

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Date and Time :-	Tuesday, 30 June 2020, at 3.30 p.m.
Venue:-	Virtual Meeting
Membership:-	Councillors Cusworth, Elliot, M. Elliott, Jarvis and Watson (Chair)
Contact	Katherine Harclerode, Governance Advisor 01709 807339 or katherine.harclerode@rotherham.gov.uk

The items which will be discussed are described on the agenda below and there are reports attached which give more details.

Rotherham Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair or Governance Advisor of their intentions prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

To receive the apologies of any Panel Member who is unable to attend the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 1 - 5)

To consider the minutes of the previous meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 04 February 2020, and to approve them as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest from Members in respect of items listed on the agenda.

4. Exclusion of the press and public

To determine whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any part of the agenda.

5. LAC Council Update (Pages 6 - 11)

To receive an update from the Looked After Children's Council.

6. COVID-19 Update (Pages 12 - 16)

To consider a report on LAC Healthcare during COVID-19.

7. Corporate Parenting Performance Report - April 2020 (Pages 17 - 37)

To consider a report providing a summary of performance for key performance indicators across Looked After Children (LAC) services.

8. Review of LADO Process and its Impact on Foster Carer Retention

To receive a verbal update detailing the findings of a review of the LADO Process and its impact on foster carer retention in the Borough.

9. Settled Status for Looked After Children who are E.U. Citizens (Pages 38 - 40)

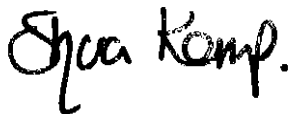
To receive a report updating the Panel on progress towards a settlement scheme for Looked After Children who are also citizens of the European Union.

10. Urgent Business

To determine any item which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

11. Date and time of the next meeting

The next virtual meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel will be held on 1 September 2020, commencing at 3.30 pm.



Sharon Kemp,
Chief Executive.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL
Tuesday, 4th February, 2020

Present:- Councillor Watson (in the Chair); Councillors Elliot and Jarvis.

Apologies were received from Councillors Cusworth and M. Elliott.

36. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2019

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2019 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

38. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items on the agenda which required exclusion of the press or public.

39. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN'S PROMISES - ANNEMARIE LUBANSKI

The Panel considered an update from the Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health in respect of Looked after Children and Adult Care.

This report aimed to dispel misconceptions about the demographic of people served by Adult Care, Housing and Public Health directorate. The demographic was not solely related to housing adults with disabilities, as was often assumed to be the case. Serving the demographic meaningfully required services to be open to expanding on traditional kinds of assessments in order to get outcomes for the people who may not fit the conventional demographic for other kinds of services. This was cited as a response to the changing needs of young people.

In discussion of this report, Members sought to learn more about emerging trends in housing needs. The response was that bungalows and single person housing was in demand because of the implications of the government's policy change in respect of the so-called bedroom tax. Currently, there was a need for Adult Care involvement in placements for young people.

Members sought more information in respect of the age at which the screening process occurred and whether this was responsive to the needs of young people. The response referenced a dataset that provided insight as to how many individuals would be coming into care. Early screening conversations were beginning at an earlier stage with 14 year olds, rather than 16 or 17 years. It was noted that whilst most adults did not reach acute mental health need, the biggest growth trend was in the number of young people who have mental and emotional health needs for care.

It was noted that health and social care services must therefore inform each other. In order to provide earlier identification of individuals with needs. Placements could add stability to a young person's life, but such placements end at 18 years. The trajectory for services needed to be less focused on residential provision and ethos of the service was that "everyone deserves their own front door whatever that looks like."

Resolved:-

That the update from the Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health be noted.

40. CORPORATE PARENTING PRINCIPLES - SHARON SANDELL

The Panel considered a document which sets forth Corporate Parenting Principles developed in consultation with Looked After Children.

Resolved:-

1. That the document be noted.
2. That any comments on the document are welcomed and may be forwarded to the document owner.

41. ILACS SELF-ASSESSMENT

The Panel considered an update on the revised self-assessment based on Ofsted's framework and guidance for inspecting local authority services for children in need of help and protection, children in care and care leavers. The self-assessment identified actions for the upcoming year.

Resolved:-

That the update be noted.

42. LEGALITY AND STATUS OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

Consideration was given to an update on efforts to obtain settled status for Looked After Children who are EU citizens. The EU settlement scheme launched last year, bringing with it the need to ensure suitable identity documents are held by the EU citizens currently in care.

In discussion, clarification was sought around the process of applying for Settled Status for the children and young people through to adulthood. Further information was also supplied as to the definition of “nationality” for the children in care. Settled Status does not remove their citizenship in another country other than the United Kingdom. Settled Status prevents the Looked After Children, when they turn 18, from being then deported to a country in which they have never lived and may have no home, family or safety. Even so, Looked After Children sometimes have to return to their country of origin to get the required stamp for Settled Status. For this reason, officers stressed the need to build flexibility into their plans to help Looked After Children receive Settled Status.

Consideration was also given to information regarding the status of two Looked After Children not currently placed at a registered or regulated placement. Officers emphasised that these are the most difficult and vulnerable children and that the lengths to which Children’s Services have gone to find a more appropriate placement are indeed considerable. Although the efforts are great to make emergency arrangements, these are more costly than the regulated ones. These decisions are made in extremis, when there is no other option, and when the risk and safeguarding of the child is great. Officers provided assurance that a written report will be forthcoming at the next meeting of the Panel.

Resolved:-

1. That the information be noted.
2. That a written update on Settled Status for Looked After Children who are EU citizens be received at the next meeting of the Panel.

43. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN UPDATE FEBRUARY 2020

The Panel considered a presentation from the LAC Council that provided an update on recent activities and topics including the Caring Language Campaign, Total Respect Training, Free Leisure Pass for Looked After Young People and Care Leavers, and recent changes to LAC pocket money allowances. The Council also provided an update on longer term projects including the Residential Accommodation Development Project and Corporate Parenting Promises Inspection. These projects aim to improve the experience for all the Looked After Children.

The Panel discussed the latest feedback about the interest in the Leisure Passes: in Partnership Board, a number of members welcomed the raising of the idea. It may be a protracted process, but the idea may grow to be wider than just gyms and swimming passes--to include museums and cultural centres and events.

Resolved:-

1. That the content of the presentation be noted.
2. That the Chair attend the upcoming meeting of the LAC Council to chat about allowances.

44. CORPORATE PARENTING PERFORMANCE REPORT

Consideration was given to the end of December Performance Report. The report's positive low numbers indicate a positive outlook for being able to discharge a number of children in the near future. Figures and statistics regarding care leavers were summarised for the Panel.

In discussion, further information was sought as to the data collection and collation processes used to compile the report.

Clarification was provided around the reasons for the total of 15 recent foster carer resignations, offsetting the total of 15 new foster carers, as well as for the number of social workers leaving the service.

A distinction was made around measures of timeliness in the report: that early permanence plans bring these figures down, and that, although the number of days is slightly higher than our target number of days, the service continues to place more children who are categorized as hard-to-place. Timeliness is measured only in placements that end in adoption. This means that a new placement is Day 1 of the timeliness measure.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted.

45. REVIEW OF LADO PROCESS AND ITS IMPACT ON FOSTER CARER RETENTION

Resolved:-

That this review be tabled until the next meeting so that Cllr. V. Cusworth may chair the discussion of this review.

46. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

47. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved:-

The next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel will be on 31 March 2020 at Rotherham Town Hall.



Rotherham Looked After Children's Council & Lil' LAC CLUB

Lockdown Report Edition for June Corporate Parenting Panel

Summary

The LAC Council and Lil' LAC Club have creatively adapted the way we are engaging with each other during the Coronavirus Lockdown. Instead of meeting as groups in venues we have been meeting up for daily Activities and LAC Council weekly meetings on Zoom! We have engaged in partnership working with Charlotte Elliot CEO of Affinity 2020 who have consulted with our young people and provided daily Zoom Activities for Rotherham LAC. We have enjoyed the support from Charlee Bewsher, Regional Children in Care Council, Youth Work Unit to provide Zoom Spaces to enable Rotherham LAC Council meetings to go ahead. LAC Council Voice & Influence work has continued with their LAC VOICE Residential Newsletter, Neglect Strategy Co-production, engaging with the interview process with Social Care Staff. However, Campaigns of LACC Caring Language Campaign, LAC Free Leisure Pass Campaign & Know Your Entitlement have had to take a back seat temporarily as we have worked through supporting our Looked After Children & Young People with what they need in these unprecedented times.

The numerous experiences and opportunities offered to young people at the LAC Council and Lil' LACC are specifically designed to increase social capital, self-awareness and self-esteem, to foster resilience and support better outcomes for our vulnerable young people. Here are some of the things that we have been doing to achieve these outcomes in Lockdown that we would like to share with you:

LAC Council Voices Shaping Services

Neglect Strategy Support

CYPS are updating their Neglect Strategy and have asked the LAC Council to support the co-production of the Neglect Survey that they intend to distribute across Rotherham Schools. Our young people have engaged in this very sensitive and emotive theme to advise CYPS on how this survey may be perceived by vulnerable young people, suggested the addition of a robust Purpose Statement to fully inform participants and seek their informed consent, options to opt in or out of survey, changes to questions to have greater clarity and to reflect the difference in knowing who to contact to report neglect and the intention to act upon that advice by young people. e.g. *'Knowing it and doing it are two different things'* (LAC Council member)

LAC Council members have been very generous and brave to share their thoughts about neglect and reporting it, revealing a very complex issue for these young people being wrapped up with their lived experiences within their biological families, being put in to and living in care.

Residential Homes - Interviews for Managers & Staff

For Rotherham Looked After Children & Young People to engage in the interview process for managers & workers means they have an active part in shaping the services workforce that serve them. At the end of March and straddling across the timespan pre and during lockdown rules where members of LAC Council could not leave their homes for non-essential travel, we made alternative arrangements for interviewing Residential Home candidates. Young people living in a Rotherham residential home were supported by myself to Interview candidates of Residential Home Manager Post via Skype. This was our first LAC journey into the unknown world of virtual interviewing and was quite the milestone for what was to come. The interview questions developed by LACC and the residential home children & young people were delivered by Lilah a brave young person who was absolutely amazing and conducted the interview like a professional. Well done Lilah😊

Later in May, 60 candidates were interviewed for a range of Residential Home Posts including Managers and Support Workers. Due to the complexities of including young people from across the borough on skype meetings when the vast majority of young people use zoom. Interviews were held without LAC present and LAC Council questions were asked to candidates on young people's behalf. William Shaw (CYPS Head of Development Programmes) fed back that these were really important and helpful questions that not only reinforced voices of our Looked After Children are an essential part of the interview process but also send out the message that LAC Voices are respected and listened to from day one for all new staff.

Residential Homes Newsletter

The LAC Council continued to support and reach out to Rotherham children and young people in Residential Homes by developing their own LAC Voice Newsletter. This newsletter introduced the LAC Council to encourage participation and shared what they have been up to including their LAC Campaigns, 3 day residential at Kingswood, Pride of Rotherham Awards, changes in LAC's entitlements that affect all Rotherham LAC and giving them the opportunity to share their voices around living in Residential Homes to provide feedback for RMBC to contribute LAC Voices to future Residential Home planning. (Please see appendix for LAC VOICE Newsletter)

LAC Tablets

Jordan with his Tablet

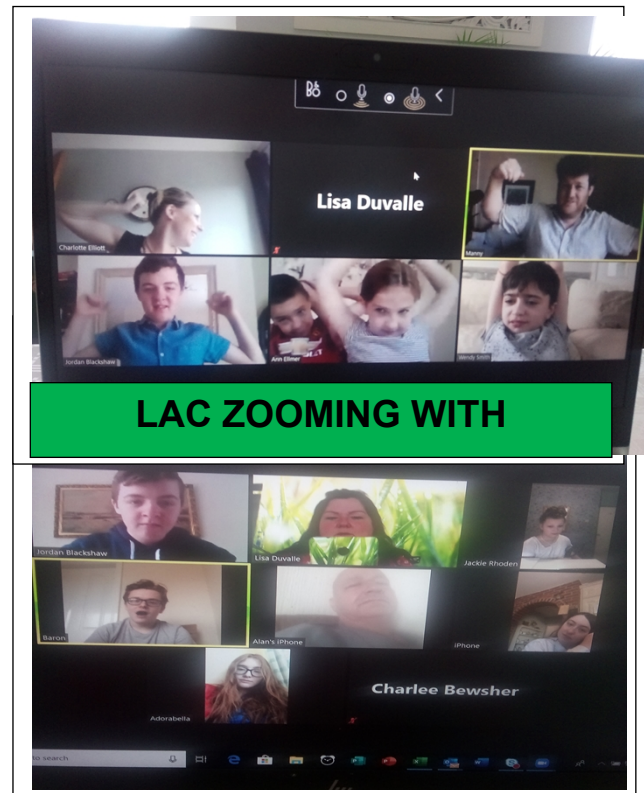


Due to the unusual circumstances of lockdown where many of our young people were staying at home with Foster Carers and no longer able to see their fellow students or friends from the LAC groups. It was important to give our children the opportunity to keep in touch with the outside world & continue with their relationships Virtually. However, it became evident that not all LAC had access to the technology to be able to virtually engage with friends or access young person friendly activities. We are very grateful to Affinity 2020 CIC who loaned 20 Tablets to looked after children to give them the opportunity to keep in touch & engage with Zoom activities every day if they wanted to. These tablets were delivered to young people on their doorsteps it was great to see them & catch up too.

LAC Council & Lil' LAC Club zoom Activities

During Lockdown we joined in partnership with the charity Affinity 2020, whereby, our Lil LAC Club members and LAC Council members have joined together in a broad range of daily Zoom Activities delivered until September by Affinity 2020. The activities are offered to all LAC in Rotherham for an hour long every day 10am to 11am. These sessions have gone a long way to alleviate boredom and isolation of our children unable to go to school or in some circumstances unable to leave the house due to health reasons. LAC are having fun, learning, playing games, and being able to keep in contact with each other and maintaining their relationships & social capital.

In addition, the LAC Council have held weekly zoom sessions which were initially more nurturing in content to talk about feelings, thoughts and their concerns relating to Corona Virus and imparting the latest Govt information to our young people and exploring what this meant in a young person friendly way. We also talked about coping strategies, meditation, and ideas to keep busy. LAC members shared their stories with each other and helped normalise their strange feelings in their individual 'Corona Coaster rides' safely in the knowledge that they weren't alone.



The sessions are truly diverse covering Poetry, Fitness, Drama, Dance, Folk Music, Spanish

AFFINITY 2020 VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETINGS For Rotherham LAC
Week 8th June – 12th June

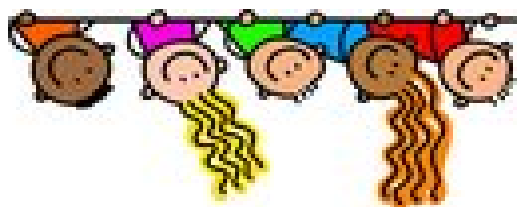
Date	Activity	Time	Ages	Facilitator
Monday	Fun Fitness @ Home	10am – 11am	6 to 12 years	Pete
Tuesday	Act Like a Star!	10am – 11am	9 to 18 years	CE or BC
Wednesday	Get Down & Dance @ Home	10am – 11am	8+	Pete
Thursday	Britains Got Talent	10am – 11am	7 to 15 years	CE or BC
Friday	Poetry Express	10am – 11am	10 – 18 years	CE or BC

* Please note that Lisa Du-Valle (LAC Participation Lead) will be present throughout these sessions with our children & young people. Zoom ID & Passwords will be sent via email and text by Lisa. Zoom sessions & Tablets have been provided for Rotherham LAC by the Charity Affinity 2020. Thank You!!

AFFINITY 2020 VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETINGS For Rotherham LAC
1st – 5th June 2020

Date	Activity	Time	Ages	Facilitator
Monday	Stretch n Chill	10am – 11am	7 + years	Pete
Tuesday	Spanish	10am – 11am	10 to 18 years	Pete
Wednesday	Word Play	10am – 11am	10 to 18 years	CE or BC
Thursday	Funky Fitness @ Home	10am – 11am	8+	CE or BC
Friday	Adventures with Music	10am – 11am	6 +years	CE or BC

* Please note that Lisa Du-Valle (LAC Participation Lead) will be present throughout these sessions with our children & young people. Zoom ID & Passwords will be sent via email and text by Lisa. Zoom sessions & Tablets have been provided for Rotherham LAC by the Charity Affinity 2020. Thank You!!



Thank You

Young people from the LAC Council and Lil LAC Club would like to thank all of our friends, Foster Carers & LAC Voice Volunteers who have supported our Voice work and virtual groups over these last 3 months. We really value your commitment to Ethical Participation and believing in us which has given us the freedom to continue to grow. We appreciate you!! These include:-

Alan Perry – LAC Council Volunteer
Charlee Bewsher – Development Director Youth Work Unit
Charlotte Elliot – CEO & Founder of Affinity 2020 CIC
Wendy Smith – Foster Carer
Ann Elmer – Foster Carer
Laura, Pete, Manny & Barbara – Affinity 2020 Facilitators
William Shaw - CYPS Head of Development Programmes

Thank You All 😊

Contact Name: Lisa Du-Valle
LAC Voice, Influence & Participation Lead
Children in Care
Tel: 01709 822130 or Mob: 07748143388
Email: lisa.duvalle@rotherham.gov.uk



@LACCRotherham



LACC Rotherham



ROTHERHAM

Spring 2020

Looked After Children's Council

LAC Voice Newsletter

Who are we? We are a group of individuals who are in care from Rotherham between the ages of 11 and 18. We run this group to try and change young people's lives that are being brought up through the care system.

Children's Home Visit

We visited the new Residential Home **Pegasus House** in Rotherham to check that it had everything that we need. We loved the size of the bedrooms and the chill out room! It has a great garden with Bar BQ area and seating. It's very posh and will soon be ready for Rotherham Looked After Children & Young People to move in. ❤️

By Brogan



LAC Council @ Pegasus House

KINGSWOOD RESIDENTIAL

We went on a Residential break to Kingswood Activity Centre for 3 days and we met up with other young people from across our Region who are also living in care. We did loads of stuff together like Zip-Wiring, Archery, Buggy Building, Camp Fire and Abseiling.



It was a break away with our friends to have a laugh

By Kiran

Our LAC Council look at how things are for us in care and try to make things better! our focus right now is:-

LAC Free Leisure Pass Campaign

The LAC Council launched our Free Leisure Pass Campaign for 13 to 20 year olds at the Corporate Parenting Panel. We want a free Leisure pass to go to gyms, swimming pools and Leisure centres in Rotherham. We are passionate about this so we can go out with our friends. Cllr Watson and Ian Walker (Head of Children in Care) have been working in the background to support this action. The LAC Council will be looking for an update at the next CPP meeting.

Total Respect Training Update

The LAC Council are delivering their 'total respect' training to Social Workers, Managers and people working with Looked After and Leaving Care young people. We have worked hard to put this training together based on our experiences in care & the point of this training is to put adults in our shoes and understand what it feels like to be us to change attitudes & stereotypes about us.

If you have some ideas please let us know!

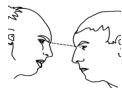
Pride of Rotherham Awards 2019



Rotherham held its Pride of Rotherham awards to celebrate the fabulous achievements of our Looked After and Leaving Care Children and Young People. We all got a trophy and Certificate, goody bags and loads of neon stuff. The theme was '*Glow BIG or Glow Home*'. Over 180 of us went to the party who had been nominated for categories which covered Education, Sports, Arts, Positive Contributions and the Leaving Care awards.

Money Changes for LAC

The money allowances for every Rotherham Looked After Child or Young Person living in foster care & Residential homes were changed in August 2019. It caused a lot of confusion as pocket money and clothing money stayed the same & there was a small increase in Birthday and Holiday money but Xmas/Cultural money was reduced a lot & the group feel this is unfair. In February we took a group of us to a meeting in Rotherham Town Hall to campaign & challenge this decision and try and get our Xmas/Cultural money overturned.



Check below to see if you are getting the right money—if you get more than this then that's great!

By Bella



Do you know your entitlement?

The LAC Council have recorded below the minimum allowances for every Rotherham Looked After Child or Young Person in Foster Care & Residential Homes

Child Age Group	Pocket Money (weekly)	Clothing Allowance (weekly)	Birthday Allowance (annual)	Cultural Allowance (annual)	Holiday Allowance (annual)
0-4 years	£1.94	£9.75	£133.54	£133.54	£267.08
5-10 years	£4.39	£9.75	£152.12	£152.12	£304.24
11-15 years	£8.64	£12.65	£189.37	£189.37	£378.74
16+ years	£11.39	£12.65	£230.30	£230.30	£460.60



For further information please contact Rights 2 Rights Service, Annette or Sally on Tel: 01709 823764

What do you think of your Children's Home? We are running a competition for you in Children's Homes from Rotherham. There are £20 Vouchers for 3 LAC who get their names picked out at random. Please just answer these questions below honestly:

1. What do you like about your Children's home?
2. What don't you like about it?
3. How could Children's Homes be improved?

Please send this completed voucher to: Lisa DuValle @ Riverside House, first floor, wing C, Main Street, Rotherham S60 1AE OR text your answers to Lisa on MOB 07748 143388 OR email Lisa.duvalle@rotherham.gov.uk

Please give me your name, age and residential home. We will keep your name confidential if you want us to. We will contact you and let you know if you have won £20. THANKYOU:-)

We always like getting new members! If you would like to come along to join in we meet every Wednesday @ Myplace in Rotherham. Please contact the LAC Council

Lisa DuValle 07748 143388

Rotherham
Metropolitan
Borough Council
Where Everyone Matters

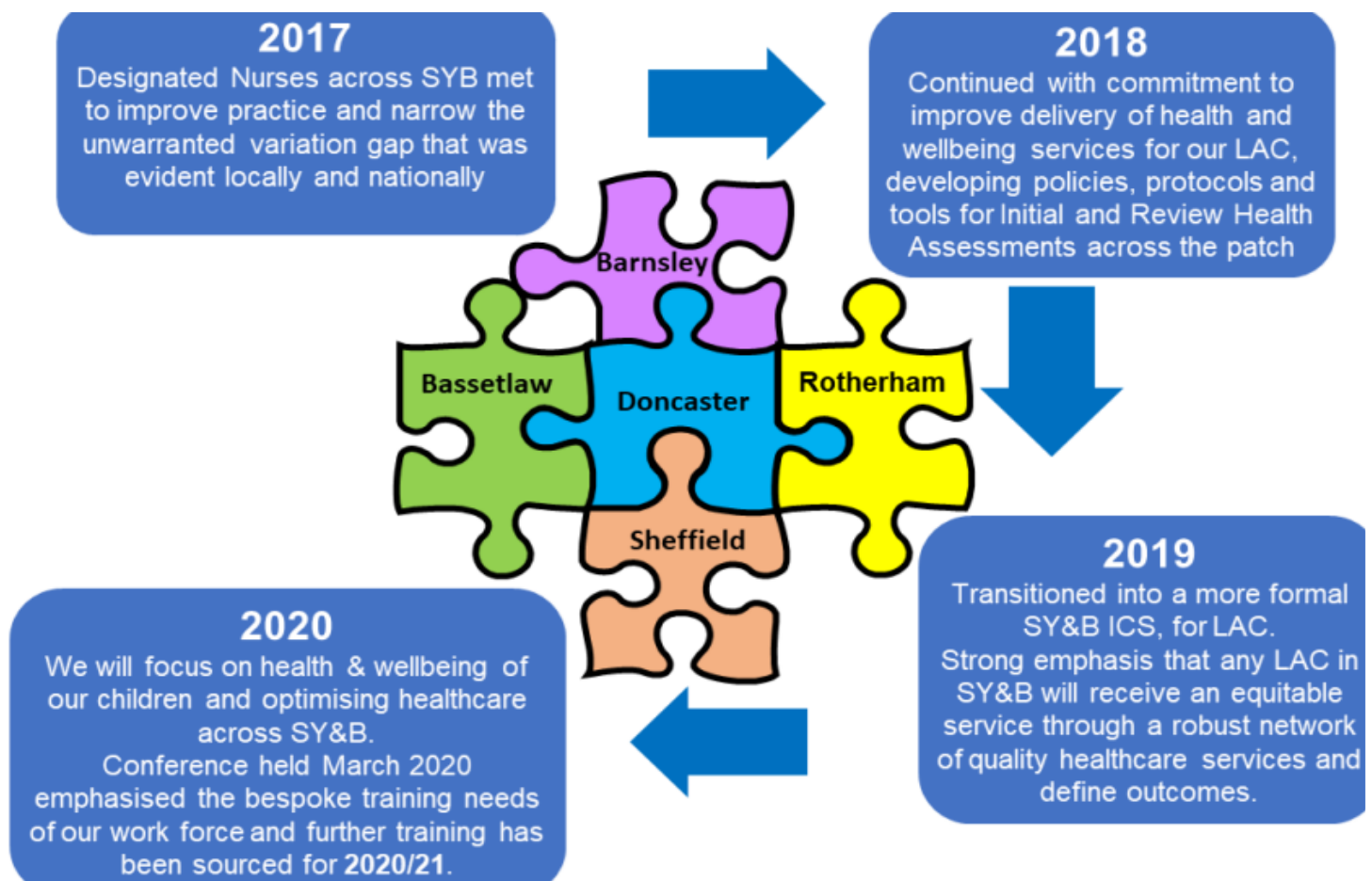
CORPORATE PARENTING REPORT – LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (LAC) HEALTHCARE UPDATE

Looked After Children South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw Multi-Agency Training Conference March 2020



- The event was facilitated by NHS Rotherham CCG (NHS RCCG) Looked After Children Team (LAC) with funding from NHS England and Improvements (NHSE/I)(North). The full day session included some exceptional and inspiring speakers during the morning followed by interactive workshops in the afternoon. The purpose of the session was not only to increase our knowledge but to provide evidence of our future training and development need. Feedback from the day was very positive.
- 72 people attended the conference with representation from health and social care professionals who work with looked after children and care leavers across the SY&B footprint.
- Further “Total Respect” and “Hear Me” training has been commissioned from Rotherham and Doncaster LAC Young People’s Councils along with a training package from Sheffield Children In Care Council. We were also in the process of arranging/considering an all SY&B LAC Health Staff forum prior to COVID-19.

We have been working tirelessly across the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw (SY&B) patch as we are conscious that a significant number of our children live in a host area. We want assurance that the healthcare delivery in those areas is of a good standard. The table below shows that journey.



In addition to our work across SY&B, NHS RCCG LAC team published a 7 minute briefing on what it means to be a child in care. We wanted our healthcare staff to understand the wellbeing needs of our Rotherham population of children in care and care leavers; with the ultimate aim that as commissioners of healthcare in Rotherham they would better appreciate our corporate parenting role. [7 Minute Briefing: LAC & CL](#)

In conjunction with RMBC Public Health, the CCG has commissioned a bespoke LAC Healthcare Delivery Team; this team consists of:

- Named Nurse for Looked After Children and Care Leavers
- Named Doctor Looked After Children
- 4 Specialist Nurses for Looked After Children and Care Leavers
- 3 Staff Nurses for Looked After Children and Care Leavers (Commencing July/August 2020)

The team of dedicated nurses commenced in September 2019, and will expand further in the coming weeks, to include a dedicated paediatrician. The main focus of the team is to provide high quality, consistent health intervention, advice and support to children, young people, their carers and involved professionals, therefore providing a 'golden thread' of continuity.

When the Designated Nurse LAC met with The LAC Council the young people highlighted that they didn't all know their school nurse, and said *"it would be nice to see nurses if they gave useful information"* and also, *"It would be more ideal that you could keep the same person so that nothing gets lost or forgotten in the process of changing, and having the same person can help us gain trust with them"*. Our dedicated Looked After Children's nursing team will enable a more focussed person-centred approach. Dedicated practitioners will be responsible for core universal provision, specialist LAC statutory health assessments, and seeing the child on a more frequent basis; taking responsibility for identifying health needs, providing care delivery and sign posting to other services as required. This model reflects the requests of young people, and now promotes the continuity that the young people asked for and deserve.

Nursing staff are reporting building positive relationships with children, young people, carers, social workers and other involved professionals, some of which have provided feedback for nurses' revalidation.

The quality of Review Health Assessments (RHAs) has improved since the team was developed; therefore better meeting the needs of our Looked After Children. The new RHA paperwork was audited across the SY&B footprint at the beginning of 2020, where social workers, Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs), and Managers were asked for feedback. The collated information identified:

- 100% of respondents said it was clear and easy to read
- 88% said the level of information included was right, 9% said too much information, and 3% said too little.
- 73% said the format was better than before and 27% said it was neither better nor worse.

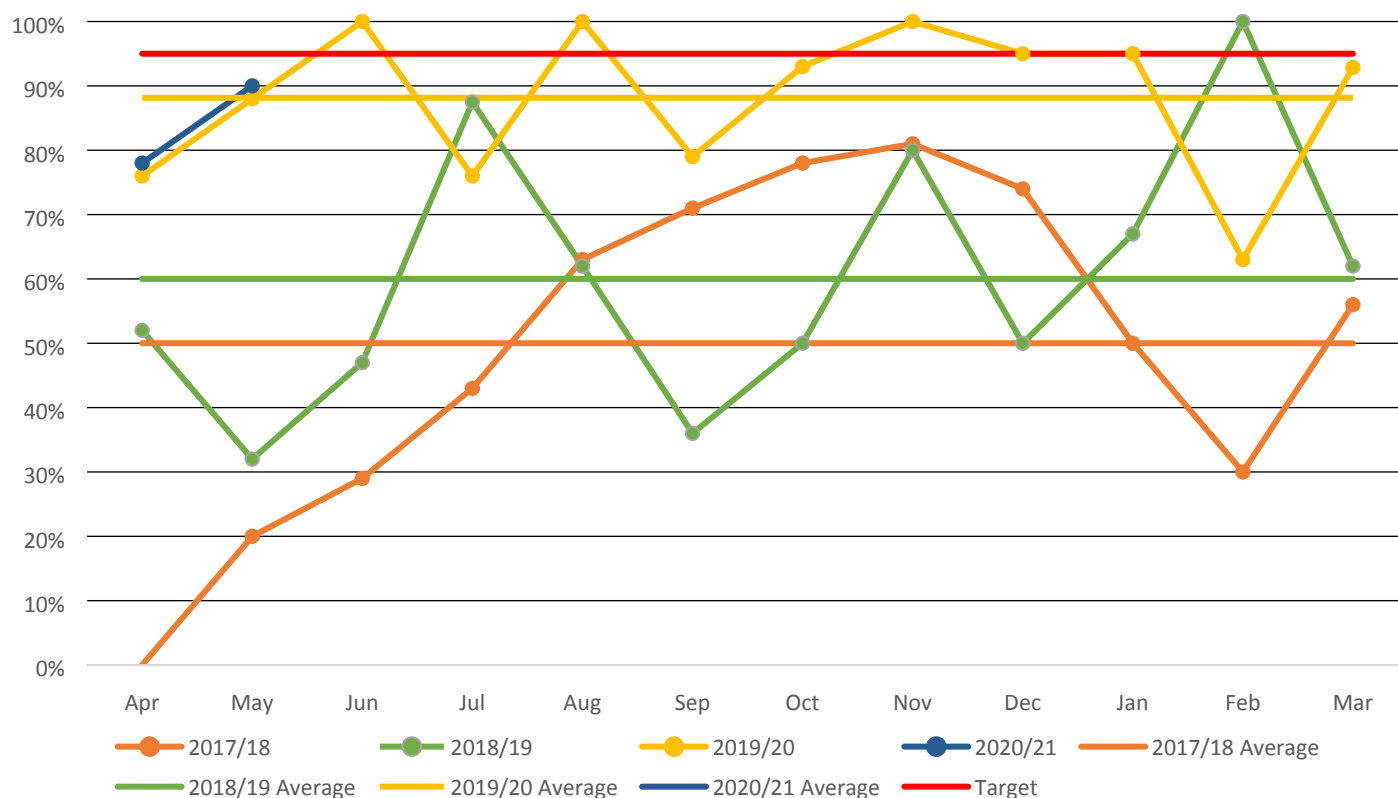
Current RHA performance data

RHA Compliance for Children placed in Rotherham				
	Total Children	Outstanding Assessment	No. Compliant	% Compliant
Children under 5	58	4	54	93%
Children aged 5-18	200	29	171	86%

This is a cumulative figure, and the category of 5-18 years includes those young people who have declined their annual review health assessment, some of which will have multiple declines. Exceptions are included in these figures. Planned more sensitive data reporting and collection will mitigate inaccuracies in future figures.

From April 2020 a monthly breakdown of RHA compliance will be submitted to give a clearer picture. Any RHAs that do not meet target will be reviewed, and the associated narrative will be provided.

Current IHA performance data



This graph shows both monthly and yearly data for IHA compliance against 20 working day target. Figures show the positive progress made since 2017 with the yearly averages increasing year upon year.

2017/18 - 50%

2018/19 - 60%

2019/20 - 88%

Positive partnership working has significantly impacted on the sustained improvements made, and the investment from RCCG will support future development with increased medical and secretarial hours.

THEN COVID-19 PANDEMIC HIT THE COUNTRY

On 23rd March 2020 the country went into lockdown. The healthcare commitment to our LAC was sustained virtually with Designated and Named Professionals across the wider SY&B Integrated Care System (ICS) footprint stepping up to ensure equality of provision.

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

- Across SY&B weekly Zoom meetings took place, considering how best we continued to deliver effective care for our LAC. Rotherham Designated Nurse LAC Chairs these meetings; they were set up to ensure that as an ICS we worked together across the patch, taking stock of national and regional developments whilst ensuring we continued during these unprecedented times to support our children in care.
- End of May reduced to monthly meetings with an agreement that the SY&B group would be reinstated immediately if required; this was a pragmatic approach to support each other during the pandemic. In these meetings we have shared:
 - COVID-19 – challenges, staffing, capacity issues and how does it feels locally. We are currently looking at how to manage a potential surge.
 - How we achieve Initial and Review Health Assessments (IHAs / RHAs) during lockdown, sharing ideas

and professionally challenging assumptions;

- Adult Medicals including those for foster carers and prospective adopters, sharing ideas and ways to support Local Authorities in this crucial task.
- National and Regional Picture and disseminating the wealth of information being shared.
- Interim processes/working differently during the pandemic have been shared in these meetings and adopted across the footprint where this allows. We have looked at ways to include the voice of children.
- We have shared risk assessments and our RAG rating process to support children in care following National Guidance. We have looked for realistic and workable solutions to ensure that healthcare delivery continues to happen under some testing times. This work in each area has been with partners and a professional curiosity has been maintained to support children.
- Barnsley, Rotherham and Sheffield CCG Designated Nurses and the Medical Advisors have worked innovatively to deliver adult medicals for Foster Carers and prospective Adopters. The Sheffield Designated Professionals initially worked with Coram BAAF to adapt the process, due to the GP directive to stop non-urgent work. This change process is to be audited in Rotherham (first 20 cases) with results awaited. Sheffield and Barnsley will also audit their processes and feedback to SY&B and nationally.
- Mental wellbeing has been considered in each area, sharing tools and knowledge has been critical.

SOME OF THE PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

- Capacity issues in LAC teams where staff have been shielded or redeployed has resulted in supporting one another with health assessments across SY&B. The main challenge being that some areas have stopped undertaking Out of Area health assessments due to redeployment.
- Use of telephone, text, and social media to assess need when physical examinations not possible – potential for missed opportunities to provide health messages or note emerging issues.
- Placements appear to have been maintained with staff and organisations going the extra mile;
- Immunisation returns 903 have been completed, with a statement saying completed under COVID-19 rules.
- Considered children in care returning to school – what their mental health support packages would need to take account of these are well advanced, consideration has included:
 - If foster carers are shielded and child wants to go back to school.
 - Different teachers and TA's? Impact of new people involved taken on board.
 - Support which was available before – is it still the same? For example learning mentors? Support networks?
 - Siblings in different placements but in same school – social distancing at school? How to manage when only seeing each other via Skype at present. Impact of seeing siblings?
- Preparing for post COVID-19 easing of lock down and the anticipated safeguarding surge.

WITH THE BENEFIT OF HINDSIGHT WHAT WE WOULD HAVE DONE DIFFERENTLY

- We would have highlighted the need for all professionals working with our children in care to have a clear understanding of their contact needs with their biological families. We would have wanted to be party to the risk assessment process and decision making with regard to contact and the building back of fractured relationships with birth families at a much earlier stage.
- During the pandemic agencies predominately learned to work differently, technology played a huge role and Rotherham was awarded 990 devices to support vulnerable children in maintaining electronic links to education etc. Partners together in Rotherham developed a tool to consider how we all made every contact count. This includes discussing with the child how they were coping during lockdown and what did a day in their life look like. Sharing of the tool developed in Rotherham to look at what a day looks like in lockdown across all areas for comments, then adaptation and SY&B potential use at an even earlier stage would have supported and therefore benefitted more children.

Council Report

Corporate Parenting Performance

Title

Corporate Parenting Performance Report – 30th June 2020

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan? No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Report Author(s)

Cathryn Woodward (Performance and Data Officer – Social Care)
Rebecca Wall (Head of Safeguarding Quality and Learning)

Ward(s) Affected

All

Summary

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of performance for key performance indicators across Looked After Children (LAC) services. It should be read in conjunction with the accompanying performance data report at Appendix A which provides trend data, graphical analysis and benchmarking data against national and statistical neighbour averages where possible.

Recommendations

- 2.1 The Panel is asked to receive the report and accompanying dataset (Appendix A) and consider issues arising.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix A – Corporate Parenting Monthly Performance Report – April 2020

Background Papers

Ofsted Improvement Letter
Children's Social Care Monthly Performance Reports

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
No

Council Approval Required No

Exempt from the Press and Public No

Title: Corporate Parenting Performance Report – April 2020

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 The Corporate Parenting Panel is asked to receive the report and accompanying dataset (Appendix A) and consider issues arising.

2. Background

- 2.1 This report provides evidence to the council's commitment to improvement and providing performance information to enable scrutiny of the improvements and the impact on the outcomes for children and young people in care. It should be read in conjunction with the accompanying performance data report which provides trend data, graphical analysis and benchmarking data against national and statistical neighbour averages.
- 2.2 Targets, including associated 'RAG' (red, amber, green rating) tolerances, are included. These have been set in consideration of available national and statistical neighbour benchmarking data, recent performance levels and, importantly, Rotherham's improvement journey.
- 2.4 Please note that all benchmarking data is as at the latest data release by the DfE and relates to 2018/19 outturn
- 2.5 The narrative supplied within the report has been informed by the Assistant Director for Children's Services and the Head of Looked After Children Services.

3. Key Issues

- 3.1 Through this reporting period all services and interventions offered by the council have been impacted upon by Covid -19. The narrative offered below will reflect some of the challenges this has posed for the Looked After Children of Rotherham and how RMBC CYPS have worked to minimise the negative impact to ensuring effective care planning continues to support each young person's stability and progress.
- 3.2 Looked After Children Profile
 - 3.2.1 At the end of April, we had a total of 604 Looked After Children. The number of LAC increased in April 20 following the previous downward trend throughout 2019/20. This reflects the previous 2 months of increased admissions, with some planned and others on an emergency basis.
 - 3.2.2 We continue to support children to safely return home with their wider family network and continue to seek permanency for them where this is not possible. Right Child Right Care (RCRC) continues to track those children in scope to cease being LAC by December 2020. The performance data reflects in April 2020 that the impact of

Covid-19; in line with social distancing and supporting families and children's right to a fair hearing, Court took the position of not hearing contested matters virtually and halted progressing new court applications or hearings. This has particularly impacted for those children placed for adoption or where the plan was to seek a discharge of their care order. In response the service has focused on ensuring applications are logged with legal and that RCRC continue to track the progress on a monthly basis. Court has recommenced some hearings from 01/06/2020.

3.2.3 The percentage of children who discharged from care in 2019/20 due to permanence, including SGO, Residence Order and Adoption, was slightly above the 2018-19 figure of 31.5% with 32.4%.

3.2.4 For our 604 total LAC, the 10k population rate remains high at 106.1% in comparison to our statistical neighbours of 92%.

3.3 LAC Plans, Reviews and Visits

3.3.1 A high number of LAC cases were reviewed in April 2020 (146) but this was a decline from March 2020 (178). Timeliness however increased to 95.2% (+1.4%). Through Covid-19 all LAC reviews have been supported virtually, with some positive results around engaging more young people in their review.

3.3.2 LAC with an up to date plan continued the increasing trend in April to 94.7% (89.6% in Jan 2020).

3.3.3 LAC visits in time (NMS) reduced further in April to 81.2% from 94.5% in March 2020 (-13.3%). However, this figure does not include any Virtual Visits carried out since Covid-19 Lockdown began on 23/03/2020. If we were to include virtual visits this would be 96.5% (584/605). This figure has not been pulled through into the main performance data set in order to show complete transparency about how work is being completed through the Covid-19 pandemic. For each young person, the need to visit is reviewed weekly by the allocated social worker and the subsequent decision making (rag rating) is overseen by the team manager.

3.4 Placements

3.4.1 As is evidenced by research the best indicator of a positive outcome for looked after children is the extent to which they have been supported to remain living in the same placement or with as few placement disruptions as possible. Placement stability is most likely to be achieved by good matching processes; high levels of support provided to foster carers; and strong relationships being developed by social workers with their young people to ensure they are best placed to address any issues as and when they arise.

- 3.4.2 April remained relatively stable across all measures which is particularly positive considering the changes experienced by our children in care and their carers, highlighting the positive work by all involved in the systems to support our young people, carers and placements.
- 3.4.3 Long-term placement stability has remained at 62.6% at the end of April. This measure is the percentage of LAC who have been looked after for at least 2.5 years and remained in stable placements for at least 2 years.
- 3.4.4 The number of children with 3 or more placement moves in the previous 12 months has positively reduced to 9.6%, the best performance so far this year and in line with the statistical neighbour and national averages (both 10%).
- 3.4.5 The number of children in family-based setting has also improved slightly to 81.6%.

3.5 Health and Dental

- 3.5.1 Dental checks are continuing the downward trend since October 2019 (88.1%) to 62.4% in April. The service has progressed some cross referencing with health and there is further data that is due to be input to increase this figure. Given Covid-19 and the closure of dentists there may be some continued decline in the figure.
- 3.5.2 Performance for Initial Health Assessments (IHA) in April was 100% with all 7 children receiving their assessment in time. This has been picked up by the Head of Service as a key area of focus.
- 3.5.3 Up to date health assessments for all LAC has slightly declined from 88.6% in January to 84.4% in April.

3.6 LAC Education

- 3.6.1 Rotherham has a local standard to ensure that each Personal Education Plan (PEP) is of good quality and refreshed every term (rather than the annual minimum standard).
- 3.6.2 At the end of the Spring Term, 96.5% of eligible LAC population had a Personal Education Plan and 82.6% of LAC had a PEP meeting during the term. However, these are provisional figures as the Virtual School is currently checking the exceptions lists to rectify any anomalies which means we could see an increase in this figure.
- 3.6.3 During the spring term, 7.1% of sessions were lost due to absence for those children who have been LAC continuously for the previous 12 months.

- 3.6.4 For the same cohort, 19.1% of LAC were classed as persistent absentees in the spring term. This means they missed 10% or more of their sessions.
- 3.6.5 Of those who were LAC for at least 12 months, 14.5% had at least one fixed term exclusion during the spring term.
- 3.6.6 7.2% of all LAC were on reduced timetable arrangements during the spring term.
- 3.6.7 Since the start of Covid-19, there have not been any exclusions and attendance are not being reported in the same way. As a result, figures for exclusions, persistent absence and reduced provision will see a significant reduction for the summer term.

3.7 Care Leavers

- 3.7.1 The number of care leavers in April increased to 325.
- 3.7.2 The performance of Pathway Plans reduced slightly to 92.6% of care leavers having a plan and 91.4% having an up to date plan at the end of April.
- 3.7.3 Care leavers in suitable accommodation has seen a slight improvement (+0.9%).
- 3.7.4 Through May there has been targeted work within the LAC service and IRO's lead by the Service Manager for Leaving care. This is to ensure a focus on timely completion of needs assessments and pathway plans by the LAC service. This is also being supported at senior management level via the residential panel and performance meetings.
- 3.7.5 Education, Employment and Training (EET) is being explored for each young person, but there remain some challenges linked to Covid-19, given this young population are potentially most at risk linked to their age and type of employment. We had a slight reduction in the % of care leavers in EET at the end of April to 60.3%.

3.8 Fostering

- 3.8.1 At the end of April, we had 67.9% of our LAC in fostering placements. Fostering placements includes both those placed with our in house foster carers and those placed with Independent Fostering Agencies.

3.8.2 In the year 2019/20, we recruited 19 new households and had 22 resignations/deregistered, giving us a net reduction of 3 households at year end.

3.8.3 April, the start of the new financial year, remained relatively stable with a steady increase in the number of Foster Care recruited, and a reduction in resignations and deregistration's. This reflects an ongoing move in the right direction with further fostering assessments due to be heard at panel on a regular basis. This highlights positive recruitment and retention.

3.9 Adoptions

3.9.1 Rotherham's policy is to persevere in seeking adoptive placements for all children for as long as it is reasonable to do so. Whilst this can impact on performance figures, this practice does give the necessary reassurance that the adoption service is 'doing the right thing' by its children by doing everything it can to secure permanent family placements.

3.9.2 In 2019/20 we achieved permanence via adoption for 29 children.

3.9.3 The national target for the number of days between a child entering care and having an adoption placement is a maximum of 426 days. The average for our 29 adoptions was within target at 391.5 days.

3.9.4 The national target for the number of days between a child receiving a placement order and being matched to an adoptive family is a maximum of 121 days. The average for the children adopted in 2019/20 was over the target at 146 days. This is partially due to the number of children that we have who meet the criteria for 'harder to place', which often means it takes a little longer to find a suitable prospective family for those children. However, we remain below the latest published statistical neighbour average of 205 days for this measure.

3.10 Caseloads

3.10.1 The average caseload in LAC Teams 1-3 was at 17.4 at the end of April and for Teams 4-5 (permanence teams) to 15.4. This is the lowest level of the past 12 months and is reflective of the reducing size of the LAC total cohort. However, this does not perhaps reflect the level of positive work that practitioners have been completing in order to support colleagues who due to periods of Covid-19 (self isolation, vulnerability or shielding) have not been able to complete visits. The positive level of visits, assessments, reviews and plans completed across the complete pathway needs to be recognised.

4. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 4.1 The full corporate parenting performance report attached at Appendix A represents a summary of performance across a range of key national and local indicators with detailed commentary provided by the service director. Corporate Parenting Panel members are therefore recommended to consider and review this information.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Not applicable

6. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 6.1 Not applicable

7. Financial and Procurement Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications to this report. The relevant Service Director and Budget Holder will identify any implications arising from associated improvement actions and Members and Commissioners will be consulted where appropriate.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 There are no direct legal implications to this report.

9. Human Resources Implications

- 9.1 There are no direct human resource implications to this report. The relevant Service Director and Managers will identify any implications arising from associated improvement actions and Members and Commissioners will be consulted where appropriate.

10. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 10.1 The performance report relates to services and outcomes for children in care.

11. Equalities and Human Rights Implications

- 11.1 There are no direct implications within this report.

12. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

- 12.1 Partners and other directorates are engaged in improving the performance and quality of services to children, young people and their families via the Rotherham Local Children's Safeguarding Board (RLSCB). The RLSCB Performance and Quality Assurance Subgroup receive this performance report within the wider social care performance report on a regular basis.

13. Risks and Mitigation

- 13.1 Inability and lack of engagement in performance management arrangements by managers and staff could lead to poor and deteriorating services for children and young people. Strong management oversight by Directorship Leadership Team and the ongoing weekly performance meetings mitigate this risk by holding managers and workers to account for any dips in performance both at a team and at an individual child level.

14. Accountable Officer(s)

Rebecca Wall, Head of Service safeguarding
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Corporate Parenting Monthly Performance Report

As at Month End: April 2020

Please note: Data reports are not dynamic. Although care is taken to ensure data is as accurate as possible every month, delays in data input can result in changes in figures when reports are re-run retrospectively. To combat this at least two individual months data is rerun for each indicator.

Document Details

Status: Issue 1, Draft 2

Date Created: 26/05/20

Created by: Performance & Quality Team

Performance Summary

As at Month End: April 2020

*DOT' - Direction of travel represents the direction of 'performance' since the previous month with reference to the polarity of 'good' performance for that measure. Colours have been added to help distinguish better and worse performance. Key Below;-

↑

- improvement in performance / increase in numbers

→

- no movement - numbers stable with last month

↓

- decline in performance, not on target / decrease in numbers

	NO.	INDICATOR	GOOD PERF IS	DATA NOTE (Monthly)	2019 / 20		2020 / 21		DOT (Month on Month)	RAG (in month)	Target and Tolerances			YR ON YR TREND					LATEST BENCHMARKING			
					Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	YTD			Red	Amber	Target Green	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	STAT NEIGH AVE	BEST STAT NEIGH	NAT AVE	NAT TOP QTILE THRESHOL
LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN	6.1	Number of Looked After Children	Info	Count	605	595	604	-	↑				n/a	432	488	627	642	595				
	6.2	Rate of Looked After Children per 10,000 population aged under 18 (Council Plan Indicator)	Low	Rate per 10,000	106.2	104.5	106.1	-	↓				99.1	76.6	86.6	110.8	112.7	104.5	92.0	59.0	65.0	-
	6.3	Admissions of Looked After Children	Info	Count	11	18	19	19	↑				n/a	208	262	330	271	214				
	6.4	Number of children who have ceased to be Looked After Children	High	Count	14	27	12	12	↓				n/a	192	215	194	254	259				
	6.5	Percentage of LAC who have ceased to be looked after due to permanence (Special Guardianship Order, Residence Order, Adoption)	High	Percentage	35.7%	22.2%	25.0%	25.0%	↑				<33%	40.1%	27.9%	27.3%	31.5%	32.4%				
	6.6	Number of SGOs started (Legal Status)	High	Count	6	5	2	2	↓					-	-	67	62	69				
	6.7	Percentage of LAC who have ceased to be looked after due to a Special Guardianship Order	High	Percentage	28.6%	3.7%	16.7%	16.7%	↑					-	9.8%	8.2%	13.1%	16.2%	12.3% (2017)	22.0% (2017)	12.0% (2017)	17.0% (2017)
	6.8	LAC cases reviewed within timescales	High	Percentage	86.0%	93.8%	95.2%	95.2%	↑				<90%	83.3%	91.3%	90.6%	88.6%	90.7%				
	6.9	% of children adopted	High	Percentage	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	8.3%	↑				<20%	26.3%	14.4%	13.9%	12.6%	11.2%	17.3%	42.0%	12.0%	16.6%
	6.10	Health of Looked After Children - up to date Health Assessments	High	Percentage	88.4%	85.5%	84.4%	-	↓				<90%	92.8%	89.5%	83.7%	91.8%	85.5%				
	6.11	Health of Looked After Children - up to date Dental Assessments	High	Percentage	72.2%	69.3%	62.4%	-	↓				<90%	95.0%	57.3%	72.5%	88.4%	68.2%				
	6.12	Health of Looked After Children - Initial Health Assessments carried out within 20 working days	High	Percentage	62.5%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	→					8.4%	18.2%	55.7%	51.1%	86.4%				
	6.13	% of LAC with a PEP (Termly)	High	Percentage	-	-	96.5%	-	↑				<90%	76.0%	97.8%	97.0%	93.6%	97.5%				
	6.14	% of LAC with up to date PEPs (Termly)	High	Percentage	-	-	82.6%	-	↓				<90%	-	-	98.9%	97.4%	95.0%				
	6.15	LAC Overall absence - % of sessions lost due to absence	Low	Percentage	-	-	7.1%	-	↓					5.0%	4.1%	5.7%	4.7%	TBC	4.7%	3.5%	4.5%	3.9%
	6.16	% of LAC who are classed as persistent absentees	Low	Percentage	-	-	19.1%	-	↓					11.7%	12.2%	13.3%	11.7%	TBC	10.0%	7.1%	10.6%	8.8%
	6.17	% of LAC with at least one fixed term exclusion	Low	Percentage	-	-	14.5%	-	↓					11.8%	13.1%	15.5%	TBC	TBC	13.7%	9.0%	11.8%	9.6%
	6.18	% of LAC on reduced timetable arrangements	Low	Percentage	-	-	7.2%	-	↑					-	-	-	-	-				
	6.19	% of eligible LAC with an up to date plan	High	Percentage	90.1%	92.6%	94.7%	-	↑				<93%	98.4%	79.1%	89.5%	98.0%	92.6%				
	6.20	% LAC visits up to date & completed within timescale of National Minimum standard	High	Percentage	96.4%	94.5%	81.2%	-	↓				<95%	98.1%	74.0%	97.5%	96.9%	93.4%				
CARE LEAVERS	7.1	Number of care leavers	Info	Count	317	313	325	-	↑				n/a	197	223	256	299	313				
	7.2	% of eligible LAC & Care Leavers with a pathway plan	High	Percentage	94.6%	95.2%	92.6%	-	↓				<93%	69.8%	99.3%	93.9%	88.1%	94.6%				
	7.3	% of eligible LAC & Care Leavers with an up to date pathway plan	High	Percentage	94.0%	93.9%	91.4%	-	↓					-	-	70.3%	81.4%	93.3%				
	7.4	% of care leavers in suitable accommodation	High	Percentage	95.3%	94.2%	95.1%	-	↑				<95%	96.5%	97.8%	96.1%	96.3%	94.2%	86.6%	94.0%	85.0%	92.0%
	7.5	% of care leavers in employment, education or training	High	Percentage	61.8%	61.7%	60.3%	-	↓				<70%	68.0%	62.9%	64.1%	64.9%	61.7%	56.0%	73.0%	51.0%	59.0%
PLACEMENTS	8.1	% of long term LAC in placements which have been stable for at least 2 years	High	Percentage	62.6%	62.1%	62.6%	-	↑				<68%	72.7%	66.2%	61.2%	61.2%	62.6%	68.5%	77.0%	69.0%	73.0%
	8.2	% of LAC who have had 3 or more placements - rolling 12 months (Council Plan Indicator)	Low	Percentage	10.4%	10.8%	9.6%	-	↑				13%+	13.0%	11.9%	13.4%	13.3%	10.8%	10.0%	6.0%	10.0%	8.0%
	8.3	% of LAC in a family based setting (Council Plan Indicator)	High	Percentage	81.3%	81.2%	81.6%	-	↑				85%>	-	81.1%	81.0%	81.9%	81.2%				
	8.4	% of LAC placed with parents or other with parental responsibility (P1)	Low	Percentage	6.1%	5.0%	5.1%	-	↓					-	5.3%	4.3%	7.2%	4.7%				
	8.5	% of LAC in a Commissioned Placement	Low	Percentage	53.9%	51.9%	51.3%	-	↑					43.6%	43.2%	50.5%	52.3%	51.9%				
TERING	9.1	Number of LAC in a Fostering Placement (excludes family/friend carers)	High	Count	417	405	410	-	↑					-	353	414	427	405				
	9.2	% of LAC in a Fostering Placement (excludes family/friend carers)	High	Percentage	68.9%	68.1%	67.9%	-	↓					-	56.3%	64.5%	66.5%	68.1%				
	9.3	Number of Foster Carers (Households)	High	Count	147	148	149	-	↑					156	161	154	149	148				

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					Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	YTD			Red	Amber	Target Green	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	STAT NEIGH AVE	BEST STAT NEIGH	NAT AVE	NAT TOP QTILE THRESHOL
FOS	9.4	Number of Foster Carers Recruited	High	Count	0	2	3	3	↑					13	32	16	11	19				
	9.5	Number of Foster Carers Deregistered	Info	Count	1	1	0	0	↓					16	22	25	21	22				
ADOPTIONS	10.1	Number of adoptions	High	Count	1	3	1	1	↓					43	31	27	32	29				
	10.2	Number of adoptions completed within 12 months of SHOBPA	High	Count	1	0	1	1	↑					23	12	16	11	9				
	10.3	% of adoptions completed within 12 months of SHOBPA	High	Percentage	100.0%	-	100.0%	100.0%	-	-	<83%	83%>	85%+	53.5%	38.7%	59.3%	34.4%	31.0%				
	10.4	Average number of days between a child becoming Looked After and having a adoption placement (A1)	Low	YTD Average	404.1	391.5	0.0	-	↑		511+	511<	487<	296.0	404.0	325.3	386.9	391.5	436.4	352.0	486.0	419.5
	10.5	Average number of days between a placement order and being matched with an adoptive family (A2)	Low	YTD Average	143.7	146.0	n/a	-	-		127+	127<	121<	136	232.9	124.8	212.4	146.0	205.6	89.0	220.0	171.8
Caseloads	11.4	Maximum caseload of social workers in LAC	Low	Average count	29	29	29	-	→		21+	20<	18<	19.2	17.0	18.0	23.0	29.0				
	11.5	Average number of cases per qualified social worker in LAC Teams 1-3	Within Limits	Average count	18.6	17.9	17.4	-	↓		1+ above range	1 above range	14-20	-	-	12.6	19.4	17.9				
		Average number of cases per qualified social worker in LAC Teams 4 - 5	Within Limits	Average count	16.5	18.8	15.4	-	↓		1+ above range	1 above range	14-20	-	-	-	15.3	18.8				

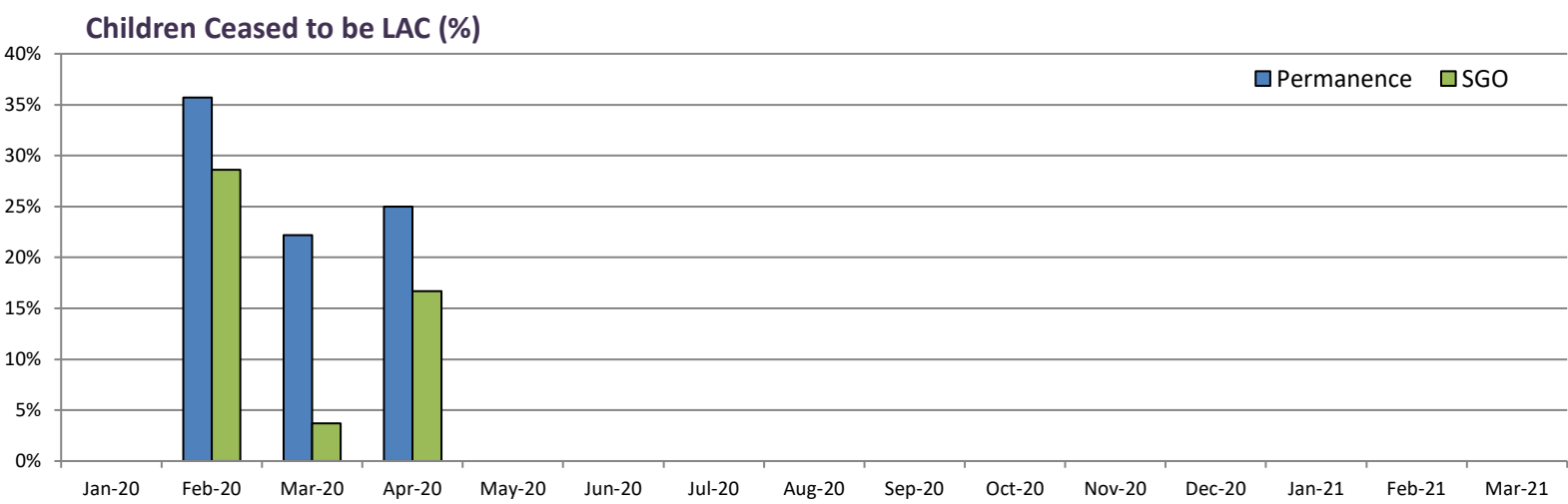
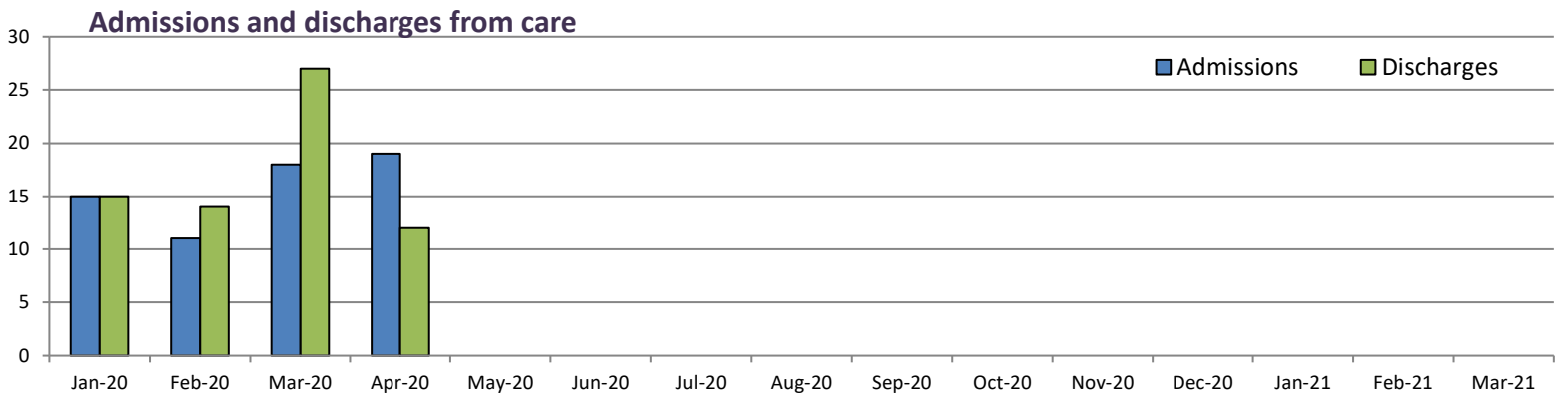
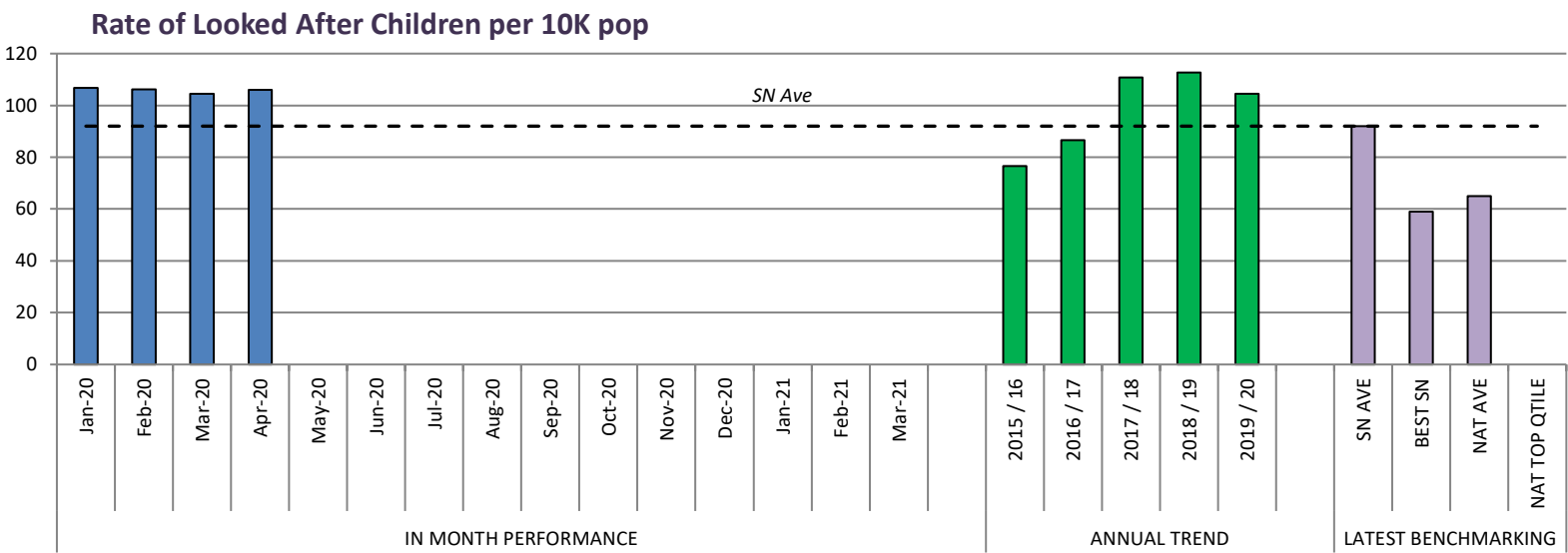
LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

DEFINITION Children in care or 'looked after children' are children who have become the responsibility of the local authority. This can happen voluntarily by parents struggling to cope or through an intervention by children's services because a child is at risk of significant harm.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES / CONCERNS The number of LAC has increased in April 20 following the previous downward trend throughout 2019/20. This reflects that for the last 2 months we have had increased admissions, with some planned and others on an emergency basis. The number of children ceasing to be LAC in April 20 (12) reduced significantly when compared to March 20 (27 ceased) but April 20 is more inline with other previous months. We continue to support children to safely return home with their wider family network and continue to seek permanency for them where this is not possible. Right Child Right Care (RCRC) continues to track those children in scope to cease being LAC by December 2020, but the performance data reflects even in April 20 the court position of not hearing contested matters or progressing new court applications or hearings (for adoption or discharge) is impacting; especially on the progression of assessments and achieving final orders.

Data Note: An issue has arisen within the Liquid Logic system which is impacting on the reporting LAC children. For some children who have left care and have had previous care episodes, the same 'end date' is copying into the previous episodes within the system. This has been reported, however, until this is rectified we will be unable to accurately report on measures regarding children ceasing care.

		6.2	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.7
		Rate of children looked after per 10K pop	Number of LAC	Admissions of children looked after (Episodes)	No. of children who have ceased to be LAC (Episodes)	% of children ceased to be LAC due to permanence (Episodes)	Number of SGO's started (Legal Status)	% of children ceased to be LAC due to an SGO
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Jan-20	106.8	608	15	15	0.0%	5	0.0%
	Feb-20	106.2	605	11	14	35.7%	6	28.6%
	Mar-20	104.5	595	18	27	22.2%	5	3.7%
	Apr-20	106.1	604	19	12	25.0%	2	16.7%
	May-20							
	Jun-20							
	Jul-20							
	Aug-20							
	Sep-20							
	Oct-20							
	Nov-20							
	Dec-20							
	Jan-21							
	Feb-21							
	Mar-21							
YTD	2020 / 21	-	-	19	12	25.0%	2	16.7%
ANNUAL TREND	2015 / 16	76.6	432	208	192	40.1%	-	-
	2016 / 17	86.6	488	262	215	27.9%	-	9.8%
	2017 / 18	110.8	627	330	194	27.3%	67	8.2%
	2018 / 19	112.7	642	271	254	31.5%	62	13.1%
	2019 / 20	104.5	595	214	259	32.4%	69	16.2%
LATEST BENCHMARKING	SN AVE	92.0						12.3% (2017)
	BEST SN	59.0						22.0% (2017)
	NAT AVE	65.0						12.0% (2017)
	NAT TOP QTILE	-						17.0% (2017)



LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN - REVIEWS, PLANS & VISITS

DEFINITION The purpose of a LAC review meeting is to consider the plan for the welfare of the looked after child and achieve Permanence for them within a timescale that meets their needs. The review is chaired by an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO)

The LA is also responsible for appointing a representative to visit the child wherever he or she is living to ensure that his/her welfare continues to be safeguarded and promoted. The minimum national timescales for visits is within one week of placement, then six weekly until the child has been in placement for a year and the 12 weekly thereafter. Rotherham have set a higher standard of within first week then four weekly thereafter until the child has been permanently matched to the placement.

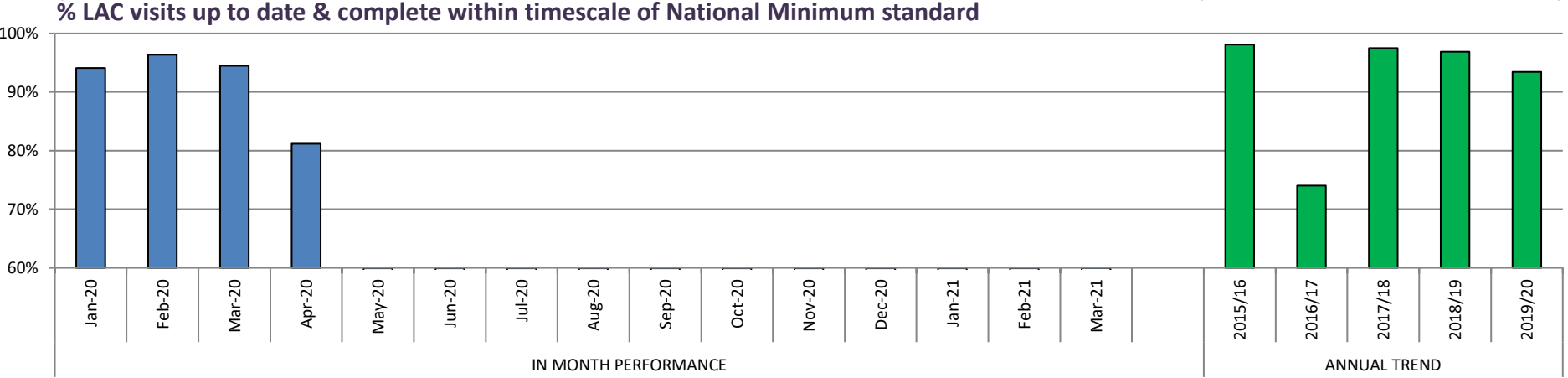
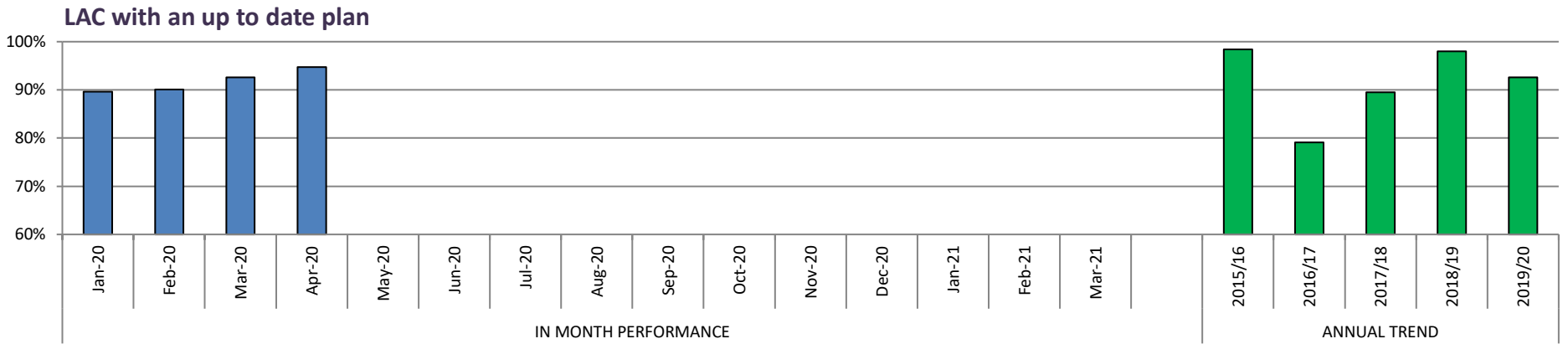
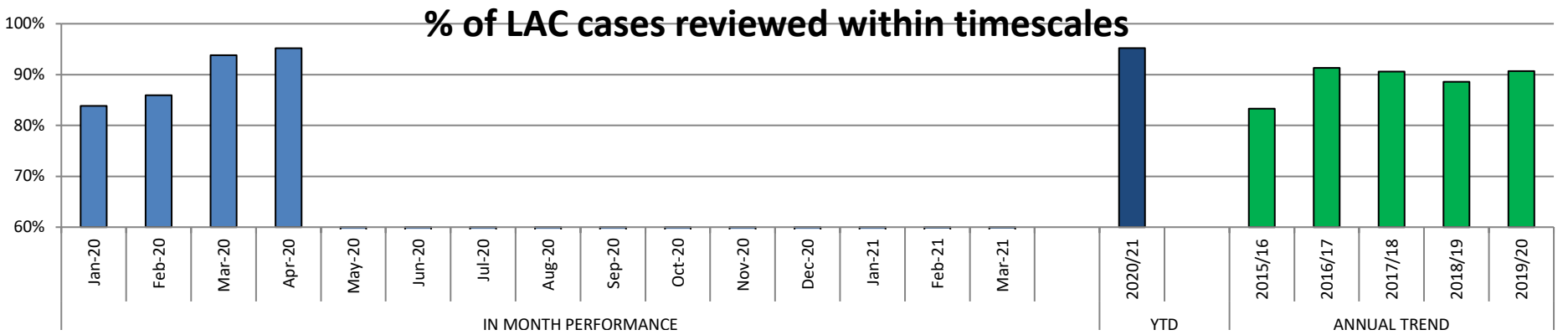
SIGNIFICANT CHANGES / CONCERNS

A high number of LAC cases were reviewed in April 20 (146) but this was a decline from March 20 (178). Timeliness however increased to 95.2% (+1.4%).

LAC with an up to date plan continued the increasing trend in April to 94.7% (89.6% - Jan 20).

LAC visits in time (NMS) reduced further in April 20 to 81.2% from 94.5% in March 20 (-13.3%). However, this figure does not include any Virtual Visits carried out since Covid-19 Lockdown 23/03/2020. If we were to include virtual visits this would be 96.5% (584/605). This figure has not been pulled through into the main performance data set to show complete transparency about how work is being completed through the Covid-19 pandemic. For each young person the need to visit is reviewed weekly by the allocated social worker and the subsequent decision making (rag rating) is overseen by the team manager.

		6.8		6.19	6.20	
		% of LAC cases reviewed within timescales		LAC with an up to date plan	% LAC visits up to date & complete within timescale of National Minimum standard	
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Jan-20	104 of 124	83.9%	89.6%	573 of 609	94.1%
	Feb-20	104 of 121	86.0%	90.1%	583 of 605	96.4%
	Mar-20	167 of 178	93.8%	92.6%	563 of 596	94.5%
	Apr-20	139 of 146	95.2%	94.7%	491 of 605	81.2%
	May-20					
	Jun-20					
	Jul-20					
	Aug-20					
	Sep-20					
	Oct-20					
	Nov-20					
	Dec-20					
	Jan-21					
	Feb-21					
	Mar-21					
YTD	2020/21	139 of 146	95.2%	-		-
ANNUAL TREND	2015/16		83.3%	98.4%		98.1%
	2016/17	652 of 714	91.3%	79.1%		74.0%
	2017/18	1502 of 1658	90.6%	89.5%		97.5%
	2018/19	1668 of 1883	88.6%	98.0%		96.9%
	2019/20	1587 of 1750	90.7%	92.6%		93.4%

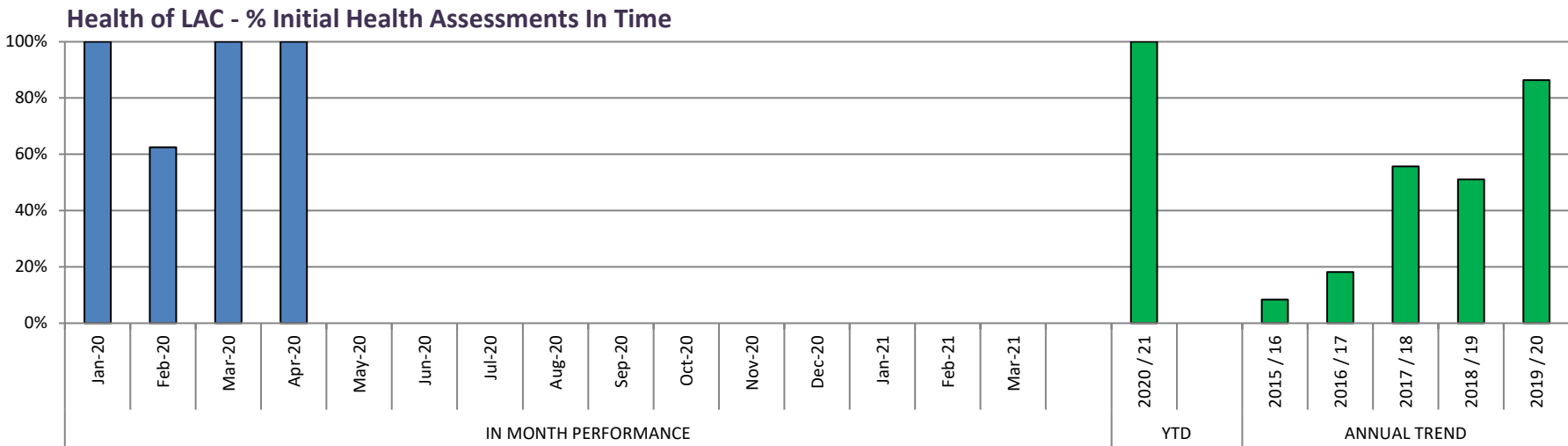
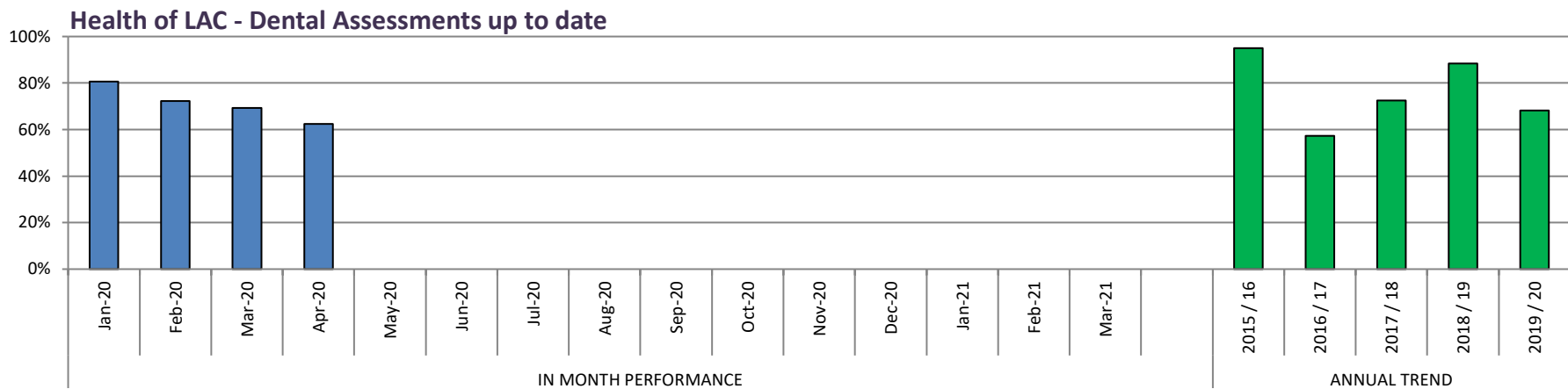
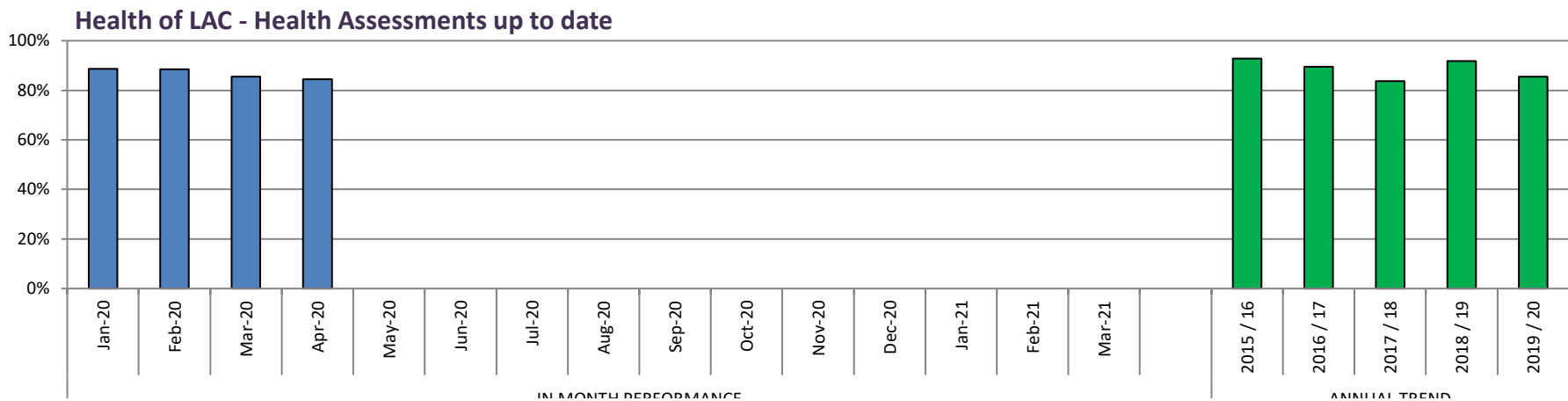


LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN - HEALTH

DEFINITION	Local authorities have a duty to safeguard and to promote the welfare of the children they look after, therefore the local authority should make arrangements to ensure that every child who is looked after has his/her health needs fully assessed and a health plan clearly set out.
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SIGNIFICANT CHANGES / CONCERNS	<p>Health checks remain relatively consistent, however, dental checks are continuing the downward trend since October 19 (88.1%) to 62.4% in April 20. The service has progressed some cross referencing with health and there is further data that is due to be input to increase this figure. Given Covid-19 and the closure of dentists there may be some continued decline in the figure.</p> <p>100% of initial assessments were complete in time during April 20.</p>
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		6.10	6.11	6.12	
		Health of LAC - Health Assessments up to date	Health of LAC - Dental Assessments up to date	Health of LAC - No. Initial Health Assessments In Time	Health of LAC - % Initial Health Assessments In Time
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Jan-20	88.6%	80.7%	17 of 17	100.0%
	Feb-20	88.4%	72.2%	5 of 8	62.5%
	Mar-20	85.5%	69.3%	13 of 13	100.0%
	Apr-20	84.4%	62.4%	7 of 7	100.0%
	May-20				
	Jun-20				
	Jul-20				
	Aug-20				
	Sep-20				
	Oct-20				
	Nov-20				
	Dec-20				
	Jan-21				
	Feb-21				
	Mar-21				
YTD	2020 / 21	-	-	7 of 7	100.0%
ANNUAL TREND	2015 / 16	92.8%	95.0%		8.4%
	2016 / 17	89.5%	57.3%		18.2%
	2017 / 18	83.7%	72.5%		55.7%
	2018 / 19	91.8%	88.4%	136 of 266	51.1%
	2019 / 20	85.5%	68.2%	171 of 198	86.4%
LATEST BENCHMARKING	SN AVE				
	BEST SN				
	NAT AVE				
	NAT TOP QTILE				



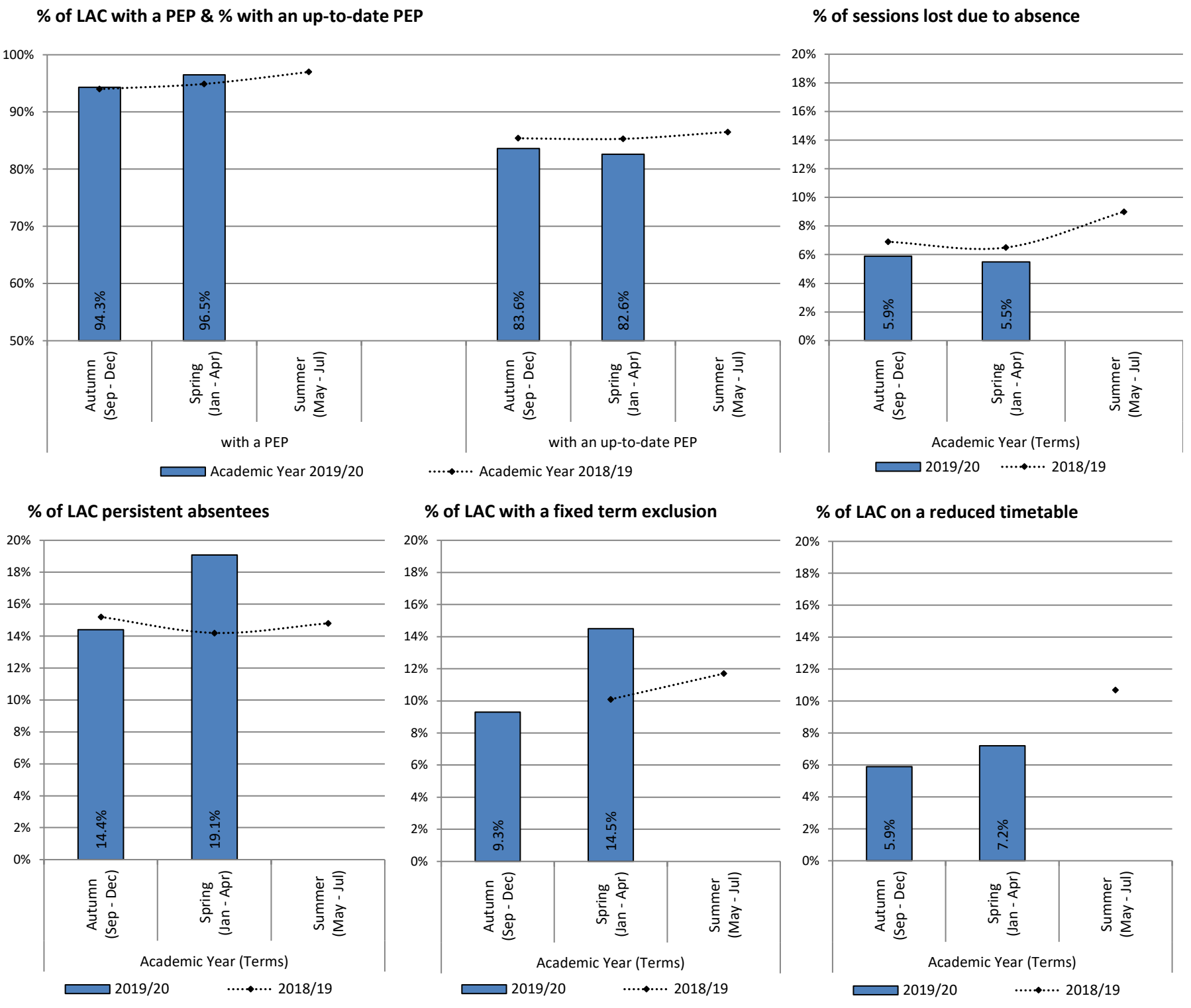
LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN - EDUCATION

DEFINITION	A personal education plan (PEP) is a school based meeting to plan for the education of a child in care. The government have made PEPs a statutory requirement for children in care to help track and promote their achievements. <i>(PEPs are now in place for LAC aged two to their 18th birthday.)</i>
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SIGNIFICANT CHANGES / CONCERNS	<p>The data presented is termly. Exclusion, persistent absence and reduced provision data was included in last months narrative.</p> <p>Since the start of Covid-19, there have not been any exclusions and attendance is not being reported in the same way. As a result, figures for exclusions, persistent absence and reduced provision will see a significant reduction for the summer term.</p> <p>PEP completion rate was similar to last term, however, these are provisional figures as the Virtual School is currently checking the exceptions lists to rectify any anomalies. The Virtual School and performance team are working together to ensure that this data is thoroughly validated and accurate.</p>
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Data Note: System produced reports have now been introduced for the below measures which has caused some changes in performance. (PEP data from April 19 onwards is now produced direct from the ePEP system. From June 19 onwards all attendance data is now extracted direct from attendance systems.)

		6.13	6.14	6.15	6.16	6.17	6.18
		% LAC with a Personal Education Plan (Termly)	% LAC with up to date Personal Education Plan (Termly)	LAC Overall absence - % of sessions lost due to absence (LAC continuous for at least 12 months)	% of LAC who are classed as persistent absentees (LAC continuous for at least 12 months - missing 10%+ sessions)	% of LAC with at least one fixed term exclusion (LAC continuous for at least 12 months)	% of LAC on reduced timetable arrangements (All LAC)
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Autumn Term (2019/20)	94.3%	83.6%	5.9%	14.4%	9.3%	5.9%
	Spring Term (2019/20)	96.5%	82.6%	7.1%	19.1%	14.5%	7.2%
	Summer Term (2019/20)						
	Autumn Term (2020/21)						
YTD	2019/20	-	-	-	-	-	-
ANNUAL TREND (ACADEMIC YEAR)	2014/15	76.0%	-	5.0%	11.7%	11.8%	-
	2015/16	97.8%	-	4.1%	12.2%	13.1%	-
	2016/17	97.0%	98.9%	5.7%	13.3%	15.5%	-
	2017/18	93.6%	97.4%	4.7%	11.7%	TBC	-
	2018/19	97.5%	95.0%	TBC	TBC	TBC	-
LATEST BENCHMARKING	SN AVE		-	4.7%	10.0%	13.7%	-
	BEST SN		-	3.5%	7.1%	9.0%	-
	NAT AVE		-	4.5%	10.6%	11.8%	-
	NAT TOP QTILE		-	3.9%	8.8%	9.6%	-



LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN - PLACEMENTS

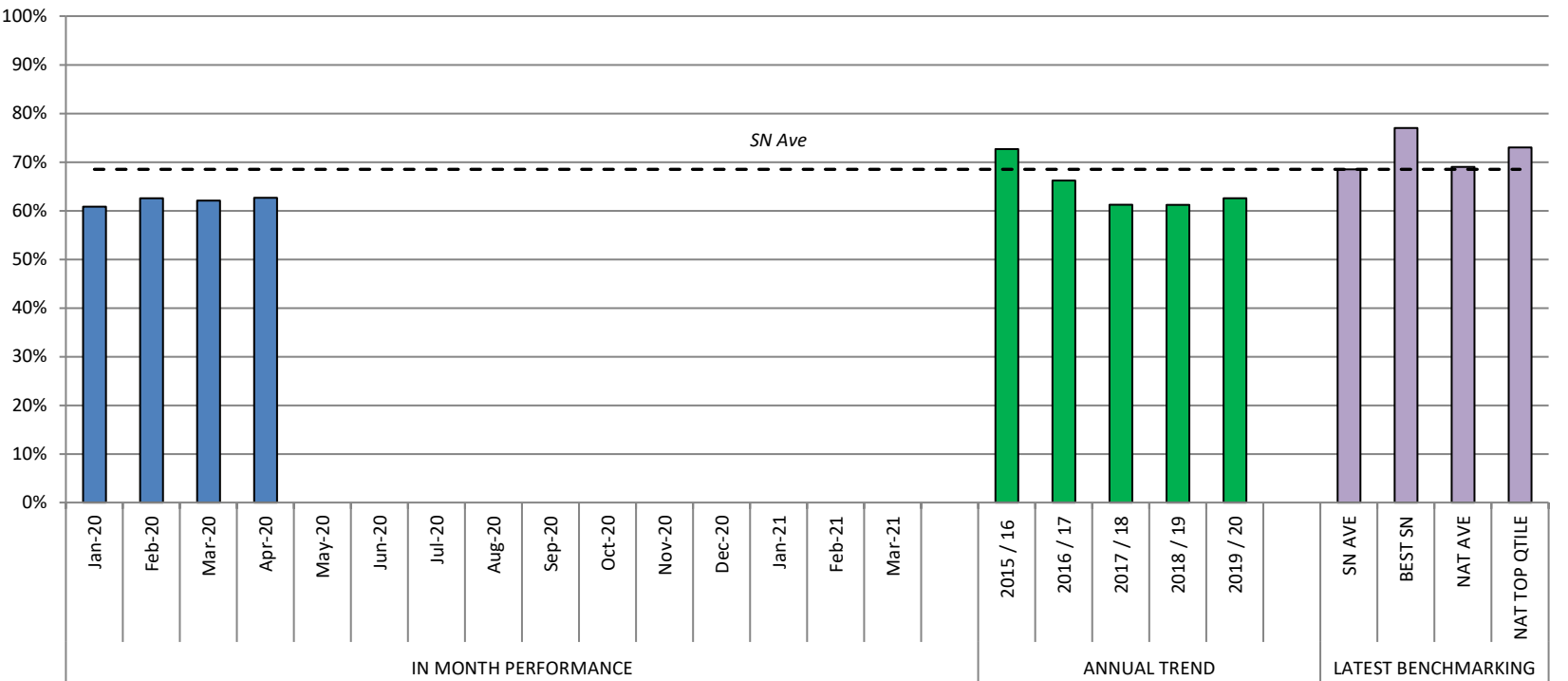
DEFINITION	A LAC placement is where a child has become the responsibility of the local authority (LAC) and is placed with foster carers, in residential homes or with parents or other relatives.
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SIGNIFICANT CHANGES / CONCERNS	April 20 remained relatively stable across all measures which is particularly positive considering the changes experienced by our children in care and their carers, and highlights the positive work by all involved in the systems to support our young people, carers and placements. The only measure out of 5 with a dip (minimal) is percentage of LAC placed with parents/parental responsibility.
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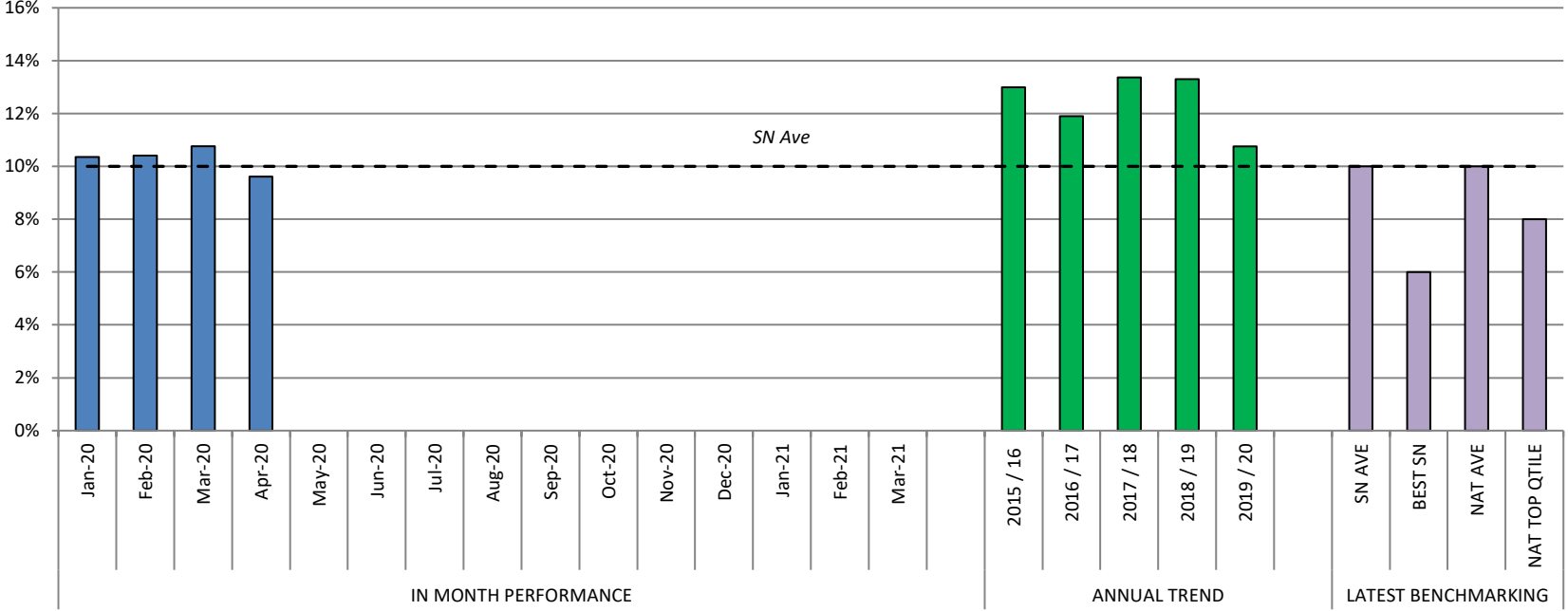
Date Note [March 20]: External Fostering numbers are now report direct from Liquid Logic.

		8.1		8.2		8.3	8.4	8.5	
		Long term LAC placements stable for at least 2 years		LAC who have had 3 or more placements - rolling 12 mth		% of LAC in a family Based setting (includes living with parents)	% of LAC placed with parents or other with parental responsibility (P1)	LAC in a Commissioned Placement (External Fostering & Residential)	
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Jan-20	118 of 194	60.8%	63 of 608	10.4%	81.1%	5.1%	330 of 608	54.3%
	Feb-20	122 of 195	62.6%	63 of 605	10.4%	81.3%	6.1%	326 of 605	53.9%
	Mar-20	126 of 203	62.1%	64 of 595	10.8%	81.2%	5.0%	309 of 595	51.9%
	Apr-20	129 of 206	62.6%	58 of 603	9.6%	81.6%	5.1%	310 of 604	51.3%
	May-20								
	Jun-20								
	Jul-20								
	Aug-20								
	Sep-20								
	Oct-20								
	Nov-20								
	Dec-20								
	Jan-21								
	Feb-21								
	Mar-21								
YTD	2020 / 21		-		-	-	-		-
ANNUAL TREND	2015 / 16	109 of 150	72.7%	56 of 431	13.0%	-	-	188 of 431	43.6%
	2016 / 17	96 of 145	66.2%	58 of 488	11.9%	81.1%	5.3%	211 of 488	43.2%
	2017 / 18	90 of 147	61.2%	83 of 621	13.4%	81.0%	4.3%	315 of 624	50.5%
	2018 / 19	90 of 147	61.2%	85 of 638	13.3%	81.9%	7.2%	336 of 642	52.3%
	2019 / 20	127 of 203	62.6%	64 of 595	10.8%	81.2%	4.7%	309 of 595	51.9%
LATEST BENCHMARKING	SN AVE		68.5%		10.0%				
	BEST SN		77.0%		6.0%				
	NAT AVE		69.0%		10.0%				
	NAT TOP QTILE		73.0%		8.0%				

% long term LAC placements stable for at least 2 years



% LAC who have had 3 or more placements - rolling 12 months

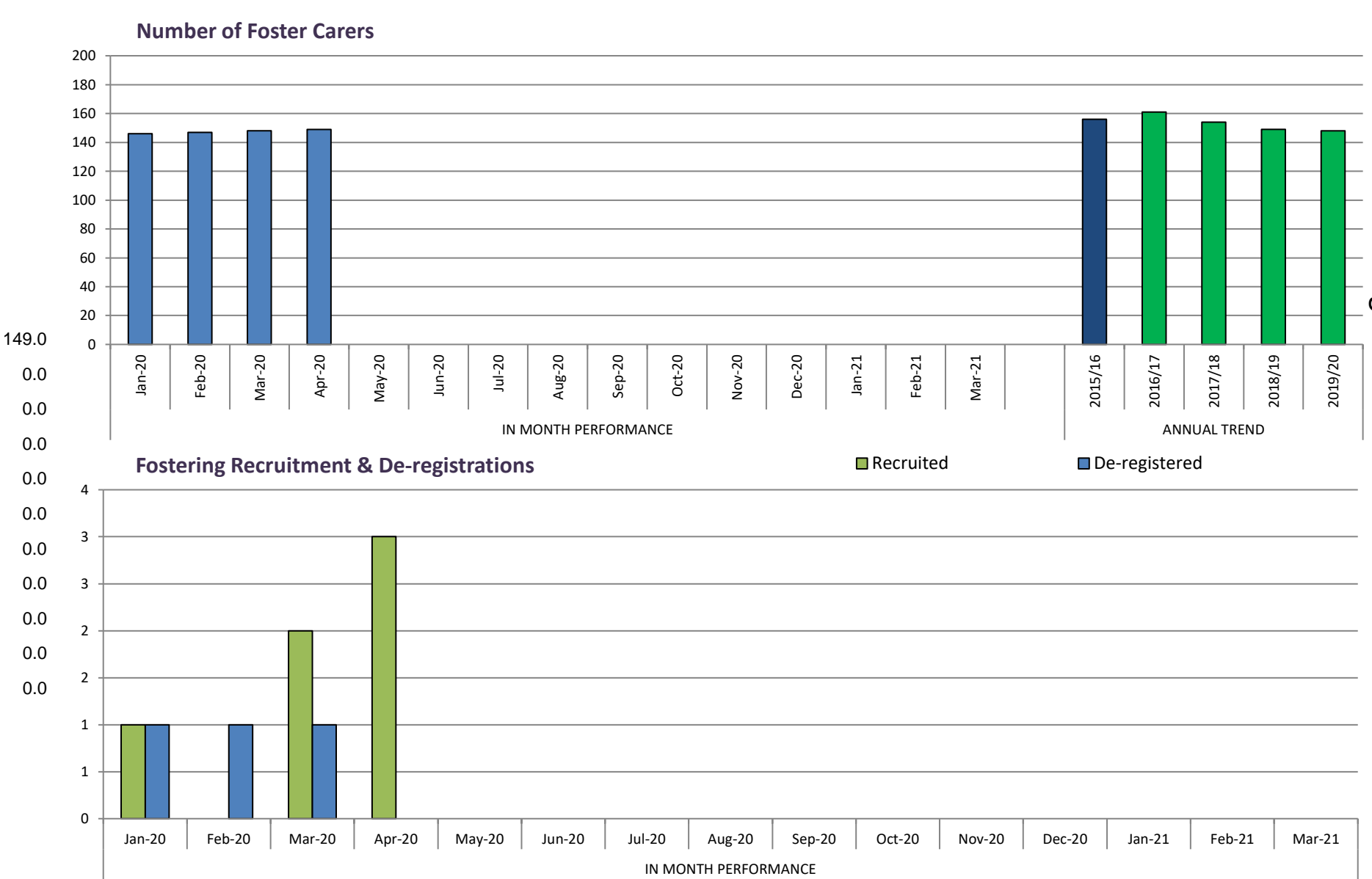


FOSTERING

DEFINITION A foster care family provide the best form of care for most Looked after children. Rotherham would like most of its children to be looked after by its own carers so that they remain part of their families and community .

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES / CONCERNS April 20 remained relatively stable, with a steady increase in the number of Foster Care households and numbers of Foster Carers recruited, with a reduction in resignations and deregistration's. This reflects an ongoing move in the right direction with further fostering assessments due to be heard at panel on a regular basis. This highlights positive recruitment and retention.

		9.1	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.5
		Number of LAC in a Fostering Placement (excludes relative/friend)	% of total LAC in a Fostering Placement (excludes relative/friend)	Number of Foster Carers (Households)	Number of Foster Carers Recruited (Households)	Number of Foster Carers De-registered (Households)
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Jan-20	420	69.1%	146	1	1
	Feb-20	417	68.9%	147	0	1
	Mar-20	405	68.1%	148	2	1
	Apr-20	410	67.9%	149	3	0
	May-20					
	Jun-20					
	Jul-20					
	Aug-20					
	Sep-20					
	Oct-20					
	Nov-20					
	Dec-20					
	Jan-21					
	Feb-21					
	Mar-21					
YTD	2020/21	-	-	-	3	0
ANNUAL TREND	2015/16	-	-	156	13	16
	2016/17	353	1	161	32	22
	2017/18	414	64.5%	154	16	25
	2018/19	427	66.5%	149	11	21



ADOPTIONS

DEFINITION Following a child becoming a LAC, it may be deemed suitable for a child to become adopted which is a legal process of becoming a non-biological parent. The date it is agreed that it is in the best interests of the child that they should be placed for adoption is known as their 'SHOBPA'. Following this a family finding process is undertaken to find a suitable match for the child based on the child's needs, they will then be matched with an adopter(s) followed by placement with their adopter(s). This adoption placement is monitored for a minimum of 10 weeks and assessed as stable and secure before the final adoption order is granted by court decision and the adoption order is made .
Targets for measures A1 and A2 are set centrally by government office.

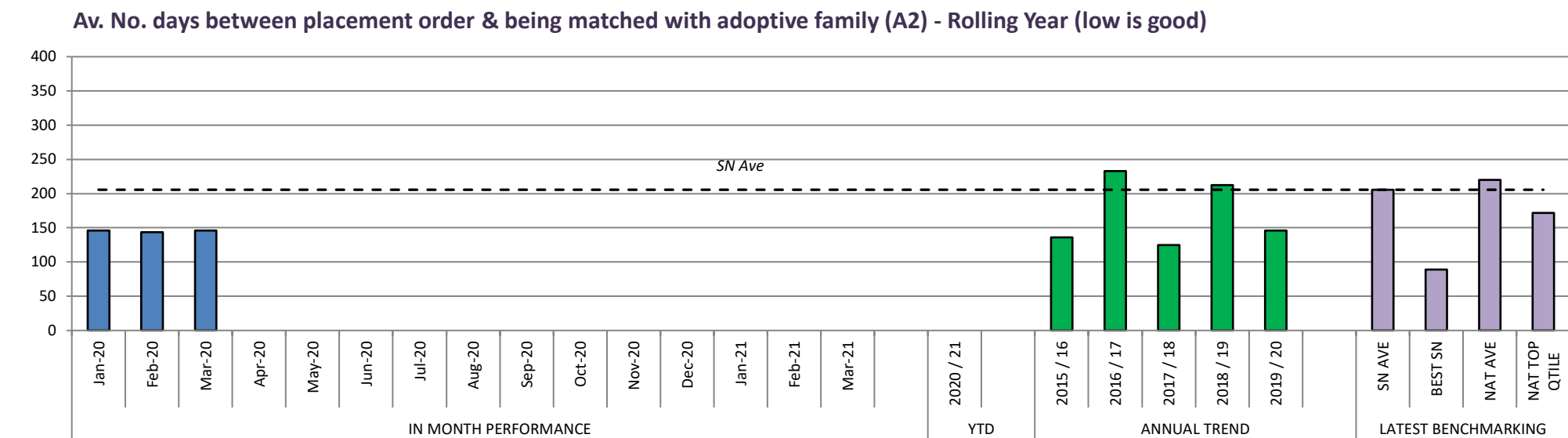
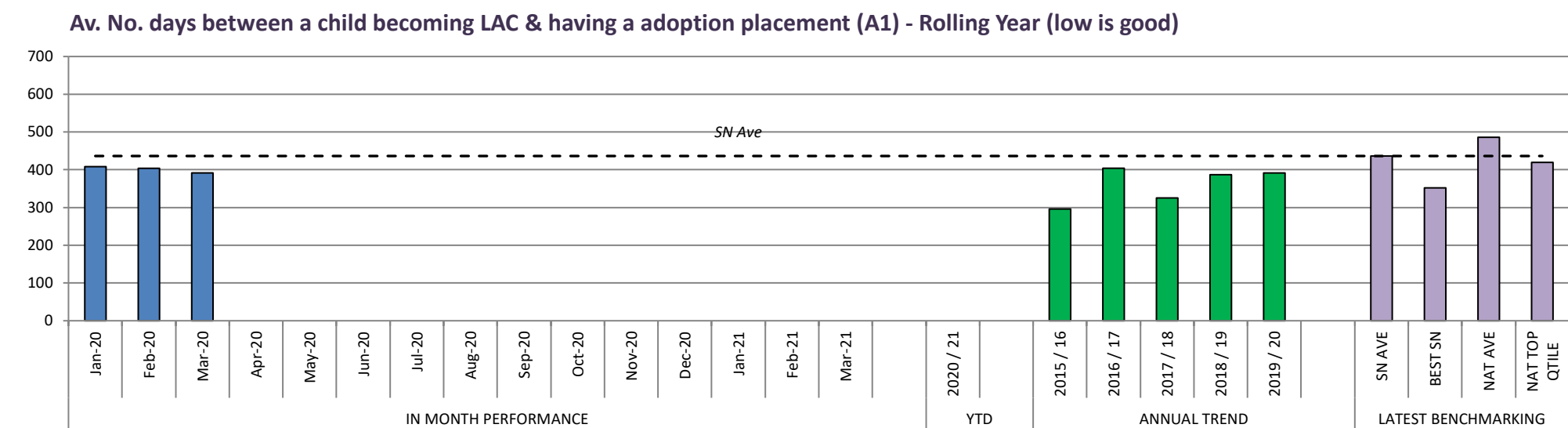
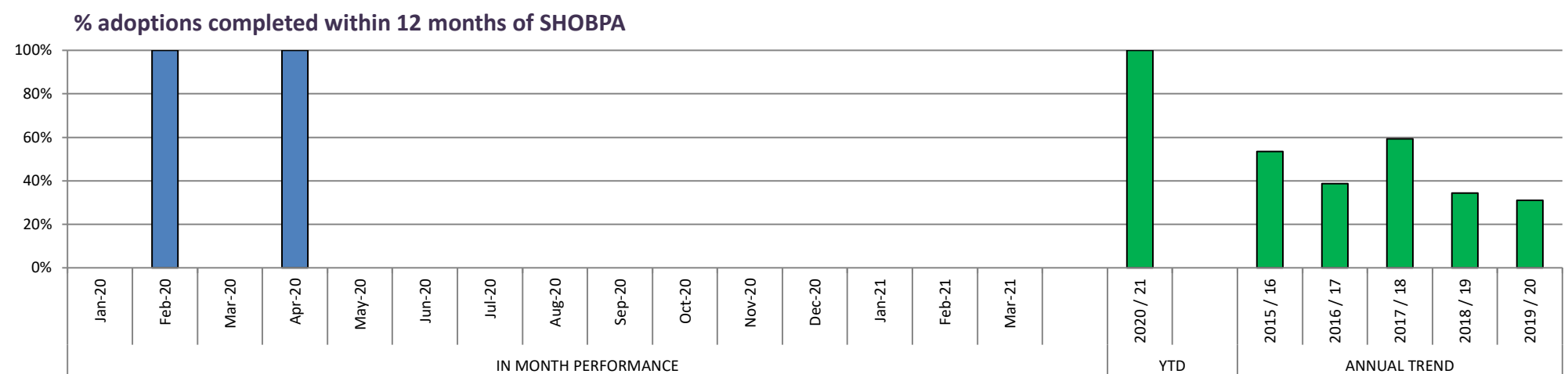
SIGNIFICANT CHANGES / CONCERNS

There was 1 adoption in April which was completed within 12 months of SHOBPA.

The A1 measure for 2020/21 is currently reporting at 0 days and the A2 measure is therefore unreportable due to the 1 adoption case in April 20 not requiring a placement order. These will change as more adoptions take place throughout the financial year.

Data Note: Performance is taken from the services manual tracker as the data is not currently recorded on LCS.

		10.1	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.5
		Number of adoptions	Number of adoptions completed within 12 months of SHOBPA	% adoptions completed within 12 months of SHOBPA	Av. No. days between a child becoming LAC & having a adoption placement (A1) (ytd. ave)	Av. No. days between placement order & being matched with adoptive family (A2) (ytd. ave.)
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Jan-20	0	0	-	408.0	146.1
	Feb-20	1	1	100.0%	404.1	143.7
	Mar-20	3	0	-	391.5	146.0
	Apr-20	1	1	100.0%	0.0	n/a
	May-20					
	Jun-20					
	Jul-20					
	Aug-20					
	Sep-20					
	Oct-20					
	Nov-20					
	Dec-20					
	Jan-21					
	Feb-21					
	Mar-21					
YTD	2020 / 21	1	1	100.0%	-	-
ANNUAL TREND	2015 / 16	43	23	53.5%	296.0	136.0
	2016 / 17	31	12	38.7%	404.0	232.9
	2017 / 18	27	16	59.3%	325.3	124.8
	2018 / 19	32	11	34.4%	386.9	212.4
	2019 / 20	29	9	31.0%	391.5	146.0
LATEST BENCHMARKING	SN AVE				436.4	205.6
	BEST SN				352.0	89.0
	NAT AVE				486.0	220.0
	NAT TOP QTILE				419.5	171.8



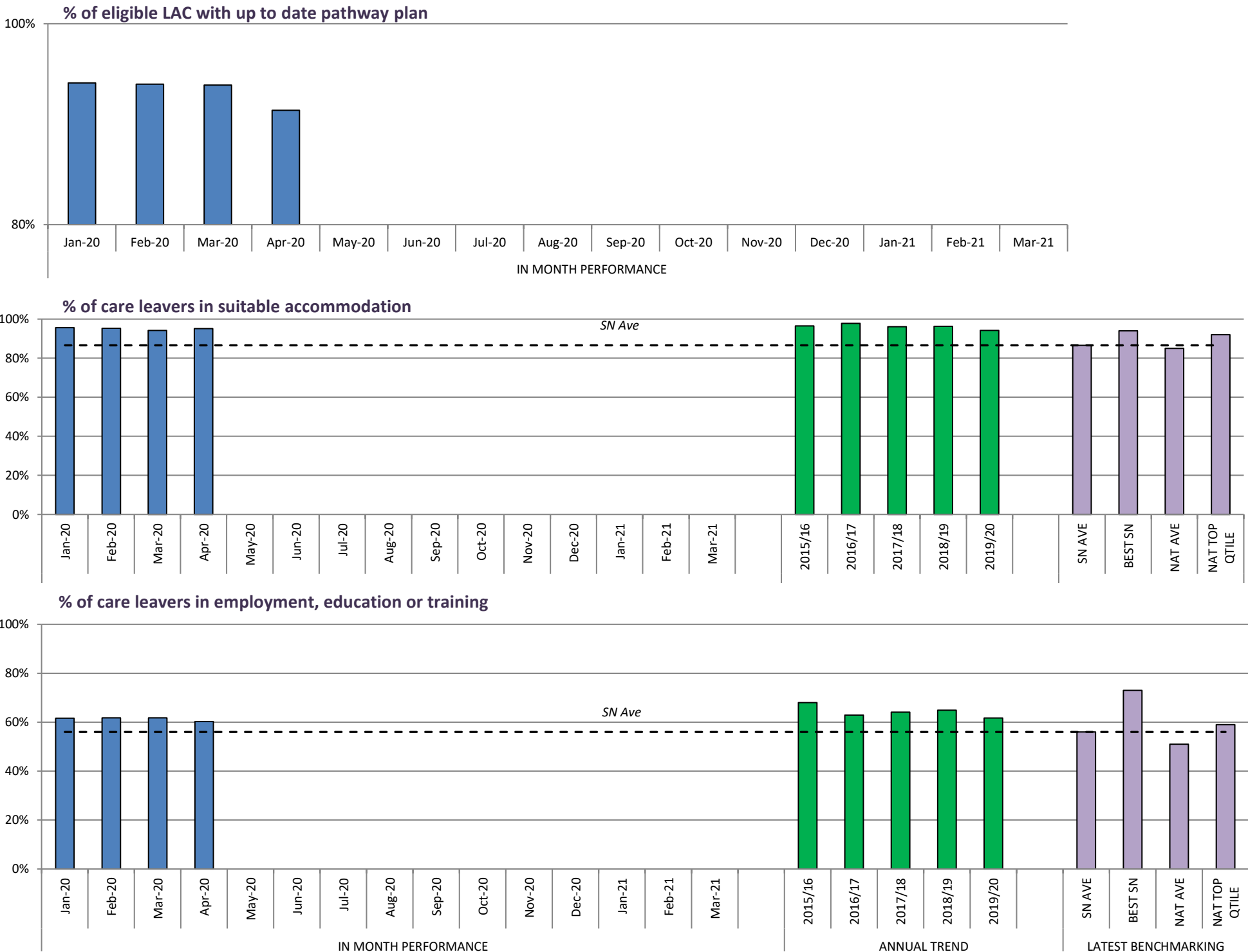
*Annual Trend relates to current reporting year April to Mar - not rolling year
**adoptions have a 28 day appeal period so any children adopted in the last 28 days are still subject to appeal

CARE LEAVERS

DEFINITION	A care leaver is defined as a person aged 25 or under, who has been looked after away from home by a local authority for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14; and who was looked after away from home by the local authority at school-leaving age or after that date. Suitable accommodation is defined as any that is not prison or bed and breakfast.
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SIGNIFICANT CHANGES / CONCERNS	<p>The number of care leavers (325) increased in April 20 (+12).</p> <p>Performance in April 20 declined for pathway plans (both measures) and EET with the exception of care leavers in suitable accommodation which has seen a slight improvement (+0.9%). Through May 20 there has been targeted work within the LAC service and IRO's lead by the service manager for Leaving care. This is to ensure a focus on timely completion of needs assessments and pathway plans by the LAC service. This is also being supported at senior management level via the residential panel and performance meetings. EET is being explored for each young person, but there remains some challenges linked to Covid-19, given this young population are potentially most at risk linked to their age and type of employment.</p>
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		7.1	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.5
		Number of care leavers	% of eligible Care Leavers with a pathway plan	% of eligible Care Leavers with up to date pathway plan	% of care leavers in suitable accommodation	% of care leavers in employment, education or training
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Jan-20	320	94.1%	94.1%	95.6%	61.6%
	Feb-20	317	94.6%	94.0%	95.3%	61.8%
	Mar-20	313	95.2%	93.9%	94.2%	61.7%
	Apr-20	325	92.6%	91.4%	95.1%	60.3%
	May-20					
	Jun-20					
	Jul-20					
	Aug-20					
	Sep-20					
	Oct-20					
	Nov-20					
	Dec-20					
	Jan-21					
	Feb-21					
	Mar-21					
YTD	2020/21	-	-	-	-	-
ANNUAL TREND	2015/16	197	69.8%	-	96.5%	68.0%
	2016/17	223	99.3%	-	97.8%	62.9%
	2017/18	256	93.9%	70.3%	96.1%	64.1%
	2018/19	299	88.1%	81.4%	96.3%	64.9%
	2019/20	313	94.6%	93.3%	94.2%	61.7%
LATEST BENCHMARKING	SN AVE				86.6%	56.0%
	BEST SN				94.0%	73.0%
	NAT AVE				85.0%	51.0%
	NAT TOP QTILE				92.0%	59.0%



CASELOADS

DEFINITION Caseload figures relate to the number of children the social worker is currently the lead key worker. Fieldwork teams relate to frontline social care services including the four Duty Teams, none Long Term CIN Teams, two LAC teams and the CSE Team. All averages are calculated on a full time equivalency basis, based on the number of hours the worker is contracted to work.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES / CONCERNS

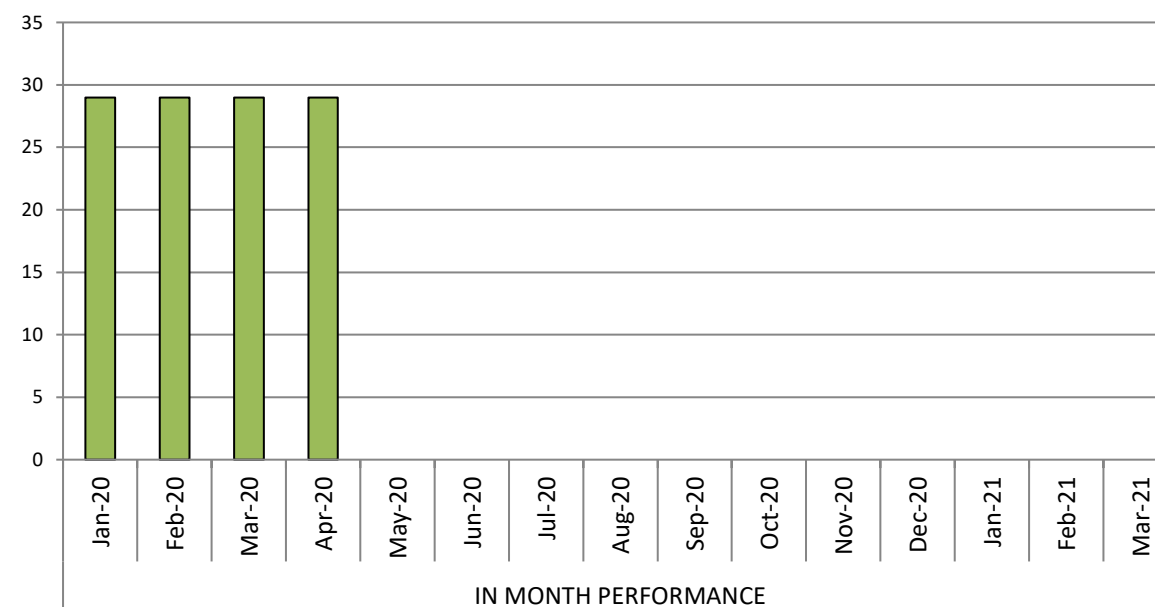
Caseloads in April 20 remained relatively stable in some teams but a more significant reduction was seen in LAC Teams 4 & 5 and the Duty Teams. However this does not perhaps reflect the level of positive work that practitioners have been completing in order to support colleagues who due to periods of Covid-19 self isolation, vulnerability or shielding have not been able to complete visits. The positive level of visits, assessments, reviews and plans completed across the complete pathway needs to be recognised.

Team and Service Managers have worked to use the opportunities offered by virtual working and reduced contact to maximise the completion of life story work and progress written plans and applications, so that as the service starts to work towards a 'new normal' their is minimal impact for young people and their future journey's through care or independence.

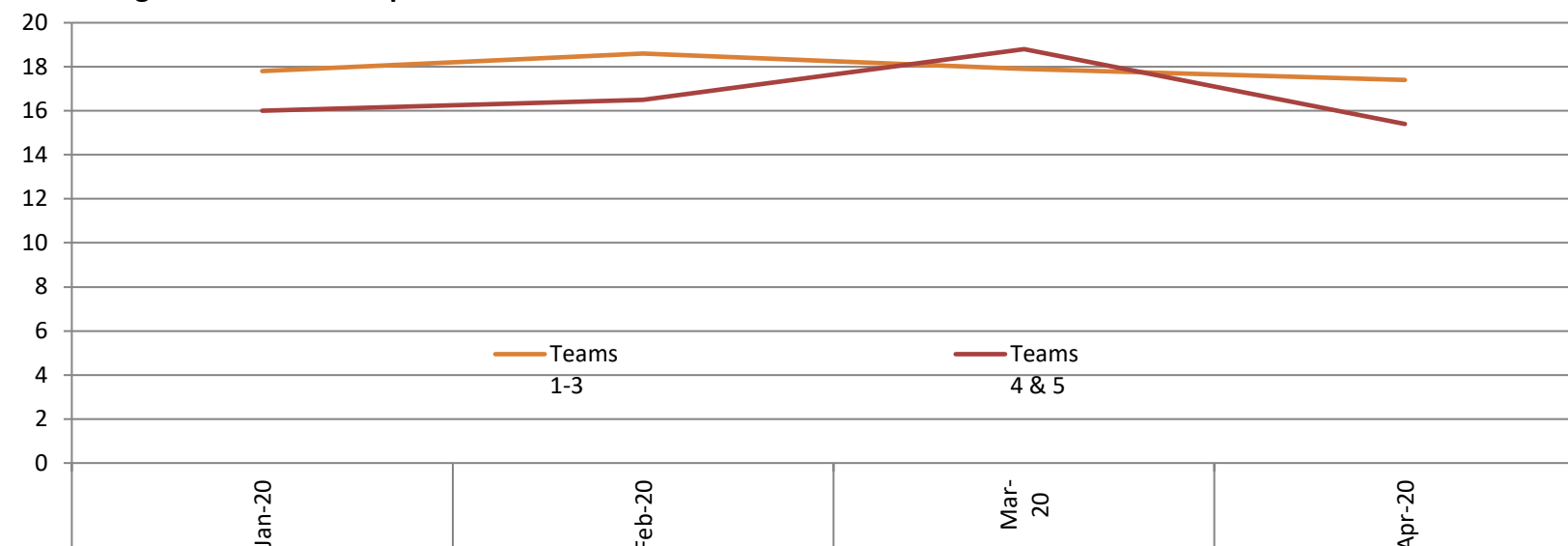
The impact of COVID-19 will need to be carefully considered as we know it has inevitably built in delay to some aspects of the work e.g. court hearings. Similarly, if there is a surge in demand (widely anticipated) then this has the potential to add further pressure and inflate the averages further over coming months.

		11.3	11.4	
		Maximum caseload of social workers in LAC Teams	Av. no. cases in LAC Teams	
			Teams 1-3	Teams 4 & 5
IN MONTH PERFORMANCE	Jan-20	29	17.8	16.0
	Feb-20	29	18.6	16.5
	Mar-20	29	17.9	18.8
	Apr-20	29	17.4	15.4
	May-20			
	Jun-20			
	Jul-20			
	Aug-20			
	Sep-20			
	Oct-20			
	Nov-20			
	Dec-20			
	Jan-21			
	Feb-21			
	Mar-21			
YTD	2020/21	-	-	-
ANNUAL TREND	2015/16	19	-	-
	2016/17	17	-	-
	2017/18	18	12.6	11.8
	2018/19	23	19.4	15.3
	2019/20	29	17.9	18.8

Maximum caseload of social workers



Average number of cases per team



BRIEFING	TO:	Corporate parenting panel
	DATE:	Meeting – 30 th June 2020
	LEAD OFFICER:	Ailsa Barr Assistant director children’s social care
	TITLE:	Settled Status for Looked After Children who are EU citizens
1. Background		
1.1	<p>The EU Settlement Scheme was fully launched by the Home Office on 30 March 2019. The scheme requires EU citizens and their families to apply for either Settled Status or Pre-Settled Status to secure their rights while living in the UK. The status EU citizens can apply for is determined by length of residency at the time of application.</p> <p>Eligibility is defined as any EU citizen or family member, arriving in the UK before 31 December 2020 and who does not pose a public security risk (serious or persistent criminal). The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021.</p> <p>Local authorities are required to make applications on behalf of eligible EU citizens (children) where a court order has granted parental responsibility. Applications are encouraged to be made online and include the submission of evidence for identity and residence.</p> <p>The council’s Senior Leadership Team receive regular updates in respect of progress and challenges in relation to this work, the last update was provided to SLT at the end of April 2020.</p>	
2. Key Issues: What’s Working Well / What are we worried about?		
2.1	What’s Working Well? <p>Below are the activities completed since January 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The report from the CYPS LiquidLogic system has been refreshed to confirm the cohort of eligible Looked After Children – this identifies that there are 79 children in the cohort from 7 different EU countries.• The report has also been reviewed to confirm the individual legal status of the cohort of eligible Looked After Children.• The CYPS LiquidLogic system has been configured to securely record application details made on behalf of a Looked After Child, this new development has been tested and is in the development work stack to make live.• Key Officers from RMBC (CYPS and AEX) have attended regular Home Office teleconferences.	

- Key Officers from RMBC (CYPS and AEX) attended a regional EU Settlement Scheme conference, facilitated by Migration Yorkshire with a keynote presentation from Coram Children's Legal Centre to gain further insight into the administration for Looked After Children.
- Six Looked After Children have received Settled Status having received formal confirmation letters from the Home Office.
- 65 paper applications have been received from the Home Office for the Looked After Children who have no original proof of identity available i.e. passport or ID card, all these applications are uniquely referenced to the child. 30 forms have been completed and submitted, with the remaining applications either awaiting some supplementary evidence or the meeting to take place, we are on course to have the 79 completed by mid – end July.
- Positive feedback has been received directly from the Home Office regarding the progress made by Rotherham.
- Rotherham staff have been asked to support regional colleagues and have recently had a positive conversation with an authority in West Yorkshire on instigating their processes which would suggest we in Rotherham are further ahead than others.
- CYPS Business Support, Virtual School Rotherham and CYPS Performance and Quality have analysed school attendance data for the eligible cohort of Looked After Children and have submitted evidence to support applications, this has been positively received and accepted as further proof of residency.
- We use a tracker to monitor application progress for the 79 Looked After Children in scope.

2.2

What are we worried about?

- The Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in the temporary suspension of some Home Office services, mainly the postal application route and telephony support from the Resolution Centre
- Support from embassies in relation to administering applications for new or replacement ID documents has been withdrawn or significantly reduced
- CYPS Social Work has reduced face to face visits therefore reducing support available to progress digital or paper-based applications

3. Key Actions and Timelines

3.1

- Progress applications as far as possible through virtual completion of paper forms, prioritising Looked After Children approaching 18 years of age and ensuring those that have left the care of the local authority have support in place to complete an application.
- Continue to work with Virtual School Rotherham and more general school attendance data to provide proof of residency for Looked After Children eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up a request to the Home Office to check whether juvenile criminal activity is considered as part of the application checks.
4. Recommendations: What are we going to do about it?	
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That Corporate Parenting Panel note the information contained within the briefing report and seek further assurance from the assistant director for children's social care at subsequent meetings of the panel.