

Worcestershire County Council

Agenda

Corporate Parenting Board

Thursday, 12 May 2022, 2.00 pm
County Hall, Worcester

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Corporate Parenting Board

Thursday, 12 May 2022, 2.00 pm, County Hall, Worcester

Membership:

Cllr Andy Roberts (Chairman)	Worcestershire County Council
Cllr Rob Adams	Wychavon District Council
Cllr Lynn Denham	Worcestershire County Council
Cllr Matt Jenkins	Worcestershire County Council
Cllr Mike Johnson	Worcester City Council
Cllr Steve Mackay	Worcestershire County Council
Cllr Nyear Nazir	Redditch Borough Council
Cllr Fran Oborski	Wyre Forest District Council
Cllr Margaret Sherrey	Bromsgrove District Council
Cllr Tom Wells	Malvern Hills District Council

Agenda

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5	Friends and Family Fostering	
6	Activity Event	13 - 14
7	Quarterly Data, Q4 2021-22	15 - 30
8	Future Meeting Dates Dates 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 12 July 2022 • Wednesday 5 October 2022 • Tuesday 29 November 2022 All at 2pm in the Council Chamber unless otherwise notified.	

Agenda produced and published by Abraham Ezekiel, Assistant Director for Legal and Governance, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP

To obtain further information or a copy of this agenda contact Kate Griffiths on
 KGriffiths@worcestershire.gov.uk

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website

Date of Issue: Wednesday 4 May 2022

Item No	Subject	Page No
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Corporate Parenting Board

County Hall, Worcester and Virtually on Teams

Tuesday, 1 February 2022, 2.00 pm

Present:

Cllr Andy Roberts (Chairman), Cllr Rob Adams, Cllr Lynn Denham, Cllr Matt Jenkins, Cllr Mike Johnson, Cllr Steve Mackay, Cllr Nyear Nazir, Cllr Fran Oborski and Cllr Margaret Sherrey

Also attended:

Kate Bailey, Thomas Bourne, Shannon Childs, Beverley Downing, Ellen Footman, Adam Johnston, Celena Rossano, Tina Russell, Jane Stanley, Maria White

For Item 4.

Caroline Sutch, Sharon Hurley, Debbie Carroll and Alison Williams

275 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Tom Wells, Dr David Lewis and Heather Manning.

276 Confirmation of the Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 October 2021 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and would be signed by the Chairman.

277 Health Assessments

Adam Johnston explained to Board Members that Worcestershire Children First had a legal responsibility to ensure that each child had a health assessment as they become accommodated.

Adam underlined the importance of compliance in terms of the work being undertaken to ensure every looked after child had an up-to-date health assessment. He detailed the focus on qualitative issues to ensure health assessments meaningfully inform subsequent emotional health and well-being and mental health support. Focus was necessarily being put on collaboratively working with health partners to ensure such support was available and timely in delivery, which was currently not the case.

Corporate Parenting Board Tuesday, 1 February 2022
Date of Issue: 17 February 2022

RESOLVED that following the quality audit in April a further update would be brought back to the Corporate Parenting Board.

278 Fostering Improvement Plan

Maria White gave the Corporate Parenting Board an update on the current situation with Worcestershire Children First Fostering as the Responsible Individual. Maria outlined the improvement work streams and progress made thus far, alongside a number of the Fostering Managers and the Recruitment Lead for Fostering.

The Board were assured that all workstreams were progressing well.

279 Future Work Plan

The items to be considered at future meetings were noted and it was suggested that an update on Health Assessments should be added to the list. An update on the Fostering Improvement Plan could also be considered in future once more work had been undertaken.

280 Quarterly Data Report (Q3 2021/22)

The data report was noted.

The Chairman mentioned that it had been suggested to him that there should be Corporate Parenting Champions for different aspects, such as health or housing but he explained that he expected the Corporate Parenting Representatives from the Districts to be a Champion for their areas. He hoped the data provided for each district could be used to identify any issues in a specific area and actions could then be taken to investigate the particular issue.

281 Corporate Parenting Board Pledges

The Board was assured that young people had had the chance to provide input to the content and presentation of the pledges. The pledges were for all looked after children and care leavers but they could be applied to individuals.

Cue or prompt cards were being developed to be used alongside the pledges and it was hoped that Board Members, in their role as Corporate Parents, could make use of them to start conversations with young people or to inform others of what was involved in being a Corporate Parent.

282 Shadowing Opportunities

The Chairman suggested that great value could be gained from Members of the Corporate Parenting Board attending some of the focus or support groups for Foster Carers. It was recognised that if carers agreed to Councillors

attending their group, they were sometimes able to air concerns to them, when they felt they were not able to raise them in more formal review situations.

283 Future Meeting Dates

- Thursday 12 May 2022
- Tuesday 12 July 2022
- Wednesday 5 October 2022
- Tuesday 29 November 2022

All at 2pm, locations to be notified.

The meeting ended at 3.55pm

Chairman

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Corporate Parenting Board

Pledges in practice

Worcestershire's Corporate Parenting Board Pledges to our Looked After Children and Care Leavers

2021-2024



We will listen to your voice and support you to be involved in decisions about your life.

We will support you to have a safe, positive, secure, and stable home to live in.



We will help you stay in touch with your family, friends, and anyone else who is important to you and support you to return home if able to do so.



As your corporate parents, we will celebrate your progress, personal milestones, and achievements.



We will help you to build and develop positive relationships with your support network.



We will encourage and support your learning and development of life skills. While helping you to access opportunities, to engage those young people not in employment, education, or training (NEET).

We will help to promote good fostering environments that caters for all individuals and their personal needs, particularly promoting the fostering of teenager's.



We will support you to access services and resources that maintain your physical and emotional wellbeing.

- National and Regional peer review of Care Leaver services
- Children's Social Care COVID-19 Regional Recovery and Building Back Better (CRABB) A national Dfe funded programme for each region. A range of strands to the programme and one for West Midlands is on the Care Laver Offer
- Developing a consistent offer for Care Leavers – this will include mapping current local offers plus exploring wider approaches across the country and scoping out potential components of an aspirational West Midlands offer
- Mark Riddell appointed by DfE to review Care Leaver services nationally and to pull together a national best practice blue print
- Worcestershire met with Mark in January 22, we were his 46th LA ! Mark's target is to have completed his review later this year!.
- WCF are not awaiting the outcome of these reviews to act – many of the ideas were in train and we have picked up action on others.

Worcestershire Children First Care Leavers Offer

Page 8

- Feedback on our financial offer from the regional survey is positive and is in line or above the average offer
- The Covid allowance was much higher than in other LA's - £20 a week ours was £100. We also continued that into a Winter Allowance
- The 2021 young persons version of the financial offer is on the website and has had feedback that it is an easy read accessible document – was co-produced
- 2022/23 we are reviewing Care Leaver benefits and Setting up Home
- The Local Offer is “comprehensive” feedback from DfE and as identified in regional survey

Our weaknesses

Our weakness is our EHWB and MH offer – young people access and level of support in this

We also need to improve our pathway for 18+ care leavers into adult services – LD and MH

Reviewing pathway plans post 18 when young people are still in transition

Not all our young people reported having a birth certificate or passport

- Current visits and young person survey running April – June so every child and young person has a dedicated session with their SW/PA on Emotional Health and Wellbeing
- Development of the “connect” volunteer service to address isolation
- WCF and WCC adults task & finish group reviewing the pathway to adult services
- Appointment of additional IRO to do 18+ pathway reviews
- Project underway since January 22 to review every Looked After and Care Leaver case to ensure a formal ID is in place

Other developments for our Care Leaver services

Page 10

- Education & Employment aspiration survey to young people aged 17+
- Planning for business events across Worcestershire
- Development of bespoke Kick Start programmes for some of our Care Leavers
- Wyre Forest Community Housing and WCF piloting a local “House Project” to promote faster, good quality and sustainable housing tenancy offers to Care Leavers
- WCF and WCC working together to identify apprenticeships for Care Leavers in the WCC capital build programme
- “Have Your Say” – a new method for young people to tell us their views and opinions across the service – an easy to use web tool /app



Kick Start
programmes
for Care
Leavers -WCF

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Introducing

Kerry Nichol – Team Manager
Care Leavers

Bev Weaver - Business Support
Manager

Nathan, Tia and Charlotte



Champions



How can we make pledges in
practice work throughout
Worcestershire

IRO ACTIVITY MORNING

Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club
21 April 2022

Over 60 children (up to the age of 13) and their carers attended and enjoyed our activity morning.

Activities included:

- Pizza making
- Balloon modelling
- Easter cake decorations
- Bouncy castle
- Basketball
- Arts and craft tables
- Nail art and fake tattoo table

The day was a real success with lots of positive feedback from children and carers including:

"It was great! I liked all of it. I loved making the playfight swords."

"I had fun. I liked the bouncy castle and slide. I liked making new friends and making balloons. Thank you for inviting me."

"I loved being here even though I was a bit nervous and I made a new friend."

"Had a super time. Thank you."



What's next?

We interviewed five sets of carers about their experience of the IRO service which will be shared with the IRO annual report. An activity session is planned for our 13+ young people in October.



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District Profiles

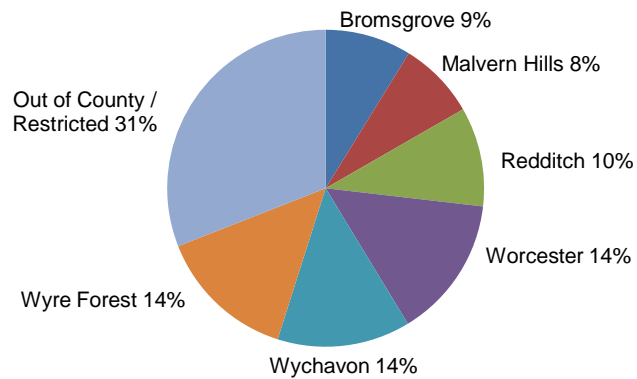
Looked After Children

(Children who are in the care of the Local Authority and for whom the Council has corporate parent responsibility)

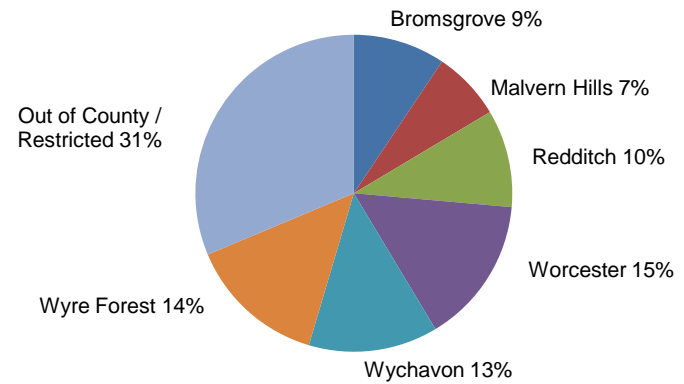
Looked After Children by District of Placement Postcode



Dec 2021

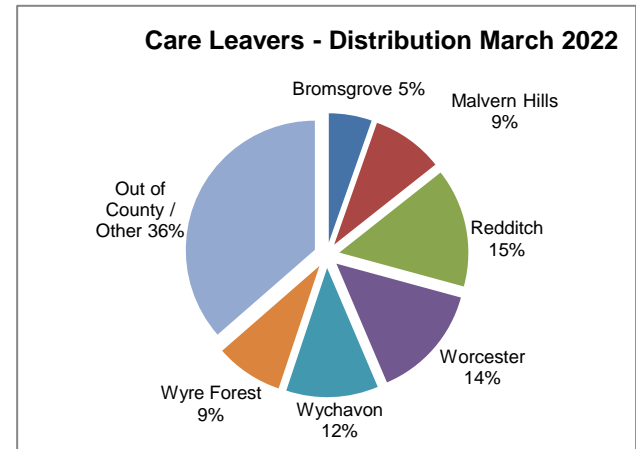
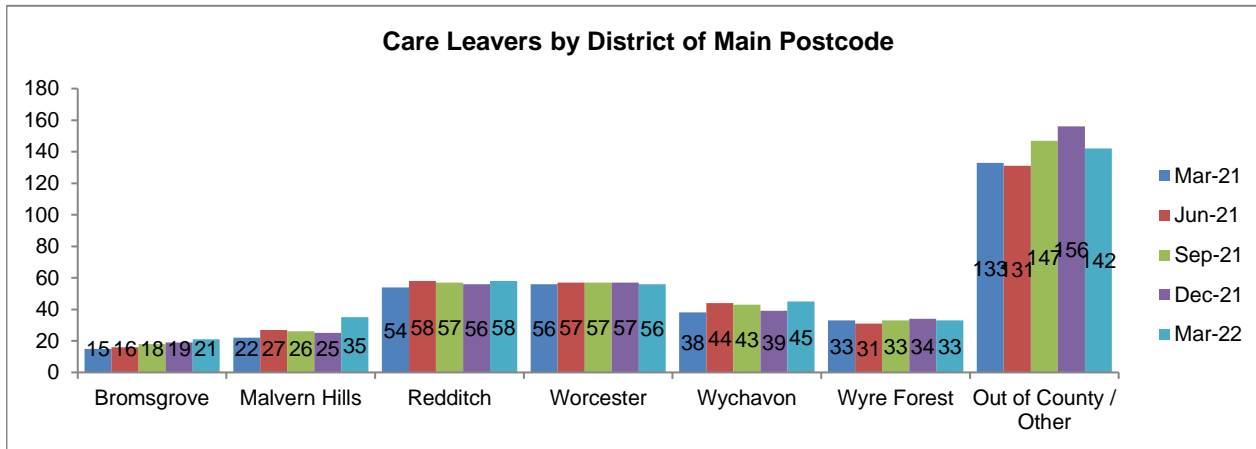


Mar 2022



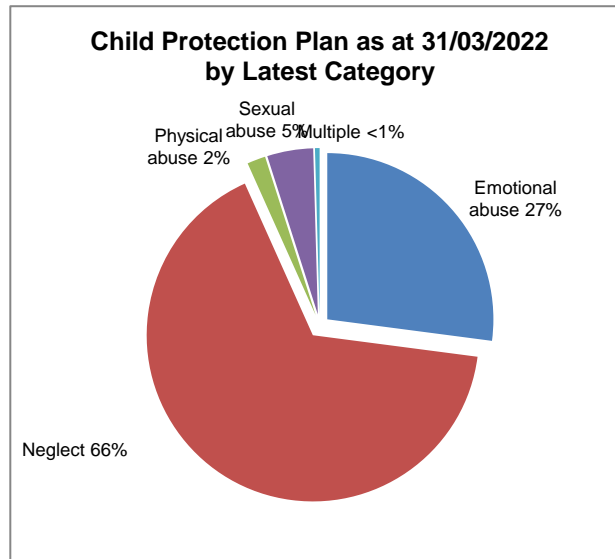
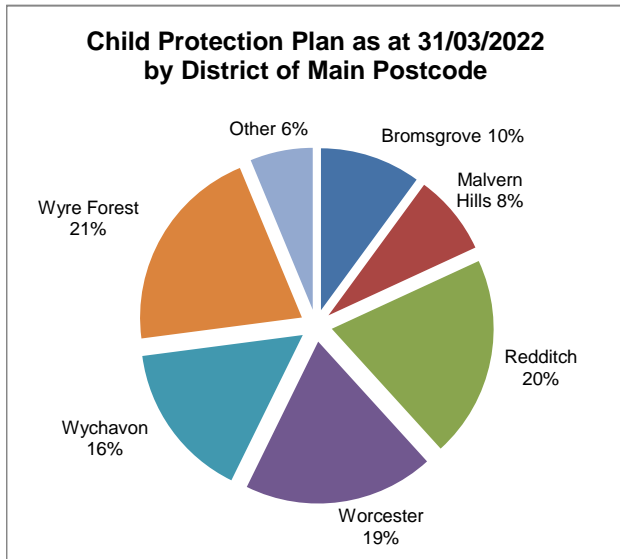
N.B. Numbers below 10 have been suppressed in charts

Care Leavers



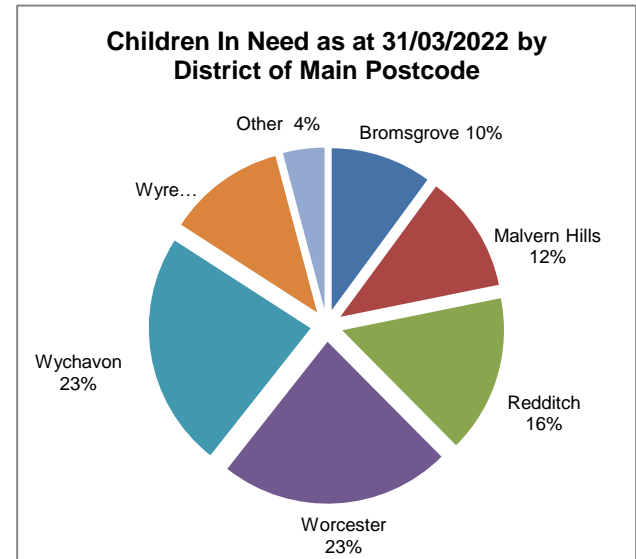
Child Protection

(Children who meet the threshold for significant harm and are subject to a Child Protection Plan)

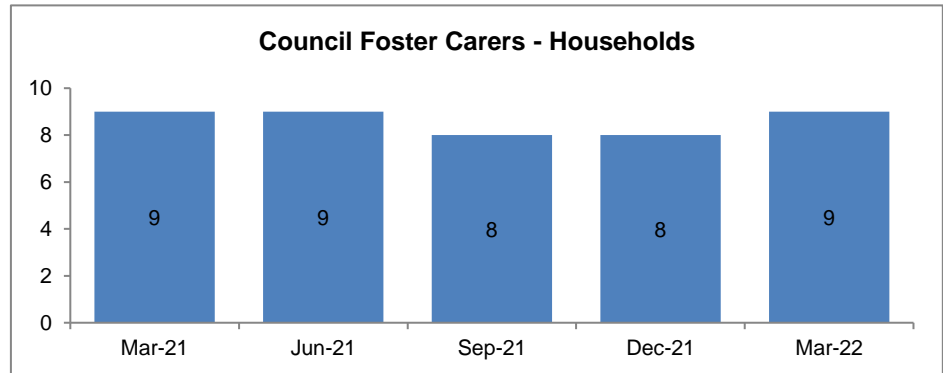
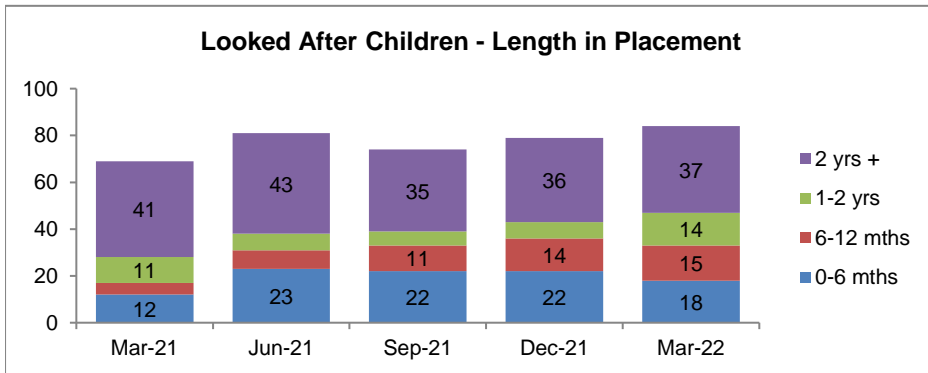
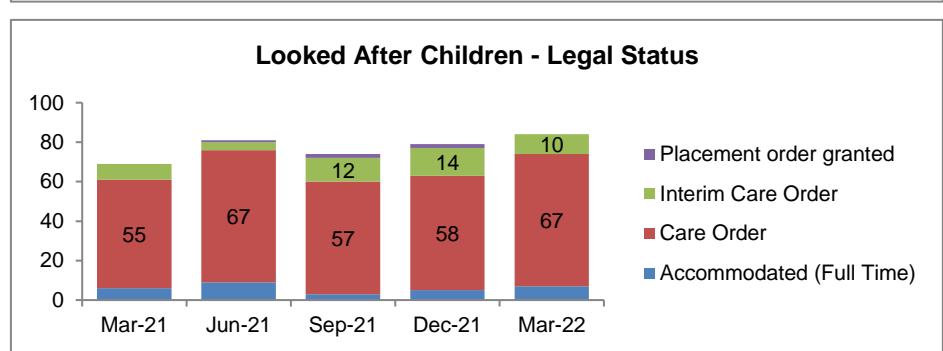
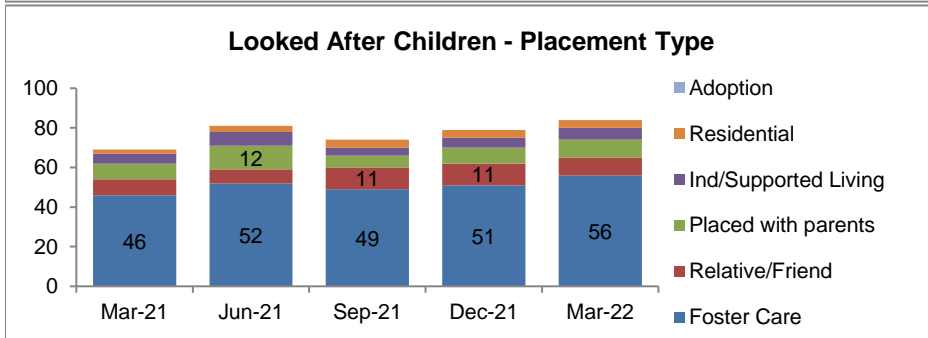
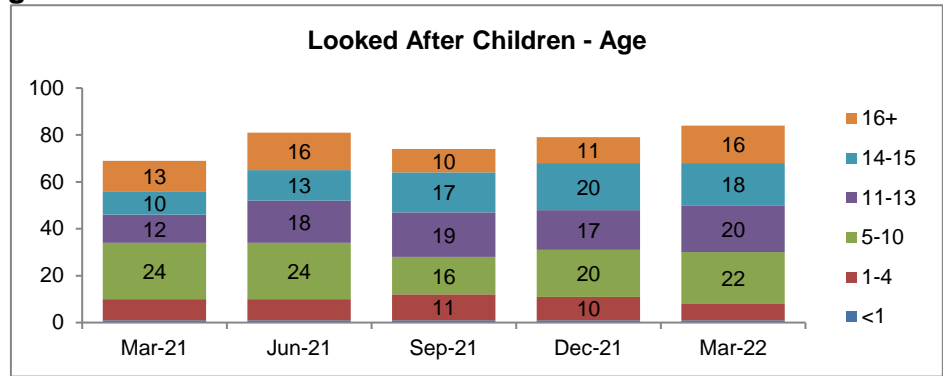
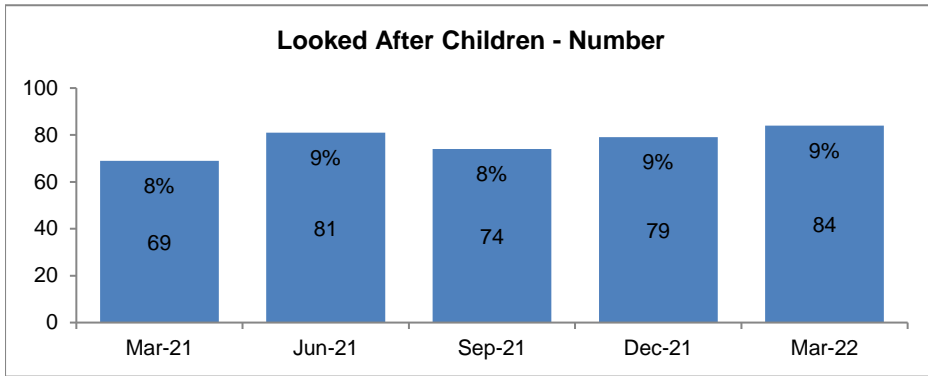


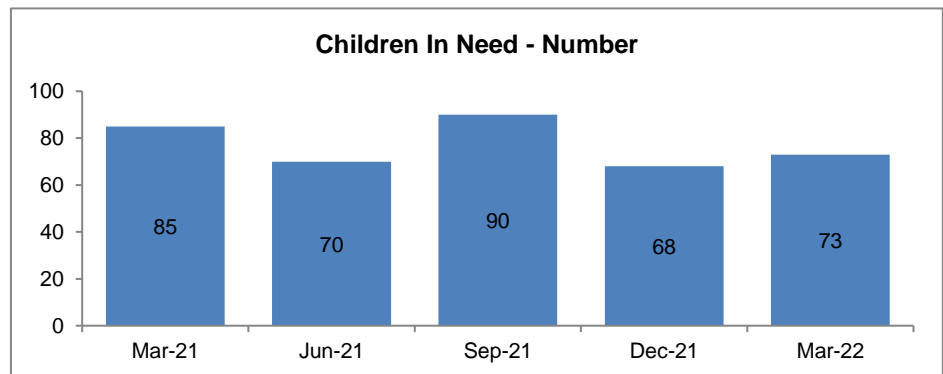
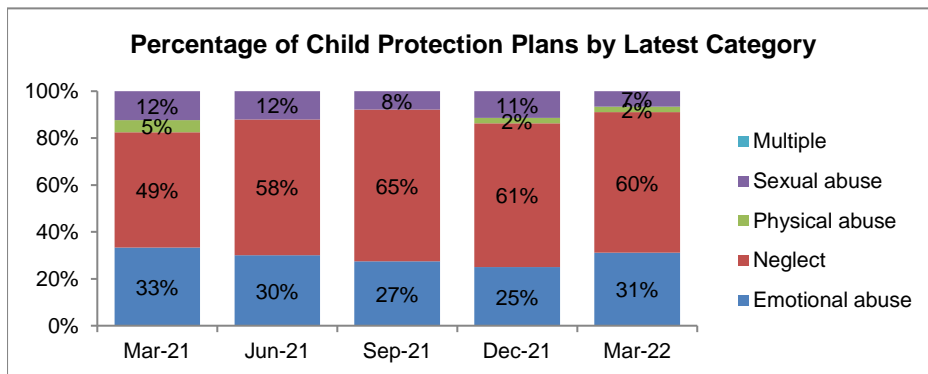
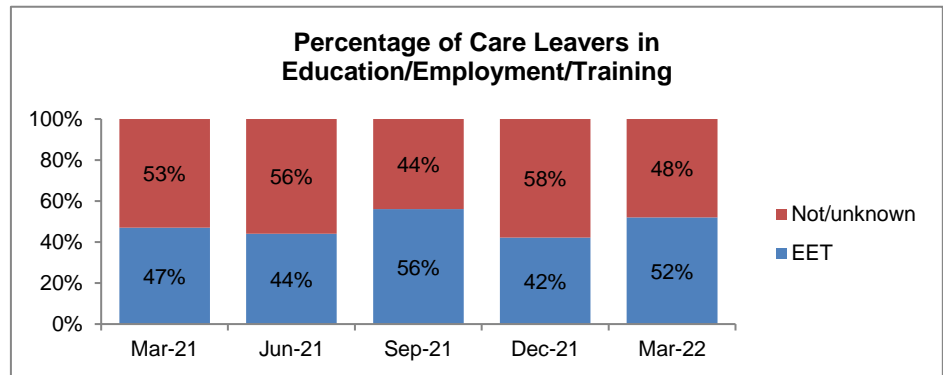
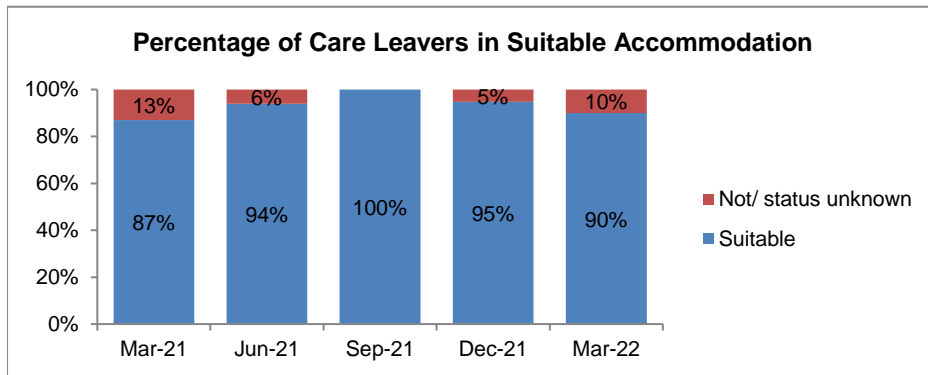
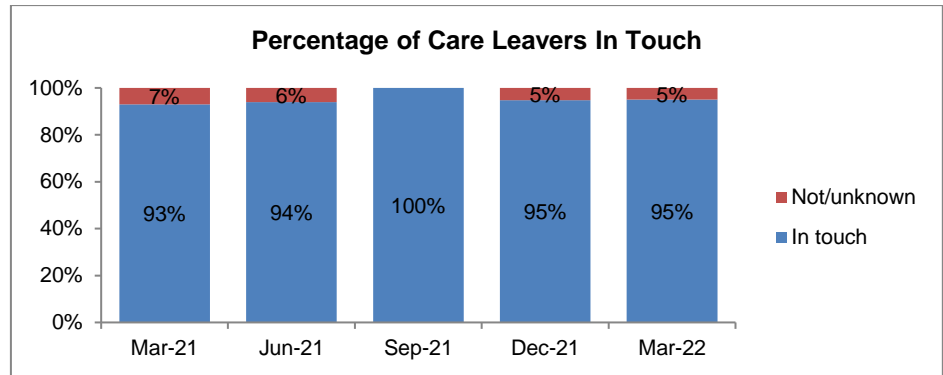
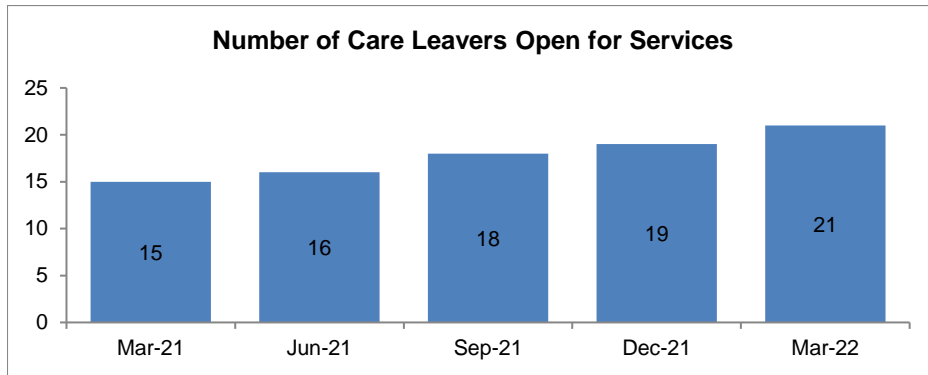
Children in Need

(Children who are open to Social Work intervention and are not Looked After or on a Child Protection Plan)

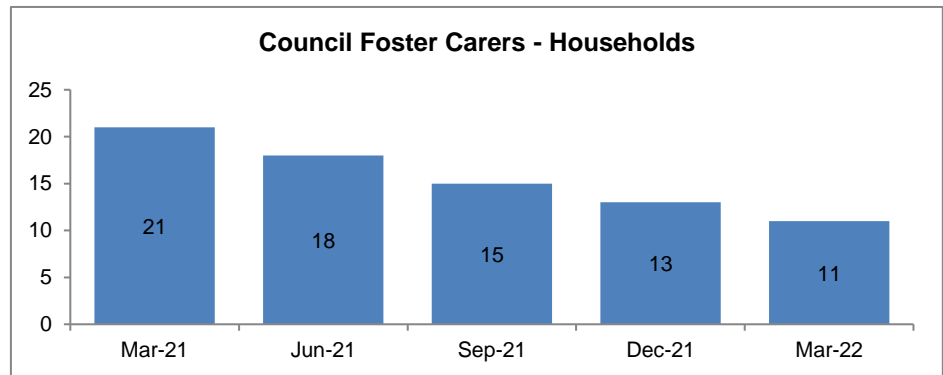
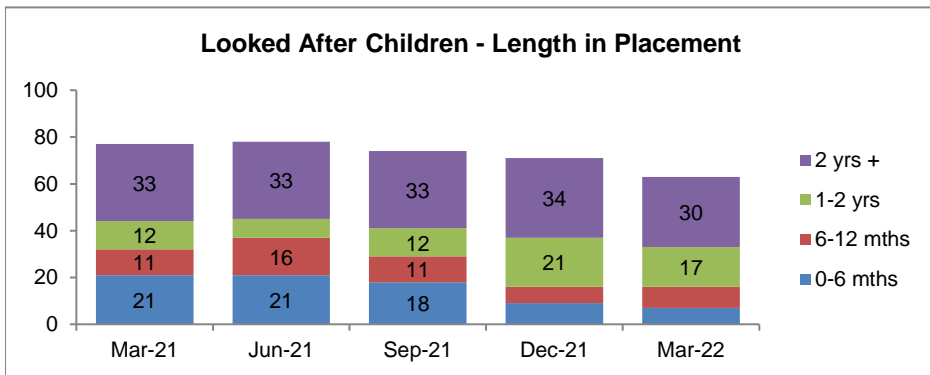
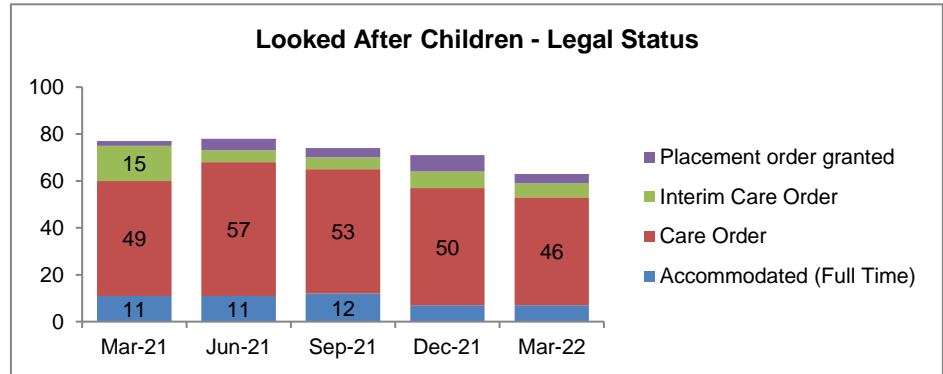
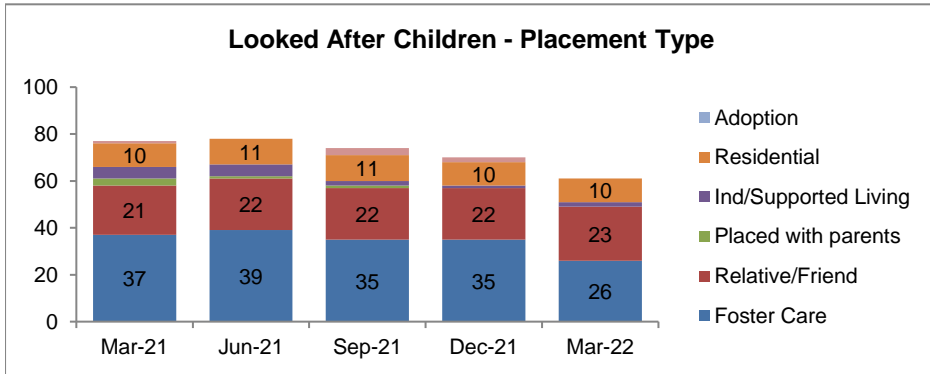
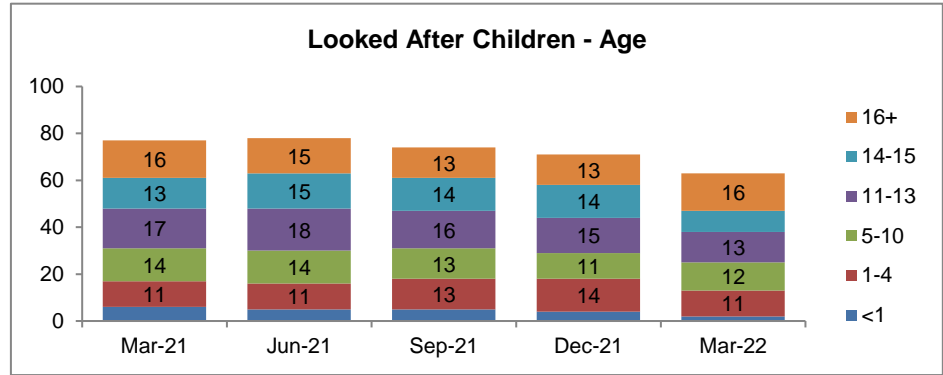
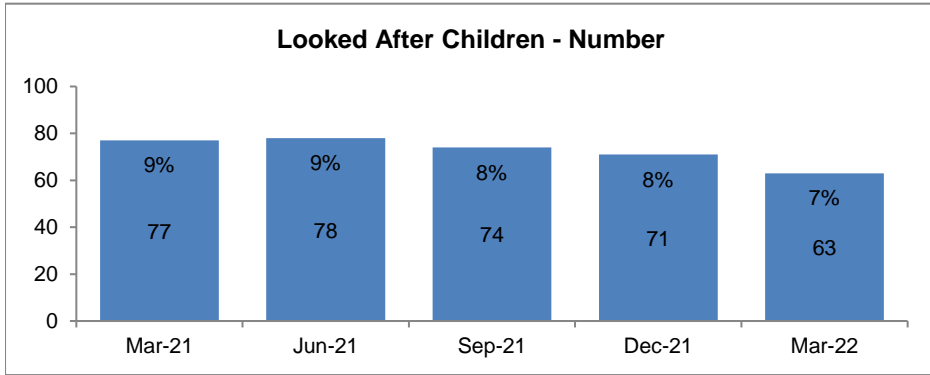


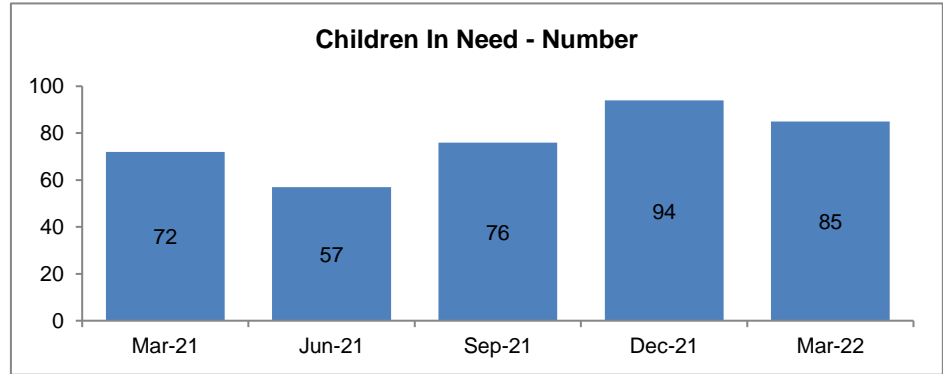
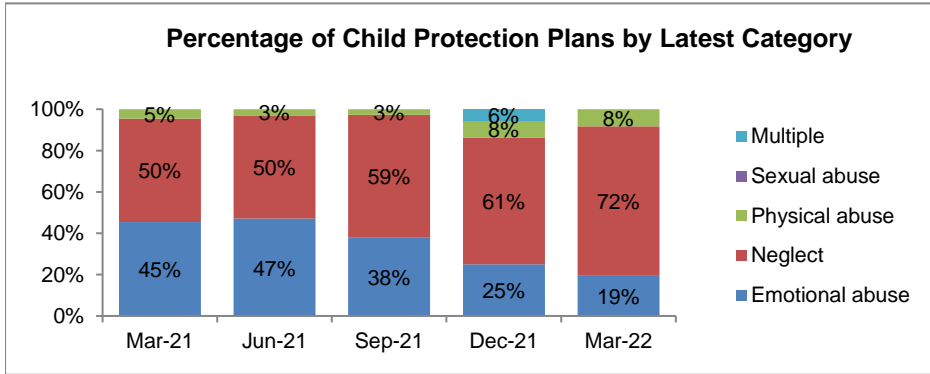
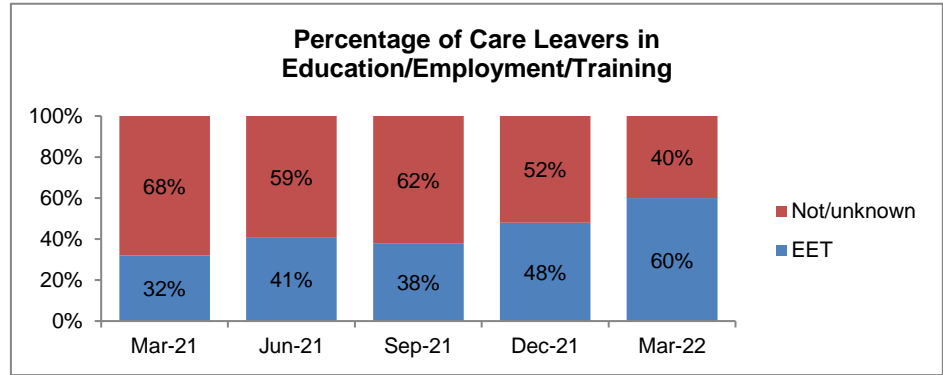
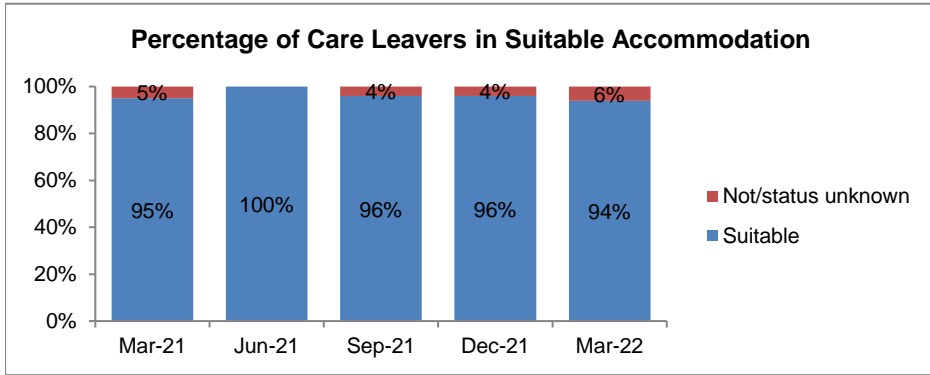
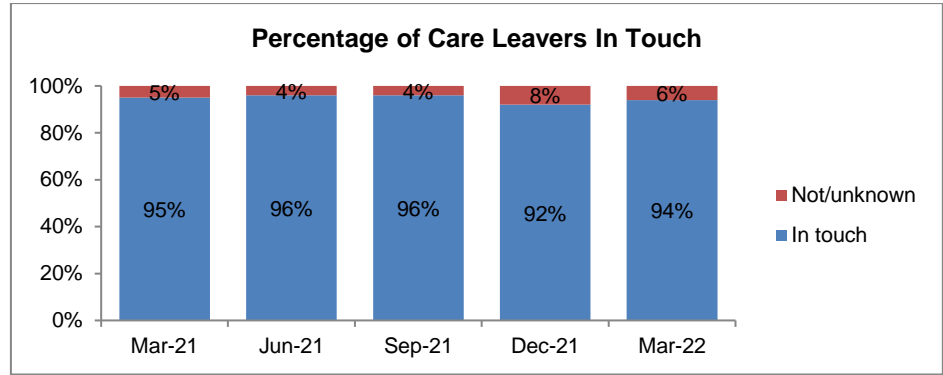
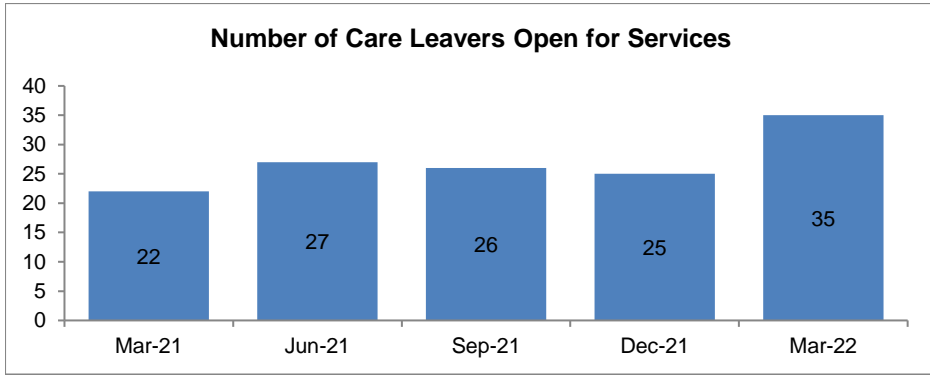
Bromsgrove



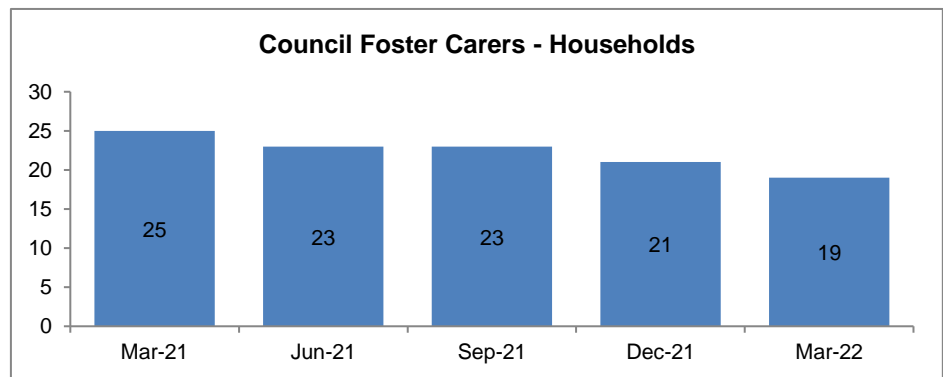
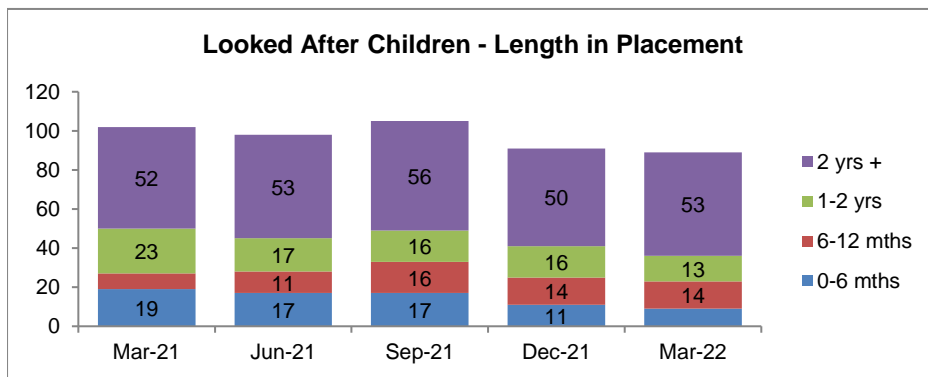
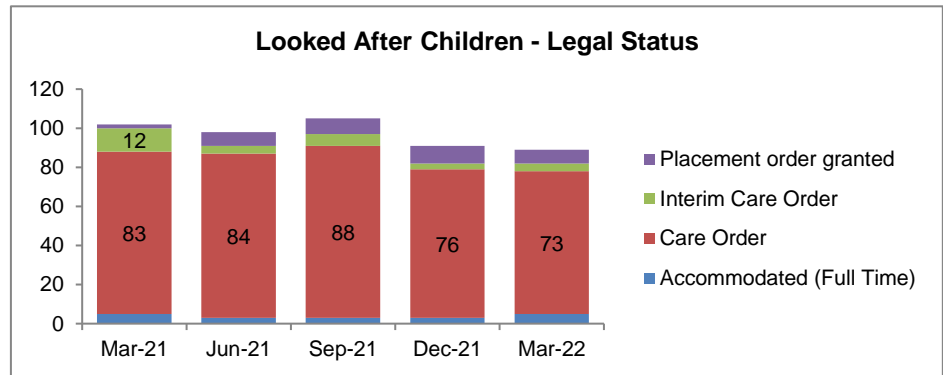
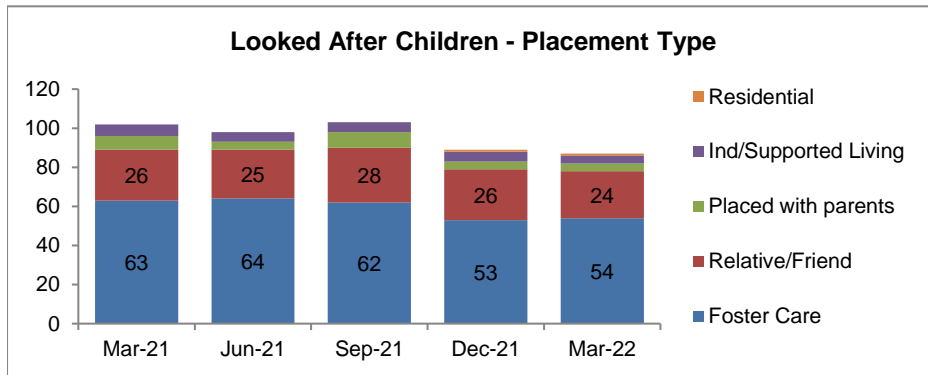
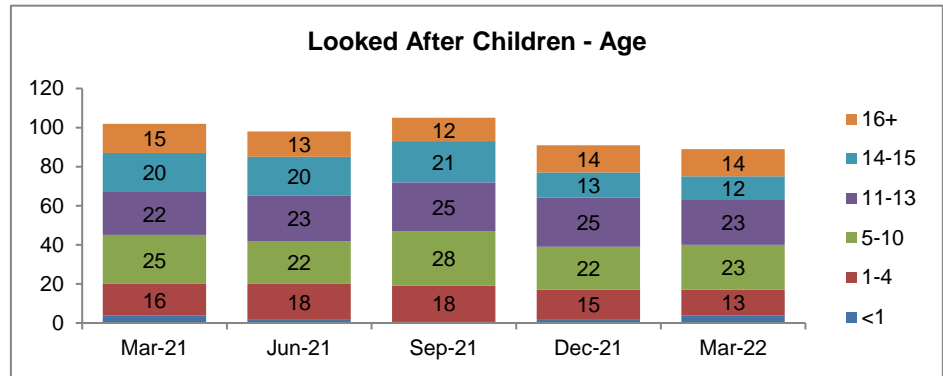
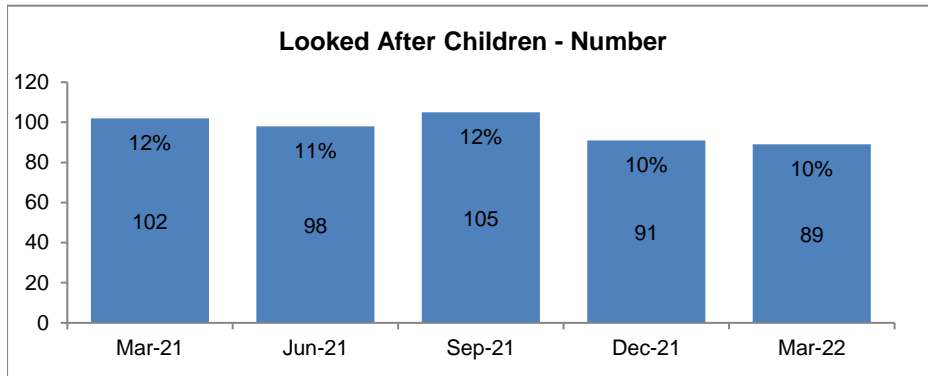


Malvern

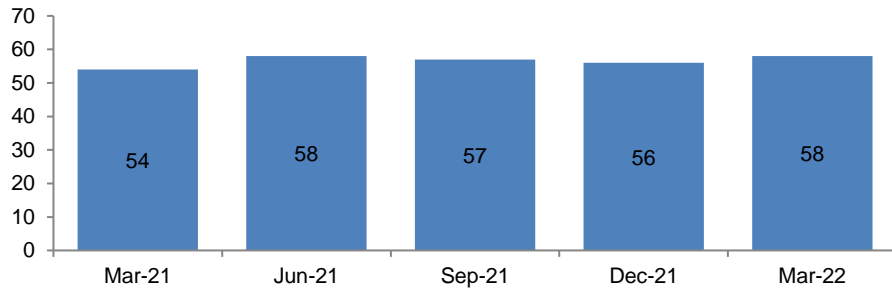




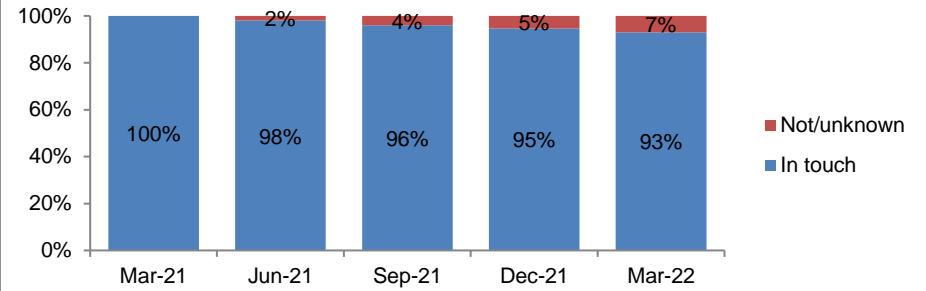
Redditch



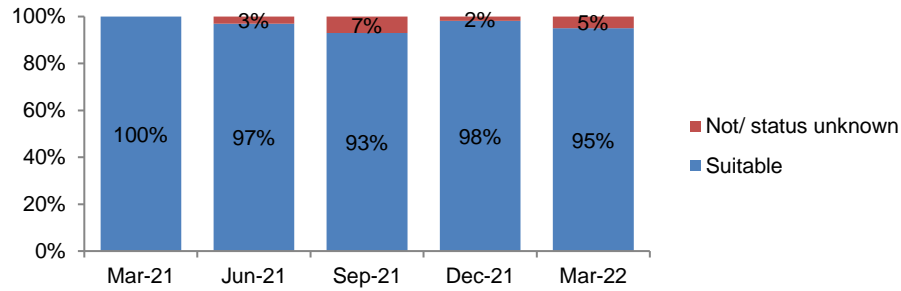
Number of Care Leavers Open for Services



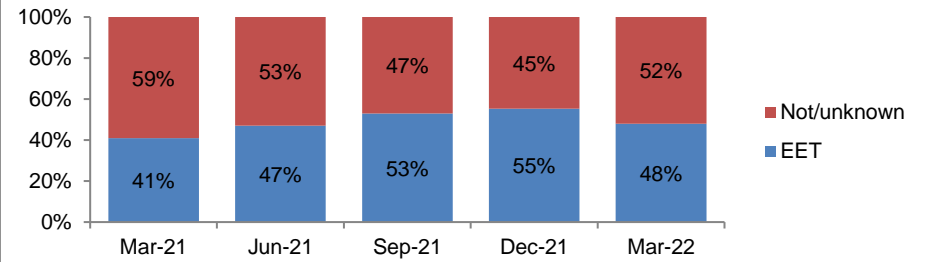
Percentage of Care Leavers In Touch



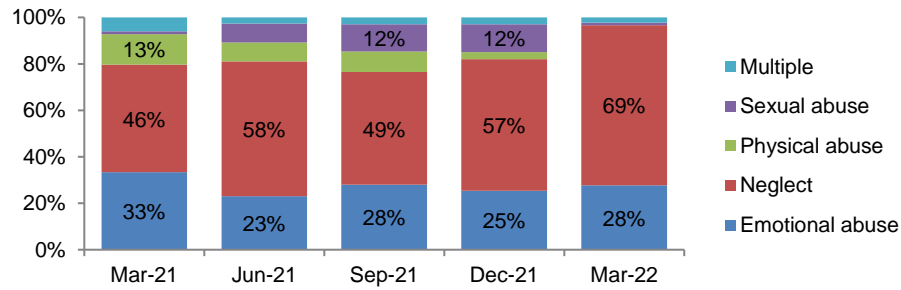
Percentage of Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation



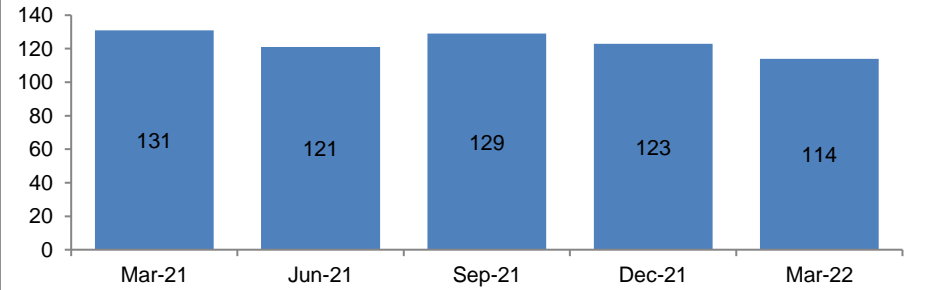
Percentage of Care Leavers in Education/Employment/Training



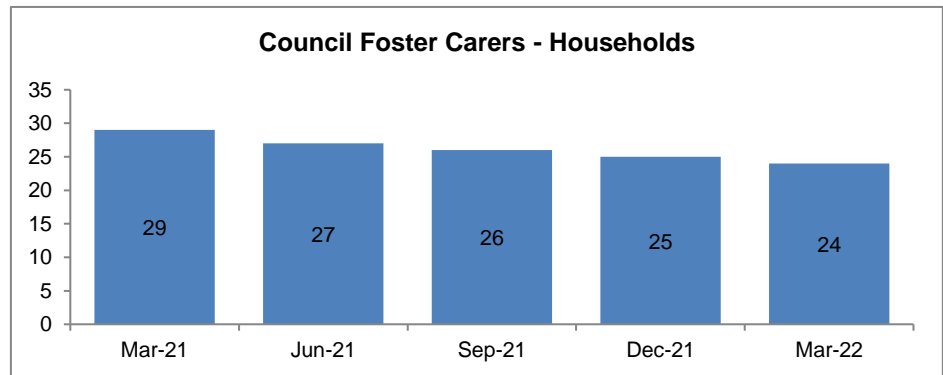
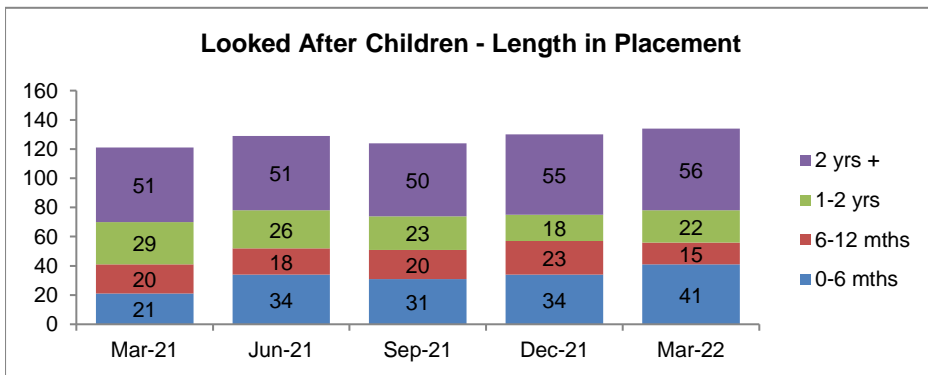
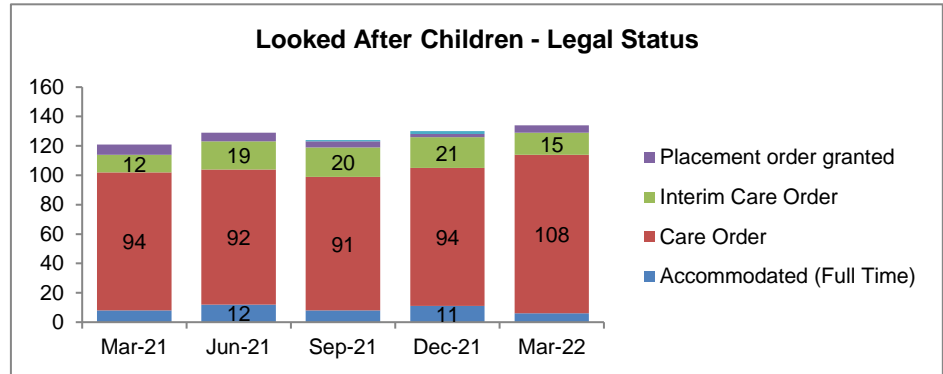
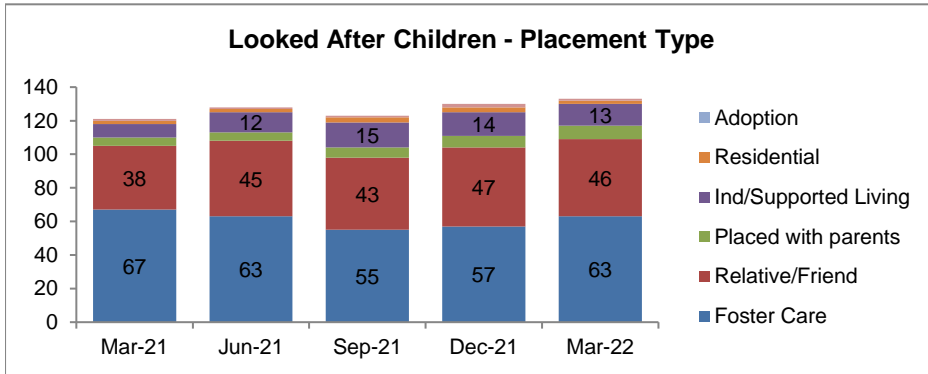
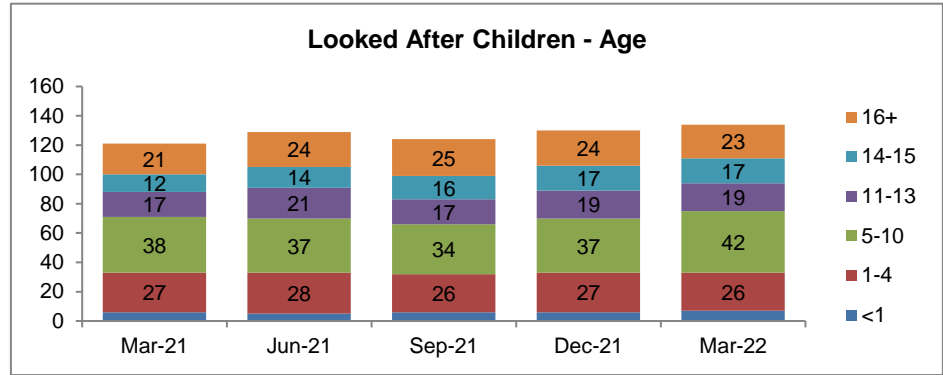
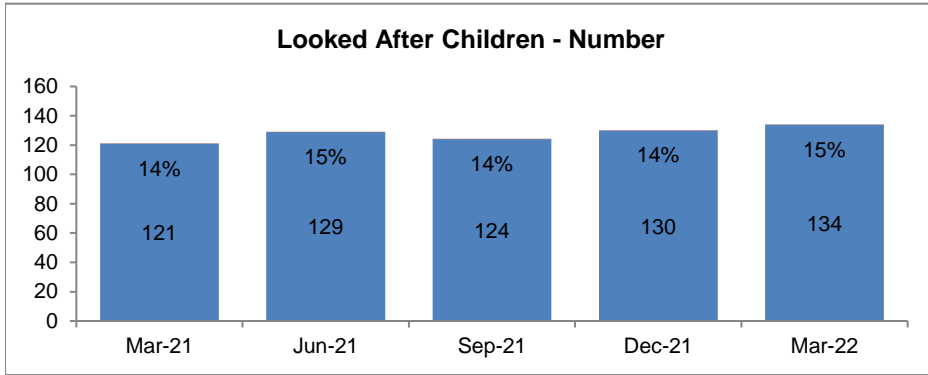
Percentage of Child Protection Plans by Latest Category

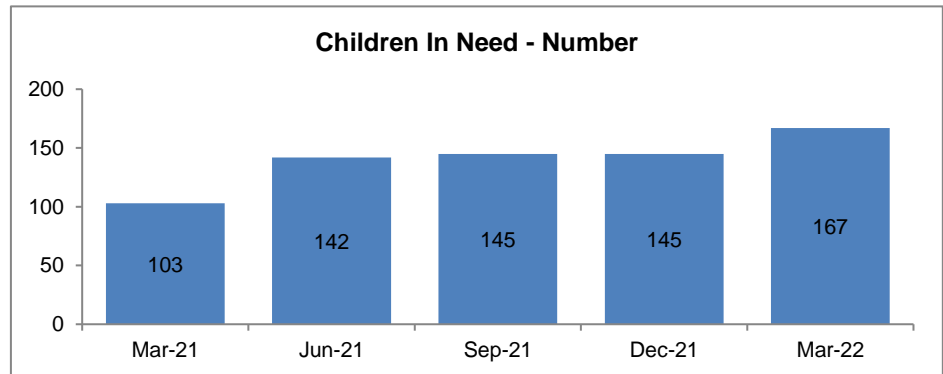
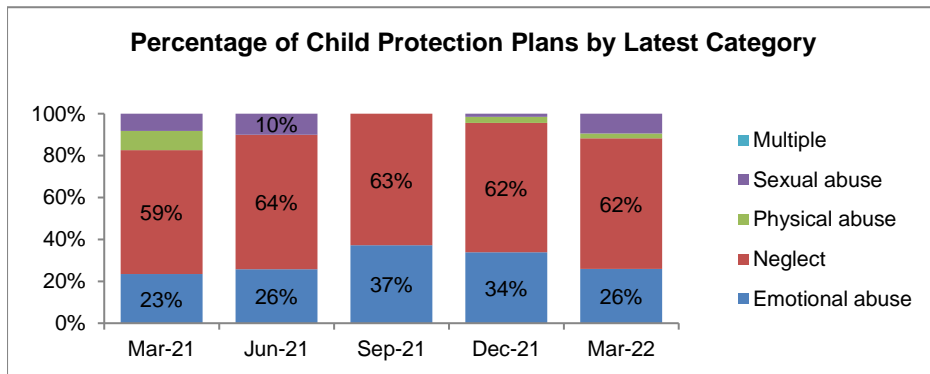
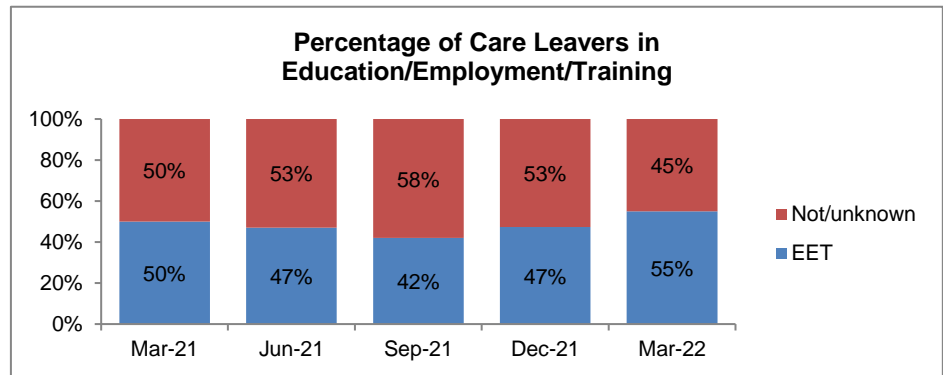
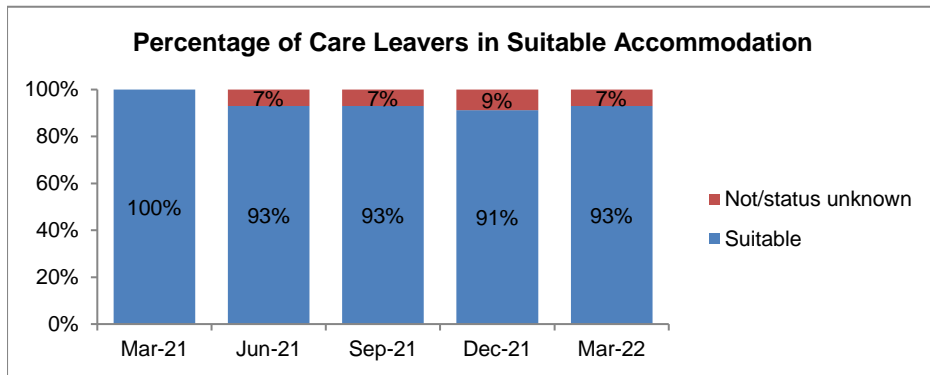
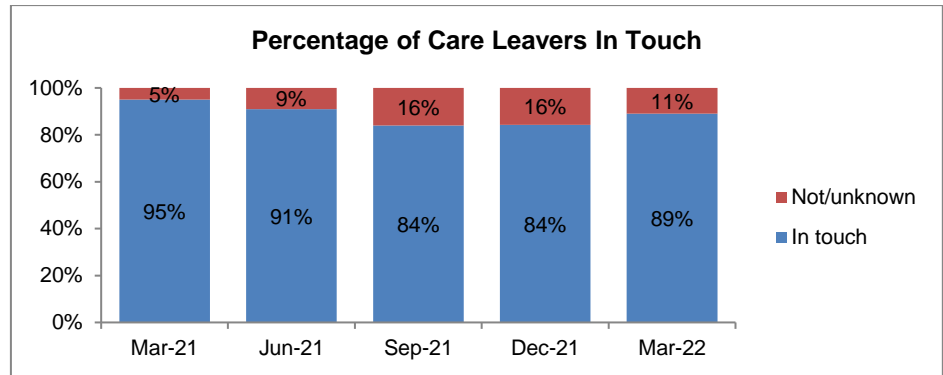
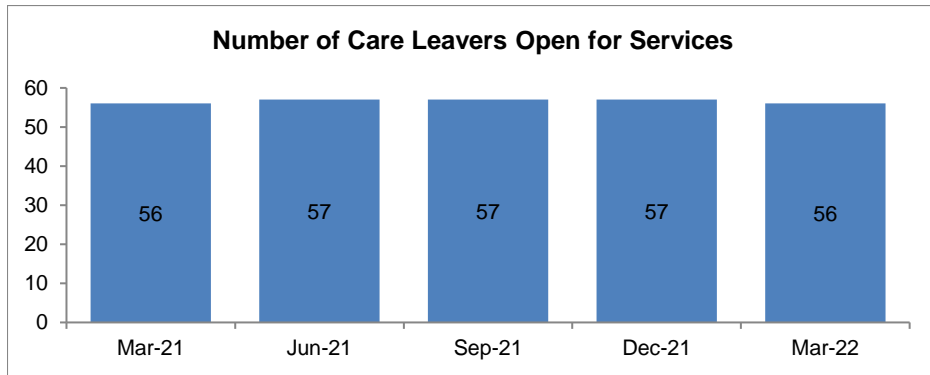


Children In Need - Number

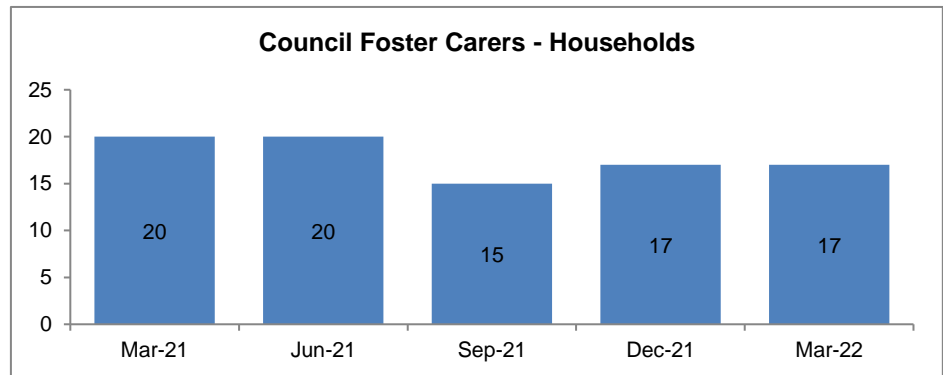
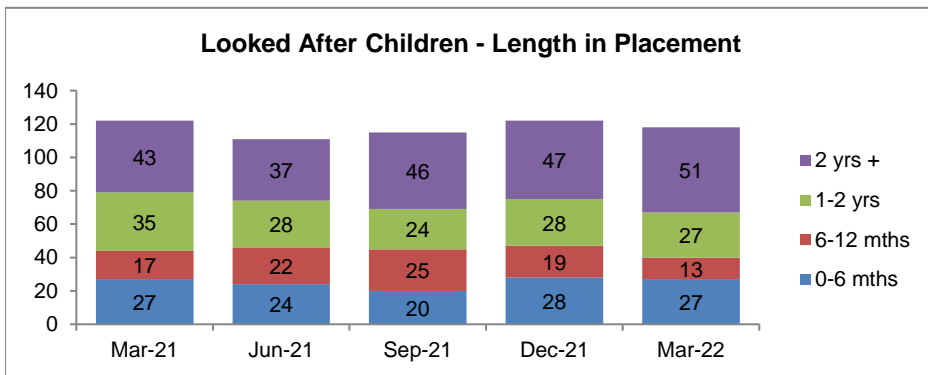
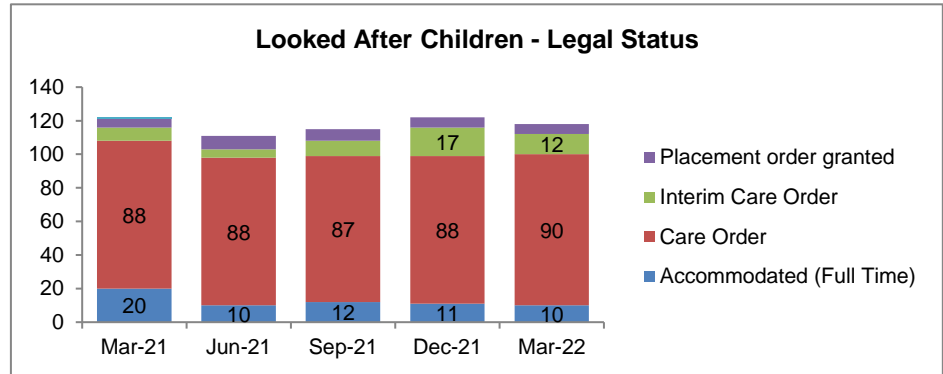
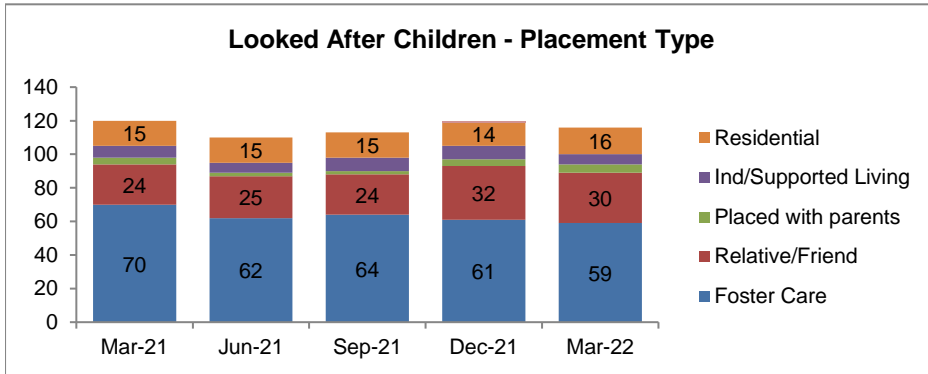
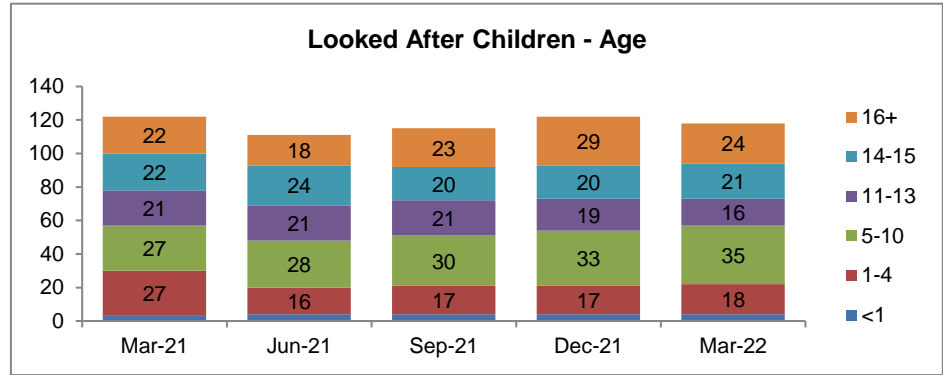
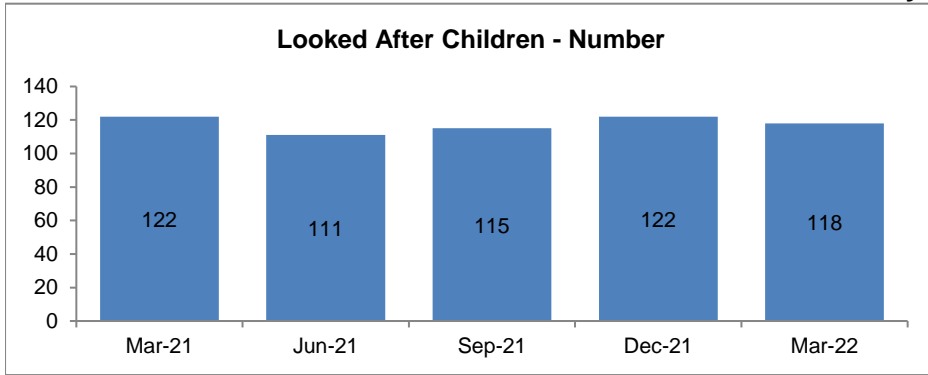


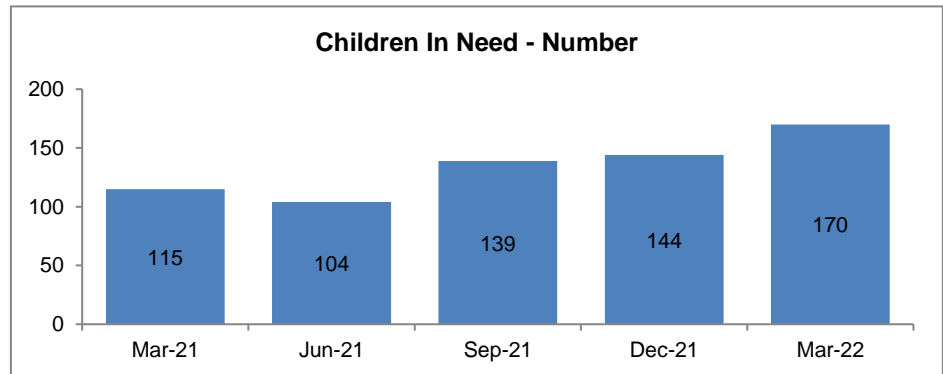
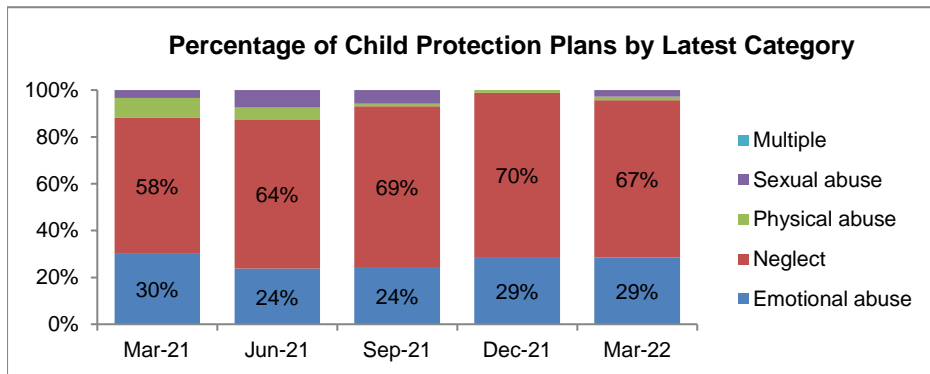
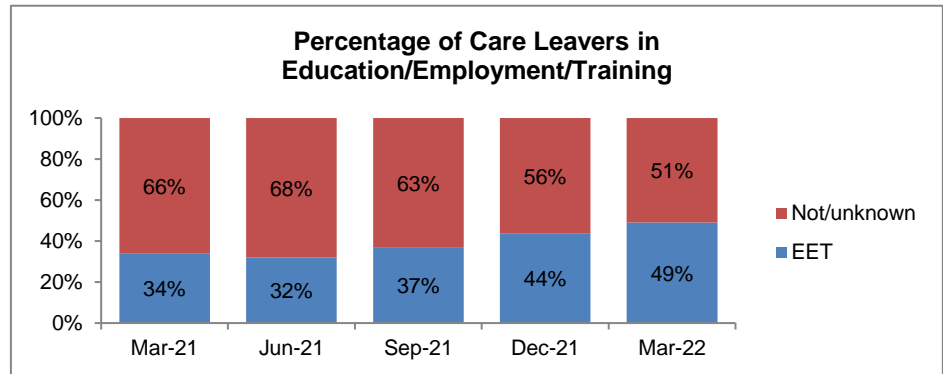
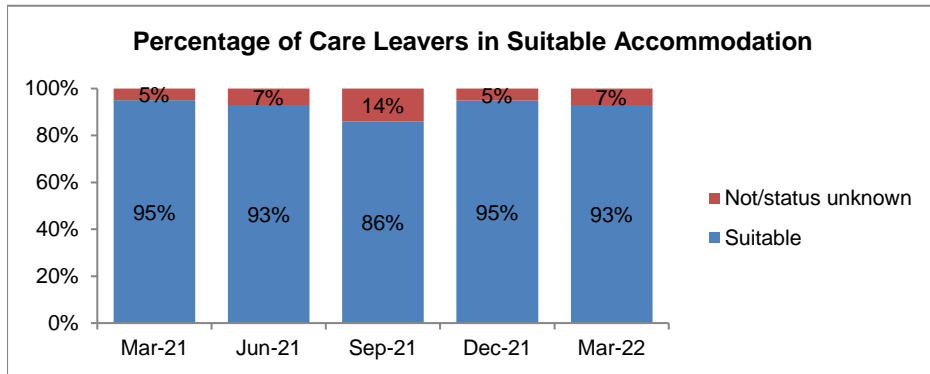
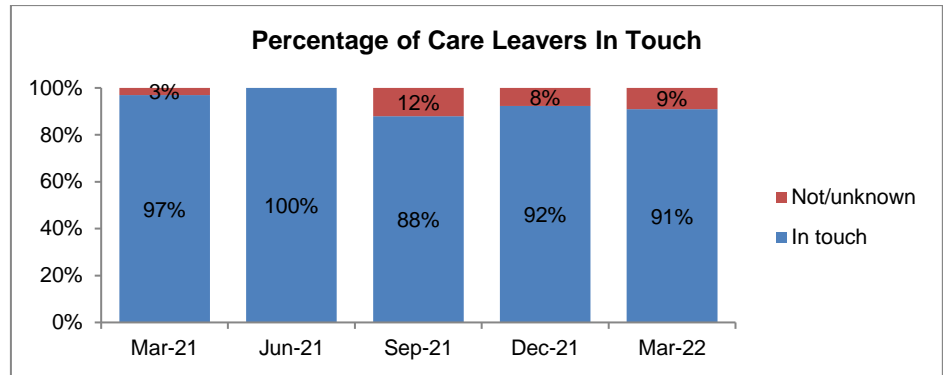
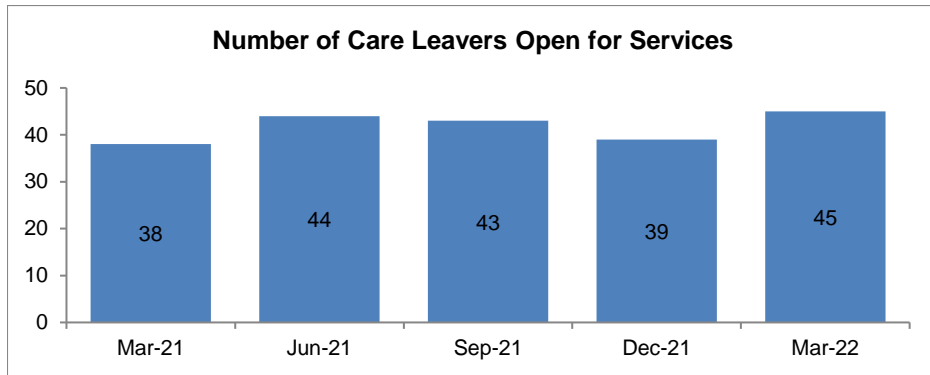
Worcester



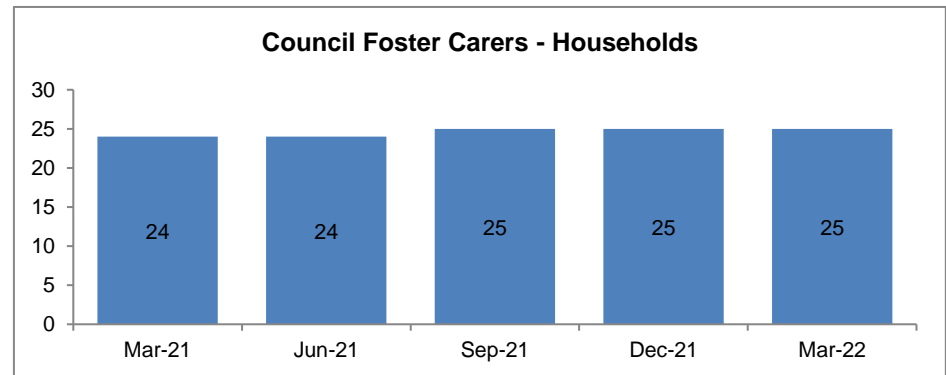
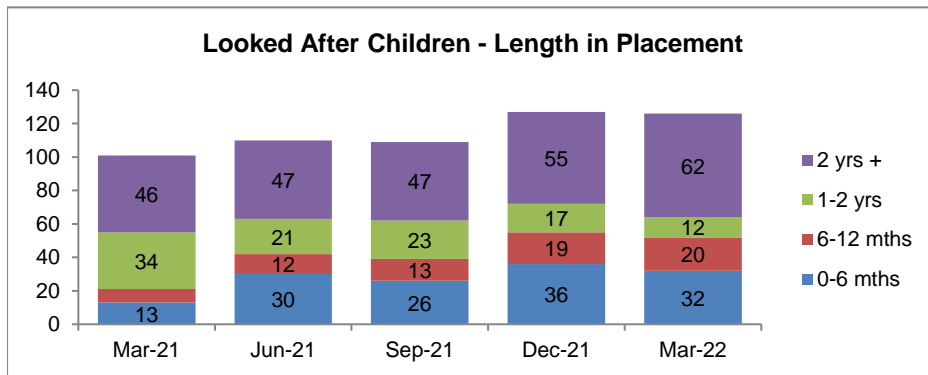
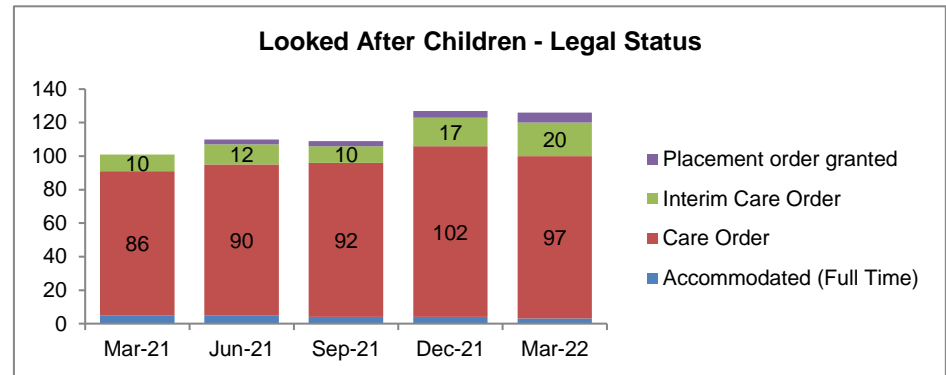
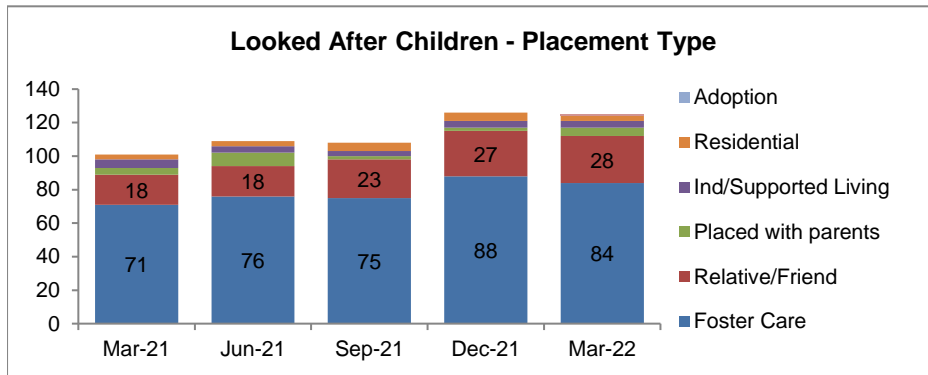
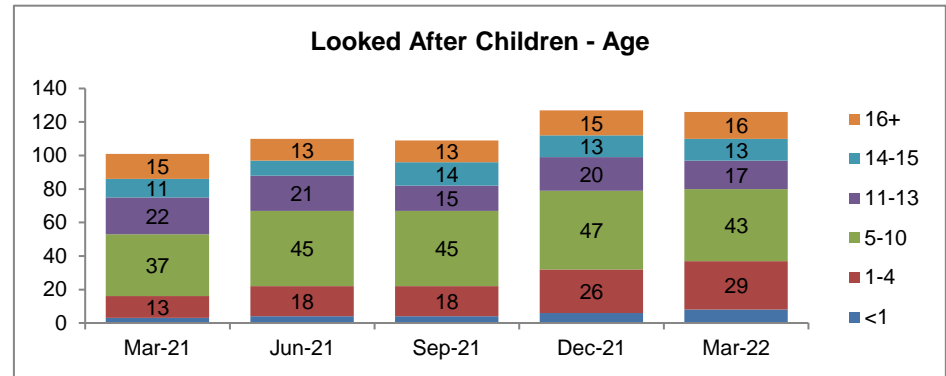
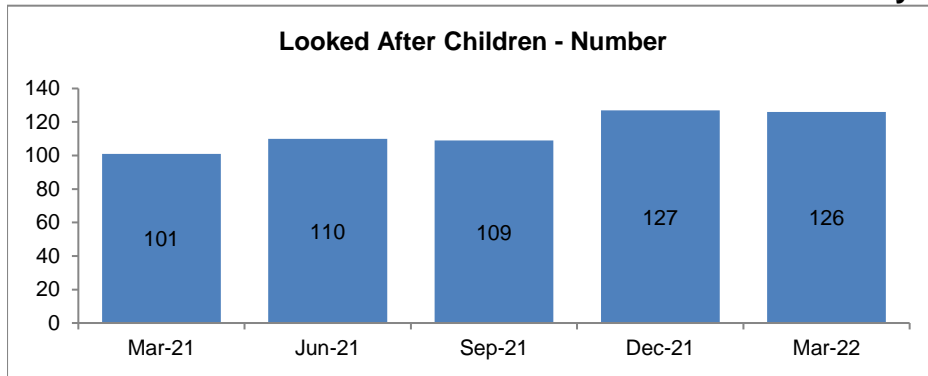


Wychavon

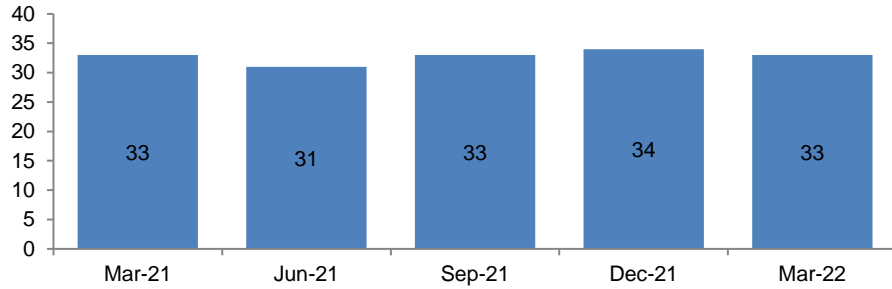




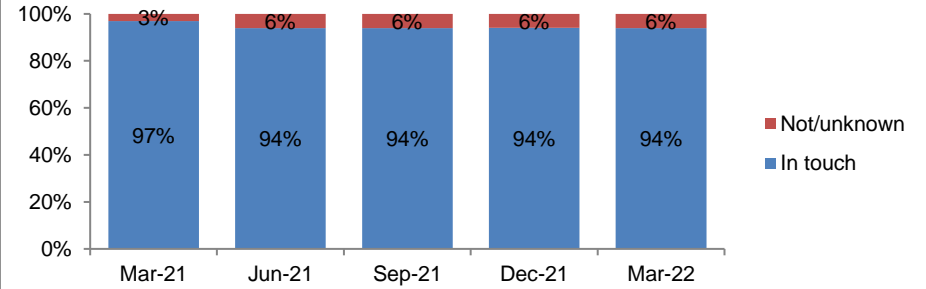
Wyre Forest



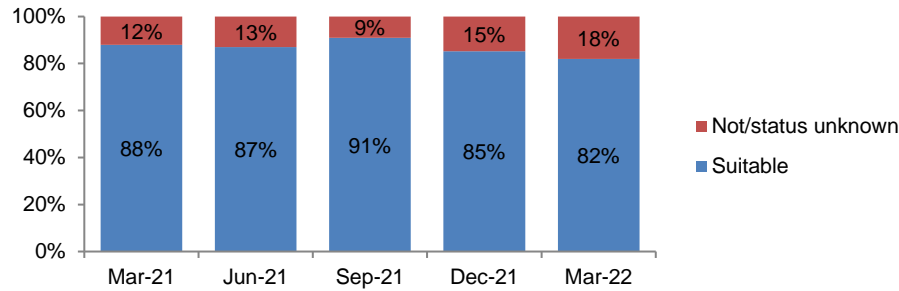
Number of Care Leavers Open for Services



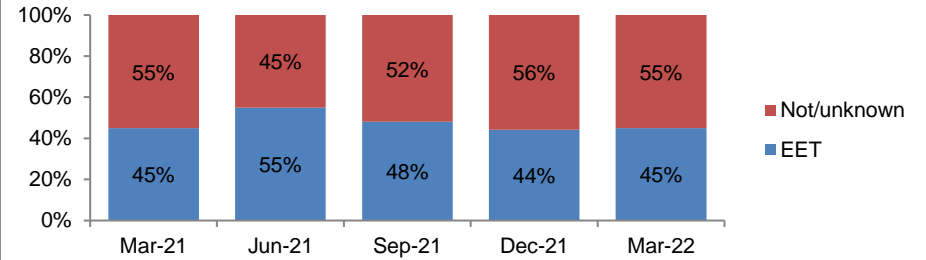
Percentage of Care Leavers In Touch



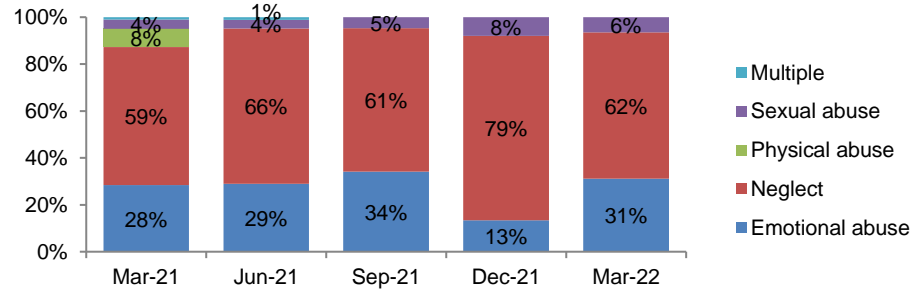
Percentage of Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation



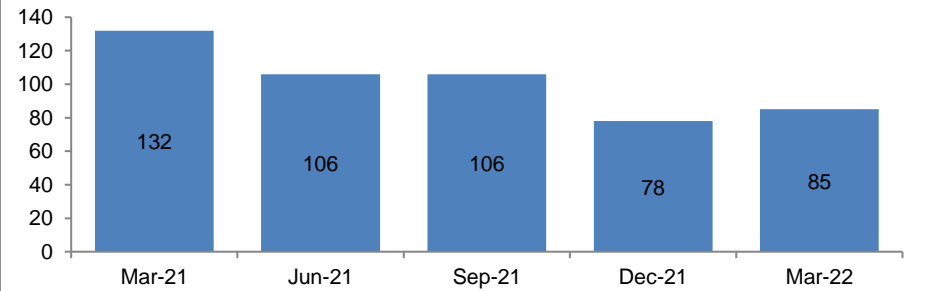
Percentage of Care Leavers in Education/Employment/Training



Percentage of Child Protection Plans by Latest Category



Children In Need - Number



Corporate Parenting Board Dataset

Measure	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Target	Eng 20/21	Stat Nbrs 20/21
1 Number of Looked After Children	852	866	878	877	879	881	892	887	898	902	904	894		{800}	{639}
2 Percentage of Looked After Children subject to s20	11%	11%	11%	10%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%		15%	22%
3 Number of Looked After Children who are Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers	23	25	27	27	29	30	28	29	29	29	31	30			
4 Number of Looked After Children open to Children with Disability teams	44	36	34	34	40	36	30	30	32	32	32	34			
5 Number of Looked After Children placed outside the County (3)	251	269	269	267	269	270	270	269	271	276	275	276 (31%)		42%	33%
6 Number of Looked After Children placed more than 20 miles from home, outside the County	122	132	132	133	131	130	133	132	130	131	132	126 (16%)	12%	16%	18%
7 Number of Looked After Children placed more than 20 miles from home, total	143	150	153	154	151	153	156	153	152	152	151	143 (18%)		21%	26%
8 Percentage of Looked After Children with 3 or more placements in previous 12 months	7.0%	8.2%	7.6%	8.3%	8.9%	8.9%	8.7%	8.3%	7.8%	8.1%	7.9%	6.2%	10%	11%	11%
9 Number of Looked After Children placed in Foster Care/ with a Relative or Friend	643	653	661	661	658	650	656	663	670	679	688	664 (74%)	75%	71%	70%
10 Number of Looked After Children placed for Adoption	18	23	19	19	18	19	19	15	16	15	12	21 (2%)		3%	4%
11 Number of Looked After Children placed with parents	40	36	39	32	33	34	39	32	34	37	41	41 (5%)		7%	5%
12 Number of Looked After Children in Independent/Supported Living	49	50	52	56	62	63	64	62	63	56	55	57 (6%)			
13 Number of Looked After Children in Children's Homes (1)	93	98	99	102	101	102	100	104	104	106	100	100 (11%)	10%	14%	18%
14 Number of Looked After Children in Secure Accommodation	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	4	3	3	3	3 (<1%)			
15 Number of Looked After Children in Other (2)	7	4	6	5	5	10	10	7	8	6	5	8 (1%)		4%	5%
16 Number of Looked After Children in Bed and Breakfast	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
17 Number of repeat Looked After Children within 12 months	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1%		
18 Percentage of Looked After Children with an up to date Care Plan or Pathway Plan	94%	97%	98%	99.7%	99.9%	99.9%	99.2%	99.1%	99.4%	99.3%	99.6%	98.9%	100%		
19 Percentage of Looked After Children with an up to date health assessment	77%	76%	76%	78%	79%	78%	76%	75%	73%	73%	73%	75%	90%	91%	88%
20 Percentage of looked after children of school age with an up to date Personal Education Plan at term end				100%					100%				95%		
21 Number of Children in care of WCC aged 16/17 that are Not in Education/Employment/Training - (placed in or out of county)	26	21	20	22	22	22	33	34	32	37	34	36			
22 Number of Looked After Children who went missing	7	14	12	18	19	15	13	15	12	11	12	17			
23 Number of "missing" incidents involving Looked After Children	19	21	18	25	30	25	18	28	25	26	18	31			
24 Number of Looked after Children recorded as vulnerable to Child Sexual Exploitation	13	11	9	9	10	10	10	10	9	11	10	12			
25 Number of Looked after Children recorded as experiencing Child Sexual Exploitation	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2			
26 Number of council foster carers - households			136			128			121			117			
27 Number of care leavers open for services - all ages	352	358	364	373	376	381	379	389	386	398	390	390			
28 Number of care leavers open for services - age 18-20	267	275	273	283	282	288	286	293	278	289	283	284			
29 Number of care leavers open for services - age 21- 25	85	83	91	90	94	93	93	96	108	109	107	106			
30 Percentage of care leavers open for services "in touch" - all ages	92%	94%	97%	95%	94%	92%	93%	90%	91%	91%	91%	90%	95%	{91%}	{91%}
31 Percentage of care leavers open for services in suitable accommodation - all ages	97%	97%	96%	96%	97%	96%	96%	97%	97%	96%	95%	95%	95%	{88%}	{90%}
32 Number of care leavers open for services in Bed and Breakfast (all ages)	1	1	4	2	1	5	4	1	1	3	3	4			
33 Percentage of care leavers open for services that are in Education/Employment/Training - all ages	48%	50%	52%	51%	52%	52%	54%	53%	53%	55%	56%	55%	85%	{52%}	{50%}
34 Percentage of care leavers open for services with an up-to-date Pathway Plan - age 18-20	72%	83%	84%	77%	73%	66%	69%	74%	72%	65%	65%	72%	95%		

(1) - Definition amended from October 2020 from 'all residential' to 'Children's homes' to enable benchmarking with national figures. (2) Other 'residential' moved to this row.

(3) - Definition amended from Jan 2021 to capture all placed outside county regardless of whether home address known

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