Appendix B - Children's Social Care

	Measure	Unit	2018/19 Performance	Current Target	Current Performance	Last Available Result	Frequency	Direction of Travel	Performance	Status	Trend
1	Average time (days) between a child entering care & moving in with adoptive family	Days	452	470	458	Jun 2019	Monthly	Red	Green	Up to date	~~~~

COMMENTS: In real terms, the latest available figure works out as 34 (clients moving in with an adoptive family) out of a total cohort of 15577 (number of days). These timescales and pinch points where delays occur are considered in the bi-monthly performance report that goes to Corporate Parenting Committee. Our latest figure of 458 is significantly better than the national average of 520.

Average duration of care proceedings ending in the period (weeks)	Number	37	36	39	Jun 2019	Monthly	Red	Red	Up to date	\
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COMMENTS: A range of issues affect the time taken to conclude proceedings, some of which are within the Local Authority's control, and some not. Our figure of 39 weeks is higher than the national average of 30 weeks. A regional review of care proceedings out of time scale identified areas for improvement, some of which are for the LA, but also others for external action, for example court time tabling. It is recognised this is a challenging target to meet. Feedback from the lead Family Court Judge about Northumberland's practice has been more positive in the last year.

ACTIONS: A legal gateway panel was implemented in the last year to ensure consistent and appropriate decision-making for children and young people who become looked after. The individual circumstances of those cases that have taken longer than 26 weeks are known and are being used to inform future plans.

3	% long term LAC in same placement for past 2 years	%	68	69	66	Jul 2019	Monthly	Red	Red	Up to date	Graph not yet produced
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COMMENTS: Northumberland's current performance (66%) is below the national average (70%). This figure has fluctuated over the last year and had dipped previously due to a high number of IFA placements ending as young people reach adolescence, but also, positively, because some children had moved into permanent foster care placements. Such fluctuations are still being seen over the summer, and whilst the end of July figure of 66% is a deterioration, our forecasts of what we know about this cohort of just over 100 is that it is likely to be back to over 70% by the end of August. Our record in finding suitable and stable placements in a family environment is good overall, although we do experience some challenge with finding suitable placements for a very small number of teenagers whose needs are very complex.

ACTIONS: Future cohorts of long-term looked after children have been identified and are being tracked; a review of placement sufficiency is currently being undertaken as part of the refreshed Corporate Parenting Strategy; and we have identified the above issue regarding teenagers as something we would welcome support for from other local authorities within the region.



COMMENTS: This indicator is monitored closely by the YOT Management Board every quarter. The Ministry of Justice has changed the way the reoffending rates are measured, using a smaller three month cohort rather than a 12 month cohort. Reoffending rates have reduced considerably in the last 6 months and are better than the national average. However, the smaller cohort number can result in greater variance in the rate.



COMMENTS: There has been a deterioration in the percentage who are in accommodation deemed "suitable" and the next performance clinic will further review the circumstances of the 14 young people who are not recorded as being in suitable accommodation – analysis to date tell us 4 were in custody, 4 were of no fixed abode / homeless and there were 6 where the young person either was not in touch or the accommodation isn't recorded. Ongoing work is undertaken to ensure that the recording of each young person's accommodation status is up to date throughout the year (not just around the young person's birthday as required by the Department for Education). In real terms, the latest available figure works out as 105 out of a total cohort of 119, although in order to measure this quarterly, the numerator does not take into account if the young person was in touch around the time of their birthday. This can result in the performance dropping when measured for the annual statutory return.

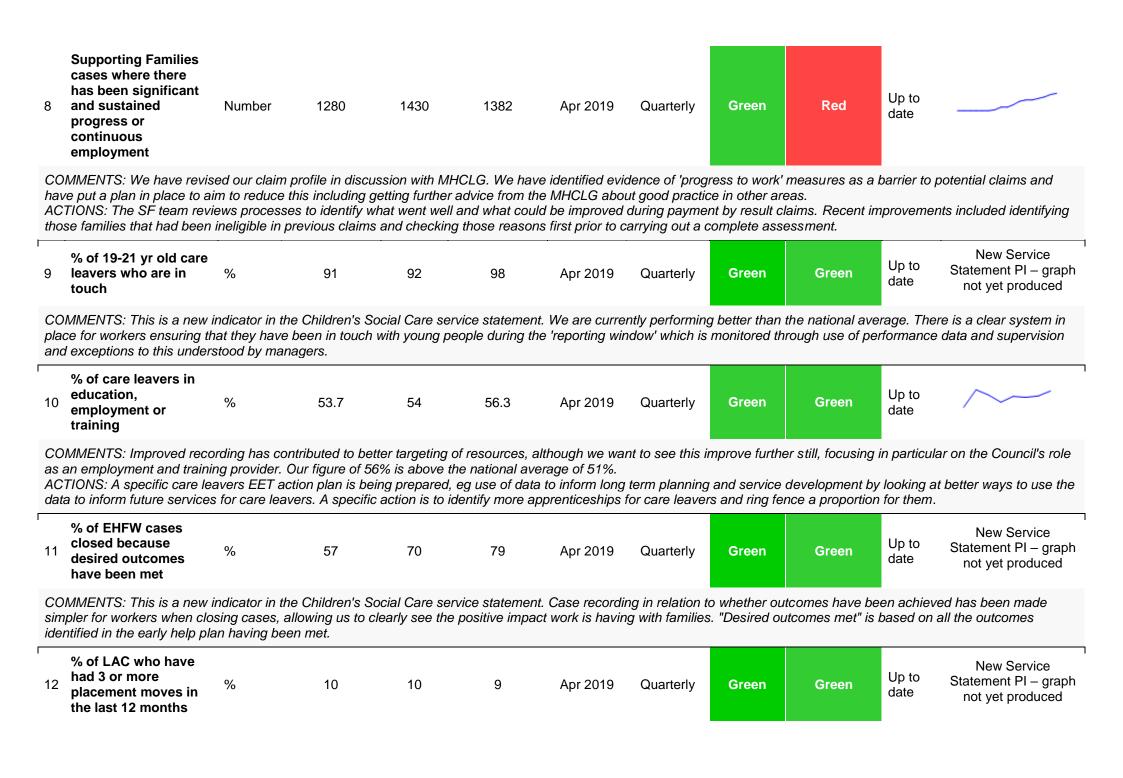
ACTIONS: Staying Put arrangements are now used when appropriate and supported by the local authority. Young people reaching the age of 17/18 years who can't remain in their placements are referred to the accommodation panel to access appropriate supported accommodation. Care leavers are given a priority status through homefinder when they are applying for their own tenancies. Social workers support young people reaching the age of 18 years to apply for housing prior to turning 18 so they can move on to their own tenancy. For care leavers who are highly vulnerable, e.g. those with substance misuse issues and at risk of custody, and are unable to access supported accommodation, there are moving on properties which can be accessed with bespoke support packages specific to their needs until such a time when risks reduce and the young person can move on. Many care leavers wish to return to the care of family members once they reach the age of 17/18. Social workers will assess this prior to the young person returning home and put in place ap



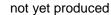
COMMENTS: As cohorts for this measure are small, the data can vary significantly per month. Therefore, the data reported for quarter 1 is the most recent yearly figure that was presented to the YOT Management Board in June; this gives a more strategic view of performance in this area. The figure of 63.5% is just short of the target. ACTIONS: The Board meets every quarter where issues around exclusions and going missing from home are considered, as well as breaking the data down into under 16s and over 16s. Due to the fluid nature of tracking outcomes for YOT clients, the service has to periodically undertake stop the clock days to check on the integrity of the data, and the next session is taking place in September.



COMMENTS: The attached number to be achieved has been amended to reflect the revised profiling of grant release by the MHCLG for this year and to provide a realistic profile across the 19/20 period which includes removing some families for whom claims will never be made. A stock take by the MHCLG is due to take place in the autumn and preparations are well underway for this.



COMMENTS: The average.	is is a new l	indicator ii	n the Children's Soc	ial Care se	rvice statement.	The result of	9% equates to	36 of 370 lo	oked after child	dren, better	than the national
% of looked 3 children pla foster care		%	72	72	70	Apr 2019	Quarterly	Red	Red	Up to date	New Service Statement PI – graph not yet produced
			n the Children's Soc under a care order						fter children be	ing placed	in foster care. 13%
% of looked 4 children pla residential c	ced in	%	14	14	13	Apr 2019	Quarterly	Green	Green	Up to date	New Service Statement PI – graph not yet produced
Children's Homes acknowledged tha	s are rated (at living in a Ildren and y	Good or O a family sit	n the Children's Soc outstanding by Ofste uation is a preferred ole living in our hom	d. Children I option for	and young peo most children a	ple are deeme nd young peo	ed to live in hig ple, however o	h quality star ur Homes ar	ndard homes w e family focuse	ith staff wh d and withi	o care about them. It is n local safe
% social wo where casel 5 weighting is the desired level	oad within	%	61	74	73	Jul 2019	Monthly	Green	Red	Up to date	~~~~
dditional tasks a gure reflects tha CTIONS: Mana eam manager ar	re also buil t workloads gers use re ad the socia	t into the s s of some s gularly-ava d worker to		which reflect me teams a t information long stand	t manageable ware currently high and the perforing ing exceptions ware	vorkloads are her than we w mance clinics where necess	set dependent rould wish due to monitor the ary and to rem	on staff's leve mainly to state situation and ove any bloc	rel of experienc If sickness. Id use the judge ks in the servic	e and qual ment of the e regarding	ification. The latest e head of service, the g the transfer of cases.
Rate of child young peop to child prot plans per 10	le subject ection	Rates per 10,000	71	70	63	Apr 2019	Quarterly	Green	Green	Up to date	New Service Statement PI – grapl not yet produced
he rate reduced	to well belo	w the targ		of June, the	re was consider	able child pro	tection confere	ence activity i			ne last 2 years. Whilst risen once more (latest
Rate of Lool 7 Children (L <i>I</i> 10,000 popn	AC) per	Rates per 10,000	63	62	62	Apr 2019	Quarterly	Green	Green	Up to date	New Service Statement PI – graph



COMMENTS: This is a new indicator in the CSC service statement, although it is reported on weekly internally. Northumberland is unique in the region in that it has not experienced a significant increase in its LAC population. A legal gateway panel ensures that appropriate decisions are taken on individual cases and meeting their needs is at the forefront of decision-making when deciding whether to take a child into care.