



CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Summary – 2024 07 July

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Document Summary:

Summary of July 2024 Corporate Parenting Panel Scorecard highlights. Please note the data is reflective as at the end of May 2024.

- The number of Children Looked After (CLA) has decreased over the last 12 months – the number of looked after children at the end of May is 205 (an additional 3 children are subject to short break care).
 - The number of children entering into care has been lower than in previous years. Since April there have been 18 entries into care, compared to the same period the previous year there were 19 entries into care.
 - The number of children exiting from care varied over recent months with 15 exits from care since April.
 - The largest proportion of looked after children is for the children aged 16+ with the majority being male.
 - Children from White, Mixed and Black communities make up the largest proportion of looked after children. Children from Asian communities are fewer by proportion.
 - The number of unaccompanied children seeking refuge has increased (23) since the same time last year (19).
 - Performance on Health checks remains high although there has been a decrease in May, whilst Dental checks for CLA are showing improving performance but not where we would want it to be. This is a national challenge.
 - Long term placement stability for CLA showed improvement in May. Performance can be impacted by children getting older, returning home, being adopted, foster carers giving notice or their own family circumstances
 - Visiting to CLA within timescales saw a slight decrease and this is tracked on a weekly basis by the Head of Service.
 - Just over a quarter of CLA are placed within 20 miles of their home, this has remained stable over the last 12 months. We are working closely with providers to secure homes as close to Slough as possible, and we are optimistic that our regional fostering hub will assist us to recruit local carers.
 - Children are experiencing more changes in social worker due to changes in our looked after children's team with some staff leaving and also movement between service areas following court proceedings ending and them moving to their long term team.
- At the end of May 2024 there were 245 young people who were care experienced, a 3% decrease from the previous year
 - There is a high representation of young males aged between 16 and 19 – predominantly as a result of the increase of children seeking refuge over the last few years.
 - Young people from White, Mixed and Black communities are proportionally more highly represented, whilst those from Asian communities show a lower proportion.
 - Challenges for young people getting and remaining in education, employment and training remain.

- The proportion of young people in suitable accommodation remains high
 - 3 young people are in prison, whilst 3 are in temporary housing and 3 young person is deemed to be of no fixed abode who we are working closely with.