertaken by the service are at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	14	17	23	20	13	19	21	30	20	25	31	36	20	↓ -44%	↑ 43%		23	36	-	16	12	12			The rate of S.47s per 10,000 child population is high compared to statistical neighbours. Thresholds for S.47 however, have been investigated by the improvement team and found to be correct. We are therefore confident that the right children are being considered under safeguarding procedures. Work is underway to further strengthen our early help offer to help reduce the escalation of risk and need which in time should help to strengthen families and promote better outcomes for children, intervening at an early stage to stop needs increasing to the point where children are at risk of harm and a S.47 enquiry is required.
CP6B	Number of children with a Child Protection Plan (CPP) at the end of the month, excluding temporary registrations	Sharon Hawkins	Stuart Webb	Child Protection Plans are in place for children where it has been assessed that multi-agency intervention is required to keep them safe.	310	272	262	268	262	258	275	294	328	326	367	403	456	↑ 13%	↑ 47%		314	456	-	324	354	473			The number and rate of children subject to child protection plans has increased again this month. Most of the activity continues to originate from the assessment team and numbers are expected to stabilise as we work through cases from that area. To respond to the number and rate of children subject to child protection planning: Decision making continues to be routinely scrutinised through weekly reports from the Child Protection Advisor. These are now discussed at the weekly Improvement Boards chaired by the Children's Social Care Service Lead. We have tasked out detailed analysis of our child protection trends, which will be reported to Board in September. Regarding Working with Families Project activity: We were successful in our bid to the Supporting Families Programme and we are due to engage with DfE in September 2019 to confirm the perimeters of the project. This will increase the use of Family Group Conferences in the City. In other areas, this type of activity has contributed to a reduction in children requiring child protection plans. We are also participating in the development of the vulnerable adolescents offer, with a nominated child protection conference chair involved.
CP6B-NI	Rate of children with Child Protection Plan (CPP) per 10,000 (0-17 year olds) at end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Stuart Webb	The number of children who require Child Protection Plans is at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	62	54	52	53	52	51	55	58	65	65	73	80	90	↑ 13%	↑ 45%		62	90	-	53	45	46			The number and rate of children subject to child protection plans has increased again this month. Most of the activity continues to originate from the assessment team and numbers are expected to stabilise as we work through cases from that area. To respond to the number and rate of children subject to child protection planning: Decision making continues to be routinely scrutinised through weekly reports from the Child Protection Advisor. These are now discussed at the weekly Improvement Boards chaired by the Children's Social Care Service Lead. We have tasked out detailed analysis of our child protection trends, which will be reported to Board in September. Regarding Working with Families Project activity: We were successful in our bid to the Supporting Families Programme and we are due to engage with DfE in September 2019 to confirm the perimeters of the project. This will increase the use of Family Group Conferences in the City. In other areas, this type of activity has contributed to a reduction in children requiring child protection plans. We are also participating in the development of the vulnerable adolescents offer, with a nominated child protection conference chair involved.
CP2	Number of children subject to initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs), excluding transfer-Ins and temporary registrations	Phil Bellingham	Stuart Webb	Where it has been assessed that multi-agency intervention is required to keep a child safe, the case is progressed to Initial Child Protection Conference.	29	20	40	37	25	22	37	37	46	55	71	64	81	↑ 27%	↑ 179%		45	81	-	40	44	54			The number and rate of children subject to initial child protection conferences (ICPC) has further increased due to the activity outlined in CP6B. To address performance, we have made sure that there is sufficient CP chair capacity to support engagement and consultation with the operational teams. As we anticipate the number of ICPCs to reduce, this resource will be shifted to monitoring and tracking activity to ensure case progression.
CP2-NI	Rate per 10,000 Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs)	Phil Bellingham	Stuart Webb	The rate of Initial Child Protection Conferences is at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	6	5	8	7	5	5	8	8	9	12	14	13	16	↑ 25%	↑ 180%		9	16	-	6	6	5			The number and rate of children subject to ICPC has further increased due to the activity outlined in CP6B. To address performance, we have made sure that there is sufficient CP chair capacity to support engagement and consultation with the operational teams. As we anticipate the number of ICPCs to reduce, this resource will be shifted to monitoring and tracking activity to ensure case progression.
CP4 (val)	Number of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) resulting in a Child Protection Plan (CPP) (based on count of children)	Phil Bellingham	Stuart Webb	Decisions made at Child Protection Conferences will result in appropriate, evidence-based plans for children that respond to, and meet their level of risk and need.	28	18	37	29	19	17	33	30	36	32	54	53	59	↑ 11%	↑ 111%	▲	34.75	59.00	-	35	38	38			The number of cases converting from conference to plan has increased this month, but the percentage has decreased. Where cases are not registered, the CP Advisor reviews and provides an explanation in her weekly report.

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CP4	Percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) resulting in a Child Protection Plan (CPP) (based on count of children)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Decisions made at Child Protection Conferences will result in appropriate, evidence-based plans for children that respond to, and meet their level of risk and need.	96.6%	90.0%	92.5%	78.4%	76.0%	77.3%	89.2%	81.1%	78.3%	58.2%	76.1%	82.8%	72.8%	↓ -12%	↓ -25%	▲	79.4%	92.5%	P	86.2%	86.5%	85.8%			The number of cases converting from conference to plan has increased this month, but the percentage has decreased. Where cases are not registered, the CP Advisor reviews and provides an explanation in her weekly report.
CP2b	Number of transfer-ins	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Children moving into Southampton receive a good standard of service and protection.	0	6	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	3	0	1	1	⇒ 0%	- n/a		1	6	-	Local	Local	Local			There was one transfer in this month. Cases are being checked with the CPC team to ensure that transfer processes have been adhered to.
CP2b %	Percentage of transfer-ins where child became subject to a CP Plan during period	Sharon Hawkins	Stuart Webb	Children moving into Southampton receive a good standard of service and protection.	-	33.0%	100.0%	-	-	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	-	100.0%	-	0.0%	100.0%	- n/a	- n/a		79.1%	100.0%	P	Local	Local	Local			There was one transfer in this month. Cases are being checked with the CPC team to ensure that transfer processes have been adhered to.
CP3-QL (val)	Number of children subject to Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) which were held within timescales (excludes transfer-ins)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Child Protection planning is timely, ensuring that the risks to children are discussed and responded to expediently.	21	7	27	26	15	15	22	31	21	26	32	35	38	⇒ 9%	↑ 81%	▲	25	38	-	30	34	40			Timeliness has been affected this month because we have worked with the assessment team to address a number of outstanding cases. We have done this by reviewing live data with a nominated assessment team manager, who has then worked with the assessment teams; whilst we have ensured sufficient chairing capacity and a clear schedule of available conferences. Progress is being reviewed at the weekly Assessment Improvement Board, chaired by the Children's Social Care Service Lead.
CP3-QL	Percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) held within timescales (based on count of children)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Child Protection planning is timely, ensuring that the risks to children are discussed and responded to expediently.	72.4%	35.0%	67.5%	70.3%	60.0%	68.2%	59.5%	83.8%	45.7%	47.3%	45.1%	54.7%	46.9%	↓ -14%	↓ -35%	▲	57.0%	83.8%	P	78.2%	76.9%	75.0%			Timeliness has been affected this month because we have worked with the assessment team to address a number of outstanding cases. We have done this by reviewing live data with a nominated assessment team manager, who has then worked with the teams whilst we have ensured sufficient chairing capacity and a clear schedule of available conferences. Progress is being reviewed at the weekly Assessment Improvement Board, chaired by the Children's Social Care Service Lead.
CP8-QL	Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan seen in the last 15 working days.	Sharon Hawkins	Sarah Ward	The service is in regular contact with children subject to Child Protection planning to ensure that there is ongoing assessment of risk and opportunities to intervene effectively.	83.0%	85.0%	79.0%	72.0%	88.0%	84.0%	85.0%	81.0%	88.0%	69.0%	65.0%	63.0%	67.0%	⇒ 6%	↓ -19%	▲	77.2%	88.0%	P	Local	Local	Local			A higher percentage of visits were undertaken this month but the level needs to improve. The teams are working to address this. Visits are tracked by managers and support is being given to ensure priority is given to the recording of these visits. Due to the summer holidays the number of visits undertaken in a timely way was affected by some families being away on holiday.
CP5-QL (val)	Number of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time (repeat)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	The service is effective in managing the risks experienced by children and within families and where there is re-referral the issues are understood.	9	2	1	6	6	0	8	5	16	2	11	14	15	⇒ 7%	↑ 67%	▼	7	16	-	8	8	10			This month has seen a slight increase in children subject to repeat planning, aligned with the larger numbers overall. The percentage is closer in line with SN, National and Regional Averages. The CP advisor has reviewed the cases and updates are included in the monthly report to senior managers.
CP5-QL	Percentage of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time (repeat)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	The service is effective in managing the risks experienced by children and within families and where there is re-referral the issues are understood.	32.1%	10.5%	2.6%	20.7%	31.6%	0.0%	23.5%	13.9%	41.0%	5.7%	19.3%	26.4%	24.6%	⇒ -7%	↓ -23%	▼	18.3%	41.0%	P	21.9%	20.2%	22.6%			This month has seen a slight increase in children subject to repeat planning, aligned with the larger numbers overall. The percentage is closer in line with SN, National and Regional Averages. The CP advisor has reviewed the cases and updates are included in the monthly report to senior managers.
CP9	Number of children subject to Review Child Protection Conferences (RCPCs) in the month	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Where children are subject to Child Protection planning, their cases are reviewed regularly to identify progress and any barriers.	60	98	85	74	63	74	56	47	75	88	77	91	53	↓ -42%	↓ -12%		73	98	-	Local	Local	Local			The number of review conferences has reduced. We check RCPC progression on a weekly basis. We anticipate the number of initial child protection conferences to reduce and some of our CP chairing resource will be shifted to monitoring and tracking activity to ensure case progression.
CP7	Number of ceasing Child Protection Plans (CPP), excluding temporary registrations	Sharon Hawkins	Stuart Webb	Where it is assessed that risks to a child have reduced there is a review of risk and the case is stepped down effectively.	29	57	52	26	27	23	21	23	16	40	20	19	23	↑ 21%	↓ -21%	▲	29	57	-	36	36	42			The number of review conferences has reduced. We check RCPC progression on a weekly basis. We anticipate the number of initial child protection conferences to reduce and some of our CP chairing resource will be shifted to monitoring and tracking activity to ensure case progression.
LAC1	Number of Looked after Children at end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Where it is assessed that there is no safe alternative, the local authority will take children into its care for their welfare and protection.	514	499	490	485	475	472	481	475	490	502	500	509	512	⇒ 1%	⇒ 0%	▼	491	512	-	41	41	44	495	420	There has been a slight increase in the number of children in our care this month. The number and rate continue to be higher than SN, regional and national averages. Rigorous oversight continues to ensure the right children are brought into care at the right time. The children on the edge of care are monitored through Legal Panel and through Senior manager tracker. Recent audit of children's entry into care has shown that our decision making was correct.
LAC1-NI	Looked after Children rate per 10,000	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	The level of children in care is at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	102	99	97	96	94	94	96	94	97	100	99	101	101	⇒ 0%	⇒ -1%	▼	97	101	-	81	64	51			There has been a slight increase in the number of children in our care this month. The number and rate continue to be higher than SN, regional and national averages. Rigorous oversight continues to ensure the right children are brought into care at the right time. The children on the edge of care are monitored through Legal Panel and through Senior manager tracker. Recent audit of children's entry into care has shown that our decision making was correct.
LAC2	Number of new Looked after Children (episodes)	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Where children meet the threshold and there are no alternatives, they will be safe and have their welfare needs addressed through accommodation by the local authority.	4	11	8	11	7	13	17	19	20	24	13	19	10	↓ -47%	↑ 150%	▼	14	24	-	18	18	19			The number of new entrants into care is lower than SN, regional and national averages. Rigorous oversight continues to ensure the right children are brought into care at the right time. The children on the edge of care are monitored through Legal Panel and through Senior manager tracker. Recent audit of children's entry into care has shown that our decision making was correct.
LAC3	Number of ceasing Looked after Children (episodes)	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Children will leave care in a planned way with clear networks of support around them.	15	27	16	17	17	15	11	24	11	16	14	14	11	↓ -21%	↓ -27%	▲	16	27	-	16	16	19			There has been a small reduction numbers this month. As part of our improvement activity we are focused on permanence tracking, which will support improvements in this area.
LAC6 (val)	Number of adoptions (E11, E12)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Children who are being adopted will receive timely and effective support.	3	4	6	5	3	2	2	10	3	4	1	0	4	- n/a	↑ 33%		4	10	-	2	2	2			The number of adoption orders granted this month has returned to the 12 month average. This increase from the previous month reflects the projected trend of those children placed for adoption waiting for a court hearing to consider the adoption order application.
LAC6 (%)	Percentage of adoptions (E11, E12)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Children who are being adopted will receive timely and effective support.	20.0%	14.8%	37.5%	29.4%	17.6%	13.3%	18.2%	41.7%	27.3%	25.0%	7.1%	0.0%	36.4%	- n/a	↑ 82%		22.4%	41.7%	P	17.1%	13.0%	12.0%			The increase in percentage of adoptions has increased significantly this month and reflect the increase in adoption orders last month. It is not an outlier compared with previous months.

Ref.	Indicator	Owner	Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	% change from previous month	% change from same month prev. yr	DoT	12 month average	12-month max value	Percentage?	Stat. Neighbour	England	SE region	Target 18-19	Target 19-20	Commentary (Aug-19):
LAC12 (val)	Number of Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) (E43, E44)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Children subject to Special Guardianship Orders will receive timely and effective support.	2	5	2	4	6	7	4	2	0	0	3	1	0	↓ -100%	↓ -100%		3	7	-	-	-	-			No orders have been granted this month. There are seven applications waiting to be heard by the court. As with applications for adoption orders, SGO applications not linked with care proceedings experience a period of awaiting a court hearing depending on current demand for the judiciary.
LAC12 (%)	Percentage of Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) (E43, E44)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Children subject to Special Guardianship Orders will receive timely and effective support.	13.3%	18.5%	12.5%	23.5%	35.3%	46.7%	36.4%	8.3%	0.0%	0.0%	21.4%	7.1%	0.0%	↓ -100%	↓ -100%	▲	17.5%	46.7%	P	10.1%	12.0%	10.0%			As above (LAC12 (val))
LAC7-QL	Percentage of Looked after Children visited within timescales	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	The service is in regular contact with Looked after Children to ensure that there is ongoing assessment of risk and opportunities to intervene effectively.	83.0%	79.0%	79.0%	76.0%	80.0%	75.0%	80.0%	82.0%	77.0%	74.0%	76.0%	83.0%	80.0%	⇒ -4%	⇒ -4%	▲	78.4%	83.0%	P	Local	Local	Local			This headline reporting measure is currently set to measure six weekly contact. Individual children's visiting patterns are dependant on length of time in placement, care plan and the associated statutory requirements.
LAC10 (%)	Percentage of Looked after Children with an authorised CLA plan	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Children have good quality care plans, to which they have contributed, and which meet their needs.	94.9%	96.0%	96.5%	96.1%	97.3%	97.0%	96.0%	95.4%	94.9%	93.4%	92.8%	92.3%	95.1%	⇒ 3%	⇒ 0%	▲	95.2%	97.3%	P	Local	Local	Local			There has been an improvement in performance in this area. Improvement activity has focused on management oversight and tracking by the IRO team.
LAC10-QL	Number of Looked after Children with an authorised CLA Plan	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Children have good quality care plans, to which they have contributed, and which meet their needs.	488	479	473	466	462	458	462	453	465	469	464	470	487	⇒ 4%	⇒ 0%	▲	467	487	-	Local	Local	Local			There has been an improvement in performance in this area. Improvement activity has focused on management oversight and tracking by the IRO team.
LAC13	Number of current Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) looked after at end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children are identified and supported by the local authority.	12	13	12	12	13	12	13	14	15	16	16	15	14	⇒ -7%	↑ 17%		14	16	-	2	2	4			There has been a small reduction in the numbers of unaccompanied asylum seekers. Practice is supported by our practice guidance reviewed earlier in the year.
LAC14	Number of new unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children are identified and supported by the local authority.	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	- n/a	- n/a		1	2	-	Local	Local	Local			There are no new unaccompanied asylum seekers this month. Practice is supported by our practice guidance reviewed earlier in the year.
LAC11-QL	Number of Looked after Children aged 16+ or open Care Leavers with an authorised Pathway Plan	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Care Leavers have a good quality Pathway Plans, to which they have contributed, and which meets their needs.	164	169	172	172	173	171	175	175	173	174	167	167	168	⇒ 1%	⇒ 2%	▲	171	175	-	Local	Local	Local			The number of care leavers has increased by one young person. Outcomes are being monitored by our LAC and Care Leavers Improvement Board. A Practice Assurance Stocktake was completed over the summer, informing our improvement activity.
LAC11-QL (%)	Percentage of Looked after Children aged 16+ or open Care Leavers with an authorised Pathway Plan	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Care Leavers have a good quality Pathway Plans, to which they have contributed, and which meets their needs.	98.0%	99.0%	99.0%	98.0%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%	98.0%	98.0%	⇒ 0%	⇒ 0%	▲	98.8%	99.0%	P	Local	Local	Local			The percentage of plans has reduced slightly, but is at a consistently high level. Outcomes are being monitored by our LAC and Care Leavers Improvement Board.
NI147	Percentage of Care Leavers in contact and in suitable accommodation	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Care Leavers are in accommodation that is safe and secure.	91.0%	86.7%	89.5%	90.7%	88.4%	86.8%	86.4%	87.7%	86.2%	85.9%	84.3%	84.9%	82.6%	⇒ -3%	⇒ -9%	▲	86.7%	90.7%	P	81.9%	-	-	93.0%	94.0%	We remain above the benchmark figure of 81.89% but below our Target. However we are seeking to implement a more robust Care planning meeting process for young people in supported accommodation and thus seek to lessen the moves out to unsuitable accommodation. Staying Put is being reviewed and this will help meet the needs of some young people, thus adding to an improvement in the suitable accommodation available. The figures are also impacted significantly with custody of which we have a number of young people in prison.
LAC9 (val)	Number of Looked after Children (LAC) placed with IFAs at end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Our Looked after Children will benefit from high quality fostering provision, with our own carers wherever possible.	138	133	135	136	138	137	143	147	144	144	146	146	153	⇒ 5%	↑ 11%	▼	142	153	-	Local	Local	Local	TBC	TBC	The use of IFA remains stable, but the total number continues to be high - reflecting the need to identify placements for children who present with complex profiles. We have also seen an increase in the use of in-house foster care in this period. The profile of in-house carers remains restrictive in terms of the cohort of children that would be deemed a suitable match. Recruitment and retention of in house foster carers is a priority area for 2019/20.
LAC9	Percentage of IFA placements (of all looked after children)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Our Looked after Children will benefit from high quality fostering provision, with our own carers wherever possible.	26.8%	26.7%	27.6%	28.0%	29.1%	29.0%	29.7%	30.9%	29.4%	28.7%	29.2%	28.7%	29.9%	⇒ 4%	↑ 11%	▼	28.9%	30.9%	P	Local	Local	Local			As above (LAC9 (val)).
LAC16	Number of in-house foster carers at the end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Our Looked after Children will benefit from high quality fostering provision, with our own carers wherever possible.	171	173	168	167	168	171	172	172	tbc	tbc	167	166	169	⇒ 2%	⇒ -1%		169	173		-	-	-	190	200	The number of in house mainstream foster carers has seen a slight increase. A recent recruitment campaign achieved limited enquires with no prospective carers progressing to the assessment stage. We know we need to move away from traditional marketing approaches. A business case has been proposed to enhance the reward and support offered to in house carers to make fostering a more attractive option for those looking to give up work.