

ANALYSIS

Analysis - Family Front Door

Work to address consistent application of threshold of SWA both with in managers through targeted audit and with partners case by case and through partnership locality events continues - we are seeing some reduction in assessment resulting in NFA (this includes step downs) This work is fundamentally linked to the development of the Targeted Early Help services.

We continue to see good practice in SWA timeliness sustained now for 9mths post work completed at the FFD to clear backlogs. Case load pressures and high reliance on agency staff at FFD continue to be a challenge but a recent recruitment of 2 more permanent Team Managers takes us to 4/6 permanent manager in Assessment teams and a dedicated Group Manager for theses team moved into post June 18.

Agency contribution to strategy discussions is not good enough and Police contribution are a Fwi compliance issues constantly addressed with the turn over of managers. In the 0-19 re-commissioning of HV/Sch Nurses a dedicated Health professional representation at FFD has been identified.

Data for 2017/18 as produced for the West Midlands Benchmarking Group

Source of Referral	Number	%
Individual	329	7
Schools	792	18
Education services	51	1
Health services	608	13
Housing	64	1
LA Services	404	9
Police	1690	37
Other Legal Agency	203	4
Other	216	5
Anonymous	157	3
Unknown	3	0

In 2017/18 there were just under 2000 children and young people assessed by Family Front Door teams following a referral where there was no further action by social care following the assessment. In relation to these assessments, in the preceding 12 months,

- In 17% - there was at least one previous referral for the child/young person
- In 27% - there was at least one previous contact (i.e. not resulting in referral).

Analysis - Child Protection

April 2016 Child Protection (CP) figures stood at 37 per 10,000 rising to 46 by April 17. This significant rise in year reflecting the post Ofsted safeguarding work to address both poor quality assessment of risk and drift and delay in case work. Figures are now reducing. The number of children subject to CP relates to the number of Children In Need (CIN) and Numbers of Children in Care. Our social work approach is to ensure through CIN we can offer support and assistance to a family early but also to take proactive safeguarding action within CP/PLO where there is no timely/sustained change for a child. As such we expect to see a rise in our CIN and a reduction in CP.

Repeat Child Protection. Whilst data showing increase through 16/17 was expected due to service improvement work in quality of assessments /intervention this isn't reducing consistently and we identified a large number being removed from at plan at first review. This led us to audit to understand our work. For repeats within 2years the audit identified too many children removed from CP at first review due to Child/YP moving to alternative parent/family or the primary risk person moving out. In such situations we have seen breakdown and risk re-presented. We have challenged professionals "over optimism" in these cases and analysis of monthly CP outcome dated evidences this is improving from an average of 30% removal at first review through 17/18 down to 17% in qtr. 1 of 18/19. For repeats over 2years audit has shown appropriate decision making in the need for a repeated plan with the history now clearly being taken into account (a previous concern in our SIF) and or a new concern having been identified. Improved practice in our work should reflect a decrease in repeat CP in both categories through the year. (NB January 19 we will be 2 years post the start of our improvement plan)

What we want to know is how successful the child and family think our CP intervention is and we are now asking this question. Data on repeat CP and understanding feedback from Children/Young People and parents on the effectiveness of a CP intervention is priority for work us in 18/19/. Monthly service User feedback (Qtr. 1 18/19) shows positive increase in the % of parents reporting the SW explained well the concern prior to conference from 76 % April 18 up to 95% June 18 and positive reports from professionals reporting that the child's voice is understood in assessment in 82% up to 88% cases and conference being child focused from 59% up to 92% in June 18 (this month co-insides with implementation of SoS approach in ICPC. However the same report identifies key concerns for our practice with parents reporting a CP plan has made a positive difference to their lives from 59% April down to 28% June and professionals reporting plans reflecting the needs of a child from 83% down to 77% in June 18. We clearly need to ensure the SoS approach is resulting in clear outcome focused and not strengths and danger statements

Analysis - Children in Need

Our Children in Need represent 33.3% of cases open in locality safeguarding; this is an increase from 32% in April 17 with a corresponding reduction in the representation of those subject to Child Protection from 28% down to 23%. This is reflective of the service approach to support families at the lowest level safe to do so resulting in an increase in CIN as a % of the open cases in the service. Work to ensure CIN plans do not drift continues to be a challenge with instability in the workforce and competing demands of priorities. Data shows an increase in CIN open for more than 6months from 28% in Qtr. 4 up to 33% in Qtr. 1 of this year.

Analysis - Missing Children

March 18 saw the appointment into post of three Missing Children Officers with responsibility for undertaking our welfare return interviews for children missing from home and care. Data reporting has been reviewed and we will review trend data to see impact. We have seen a reduction in the number of children missing from Home and Care from 17/18 annual trend data. Line managed by the Practice Lead for CSE quarterly reports on "push / pull" factors will now be produced by this team the addition "push pull" factors and links to CSE will be triangulated through the management and CSE operational group.

Feedback from social workers about the impact on the quality of welfare return interviews done independently of them is positive.

Re: Impact of new Missing Officers at the FFD Team Manager quote:

In relation to FG who was missing regularly, Jo was very supportive, she had a relationship with the child when it came from the FFD and was able to undertake the missing interviews much more freely than we could. We had another young person placed on residential in wales and he has had a number of missing episodes. The missing officer, Val, built a good rapport with him and again completed the interviews in a much more timely way given the availability of the allocated social workers. Alice Gillett Team Manager.

Analysis -Child Sexual Exploitation

The WSCB approval has been given to extend the remit of the CSE Strategy / Steering group to include other forms of exploitation including; Gangs, HBV, County Lines, Forced Marriage and Trafficking. A refreshed ToR is in development. This will be our "Get Safe" team. The Get Safe team will bring together operational experts in supporting Targeted Early Help and Social Workers in identifying risk across these areas of harm. CSE problem profile has been updated as priority and was presented to CSE strategic Group July 18

Analysis - Looked After Children

Whilst we haven't got England averages or SN data for 17/18 our own three year data shows post Ofsted an increase in children being received into care, (practice safeguarding on children at risk drifting in Child Protection and Pre proceedings, then a reduction trend year to date. For those leaving care a sharper increase post Ofsted reflecting the work to progress children's cases that had drifted but reducing care leaver numbers year to date now that this back log has been addressed and children are moving out in a more timely way in line with more effective care planning to permanency.

Looking only at total population there appears to be an increasing Looked After Child population but in actual fact when analysed in this additional detail shows a trend of a reducing Looked After Child population.

Looked after Children with 3+ Moves in 12 months at 31/07/2018, broken down by Placement End Reason

Placement End Reason	Total	%
Carer requests placement end due to child's behaviour	103	37%
Change to/Implementation of Care Plan	79	28%
Child requests placement end	30	11%
Carer requests placement end other than due to child's behaviour	23	8%
Responsible/Area authority requests placement end	17	6%
Standards of Care concern	9	3%
Allegation (s47)	6	2%
Resignation/closure of provision	4	1%
Interim internal holiday cottage	3	1%
Returned to secure accommodation	1	0%
Change in the status of a placement only	1	0%
Living with family	1	0%
Transferred to another hospital	1	0%
End of secure care	1	0%
Hospital Assessment	1	0%
Total	280	

Analysis - Looked After Children (continued)
Looked After Children - number of allocated workers 23 March 2018

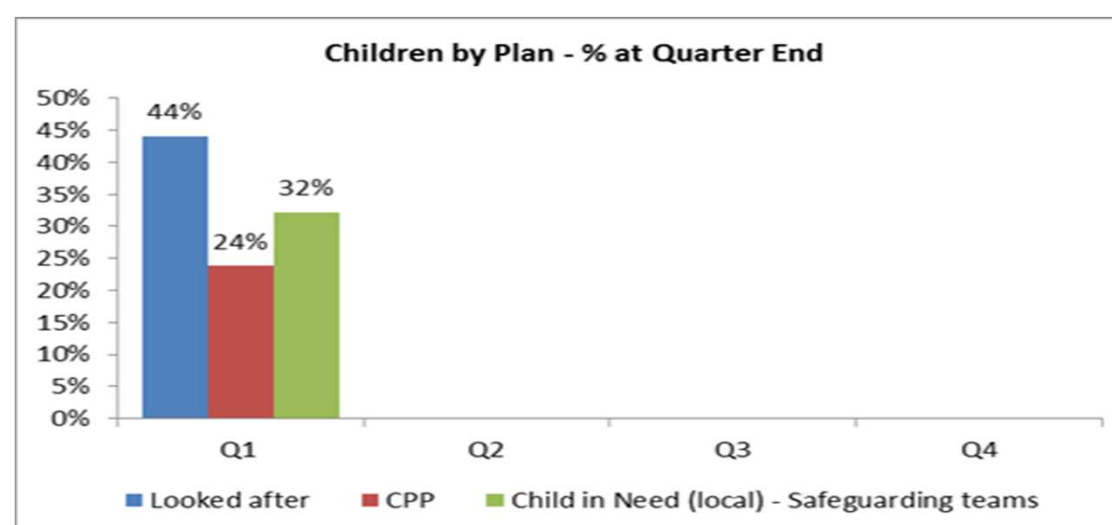
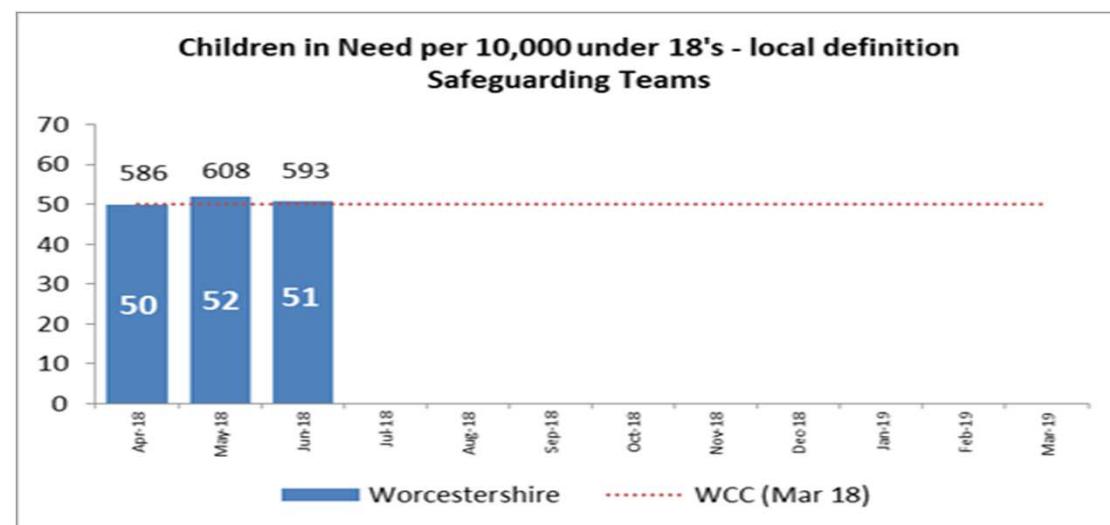
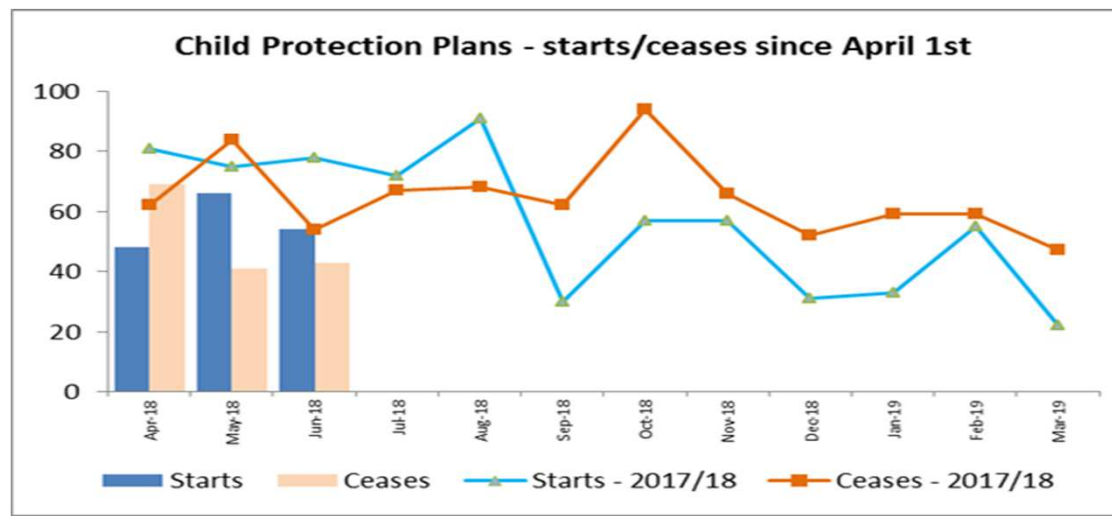
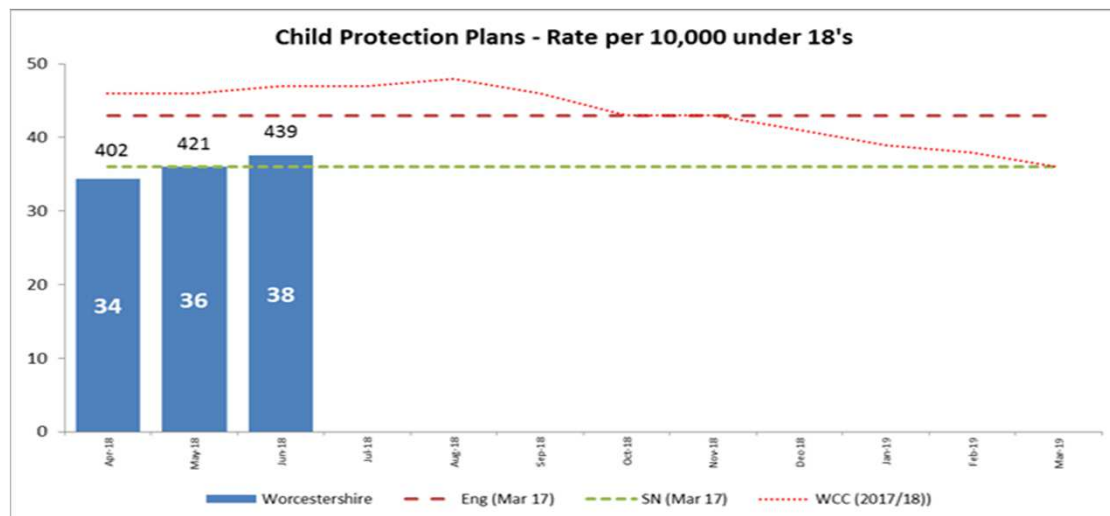
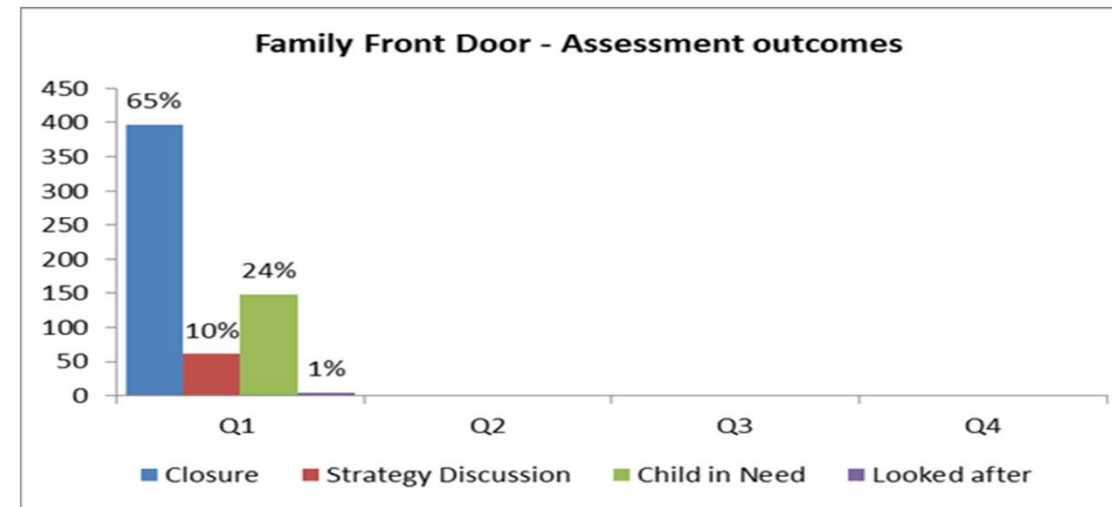
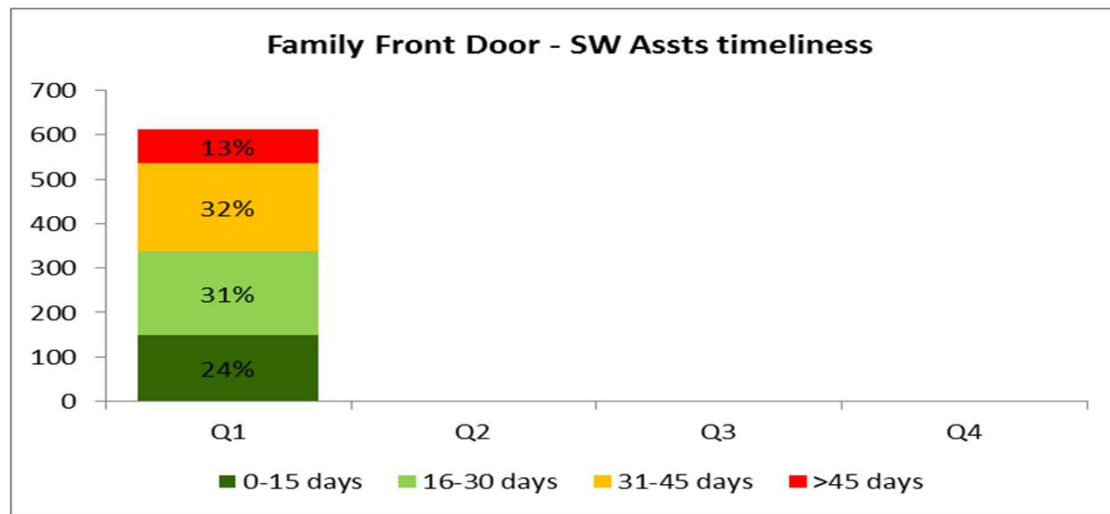
No. of Allocated Workers	Number of Children	% of Children
1	242	30%
2	169	21%
3	173	22%
4	99	12%
5	55	7%
6	36	5%
7	15	2%
8	4	1%
9	2	0%
Total	795	100%

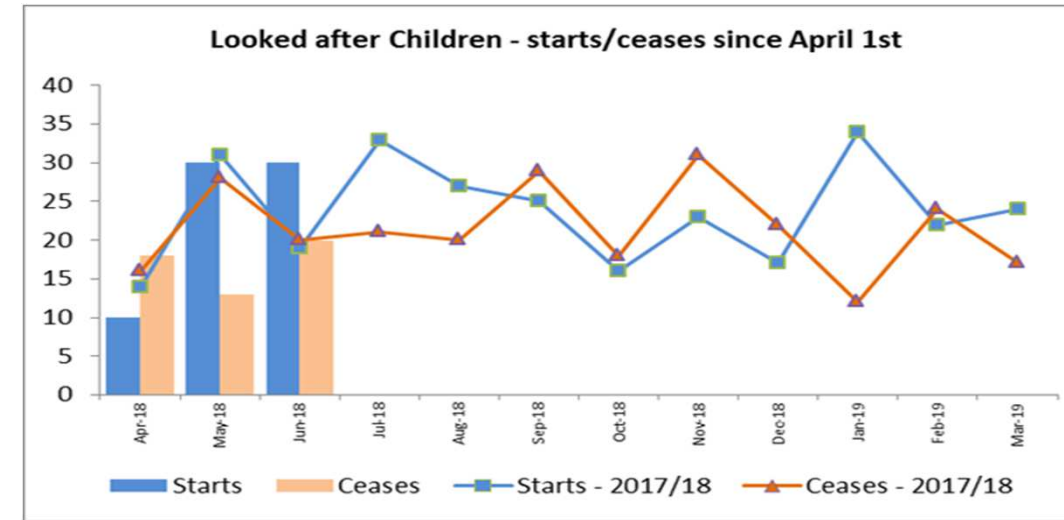
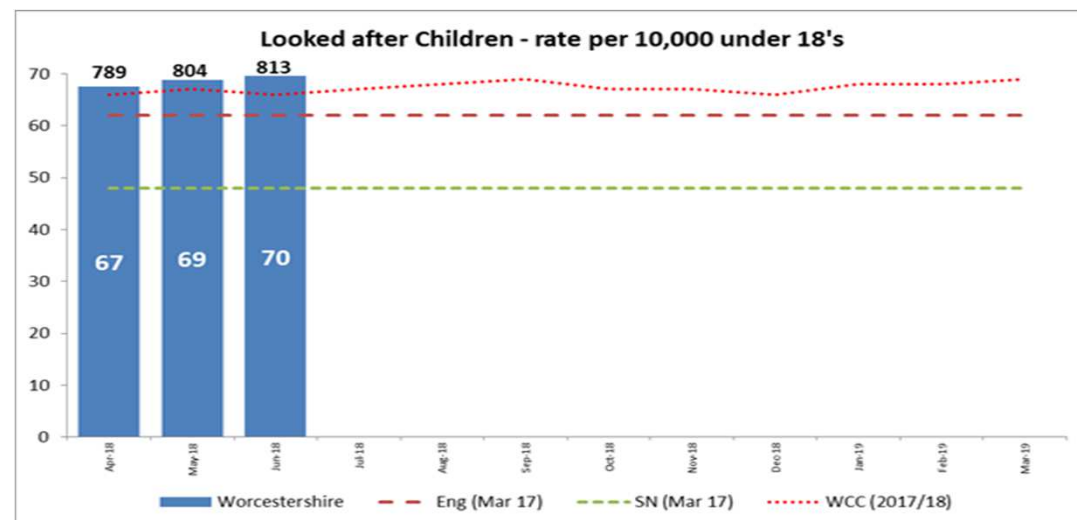
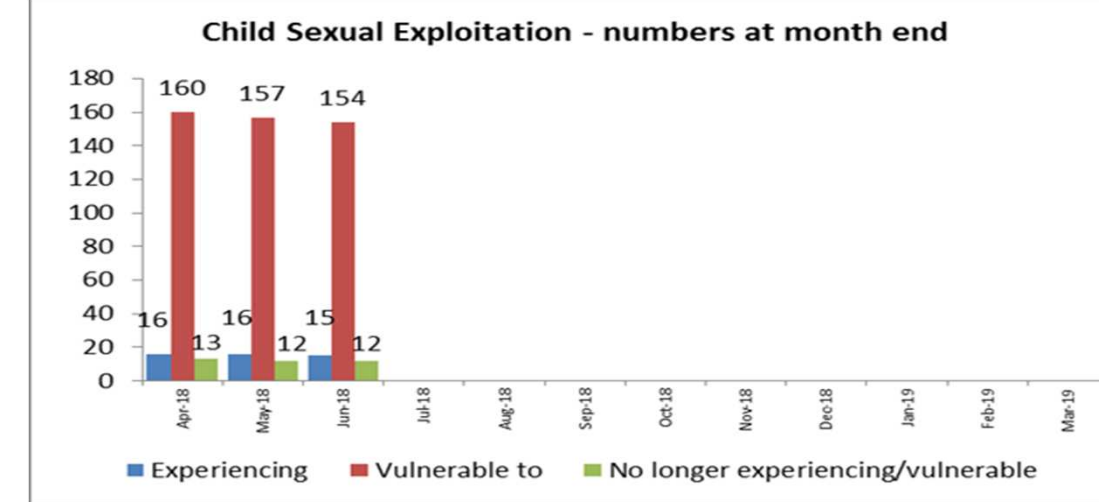
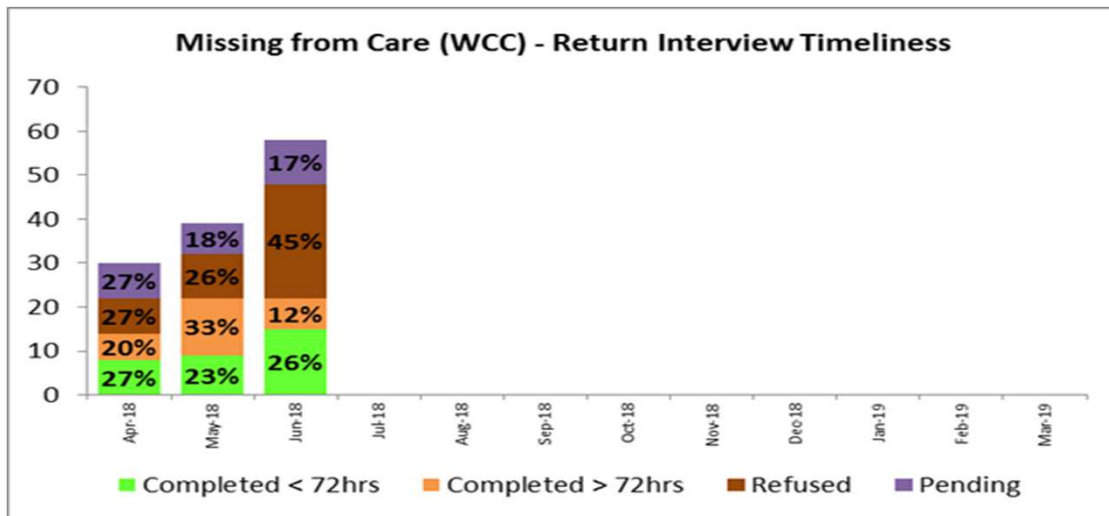
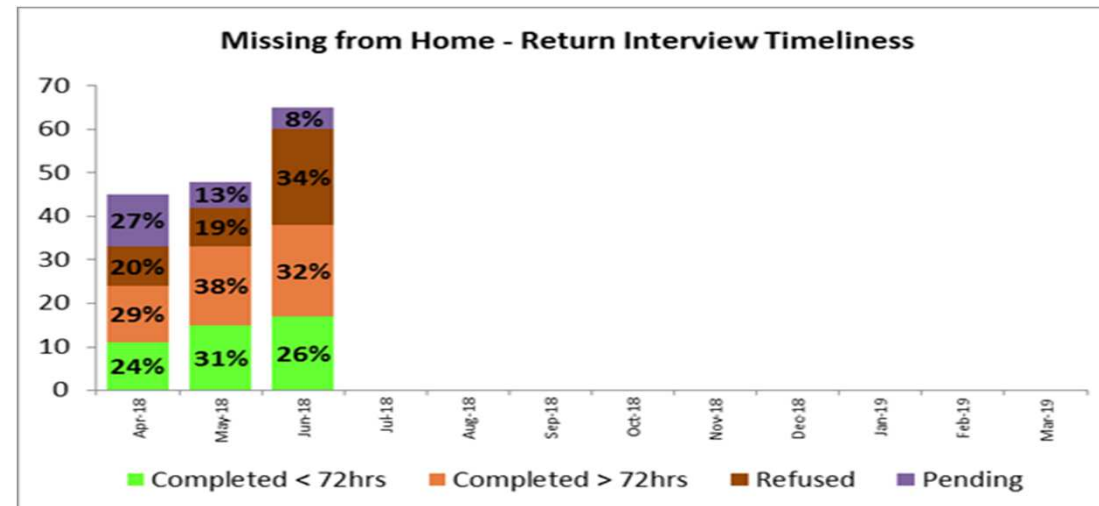
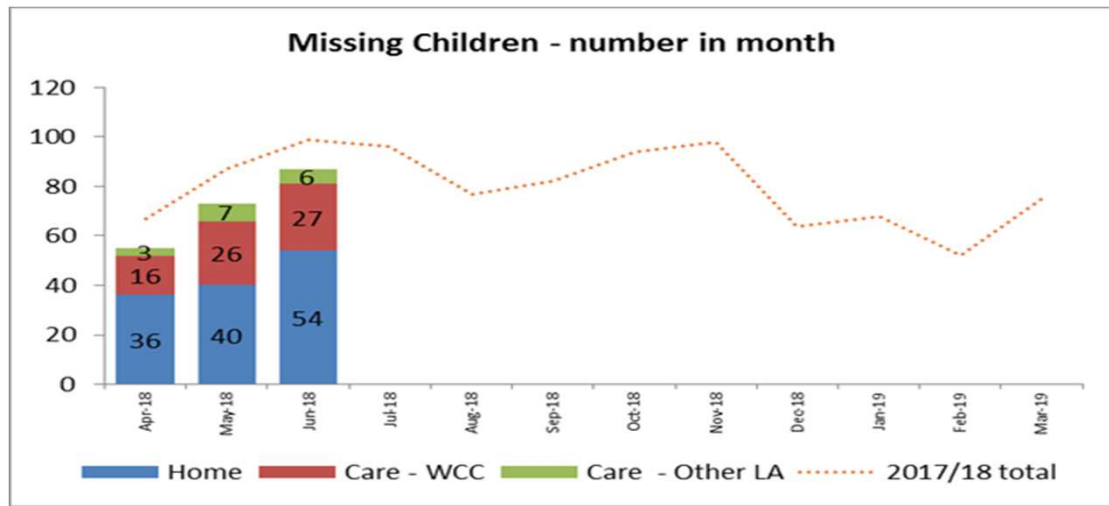
The above is taken from a report which looks at number of allocated workers for children currently looked after:
(a) since period of care started
(b) where the worker is still open or ended on or after 1 Feb 2016 i.e. just over the last two years.
The Children's Commissioner has been undertaking some work on this nationally. Her headline figure was that nationally 1 in 4 Looked After Children have multiple changes of worker during a year but that there is wide variation. The figures outlined in table 3 were calculated over a period of 2 years, whereas the national figures are calculated over 1 year. We would therefore expect the WCC figures to be higher.

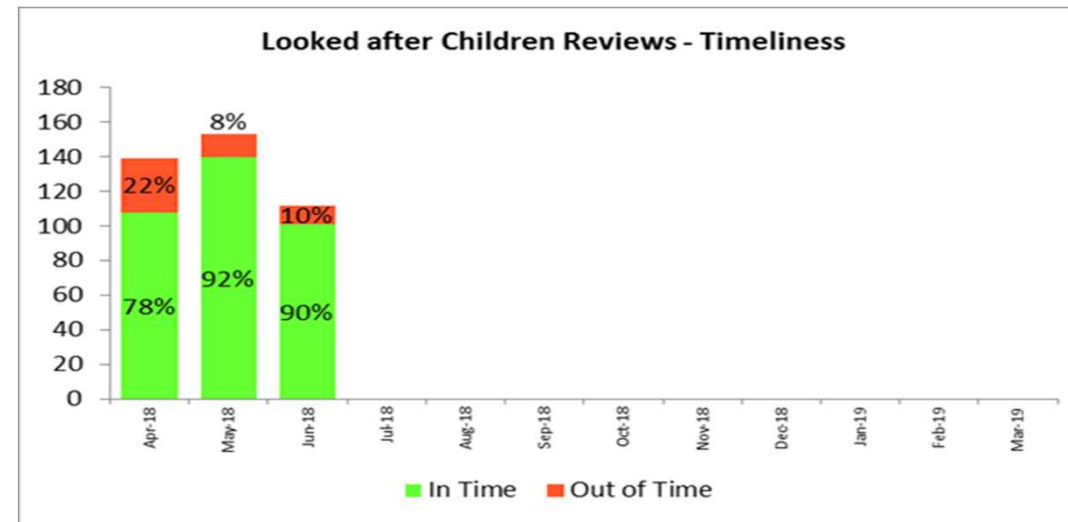
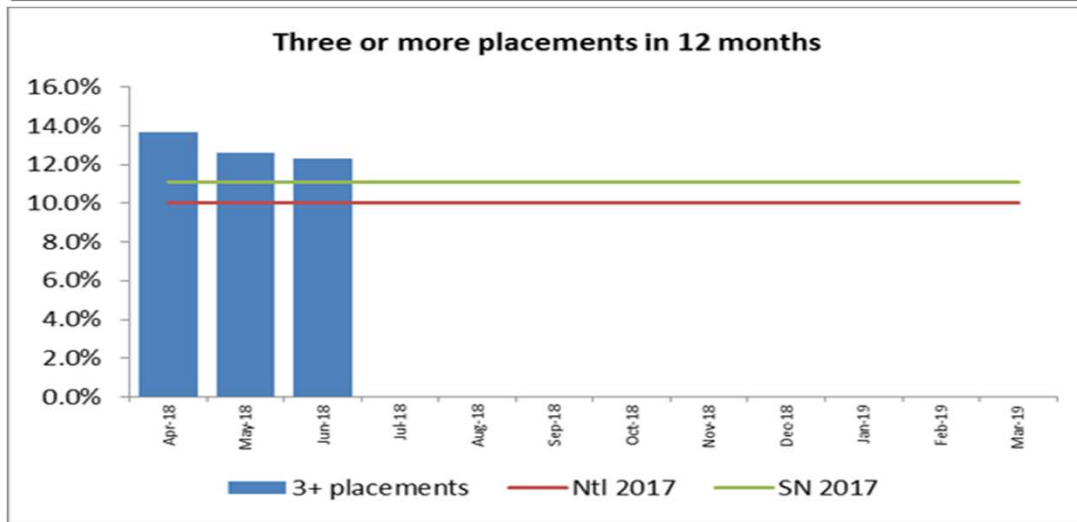
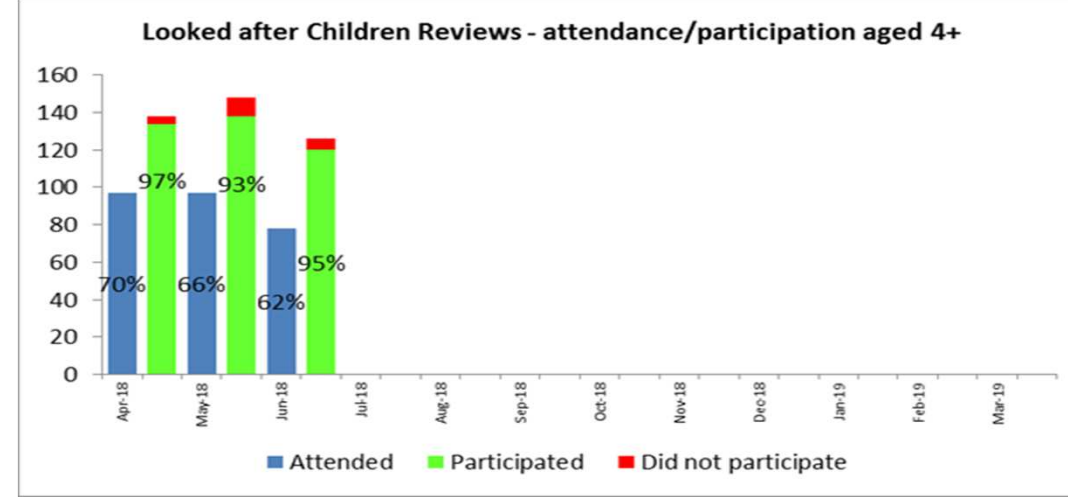
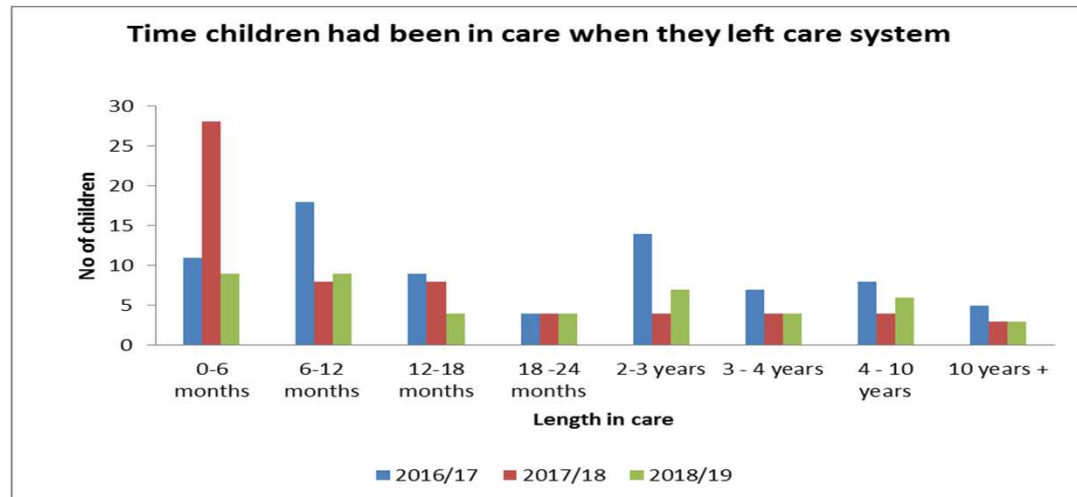
The table below shows post Ofsted data on Children achieving permanency with a positive trend and increase in the number of children leaving care and achieving permanency in a more timely way i.e. within 12 months and a reduction in 17/18 of those where it took up to 2 years to achieve a permanency plan outside of LA care.

Duration of care at point of exit	16/17	17/18	Analysis
0-12 months	36%	47%	Rise in achieving permanency out of care within 12 months
12-24 months	25%	20%	Reduction in those leaving in two years is a reflection of addressing a backlog of drift and delay cases in the system
2 years plus	39%	32%	In usual circs this figure would be heavily influenced by the older age young people attaining 18yrs in our case we have had proactive work on drift and delay and poor Aspirational permanency planning

Our data show an increasing trend in the use of residential care to meet the need of children in our care and a decreasing use of foster care both being out of line with national averages. The services are working on an Edge of Care and Sufficiency strategy to review how we meet the needs of our existing and incoming children and young people in need of care to promote their welfare and protect them from harm







Type of placement - Costs	Ave Unit Cost £ / Week	Number
Agency Residential *Note 1	3,418	76
Secure Units	0	0
In-house Residential		
Downsell Road	2,509	5
CWD Homes	2,480	7
EBD Homes	2,743	16
IFA	789	232
In-house Fostering	477	188
Kinship Fostering	379	162
Placement Plus	900	5
External Supported Living	839	23
Internal Supported Living	148	21
Internal Supported Living -Complex	1,079	5
Safe Base / Supported Lodging	333	15
Student Accommodation	66	2
Staying Put Arrangements	79	30
Hillview Short Breaks	2,447	1
TOTAL Number of Placements	465	788

