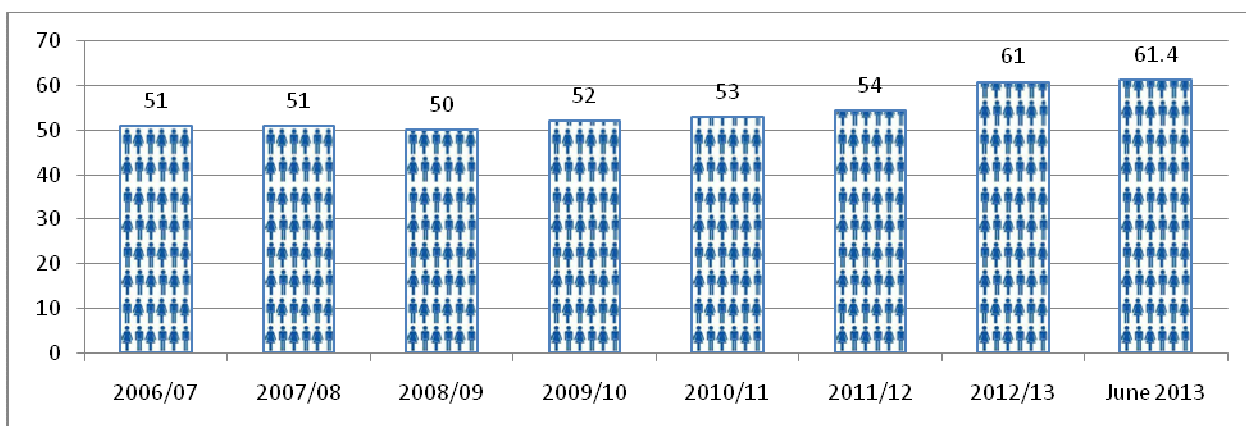


# Corporate Parenting Board Performance Report, September 2013

## Activity for Children Looked After and Care Leavers

### Number of Children Looked After

- Out of 10,000 children and young people in Lancashire, **61** are currently looked after.
- This is higher than in previous years, and the number of children looked after in Lancashire continues to increase each month (1514 at the end of July 2013).
- There are more children looked after in Lancashire than in England where 59 out of 10,000 are currently looked after.
- There are less children looked after in Lancashire than the North West, 76 out of 10,000, and less than in Lancashire's statistical neighbours, 66 out of 10,000.



### Comments:

Lancashire's number of children looked after continues to increase, and has for the first time risen above the England average. Information to be released at the end of September will show Lancashire's position compared to others as at 31<sup>st</sup> March and this information will be available at the next board meeting.

### Service Activity

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

- The contact centre received more contacts and referrals than in previous years.
- As a result, the social work teams are carrying out more initial assessments with more children and young people than in previous years.
- The social work teams are also carrying out more core assessments than in previous years.
- With more children and young people than ever been identified for referral and assessment, more children looked after are being identified as a result.



	Previous Performance				Current Performance
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	July 13
Contacts <i>per month</i>	--	998	1284	1525	995

Referrals <i>per month</i>	1470	1389	1175	1370	1840
Initial Assessments	8636	10071	9891	11288	4383
Core Assessments	2932	4246	5019	5901	1978

Comment:

There has been rise in the number of referrals this year, possibly due to an increased number of referrals from the police which now account for 4 out of every 10 referrals. 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.

**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 are continuing to decline which is good performance

	Previous Performance				Current Performance
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	July 2013
Re-Referrals	379	353	272	281	411
Re-Referral %	25.8%	25.4%	23.2%	20.5%	19.3%
	↗	↘	↘	↘	↘

**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 shows that only **8** out of 100 children looked have moved twice or more which is good performance and within the target
- This is also an improvement on last year when 9 out of 100 children looked had to move twice or more during the year

Previous Performance		Current Performance	Target	Performance Direction?
2011/12	2012/13	2013/14		
9.5%	8.7%	8.1%	9.5%	😊
↘	↘	↘	✓	






Comments:

Lancashire has carried out good work on placement stability through research projects and improved processes, which has resulted in better performance and improved stability for children looked after. Fewer children than ever have more than 2 placement moves, but further improvement is possible (only 7 out 100 moved in September 2012).

## Stability of Placements of CLA: Length of Placements

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

- Out of 100 children looked after, Lancashire targets to have more than 69 children looked after settled for a long time in their current placement
- Latest information shows that **73** out of 100 children looked are in a long and stable placement, which is good performance and ahead of target
- Current performance is an improvement on performance from 2 years ago, and is similar performance to last year's performance

Previous Performance		Current Performance	Target	Performance Direction?
2011/12	2012/13	2013/14		
71.7%	73.4%	73.2%	69.0%	
				

### Comments:

Lancashire has carried out good work on placement stability through research projects and improved processes, which has resulted in better performance and improved stability for children looked after. More children than ever have long placements of 2 years or more, as opposed to series of short placements.

## 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:

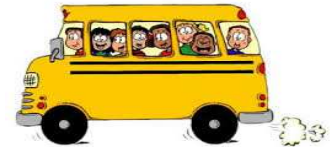
- Performance in 2011/12 is higher than last year with **13** out of 100 CLA achieving 5 A\*-C
- CLA attainment remains significantly lower than attainment for all children and young people where 60 out 100 achieve 5 GCSEs at A\*-C

Previous Performance		Current Performance	Target	Performance Direction?
2009/10	2010/11	2011/12		
18.6%	11.9%	12.9%	18.0%	
				

### Comment:

In Lancashire, attainment at GCSE among the children looked after improved in 2011/12, but remains below performance from 2009/10. Attainment by children looked after remains someway behind their peers with 60 out of 100 children and young people achieving 5 GCSEs at grades A\* to C inc English and Maths. The results from this summer (2012/13) will be available at the next board meeting.

## 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 good with all children looked after only missing 4 out of every 100 days in school
- Attendance in secondary school was better than last year, with all children looked after only missing 6 out of every 100 days in school

	Previous Performance		Current Performance	Target	Performance Direction?
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12		
Primary	96.2%	96.3%	96.2%	96.0%	😊
	↔	↗	↘	✓	
Secondary	92.7%	92.5%	94.3%	96.0%	😊
	↔	↘	↗	✗	

## Exclusions from School of Children Looked After

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

- In the last year there were 4 permanent exclusions of children looked after
- In the last year there were 130 fixed term exclusions of children looked after
- These are both high numbers and outside of the target set by corporate parenting board

	Previous Performance		Current Performance	Target	Performance Direction?
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12		
Permanent	3	1	4	0	☹️
	↗	↘	↗	✗	
Fixed Term	93	98	130	70	☹️
	↗	↗	↗	✗	

### Comments:

Exclusions have risen in the last year, and are now at a high level ahead of the target set. This requires action, and a recovery statement should be requested by corporate parenting board.

## Children Looked After in Young Offenders Institutions or Secure Units

- There are only a small number of children looked after placed in young offenders institutions or secure units, only 9 in the last year
- 3 out of 100 children looked after are involved with the youth offending teams, while less than 1 out of 100 children and young people are involved with youth offending teams
- Children looked after are 6 times more likely to be involved with youth offending teams than those who are not looked after

## Children Looked After with an up-to-date Health and Dental Assessments

- 85 out of 100 children looked after have an up-to-date health assessment
- This is a lower level of up-to-date health assessments than in the previous year
- 76 out of 100 children looked after have an up-to-date dental assessment
- This is a higher level of up-to-date dental assessments than in the previous year

### Comments:

Lancashire is investing in the improvement of oral health through the Smile 4 Life campaign which has been running since 2010, and has been nationally acclaimed for its successes in raising awareness and improving oral health.



## Adoption and Permanence

### Adoption Orders

- 13 out of 100 children looked after are adopted each year for the last three years. This is 196 children looked after in total.
- The number of adoptions increased this year to 75 children looked after being adopted, higher than in previous years.



Previous Performance		Current Performance	Target	Performance Direction?
2010/11	2011/12	2012/13		
52	69	75	N/A	😊
↘	↗	↗		

### 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:

- 9 out of 100 children looked after were given a permanent home under special guardianship order in the last year, a big improvement on previous years
- 10 out of 100 children looked after were given a permanent home under residence order in the last year, an improvement on previous years

	Previous Performance		Current Performance	Target	Performance Direction?
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12		
SGO	4.9	4.3	8.5	N/A	😊
	↗	↘	↗		
RO	8.5	8.6	9.6	N/A	😊
	↗	↗	↗		

### Comments:

Overall more children looked after than ever are being provided with a permanent home under adoption, special guardianship order or residence orders, almost 32 out of 100 children looked after in the last year which represents considerable success.

## **Outcomes for Care Leavers**

### **Care leavers in suitable accommodation (Old NI 147)**

The percentage of care leavers at age 19 that are living in "suitable accommodation":

- Out of 100 care leavers, 80 are currently in suitable accommodation
- This is lower than two years ago, when 93 out of 100 were in suitable accommodation








### Comments:

The number of care leavers in suitable accommodation has declined from a high level in 2010/11 to a lower level in 2011/12 and 2012/13. This is below the target of 89 out of 100.

### **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:

- 56 out of 100 care leavers are in education, training or employment in 2012/13, which is low performance but an improvement from last year
- The poor economy may be contributing to low performance at present

Previous Performance		Current Performance		Target	Performance Direction?
2010/11	2011/12	2012/13			
71.1%	48.4%	55.7%		67.0%	
					

### Comments:

Performance was good in 2010/11, but declined sharply in 2011/12, possibly due to the poor economic climate at the time. Performance has improved in 2012/13, but is some way below the expected levels, and also is below targeted performance.

### **Care leavers at University**

- In 2010/11 there were 25 care leavers at university
- In 2011/12 there were a record 37 care leavers studying at university around the country, including 24 first year students.

