

Comments from Young People on the Corporate Parenting Board Performance Report
March 2018

Service Activity

- 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.

Comment from Young People:

Do these 'contacts' need a further investigation as to find out why it was reported initially? Why does it go straight to non-referral?

- The social work teams have moved from initial and core assessments to a new single assessment from 1 April 2014.

Comment from Young People:

Is this single assessment enough and does it contain the same amount of information needed for the core and initial assessments.

- Initial Assessments and Core Assessments data for 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Comment from Young People:

Why are figures missing from 3/4 years ago? Surely they should have an amount by now,

- From 1 April 2014, contacts and referrals were counted differently hence the number of contacts are not comparable to previous years.

Comment from Young People:

Why were they counted differently? What made you want to change?

Stability of Placements of CLA: Number of Moves

- Latest information for February 2018 shows that just over 8 out of 100 children looked after have moved twice or more which is good performance and within target.

Comment from Young People:

Why are CYP still moving continuously? A young person should be able to pick a place most suitable to them so then they don't move and then the number will reduce quicker to possibly even zero moves.

- Performance has improved in February, with a further 1.1% placements deemed stable from December 2017.

Comment from Young People:

Why is it a low percentage? What's not being done right and whose fault is it? All placements should be deemed 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.

Comment from Young People:

What happens if a SEND child goes missing, surely they cannot just dismiss it? Do they not report them missing rather than absent as they are more prone to danger as they may not understand dangers?

Outcomes for Children Looked After

- Queries in the table under the previous performance for 2013/14 and the target figures.

Comment from Young People:

Why is it that we usually don't reach targets or the performance is lower? What is going wrong, why is it just Lancashire?

- 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.

Comment from Young People:

Why hasn't this been done already? People should know that CYP are going to miss vital education if they get taken out of class.

Attendance at School by Children Looked After

- 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.

Comment from Young People:

Going to college earlier may cause more stress as it is a complete change of environment straight away as usually you would have 6/7 weeks to prepare for college over the summer holidays so this isn't such a good suggestion.

Children Looked After with an Up-To-Date Health and Dental Assessments

- 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.

Comment from Young People:

Is this actually happening as children aged under 16 need someone there for safeguarding reasons if for example they needed an intimate area checking, so this is a bad idea and why was it considered?