

## **CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL**

<b>Date and Time :-</b>	<b>Tuesday 20 June 2023 at 4.00 p.m.</b>
<b>Venue:-</b>	<b>Rotherham Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.</b>
<b>Membership:-</b>	<b>Councillors Browne, Burnett, Z. Collingham, Cusworth (Chair), and Pitchley (Vice-Chair)</b>
<b>Contact</b>	<b>Natasha Aucott, Governance Advisor Natasha.Aucott@rotherham.gov.uk</b>

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. Declarations of Interest**

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

#### **3. Exclusion of the press and public**

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

#### **4. Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 5 - 13)**

To consider the minutes of the previous meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and approve them as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

**5. House Project Update**

To receive a verbal update on the House Project.

**6. Staying Close and Other Grant Funding Update**

To receive a verbal update on Staying Close and other grant funding.

**7. Corporate Parenting Panel Strategy Update**

To receive an update on the Corporate Parenting Panel Strategy.

**8. The Regulation of Sixteen Plus and Dispersed Accommodation**

To receive a presentation on The Regulation of Sixteen Plus and Dispersed Accommodation.

**9. Performance on a Page (Pages 15 - 23)**

To receive an update on performance monitoring quarter 4 2022/2023 by Anne Hawke.

**10. Looked After Children Council- June Update**

To receive an update on the LAC including an update on the Children's Festival and a group presentation from the young people.

**11. Urgent Business**

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

**12. Date and time of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel will be held on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2023, commencing at 4.00 p.m. in Rotherham Town Hall.

Sharon Kemp.

Sharon Kemp,  
Chief Executive.

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**CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL**  
**Tuesday 28 March 2023**

Present:- Councillor Cusworth (in the Chair); Councillors Browne, Z. Collingham and Pitchley.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Burnett.

**68.           DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**69.           EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Minute 78 (Fostering Health Check and Recruitment Action Plan) was exempt from the press and public. The Chair moved the following resolution:-

That under Section 100(A) 4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of such Act indicated, as now amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 (information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual/financial information).

**Resolved:-** That members of the press and public be excluded for this item.

**70.           MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 31 JANUARY, 2023**

There were no matters arising.

**Resolved:-** That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 31 January 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

**71.           LAC UPDATE REPORT**

The Head of Service (Safeguarding Children and Families) gave an update from Rotherham's Looked after Children's Council (March 2023). He outlined activities over the previous months which included:

- 16 + accommodation and support contract consultation to determine what should be included in the service specification.
- Director of Children Service's interviews
- LAC Council participation sessions
- Planning for residentials
- VIP summer fest 23 and awards

- Lil' LAC Club activities for 6 - 10 year olds.

The Chair invited comments on the update and noted that no looked after children were able to attend this meeting. A discussion took place on how young people could be encouraged to attend, including those from diverse groups such as unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

Clarification was sought on how young people's identities and personal details could be protected should they wish to attend a meeting. A commitment was given this would be explored and a response would be circulated prior to the next meeting.

In respect of the issues raised at the previous meeting, assurance was given that the issues referred to had been picked up and sampling had been undertaken to ensure consistency in approach.

**Resolved:-**

- 1) That the update be received.
- 2) That clarification be sought on how young people's identities and personal details could be protected should they wish to attend a meeting of this Panel.

**72. INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT**

The Head of the Independent Reviewing Service presented the report covering the period 2021/22. The report provided details on the following areas:

- The purpose of the service and legal context
- Governance arrangements
- The responsibilities of the IRO
- The development and make-up of the IRO service
- Information relating to performance and children and young people's participation
- Information in relation to disputes and IRO challenge
- Resources
- Areas for development

It was noted that the period covered by the report was during lock down. This had had a significant impact on service delivery. The service had worked creatively and flexibly to address challenges as a result of the pandemic.

In a short presentation, the following issues we raised:

What's working well?

- Review meetings held within statutory times scales maintained at

above 94%

- The offer of virtual reviews for some children has provided flexibility in the service to meet the needs of individual children
- IROs have continued to prioritise quality and compliance, utilising the challenge and resolution process

What are we worried about?

- We need to work with children and young people on how they want to participate in their reviews, virtual or in person
- We need to improve performance and challenge around the timeliness of social work reports for the meeting, and whether these are shared with children, families and carers in advance of the meeting
- Impact of Covid upon visiting children

Key metrics were outlined, which included-

- 01 April 2021 596 children and young people were looked after by 31 March 2022 reduced to 551 children - a reduction of roughly 7.5%
- 106.1 children per 10,000 of the population and sits in comparison to a statistical neighbour average of 92.0 and a national average of 65.0
- 216 children ceased to be looked after in the reporting period, compared with 186 in the previous year
- The Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) population in Rotherham in 2011 was recorded as 8.1%. At present Looked After Children from BME backgrounds represent 29% of all children in care, with those from a Gypsy/Irish Traveller background being representing 0.049% of the population but 8% of children in our care
- 1753 LAC reviews held in 2021/22, with full time IROs holding 216 reviews in the year on average.
- 94.4% of reviews were held in time, equating to 1687 reviews undertaken.
- Children participated in 91.4% of reviews.

It was noted that the team had also undertaken regulation 44 visits in liaison with relevant stakeholders. The team also had oversight of Section 20 reports. It was outlined that there had been improvements to health and dental checks due to IRO intervention. All children in unregistered care settings were subject to monthly reviews, with issues escalation as required.

In respect to future plans, the following issues were raised:

- Ensure that quality and compliance were embedded in minutes and reviews
- Attendance data to be embedded into electronic records,
- Aspirational pathway plans
- Coordination of Section 20 reporting alongside a practice reports,
- Questioning care plans and the rationale for the child remaining in LA

care.

The Chair invited questions from the panel and a discussion on the following issues ensued:

- It was noted that professional attendance at review meetings had improved because of the move towards virtual meetings.
- Maintaining consistency in social work reports remained a challenge however it was noted the additional process had been put in place and improvements were being made.
- The over representation of black and minority ethnic children in the looked after cohort was noted. A piece of work would be undertaken to understand what lay behind this.
- It was clarified that adoption time scales were less of a concern now the Court Service had opened up post pandemic. Assurance was given that children had been placed in “forever homes” and the delays in issuing final orders had not had an impact on their placements.
- It was anticipated that the report for 2022/23 would be received in June/July 2023.
- The Virtual Head confirmed that the team provided early identification of educational needs.
- It was noted that work would need to be undertaken to support advocacy for BME children looked after and families. A discussion took place on appropriate role models and independent representation, particularly to support workforce development and educational achievement.
- Workforce development and recruitment.
- Details were given of how the voice of the child was captured in the review process, including using the signs of safety structure.

**Resolved:-** That the report be noted.

### **73. CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL/LITTLE LAC - PLANS FOR SUMMER FESTIVAL**

An update was given by the Service Manager on the plans for the VIP summer fest for the Children Care Council and Lil' LAC.

The festival would be held on 21 July 2023 and would be combined with the Pride of Rotherham awards. It was outlined that a project group had been set up which was meeting weekly. Funding was in place and sponsorship was being sought from external agencies.

Formal communications would be issued shortly and foster carers had been already informed of the date. The same venue as last year had been booked.

The Chair welcomed progress made and looked forward to the event.

**Resolved:-** That the update be received.



**74. PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

The Acting Head of Performance introduced the report which provided a summary of performance for key indicators across Looked After Children Services. This included a summary of service performance in comparison to the same period in 2021/22 and trend data, graphical analysis and latest benchmarking data against national and statistical neighbour averages (where possible).

- It was noted that at the end of quarter three, there had been a small increase in the number of looked after children. However, compared with the same period in 2021/22 there had been a decrease. A key area of increase was linked to unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) arriving via the National Transfer Scheme. This continued to be a pressure.
- The numbers of children in care per 10000 population remained significantly higher than the national average.
- 90.4% of eligible LAC had an up-to-date plan. This was a slight decrease on the previous is performance.
- The percentage of LAC in a family based setting has remained stable during the quarter at 77%. placement stability is an area of focus of relevant teams to prevent placement breakdowns. Work is underway to identify support needs and expanding their support offer.
- It was noted that there had been a decrease in the number of in-house foster carer households registered at the end of the quarter. However, prospective foster families were engaged in the recruitment process. Work was underway to increase placement sufficiency.
- In respect of youth justice services, it was noted that of 551 children looked after, eight were known to the Youth Justice Team.
- 19 children have been adopted since April 2022, which was a decrease compared to the same period in the previous year. Data was provided on average number of days and matches with adoptive families. It was suggested that the performance measures were directly linked to the court delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The overall percentage of LAC having an initial health assessment within time scale has improved had improved in the year to date. Dental assessments had also improved, however this continued to be an area of focus and review.
- 92.2% of reviews during 2022/23 were completed within the time scale set. At the end of the quarter, 96.4% of visits were up to date and within time scales of the national minimum standard.
- Termly refresh of personal education plans was at 91.9% which is

a decrease compared to the autumn term 2021/22. Virtual School Advisors continued to escalate concerns and provide high levels of support and challenge to schools to ensure timely completion of PEP meeting records.

- At the end of quarter three, there were 322 young people in the care leavers cohort which shows an increase of 31 compared to the same point in 2021. This included 20 UASC. The service was working closely with the wider partnership to ensure there was a clear pathway of support recognising the additional vulnerability of the UASC cohort.
- Almost 75% of care leavers had an up-to-date pathway plan at the end of the quarter and 97.2% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation. 73% of care leavers were in education, employment, and training (EET). There is a steady improvement in the numbers of our young peoples actively engaged in EET.

The Chair thanked officers for the comprehensive report and its new format highlighting key performance areas.

**Resolved:-** That the report and the accompanying dataset (Appendix 2) be received.

#### **75. SAMANTHA SYKES FOUNDATION TRUST**

The Vice-Chair requested that contact be made with the Foundation to request their attendance to outline their work at a future meeting of Improving Lives Select Commission.

**Resolved:**

- 1) That this item be deferred to a future meeting.
- 2) That contact be made with the Foundation to request their attendance to outline their work at a future meeting of Improving Lives Select Commission.

#### **76. ROTHERHAM FOSTERING SERVICE 2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Marketing Manager and Service Manager for LAC (Residential, Fostering and Adoption) introduced the report on the business and activity within Rotherham Councils Fostering Service in 2021/22. It provided performance and activity data on the service, the activity and functioning of the fostering panel and detail service developments.

The report outlined the regulatory framework in which the fostering service operated. Details were given of the teams; these focus on recruitment and assessment of prospective foster carers and supervision of mainstream foster carers under those providing more specialist care, private fostering

and connected caring and the Mockingbird Project. In line with regulations, the fostering panel was Chad by an independent social work professional.

The report outlined the following:

- The functions of the Panel;
- Process and administration;
- Composition;
- A report from the Panel's Chair, which confirmed that the panel had continued to operate efficiently and effectively.

In respect of Fostering Panel business, it was outlined that the continued use of a dedicated Panel Advisor gave greater scrutiny and challenge to the service which ensured continued improvement in the quality of reports presented to Panel. Obtaining placement reports from children's social workers for fostering reviews continues to be a problem at times. The report has been moved onto the LCS and escalated for action.

Details were given of the range of fostering placements offered. These include:

- Day care: for foster carers who need to attend meetings or training
- Second home care: placements that offer support to primary foster carers
- Family and friend foster care: (connected carers) enabling children and young people who are unable to live with their parents to be cared for by extended family members friends or other people connected with them
- Step down from residential care: a RMBC initiative to accommodate Rotherham's most vulnerable children
- Aiming high for disabled children families together scheme: providing short break care for children with disabilities
- Mockingbird family based-model of fostering: an innovative method of delivering foster care using an extended family model which provides respite care, peer support, joint planning and training and social activities.

Of all enquiries received in 2021 – 2022 from prospective foster carers, 35.79% progressed to a follow up visit. The figure the year before was almost identical and for the two years back to 2018 the conversion rate was around 28%. It was noted that in 2021/22 there was a significant drop in approval of fostering households. It is acknowledged that the impact of COVID-19 had a detrimental effect on recruitment of carers.

Details were provided on the number of deregistrations, with an analysis of the themes identified as reasons for leaving fostering. It was noted that 29% of carers who resigned had fostered for less than two years. This was in line with national data. It had been concluded that the majority of the registrations for 2021/22 were unavoidable and as a result of natural

changing circumstances. Where other issues resulted in the resignation or deregistration, it was thought that the service had generally done what they could to support the carers.

It was noted that alongside initiatives to recruit foster carers, that a strategy would need to be developed to retain them in the longer term. This was a key area for development in the forthcoming year. The innovative work with bright sparks was outlined and had led to increased interest in fostering across the board.

Whilst COVID-19 had continued to make an impact, the service had responded flexibly and creatively to meet the needs of carers. Assurance was given that the service was well sighted on required areas of improvements and remained committed to recruiting and supporting carers.

The Chair invited questions from the panel and a discussion on the following points ensued:

- The importance of developing placement sufficiency;
- Developing a balance between the independent fostering market and in house offer;
- Ensuring that the right placement was offered to meet the child's need;
- The positive response from foster carers about the Rotherham 'offer';
- The importance of honest feedback to enhance performance;
- Understanding the number of deregistrations within two years
- Educational representation on the panel adding value to processes;
- Embedding exit interview for foster carers;
- Improving children's input into reviews;
- Recruitment and retention of staff and how a diverse workforce can be achieved;
- Engagement with parents/carers.

The Chair thanked officers for the report.

**Resolved:** That the report be received.

## **77. FOSTERING HEALTH CHECK AND RECRUITMENT ACTION PLAN**

The Chair advised that as the item contained restricted information and as resolved in Minute 70, that the Panel would go into private session for the consideration of this item.

A presentation was given to the panel by the Service Manager and Marketing Manager outlining the findings of a recent survey:

- Confidence/ worries of foster carers

- Preparedness to foster
- Learning and development opportunities
- Support and networks
- Cost of living concerns

Details of the recruitment strategy were shared, which had received positive press coverage. Also outlined were future marketing opportunities to raise the profile of in-house foster caring in Rotherham. Details of the enhanced offer to foster carers had received Cabinet approval previously

Details were sought on the frequency of future surveys. It was outlined that these would be conducted at regular intervals. Assurance was given that the impact of the strategy would be measured and reported on.

**Resolved:-** That the item be received.

#### **78. DRAFT LAC POSTERS**

The draft posters for the big sister and Big Brother projects and VIP swimming 2023 were circulated.

Details of take up would be monitored during the course of these projects.

**Resolved:-** That the item be noted.

#### **79. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **80. URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business to consider.

#### **81. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved:-** That the next meeting be held on 13 June, 2023, commencing at 4.00 p.m. to be held in the Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham

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Public Report  
Corporate Parenting Panel

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**Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting**

Corporate Parenting Panel – 13 June 2023

**Report Title**

Corporate Parenting Performance Report – Outturn 2022/23

**Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

No

**Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Nicola Curley, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services

**Report Author(s)**

Matthew Boud, Head of Children in Care,  
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**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-Wide

**Report Summary**

This report provides a summary of performance for key performance indicators across the Looked After Children (LAC) services. It should be read in conjunction with the accompanying performance data reports, Appendix 1 which provides performance on a page giving an overview of the services performance in comparison to the same period 2021-22 and Appendix 2 which provides trend data, graphical analysis, and latest benchmarking data against national and statistical neighbour averages where possible.

**Recommendations**

1. The panel is asked to receive this report with the accompanying dataset (Appendix 2) and consider any issues arising.

**List of Appendices Included**

Appendix 1 Performance on a page

Appendix 2 Looked after children performance – March 23 (Outturn 2022/23)

**Background Papers**

Children's Social Care Monthly Performance Report – March 23 (Outturn 2022/23)

**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**

No

**Council Approval Required**

No

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No



Corporate Parenting Performance Report – Outturn 2022/23

**1. Background**

- 1.1 This report provides evidence to the council's commitment to continuous improvement and providing performance information to enable scrutiny of 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 latest benchmarking data against national and statistical neighbour averages.
- 1.2 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 local service context.
- 1.3 All benchmarking data is as at the latest data release by the DfE and relates to 2021/22 outturn.
- 1.4 The narrative supplied within the report has been informed by the Assistant Director for Children's Services and the Head of Service – Children in Care.

**2. Key Issues**

- 2.1 **Looked After Children** – At the end of Q4 (2022/23 outturn) we saw the number of children and young people we look after decrease by 17 to 545 when compared to the end of 2021/22 when there were 562 LAC.

During Q4 33 children became looked after, 181 in total for 2022/23, compared to 46 in Q4 last financial year (175 2021/22). 39 children ceased to be looked after (195 2022/23), compared to 57 in Q4 equating to 212 in 2021/22.

The benchmark measure of 10k population rate of children looked after has reduced to 96.7 at the end of Q4 compared to 97.8 last year. This remains below the latest statistical neighbour's average of 102.4 but remains significantly higher than the national average of 70.0.

There are currently 36 Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC), an increase of 22 when compared to the end of Q4 2021/22 when there were only 14 UASC looked after by the local authority (LA). The commissioning team are working to ensure we are able to offer placements and accommodation commensurate to need. We know this is a potential ongoing pressure due to the growing need to support more UASC, and impact on local placement sufficiency is being monitored.

- 2.2 **Plans** – At the end of this financial year, 94.7% of eligible LAC had an up-to-date plan, which is a 1.9% decrease in comparison to last year when it was 96.6%.
- 2.3 **Placements** – The percentage of LAC in a family-based setting has remained fairly stable during 2022/23 with an average of 77.4%, lowest being 75.2% in November 22 and highest 79.8% in June 22. At the end of Q4 77.0% of LAC were in a family-based setting compared to 79.4% at the end of Q4 2021/22. 65.2% of long-term LAC had been in a stable placement for at least 2 years at the end of the financial year showing a 5.0% decrease when compared to the end of 2021/22 (70.2%). The 65.2% outturn figure for 2022/23 continues to be

below the latest stat neighbour (71.1%) and national (71.0%) averages. Placement stability is an area of focus that the fostering service, responsible Team manager and IRO have been engaged with to review what works and what their roles are in working to prevent placement breakdowns. The fostering service has sought to strengthen placement stability via completing the mapping assessment to identify support needs and ensure these are met via the service. The fostering service is expanding their support offer recruiting additional Family Support workers and an extended on-call support offering after hours and weekend contact, as these have been highlighted as best practice. Team Around the Child meetings are in place to support all placements, with a particular focus at linking in support from the agency or Rotherham Therapeutic Team earlier, to prevent disruption.

The percentage of children having had 3 or more placements in the last rolling 12 months has increased to 9.7% when compared to 9.3% at the end of 2021/22. However, the 2022/23 outturn figure (9.7%) remains below the latest national average (10.0%) but above the statistical neighbour (8.6%). The work linked to the team around the child will support strengthening placement stability. Additional support packages to grow foster carers for older children, have also been proposed and piloted, to improve local sufficiency.

- 2.4 In-house fostering** – There were 111 in-house foster carer households registered at the end of the 2022/23, a decrease of 14 in comparison to 125 at the end of the last financial year (2021/22). There were 2 foster family approvals in Q4, making 11 approvals in the financial year. However, 4 families also ceased to be foster carers in the quarter bringing the year end 2022/23 total to 25, therefore equating to 14 less foster families at the end of the year. At the end of the period there was a total of 8 prospective foster families in the recruitment process, 6 of which had panels scheduled.

Placement sufficiency remains a key challenge and Brightsparks continue to support us in fostering recruitment work. After a boost last quarter this three-month period has been quieter with 2 approvals creating 2 new placements. Placement sufficiency linked to our residential offer also continues to be positive with a 3rd young person moving into our 4-bed provision.

- 2.5 Youth Offending** – Of the 545 children and young people looked after by Rotherham at the end of the quarter, 9 were also known to the Youth Justice Service. At the same period last year there were 3 out of 562 looked after children.

- 2.6 Adoptions** – 24 children have been adopted since April 2022 which is a decrease (-9) when compared to the same period last year when there had been 33 adoptions.

At the end of 2022/23, the A10 measure (Average number of days between a child becoming LAC and having an adoption placement) was 492.5 days (418.9 days 2021/22) and the A2 measure (Average number of days between placement order and being matched with adoptive family) was 197.4 days (292.2 days 2021/22). The A2 figure from placement order to adoptive match indicates that we are matching children and placing with adoptive families sooner. The A10 measure performance is directly linked to the court delays caused by the recent Covid-19 pandemic.

**2.7 Health** – The percentage of LAC having an initial health assessment (IHA) within timescale has decreased in 2022/23 with 61.5% of IHA's being in time, compared to 68.5% in 2021/22. However, data within the Liquid Logic Management System suggests both the number of up-to-date health checks and dental checks have improved.

The number of up-to-date health checks at the end of March 23 had increased to 78.7% when compared to 71.0% at the same point last year. We often see a delay in accurate performance figures being reported via Liquid Logic due to delays in assessments being signed off and delayed inputting. The named nurse for LAC & Care Leavers can confirm that the below figures are correct for the end of March 23:

- Children placed in Rotherham aged under 5 - 98%
- Children placed in Rotherham aged over 5 - 94%  
(98% if those that decline are removed from figures)
- Children placed out of Rotherham aged under 5 - 88%
- Children placed out of Rotherham aged over 5 - 94%

Up to date dental checks has also seen an increase from 44.0% (2021/22) to 69.4% (2022/23). Similarly, to health assessments, dental performance will also be higher when not taken from Liquid Logic, but this is still being clarified as part of the 903 statutory return for the DfE. Dental assessments continue to be an area of focus and is being reviewed via the LAC Health and Emotional Well Being Partnership and is a national issue that we want to ensure does not become a trend here in Rotherham.

**2.8 Reviews and visits** – 91.5% of reviews during 2022/23 were completed within the timescales set, which equates to 1428 reviews in time out of 1560 that were completed April 22 to March 23 (94.3% (1561/1655) in 2021/22).

At the end of the financial year, 95.6% of visits were up-to-date and within timescale of the national minimum standard. At the end of the same period in 2021/22 96.8% were in time, showing a 1.2% decrease this year.

**2.9 Education** – The performance reporting for PEP's has moved from being a manual data matching process to being recorded and reported by the ePEP system. Currently the system can only report % of up-to-date PEP's and not the % of children and young people with a PEP in the last 3 terms. Rotherham's local standard which ensures that each PEP is refreshed every term (rather than the annual minimum standard) was 82.1% at the end of the spring term 2022/23, compared to 92.1% spring term 2021/22.

**2.10 Care Leavers** – At the end of 2022/23 there were 319 young people in the care leavers cohort which shows an increase of 27 when compared to 2021/22 (292). The Leaving Care Cohort remains high with the level of UASC growing making up 29 of the current cohort. The service is working close with the wider partnership to ensure there is a clear pathway of support recognising the vulnerability of this cohort.

74.5% of care leavers had an up-to-date pathway plan at the end of the year which is an 8.3% decrease when compared to the same period last year (82.8%). 97.2% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation compared to 96.6% at the end of last year. This remains above the latest stat neighbour (90.2%) and

national (88.0%) averages. Of the 9 young people in unsuitable accommodation 6 are in custody.

69.6% of care leavers were in employment, education, and training (EET) at the end of the year compared to 71.6% at the end of 2021/22. However, this remains above the latest stat neighbour (53.7%) and national (55.0%) averages. There is a steady improvement in the numbers of our young people activity engaged in EET, which occasionally fluctuates as it has this quarter. The service remains ambitious but want to ensure this translates through to Plans. Pathway planning continues to be an area where we are scrutinising quality, as well as compliance.

### **3. Options considered and recommended proposal**

**3.1** The full corporate parenting performance report attached at Appendix 2 represents a summary of performance across a range of key national and local indicators. Corporate Parenting Panel members are therefore recommended to consider and review this information.

### **4. Consultation on proposal**

**4.1** Not applicable

### **5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

**5.1** Not applicable

### **6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications (to be written by the relevant Head of Finance and the Head of Procurement on behalf of s151 Officer)**

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

### **7. Legal Advice and Implications (to be written by Legal Officer on behalf of Assistant Director Legal Services)**

**7.1** There are no legal implications to this report.

### **8. Human Resources Advice and Implications**

**8.1** There are no direct human resource implications to this report. The relevant Assistant Director and Heads of Service will identify any implications arising from associated improvement actions and Members and Commissioners will be consulted where appropriate.

### **9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

**9.1** The performance report relates to services and outcomes for children in care.

**10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications**

10.1 There are no direct implications from this report.

**11. Implications for CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions and Climate Change**

11.1 There are no direct implications within this report.

**12. Implications for Partners**

12.1 The Partners and other directorates are engaged in improving the performance and quality of services to children, young people, and their families via the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (RSCP). The RSCP 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 monthly performance meetings mitigates 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)**

Matthew Boud, Head of Children in Care,  
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# Social Care Performance Summary

As at month end: March 2023

\*DOT - Direction of travel represents the direction of 'performance' since the previous month showing if the number or percentage has gone up or down. Colours have been added to help distinguish better and worse performance with the exceptions of measures that are for information only. Key Below:-

- ↑ ↓ - increase/decrease in number/percentage = improvement in performance
- ↑ ↓ - increase/decrease in number/percentage = decline in performance
- - number/percentage remained same as previous month

- ↑ - increase in number/percentage (info measures)
- - remained same as previous month (info measures)
- ↓ - decrease in number/percentage (info measures)

REF NO.	INDICATOR	Success Measures	Council Plan Measures 22/25	TIMELINE	DATA NOTE	2022 / 23										TARGET & TOLERANCES			YR ON YR PERFORMANCE		LATEST BENCHMARKING				
						Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	2022/23 Outturn		Good perf is	DOT (Yr on Yr)	RAG (Yr End)	Red	Amber	Green (target)	2021/22	Yr on Yr trend	Stat neigh av.	Best stat neigh	Nat av.	Top qtile threshold	RIA 2022/23		
4.1	No. of looked after children	TB5		monthly	Count	546	555	545	545		info	↓					562								
4.2	Rate of looked after children per 10,000 population aged 0-17		CH04	monthly	Rate per 10,000	96.9	98.5	96.7	96.7		low	↓	Red	95.2+	-	<95.2	97.8		102.4	56.0	70.0	-	78.9		
4.3	No. of admissions of looked after children	TB4		monthly	Count	5	19	9	181		info	↑					175								
4.4	No. of looked after unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC)			monthly	Count	39	41	36	36		info	n/a						New measure 2022/23							
4.5	% of eligible looked after children with an up to date plan			monthly	%	90.8%	93.9%	94.7%	94.7%		high	↓	Amber	<87%	87%+	95%+	96.6%								
4.6	% of looked after children visits up to date & completed within timescale of national minimum standard			monthly	%	95.5%	95.1%	95.6%	95.6%		high	↓	Amber	<90%	90%+	98%+	96.8%								
4.7	% of looked after children care plans reviewed within timescales			monthly	%	86.3%	91.9%	90.4%	91.5%		high	↓	Amber	<87%	87%+	95%+	94.3%								
4.8	% of looked after children having an initial health assessment within timescale			monthly	%	11.8%	50.0%	60.0%	61.5%		high	↓	Amber				68.5%								
4.9	% of looked after children with a up to date health assessments			monthly	%	87.8%	84.4%	78.7%	78.7%		high	↑	Red	<87%	87%+	95%+	71.0%								
4.10	% of looked after children with a up to date dental assessments			monthly	%	77.4%	72.3%	69.4%	69.4%		high	↑	Red	<87%	87%+	95%+	44.0%								
4.11	No. of looked after children who are known to the youth offending team (YOT)			monthly	Count	7	8	9	9		info	n/a						New measure 2022/23							
4.12	No. of children with an Education Health & Care plan in the looked after children cohort			monthly	Count	95	93	95	95		info	n/a						New measure 2022/23							
4.13	No. of looked after children having at least one missing episode within the period			monthly	Count	7	8	17	59		info	↓					64	New measure 2021/22							
4.14	No. of children who have ceased to be looked after children			monthly	Count	10	9	20	195		high	↓					212								
4.15	No. of special guardianship orders (SGO) or child arrangement orders (CAO) granted after a period of being looked after children (Legal Status)			monthly	Count	5	7	3	72		info	↓					85	New measure 2021/22							
4.16	No. of looked after children who have ceased to be looked after due to a special guardianship orders(SGO) or hild arrangement orders (CAO)	TB5		monthly	Count	3	6	5	39		info	↓					42	New measure 2021/22							
4.17	% of looked after children who have ceased to be looked after due to permanence (SGO, CAO, Adoption)			monthly	%	30.0%	66.7%	30.0%	30.4%		high	↓	Amber	<27%	27%+	35%+	34.8%								
4.18	% of long term looked after children in placements which have been stable for at least 2 years			monthly	%	66.8%	64.4%	65.2%	65.2%		high	↓	Amber	<62%	62%+	70%+	70.2%		71.1%	77.0%	71.0%	74.1%	-		
4.19	% of looked after children who have had 3 or more placements - rolling 12 months		OLD	monthly	%	9.2%	8.3%	9.7%	9.7%		low	↑	Amber	16%+	8%+	<8%	9.3%		8.6%	5.0%	10.0%	9.9%	-		
4.20	% of looked after children in a family based setting		OLD	monthly	%	77.3%	76.4%	77.0%	77.0%		high	↓	Amber	<77%	77%+	85%+	79.4%								
4.21	% of looked after children placed with parents or other with parental responsibility (P1)	TB4		monthly	%	4.8%	6.3%	5.7%	5.7%		low	↑					4.6%								
4.22	% of looked after children in kinship care			monthly	%	8.4%	8.5%	8.1%	8.1%		high	↓	Amber	<8%	8%+	12%+	10.5%	New measure 2021/22							
4.23	No. of placements that have been created for children via foster care (approvals)			monthly	Count	2	0	2	21		high	↑					13	New measure 2021/22							
4.24	No. of adoptions completed within 12 months of SHOBPA			monthly	Count	0	0	6	12		high	↑					4								
4.25	Av. days between a child becoming looked after and having a adoption placement (A10)			monthly	YTD Average	552	552	492.5	492.5		low	↑	Red	487+	-	<487	418.9		350.1	274.0	367.0	317.5	362.6		
4.26	Av. days between a placement order and being matched with an adoptive family (A2)			monthly	YTD Average	210	210	197.4	197.4		low	↓	Red	121+	-	<121	292.2		160.4	90.0	175.0	135.5	154.0		
4.27	No. of care leavers			monthly	Count	316	319	319	319		info	↑					292								
4.28	% of eligible looked after children & Care Leavers with an up to date pathway plan			monthly	%	77.8%	78.6%	74.5%	74.5%		high	↓					82.8%								
4.29	% of care leavers in suitable accommodation			monthly	%	96.5%	96.9%	97.2%	97.2%		high	↑	Green	<88%	88%+	96%+	96.6%		90.2%	96.0%	88.0%	93.1%	-		
4.30	% of care leavers in employment, education or training			monthly	%	71.2%	70.2%	69.6%	69.6%		high	↓	Green	<58%	58%+	66%+	71.6%		53.7%	75.0%	55.0%	61.1%	-		
4.31	No. of care leavers who are former unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC)			monthly	Count	24	24	29	29		info	n/a						New measure 2022/23							

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