

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Date and Time :-	Tuesday 12 December 2023 at 4.00 p.m.
Venue:-	Rotherham Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.
Membership:-	Councillors Browne, Z. Collingham, Cusworth (Chair), Elliott and Pitchley (Vice-Chair)
Contact	Natasha Aucott Governance Advisor Natasha.Aucott@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 held on 13 November 2023 (Pages 3 - 10)

To consider the minutes of the previous meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 13 November and 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 consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any part of the agenda.

5. Performance on a Page- Quarter 2 (Pages 11 - 24)

This agenda item will provide 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 2022-23 and Appendix 2 which provides trend data, graphical analysis, and latest benchmarking data against

national and statistical neighbour averages where possible.

6. A Look Back Over the Year- January to December 2023

This agenda item will take a look back over the period of January 2023 to December 2023.

7. The Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy 2024-2027 (Pages 25 - 41)

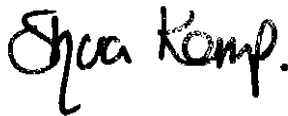
This agenda item will include an update on the Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy 2024-2027.

8. Urgent Business

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

9. Date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel will be held on 23 January 2024, commencing at 4.00p.m. in Rotherham Town Hall.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Kemp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon Kemp,
Chief Executive.

**CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL
Monday 13 November 2023**

Present:- Councillor Cusworth (in the Chair); Councillors Z. Collingham.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillor Pitchley, Councillor Griffin and Nicola Curley.

106. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: - That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 September 2023, were agreed as a correct record.

107. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no personal interests declared.

108. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Minutes 111 (The Fostering Rotherham Plan 2023-2028), 112 (The Rotherham Care Leavers Local Offer Update) and 113 (The Leaving Care Action Plan Update) were 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 relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the authority holding that information).

Resolved: - That members of the press and public be excluded for these items.

109. THE ONE ADOPTION SOUTH YORKSHIRE ANNUAL REPORT UPDATE

The Head of Service for One Adoption South Yorkshire provided an update to the panel on the One Adoption South Yorkshire Annual Report and outlined the following:

- One Adoption South Yorkshire was established three years ago, and the report provided an update on the second year 2022-2023.
- The agency was split into four services, work had been completed to ensure the four services provided a consistent and cohesive service.
- It was a challenging year for the organisation, 57 adopters were recruited during this period with a target set of 90. Pre-pandemic levels were much higher and were within the target set, however it was noted that the cost-of-living crisis had an impact on the number of adopters recruited throughout this period.
- The current position was that the number of adopters had risen this year so far, with far more enquiries received in comparison to the period of 2022-2023. The level of children requiring placements had also increased.
- It was highlighted that there was a shortage of adopters nationally, this was a challenge for the organisation.
- The agency had improved the process of assessing, recruiting, approving, and matching potential adopters, this was now a faster process with children being placed immediately in most cases.

The Chair thanked the Head of Service from One Adoption South Yorkshire for the presentation and invited questions. This led to the following points being raised during discussions:

- When the agency was established as a partnership agency across South Yorkshire, it was agreed that each local authority would provide a level of funding equivalent to the amount of money they

were spending on adoption at that point in time. It was advised that the funding levels would remain until December 2025, when the current agreement would come to an end. Throughout the period of 2021-2022, an amount of £100,000 was retained to purpose the underspend, this money was used to purchase a recording system for the organisation. A proportion of the underspend, £150,000, was also retained by the agency to create a financial buffer. Any underspend at the end of December 2025 would be divided up and returned to the local authorities, this would be proportionate to the amount that each local authority provided at the start of the process. The money returned to each local authority would go back into their Children and Young People's Service (CYPS) budget and it would be the service's decision on how to spend the returned money.

- In relation to the enquiry stage, there was a high level of adopters that decided not to progress their application further after making initial enquiries and before the registration stage. To mitigate this, the Senior Management Team (SMT) within the agency had suggested that the agency arrange for adopters to engage with potential adopters, at the earliest stage possible. This would provide an opportunity for potential adopters to find out more from adopters with lived experience at an early stage.
- The data within the report showed that there was a higher level of adopters leaving the agency, this was because of the cost-of-living crisis.
- The judiciary were very wary in relation to adoption and often provided time limits to local authorities. An example was provided of a judge that decided if the child in question was not adopted within six months, they should remain in long-term fostering. It was advised that there was often a misconception in the judiciary that children were unable to have contact with their birth family if they were adopted. This often influenced the decision of judges, to choose the option of long-term fostering rather than adoption. The

agency was working with the judiciary to ensure there was a better understanding of contact with birth families.

- It was advised there were rare occasions where children were returned after an Early Permanence Placement (EPP) had been agreed. To mitigate this, the agency was working with early placements to ensure there was a suitable level of resilience.
- In relation to the A2 Indicator within the report, it was advised that the Service Manager for One Adoption South Yorkshire would meet with the Service Manager for Fostering Residential, to complete a lesson learned approach to ensure any potential improvements were identified.
- It was advised that each local authority area in South Yorkshire were very similar statistically, with all four local authorities recruiting a similar number of adopters and requiring a similar number of placements.
- It would be possible to include the breakdown of ethnicities for the dataset provided within the report.

110. THE FOSTERING SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023 UPDATE

The Service Manager for Fostering Residential provided an update to the panel on the Fostering Service Annual Report 2022-2023 and outlined the following:

- The report provided a summary of the strategy in place during the timescale the report covered. During this time the service was struggling to recruit foster carers, as a result the service developed ideas to attract more foster carers. It was advised that the pandemic and cost-of-living crisis had impacted the number of foster carers recruited.
- The service had collated feedback during this period from foster carers on their experiences, to identify potential areas for improvement.
- The service had identified that there was a requirement to return to

place-based marketing and some good examples were provided of how new foster carers were recruited through events such as the Rotherham Show.

- There had been an increase in fees and allowances for foster carers during this period, which had improved the competitiveness of the local authority within the market, in relation to the recruitment and retention offer.
- There had been a return of face-to-face events, an example was provided of the foster carer's celebration event. There had also been an increase in support groups for foster carers, due to an increase in isolation during the pandemic. It was recognised that buddying schemes were very important for potential foster carers.
- It was advised that the Pathways to Care Budget was unique to Rotherham and was available for a variety of purposes. An example was provided of how room adaptations could be completed for potential or existing foster carers, to create further provision for fostering.
- The number of foster carers that were approved during this period was higher than the previous year, with recruitment also further increasing this year to date.
- There were pledges provided by directorates on what they could assist with, in relation to the recruitment and retention of foster carers, as a result there had been more advertising.
- There had been a decrease during this period of people who downloaded the information guide on fostering and then continued to the enquiry stage. However, it was noted that this number was still at a good level compared to other local authorities.
- There had been a focus on the retention of foster carers during this period, this had resulted in a decrease in de-registrations of foster carers. In relation to the data regarding the length of time people fostered before de-registering from the service, there was 36% of people who fostered for two years or less before de-registering. The data captured on de-registrations had been used to inform the

Retention Strategy.

- A high-level overview was provided on the number of children in care and placement stability, disruption, and planned endings. It was evident during this period that a strong focus was required on placement stability and disruption. It was noted that the service was now in a strong position to work towards stabilising placements. The reasons for unplanned endings were discussed, it was advised that the challenging behaviours of young people, the wellbeing of foster carers and matching were identified reasons. These areas of focus would be strengthened within the Fostering Plan.
- There was a report produced by the Fostering Panel, which provided an insight into the good quality of work the Panel were seeing, it was evident that the quality of assessments was improving and fostering assessments were very strong.

The Chair thanked the Service Manager for Fostering Residential for the presentation and invited questions. This led to the following points being raised during discussions:

- A comprehensive wellbeing offer had been developed which included a drop-in session for foster carers where they could check-in in a safe environment. The wellbeing offer was in its infancy and would be further developed in due course.
- There had been an increase in Independent Fostering Agency transfers.

111. THE FOSTERING ROTHERHAM PLAN 2023-2028

The Chair advised that as the item contained restricted information and as resolved in Minute 108, that the Panel would go into private session for the consideration of this item.

The Head of Service for Looked After Children provided an update to the panel on the Fostering Rotherham Plan 2023-2028, this outlined the

following:

- An overview of recruitment, retention, and improvement work.
- An overview of the vision aims and objectives of the service.
- The local context.
- The local authority's ambition for fostering.
- The action plan relating to Fostering Rotherham would be refreshed on an annual basis.
- Future priorities were discussed which would ensure continuously improvement for the service and the best offer for children in care and foster carers.

112. THE ROTHERHAM CARE LEAVERS LOCAL OFFER UPDATE

The Chair advised that as the item contained restricted information and as resolved in Minute 108, that the Panel would go into private session for the consideration of this item.

The Head of Service for Looked After Children provided an update to the panel on the Rotherham Care Leavers Local Offer and outlined the following:

- A high-level overview of the Rotherham Care Leavers Local Offer.

113. THE LEAVING CARE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Chair advised that as the item contained restricted information and as resolved in Minute 108, that the Panel would go into private session for the consideration of this item.

The Head of Service for Looked After Children provided an update to the panel on the Leaving Care Action Plan and outlined the following:

- The action plan focused on the priorities of the Leaving Care Service, this included strengthening relationships, training and

development and the local offer in relation to housing options.

114. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to consider.

115. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved: - That the next meeting be held on 12 December 2023, commencing at 4.00 p.m. to be held in the Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Corporate Parenting Panel – 12 December 2023

Report Title

Corporate Parenting Performance Report – Q2 2023/24

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)

Jane Wood, Head of Children in Care,

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Rebecca Harrison, Performance Officer

rebecca.harrison@rotherham.gov.uk**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 2022-23 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 – September 23 (Q2 2023/24)

Background Papers

Children's Social Care Monthly Performance Report – September 23 (Q2 2023/24)

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 – Q2 2023/24

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 Q2 (2023/24) we saw the number of children and young people we look after decrease by 27 to 517 when compared to the end of Q2 2022/23 when there were 544 LAC. 78 children have become looked after since April 2023, this is a reduction of 13 when compared to the same period in 2022/23 (91). Since April 2023 101 children have ceased to be looked after, compared to 106 in the same period last financial year.

The benchmark measure of 10k population rate of children looked after has reduced further to 91.8 at the end of Q2 compared to 96.5 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 40 Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC), an increase of 5 when compared to the end of Q2 in the last financial year when there were 35 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 Q2, 79.2% of eligible LAC had an up-to-date plan, which is a 10.9% decrease in comparison to last year when it was 90.1%. This is likely to be as a result of some instability in staffing in the children in care team. This has included a change in management of the service, some unexpected sickness and some vacancies. It is expected that this will improve in the next quarter.
- 2.3 **Placements** – At the end of Q2 76.1% of LAC were in a family-based setting compared to 76.7% at the end of Q2 2022/23.

64.4% of long-term LAC had been in a stable placement for at least 2 years showing a 1.5% increase when compared to the end of Q2 2022/23 (62.9%). The Q2 percentage (64.4%) 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 decreased to 7.7% when compared to 11.4% at the end of Q2 2022/23. The latest percentage (7.7%) remains below both the latest national average (10.0%) and statistical neighbour average (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 have been 8 foster family approvals (14 new placements) since April 2023, however, 11 families have ceased to be foster carers (loss of 16 placements), which equates to a loss of 3 foster families (loss of 2 placement) at the end of the quarter. It should be noted that the majority of foster carers who have resigned or been de-registered, did not have children in placement at the time. There have also been occasions where foster carers have resigned due to seeking permanent arrangements for the children in their care, such as Special Guardianship Order's or Adoption.

Placement sufficiency remains a key challenge and Brightsparks continue to support us in fostering recruitment work. We have a target set to increase the number of fostering families by 20 this financial year.

Current projections are positive, and we are hopeful that the current net loss will become a gain in Q3. If each panel that is booked over the next 4 months goes as expected we are projecting to have approved at least 20 foster families (34 new placements) by the end of January 2023, against 12 deregistration's (19 placements) which will give us a gain of 8 families (15 placements).

2.5 Youth Offending – Of the 517 children and young people looked after by Rotherham at the end of the quarter, 10 were also known to the Youth Justice Service. At the same time last year there were 6.

2.6 Adoptions – 11 children have been adopted since April 2023 which is a decrease of two when compared to the same period last year when there had been 13 adoptions.

At the end of Q2, the A10 measure (Average number of days between a child becoming LAC and having an adoption placement) was 352.0 days, a significant reduction on 475.7 days at the same point in 2022/23. The A10 measure

performance has been previously directly linked to the court delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The reduction in days is a sign the delays are improving.

The A2 measure (Average number of days between placement order and being matched with adoptive family) was 216.7 days at the end of Q2 compared to 197.8 days last year which is still an 18.9 day increase but the gap is becoming much smaller (78.5 days end of Q1).

2.7 Health – The percentage of LAC having an initial health assessment (IHA) within timescale has reduced to 57.4% at the end of Q2 when compared to 77.2% at the same point last financial year. Similarly, the number of up-to-date health checks also decreased to 85.2% when compared to 92.3% 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. In order to address this the service manager is meeting health on a quarterly basis to ensure accurate data. The named nurse for LAC & Care Leavers can confirm that the below figures are correct for the end of September 23 (Q2):

- Under 5's placed in Rotherham 96%.
- Over 5's placed in Rotherham 96% when those that decline are deducted from figures.
- Under 5's placed out of Rotherham 95%.
- Over 5's placed out of Rotherham 97% when those that decline are deducted from figures.

Up to date dental checks has also reduced from 78.2% at the end of Q2 last year to 71.1% (2023/24). 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 – 91.9% of reviews since April 23 were complete within the timescales set, which equates to 626 reviews in time out of 681. In the same period 2022/23, 92.8% were complete in time (706/761).

At the end of Q2, 93.4% of visits were up-to-date and within timescale of the national minimum standard. At the end of the same period in 2022/23 98.0% were in time, showing a 4.6% decrease this year.

2.9 Education – At the end of Q2 we can report that 98.9% of LAC had an up-to-date PEP at the end of the summer term (Term 3 2022/23). This shows a 3.9% increase when compared to the end of the same term 2021/22 (95.0%).

2.10 Care Leavers – There were 322 young people in the care leavers cohort at the end of Q2 which shows an increase of 9 when compared to 2022/23 (313). The Leaving Care Cohort remains high with the level of UASC growing making up 36 of the current cohort.

77.6% of care leavers had an up-to-date pathway plan at the end of Q2 which is a 3.5% decrease when compared to the same period last year (81.1%). 96.3% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation compared to 97.4% last year. This remains above the latest stat neighbour (90.2%) and national (88.0%)

averages. Of the 12 young people in unsuitable accommodation 6 (50%) are in custody.

70.2% of care leavers were in employment, education, and training (EET) at the end of Q2 compared to 69.3% at the end of Q2 in 2022/23. However, this remains above the latest stat neighbour (53.7%) and national (55.0%) averages. 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 CO₂ 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)

Jane Wood, Head of Children in Care,
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Monica Green, Assistant Director Safeguarding Children
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This report is published on the Council's [website](#).

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Appendix 2: Children in Care Performance Summary

As at month end: September 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

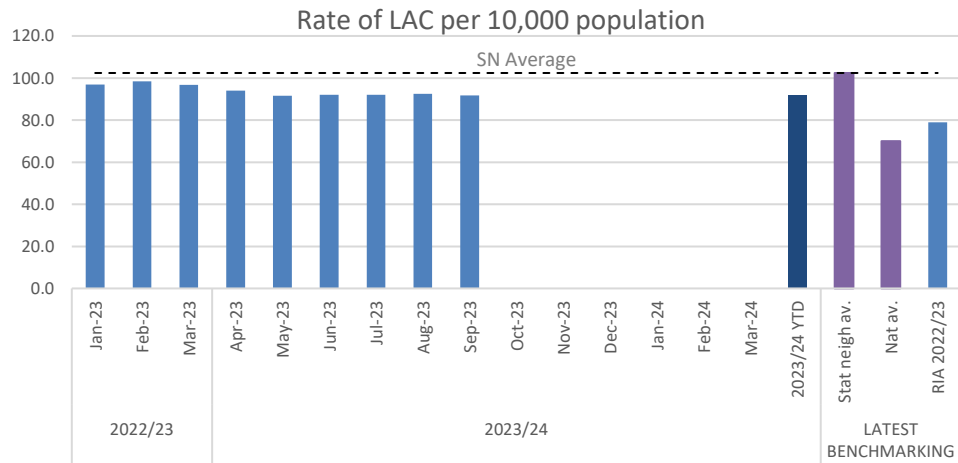
- ↑ - increase in number/percentage (info measures)
- - remained same as previous month (info measures)
- ↓ - decrease in number/percentage (info measures)

REF NO.	INDICATOR	Success Measures Council Plan Measures 22/25	TIMELINE	DATA NOTE	2023/24					TARGET & TOLERANCES			YR ON YR PERFORMANCE			LATEST BENCHMARKING								
					Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Qtr 2	2023/24 YTD	Good perf is	DOT* (month)	RAG (month)	Red	Amber	Green (target)	2021/22	2022/23	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	519	521	517	517	517	info	↓					562	545							
4.2	Rate of looked after children per 10,000 population aged 0-17	CH04	monthly	Rate per 10,000	92.1	92.5	91.8	91.8	91.8	low	↓	95.2+	-	<95.2	97.8	96.7		102.4	56.0	70.0	-	78.9		
4.3	No. of admissions of looked after children	TB4	monthly	Count	18	8	20	46	78	info	↑					175	181							
4.4	No. of looked after unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC)		monthly	Count	40	39	40	40	40	info	↑					36	New measure 2022/23							
4.5	% of eligible looked after children with an up to date plan		monthly	%	80.0%	79.2%	79.2%	79.2%	79.2%	high	→	<87%	87%+	95%+	96.6%	94.7%								
4.6	% of looked after children visits up to date & completed within timescale of national minimum standard		monthly	%	94.8%	97.3%	93.4%	93.4%	93.4%	high	↓	<90%	90%+	98%+	96.8%	95.6%								
4.7	% of looked after children care plans reviewed within timescales		monthly	%	95.4%	89.3%	88.8%	92.0%	91.9%	high	↓	<87%	87%+	95%+	94.3%	91.5%								
4.8	% of looked after children having an initial health assessment within timescale		monthly	%	83.3%	70.0%	37.5%	66.7%	57.4%	high	↓				68.5%	61.5%								
4.9	% of looked after children with a up to date health assessments		monthly	%	90.3%	89.6%	85.2%	85.2%	85.2%	high	↓	<87%	87%+	95%+	71.0%	78.7%								
4.10	% of looked after children with a up to date dental assessments		monthly	%	80.5%	75.1%	71.1%	71.1%	71.1%	high	↓	<87%	87%+	95%+	44.0%	69.4%								
4.11	No. of looked after children who are known to the Youth Justice Service (YJS)		monthly	Count	10	10	10	10	10	info	→				9	New measure 2022/23								
4.12	No. of children with an Education Health & Care plan in the looked after children cohort		monthly	Count	89	90	88	88	88	info	↓				95	New measure 2022/23								
4.13	No. of looked after children having at least one missing episode within the period		monthly	Count	12	11	17	26	39	info	↑				64	59								
4.14	No. of children who have ceased to be looked after children		monthly	Count	18	6	22	46	101	high	↑				212	195								
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	12	3	2	17	39	info	↓				85	72								
4.16	No. of looked after children who have ceased to be looked after due to a special guardianship orders(SGO) or child arrangement orders (CAO)	TB5	monthly	Count	4	0	1	5	13	info	↑				42	39								
4.17	% of looked after children who have ceased to be looked after due to permanence (SGO, CAO, Adoption)		monthly	%	22.2%	16.7%	18.2%	19.6%	22.8%	high	↑	<27%	27%+	35%+	34.8%	30.4%								
4.18	% of long term looked after children in placements which have been stable for at least 2 years		monthly	%	65.3%	64.9%	64.4%	64.4%	64.4%	high	↓	<62%	62%+	70%+	70.2%	65.2%		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	%	8.5%	7.1%	7.7%	7.7%	7.7%	low	↑	16%+	8%+	<8%	9.3%	9.7%		8.6%	5.0%	10.0%	9.9%	-		
4.20	% of looked after children in a family based setting	OLD	monthly	%	76.3%	75.4%	76.1%	76.1%	76.1%	high	↑	<77%	77%+	85%+	79.4%	77.0%								
4.21	% of looked after children placed with parents or other with parental responsibility (P1)	TB4	monthly	%	4.6%	4.4%	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	low	↑				4.6%	5.7%								
4.22	% of looked after children in kinship care		monthly	%	6.4%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	high	→	<8%	8%+	12%+	10.5%	8.1%								
4.23	No. of placements that have been created for children via foster care (approvals)		monthly	Count	3	0	6	9	14	high	↑				13	21								
4.24	No. of adoptions completed within 12 months of SHOBPA		monthly	Count	0	1	3	4	9	high	↑				4	12								
4.25	Av. days between a child becoming looked after and having a adoption placement (A10)		monthly	YTD Average	242.1	242.1	352.0	352.0	352.0	low	↑	487+	-	<487	418.9	492.5		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	264.3	264.3	216.7	216.7	216.7	low	↓	121+	-	<121	292.2	197.4		160.4	90.0	175.0	135.5	154.0		
4.27	No. of care leavers		monthly	Count	324	321	322	322	322	info	↑				292	319								
4.28	% of eligible looked after children & Care Leavers with an up to date pathway plan		monthly	%	85.2%	82.6%	77.6%	77.6%	77.6%	high	↓				82.8%	74.5%								
4.29	% of care leavers in suitable accommodation		monthly	%	96.0%	96.0%	96.3%	96.3%	96.3%	high	↑	<88%	88%+	96%+	96.6%	97.2%		90.2%	96.0%	88.0%	93.1%	-		
4.30	% of care leavers in employment, education or training		monthly	%	70.4%	71.0%	70.2%	70.2%	70.2%	high	↓	<58%	58%+	66%+	71.6%	69.6%		53.7%	75.0%	55.0%	61.1%	-		
4.31	No. of care leavers who are former unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC)		monthly	Count	33	33	36	36	36	info	↑				29	New measure 2022/23								

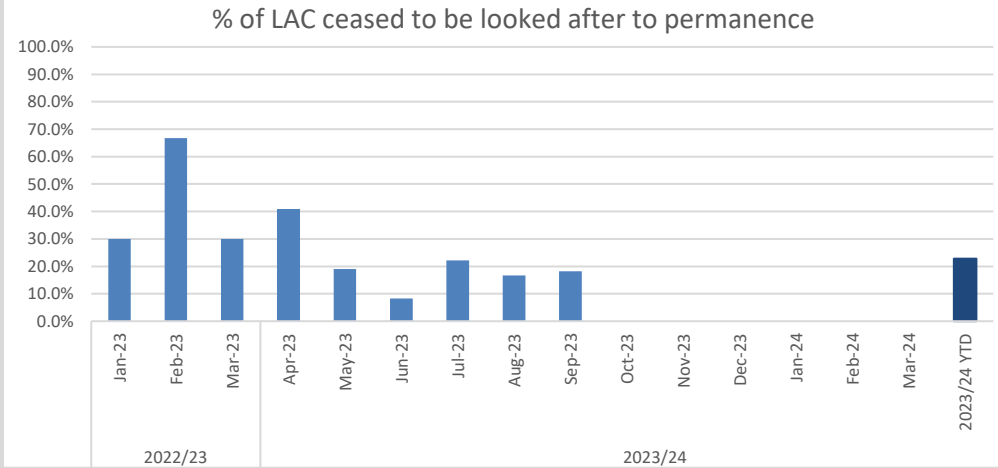
Children in care (CIC)

Children in care are children who have become the responsibility of the local authority either voluntarily by parents struggling to cope or through an intervention by children's services because a child is at risk of significant harm. Looked after children (LAC) review meetings are convened to consider the plan for the welfare of LAC and how to achieve permanence for them within a timescale that meets their needs. The LA is responsible for visiting LAC wherever they are living to ensure his/her welfare continues to be safeguarded and promoted and the LA should ensure that every LAC has his/her health needs fully assessed and a health plan clearly set out.

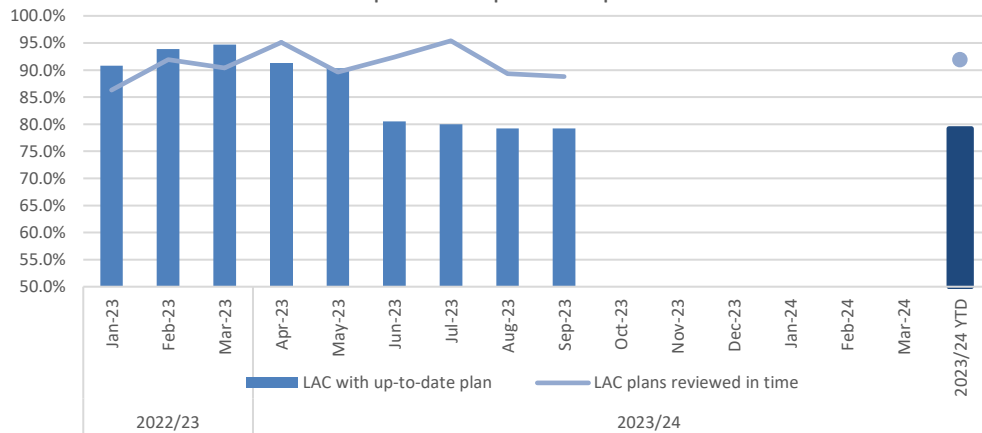
517 LAC as at period end



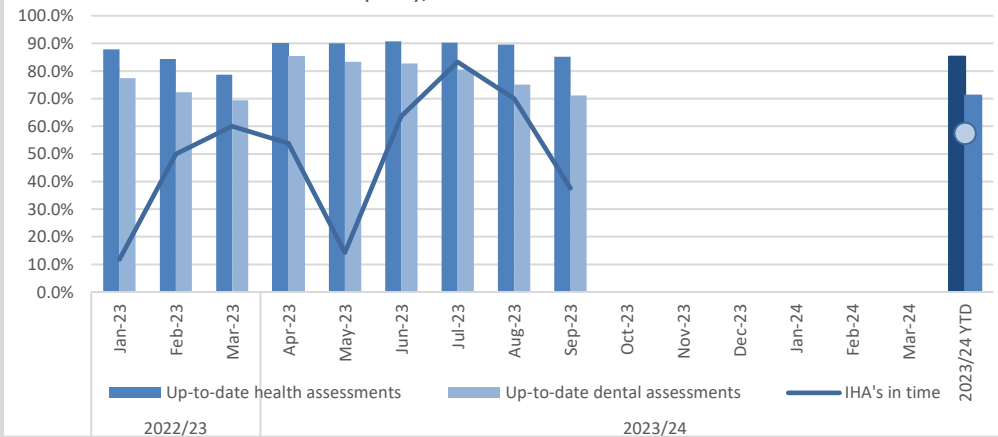
78 Admissions (ytd)



% of LAC with an up-to-date plan and plan reviewed in time



LAC initial health (IHA), routine health & dental assessments



93.4% of LAC visits are up-to-date & complete (NMS)

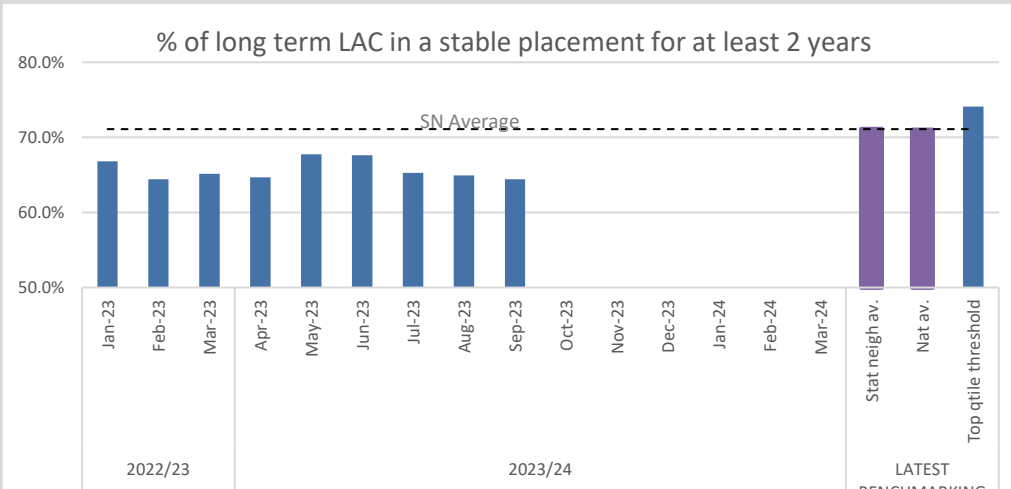
(National minimum standard is within 1wk of placement, then 6wkly till in placement for 1yr, then 12wkly after.)

57.4% of IHA's completed in time (ytd)

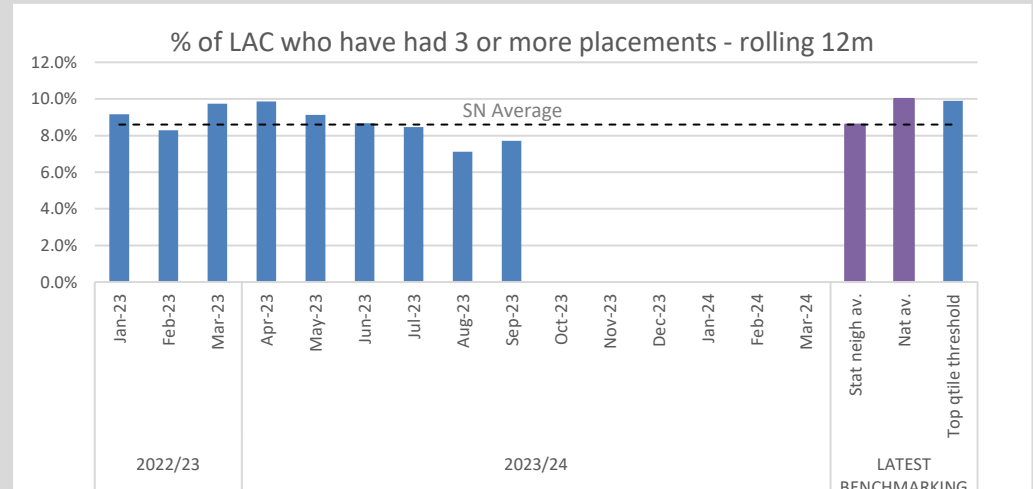
Placements

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. 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.

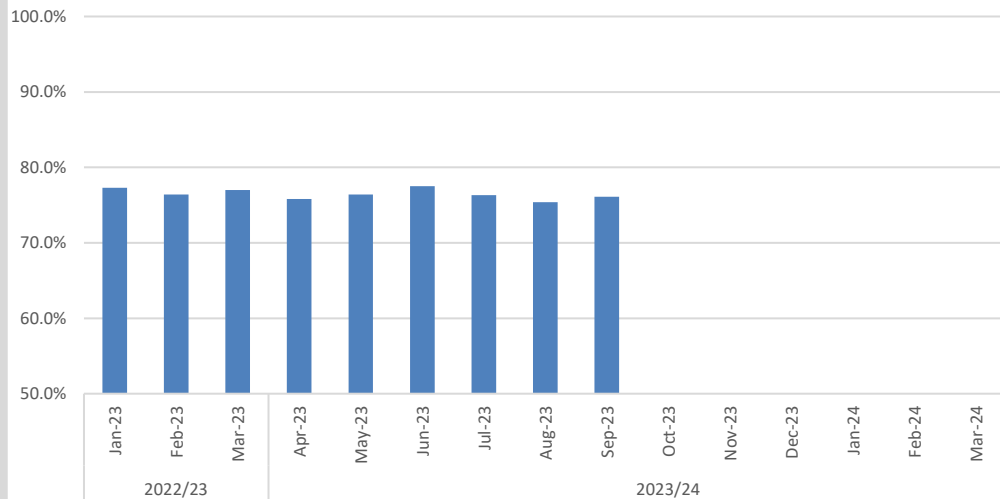
64.4% of long term LAC in a stable placement for 2 years+



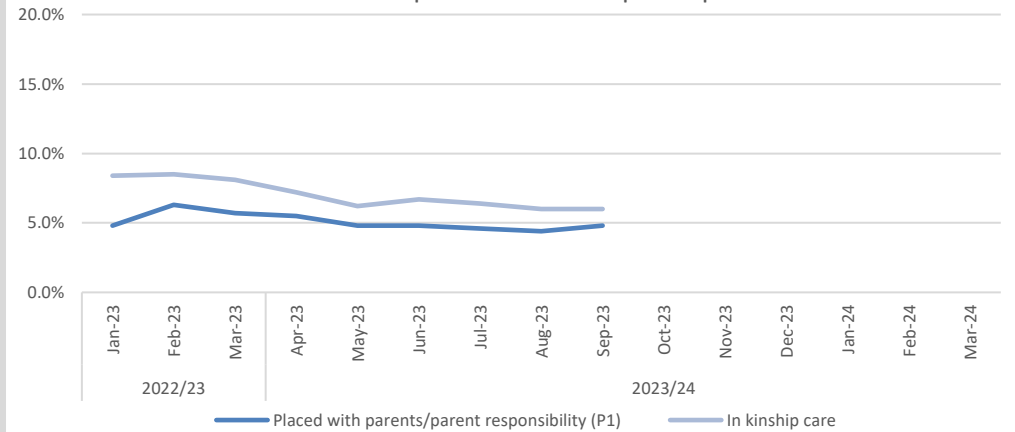
7.7% of LAC have had 3+ placements as at period end



% of children in a family based placement



% of children in a parental or kinship care placement



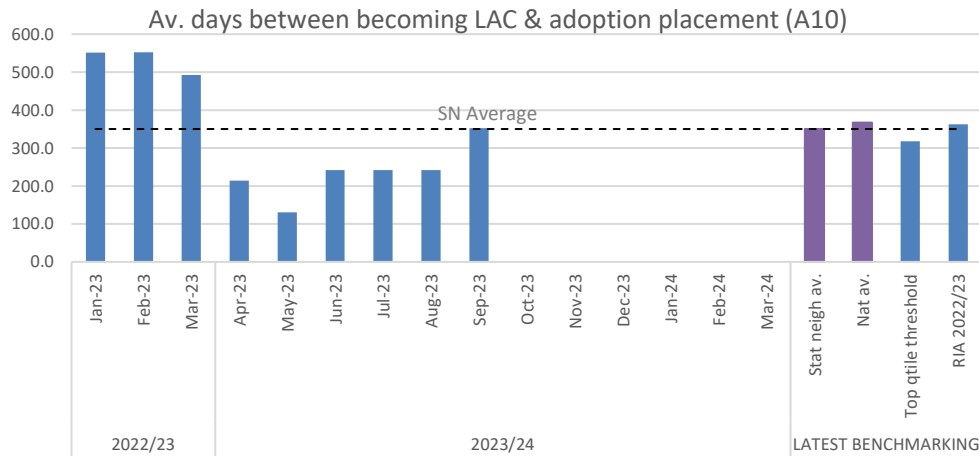
14 placements created via foster carer approvals (ytd)

Adoptions & Care Leavers

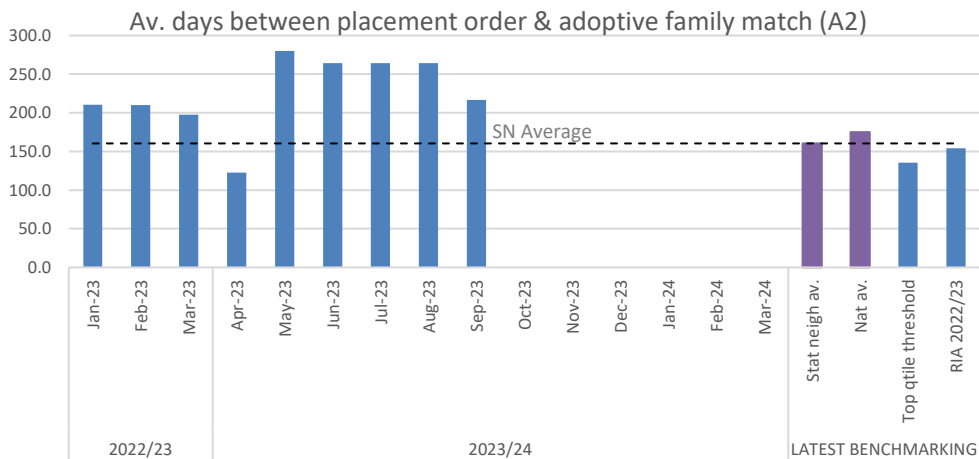
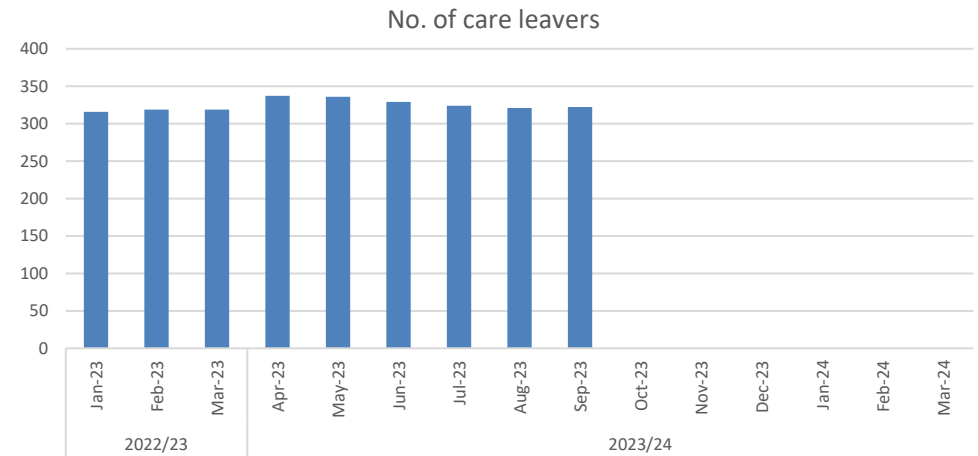
Following a child becoming looked after, it may be deemed suitable for a child to become adopted which is a legal process of becoming a non-biological parent. The date this is agreed to be in the best interests of the child is known as their 'SHOBPA'. Following this a family finding process is undertaken to find a suitable match based on the child's needs, followed by placement with their adopter(s). Placement are monitored and assessed before the final adoption order is granted.

A care leaver is, a person 25yrs or under; has been looked after by a LA for 13wks+ since 14yrs; and has been looked after by a LA at school-leaving age or after.

Adoptions



Care Leavers



322 care leavers as at the period end

77.6% of eligible LAC & care leavers had an up to date pathway plan at the period end

96.3% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation at the period end

70.2% of care leavers were in employment, education or training at the period end

9 adoptions completed within 12 months of SHOBPA (ytd)

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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