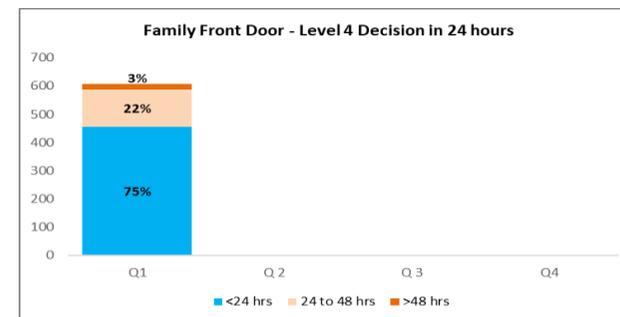
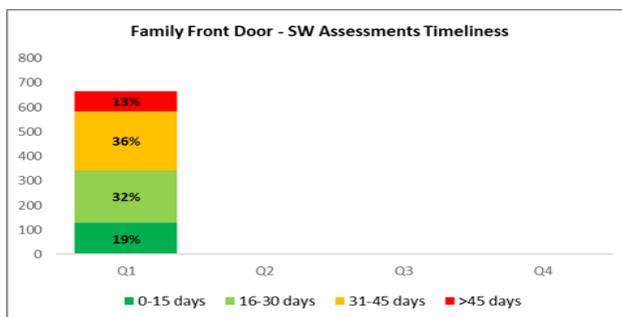
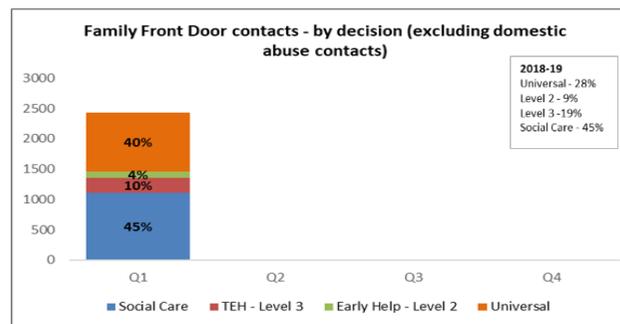
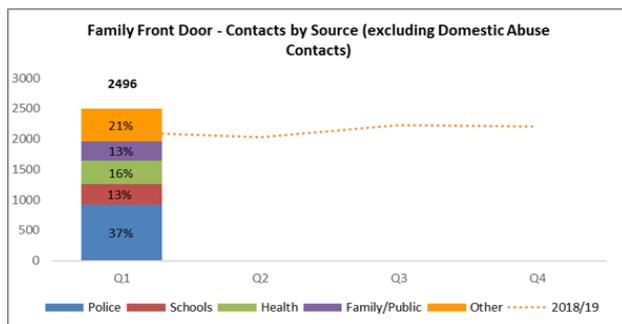


Family Front Door



Analysis - Family Front Door

Rise in Demand and inappropriate application of threshold

May and June 19 saw a significant increase in contacts, from a previous average Jan. 19 - April 19 of 750 per month up to 821 and 920 respectively in May and June. Although agency source of contacts remain stable in % of agencies represented we have seen an increase in contacts resulting in the need for universal or level 2 services. This reflects partner agencies putting through inappropriate contacts when they should be directing these families to their own or local early help. The appropriateness of threshold decision making by managers at FFD is identified in the Ofsted report June 19 and this rise in inappropriate demand impacts negatively on FFD and assessment teams to work with children and families most in need and in a timely way and risks driving "process driven" practice as staff at FFD try to manage such demand with existing capacity.

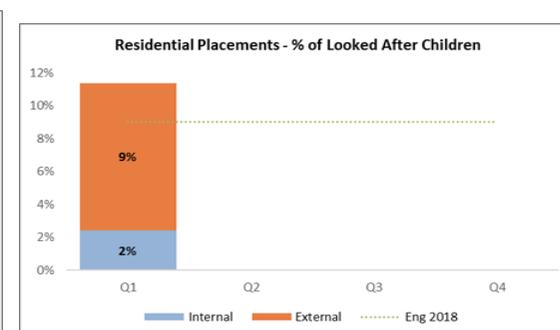
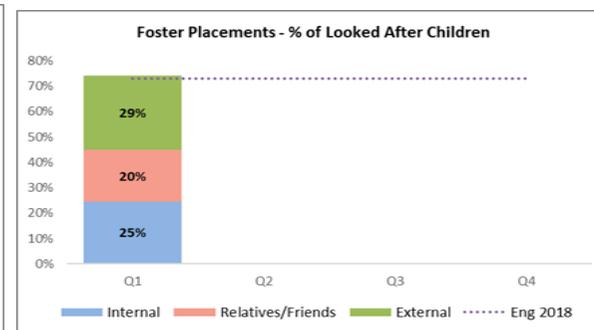
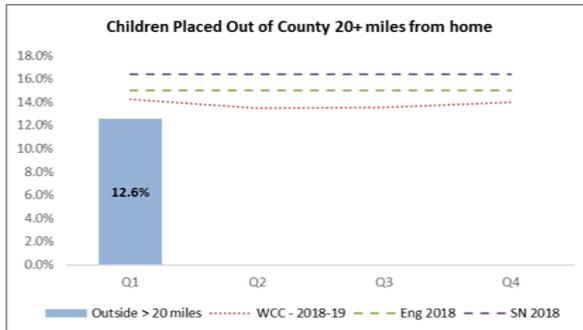
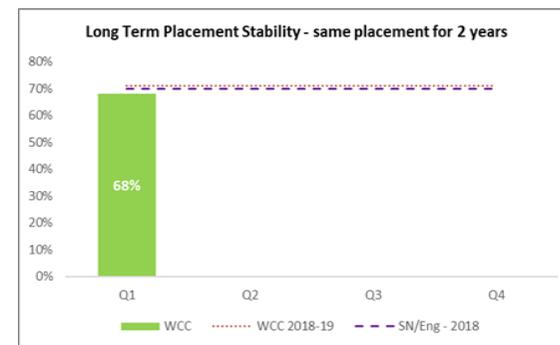
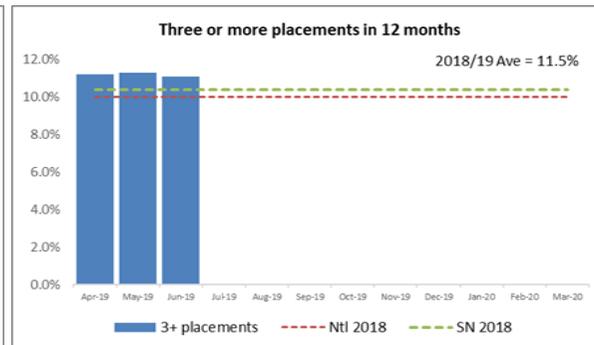
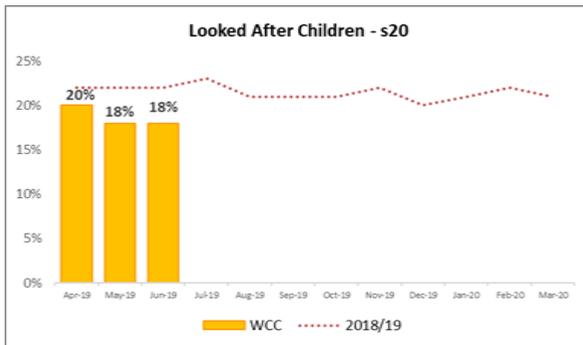
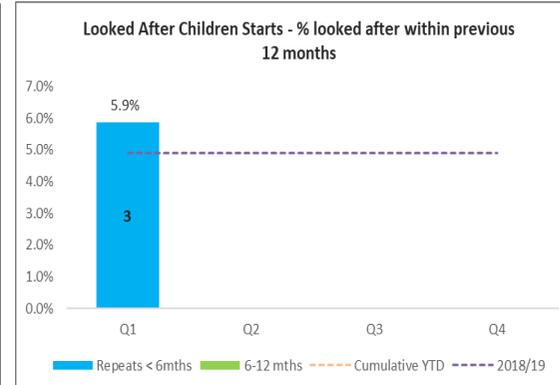
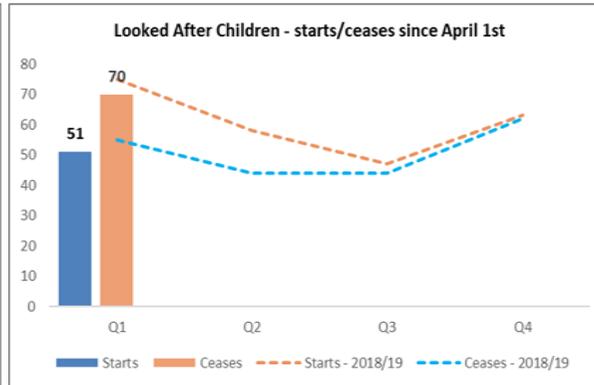
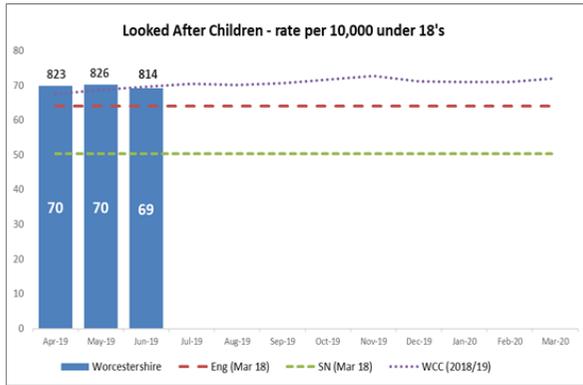
Health and Police have less than 50% of contacts resulting in level 4 need

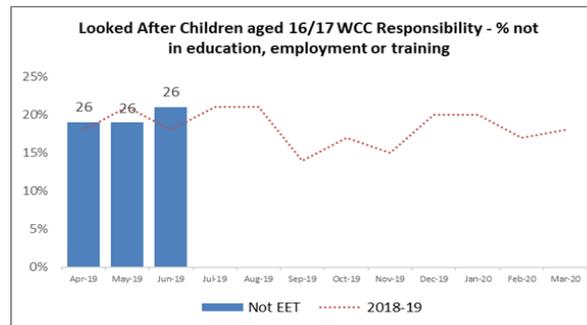
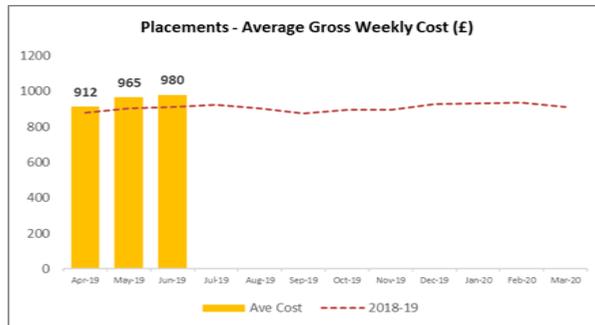
Data shows schools as having the highest % of contacts meeting appropriate threshold at level 4 at 77%, although whilst there is no national comparison data our target for this should still be higher at 85%. However Health agencies and Police show more inappropriate application of threshold with only 42% and 30% respectively of contacts resulting in a level 4 need. This data will be shared with Worcestershire Children's Safeguarding Partnership and the QAPP subgroup for additional audit to promote the professional debate on "wants/needs" for social work intervention and best practice for children and their families

Managerial Grip on timeliness

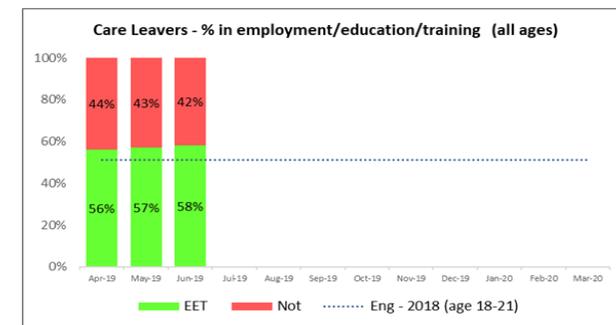
Despite the rise in demand for contacts and SWA, managerial grip on case work is good - this is reflected in the timeliness of decision making on contacts in 24hrs (at 75% up from an average of only 50% last year) and in the timeliness of SWA completed in 45 days (at 87% from an average of 81% in the previous year)

Through Care - Looked After Children and Care Leavers





No comparator data is available for this indicator



Care Leavers 18-21 in Employment, Education or Training as at 30 June 2019: **61%**. 2017/18 figure for Statistical Neighbours: **53.7%**

Analysis - Through Care

Numbers of Children in Care are reducing overall

Our Looked After Children numbers are showing signs of reduction as the longer standing cohort leave the care of the LA, permanency is achieved quickly for the younger new cohort and new accommodations are prevented, managing of risk and support in family care where it is safe to do so. The Edge of Care service, due to be operational November 19, will impact further supporting sustained reduction as the number leaving care out weigh those entering. Regional comparison at the end of 18/19 showed Worcestershire with the lowest number of new Looked After Children in the region.

Use of S20 Voluntary care continues to reduce

Care is used to protect children from harm when risks cannot be safely managed in the family care and our use of voluntary care under S20 continues to reduce from the 21% sustained in year 18/19 down to 18% in Qtr. 1

Case work with Looked After Children shows sustained good progress in:

- Care plans in place
- Visits to children in timescales
- Health Assessments in place
- Personal Education plans in place
- Timeliness of Looked After Children Reviews
- Care Leavers in EET at 61% are higher than Eng averages

However the number of Looked After Children aged 16/17yrs not in Education Employment or Training isn't sufficiently reducing. A NEET panel has been established to consider case by case with the virtual head and we will be monitoring impact.

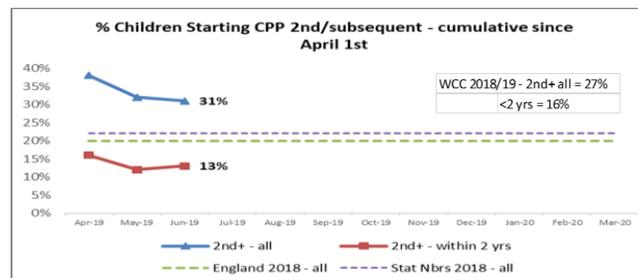
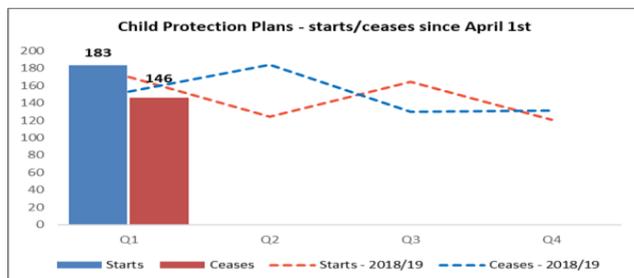
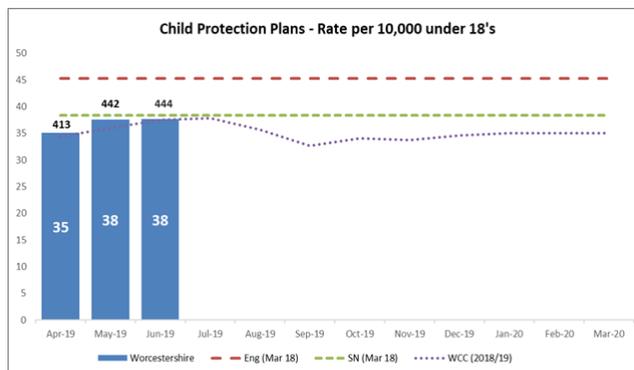
Placements for children in care are providing positive outcomes evidenced through KPI's in:

A reduction in children experiencing three or more placement moves
 Those children in long term stability (in the same placement for over 2years) in line with Eng. target
 A reduction, well below Eng./SN average, number of children placed over 20+ miles from home
 Care Leavers in suitable accommodation at 89% compared to the available comparison 17/18 SN / Eng. Average 84%

However:

- our use of B&B for care leavers (18yrs+) has been too high and an individual case review has been undertaken to identify reasons for use as well as making this data a monthly KPI for the snr management team - this will be reported into Corporate Parenting Board
- our use of residential care for 11% of our looked after children is above Eng. averages of 9% (note this is 17/18 data) We are awaiting more recent England averages data to make true comparison.

Child Protection



Analysis - Child Protection

Rise in Child Protection

Through 18/19 we saw a sustained average through year in number of children subject to CP at 35 per 10k (404 children March 19) However in year we have seen a rising trend month on month April - July - taking the over all number up to 480 at 31.7.19 (41 pre 10k) Whilst we expected a rise in conjunction with the reduction in newly accommodated children and work to manage risk in the family home, we did not expect to see such a dramatic rise. Two key issues have been identified;

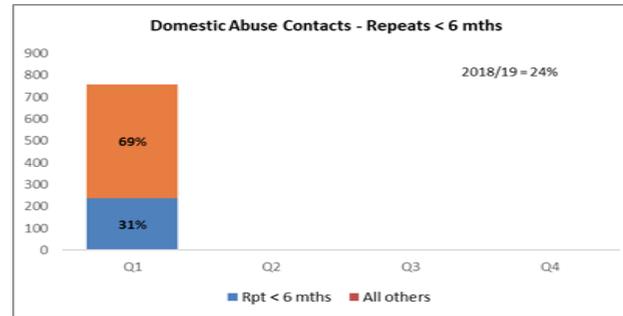
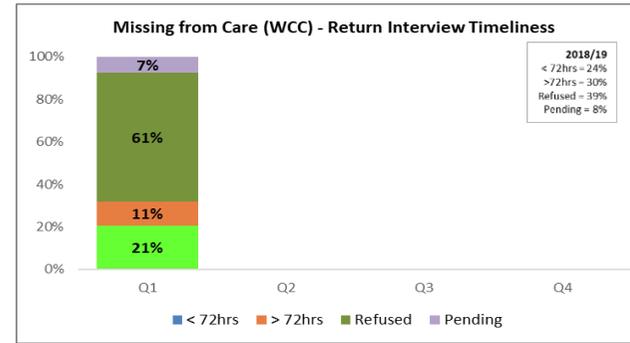
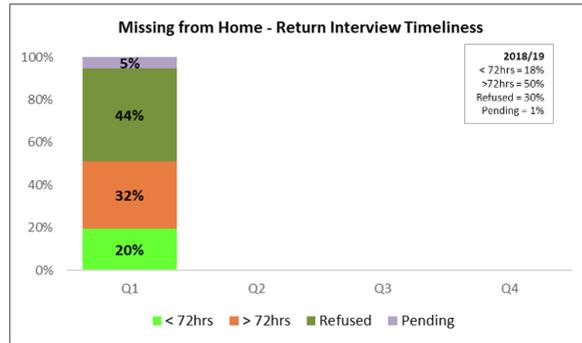
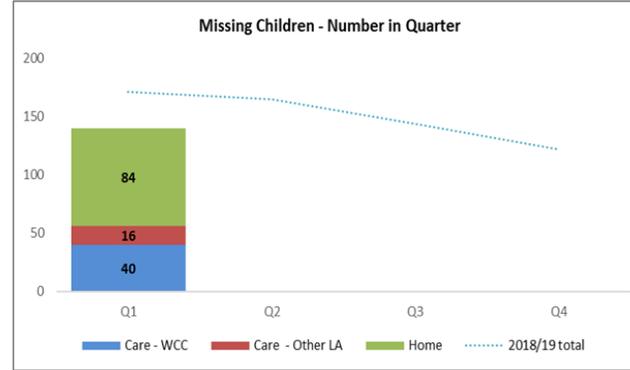
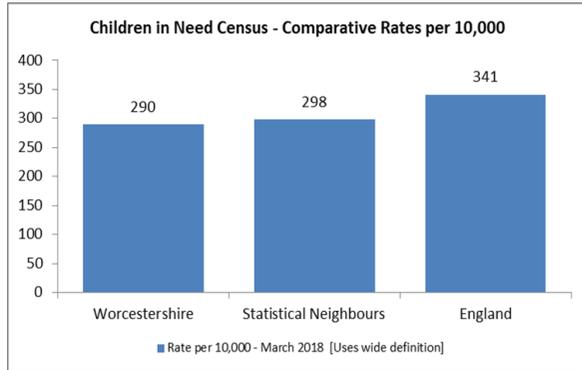
- one is the rise in the number of siblings groups of 3+ being presented with significant harm. There is an improvement in practice in recognising transferable risks, although we do need to ensure we are meeting threshold for individual children clearly
- the second is the high number of referrals (May/June (an average of 870 compared to the Jan - May average of 750) and new plans (May 19 an additional 29 children and then July 19 an additional 36 children) made in May and June that progressed to SWA and conference and CP plans. There is always a risk with such peaks in demand that front line work becomes "process driven" due to capacity and / or concern that referring agencies have not been acting on significant harm concerns in a timely way.

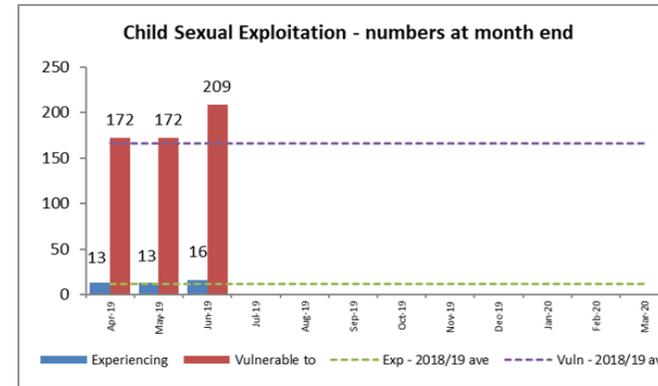
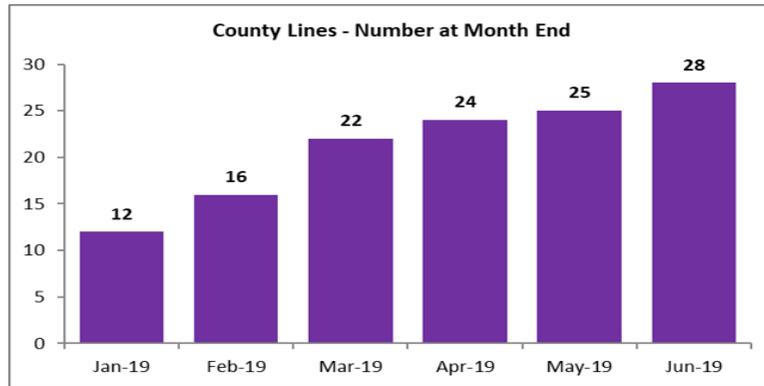
This is a concern for us to understand and audit is being undertaken to understand why there was such a high number of referrals in and to monitor outcome for this cohort to establish appropriate use of threshold.

Reduction in Repeats in less than 2 years

Repeat CP plans within 2 years has reduced from 16% 18/19 down to 13% in qtr. 1 of this year. This group of children is most reflective of current practice. We are still seeing children returning to CP plans with over a 2 year period gap since their last plan was in place. This is reflective of more historical practice. This cohort of children may have been removed inappropriately during a previous period of poor practice / decision making and includes those for whom circumstances did improve but have again deteriorated. We continue to be above the Eng. Av/SN in this category.

Children In Need





Analysis - Children in Need

Timely Management of Children In Need to achieve child centred outcomes

Children in Need are the third category of children open on plans to safeguarding - work is undertaken on a voluntary basis with parents seeking to prevent risk and need escalating to CP/Care. Timely and Focused management of plans without drift to achieve change has been a priority and we can evidence a reduction in CIN cases open for over 6mths from 16% Qtr. 4 of 18/19 down to 13% Qtr. 1 this year 19/20. The range of outcomes being NFA/CP and Care reflect good practice as the range of outcomes are used for individual children.

Get Safe is enabling us to identify children at risk of exploitation.

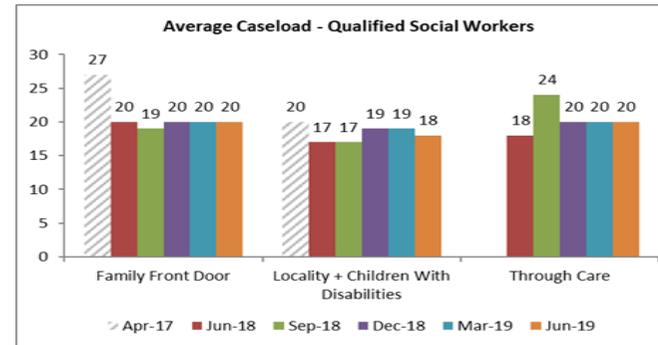
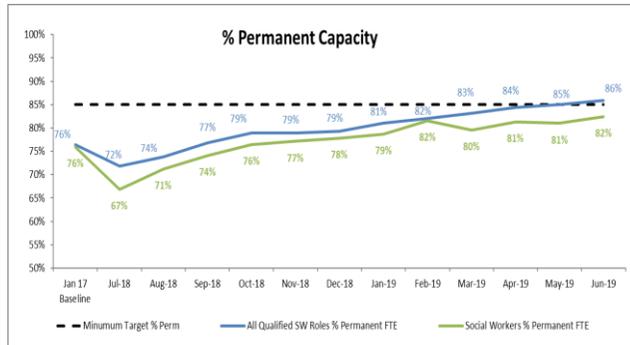
Increasing awareness internally and with partners, increased targeted capacity and improved data collation is enabling us to better identify children at risk of exploitation with CSE and County lines rising. These individual children are subject to plans and reviews through the Get Safe team.

Reduction in number of children involved in missing from Care and Home

We continue to see reducing number of children involved in incidents of being missing from home or care. Comparison with Qtr. 1 of 18/19 (seasonal comparison is relevant) show a significant decreased in children missing from home from 135 down to 84 and for those in care from 66 down to 40. However we have a high number of children refusing to undertake the welfare return interviews this quarter and this will be reviewed with the team

Repeat DA incidents within 6mths will be monitored against this base line

Staffing



Analysis - Staffing

Permanency in staffing continues to increase providing a better quality of practice and stability of worker for children

Case loads are stable and staff report they are manageable - although consistency for all staff isn't yet achieved

Next Staff Health Check is due October 19 results Dec 19