

MEETING	CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL
DATE AND TIME:	TUESDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER, 2023 AT 5.30 PM
VENUE:	MEETING ROOM 2, SECOND FLOOR, THE CURVE, WILLIAM STREET, SLOUGH, SL1 1XY
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER: (for all enquiries)	NADIA WILLIAMS 07749 709 961

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

The following Papers have been added to the agenda for the above meeting:-

* Items 5 and 6 were not available for publication with the rest of the agenda.

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>LEAD</u>
5.	Draft Corporate Parenting Action Plan 2023/24 - Update	1 - 16	Kay Jones
6.	Corporate Parenting Panel Scorecard	17 - 42	Reshma Bessesar

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Corporate Parenting Action Plan

Owner:	Kay Jones
Date:	September 2023
Review Date:	Every 2 months; full review March 2024

All actions will be BRAG rated to demonstrate progress of outcomes and impact

	Outcome:	Impact:
Red	Tasks timescales have slipped and need immediate attention.	Not on target and outside of tolerances with no demonstrable improvement.
Amber	Tasks are on track/ happening, but may not yet be fully embedded into practice	Not on target but within tolerances
Green	Tasks are progressing as expected and are deemed to be on target	Outcomes is meeting or exceeding targets
Blue	Tasks have been completed fully and embedded into practice	Impact of outcomes is continually meeting or exceeding targets and is sustained
Grey	Action is not scheduled to start in this period/ action now closed	Impact not yet expected to be realised or unable to report this time



<p>Corporate Parenting Action Plan 2023/24</p> <p>The Corporate Parenting Action Plan incorporate priorities from SCF Business & Improvement Plan, Sufficiency Strategy, and incorporates recommendations from the 2023 Local Government Association Corporate Parenting peer review.</p> <p>The CP Action plan is intended to be a live and evolving document. The plan will be delivered by the CP Task & Finish Group and overseen by the Sufficiency Board and Corporate Parenting Panel.</p> <p>Priority Aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate Parenting Panel best practice development 2. Corporate approach to Corporate Parenting 3. Further Development of our Local Offer for CEYP 4. Ensure Active Participation and Engagement with our CLA and CEYP 5. Themed activities linked to Pledges 						
<p>1. Overarching Aim – Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) best practice development</p> <p>To develop the Corporate Parenting Panel in line with National good practice and the LGA peer review recommendations; utilising the Corporate Parenting Diagnostic tool to ensure that the CPP is effective in its oversight, scrutiny, and delivery of services to children looked after (CLA) and Care Experienced Young People (CEYP).</p> <p>The aim is for CLA and CEYP to be an integral part of the CPP development and delivery, working in partnership with the Lead Member and CPP members.</p>						
	Objective	Actions	Programme Lead	Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
1.1	The Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) to have clear priorities for the forthcoming	Create a forward plan of priorities, annual reporting, and themes schedule	KJ	KJ	21 Sept 23	Annual Schedule to be shared with relevant



	year and clarity of role and purpose, in line with LGA peer review recommendations and National best practice.					colleagues for contribution 08.09.23 Draft plan and annual schedule being presented to CPP 21.09.23. Annual themed plan has been amended with Cabinet dates and will be ratified at CP Panel 21.11.23
		Review the CPP TOR to ensure they are in line with National best practice and the LGA peer review recommendations	KJ	KJ	Dec 23	Best practice examples sought 07.09.23 Draft TOR to be presented to CPP 21.09.23 – agreed in principal however requires revision in order to go through Governance process
1.2	Develop the CPP membership to include all ‘relevant’ partners, VCS and Faith Group representatives	Identify Strategic Lead representatives to be invited to the CPP	KJ	KJ / SB	21 Nov 23	Police, Health, Leisure, Housing rep’s identified. Invite to be put together to share with Cherie from Primary, Secondary schools. Adult Services rep needed. Additional membership has been achieved to include senior managers in housing, Adult services, Leisure



						Services, Youth Service representative and health. Police representative needs to be confirmed.
1.3	Identify lead Cllr Champions for each of the 'Pledges' (themes)	LGA workshop will support CPP members to consider lead Champions in line with Pledges	KJ	KJ	26 Oct 23	LGC workshop took place and good practice examples shared with CP Panel members – Lead champions to be considered.
1.4	CPP to have clear mechanisms for effective communication with CLA and CEYP; listening, responding and acting <i>(*links to Participation Strategy/Action Plan/Section 4 CP Action Plan)</i>	Design a 'You said, we did, and so what' approach to listening and responding to young people	KM	KJ	Dec 2023	Kate to share Participation Strategy/action plan with T & F group to ensure joined up approach and avoid duplication.
		Consult with CLA/CEYP on the proposed process	KM		Dec 2023	
		CPP to consider the proposed 'You said, we did, and so what' approach for implementation	KM		16/01/24	
1.5	CPP to establish a clear vision for the panel and establish best practice working models, in line with LGA recommendations	LGA to co-present a CPP Vision and Best Practice workshop to the CPP members	KJ		26.10.23	LGA workshop complete – good practice examples shared and discussed by panel members. Reflection will take place at CPP 21.11.23
1.6	Develop an accessible and relevant CP Scorecard to inform the CPP on Key	Draft a scorecard for CPP consideration and approval	KJ		21 Sept 23	1 st draft scorecard presented to CPP 18.07.23 Simplified version in progress 09.09.23



	Performance Indicators for CLA/CEYP					Final draft to be presented to CPP 21.09.23
		Schedule a performance 'lesson' for CPP, led by Data officer	KJ	AR	Jan 24	
1.7	CPP to meet in a user friendly/accessible and informal environment where CLA / CEYP can participate	Identify accessible and user-friendly venues for CPP to be held, where CLA/CEYP can be invited to attend/participate and lead on CPP agenda points	KM	KJ	Jan 24	
1.8	CPP to utilise the support, guidance and training on offer from the LGA to develop a CPP and model of best practice	LGA to identify CP Lead Member mentor to support/guide our new Lead Member	KJ	KJ	Jan 24	The LGA have offered support regarding a Lead Member mentor – confirmation required as to if we wish to progress
		LGA to provide a facilitated discussion with CLT re: Corporate approach to CP	KJ	KJ	Feb 24	Discussion required as to whether the LGA should be invited to complete a CP session with CLT – KJ to discuss with SB
1.9	CLA and CEYP will co-deliver the CPP and CLA/CEYP views will be represented in the CP	Workstream to identify CLA/CEYP who wish to be involved in the CPP	KM	KJ	Jan 24	
		CLA/CEYP representatives to receive support/training/guidance in the CPP and how they	KM	KJ	Mar 24	



		can support the Panel process				
2.	Overarching Aim – Corporate approach to Corporate Parenting					
	Corporate parenting is everyone’s responsibility. SCB and SCF are committed to children and young people being the top priority and aim towards all SCF/SBC employees understanding and demonstrating their Corporate Parenting responsibilities and ambitions through as range of strategic actions.					
	Objective	Actions	Programme Lead	Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
2.1	Develop a new Corporate Parenting Strategy; identifying the Corporate Vision, Aims and Ambitions for our CLA and CEYP, with SBC/SCF, partner agencies and organisations	Draft strategy to be prepared, using research from best practice LA’s	KJ	KJ	29.09.23	Draft Strategy is in progress
		Stakeholder workshops to be established to consult on draft strategy	KJ		w/c 9th Oct 23	CLA/CEYP, Internal, external partners. Proposed dates for stakeholder consultation/involvement have been delayed and will be scheduled for Dec 23
		Present CP Strategy to SMT/SLT – with slides	KJ		End Oct (SMT) Early Nov (SLT)	Due to above stakeholder consultation delay SMT/SLT dates will be scheduled for end of Dec/ early Jan
		Present draft strategy to CPP	KJ		16.01.24	
2.2	Ensure all SCF and SBC staff are inducted in the role and responsibilities of Corporate	Produce a ‘one minute guide’ for all staff on ‘What is a Corporate Parent?’	KJ		Feb 24	



	Parenting and have easy access to information	Publish the 'One Minute Guide' on SCF and SBC intranet	KJ		Mar 24	
		Produce a Corporate Parenting Induction programme for all staff (mandatory)	KJ		Mar 24	
		Arrange and organise CP refresh/awareness raising of roles/responsibilities and duties with partner agencies	KJ		Apr 24	Helen to liaise with health colleagues (ICB/CCG) to identify dates/meetings etc.
		CP presentation to be delivered to SCF teams/service areas	KJ		Feb 24	
		Seek opportunity to add CP to the Governance Leadership training programme	KJ	KJ	Feb 24	
2.3	Corporate Parenting is everyone's responsibility. SCF and SBC will ensure that all departments contribute to their role as CP to demonstrate commitment and effectiveness.	Ensure all Service and Team plans include Corporate Parenting priorities/contributions, that is evidence based	KJ/SB		Apr 24	
		CP branding – e.g. teams background, to be drafted	KJ		Apr 24	
2.4	SCF/SBC are committed to prioritising childrens education, employment, and training opportunities within	Discussion with SLT to seek agreement in principle to approach all SBC/SCF departments to request	KJ	CS	Mar 24	Consideration of CL Protected Characteristic required



	the 'Family Business', providing opportunities for; mentoring, work experience, apprenticeships, and employment; interview guarantee etc.	EET opportunities for CLA/CEYP; to explore this being a policy decision and offer within the Local Offer				
3.	Overarching Aim – Further Development our Local Offer for CEYP					
	The Local Authority have a duty to provide accessible information and guidance to all care experienced young people, informing them of their rights and support available to them in all areas impacting their lives and progression to independence, through a Local Offer. SCF consider the Local Offer to be an evolving menu of support, in continuous development with ceyp, to ensure that all available support locally, regionally and nationally is identified to improve the life opportunities for ceyp.					
	Objective	Actions	Programme Lead	Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
3.1	Ensure CLA and CEYP have easy access to the Local Offer, in a format that is user friendly and accessible	Consult on proposed changes to the Local Offer; design, presentation, and access	RB	KM	September 23	A survey has been sent out to all ceyp. A range of informal sessions are taking place in September to seek the views of ceyp. Verbal update to be presented to CP Panel 21.11.23
		Redesign the Local Offer following consultation and user feedback	RB	RB	Dec 23	
		Launch the new Local Offer and ensure all CLA / CEYP / staff have access	RB	RB	Jan 24	



3.1	The Local Offer is a live and emerging offer that continues to be developed and enhanced, identifying further support to CLA /CEYP	Identify a task group to further develop the Local Offer for CLA/CEYP	RB	RB	Nov 23	There is a task and finish group in place to review the current Local Offer; the group will continue to meet to seek opportunities for further development.
		Research National & Regional Local Offers deemed best practice to benchmark against Slough	RB/KJ	RB	Jan 24	
		Work in partnership with the Care Leaver Covenant to develop regional and National offers for CLA/CEYP	RB / KJ	RB	Jan 24	
3.3	All CLA and CEYP have timely access to the Leisure Offer and staff, foster carers, providers can support the referral and membership process (Everyone Active)	Review the current Leisure offer for CLA/CEYP ensuring a clear process for referral/access	RB	RB	Nov 23	Leisure Services are working on putting together process – RB to finalise process to ensure accuracy and clarity for distribution
		Disseminate Leisure access guidance to all staff, partner agencies, foster carers and providers	RB	RB	Dec 23	
4.	<p>Overarching Aim – Ensure Active Participation and Engagement with our CLA and CEYP.</p> <p>SCF/SBC and partner agencies are committed to actively involving young people in the co-production of service delivery, actively listening, and responding to children and young people’s wishes, feelings and views. The Corporate Parenting Panel are ambitious in their aim to actively involve CLA and CEYP in the development of the Corporate Parenting Panel and the development of the</p>					



Corporate Parenting action plan to ensure it is responsive to their lived experiences, shaping and delivering services to meet their needs. *The action detailed below are aligned with SCF Participation Strategy and action plan.						
	Objective	Actions	Programme Lead	Action Owner	Timescales	Progress Desired Outcome
4.1	CP Pledges to be reviewed to ensure they are in line with CLA/CEYP priorities and become 'Promises'	Contact details of all CLA/CEYP to be established, identifying a range of mechanisms to consult and engage with CLA and CEYP.	KM		September 23	KM is currently developing contact details for all CLA and CEYP to establish direct communication strategies to consult and engage.
		Organise an event/survey/consultation mechanism with CLA/CEYP to review the CP 'Pledges'	KM		December 23	Explore survey's – CLA/CEYP details are being gathered to communicate (Faiza involved in organising text communication)
		Consult with all CLA/CEYP on proposed revision of Pledges	KM		Jan 24	
		Present proposed Promises to SMT, SLT	KM/KJ			
		Present proposed Promises to CPP	KM/KJ			
4.2	CLA/CEYP will have a 'safe space' to meet	Dedicated/accessible and safe spaces to be identified on Slough	KM/KJ	GR	Feb 24	A range of options are being explored, such as; dedicated room in Observatory House, room at the 'Yes' consortium, rooms with leisure services to be explored.



		Initial costings for refurb/furniture/equipment to be scoped	KM	KJ		
		Consultation with CLA / CEYP on safe space options	KM	KJ		
4.3	SCF will provide CLA / CEYP with the opportunity to meet regularly with their peers in participation groups/activities; Reach Out and Space to Talk	Explore additional capacity for Participation Officer support and or dedicated staff to establish regular groups	KM	KJ	Sept 23	SCF are recruiting to the post of Participation Officer, as the current post is vacant – upon
		Re-establish the CLA and CEYP participation groups; considering opportunities for more children to meet via social media platforms (e.g. teams, text communication), as well as in person	KM		Feb 24	
		Produce an annual schedule of participation group meetings	KM		Feb 24	
		Review and update invitations/literature for CLA/CEYP in what the participation groups are and how to get involved	KM		Feb 24	
4.4	CLA and CEYP will co-deliver the CPP and CLA/CEYP views will be represented in the CP panel	Liaise with PA's, SW's, Virtual School to identify CLA/CEYP to be CPP participants	KM	KJ	Nov 23	



	(linked to 1.9)	Organise a CPP workshop for CLA/CEYP identified to consider the development opportunity and seek their views on how to actively participate	KJ/KM	KM	Jan 24	
		Scope 'Total Respect' training or alternative, to enable CLA/CEYP to train CPP members and SCF/SBC staff	KM	KM	Mar 24	
4.5	CLA/CEYP will have opportunities throughout the year to participate in fun activities/consultation/service development events	Produce an annual programme of consultation and events (calendar) to guide themed participation and engagement	KJ	KJ	Sept 23	Draft themed activities to be presented to CPP 21/09/23 – identify consultation events to be incorporated into the Participation Strategy for CLA/CEYP
		Plan and prepare annual participation and consultation events, such as, Have Your Say Day, Take Over Day etc.	KM/KJ	KM	March 24	
5.	<p>Overarching Aim – Themed activities linked to Pledges (to become promises)</p> <p>Below are the current 'pledges' highlighting SBC and SCF commitments to CLA and CEYP. The action plan will identify specific actions relating to the pledges to ensure progress and development as required. These actions are dynamic and will evolve as priority actions are identifying in real time.</p> <p>Be Healthy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will make sure you have access to and are provided with the right advice and support to ensure you are physically and emotional healthy. • We will make sure you have the opportunity to take part in activities and hobbies of your choice. 					



<p>Be Ambitious</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will help you to get the best educational outcomes and support you with your education. • We will ensure you receive the best advice and support about applying for college and university, applying for a job and for your future career. <p>Be Resilient</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will listen if you have a complaint or would like to praise someone. • We will offer you the support of an advocate or independent visitor because sometimes you may find it difficult to say what you want, and you may want some support to put your views forward. • We will support you to maintain positive relationships with your friends and family. If this is not possible, we will tell you why. • We will make sure your social worker spends time with you to get to know you and understand you • We promise not to change your social worker unless it is absolutely necessary. If this happens, we will tell you why. <p>Be Happy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will help you to be involved in choosing your home and to know more about where you are moving to, including being able to visit your new carers before you move. • We will listen to you and involve you in the decisions and plans that are made about you and your future. • We will help you to be involved in choosing the right school or setting for you, to help you enjoy learning. <p>Be Independent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will help and support you to learn about how to budget, cook, clean and other independent living skills. <p>Be Safe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will help and support you to stay safe and feel safe. • We will make sure you know who your social worker, independent reviewing officer and learning advocates are and how to contact them. 					
Objective	Actions	Programme Lead	Action Owner	Timescales	Progress



5.1	Be Healthy – ensure CLA receive their IHA’s and RHA’s in line with statutory timeframes All SCF and SBC departments to offer mentor, work experience and/or apprenticeship opportunities to CLA/CEYP	Meeting with relevant HoS to be established to review IHA, RHA referral process	KJ	RB	Oct 23	Meeting has taken place and process agreed
		Meeting with health partners to established to review process, identify issues, and seek resolution	RB	RB	Oct 23	Complete – regular meetings take place to review process and identify barriers/blockages and solutions
		Task and Finish group to review monthly progress, using performance data	RB	RB	Nov 23	
		Progress reporting to CPP	RB	RB	Nov 23	Health review data shared with CP Panel via CP Scorecard
	Housing Strategy has been developed; this requires inclusion of CEYP as protected characteristic and priority commitment to inform development of Joint Housing Protocol for CEYP	Meeting to be organised with Housing Director/Department lead to progress	KJ	KJ	Dec 23	Meeting to be arranged



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CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL SCORECARD Summary – 2023 10 October

Meeting	Corporate Parenting Panel
Author	Reshma Bessesar, Head of Service Children Looked After and Support Services
Date	14/11/23
Action Required	For Information
Version	0.1
Status	Confidential

1 Summary of the October 2023 scorecard:

- The number of Children Looked After (CLA) has decreased over the last 12 months – the number of looked after children at the end of October is 238.
 - The number of children entering into care has varied over the last few months, 6 children came into care in October – comparatively 18 children entered care in 2022. Since April there have been 45 entries into care, compared to the same period the previous year there were 100 entries into care.
 - The number of children exiting care decreased in recent months with 9 children exiting care in October.
 - The rate of CLA has also decreased and is now 52.2, below that of comparator groups – statistical neighbours 58.7, South East 56, England 70.
 - There is an overrepresentation of older children aged 16+ (particularly males) when compared to the Slough population of the same age.
 - Children from White, Mixed and Black communities are over-represented whilst those from Asian communities are under-represented.
 - The number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children has decreased since the same time last year, however the proportion of the CLA cohort that are unaccompanied asylum seeking children has remained the same.
 - Performance on Health checks remains strong (although there was a slight decrease in October), whilst Dental checks for CLA are showing improving performance.
 - Long term placement stability for CLA showed an increase in October. Performance is impacted by children returning home, being adopted, foster carers giving notice due to difficulties in managing children's



presenting needs or family circumstances.

- Visiting to CLA within timescales is improving with more children having been seen in timescales and more children seen alone.
- Just over a quarter of CLA live within 20 miles of their home, this has remained stable over the last 12 months
- Children are experiencing fewer changes in social worker – with workforce stability showing considerable improvement.
- Workloads for social workers in the CLA and Support Service have increased over the last few months.
- The number of Care Experienced Young People has decreased over the last few months but remains higher than the same time last year. At the end of October 2023 there were 244 young people a 6% increase from the previous year
 - There is an over-representation of young males aged between 16 and 19 – predominantly because of an increase in UASCs over the last 2 years.
 - Young people from White, Mixed and Black communities are over-represented, whilst those from Asian communities are under-represented.
 - Challenges for young people accessing and remaining in education, employment and training still exist including, childcare, mental health and wellbeing, disruption to accommodation, lack of work experience, developing resilience, being in custody, awaiting outcome of asylum claims as well as concerns around criminal exploitation.
 - The proportion of young people in suitable accommodation remains high.
 - 7 young people are in prison, whilst 3 are in temporary housing and 1 young person is deemed to be of no fixed abode.
 - Current workloads for Care Experienced Young People's Advisors continue to increase.



Corporate Parenting Scorecard

(Data October 2023)



A hands-on approach to help children in Slough be
..... Safe, Secure and Successful

About this Scorecard...

The Corporate Parenting Panel is the forum whereby the Lead Member for Children, Councillors, Officers, and relevant partners have oversight and the ability to seek assurances regarding our collective Corporate Parenting responsibilities and achievements against the Corporate Parenting Principles (C & SW Act 2017).

Panel members will be seeking to ensure, as far as possible, secure, nurturing and positive experiences for our children looked after and care experienced young people.

In order to fulfil these responsibilities, it is important that panel members understand our cohort of children looked after and care experienced young people. To have oversight of our Key Performance Indicator outcomes, locally, and benchmarking against our statistical neighbours and the National context.

The Corporate Parenting Scorecard provides the most up to date data regarding our profile, strengths and areas that require focussed improvement to ensure scrutiny, oversight and targets to improve the lives of, and have high aspirations for our children looked after and care experienced young people.

Our Scorecard will include information relating to specific areas directly impacting our children, such as, health and wellbeing, placement stability, distance from home, fostering and adoption, and outcomes for our care leavers,

Contents

Children Looked After slides 4-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall number of CLA• Rates per 10'000• Demographics• UASC• No. CLA entering & Leaving Care• No. of children adopted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health Assessments• Dental Checks• Long Term Placement Stability• Distance from Home• Visiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change of Social Worker• Social Worker Workload
Fostering slide 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No. of Fostering households		
Care Experienced Young People slides 18-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall number of CEYP• Demographics• Education, Employment and Training (EET)• Accommodation suitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Care Experienced Young People's Advisor Workload	



Children Looked After (CLA) – Number of CLA

The number of CLA can change on a daily basis, this is regularly monitored. To allow for benchmarking with comparator groups a Rate per 10,000 children aged 0-17 is used.

Measure	Good to be	Target	Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
			Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
No. of CLA	n/a	n/a	262	228		n/a	n/a	n/a
Rate of CLA per 10,000 children aged 0-17	n/a	n/a	60	52.2		58.7	56.0	70.0

The decrease in the number of CLA is a result of a decrease in unaccompanied asylum-seeking children over the last 12 months. A number of these children have either turned 18 since last year or have been age assessed to be over 18 and returned to the care of the Home Office. Increased edge of care support is also helping to prevent children coming into care.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Demographics

CLA: 231



Females	Males
91	140
(39%)	(61%)

CWD	CWD
8	22
(3%)	(10%)

CLA SB	CLA SB
0	3
(0%)	(1%)

Age cohort	No. of CLA		% of CLA		% of Slough Children	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
a) less than 1	7	3	3%	1%	2%	2%
b) 1 to 4	17	16	7%	7%	11%	11%
c) 5 to 10	19	28	8%	12%	17%	18%
d) 11 to 15	22	33	10%	14%	14%	14%
e) 16 +	26	60	11%	26%	5%	5%
Total	91	140	39%	61%	49%	51%

Broad Ethnicity	No. of CLA		% of CLA			% of Slough Children
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Total	
a) Asian	17	29	7%	13%	20%	51%
b) Black	13	30	6%	13%	19%	8%
c) Mixed	19	27	8%	12%	20%	8%
d) Other	0	3	0%	1%	1%	6%
e) White	42	51	18%	22%	40%	26%
Total	91	140	39%	61%	100%	100%



Children Looked After (CLA) – Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children

These are CLA who are seeking asylum in the UK but who have been separated from their parents or carers. LAs are expected to exercise the same Corporate Parenting responsibilities for these children until they turn 18.

			Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
Measure	Good to be	Target	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
No. of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children	n/a	n/a	30	26		n/a	n/a	n/a
% of CLA that are Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children	n/a	n/a	11.4%	11.4%		15%	10%	7%

Although there has been a decrease of those in care compared to the same time last year and the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children coming into care has decreased, the proportion of UASCs that make up the CLA population remains the same as last year.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Entries into Care

The number of children coming into care can vary on a day to day basis and for a variety of reasons, including where they have experienced significant harm, abandonment or are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

Measure	Good to be	Target	Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
			Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
No. of children entering care (Year to Date)	n/a	n/a	100 (99)	45 (45)		n/a	n/a	n/a
Rate of children entering care per 10,000 children aged 0-17 (Year to Date)	n/a	n/a	39.3	17.7		27	26	26

The decrease in entries into care has been impacted by the increased focus and resourcing on managing risk to enable children to remain in the care of their parents. The legal gateway process has been reviewed together with the threshold to issue court proceedings. And there has been a substantial decrease in the number of UASCs that have entered care.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Exits from Care

Children can leave our care for several reasons such as being adopted, returning to their immediate or extended family or because of turning 18.

			Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
Measure	Good to be	Target	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
No. of Children Exiting from care	n/a	n/a	72 (70)	70 (70)		n/a	n/a	n/a
Rate of children exiting care per 10,000 children aged 0-17	n/a	n/a	19.7	19.2		25	25	26

The most prevalent reasons for children exiting from care in 2023-24 include Age Assessed to be over 18 (20), Returning Home (15), Staying Put Arrangements (8), Special Guardianship Orders (6) and children moving into Independent Living Arrangements (6). Other factors may include transfer to other LA's, transferring to adult social care or entering custody. Our 60% is below that of comparator groups 66% (SN), 61% (SE), 76% (ENG).



Children Looked After (CLA) – Adoptions

Whilst the intention is to always try to rehabilitate children back home to their families, for some children this is not always possible. For some of these children adoption may be a more appropriate option to provide them with permanency in a forever family.

			Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
Measure	Good to be	Target	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
No. of children exiting care as a result of adoption (Year to Date)	n/a	n/a	15	2		n/a	n/a	n/a
% of children exiting care as a result of adoption (Year to Date)	n/a	n/a	21%	3%		12%	8%	10%

2022-23 was an exceptional year for adoptions - there were a significantly high number of adoptions with 20 children adopted. This year by comparison has been a reduction.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Health Assessments

CLA have many of the same health related issues as their peers, however the extent of these is greater because of their past experiences. Health assessments are undertaken to promote and monitor children’s physical and mental health.


Measure	Good to be	Target	Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
			Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
% of CLA (in care for 12 months+) with a Review Health Assessment within timescales	High	90%	89.5% (145)	88% (148)		92%	85%	89%

Although performance has decreased slightly over the last 12 months, it remains on target and in line with comparator groups. Challenges include delays in referrals to health, out of area health assessments and some young people refusing to attend.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Dental Checks

Healthy teeth and gums are important for all children and are also particularly important for children in care. As a Corporate Parent we need to ensure that the children in our care, maintain good dental hygiene.

Measure	Good to be	Target	Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
			Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
% of CLA (in care for 12 months+) with a Dental Check within timescales	High	90%	69% (112)	82% (138)		70%	74%	70%

Post COVID there continues to be national challenges in obtaining access to Dentists, with appointments with NHS Dentists in high demand particularly for those children placed outside of Slough. Performance in Slough continues to improve and is above that of comparator groups.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Long Term Stability

Remaining in a long-term stable placement can have many benefits for children looked after. These include benefitting from a consistent relationship with their carers, improvements in educational attainment, physical and mental health and their own sense of belonging to a family as well as their wellbeing and happiness.

			Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
Measure	Good to be	Target	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
% of CLA (aged under 16 and in care for 2.5 years or more) in a stable placement (2 years or more)	High	65%	57.9% (33)	61.5% (32)		92%	85%	89%

It is a DfE requirement that this measure only reports on children until the age of 16 – this is to measure the stability experienced by children looked after prior to their formative years. Many children have remained in long term stable homes (placements) over the age of 16. This measure does not always factor in reasons as to why placements have ended. Some of the reasons why long-term stable placements in Slough have ended over the last 12 months (other than due to the children turning 16) include children returning home, being adopted, foster carers giving notice due to difficulties they experience in caring or their own family circumstances.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Distance from Home

It is important that children looked after remain close to home, so that they can maintain their family networks and friendships. It also allows the LA and Partner Agencies to work together to ensure that their needs are being met locally.



			Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
Measure	Good to be	Target	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
% of CLA placed more than 20 miles away from home	Low	20%	28.8% (62)	25.1% (48)		19%	28%	21%

75% of children looked after live within 20 miles of their homes – this involves 143 children. Every effort is made for children to live as close to home as possible. Occasionally, as part of the child’s care plan it may be appropriate for them to live at a distance. The availability of local placement options that can meet the complex needs of children also means that children may live away from their homes.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Visiting

We visit children for various reasons including to see whether they are well, developing as expected, that their home is meeting their needs and to ensure that actions from their care plan are being progressed.

			Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
Measure	Good to be	Target	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
% of CLA seen within timescales	High	90%	90.5% (219)	90.9% (224)		n/a	n/a	n/a
% of CLA seen alone within timescales	High	90%	74.9% (187)	85.7% (213)		n/a	n/a	n/a

Performance remains high with 91% of children having been seen within statutory timescales. Where children have not been seen within timescales it is because children, carers or social workers not available. In some instances, we are unable to see children alone due to the additional needs that they may have. Visits are tracked weekly to understand which children have not yet been seen and the reasons why and when the next visit is going to occur.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Change of Social Worker

It is important for a child’s social worker to remain consistent to allow a relationship to be formed between them and the child. This also helps to ensure that actions from the child’s care plan are completed in a timely way.

			Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
Measure	Good to be	Target	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
% of CLA (in care for 12 months or more) with 2 or more changes in social worker in the last 12 months	Low	n/a	54.8% (92)	33.1% (57)		n/a	n/a	n/a

Staff turnover has reduced which means that children are experiencing fewer changes in their allocated social worker. Changes in a social worker can occur when children are transferred to different services (within children’s social care) which specialise in the progression of key aspects of their plan.



Children Looked After (CLA) – Social Worker Workload

To enable social workers to progress children’s plans and build relationships with the child in a meaningful way their workloads need to allow them the time to do that.


Measure	Good to be	Target	Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
			Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Average no. of children allocated to Social Workers in CLA & Support Services	Low	18	17.8	15.3		n/a	n/a	n/a

Currently social worker workloads are below target as the teams are fully staffed and turnover has remained at its lowest for quite some time.



Fostering (IFA) – Fostering Households

Foster carers provide homes for children and enable them to remain within a family environment. It is crucial for LAs to have their own in house foster carers when children need to be cared for, allowing children to live locally and allows LAs to manage the care the children receive, and costs associated.

			Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
Measure	Good to be	Target	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
No. of in house fostering households	High	60	48	46		n/a	n/a	n/a


Currently the numbers of in house foster carers has remained stable and there are 7 households currently going through the recruitment process.

It should be noted that there is a national shortage of foster carers, with many carers retiring and feeling the impacts of a post COVID fallout and the cost-of-living crisis making it ever more challenging to recruit and retain carers.



Care Experienced Young People (CEYP) – No. of CEYP

These are young people who have spent time in care – specifically they will have been in care for at least 13 weeks spanning their 16th birthday. A personal advisor is allocated to support them from the age of 16th up until the age of 21, or up until 25 (if required) to help them develop their independent skills as they transition into adulthood.

			Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
Measure	Good to be	Target	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
No. of CEYP eligible for services	n/a	n/a	231	244		n/a	n/a	n/a

The number of young people who meet this criteria continues to rise. Over the last 12 months there has been a 6% increase due to older children being cared for and because of additional unaccompanied asylum-seeking children needing our care.



Care Experienced Young People (CEYP) – Demographics

CEYP: 244



Females

Males

91

153

(37%)

(63%)

CWD

CWD

6

24

(3%)

(10%)

Age Cohort	No. of CEYP		% of CEYP		% of Slough Young People	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
a) 16 to 17	26	49	11%	20%	11%	12%
b) 18 to 19	29	58	12%	24%	9%	10%
c) 20 to 21	19	28	8%	11%	8%	9%
d) 22 +	17	18	7%	7%	21%	20%
Total	91	153	37%	63%	49%	51%


Broad Ethnicity	No. of CEYP		% of CEYP			% of Slough Young People
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Total	
a) Asian	20	40	8%	16%	25%	47%
b) Black	12	43	5%	18%	23%	10%
c) Mixed	16	19	7%	8%	14%	6%
d) Other	1	11	0%	5%	5%	6%
e) White	42	40	17%	16%	34%	32%
Total	91	153	37%	63%	100%	100%



Care Experienced Young People (CEYP) – EET Status



We aspire to achieve positive outcomes for our young people and therefore monitoring whether they are in Education, Employment or Training (EET) allows us to measure this. We support and guide our young people to access Education, Employment and Training opportunities as they progress through adulthood and beyond.

Measure	Good to be	Target	Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
			Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
% of CEYP (aged 19-21) that are in Education, Employment or Training	High	52%	48% (34)	50% (44)		56%	57%	55%

Challenges for some young people accessing and staying in EET include childcare responsibilities, their mental health and wellbeing, disruption to their accommodation, lack of work experience, developing the resilience to remain in EET, being in custody, awaiting the outcome of their asylum claim and criminal exploitation concerns.



Care Experienced Young People – Accommodation



We need to ensure that young people are in safe and suitable accommodation that is appropriate for them, for their age and development.

Measure	Good to be	Target	Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
			Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
% of CEYP (aged 19-21) that are in Suitable Accommodation	High	85%	92% (65)	90% (79)		89%	88%	85%

Most young people are in suitable accommodation. However, there are 11 young people in unsuitable accommodation, this includes 7 young people in prison and 3 in temporary housing (i.e. Bed and Breakfast) having been provided these temporary arrangements by housing departments and 1 young person deemed to be of no fixed abode.



To enable personal advisors to progress young people's plans and build relationships with the young people in a meaningful way their workloads need to allow them the time to do that.

Measure	Good to be	Target	Slough Performance			Benchmarking (as at 31/03/2022)		
			Oct 2022	Oct 2023	Trend last 12 months	Statistical Neighbours	South East	England
Average no. of young people allocated to CEYP Advisors	Low	18	24.8	27.1		n/a	n/a	n/a

This measure is a combination of the work that personal advisors do with different cohorts (aged 16-25). Due to the increases in young people that meet the criteria for care leaving support workloads for PAs are increasing.



Thank you for listening

For more information please contact
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