

Please note refreshments are available in the room from 5.30pm

Agenda

1. Introductions and Apologies

County Councillor Ian Brown

To note who is attending and any apologies for absence.

2. Notes of the Meeting and Matters Arising from 14 March 2018 (Pages 1 - 10)

County Councillor Ian Brown

To agree for accuracy the notes of the meeting and receive any matters arising.

3. Corporate Parenting Board Terms of Reference (5 mins) (Pages 11 - 14)

County Councillor Ian Brown

The Board to agree the amended Terms of Reference.

4. What LINX Have Been Doing (15 mins)

LINX, Lancashire's Children in Care Council

To note feedback from work undertaken by LINX (Lancashire's Children in Care Council), Performance Report and the Young Inspectors since the last meeting.

5. Corporate Parenting Strategy (30 mins) (Pages 15 - 32)

Peter Knowles, LCC and Young People

To receive the draft Corporate Parenting Strategy for comment and agree a workplan for the next 12 months.

6. Care Leaver Local Offer (30 mins) (Pages 33 - 42)

Jane Hylton, LCC, Aaron Walmsley-Fishwick and Ralph Rushworth, LCC Apprentices

To receive the findings from the care leaver consultation.

7. Children's Society (15 mins) (Pages 43 - 60)

Kirsty Clarke, Children's Rights Society

To receive an overview of the Children's Rights Service, common advocacy themes and a reminder on how the referral process works.

8. Staying Put Policy (10 mins)

Barbara Bath, LCC

To receive an update on the Staying Put policy and response to a young person's PowerPoint presentation from the March 2018 Board meeting.

9. Any Other Business

County Councillor Ian Brown

To receive any other business.

10. Date and Time of Next Meeting

County Councillor Ian Brown

Thursday, 26 July 2018 at 1.30pm in Committee Room 'C' - Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston. This is the young person led meeting.

Information Item

11. Performance Report

(Pages 61 - 70)

Performance Report for May 2018.

Agenda Item 2

Lancashire County Council

Corporate Parenting Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 14th March, 2018 at 6.00 pm in Committee Room 'C' (The Duke of Lancaster Room) - County Hall, Preston

Present: Members

County Councillor Ian Brown (Chair)	- Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Andrew Gardiner	- Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Phillippa Williamson	- Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Stephen Clarke	- Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Julie Gibson	- Lancashire County Council
Catherine	- representing Adoption
Graham Nelson	- Fostering Forum
John Readman	- Lancashire County Council
Michelle	- LINX Representative
Lisa	- LINX Representative
Sandra	- LINX Representative
Sinead	- LINX Representative
Gina	- LINX Representative
Paige	- LINX Representative
Iqra	- LINX Representative
Sam R	- LINX Representative

Co-opted members

Michelle Davies	- National Fostering Agency
Karen Buckley	- Aurora Care Young People's Services Limited
Amanda Mansfield	- Independent Reviewing Officers
Lorraine Moody	- Barnardo's
Lynda Pearson	- Leaving Care, LCC
Lisa Farrell	- Health
Michelle Dawson	- Barnardo's
Lee Jolleys	- Barnardo's

Other Attendees

Jane Hylton	- Leaving Care, LCC
Barbara Bath	- Fostering, Adoption, Residential and YOT Team, LCC
Mark Ormerod	- Lancashire County Council

Natasha Wright	- National Care Leavers Benchmarking Form Representative
Sam Gorton (Clerk)	- Lancashire County Council
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1. Introductions and Apologies

All were welcomed to the meeting and apologies were received and noted from Jane Simpson, Debbie Ross, Roxanne McAllister and Kirsty Clarke. John Readman, Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services attended on behalf of Amanda Hatton.

The Chair welcomed Karen Buckley, Aurora Care Young People's Service Ltd and Michelle Davies, National Fostering Agency who were the new Agency Provider representatives from fostering and residential. Graham Nelson, foster carer was also introduced to the Board as this was his first meeting too.

2. Notes of the Meeting and Matters Arising from 25 January 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2018 were agreed as an accurate record and there were no matters arising.

3. What our Elected Members have been doing

County Councillor Brown attended the PROUD Children Looked After and Care Leavers awards that was held on 23 February 2018 and congratulated all award winners and the Task and Finish Group that co-ordinated the event. This year there was over 200 nominations which was an increase of around 100 from last year, making the judging process even harder.

Following on from the last meeting where young people raised concerns about being taken out from lessons in school to meet with Social Workers/IROs, Amanda Hatton has written to all colleagues concerned and requested that meetings with children and young people do not take place during lessons unless it is for educational reasons. If this is still happening, please let CC Brown know and he will report this back to Amanda/John Readman.

CC Brown asked that Barnardo's contact Sheffield City Council and Halton Council following their visits to Lancashire's Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) last year and ask for an update on their experience and whether it had had any effect on their Boards.

Action: Barnardo's to contact Sheffield City Council and Halton Council for an update on their visit to Lancashire's CPB meetings and report back at the next meeting.

Following an issue that had been raised by a young person who had lost his key and did not know who to ring for help as it was out of hours, CC Brown stated that he had made an initial telephone call to Timpsons asking for support and to

work with Lancashire County Council in supporting their care leavers when this happens.

CC Brown had recently had a 1:1 meeting with somebody who has raised an issue regarding the Care Leaver Policy. Details of this meeting had been sent to John Readman and he will feedback at the next meeting regarding this.

Action: John Readman to feedback back to the Board on the Care Leaver Policy issue that had been raised by CC Brown.

County Councillor Gibson apologised for not making the PROUD event, however congratulated the young people who were award winners and is very supportive of all our children and young people in care.

County Councillor Gardiner commented that the issue raised with regards young people being withdrawn from class for reviews/assessments was raised at Children's Services Scrutiny Committee earlier on today.

CC Brown reminded the Board that if there were any issues they wanted to raise to contact an Elected Member from the Board and they will try their best to sort it out. Also if anybody has any items for future agendas to forward them Sam Gorton.

4. What our Young People have been doing

What LINX Have Been Doing

LINX presented the attached PowerPoint to the Board on all the activities they had been involved with since the last meeting in January.

In addition, there were also two young people at an event in London tonight and another young person attending a different event in London on Saturday.

Two young people attended the Social Work Academy where young people advised new Social Workers on how they wanted to be treated by them and what they wanted from their Social Worker. Young people felt this is an ideal opportunity to air their views and put their opinions across as they have been involved with Social Workers already and can relay their experiences good or bad. Social Workers also commented that they feel this is the most powerful tool with regards to learning as they are hearing it from the young people who have had experience of working with Social Workers and because of what they did, this happened for the young person.

5. What our Board Members have been doing

At the Board meeting on 7 December 2017, those present made pledges as a Corporate Parent.

Some of the Board members gave an update on their pledge and a revised version is attached. If there are any further updates please send to Sam Gorton (email: sam.gorton@lancashire.gov.uk) and she will update the Pledge as requested.

The Pledges will be reviewed again at a future meeting.

Action: Board members who made pledges to send an update to Sam Gorton for further review at a future meeting.

6. Update from the Interim Executive Director of Education and Children's Services

PROUD

John Readman echoed CC Brown's comments on the PROUD awards evening and added that it was an amazing, classy night and very professionally organised. He had received great feedback following the event which we can build on for future awards evenings.

Update on Director of Children's Services

John Readman had received an update from Amanda Hatton, saying she was recovering well from her operation and she asked John to say "Hi" to the Board this evening. CC Brown asked if LINX would like to write to Amanda and maybe send messages.

Action: LINX to write a letter and collect messages to send to Amanda and forward this to Sam Gorton who will ensure she receives it.

Local Offer

Consultation with around 800 care leavers had taken place on the Local Offer, on what they would like to see included in it. The deadline for the questionnaire is 7 April 2018 and then the results will be analysed and presented back to the CPB. A workshop will be held in April for Elected Members, CPB members, Chief Executive, LCC and John Readman and this will then form part of the Care Leavers Strategy. The Local Offer will be made by the end of 2018. A regular update will come to the Board.

Corporate Parenting Strategy

John Readman asked if LINX were involved with the strategy and if not, then links needed to be made as some work had been started to look at having one document and the young people's views were crucial.

Pledge

It was agreed that a new pledge was needed about what our young people were saying and what we as a Board were doing about it.

Action: The Board to look at designing a new pledge at a future meeting.

CPB Website

This is outdated and needs revising. John requested volunteers to look at the website and agree content and ensure all documents are up to date. LINX are asked to be involved also. It was agreed that some of the five new Care Leaver apprentices could be the link between LCC and LINX on the project.

Action: Barbara Bath will seek to find a lead from Children's Services to create a Task and Finish Group to look specifically at bringing the website up-to-date as soon as possible.

Ofsted

Barbara Bath talked about how LINX had been really influential during inspections and also supported all Social Workers, not just the newly qualified ones, those who have been doing it for years, and have made them look at their actions by young people sharing their experiences directly with them. CPB and young people had been really powerful and this had been recognised and praised by Ofsted. Colleagues in Children's Services were now beginning to change their thought processes and this needed to continue and shape and influence the Service going forward.

John Readman informed the Board that it was envisaged that Ofsted will carry out a full inspection possibly May/June 2018 where they would inspect for four weeks. They would possibly want to attend a CPB meeting, definitely meet with the Chair, CC Brown and maybe other members, and also meet with LINX. Preparation for their next visit needs to start now. When further information was available, John would ensure that this was circulated and there is an expectation for all to be involved.

Barbara Bath informed the Board that a recent Ofsted visit to one of the Residential homes in Lancashire now had all Units at Good/Outstanding except one whom they visited last week and said this is now improving. This is a real celebration for the Residential Service.

7. LINX (Lancashire's Children in Care Council)

Sam R, young person, shared with the Board the attached information from the Become Board that he was a member of. He had also recently been accepted as a Board member on the Young Editors group which produces a magazine quarterly. The Board felt that this magazine would be useful for Foster Carers

and requested that Sam source more magazines to be shared with carers through the Fostering Forum.

Action: Sam R to source more Become magazines and distribute (with the help from Barnardo's/Barbara Bath), to the Fostering Forum.

What Would You Do Different If You Were In Charge of Children's Services?

Mark Ormerod presented the attached PowerPoint to the Board on what he would do differently.

The Board received the presentation and discussion ensued. Mark felt there was a need for young people to be Care Mentors for those younger children coming into care, so they can help and guide them from experience. This could be a paid role or look at having it accredited, so the Care Mentors would have something to be recognised by.

Karen Buckley shared that she was happy for Young Inspectors to inspect her Agency and could also offer a Care Leaver Apprenticeship and is certain that other Agency Providers would be willing to offer an apprenticeship also.

Training in schools for specialised teachers could be an opportunity for the young people to speak to them, like they do in the Social Work Academy in a formal setting. This would give them more of an understanding of Children in Care.

Mark felt that one thing that needed changing for the better is Staying Put. He felt that a campaign on this was needed and that there was a distinct lack of knowledge on this. Foster carers are confused by it and more needs to be done about helping them to understand more and also allaying fears that if they offered a Staying Put policy they do not lose their foster carer status. Barbara Bath thanked Mark for highlighting this and that this was a quick fix solution. Barbara agreed to take this forward. Communications around Staying Put needed to be stronger – advertise it as well as advertising for foster carers.

Mark requested that a Focus Group be set up on Staying Put so young people were also aware of it and how it works. John Readman agreed to look at this.

- Action:**
- i) Barbara Bath to ensure the correct information is shared on the Staying Put policy and that foster carers understand it fully.
 - ii) John Readman agreed to look at setting up a Focus Group on Staying Put and will discuss with young people outside the meeting.

Mark felt that After Hours Support was crucial for care leavers. Look at changing contracted hours so staff can support young people after 5pm and before 9am if needed. If young people are working, they cannot always make contact 9am-5pm and then the office closes and there is nobody to contact, ie if a key is lost.

Mark was thanked for his very informative presentation and CC Brown and John Readman will scrutinise this and follow it through and report back at a future meeting.

Action: John Readman and CC Brown to follow up points within the presentation and share findings/solutions at a future meeting.

LINX had also been asked the same question about what they would change if they were in charge of Children's Services. Attached are their suggestions/comments.

Feedback on the CPB Performance Report March 2018

Young people gave feedback on their findings from the Performance Report. Attached are the comments from young people they want answering. Concern was raised around Health Assessments and support that the young people felt was not given by Social Workers when accompanying them to appointments. This needs raising with Social Workers.

Numbers of Care Leavers attending University has increased. Barbara Bath agreed to look at why they are increasing and continue with the good work that is encouraging Care Leavers to attend University.

Action: Barbara Bath agreed to look at why University figures for Care Leavers were increasing, which is good news and to ensure this continues to rise.

Young Inspectors

LINX presented the attached PowerPoint to the Board. They were asked which five Agency providers had been inspected. Lorraine Moody agreed to ask Dylan Williams who has been involved with this and will report back at the next meeting.

Action: Dylan Williams to report back at the next meeting which five Agency providers have been inspected by the Young Inspectors.

8. National Care Leavers Benchmarking Forum

Due to the recent adverse weather conditions, Natasha Wright and Jane Hylton could not attend the last National Care Leavers Benchmarking Forum (NCLBF) meeting. The Board had been presented with different logos for the NCLBF and LINX were asked to choose from five. Option two was voted the best logo and Natasha and Jane would report back to the NCLBF on this.

9. Title for Corporate Parenting Board

There had been no suggestions received as discussed at the meeting on 23 January 2018. LINX were once again asked to think of an alternative name for the Board and also look at a logo which could be used in the Mission Statement.

Action: LINX to report back to the Board at the next meeting suggestions for an alternative name and a logo for the Board.

10. Care Leavers Policy

As previously discussed at Item 3, this item will be deferred to the next meeting. In the meantime John Readman will follow this up and discuss with Jane Hylton outside of this meeting.

Action:

- i) John Readman to follow this up prior to the next meeting and speak with Jane Hylton.
- ii) Sam Gorton to ensure this item is on the next agenda for May.

11. Any Other Business

PROUD

Michelle Dawson, Barnardo's was presented with her Winners certificate from the PROUD event in the Workers Category, who was nominated by the young people and won. Michelle expressed how fantastic it was to work with such inspiring young people every day. The Board congratulated Michelle on this achievement.

Invite for Chief Executive, Lancashire County Council

Mark Ormerod requested that John Readman invite Angie Ridgwell, Chief Executive of Lancashire County Council (LCC) to attend a future Board meeting. John agreed to invite Angie.

Action: John Readman to extend an invitation to Angie Ridgwell, Chief Executive of LCC to a future meeting of the Board.

CC Brown thanked the Board members for their contributions and especially to Mark Ormerod for his presentation.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will take place on Tuesday, 22 May 2018 at 6.00pm in Committee Room 'D' – Henry Bolingbroke Room, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8RJ.

13. Performance Report

This item was for information.

Constitution, Terms of Reference and Membership of the Corporate Parenting Board

Terms of reference for the Corporate Parenting Board

Purpose:

The Corporate Parenting Board is an advisory body. It has two main functions:

1. To support and make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Schools on matters related to corporate parenting.
2. To advise, guide and provide leadership to the county council on issues relating to looked after children and its corporate parenting responsibility.

To meet this purpose, the Corporate Parenting Board has the following aims and objectives:

- (a) To make sure that the whole council and relevant partner agencies commit to excellent standards of corporate parenting.
- (b) To set high expectations and stable relationships for all children in care.
- (c) To seek improved long term outcomes for children in care and their families – for their happiness; well-being; educational success; and future prospects.
- (d) To make sure that the voice of the child and young person in care influences both policy and the services that they receive, and that young people are engaged with any action intended to develop and improve services or to recruit key staff members.
- (e) To oversee and monitor the key performance indicators for the health, well-being and education of looked after children.
- (f) To consider the outcomes of regulatory visits and inspection reports on provision for children in care and to receive regular reports on:
 - the work of the adoption and fostering services;
 - work experience schemes
 - provision for leaving care, housing and training for care leavers; and
 - work with those in the Secure Estate.
- (g) To ensure that relevant key plans, strategies and associated resources identify and make explicit the contribution that they make to targets agreed for improvement.
- (h) To celebrate the achievements of children looked after and their carers.

- (i) To develop an informed view of County Council provision and services through a programme of well planned visits and feedback from Board members.
- (j) To ensure that children looked after by the local authority are offered the protection of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 2 September 1990.
- (k) To establish and maintain specific task groups as necessary to make recommendations to it.

Constitution

All Members of the Board and the Chair of the Board will be appointed by the Leader who will determine their period of office.

The Board will comprise of at least the following members but the Leader may appoint additional members at his/her discretion:

- One or more of the largest group Members
- Opposition Groups Member nominee(s)
- Director of Children's Services
- Family/carer representatives
- Children and Young People in Care and Care Leavers representing young people from across the county

All the above members of the Board will be entitled to vote and the Chair will have a casting vote.

The Leader can make changes to the above appointments at any time.

- No Cabinet members will serve on the Board

Co-opted membership

The Board may co-opt representatives, without voting rights, from significant services involved in corporate parenting:

Health provision – including CAMHS

Children's Centres

Children, Family and Wellbeing

Schools

Colleges

Police

Youth Justice

Private sector provision

Voluntary sector provision

Safeguarding Board

Department for Work and Pensions

The Board can make changes to the co-opted representation at any time.

The Board does not have decision-making powers and is not a formal Committee of the County Council.

The Board will receive advice and reports from the following:

- (a) The Headteacher for Children Looked After, School Improvement
- (b) CiCC - Lancashire's Children in Care Council
- (c) Children and Young People's Champions:
 - representing the elected members of Lancashire County Council
 - representing the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership
- (d) Children's Right Service
- (e) Barnardo's

Updated May 2018

Agenda Item 5

Document is Restricted

Care Leaver Local Offer – Consultation with Lancashire's Care Leavers

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 has introduced three provisions, placing new duties on Local Authorities. The three provisions are:

- Corporate Parenting Principles
- A Local Offer for Care Leavers; and
- Extending Personal Advisor support to all Care Leavers to age 25

Implementation in Lancashire

The Department for Education guidance clearly states that 'Relevant Persons' should be consulted on the Care Leaver offer. At the core of this are Care Leavers themselves, and Lancashire have run various consultation opportunities for care leavers to have a say about the local offer. The consultation is aimed at children and young people entitled to leaving care support, defined within the legal framework of the care leaver regulations as Eligible, Relevant, Former Relevant and Qualifying young people. It is essential that Care Leavers have an opportunity to co-design the Local Offer, and we have five care leaver apprentice's that are currently involved in a task and finish group with the Communication/Design team.

Care Leaver Consultation

Two methods of consultation:

1. Care Leaver Local Offer consultation day at Lancaster University on 15 February 2018. This event was attended by up to 30 young people who took part in three workshops, with themes of:
 - i) What do you think should go in a local offer?
 - ii) What are your priorities over the next 2-3 years?
 - iii) How can your council show it listens to you and involves you in decisions?
2. Care Leaver Local Offer Questionnaire. Over seven weeks Care Leavers had the opportunity to complete the questionnaire through an on-line link. This was accessed via a link on The Youth Zone. Young people were encouraged to complete this either by Social Workers, Personal Advisers, carers and at the locality care leaver groups and the care leaver forum and LINX.

Feedback from Care Leavers

This can be found at Annex 1.

What are we doing with the feedback?

The PowerPoint presented to the Corporate Parenting Board at its meeting on 22 May 2018, by Aaron Walmsley-Fishwick, Ralph Rushworth and Jane Hylton is a snapshot of what we felt were the most important quotes from the care leavers under the subject areas of Health and Wellbeing, Accommodation, Education, Employment and Training, Participation etc.

Next Steps

For the consultation and feedback to be effective for a meaningful local offer, the information needs to be fed back to Senior Leadership Team, elected members and district Chief Executives.

- Two care leavers that are working on the local offer have so far presented the findings to the Purposeful Practice Board, attended by the Chief Executive. This will be further rolled out to the localities and will be presented to the Corporate Parenting Board on 22 May 2018.
- Apprentices update care leavers on the progress of the local offer via social media, LINX, Care leaver forum and the locality care leaver groups.
- Consultation findings have been fed back to the Local Offer Task and Finish group-multi agency representation.
- Production of a young person's friendly animation on 'What is a Care Leaver Local Offer', due to be finalised by mid-June.
- Apprentices will arrange co-design workshops with the locality care leaver groups

It is envisaged that the Local Offer will be published by 1 October 2018, however it's important to point out that it will always be evolving with information added to it over time.

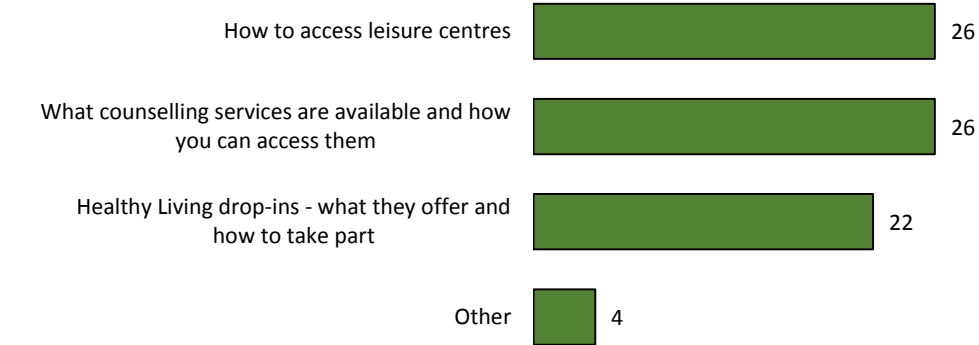
Report Author: Jane Hylton, Assistant Base Manager, Central Children's Social Care Team, Lancashire County Council

Date of report production: 18 May 2018

What information would you like to see in the Local Offer about health and wellbeing? Information about...	How to access leisure centres	26	72%
	What counselling services are available and how you can access them	26	72%
	Healthy Living drop-ins - what they offer and how to take part	22	61%
	Other	4	11%
	TOTAL	36	

Other comments

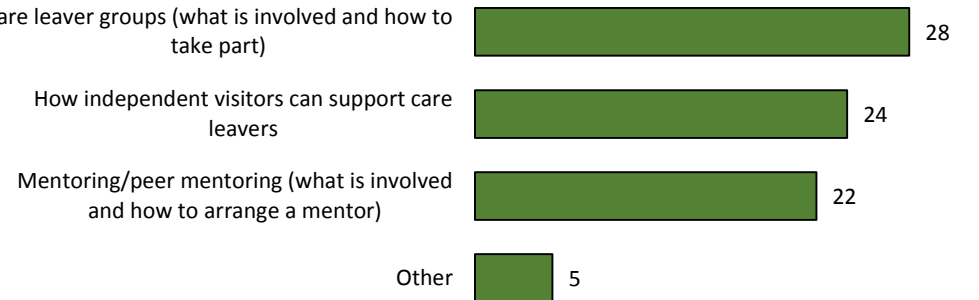
I would like to know what counselling services are available.
Better information and service from adult services.
I would like to see better access to adult services from age 18
A drop in would be good so we can talk about mental health



What information would you like to see in the Local Offer about relationships? Information about...	Care leaver groups (what is involved and how to take part)	28	80%
	How independent visitors can support care leavers	24	69%
	Mentoring/peer mentoring (what is involved and how to arrange a mentor)	22	63%
	Other	5	14%
	TOTAL	35	

Other comments

I'd like to know how I would become a peer mentor and what it involves.
Better support after 5pm and at weekends
Being a independent visitor myself the service is only for young people 21 and under so if it was put up to the 25 under would be a good relationship for people over 21 and under 25



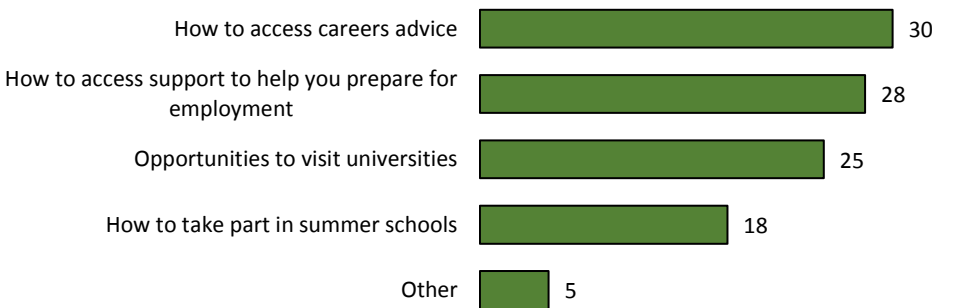
I would like to hear more from other care leavers about what it feels like to live independently and maybe get help from them. Social workers are always busy and don't know anything about leaving care. A group would be good where we can do cooking.
Out of hrs groups where we can go to to do activities

What information would you like to see in the Local Offer about education, training and employment? Information about...	How to access careers advice	30	81%
	How to access support to help you prepare for employment	28	76%
	Opportunities to visit universities	25	68%
	How to take part in summer schools	18	49%
	Other	5	14%
	TOTAL	37	

Other comments

I would like others to know the employment and support services as I have had and has lead me onto an apprenticeship

I think it would be great if care leavers in apprentships received support such as the bursary and insentive reward like what you get if you go thought uni because apprentship and uni are paths of the same walk in which they both a education based step to getting employment



Careers advice at the right time 15-17 so People can access the right college taster sessions at the right time for them so they choose what they want

i would like to see what options i have for employment and training.

Help in accessing training providers - who are they in our area?

What information would you like to see in the Local Offer about accommodation? Information about...	Accommodation options in your area	34	94%
	What support is available from housing services	33	92%
	How to access practical support to prepare for living independently	30	83%
	Staying Put	20	56%
	Other	11	31%
	TOTAL	36	

Other comments 11

when I ever decide to leave staying put, I would need to know what accommodation is available and support I would get

Information about life skills and what to consider when living independently for example simple meal recipes, budgeting, how to change a light bulb fuse ECT also information on who to contact out of hours.

Accommodation for care leavers like student accommodation, don't want to live on my own. Staying put to 25 and what about residential

Local charities for furniture items if needed

what support is available from Lancashire county council also what other organisations can help with help you get stuff such as washes cookers I,E care and urgent need .also buttletrust who can help with carpets ,bedding and other stuff because the setting home is only there once and if the care leaver can get more help with that stuff around the house gives them more money to better quality items which will last longer.

information on how to pay utilities and keeping it liveable condition

More info on accessing suitable accommodation via adult social care and support understanding support packages and tenancy agreements

Financial issues bonds and rents etc

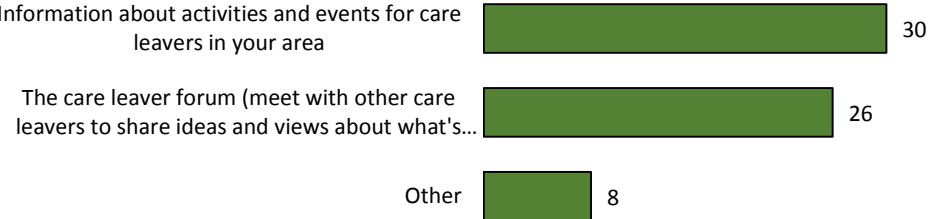
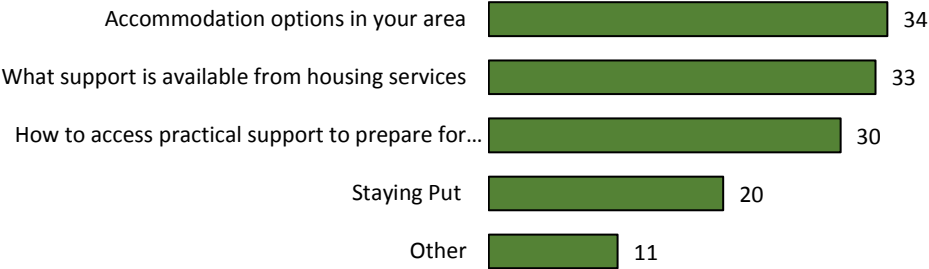
this is where i need a lot of help, don't like the foyer, too big. I would like to live in smaller supported accommodation with another care leaver so we can help each other. There's not enough options for housing. Would like to see training flats so this could have prepared me better. Care doesn't prepare you for living on your own.

need more supported smaller accommodation. Need more help preparing me for living on my own

Tenancy training as it is a mindfield all the jargon used in the agreements Council Tax - what is this and why do I pay it Water rates - why do I need to pay this

What information would you like to see in the Local Offer about participation? Information about...	Information about activities and events for care leavers in your area	30	86%
	The care leaver forum (meet with other care leavers to share ideas and views about what's...	26	74%
	Other	8	23%
	TOTAL	35	

Other comments 8



similar to meeting up with other care leavers but not sharing ideas. They're are already too many groups that are organised in Lancashire with the same idea. I think people should be able to meet up but go through ideas about housing/preparing for jobs but it be more structured

I like to meet new people to possible make new friendships I would also like to take more part in leaving care activities/groups in my area
Want more activities for care leavers. Forum is too far away, need one in local area

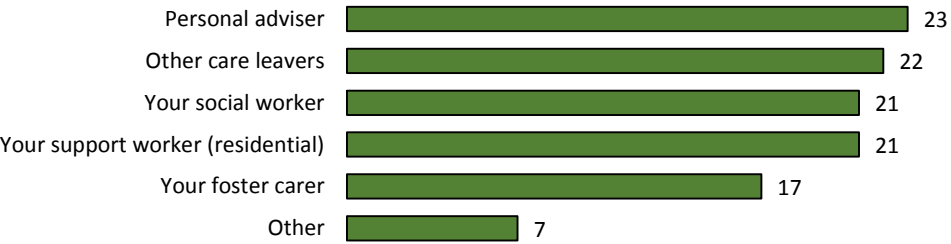
LCC should be getting young people involved younger to show them the importance of having a voice also I thinks its LCC responsibility help young people get a more of a understanding on what going on with and round them because if the have a better understanding they will be able to participate more
leaflets or regular updates on events to make it more helpful to find out where and when?

Information on how to access services that can support in addressing issues with other services. And support to confidently do this.
i want more information about what is a forum, i know Barnardos runs one but too far for me to travel. I would like to do activities in the evening and weekends but leaving care don't work then.
want activities, try something new.

Is there any other information that you would like to see included in the Local Offer? 13

more care leavers events
nothing
Take into consideration peoples dyslexia, learning disabilities to make it accessible for all
My rights and entitlements List of types of furniture I can buy and how much a local offer that is easy to read and jargon free
more access to information from sexual health services and GUM clinics, (workshops)
Support groups for people who have conditions such as bi polar and other such health issues and diagnosis. Make things more accessible
Relevant contact details for services, duty etc
i think that
support groups
things to do like little trips , meals out etc
information on how to contact workers when mines off. i would like to see info on what PA's do and support they can give. information on setting up home allowance and how i can spend this.
not just info on leaving care but info for young people
more information on how I can become involved in meetings.

Who would you like to talk to about leaving care?	Personal adviser	23	64%
	Other care leavers	22	61%
	Your social worker	21	58%
	Your support worker (residential)	21	58%
	Your foster carer	17	47%
	Other	7	19%
	TOTAL	36	



Other comments

the closest people I know and feel comfortable talking too
And every one thats involved
Family members if appropriate

More support around preparation for independence, maybe from other older care leavers
north west leaving care vikki
I would talk to other care leavers and PA. Social workers don't know anything about leaving care
i'd talk to anyone as long as they new there stuff

As a care leaver, what are your priorities for the next few years (2-5 years)? 29

Be able to get my education on track and get to my dream Also to be able to be more independent
Getting life sorted
Education
My priorities would be to be moving into my own place with a stable job that wont let me down, also being able to connect with family through social media ad travel

To complete my apprentice To do my motor bike lesson so I can move up from A 125CC Get a permanent job that I enjoy Stay at home for as long as possible. Own my own horse and become more independent.

To get a place with my partner and onece i have my secound baby and onece i am ready to go college i will and both of my babies can start to go to creche whilst ill be in college and my partner work

Regardless of being a care leavers or not, priorities are based on one's personal experience and the path one chooses to follow in order to become the greatest version accordingly with the purpose discovered upon gathering experience. In my case, a priority is to always ensure I am a happy person at no cost of other individual's wellbeing and for me this is only achievable if I work on my purpose, which I believe is to raise the general vibration of the world around me, by sharing my talents, wisdom and understanding of the path I have taken. I aim to create a lifestyle of infinite abundance, by adjusting my expectations to the principal of needing only what I have, in which result I will create an aura of happiness that can be embodied by anyone who chooses to acknowledge my synchronicity with myself.

Education and Employment
To start driving
• Live independently. • Drive. • Being able to cope.
Finish my apprenticeship and get a steady income
Finishing college
To finish my university degree and to get myself a job within the industry I have chosen to go into and to also get my own stable and secure accommodation.
absolutely nothing to do with you
To get a Job and be settled in employment and my home. And to carry on coming to Barnardo's participation :)
Get a decent job and accommodation I like. savings in my bank account!
employment, housing and sorting out debts
looking after my daughter
Have a house, steady job and relationship.
work and gain and better understanding of the LCC and be able to help care leavers reach the potential
employment housing getting driving building new healthy relationships
Getting my medication sorted Settling in my new flat. Linking with and using my support package to meet my needs.
Have a job, Have my own place Pass my driving test
money
join north west leaving care ,finish education and training ,have a job, have a home.
to have my own house, have a good job, be happy
i want a nice place to live where i feel safe and a job
to live in a decent house
getting qualifications so I can get a good job. Having a nice home with nice stuff in it and passing my driving licence

Have you seen or used	Yes, I've used it	9	25%
Lancashire's Leaving Care Rights	Yes, I've seen it but not used it	10	28%
and Entitlements guide on the	No	10	28%
Zone website?	Don't know/unsure	7	19%
		36	

What, if anything, are we getting right about the information we give care leavers at the moment? 19

Giving young people information about different organisations for different types of groups for help to do with housing, finding jobs and building relationships back up. you've managed to help a lot of people but also improve the way their future is.

Since I became a care leaver I had a lot of support and information where as being a child in care, I felt like I didn't have as much as I needed at certain point in my life

Its been ok

If I ask a question - it gets answered accurately and there isn't much more I could expect.

I was happy with the information I was given and think I recieved everything I needed and was given all the support and advice I needed.

It tells you what you're applicable for

absolutely nothing, I don't know

The only way that I find out about care leaver information is through accessing Barnardo's participation service.

I like the information on the Youth Zone webpage My PA hkeeps me informed

financial advice

My workers tell me

its quite old some of the information but other info is great and very usefully

I believe a lot of PA's are good with helping you understand what to expect from leaving care.

Letting me know about my entitlements SUHA Providing support

Information given is more relevant as workers are knowledgable and supportive

not teaching me things that are going to be beneficial they focus on the wrong things

social services are okay to some degree,

support in employment and helping me to get interviews and how to get there etc

i think the information on the website is good

What, if anything, are we NOT getting right about the information we give care leavers at the moment? 19

knowing how to deal with benefits or bills is one of the main things that doesn't get mentioned a lot. a lot of care leavers still don't have structure in their lives and moving them off somewhere can cause their behaviour to go wild. with the support there is its not the right support so people are going homeless a lot quicker and a lot easier then normal

I don't really know. As long as I stay put with the people I live with and carry on getting the support by them I need

Concentrate on the positives :)

I think leaving care workers should visit more regularly for those who are showing concern and not just leave them to it.

It's not very specific or detailed

dunno mate

Although it will be hard to adapt all stuff. I don't think the professionals take into account that a certain percentage of children in care and care leavers struggle academically so having so much information to absorb can be a struggle at times.

Social workers need to know more about leaving care they don't have much knowledge on this and don't give right info,

nothing wrong

Nothing.

I wouldn't say not getting it wrong but the a to z page is not young people friendly like its got so much info that it hard to navigate thought not all of them will want to search thought paragraph after paragraph of info that isn't relevant to them

I had a lot of problems understanding how to pay bills and apply for benefits as before leaving residential into independence I was never shown

In the past when younger I didn't feel I had choices about where I lived . I ended up living in a centre until I recently gained my own place

I don't know anything that isn't right.

everything

going about thing the wrong way using wrong words

social workers need to read the information so they can get facts right

workers need to know more about leaving care stuff

I don't have access to wifi at home so am limited to being able to access the internet - more handouts

What, if anything, are we getting right about the support we give care leavers at the moment?

18

There is always someone to talk to

You do more than enough, since I often get a feeling of being at an advantage due to having had been in foster care. I don't need much mental support as I tend to turn to my family, friends or myself for this, but material and advisory support on your part is great.

I think that when a care leaver works with their support worker they are given a lot of advice and support and helped in everyway possible.

Having a ppa

There seems to be more focus in providing better services for care leavers including PA training and better communication.

service 6 support

My PA is good but would like to see them more not just a quick visit to talk about heavy stuff.

very supportive leaving care worker

helping yp getting into work also taking on careleavers at LCC give them an opportunity to be apart of the council that practically raised them

Great support financially if in need. Emotional support has always been given when I've needed (don't make you feel like your talking to a professional just doing their job)

Visit and have regular contact Everything is ok

Supportive and consistent worker Available ,accessible

dhgv

meetings placement

ringing me too see how i am , keeping intouch

i think my PA is good but don't see her as much as i'd like to. She is very busy all the time. If she is supposed to be like a pparent to me then why can't i see her ,more often? You need more workers better than it was but need more out of hrs workers

I get to see my leaving care worker and she is always available to call on mobile if I need her

What, if anything, are we NOT getting right about the support we give care leavers at the moment?

16

I am not sure

See previous question :)

I think that those care leavers that are not as cooperative and those that show concern are not given as much support and are just shoved aside and only seen when needed to when really I think more visits should be arranged to push them as obviously there is something underlying for them to isolate themselves.

Not giving enough advice

We need to provide better information, support and training on providing care leavers the skills to be able to live independently in accommodation.

My file was closed by my leaving care worker.

Need more PA's and social workers need to knbow more about leaving care.

nothing to report

financial support for care leavers upto 25

Nothing at the moment. I have the support I need

hvjrm

they much about the paper worker

not knowing about anything thats going on , feel like i have come out of the system with no support and nothing to do . prehaps a bit more help with housing and getting a job

Need more PA's

dont like how we spend the setting up home allowance, its not normal, should have the casgh to spend with support from worker

Would be good to see her more often and not have to wait

Are you...?

Male	11
Female	25

Which best describes your ethnic background?

White	32
-------	----

Asian or Asian British	1
Black or Black British	1
Other	2

Are you a deaf person or do you have a disability?

Yes	7
No	26
Prefer not to say	3

The Children's Society in Lancashire

Unit 12, Eastway Business Village, Olivers Place, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 9WT

Tel: 01772 759 233

Web: www.childrenssociety.org.uk/north



The Children's Rights Service has several elements:

- **Advocacy Service** - for individual young people who may need support to raise and voice their views and opinions. An advocate is someone who will listen to a young person's views and help them have their say. The service is available to:
 - CLA by LCC, Care Leavers up to age 25 and Children in Need under Section 17 of the Children's Act 1989 who want to make a complaint or representation about the services they are receiving from LCC; this is now provided on a time-limited basis.
 - CLA by LCC and Care Leavers who would like support to enable them to participate effectively in their planning and review process.
 - Children and young people approaching 18 years undergoing an assessment to enable them to participate effectively in the planning and review process for their transition into adult services. The service is available for CYP with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND), CYP accessing Child and Adult Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and young carers who are in transition to adult services.
- **Independent Visitors (IV)** – the role of an independent visitor is to befriend and develop a positive relationship with a young person. All our independent visitors are unpaid volunteers and aim to offer support and a consistent contact for a young person over several years. The IV service prioritises young people who have no or little contact with their families.
 - They will visit approximately every four weeks - either to take the young person on activities or just to be there for them to talk to.
 - We can also support CYP remotely through the Virtual Independent Visitor service.

Meet the Team – please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions:

Kirsty Clarke Service Manager	Tel: 01772 759 233 Mob: 07725639115 Email: kirsty.clarke@childrenssociety.org.uk
Brenda Entwistle Advocate	Tel: 01772 759 233 Mob: 07803027692 Email: Brenda.Entwistle@childrenssociety.org.uk
Shagufta Khan (Shugs) Advocate	Tel: 01772 759 233 Mob: 07810487980 Email: shagufta.khan@childrenssociety.org.uk
Cindy Moseley Volunteer Co-ordinator - IV	Tel: 01772 759 233 Mob: 07730200347 Email: cindy.moseley@childrenssociety.org.uk
Matthew Stone Volunteer Co-ordinator - IV	Tel: 01772 759 233 Mob: 07702 904174 Email: matthew.stone@childrenssociety.org.uk
Bethan Read Administrator	Tel: 01772 759 233 Email: bethan.read@childrenssociety.org.uk

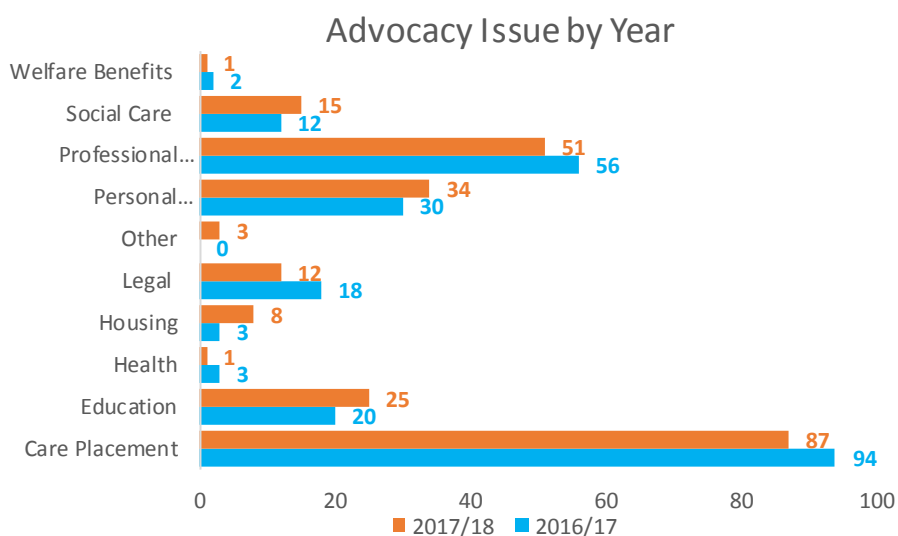
Accessing the Service - young people can refer themselves to our services or be referred by another agency. We will not start working with a young person unless they are fully aware of the referral. Both Advocacy and Independent Visitor request forms are available on our website or from a member of the team.

Please email advocacy referrals to CRL@childsoc.org.uk

Please email IV referrals to IVLancashire@childrenssociety.org.uk

Summary of advocacy service 1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018

- 189 new advocacy referrals received
- 58 cases remained open from previous year
- 13 referrals not eligible (mostly due to being from out of area or on child protection)
- 56 referrals did not progress (mostly due to CYP not requesting an advocate)
- 88% of 105 closures showed improvement in self-assessments



“She was my voice & fought for my rights”

‘Attended my meetings and gave me the voice I never had before’

“Supports me - Listens to me - Understands me or if she doesn't she will try - Seems to fight for what is best for me - Gives me advice - Makes me feel like I am not on my own”

“Because you getting things sorted”

Summary of Independent Visitor service 1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018

- 45 new referrals received
- 57 cases open from previous year
- 34 referrals did not progress (not requested by CYP or change in circumstances)
- 1 referral not eligible
- 55 matches within the year

“My IV is great we do fun things and he is always happy he makes me laugh.”

“He listens and lets me speak and express my feelings”

“I can speak to her when I need to talk to other people who are not my family”

“Just talking and listening”

“She helped me with confidence and also she made me feel like I was important”



INDEPENDENT ADVOCACY REQUEST

(Children looked after, care leavers, children in need)

An advocate is someone who will listen to your views and help you have your say. They can help you talk about your worries with the staff that care for you, with your social worker, school or others.

Name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

I live at: _____

This is a: Foster home ☐ Residential home ☐ Other _____

I can be contacted on: _____

I am: Male ☐ Female ☐ Other ☐

My ethnicity: _____ My religion: _____

I have a disability: Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, this is categorised as:

Physical disability ☐ Sensory impairment ☐ Learning disability ☐

Emotional/behavioral difficulties ☐ Multiple disabilities ☐

Other: _____

I am: On a full care order (Sec 31) ☐ Accommodated (Sec 20) ☐ Care leaver ☐

Child in need ☐ Other: _____ Date from: _____

Other useful contacts for me (please complete where appropriate):

Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Social worker: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Carer: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Personal Advisor (PA): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Key worker: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Why do you want an advocate? What issue would you like help with?

Do you need help to prepare for and take part in your review meetings?

When is your next meeting?

Tell us anything else you think we should know about you:

Signed: _____ Name: _____

Job role: (if completed by a professional) _____

Telephone no: _____ Date completed: _____

I am submitting this form by: email ☐ telephone ☐ post ☐ in person ☐

Additional information:

The Children's Society in Lancashire

Unit 12, Eastway Business Village,
Olivers Place,
Fulwood, Preston
PR2 9WT

t: 01772 759 233

e: CRL@childsoc.org.uk

Freephone: 0800 085 6324

I had help with this form from:

Social worker ☐

Foster carer ☐

Unit staff ☐

Other: _____



INDEPENDENT VISITOR REQUEST

(Children looked after by Lancashire County Council)

An independent visitor is someone for you; they will visit you about once every two week, do activities and give advice and support.

Or you can request a virtual independent visitor to chat to over the phone, instant message, email or do online activities.

Fill in this form to tell us about yourself and what you would like to do with an independent visitor. You only have to tell us the things you want to.

Name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

I live at: _____

This is a: Foster home ☐ Residential home ☐ Other _____

I can be contacted on: _____

I am: Male ☐ Female ☐ Other ☐

My ethnicity: _____ My religion: _____

I have a disability: Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, this is categorised as:

Physical disability ☐ Sensory impairment ☐ Learning disability ☐

Emotional/behavioral difficulties ☐ Multiple disabilities ☐

Other: _____

I am: On a full care order (Sec 31) ☐ Accommodated (Sec 20) ☐

Other: _____ Date from: _____

Other useful contacts for me (please complete where appropriate):

Parent/carer: _____

Phone: _____

Social worker: _____

Phone: _____

Key worker: _____

Phone: _____

Tell us more about you:

☐ I see my friends a lot

☐ I do not see my family

☐ I see my friends a lot

☐ I see my family a lot

☐ I would like to meet new friends

☐ I have just moved to a new area

☐ I am very busy with activities

☐ I am happy where I live

☐ I would like someone to speak to

☐ I would like help to be more confident to meet new people my age

☐ I would like things to do in my spare time

☐ I know I am here for a while and want to get to know the area

What language do you speak? _____

Would you like a face to face visitor or a virtual visitor?

Face to face ☐ Virtual ☐ Both ☐

What would you like to do with your visitor?

Would you like them to be: Male ☐ Female ☐

What skills, interests, and qualities would you like your visitor to have?

Signed: _____ Name: _____

Job role: (if completed by a professional) _____

Telephone no: _____ Date completed: _____

I am submitting this form by: email ☐ post ☐ in person ☐

The Children's Society in Lancashire

Unit 12, Eastway Business Village,
Olivers Place,
Fulwood, Preston
PR2 9WT

t: 01772 759 233

e: CRL@childsoc.org.uk

Freephone: 0800 085 6324

I had help with this form from:

Social worker ☐

Foster carer ☐

Unite staff ☐

Other: _____



The
Children's
Society

Safer Families

Refugees and Asylum Seekers in
Lancashire

www.childrenssociety.org.uk/north

The Safer Families Project is part of The Children's Society in Lancashire, Cheshire and Merseyside.

We work with and for asylum seeking refugee children and their families in and around Preston, Lancaster, Skelmersdale and Burnley.

What we do

- One to one sessions
- Group sessions on parenting in the UK
- Support integration by helping parents to overcome language and cultural barriers to improve their children's lives
- Increase access to education, play and leisure, social activities, health and other relevant services for families
- Enable parents to nurture their children successfully by supporting them to use services dealing with stress and trauma
- Increase confidence in using services by signposting to relevant agencies
- Help run drop in sessions
- Uphold the rights of children and parents through advocacy
- Increase awareness of issues faced by asylum seeking and refugee families so that local agencies can be more responsive to their needs
- Work with churches, students and professionals



Volunteering Opportunities

As a service user, a partner organisation, or an interested individual, there are opportunities for you to get involved. You can:

- Volunteer to assist with group activities and other services
- Volunteer for advocacy support and family support
- Volunteer for translation or interpretation
- Plan and/or deliver events and activities

Contact Details

The Childrens Society
Unit 12, Eastway Business Village,
Oliver's Place, Preston PR2 9WT

Tel 01772 759233

Email saferfamilies@childrenssociety.org.uk

It is a painful fact that many children and young people in Britain today are still suffering extreme hardship, abuse and neglect.

The Children's Society is a national charity that runs local projects, helping children and young people when they are at their most vulnerable, and have nowhere left to turn.

If you would like to know more about The Children's Society and our work with children and young people, please **visit childrenssociety.org.uk** or call our Supporter Care Team on **0300 303 7000**

Charity Registration No. 221124

INS00026/0917 Photographs © Laura McCluskey for The Children's Society



THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY SAFER FAMILIES

Referral

Young Person / Family				
First name:	Surname:	Gender	Date of birth	Age
Address				
Postcode	Home phone	Mobile phone		
First language	Fluency in English	Country of birth		
Immigration status	Date issued			
Religion	Disability			

	TICK		TICK
White British		Asian or Asian British – Pakistani	
White Irish		Asian or Asian British – Bangladeshi	
White Other		Asian or Asian British – Other	
Mixed – White and Black Caribbean		Black or Black British – Caribbean	
Mixed – White and Black African		Black or Black British – African	
Mixed – White and Asian		Black or Black British – Other	
Mixed – Other		Chinese	
Asian or Asian British - Indian		Other Ethnic Group	

Children/Young People/Adults in the household (please list everyone)			
First name:	Surname:	Date of birth	Age
Relationship	Gender	Disability	Any other information

First name:	Surname:	Date of birth	Age
Relationship	Gender	Disability	Any other information

First name:	Surname:	Date of birth	Age
Relationship	Gender	Disability	Any other information

First name:	Surname:	Date of birth	Age
Relationship	Gender	Disability	Any other information

First name:	Surname:	Date of birth	Age
Relationship	Gender	Disability	Any other information

Immigration details – status, number etc

Other agencies involved with family (include any previous involvement that you may think is relevant)
--

Agency	Contact name	Contact Phone
Details of involvement		

--

Agency	Contact name	Contact Phone
Details of involvement		

Agency	Contact name	Contact Phone
Details of involvement		

Reasons for this request for support

Home visits – please indicate any health and safety considerations for undertaking home visits (eg joint visits, risk taking behaviours, aggressive dog etc)

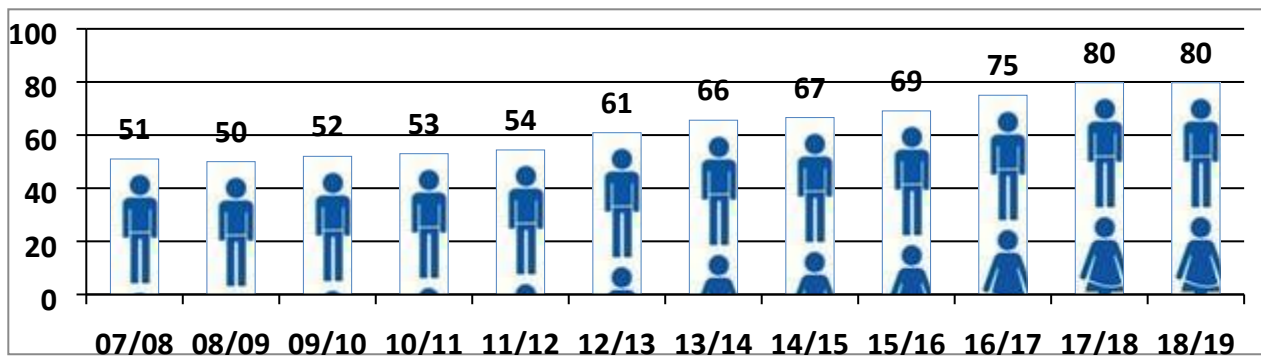
Request from		
Name	Agency	Telephone
Address	Role	Email
Postcode	Email	Date of request

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD PERFORMANCE REPORT, MAY 2018

ACTIVITY FOR CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER AND CARE LEAVERS

NUMBER OF CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

- As at the end of April 2018 there were **1,968** children looked after in Lancashire.
- For every **10,000** children and young people in Lancashire, **80** are currently looked after.
- The current number of children looked after remains the same as the previous month, but is much higher than 12 months ago (April 2017 - **1845**).
- There are **more** children looked after in Lancashire than in England where **62** out of 10,000 are currently looked after and more than in Lancashire's statistical neighbours (**65.5** out of 10,000).
- There are **less** children looked after in Lancashire than the North West (**86** out of 10,000).



COMMENTS:

- ❖ Lancashire's number of children looked after decreased in February. There have been big increases in the number of looked after children over the last two years. The rate further increased in 2017/18 to 80 per 10,000.
- ❖ Lancashire's number of children looked after is higher than that of Lancashire's statistical neighbours and the national average but lower than the average of other North West local authorities.
- ❖ Lancashire's statistical neighbours are Bury, Calderdale, Derbyshire, Kent, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Sefton, Staffordshire, Stockport and Stockton-on-Tees.

SERVICE ACTIVITY

Service activity helps to explain the rise in the number of children looked after in Lancashire:

- The contact centre has received **less** referrals than in previous years, although **more** contacts.
- A referral is information received regarding a child that is deemed to require social care involvement. A contact is any information received that doesn't lead to a referral.
- The social work teams have moved from initial and core assessments to a new single assessment from 1st April 2014.



	Previous Performance				Current Performance
	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	2018/19 (YTD Ave.)
Contacts <i>per month</i>	1575	1788	1831	1944	2011
Referrals <i>per month</i>	868	958	826	861	956
Single Assessment started <i>per month</i>	1089	1253	1205	1278	1499

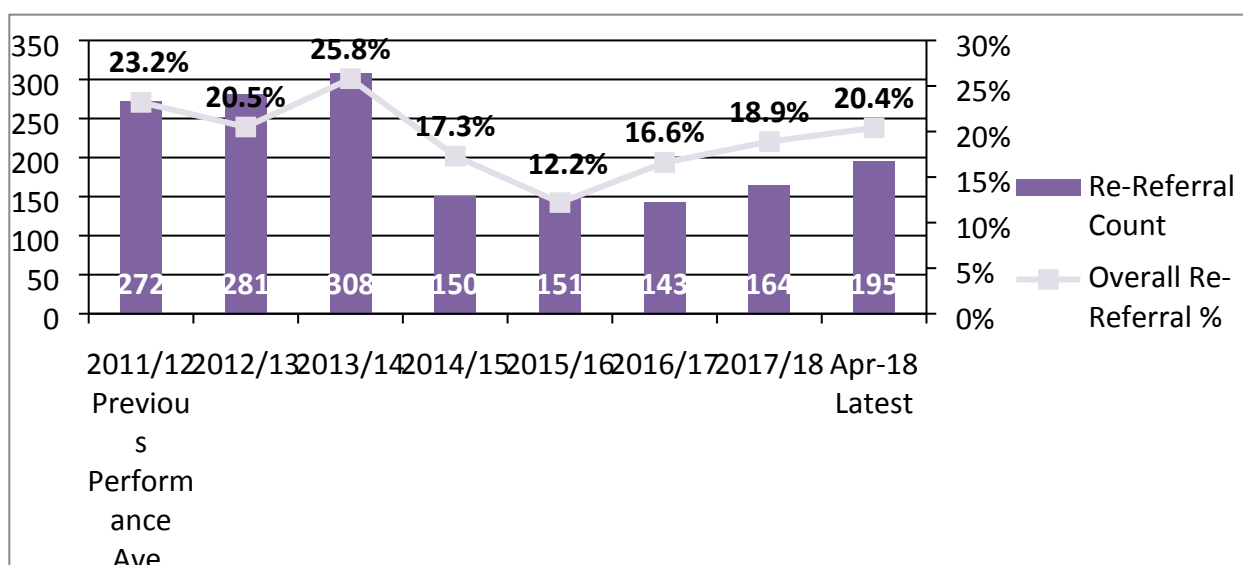
COMMENTS:

- ❖ Since the introduction of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in April 2013, a large number of contacts from the Police have been passed to MASH rather than going through Care Connect.
- ❖ From 1st April 2014, contacts and referrals were counted differently hence the number of contacts are not comparable to previous years.
- ❖ From 1st April 2014 initial and core assessments were discontinued and the new single assessment was introduced. Latest 2017/18 information shows 1278 assessments were started per month, the highest average number per month since moving to the single assessment.
- ❖ Latest average assessments started per month (1499) are higher than the monthly average experienced in 2017/18 (1278) but only include April's figures at present.
- ❖ Referrals per month increased in 2018/19, with an average of 861 referrals per month compared with 826 in 2016/17.

RE-REFERRAL RATE

A number of referrals that the authority receives are re-referrals; that is a child or young person has been referred to Children's Social Care once and is being referred again.

- Re-referral rates have historically declined which was considered good performance
- Average re-referral rate for 2017/18 increased to almost 19 re-referrals out of each 100 referrals received.



COMMENTS:

- ❖ The re-referral rate has been calculated differently since LCS went live in 2014/15 hence the large decrease.
- ❖ The re-referrals rate for referrals that led to a single assessment was **20.4%** in April 2018 which is an increase on the 2016/17 average rate.

STABILITY OF PLACEMENTS OF CLA: NUMBER OF MOVES

How many children looked after moved placement twice during the past year:



- Out of 100 children looked after, Lancashire targets to have less than 10 children looked after having to move twice or more during the year.
- Latest information for April 2018 shows that just under **8** out of 100 children looked after have moved twice or more which is good performance and within the target.
- This is better than 17/18 performance of **7.9%** but still an improvement on 2013/14 when over **9** out of 100 children looked after had to move twice or more during the year.

Previous Performance					Current Performance	Target	Performance Direction?
13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	April 18		
9.6%	6.8%	5.4%	7.7%	7.9%	7.7%	9.5%	

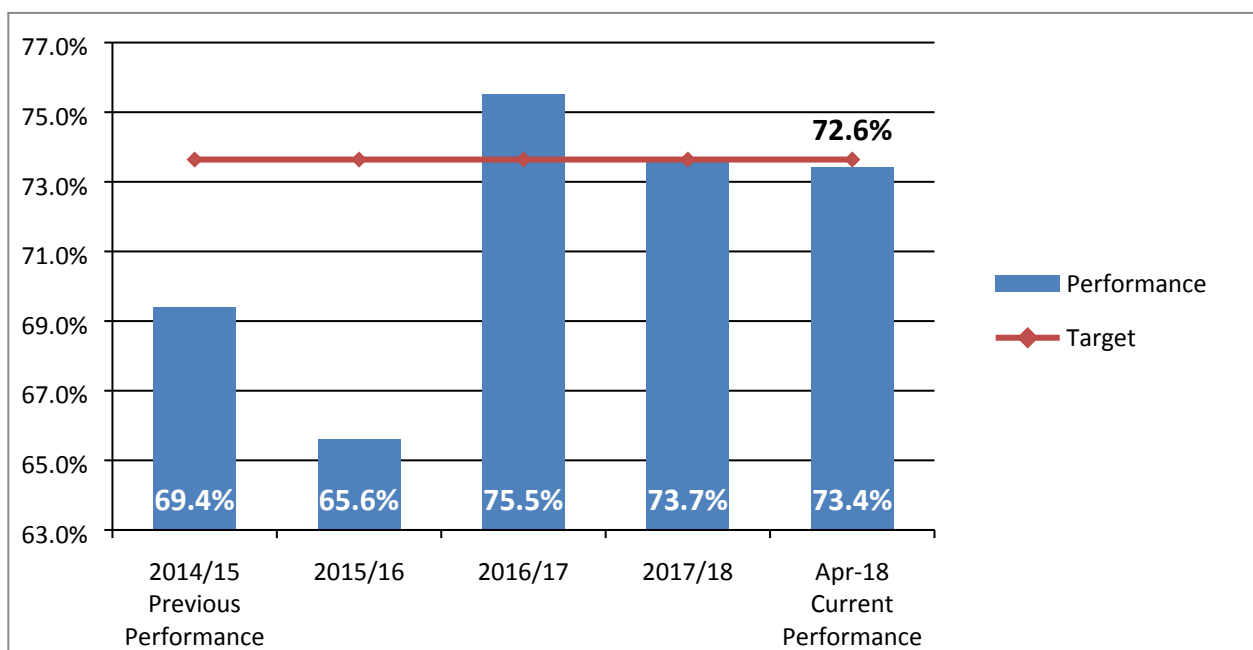
COMMENTS:

- ❖ Performance has remained fairly similar in April, with a further 0.2% of placements deemed stable from March 18.
- ❖ Lancashire has carried out good placement stability work through research projects and improved processes, which has resulted in better performance and improved stability.
- ❖ Young people would like to see more research and reasons into what causes placement moves.
- ❖ Young people feel that placements could be better researched to suit the needs of the young person which may reduce moves.
- ❖ Young people are happy that the figure is low and that the target has been met, however they would like current performance to further improve.

STABILITY OF PLACEMENTS OF CLA: LENGTH OF PLACEMENTS

How many children looked after have been in their current placement for at least 2 years:

- Out of 100 children looked after, Lancashire targets to have more than **72** children looked after settled at least two years in their current placement.
- April 2018 information shows that over **73** out of 100 children looked after are in a long and stable placement, which is good performance and just above our target.
- Current performance is lower than 2017/18 performance (Almost **74** out of 100) but still remains above target.



COMMENTS:

- ❖ Lancashire has carried out good work on placement stability through research projects and improved processes.
- ❖ This has historically resulted in better performance and improved stability for children looked after.
- ❖ Performance improved in 16/17, to 75.5% of CLA and remained above target in 17/18 with 73.7% currently stable.

CHILDREN MISSING FROM CARE

Lancashire County Council and its partners are changing processes for children missing from care, and there will be a new protocol whereby young people are not reported missing straight away in case they are just running late. The Police will also now be able to change missing to absent on the young person's record.

Lancashire County Council worked with multiple agencies including Lancashire Police, to monitor the levels of children missing from care and the yearly breakdowns below are based on that information. However, as of 2016, Lancashire County Council are now solely using LCS to report missing figures and are no longer checking police lists, hence the breakdowns will not be provided for every category going forwards.

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Q1 17/18	Q2 17/18
Lancashire CLA missing	355	361	166	155	113	101
Number CLA from other LAs missing	355	365	145	185	60	73
Other Children known to Lancashire CSC	408	764	-	-	-	-
Other Children Missing	1338	742	-	-	-	-
Children Missing within Lancashire boundaries	2456	2222	891	1148	413	429

COMMENT:

- ❖ Over the whole year, **22** out of 100 children looked after were reported missing in 2014/15, slightly less than the **24** out of 100 children in 13/14. The figure dropped to around **9** out of 100 in 15/16, with **11** out of 100 in 16/17.
- ❖ The numbers represent the number of unique children looked after, and some children have multiple instances of going missing
- ❖ LINX have welcomed the changing protocols for children missing and feel this is good and that they are listened to, however are worried about those individuals that do actually go missing.

OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER








Outcomes data from education is displayed by academic year rather than financial year.



Educational Attainment of Children Looked After

The key indicator used to measure attainment is the number of children and young people who get 5 GCSEs at grades A* to C including English and Maths:

- Performance for 2014/15 has been published and performance increased to 14% from 8% the previous year.
- CLA attainment remains significantly lower than attainment for all children and young people of whom almost **6** out 10 achieve 5 GCSEs at A*-C including English and Maths.

	Previous Performance			Current Performance	Target	Performance Direction?
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15		
Lancs	12.8%	12.9%	8%	14%	18.0%	
						
England	14.9%	15.5%	12%	13.8%	Higher	

COMMENT:

- ❖ In Lancashire, attainment at GCSE among the children looked after increased in 2014/15 with **14** out of **100** CLA achieving 5 A*-C including English and Maths.
- ❖ Across England in 2014/15, just under **14** per 100 children looked after achieved 5 A*-C inc. English & Maths, slightly less than Lancashire's **14** per 100.
- ❖ The young people were shocked at these statistics and suggested the following reasons as to why this may be:
 - CLA are pulled out of lessons by social workers. Meetings may also run over and as such CLA are missing too much time from their lessons. One young person missed an exam due to this and did not receive an apology which upset them.
 - The young people suggested that if staff have to visit them whilst in school, to plan better in terms of meeting the young person on a break or at lunch time. It was also suggested that it may better suit the young person better to be removed from certain lessons if they are confident or feel that they're ahead within the lesson.

- The stress of placement moves, which sometimes require a change in school, was also highlighted. Due to the nature of schools covering parts of the curriculum at different times of the year, those moving schools may miss vital parts of the syllabus.
- Young people would like additional tutors to be made available in children's homes and for those children that are fostered. Looked after children should be entitled to additional support where school moves occur.
- ❖ Young people believe the target performance for CLA achieving 5 GCSEs at A* - C should be 100%. They feel that children undertaking other courses would mean that this wouldn't be attainable, therefore those completing other courses and qualifications should also be included.
 - Whilst the above is a good idea to include the results obtained by children undertaking alternative education, this performance indicator is calculated in this manner as it is a national indicator and all authorities are required to provide information on those achieving 5 GCSEs, including English and Maths.

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL BY CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

Attendance at school is expressed as a percentage of all possible school sessions attended by all children looked after:



- Attendance in primary school was above target in 2013/14 with all children looked after only missing **4** out of every 100 sessions in school
- Attendance in secondary school was better than last year, with all children looked after missing **5** out of every 100 sessions possible in school.
- There are two sessions possible each school day; a morning session and an afternoon session. If a child is absent for a lesson in either they are deemed as absent.

	Previous Performance					Current Performance	Target	Above target?
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	2016/17		
Primary	96.2%	97%	97.2%	97%	96.5%	96.3%	96.0%	😊
	↘	↗	↗	↘	↘	↘	↗	
Secondary	94.3%	92%	95%	92.7%	91.9%	87.0%	96.0%	😞
	↗	↘	↗	↘	↘	↘	✗	

COMMENTS:

- ❖ Young people feel that the lower performance for secondary school pupils are a reflection of the increased age of these pupils and the free will exerted by those who are older leading them to miss school. The stress of placement moves and of being in care were also cited as reasons for non-attendance, particularly in those secondary school age children and young people.
- ❖ Young people feel that they should be able to choose what they do at school, for example, completing exams or doing practical courses and perhaps going to college earlier than usual to start these courses.
- ❖ Young people believe CLA could be marked as absent from a lesson if they are attending a CLA meeting instead, which is not necessarily the young person's fault. If the young

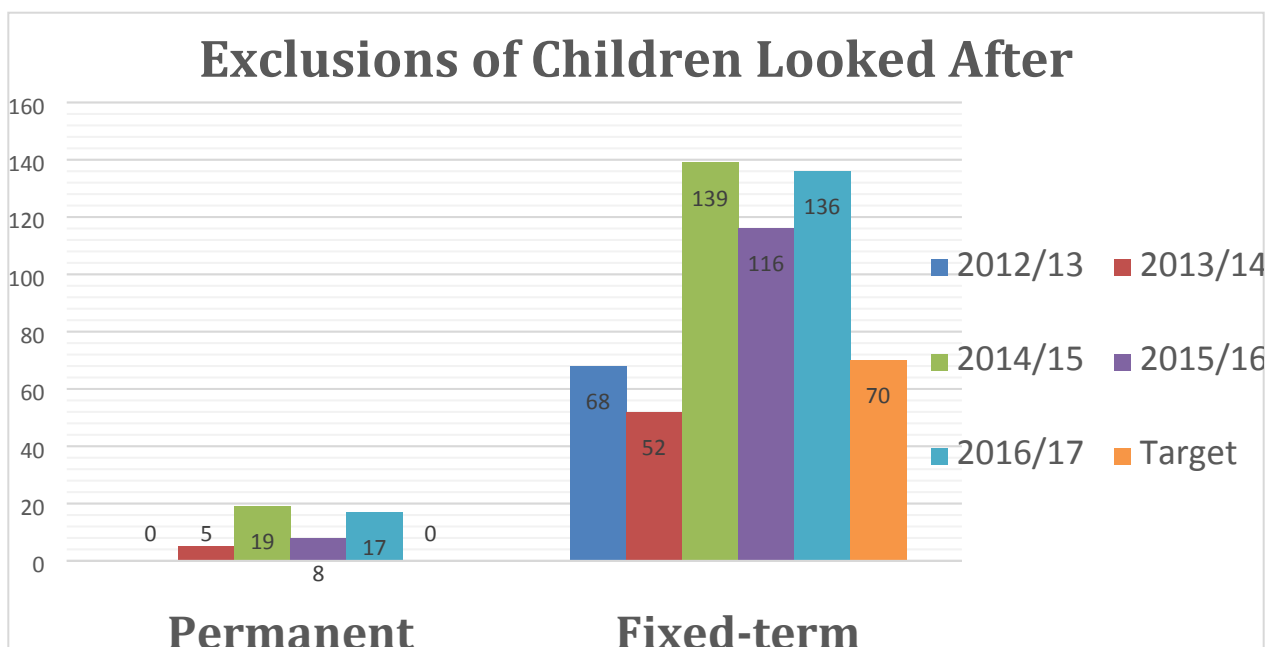
person does not attend for the morning/afternoon, this would be classed as an absent, but potentially authorised, session.

- ❖ Young people feel that sometimes young people withdraw themselves from lessons if they are not able to cope and speak to their designated teacher or someone they feel comfortable talking to.

EXCLUSIONS FROM SCHOOL OF CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

Exclusions from school are included as a unique number of children looked after either permanently excluded or on fixed term exclusion:

- The number of fixed term exclusions has increased in the 2016/17 period and does not meet the target set by the Corporate Parenting Board. In addition to this, there were a number of permanent exclusions within the last year which means the target of zero permanent exclusions has also not been met.



CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER IN YOUNG OFFENDER INSTITUTIONS OR SECURE UNITS

- There are a small number of children looked after placed in young offender institutions or secure units, **9** as at the end of April 2018.
- 3.6% of eligible Lancashire CLA were known to the Youth Offending Team in Q4 2017/18 an improvement from 4% in Q3.
- Almost **1 in 4** of young people receiving YOT orders were looked after in Q4 2017/18, an increase of 1% from the previous quarter.

CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER WITH AN UP-TO-DATE HEALTH AND DENTAL ASSESSMENTS

- **77** out of 100 children looked after have an up-to-date health assessment (April 2018)
- This is a smaller percentage of up-to-date health assessments than the previous year (April 2017 - **94**)
- **84** out of 100 children looked after have an up-to-date dental assessment (April 2017 - **89**)

- However, this position has recently improved since the recent low observed in March 18 (76 out of 100).

COMMENTS:

- ❖ Lancashire is investing in the improvement of oral health through the Smile 4 Life campaign which has been running since 2010.
- ❖ This has been nationally acclaimed for its successes in raising awareness and improving oral health.
- ❖ Lancashire is currently focusing on improving the timeliness of health and dental assessments in partnership with health colleagues.
- ❖ Young people feel that they should be given a choice as to whether they want a health assessment or not. Young people should only be made to have one if there is a cause for concern. Young people feel health assessments should be different for each individual. Also, if a young person has a check up at the doctors, this should be counted as a health assessment.
- ❖ Young people also feel that health assessments need to be confidential as in the past some LINX members have had foster carers in the assessments which can be uncomfortable when they are being asked personal questions.



ADOPTION AND PERMANENCE

ADOPTION ORDERS

- **86** Children Looked After were adopted in **2017/18**, an increase from 73 in **2016/17**.
- The number of adoptions increased to **119** children looked after being adopted in **15/16**, similar to **14/15** performance of **121**, but much higher than in previous years.



SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP ORDER (SGO) OR RESIDENCE ORDERS (RO)

Special guardianship orders or residence orders are an alternative to adoption, but still provide children looked after with a permanent home:

- **123** looked after children were given a permanent home under special guardianship order during 17/18, down from **149** in 15/16, and **120** in 14/15, but an increase from the previous year's **98**.
- **19** looked after children were given a permanent home under residence order during 17/18, an increase from **10** in 15/16 and 14/15 performance of **16** and similar to 2016/17 performance of **20**.

OUTCOMES FOR CARE LEAVERS

CARE LEAVERS IN SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION (OLD NI 147)

Suitable accommodation is regarded as suitable if it provides safe, secure and affordable provision for young people. The percentage of care leavers at age 19 that are living in "suitable accommodation":



- As at the end of April 2018, out of 100 care leavers, **92** were considered to be in suitable accommodation

COMMENTS:

- ❖ Young people feel that the target should be 100% as everyone is entitled to be safe and secure. Young people wish to know where the others are residing to not meet this definition.
- ❖ Young people feel that when a young person leaves care, placement options should be available for the young person to consider, review and be approved before the change. Moreover, more support needs to be given around budgeting, as this could lead to problems paying for rent. Young people think that all children looked after should be involved in this process.

CARE LEAVERS IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (OLD NI 148)

The percentage of care leavers at 19 who are engaged in education, training or employment:

- April 2018 data suggests half (**49%**) of Care Leavers were in education, training or employment.
- Nationally **89** out of 100 young people aged 16-24 are in education, training or employment (December 2017)



COMMENTS:

- ❖ Latest performance suggests that almost half of all care leavers are in education, training or employment.
- ❖ Young people feel that this isn't good enough and more young people should be in education or training
- ❖ Young people feel that individuals, due to potentially poor school grades, need more apprenticeships and volunteering schemes to be accessible. Funding could be used as an early intervention to help young people with grades in the form of extra tuition.
- ❖ Young people feel more help could be given to help young people to find courses and employment. Assistance with writing CVs or developing ICT and/or skills were highlighted as key. Furthermore, available funds in the form of college bursaries should be more accessible as not everyone is aware of what they are entitled to financially.

CARE LEAVERS AT UNIVERSITY

- In 2011/12 there were 25 care leavers at university
- In 2012/13 there were a record 37 care leavers studying at university around the country, including 22 first year students. There were 7 graduates in 2012/13.
- In 2013/14 there were 36 care leavers studying at university including 13 first year students.
- In 2014/15 there were 40 care leavers studying at university, including 10 first year students.
- In 2015/16 there were 44 care leavers studying at university, including 15 first year students. Furthermore, 9 graduated in 2016. However, 5 also dropped out of university.
- In 2016/17, there were 37 care leavers studying at university, including 7 first year students.



COMMENTS:

- ❖ There is a good level of Care Leavers at University in each of the last five years showing that Leaving Care support is there for potential students.
- ❖ Young people feel that these figures show good progress, but there should be many more care leavers going to university.
- ❖ Young people also suggested that leaving care and starting university occurs at the same time and this can be a stressful time for the young people involved. Individuals may also be put off the idea of attending university as they may be worried about not having anywhere to live during the holidays.
- ❖ Information for those attending university in 2016/17 is provisional and is subject to change.