

Toxic Trio – Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence, Mental Health	2018	
	Number	Percent
Number of FSWAs where any of the toxic trio risk factors are identified for any of child, parent/carer, other	1434	66%
Number where all three toxic trio risk factors are identified for any of child, parent/carer, other	151	7%
Number where all three toxic trio risk factors are identified for parent/carer	109	5%
Total FSWAs with substantive risk factors identified	2169	100%

Relates to	Risk Factor	2018	
		Rank	%
Parent/carer	Domestic violence	1	31%
Parent/carer	Mental health	2	27%
Child	Abuse or Neglect - EMOTIONAL ABUSE	3	25%
Child	Abuse or Neglect - NEGLECT	4	18%
Parent/carer	Drug misuse	5	15%
Child	Child welfare	6	14%
Parent/carer	Alcohol misuse	7	13%
Child	Domestic violence	8	12%
Child	Abuse or Neglect - PHYSICAL ABUSE	9	11%
Other	Domestic violence	10	10%

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 January 19 - April 19 of 750 per month, up to 821 and 920 respectively in May and June 2019. 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 2019 and this rise in inappropriate demand impacts negatively on FFD and assessment teams 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

Repeat Social Work Assessments (SWA) remain lower then Eng./SN but have increased in Qtr. 1 reflecting pressure in demand and workload

We remain below Eng. and SN average for repeat SWA which is a good indicator ensuring families are not made subject to SWA unnecessarily

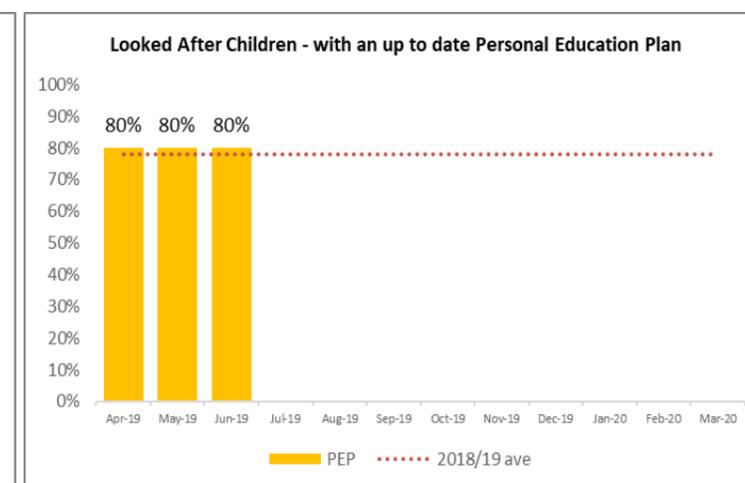
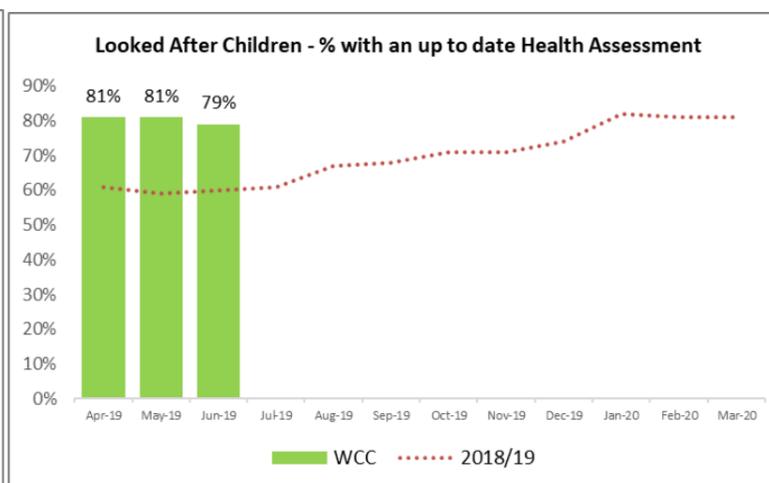
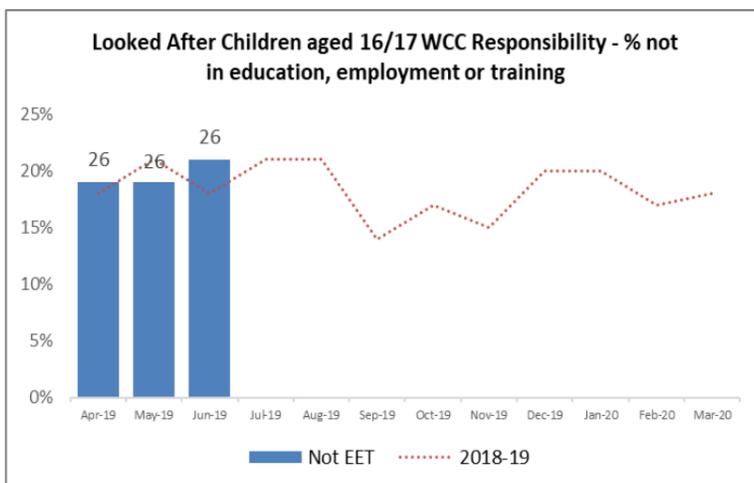
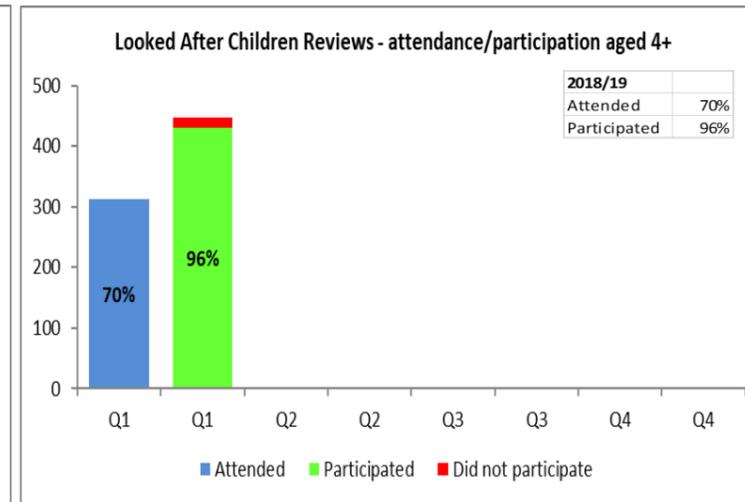
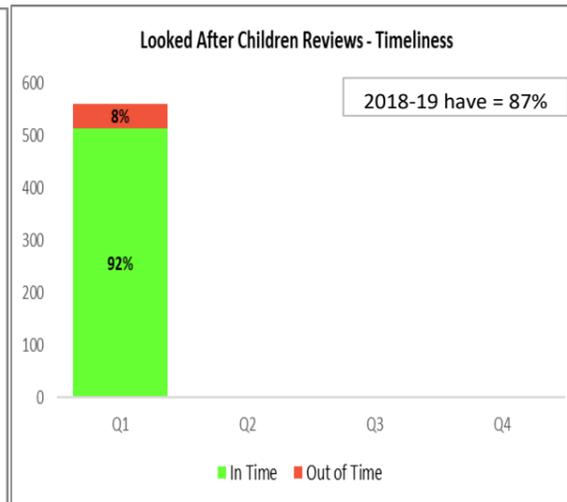
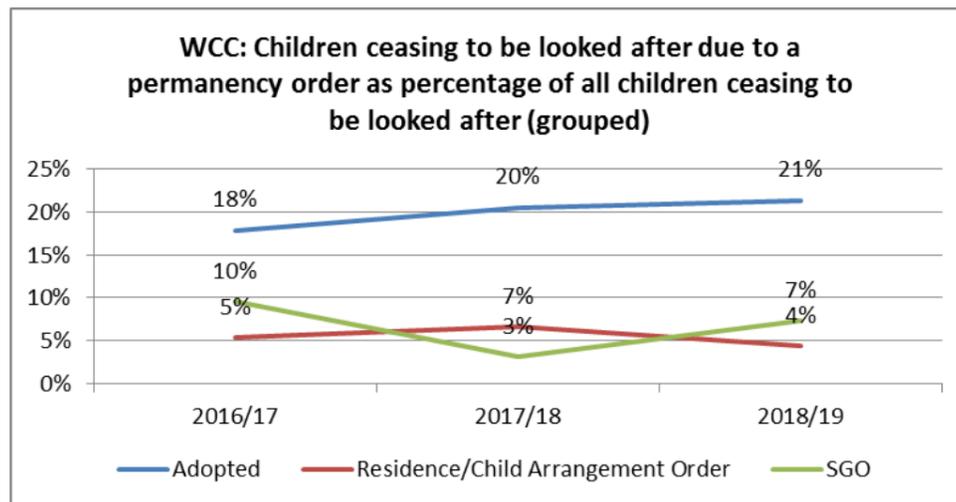
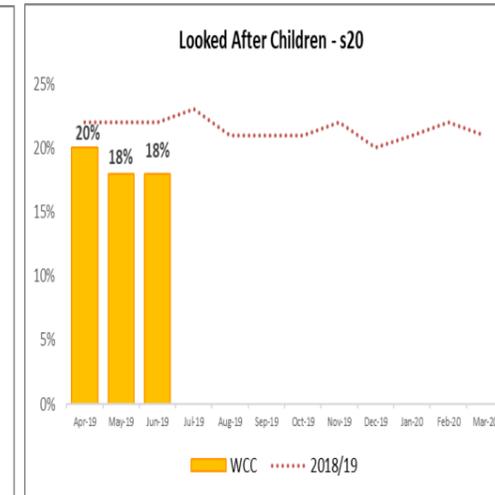
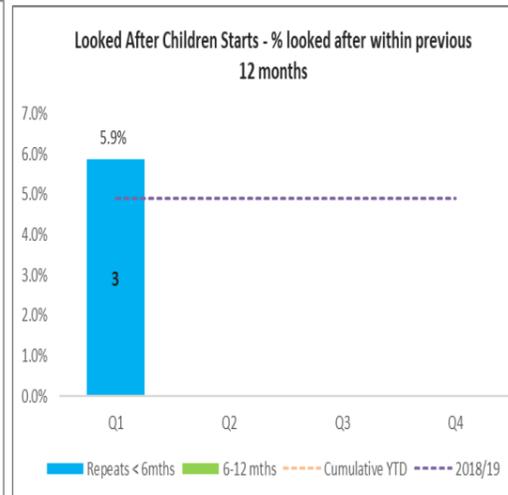
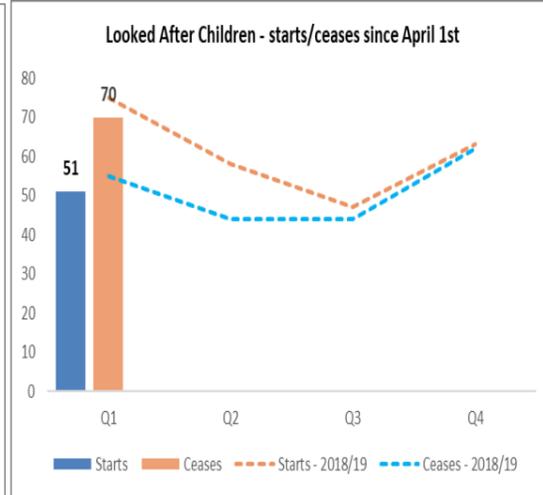
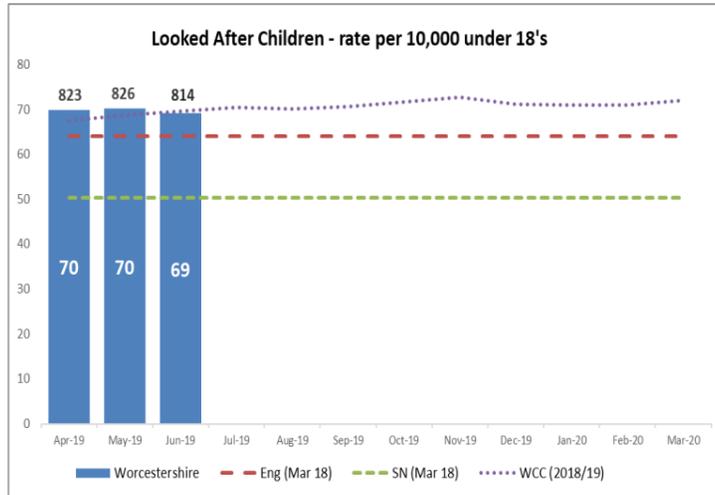
Managerial Grip on timeliness

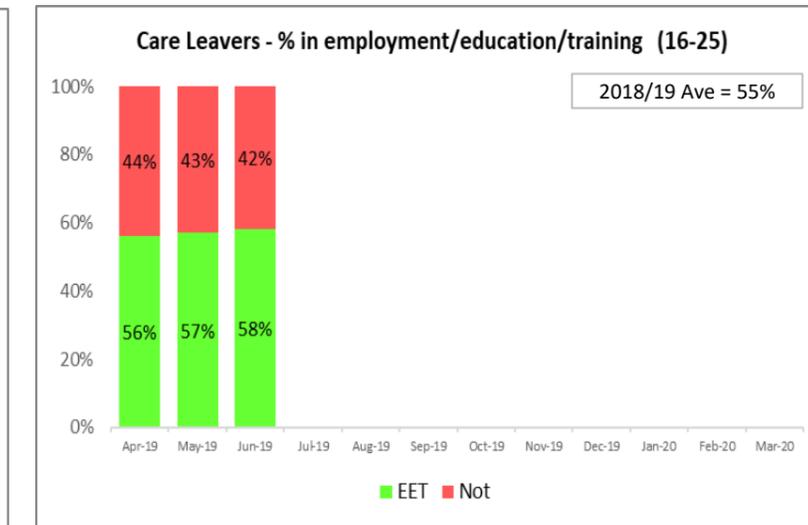
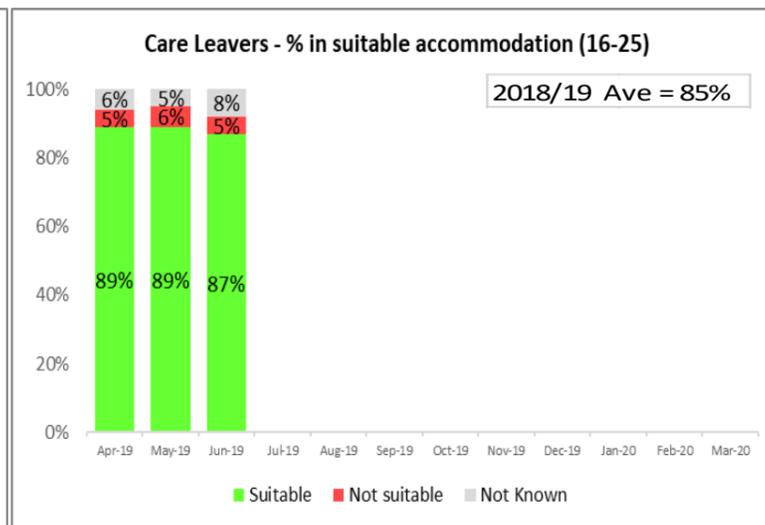
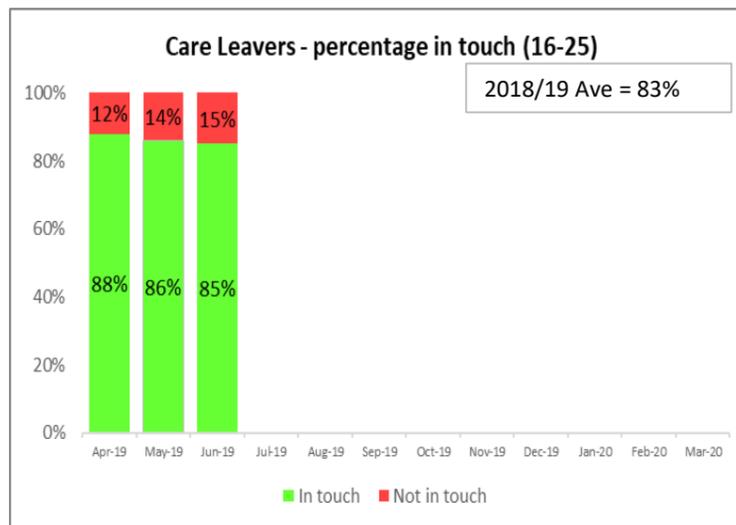
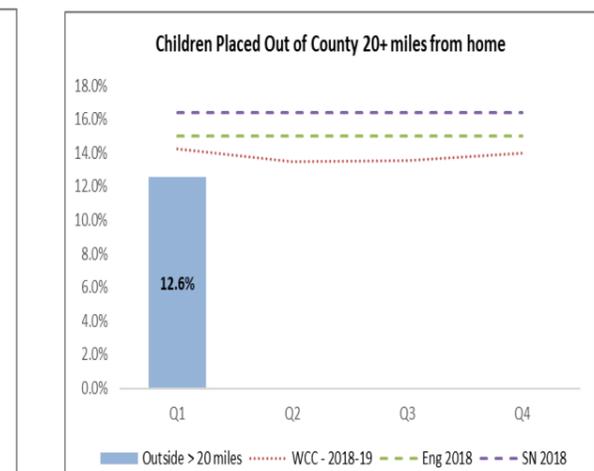
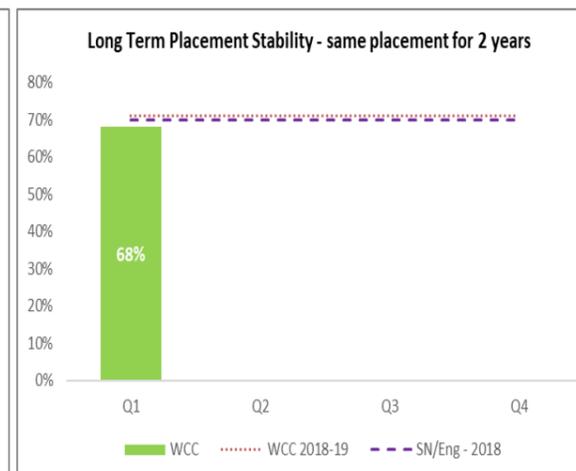
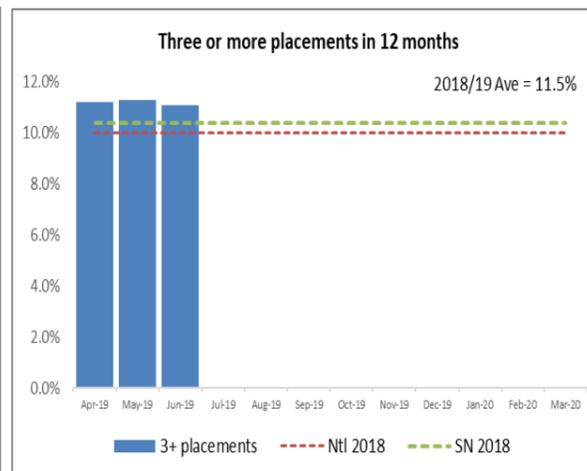
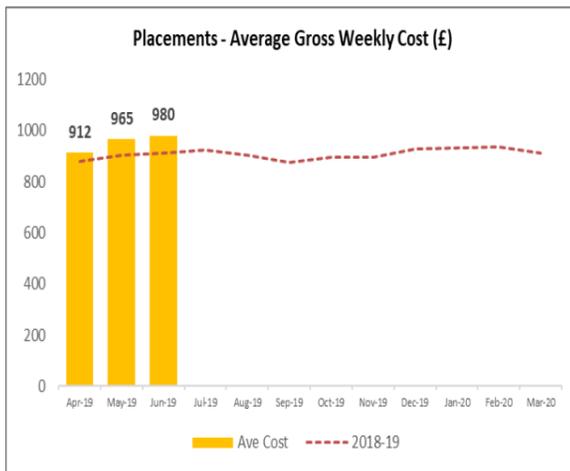
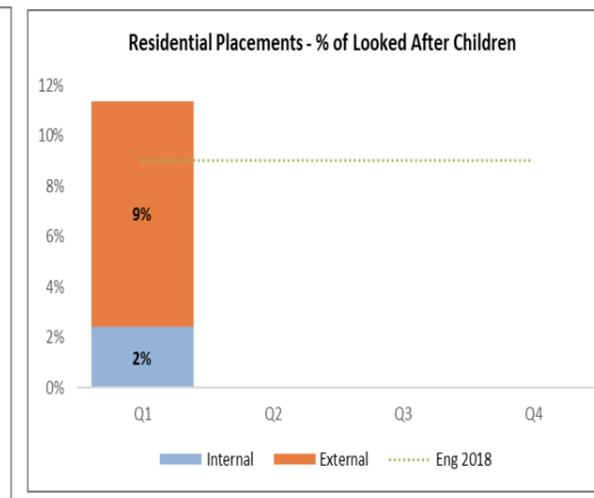
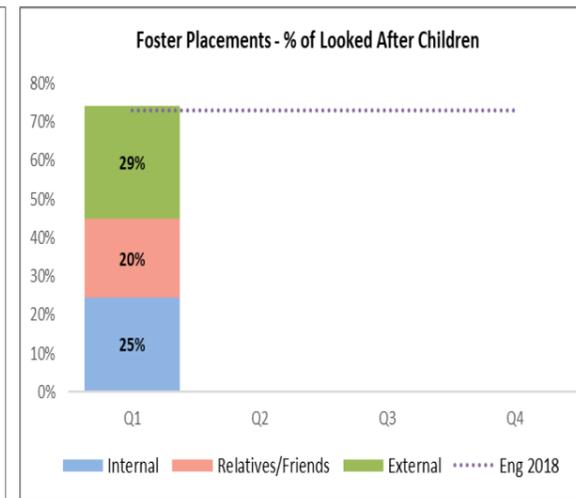
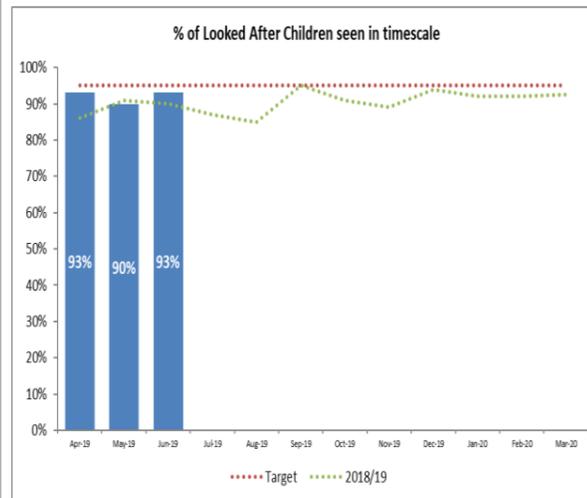
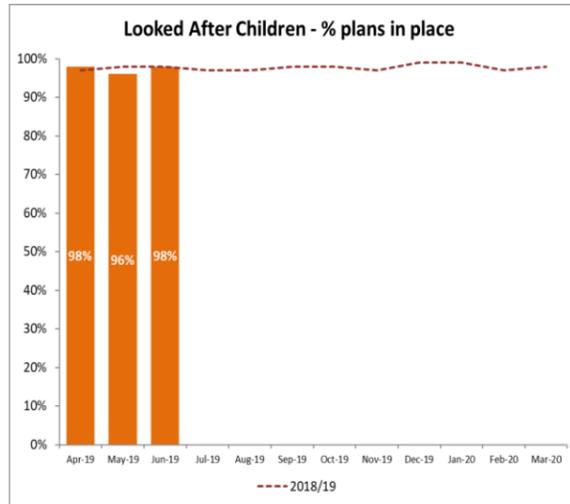
Despite the rise in demand for contacts and SWA, managerial grip on case work is good - this is reflected in the timeliness of decision making on contacts in 24hrs (at 75% up from an average of only 50% last year) and in the timeliness of SWA completed in 45 days (at 87% from an average of 81% in the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

Appropriate use of Strategy Discussion / good agency contributions and Joint Enquiries

Data shows stability in outcomes for strategy discussion and in joint S47 enquires. Agency contribution is also very good with schools reaching the highest % contribution ever.

There is a future risk with FFD splitting and the move to WCF, with teams moving from Wildwood to County Hall. West Mercia Police do not have the technical ability to move at this stage and as such FFD will run across the two sites for a significant period. Managers of each partner agency will work together to ensure there is no negative impact on joint and timely decision making





Care Leavers 18-21 in touch as at 30 June 2019: **85%**
 Latest comparative figure for age 18-21 using national annual snapshot methodology (2017/18) - WCC: **88%**, Statistical Neighbours: **86.5%**, England: **93%**

Care Leavers 18-21 in suitable accommodation as at 30 June 2019: **89%**. Latest comparative figure for age 18-21 using national annual snapshot methodology (2017/18) - WCC: **81%**, Statistical Neighbours: **84%**, England: **84%**

Care Leavers 18-21 in Employment, Education or Training as at 30 June 2019: **61%**. Latest comparative figure for age 18-21 using national annual snapshot methodology (2017/18) - WCC: **48%**, Statistical Neighbours: **53.7%**, England: **51%**

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 Local Authority (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 from November 2019, will impact further on performance in this area, supporting sustained reduction as the number of children leaving care out weighs those entering. Regional comparison at the end of 2018/19 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 2018/19 down to 18% in Qtr. 1 2019/20.

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

However the number of Looked After Children aged 16/17yrs not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) 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

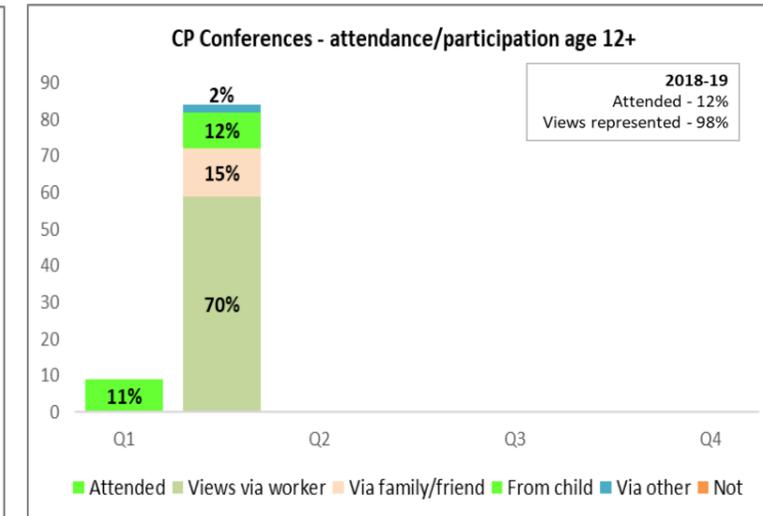
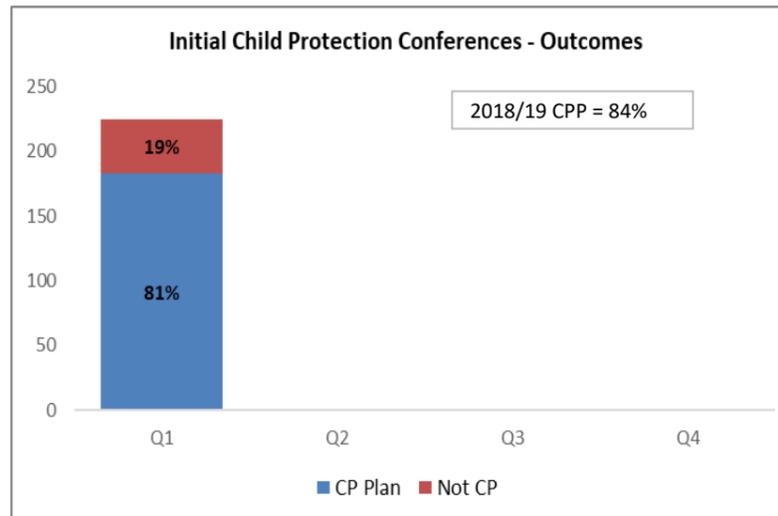
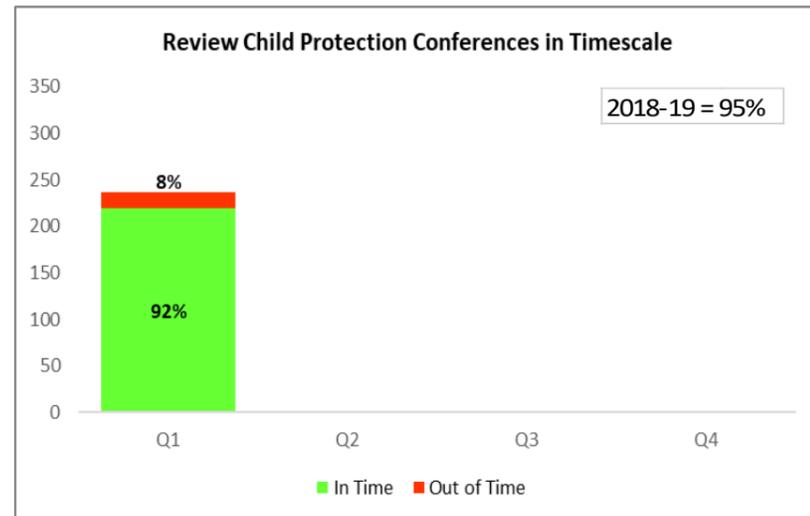
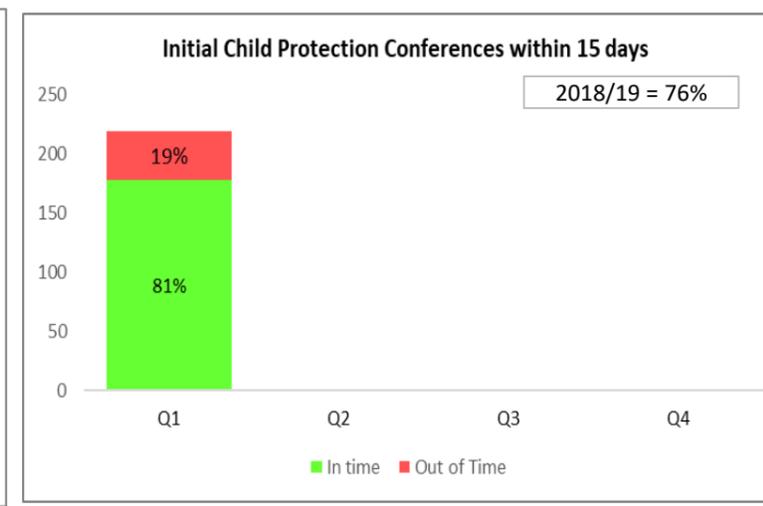
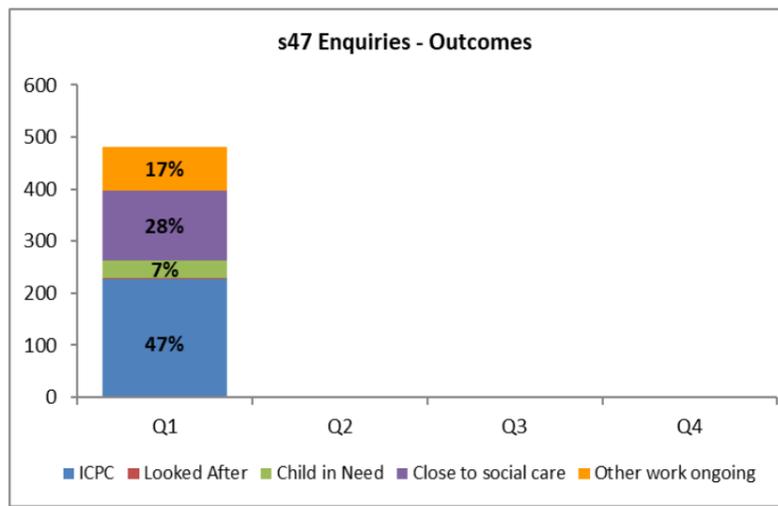
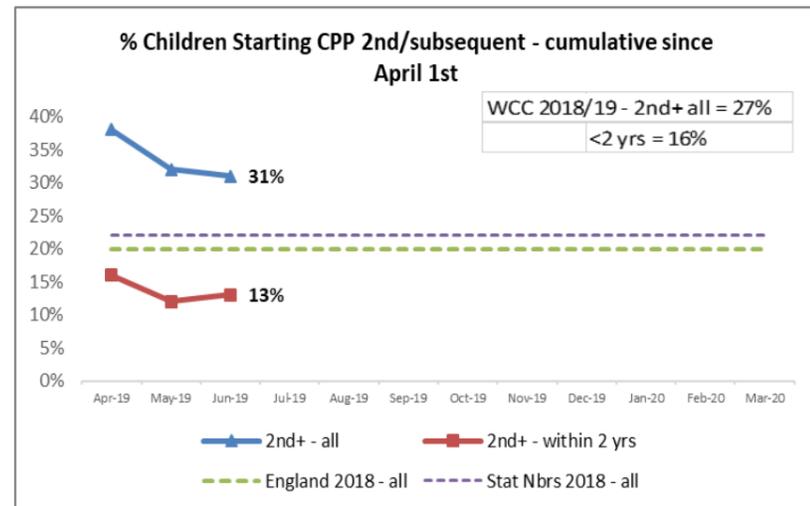
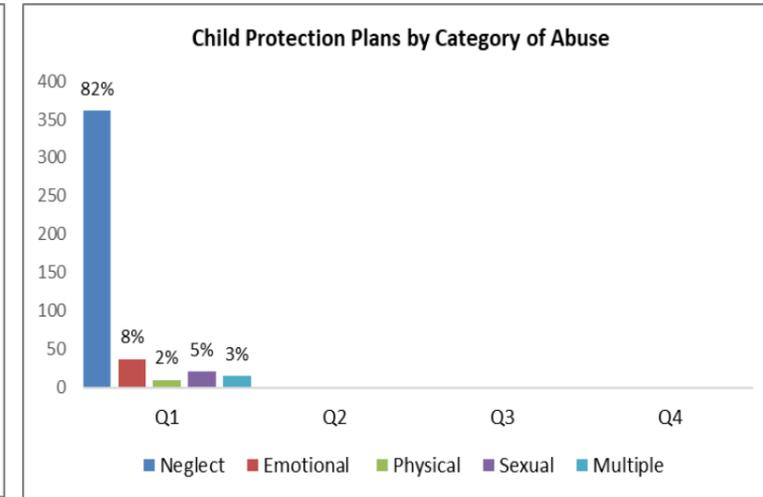
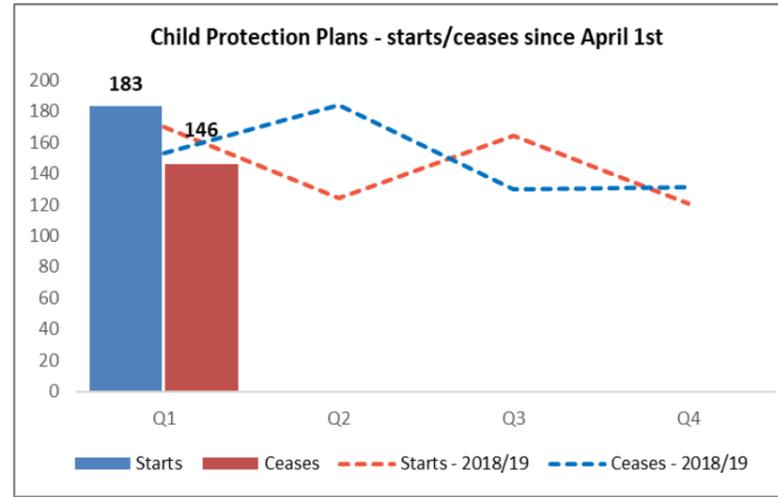
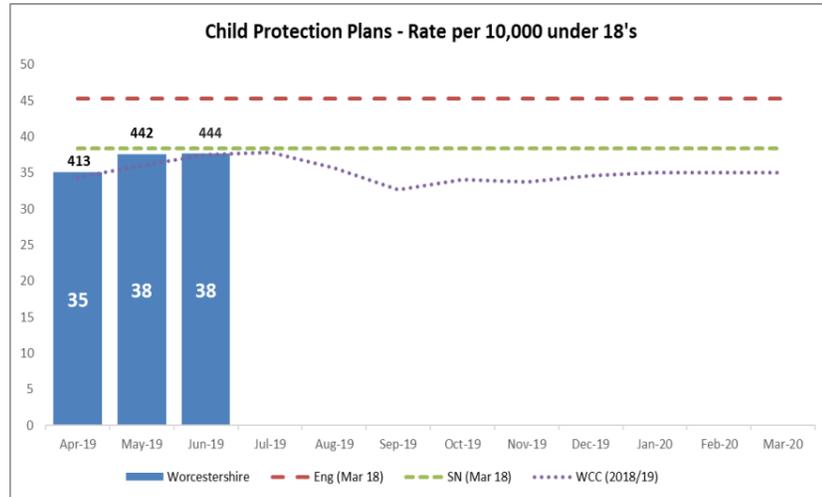
Those children in long term stability (in the same placement for over 2years) in line with Eng. target

A reduction, well below Eng./SN average, in the number of children placed over 20+ miles from home

Care Leavers Data - The local indicator description used varies from the national comparator indicators in two main ways. The national indicators are restricted to those aged 18-21 and data is only collected for these young people at one point in the year at or around their birthday. The local indicators are snapshots at each month end, and include all ages in the care leaver cohort.

In Worcestershire while we have made improvement from last qtr. on number of Care Leavers (18-25) in touch, in suitable accommodation and in employment/training when comparing against the national indicators (18-21) we are below SN/Eng. averages.

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



Analysis - Child Protection

Rise in Child Protection

Through 2018/19 we saw a sustained average through the year in number of children subject to Child Protection (CP) at 35 per 10,000 (404 children March 2019) However, this year to date we have seen a rising trend month on month April - July - taking the overall number up to 480 at 31.7.19 (41 per 10,000 children) 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 sibling 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 in May/June (an average of 870 compared to the Jan - May average of 750) and new plans in May 2019 (an additional 29 children) and July 2019 (an additional 36 children) 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.

Rising number of S47 outcomes meet threshold for Children's Social Care intervention

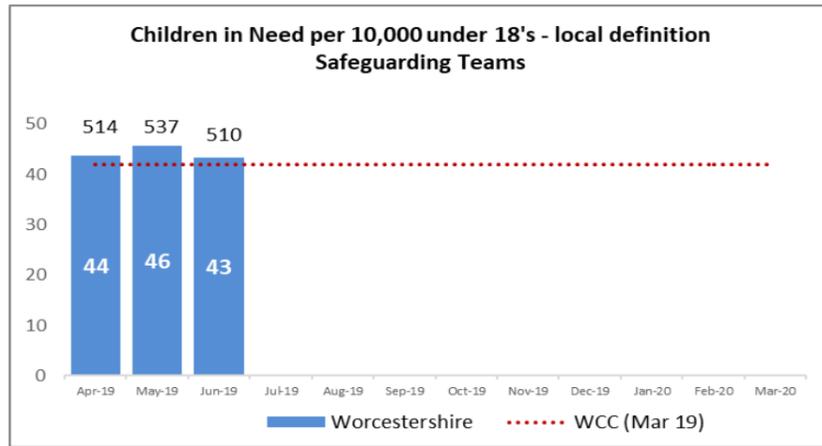
The number of children subject to S47 that continue in service meeting threshold for need has risen to 47 %, compared to 39% in the previous qtr, but is the same as that seen in qtr. 1 of the previous year. We need to monitor this quarterly trend pattern to ensure the rise continues as this reflects an appropriate use of S47 threshold.

Reduction in Repeats in less than 2 years

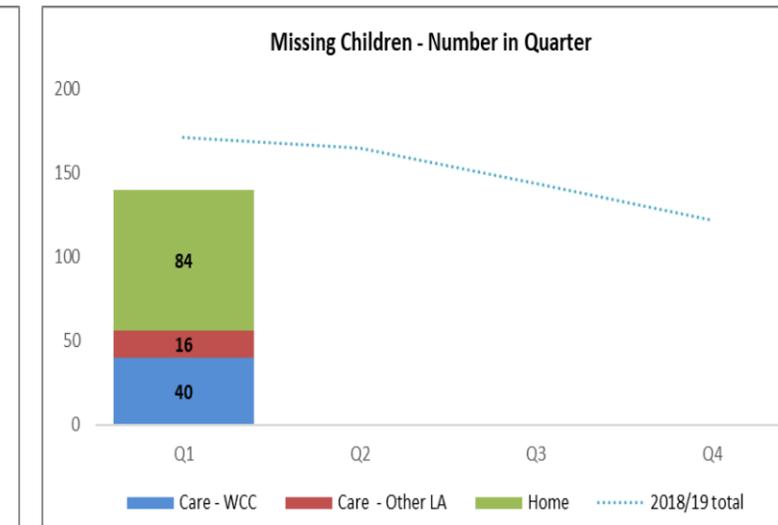
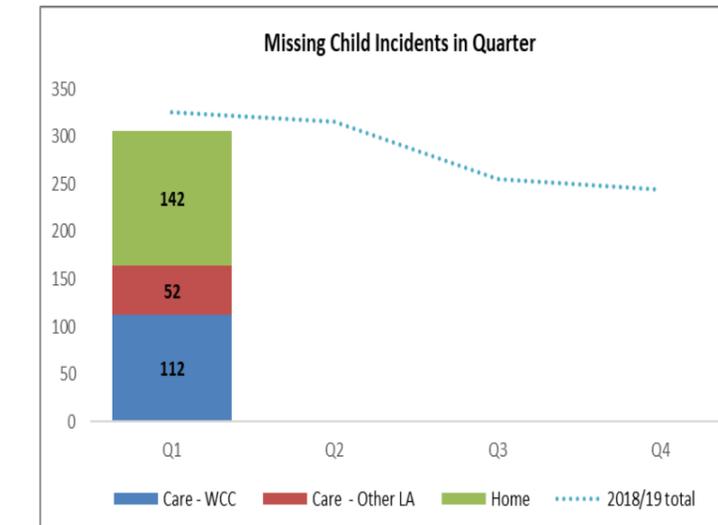
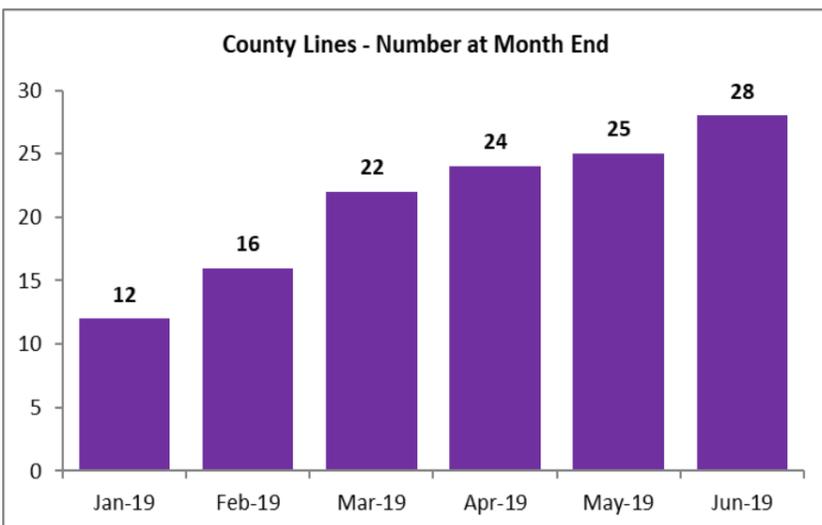
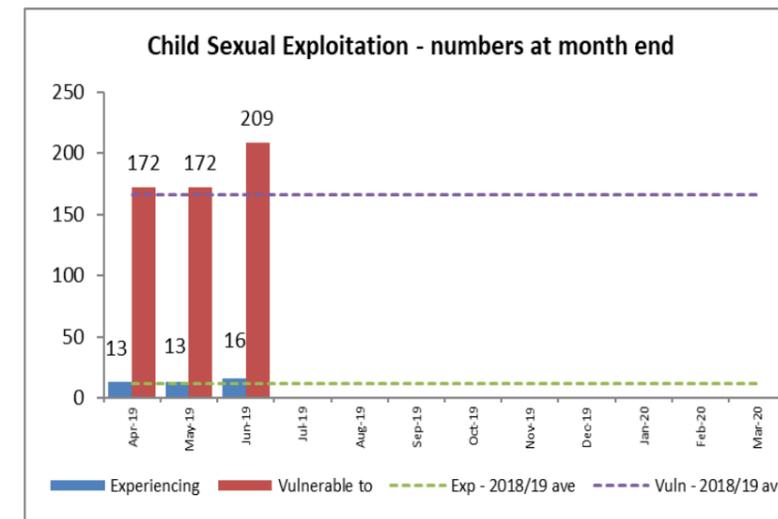
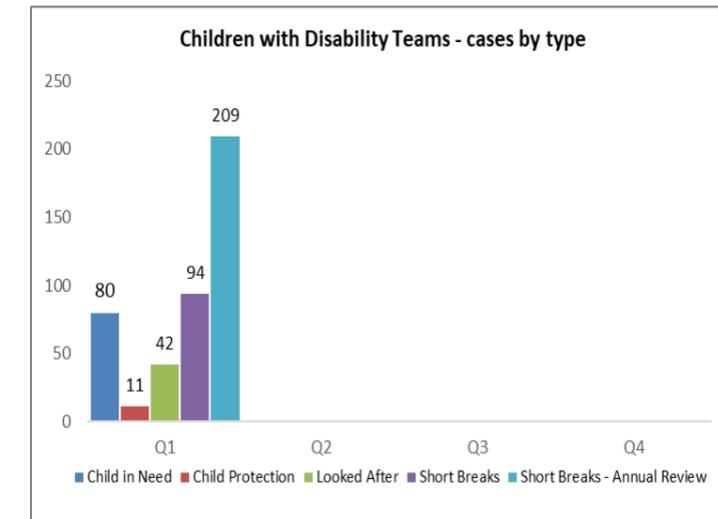
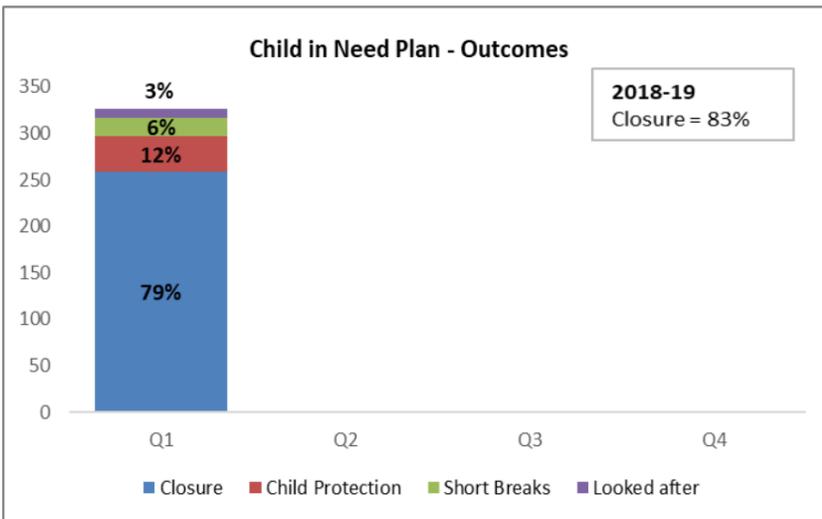
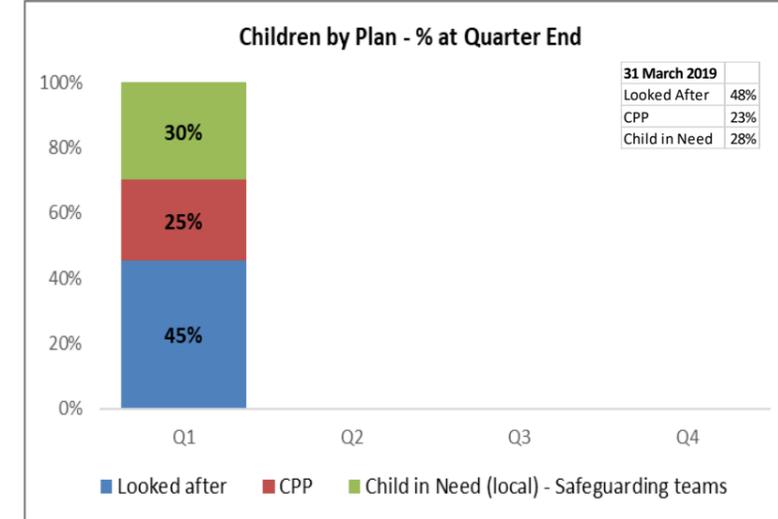
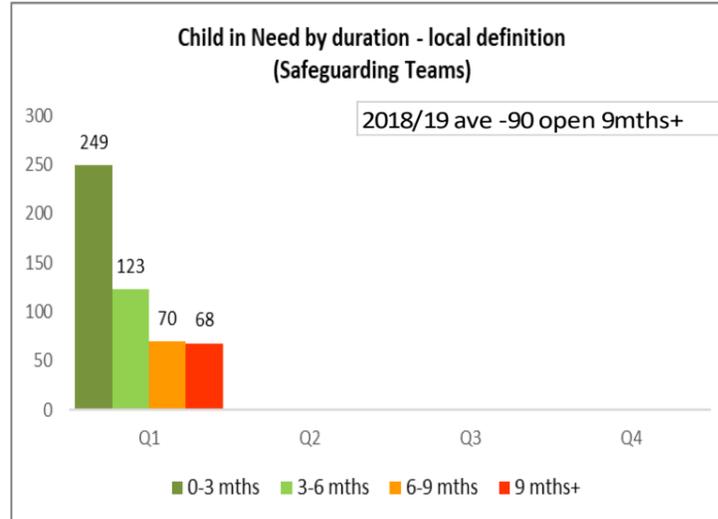
Repeat CP plans within 2 years has reduced from 16% in 2018/19 down to 13% in qtr. 1 of this year. This group of children is most reflective of current practice. We are still seeing children returning to CP plans with over a 2 year period gap since their last plan was in place. This is reflective of 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.

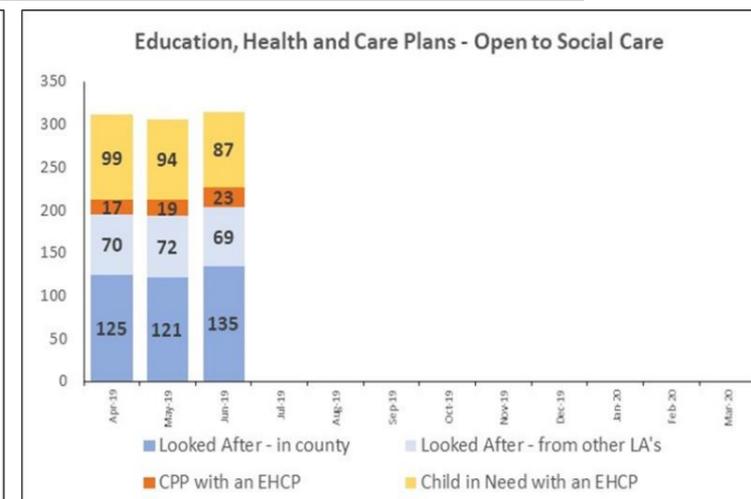
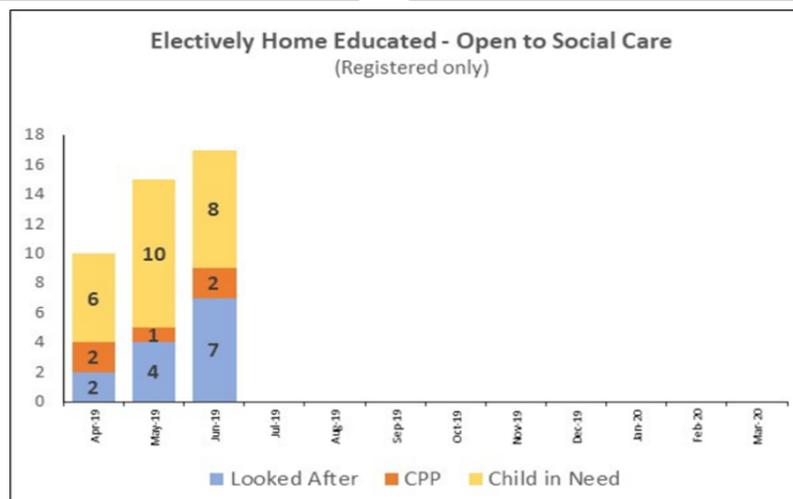
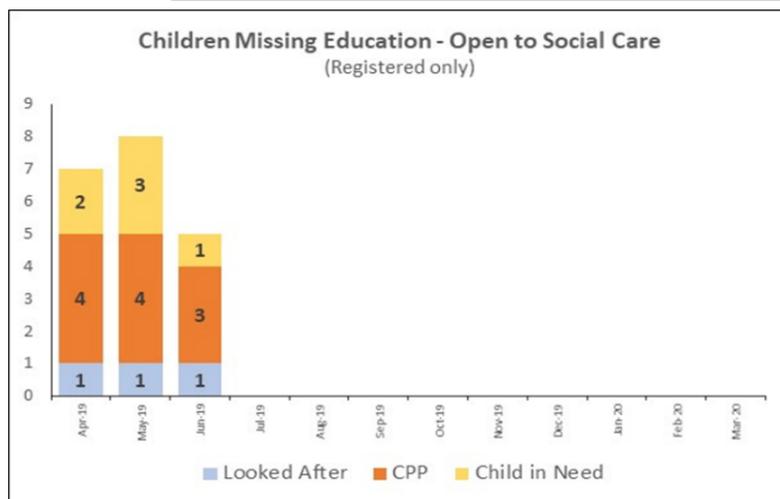
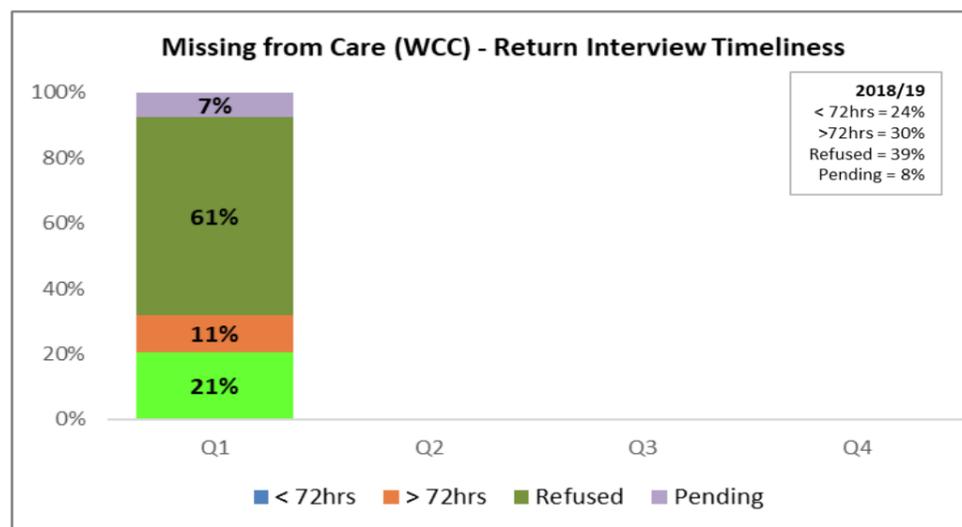
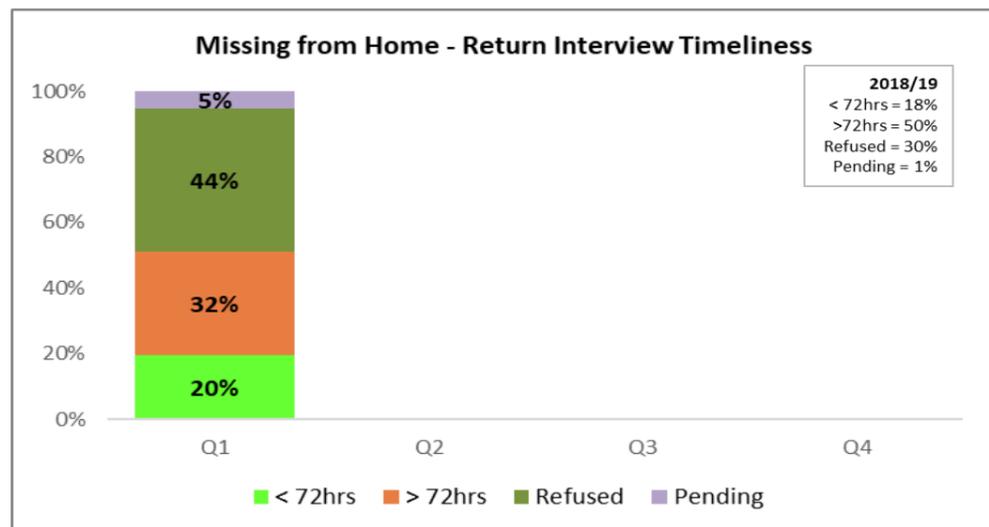
Initial CP in timescales improving

Timeliness of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) continues to improve from average of 76% last year, despite increased demand and this improvement is primarily a reflection of managerial grip and stability in FFD assessment teams. This indicator needs to be seen sustained improvement through year.



Child in Need Census (wide definition) - rate per 10,000 at 31 March 2018 - WCC= 290; Statistical Neighbours = 298; England = 341





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 2018/19 down to 13% Qtr. 1 this year. The range of outcomes being no further action (NFA) or 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.

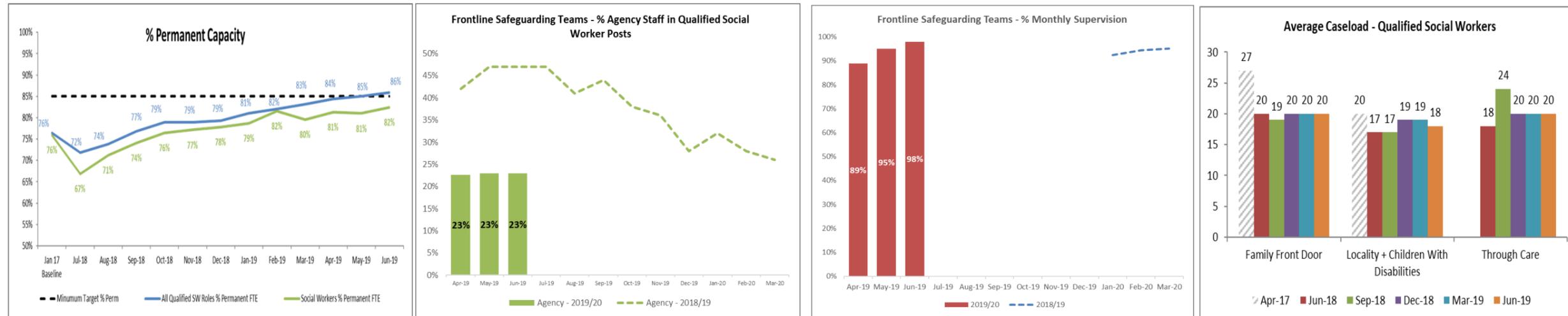
Increasing awareness internally and with partners, increased targeted capacity and improved data collation is enabling us to better identify children at risk of exploitation with the number of children flagged under Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and County lines rising. These individual children are 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 2018/19 (seasonal comparison is relevant) show a significant decrease 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 interview this quarter and this will be reviewed with the team.

Children Missing in Education are reduced

Weekly "Missing Monday" meetings with education and social care contributions have enabled us to review individual cases of the most vulnerable (CIN/CP/Care) to ensure education



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

Provision of Supervision for front line staff from managers is consistently high. Future audit and health check will identify improvement in quality

Next Staff Health Check is due October 2019 results Dec 2019