

CORPORATE PARENTING SCORECARD

Ref	Measure	Polarity	Stat Neigh Av	National Av	Target	Yr. end 16-17	Qu 1 17-18	Qu 2 17-18	Q3 17-18	Q4 17-18	RAG	Quarterly dir of travel	Comments	C&YP Plan Priority	Corporate Priority
General															
G1	Number of cared for children				380-430	422	438	466	470	477		↑	The overall population of cared for children has increased, however at a significantly slower pace than that observed in quarter 2. The increase was due to a high number of unaccompanied asylum seekers supported (9 in quarter 3). In context we only accommodated 11 in the whole of 2016/17. The service are focused on ensuring that children that require safeguarding via care have that option, but also that support is available for those children who require intense support to remain at home, or with family members. Cheshire East are not unique in the region in experiencing increased demand, however the operational strategy to managing this is evidenced in the plateauing out of overall numbers. At third quarter review the children's social care service was predicting an overspend of £3.4m and this formed part of the report to February 2018 Cabinet. The key driver for this pressure is the rise in the number and costs of children in care which have increased at a greater rate than the budget. In December 2017 the number in care stood at 470 compared to 420 in December 2016 and 394 in December 2015. That is a 20% increase over two years. The increase in numbers has been recognised in the budget process with +£2.1m being included in 2017/18 and +£3m in 2018/19 to provide additional funding. The positive news is that the number of children in care reached 466 in August 2017 and has stayed at broadly that level since then. Despite the increase in cared for children, we continue to be towards the lower end of our statistical neighbour group and nationally for rate of cared for children (per 10,000), in particular lower than Cheshire West and Chester and Warrington Councils. A number of initiatives are being taken forward to reduce the pressures such as commissioning residential children's homes, expanding Project Crewe, establishing Project Macclesfield, joining a regional adoption agency, and starting work on a shared fostering service.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
G2	Rate per 10,000 cared for children		56	60	50.7-57.3	56	58	61.8	62.3	62.7		↑	As above	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
G3	Number of care leavers					199	202	198	196	215		↑	This represents all eligible, relevant and former relevant care leavers who are supported with access to a Personal Advisor (PA) to offer help and guidance as they move to independence together with financial support as appropriate to individual needs.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
Involve Me															
P1.1	Number of eligible children and young people accessing advocacy services	High is Good				127	27	98	66	48			We had 48 advocacy cases open this quarter. Of these, 38 were issued based cases, 25 in care, 7 Care Leavers, 3 Disability, 3 child protection. The issues were 16 placement issues, 7 representations at meetings, 4 complaints, 4 contact, 2 legal, 2 child protection, 1 Transition, 1 Financial, 1 Educational issues. The other 10 cases were open to children who were on a child protection plan. The Advocacy Team have been very active attending team meetings to raise awareness and encourage Social Workers and Family Support Workers to discuss Advocacy with children and young people and their families.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P1.2	% cared for children reviews in timescales	High is Good				98%	95%	96%	99%	96%		↓	There was a slight dip in Q4 in the percentage of cared for children reviews in timescales. The year end position shows that, whilst we did not achieve our internal target, we improved on last year despite an increase in cared for children and care leavers being supported. There will always be occasions where, due to unforeseen circumstances, a review cannot be held when planned. Ongoing scrutiny and joint performance challenge sessions between the Cared for Service and the Independent Reviewing Service will ensure that where this occurs, there is evidence that the reasons are understood and the young person is receiving the right support.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 6
P1.3	% of children and young people chairing their own reviews	High is Good				2.75%				0.0%			Whilst the percentage of children and young people chairing/co chairing is very low, the number of individuals attending and participating in their reviews is monitored closely. In 2017-18 on average 55% of individuals attended their reviews with active participation through briefing advocates/ representatives/ meeting with workers and chairs prior to review ranged from 95% - 100% in any given month.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 7
Provide Me With a Good Safe Home															
P2.1	Number of cared for children in internal foster care (including friends and family placements)	High is Good			215	209	210	207	199	210		↑	The number of available Cheshire East fostering households does not meet the current demand for placements. The Cheshire East fostering collaboration with 3 neighbouring authorities goes live in April 2018, with a targeted recruitment strategy aimed at increasing in-house provision. The reasons for a reduction in in-house placements is complex and there are often a range of reasons why a household can either not accommodate the number of individuals it is registered for or that the needs of individuals are not compatible with the placements available.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.2	Number of cared for children in external foster care	Low is Good			85	95	102	118	114	114		→	The Cheshire East fostering collaboration with 3 neighbouring authorities goes live in April 2018 with a targeted recruitment strategy and shared agreement regarding use of internal vacancies across the collaboration. The aim of the collaboration is to significantly increase the recruitment and retention of in house foster carers so more of our children live with our foster carers and costs are reduced. Whilst the number of children placed in external placements is higher than we would like, 39% of the placements are long fostering arrangements so children have achieved permanence and a good outcome.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.3	% cared for children placed over 20 miles from home address (Cheshire East and out of borough)	Low is Good				22%	24%	24%	23%	24%		↑	Whilst this figure represents 24% of the individuals in care (excluding UASC), 13 of these children are placed with family/friends, 12 in adoption placements and an additional 19 are in long term foster placements. In addition, a further 32 are in specialist school/ home/ Baby and Mother provision and there is ongoing work with commissioning to increase the level of locally available specialist provision and residential homes.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.4	% of children and young people in residential care	Low is Good			10%	9%	11%	9%	9%	10%		↑	Whilst this is a low percentage, there has been an increase in our cared for population residing in residential care and an increase of younger children living in residential care. This reflects the reduction in foster carer capacity locally and the increase in complexity of need. We are addressing this through our fostering collaboration.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.5	Number of Cheshire East foster carers	High is Good			165	150	152	159	163	158		↓	Work continues to increase the number of Cheshire East Foster Carers and it is hoped that numbers will continue to increase once the collaborative arrangements are in place post April 2018.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.6	Long term placement stability - % cared for children in care for 2.5 years who have been in the same placement for 2 years (under 16 years old)	High is Good		68%	75%	69%	This data will be presented annually. See comments for quarterly updates						Of the 161 children currently under 16 who have been in care for over 2.5 years at the end of September 2017, there were 105 who had been in the same placements for 2 years. This gives an indicative figure of 65%. However this should be taken with an element of caution as it will not reflect the final outcome.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.7	Number of cared for children that went missing 5 times or more (quarterly figure is 5 or more times in any month in that quarter)	Low is Good			5	5	13	7	9	supressed			In total, 27 cared for children went missing more than 5 times in the reporting year 2017-18. This includes CE children who are placed in CE and those placed in other local authorities. Quarter 4 has seen a considerable reduction in the number of children going missing from placement more than 5 times. This reflects better matching and planning to ensure that children's wishes and feelings are understood and they are more settled, especially as one of the key drivers for going missing is to see family and friends. This is monitored closely on a monthly basis and scrutinised for emerging patterns together with ensuring plans are revised to reflect needs and the reasons for missing episodes fully understood and addressed.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.8	% of children and young people placed with providers with good/outstanding Ofsted judgements	High is Good				90%	91%	90%	87%	91%		↑	Positively we have seen an increase in providers moving from good to outstanding. We continue to strive to place children and young people in only good or outstanding homes and families.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.9	% of children ceased to be looked after due to granting of special guardianship order (SGO) - year to date figure	High is Good			12%	17%	20%	17%	23%	26.0%		↑	A cumulative figure of 38 out of 149 children in 2017-18 ceased to be cared for due to granting of SGO. A designated Special Guardianship Support Team offers support to these children up until the child reaches 18 if required. There are also financial implications for the Local Authority in the increase in Special Guardianship Orders.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.10	% of children ceased to be looked after due to adoption - year to date figure	High is Good			20%	18%	18%	16%	10.0%	10.0%		→	A cumulative figure of 15 out of 149 children in 2017-18 ceased to be cared for as they achieved permanence via adoption. There are however a further 41 cared for children where the plan is for adoption, this includes 13 already placed with prospective adoptive carers, 8 awaiting Placement Orders, 4 linked but not matched, 13 not matched, 2 with adoption disruption pre-order and 1 matched but not placed with adoptive family. Cheshire East arrangements within the new Regional Adoption Agency are developing with a performance framework which robustly scrutinises drift and delay for children who are placed within their prospective adoptive family.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.11	Number of children adopted in period (YTD)	High is Good			30 annually	26	8	13	13	15		↑	A cumulative figure of 15 out of 149 children in 2017-18 ceased to be cared for as they achieved permanence via adoption. There are however a further 41 cared for children where the plan is for adoption, this includes 13 already placed with prospective adoptive carers, 8 awaiting Placement Orders, 4 linked but not matched, 13 not matched, 2 with adoption disruption pre order and 1 matched but not placed with adoptive family. Cheshire East arrangements within the new Regional Adoption Agency are developing with a performance framework which robustly scrutinises drift and delay for children who are placed within their prospective adoptive family.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.12	% children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with adoptive family (This has changed to 14 months from 16 months)	High is Good			58%	84%	74%	69%	67%	71%		↑	Please note that this indicator has reduced to being monitored at 14 months rather than 16 months in previous scorecards. Despite a small reduction in the performance by the end of quarter 3, it still remains ahead of the target. The target is based on the England average that was provided by DfE on the adoption scorecards.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.13	Average number of days between entering care and moving in with adoptive family (A1 national indicator)	Low is Good			426	541	383	391	391	380		↓	Cheshire East performance has improved steadily year on year since this became monitored through the Adoption data set, from an initial position of over 700 days down to 391 in the latest quarter.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.14	Average number of days between placement order and match with adoptive family (A2 national indicator)	Low is Good			121	66	62	88	88	81		↓	We continue to out-perform the England average of 226 days and the national target of 121 days.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
P2.15	Average number of days between entering care and moving in with adoptive family/ foster carer who becomes adoptive family	Low is Good			426	284	373	391	377	368		↓	Cheshire East performance has improved steadily year on year since this became monitored through the Adoption data set, from an initial position of over 700 days down to 391 in the latest quarter.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5
Keep Me Healthy															

P3.1	% of initial health assessments requested within 48 hours of coming into care	High is Good			70%	64%	78%	41%	84%	86%		↑	During Quarter 4 there has been continued improvement with 24 of the 28 individuals who entered care having their initial health assessment requested within 48 hours. This demonstrates the success of the new process and will ensure that individuals are having their needs identified at an early stage. Careful monitoring of this performance indicator will continue to ensure that all children entering care are supported to have their health care needs met in a timely way.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 5	
P3.2	% of initial health assessments completed by paediatricians within 20 working days	High is Good			100%	58%	41%	32%	64%	78%		↑	There has been a considerable improvement in Q4, with 21 of the 27 health assessments requested being completed within 20 days. One health assessment that was requested and not completed was due to the child leaving care within that 20 day period. Whilst this is not yet on target, it demonstrates the continued success of the new process and a willingness for partnership working to support our most vulnerable individuals. A review of the process by senior officers in health and social care has enabled blockages in the system to be unblocked and close monitoring of this performance indicator will continue.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 5	
P3.3	Number of pregnant care leavers (eligible, relevant and former relevant) 16+	Low is Good				7	8	7	6	8		↑	Two of our female unaccompanied asylum seeking children have become pregnant and this is the reason for the increase.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 5	
P3.4	% of young people with a SDQ score of 20 or above	Low is Good				23%	22%		36%	24%		↓	The emotional well-being of our cared for children is assessed via the completion of the SDQ. It is encouraging that the scores have returned to their more general level, although clearly there are still a significant number of children whose wellbeing is of concern. The new seconded CAMHS worker has now started and will be addressing these problems alongside her colleagues in Health and the social work teams.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 5	
Help Me Achieve																
P4.1	% of cared for children accessing 2-4 yr old provision (quarterly)	High is Good			90%	95%	89%	85%	84%	97%		↑	It is very positive that 30 out of the 31 of eligible children are attending early years settings. 1 child is placed with adopters.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3	
P4.2	Percentage of completed PEPs (Termly)	High is Good			90%	83%	93% (July fig)		92%	94%		↑	25 PEPs not returned in the last term. All of these have now been chased and will be loaded. This includes children new into care at the end of March 2018. - PEPs being held on entry but still in process. This is still an improvement from last term and a 13% increase from Spring term 2017.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3	
P4.3	% attendance at primary school of children in care (quarterly figure is all cared for children at month end rather than those in care for 12mths which are published figs)	High is Good	95.50%	96.10%	95%	96%	96%	97%	97%	96%		↓	There has been a small drop last term due to illness in January/February. 97 of the 114 relevant children and young people have attendance above 95%. This remains above target.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3	
P4.4	% attendance at secondary school of children in care (quarterly figure is all cared for children at month end rather than those in care for 12mths which are published figs)	High is Good			95%	92%	92%	94%	93%	94%		↑	Last term there was a slight increase in secondary school attendance. 103 young people had attendance above 95%.	5 Best Skills & Quals		
P4.5	% primary school age persistent absence of children in care (quarterly figure is all cared for at month end rather than those in care for 12mths which are published figs)	Low is Good			10%	12%	9%	8%	6%	5%		↓	6 out of 114 pupils had persistent absence in Q4. 3 had attendance below 90% in March 2018. Each case is reviewed, which shows that 2 were due to time waiting for a new school, 1 due to illness, 1 due to absence earlier in the year. Where attendance is a current problem, additional targets are included in their action plan. For pupils in Cheshire East, our Education Welfare Service is involved.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3	
P4.6	% secondary school age persistent absence of children in care (quarterly figure is all cared for at month end rather than those in care for 12mths which are published figs)	Low is Good			10%	17%	21%	11%	13%	11%		↓	19 out of 144 pupils had persistent absence below 90% in Q4. 9 have shown improvements since January. 4 had attendance over 90% in March, 2 had 100%. 1 of these is a current school refuser and a multi team meeting has been called. 2 pupils had 2 placement and school moves and this time without schools has impacted. All pupils are being supported.	5 Best Skills & Quals		
P4.7	Number of Permanent Exclusions 1/2 termly - Primary	Low is Good				0	0	0	0	1		↑	This relates to a child who has been excluded from school in Lancashire. A challenge was made to this decision, but it was not overturned despite a letter from our Director of Children's Services to the Chair of Governors for the school. The Virtual School now working with Legal to request an appeal hearing. This child is now in assessment place before re-integrating into a new school.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3	
P4.8	Number of Permanent Exclusions 1/2 termly - Secondary	Low is Good				0	0	0	0	0		→	The Virtual School works with schools where permanent exclusion may arise and helps to develop support plans and alternative education where necessary. The number of such cases has decreased as preventative support plans are put in place for children with repeat exclusions and schools are becoming better able to support.	5 Best Skills & Quals		
P4.9	% of cared for children in good or outstanding schools	High is Good			85%	82%	83%	77%	81%	80%		↓	There are currently 2 children in inadequate schools - both on these were already on roll when the school's Ofsted rating was downgraded. There is 1 young person in Year 11 so completing exams, 1 is in Year 5 and a risk assessment has been done to monitor support and progress. Some schools ratings based on last recorded inspection before conversion may be several years ago. Schools which have converted no longer have reports available and so legacy reports have been used showing 81% of children in good or better schools. Newly named or formed academies are listed as unknown, as there is no Ofsted rating linked to their name. There are 16 children in schools with no listing.	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3	
P4.12	% 16-18 year olds in Care that are NEET (monthly)	Low is Good			20%			6%	6%	7%		↑	One additional young person is now NEET, so there are 4 in total. These young people will be given intense support to find new arrangements, including the option for in-house programmes of tutor work or Cygnet (supported work experience).	5 Best Skills & Quals	Outcome 3	
P4.13	% 16-18 year old Care leavers that are NEET	Low is Good			40%			23%	9%	12%		↑	The number of 16-18 year old Care leavers that are NEET has increased from 2 to 3 out of a cohort of 25 young people. These young people have been offered intense support by the Virtual School, Social Care and Youth Support and will be offered alternatives. This figure remains well below target. A NEET panel has been set up to look at individual cases of young people who are long term NEET and not engaging and develop multi-agency plans.			
P4.14	% 19 - 21 year Care leavers NEET	Low is Good			45%			33%	24%	26%		↑	Corporate Parenting Committee and the Care Leavers Service are in the process of strengthening the offer to care leavers to for education, employment and training (EET). Personal Assistants require the council to offer multiple opportunities for care leavers so that every opportunity is provided to secure these options. The Care Leavers Team continue to have a designated role in promoting EET, which has been part of the success in the improving picture.	5 Best Skills & Quals		
Support me to move into adult life																
P5.1	% of care leavers accessing Higher Education (University)	High is Good				10%	10%	12%	16%	10%			In this last quarter we have had 3 young people drop out of their course due to emotional health difficulties. We have also seen an increase in the number of care leavers (increased UASC's) which mean our percentage of care leavers in university has dropped significantly.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 1	
P5.2	Number of Cheshire East care leavers in apprenticeships (18+)	High is Good				9	4	6	6	7			One young person has secured an apprenticeship with the NHS. We have two available ring fenced apprenticeships within the Youth Support Service, however we are struggling to find the right care-leaver to fill these roles. Ringway Jacobs plan an open day for care leavers to attend in June 2018. They will be able to offer up to 10 apprenticeships.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 1	
P5.3	The number of young people with a CSE plan - All Individuals					10	6	7	7	5			The number on a formal CSE plan has reduced and this remains an area of focus for senior managers as it is an area that requires vigilance. The figure also does not reflect those children and young people where there are risks of CSE as a result of adolescent neglect - these children are on child protection plans under the category of neglect and the risks of CSE managed within that plan.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5	
P5.4	Number of individual offences committed by cared for children	Low is Good					18	7	1	8		↑	This figure shows the total number of offences from those listed in measure P5.6 below. Please note offences are only loaded once a young person receives a substantive statutory outcome and not when they are going through the Divert process. The Q4 numbers are more in line with previous quarters, following a reduction in Q3.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 1	
P5.5	% of care leavers in suitable accommodation	High is Good			96%	94%	96%	98%	98%	98%		↑	There are 3 individuals considered to be in unsuitable accommodation - 2 where residence is unknown as the individual has refused to disclose and 1 where the individual was reported as of no fixed abode. Work continues to maintain contact with these young people.	2 Feel & Be Safe	Outcome 5	
P5.6	Number of cared for children offending	Low is Good					4	4	1	6		↑	This figure relates to all young people starting on Youth Justice Service Statutory or Divert Intervention during the quarter where they are flagged as a child in care on Childview. Please note that some young people may be active on both Divert and Statutory Interventions at the same time, but only counted once. The Q4 numbers are more in line with previous quarters, following a reduction in Q3.	4 Being Healthy and Making Positive Choices	Outcome 1	