

Public Document Pack



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Ask for Alisha Parker

PUBLIC

To: Members of Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - People

Tuesday, 14 September 2021

Dear Councillor,

Please attend a meeting of the **Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - People** to be held at **2.00 pm** on **Thursday, 23 September 2021** in County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG, the agenda for which is set out below.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen E. Barrington'.

Helen Barrington

Director of Legal and Democratic Services

A G E N D A

PART I - NON-EXEMPT ITEMS

1. Apologies for absence
To receive apologies for absence (if any)
2. Declarations of Interest
To receive declarations of interest (if any)
3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 2)

To confirm the non-exempt minutes of the meeting of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – People held on 21 July 2021.

4. Public Questions (30 minute maximum in total) (Pages 3 - 4)

(Questions may be submitted to be answered by the Scrutiny Committee, or Council officers who are attending the meeting as witnesses, on any item that is within the scope of the Committee. Please see the procedure for the submission of questions at the end of this agenda)

5. Better Lives Programme

6. Corporate Parenting (Pages 5 - 24)

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **the IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PEOPLE** held on 21 July 2021

PRESENT

Councillor T Kemp (in the Chair)

Councillors S Burfoot, C Dale, R George, A Griffiths, G Musson, P Rose, P Smith, and D Taylor.

Also in attendance – J Parfremment, and S Stevens.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors J Wharmby, and J Wooley.

08/21 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10 February 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

09/21 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** There were no public questions.

10/21 **OVERVIEW OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE** The Improvement and Scrutiny People Committee were provided with an overview of the Adult Social Care Department. This included background information to support committee members to understand the role, functions and activity undertaken by the department in order to assist the committee to consider areas for further scrutiny as part of their future work programme.

The committee were provided information in a slide presentation format. The presentation provided committee members with information about the core purpose of the Adult Social Care Department and the legislative framework within which it operated. The presentation also provided information on the principles and focus of the Adult Social Care department.

Background detail was provided to support committee members to understand the resources and activity of the department and the current transformation activity being delivered through the Better Lives programme to support people to be as independent as they are able.

It had been suggested that the areas of Adult Social Care that could be included within the Committees work programme could be 'Better Lives' and the workstream areas included within the presentation such as working age adults and hospital discharge. As well as the support provided to the adults in Derbyshire coming out of the pandemic.

RESOLVED that the Committee note the overview information provided by the Adult Social Care Department.

11/21 OVERVIEW OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES The Improvement and Scrutiny People Committee were provided with an overview of the Children's Services Department. This included background information to support committee members to understand the role, functions and activity undertaken by the department in order to assist the committee to consider areas for further scrutiny as part of their future work programme.

The committee were provided information in a slide presentation format. The presentation provided committee members with information about the core purpose of the Children's Services department and the legislative framework within which it operated. The presentation also provided information on the principles and focus of the Children's Services department.

Background detail was provided to support committee members to understand the resources and activity of the department and the current transformation activity being delivered, including the Achieving Great Futures programme to improve outcomes for children and young people.

RESOLVED that the Committee note the overview information provided by Children's Services Department.

12/21 WORK PROGRAMME The Committee would convene for a Microsoft Teams meeting on 06 August 2021 to discuss items they wished to include within the work programme. Committee members had been asked by the Chair to submit any suggested items before the meeting took place.

The Chair would arrange for individual meetings to be held with Committee members should they not be available on 06 August 2021; Members had been asked to contact the Chair should they wish to have an individual meeting.

The Chair invited Cllr Musson to comment on the minutes, he having chaired the committee at the time and the latter confirmed that they were an accurate record. He also offered details of some work originally planned which the committee had been unable to complete because of the Covid epidemic and might wish to consider in the future.

Procedure for Public Questions at Improvement and Scrutiny Committee meetings

Members of the public who are on the Derbyshire County Council register of electors, or are Derbyshire County Council tax payers or non-domestic tax payers, may ask questions of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committees, or witnesses who are attending the meeting of the Committee. The maximum period of time for questions by the public at a Committee meeting shall be 30 minutes in total.

Order of Questions

Questions will be asked in the order they were received in accordance with the Notice of Questions requirements, except that the Chairman may group together similar questions.

Notice of Questions

A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing or by email to the Director of Legal Services no later than 12noon three working days before the Committee meeting (i.e. 12 noon on a Wednesday when the Committee meets on the following Monday). The notice must give the name and address of the questioner and the name of the person to whom the question is to be put.

Questions may be emailed to democratic.services@derbyshire.gov.uk

Number of Questions

At any one meeting no person may submit more than one question, and no more than one such question may be asked on behalf of one organisation about a single topic.

Scope of Questions

The Director of Legal Services may reject a question if it:

- Exceeds 200 words in length;
- is not about a matter for which the Committee has a responsibility, or does not affect Derbyshire;
- is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Committee in the past six months; or
- requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

Submitting Questions at the Meeting

Questions received by the deadline (see **Notice of Question** section above) will be shared with the respondent with the request for a written response to be provided by 5pm on the last working day before the meeting (i.e. 5pm on Friday before the meeting on Monday). A schedule of questions and responses will be produced and made available 30 minutes prior to the meeting (from Democratic Services Officers in the meeting room). It will not be necessary for the questions and responses to be read out at the meeting, however, the Chairman will refer to the questions and responses and invite each questioner to put forward a supplementary question.

Supplementary Question

Anyone who has put a question to the meeting may also put one supplementary question without notice to the person who has replied to his/her original question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. The Chairman may reject a supplementary question on any of the grounds detailed in the **Scope of Questions** section above.

Written Answers

The time allocated for questions by the public at each meeting will be 30 minutes. This period may be extended at the discretion of the Chairman. Any questions not answered at the end of the time allocated for questions by the public will be answered in writing. Any question that cannot be dealt with during public question time because of the non-attendance of the person to whom it was to be put, will be dealt with by a written answer.



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PEOPLE

23rd September 2021

Report of the Executive Director for Children's Services

Overview of Corporate Parenting

1. Purpose

To provide the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - People with an overview of Corporate Parenting, what it is in relation to the care of Derbyshire children, the elements of it and the ways those responsibilities are met; to assist the committee to consider areas for further scrutiny as part of their future work programme.

2. Information and Analysis

This information is provided in the attached slide presentation format. The presentation provides committee members with an outline of what Corporate Parenting means for and with children and the different elements of it. The presentation will outline the services in place to deliver against these key elements and the roles of elected members and other public sector individual and agencies.

Background detail is provided to support committee members to understand the resources and activity of the department and the current activity being delivered to improve outcomes for children and young people.

3. Alternative Options Considered

N/A

4. Implications

N/A

5. Consultation

N/A

6. Background Papers

N/A

7. Appendices

7.1 Appendix 2 – Presentation ‘Children’s Services’

8. Recommendation(s)

That the Committee:

a) notes the overview information provided by Children’s Services Department

9. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To support the committee to consider areas of Corporate Parenting activity for further scrutiny as part of its future work programme

Report Author: Jane Parfremment

Contact details: jane.parfremment@derbyshire.gov.uk

Implications

Financial

N/A

Legal

N/A

Human Resources

N/A

Information Technology

N/A

Equalities Impact

N/A

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

N/A

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Children's Services

Jane Parfremment
July 2021

Corporate parenting

Corporate parenting refers to the shared responsibility across the council to ensure that children and young people in our care or leaving care are supported to thrive.



... A good corporate parent should have the same aspirations for a child in care or care leaver, as a good parent would have for their child.

The role of Corporate Parenting Board

Elected member
chaired

The Pledge

Multiagency
commitment

Based on the
experience of those
in care, leaving care
and providing care

Assurance role

Providing challenge
– pushy parent



Key Statutory Elements

- Providing a place for a child to live and be cared for
- Supporting their relationships
- Ensuring learning needs are met
- Ensuring physical and mental health needs are met
- Preparing and supporting the move into and in early adulthood



Providing a place for a child to live and be cared for

- Foster care
- Children's Homes
- Adoption
- Family Arrangements



Supporting Relationships

- Family time
- Siblings
- Extended family
- Friends
- Independent Visitors
- Advocacy
- Independent Reviewing officer
- Social Work Stability



Ensuring Learning Needs are Met

- Role of Virtual School
- Personal Education Plans

Pupil Premium

- Prioritising attendance
- Preventing exclusions



Ensuring Physical and mental Health Needs are Met

- Designated health professionals
- Initial and review health assessments
- Tracking of routine health care eg dental, vaccinations
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service
- Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire

Page 16



The move into adulthood

- Further studies
- Work- the family business
- Accommodation
- Life skills



The move into adulthood cont.

- The Leaving Care Service
 - Transition for those most vulnerable
 - Keeping in touch
 - Never give up



Budget



- CiC placements costs (LA) £45m in 2020-21 (more than 1/3rd of total CS department budget).
- Projected to increase by £5-10m in 21-22
- In addition approx. £0.8m placement costs funded by UASC grant and £4m is funded by the DSG HNB
- Virtual school costs £1.2m
- Other support for CiC (for example contact, transport and therapy) approx. £1.6m
- Social work – Circa £3m spend on teams specifically supporting CiC.
- Support for care leavers costs the LA budget £3.1m with an additional £0.7m of support for former UASC funded by grant

Direct costs alone total £65-£70m - excluding: management, back office support, IROs & QA, legal services and court costs, costs of adoption and other education support outside of virtual school and joint funded placements

Quality Assurance

Independent internal Quality Assurance (QA) function

Sampling of case work to understand any 'themes'

Monthly visits to DCC children's homes (regulation 44) and quality visits to independent homes

Practice Learning Days – 'deep dives' at service level

Regular audit programme including feedback from children/families

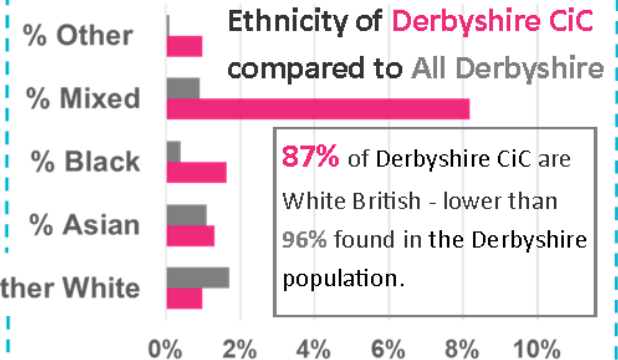
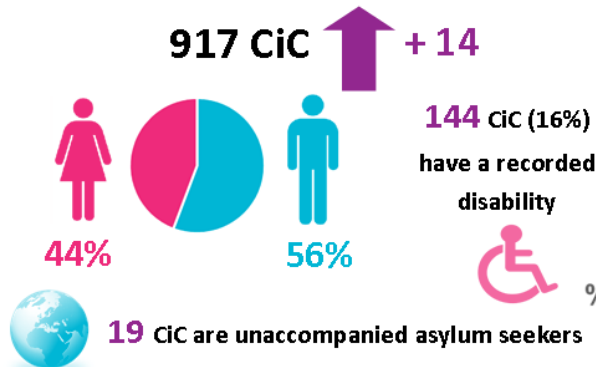
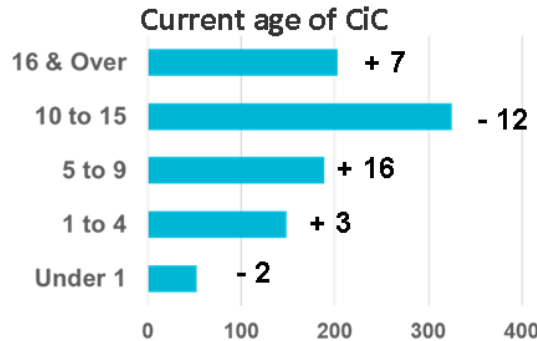
Multi-agency QA programme - led by Derby & Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Rapid Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews in response to significant incidents

Collectively the learning from these activities provides assurance, drives practitioner development and informs service improvement strategies

Children in Care Performance

Derbyshire Children in Care (CiC) - as at 31st July 2021



Location of Children in Care

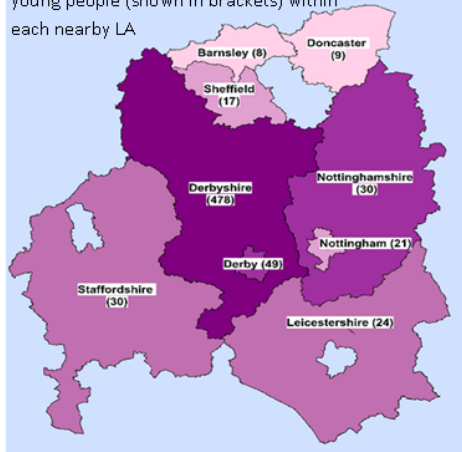
Map 1, Derbyshire Children in Care around the UK.

Dots indicate children and young people placed outside nearby LAs

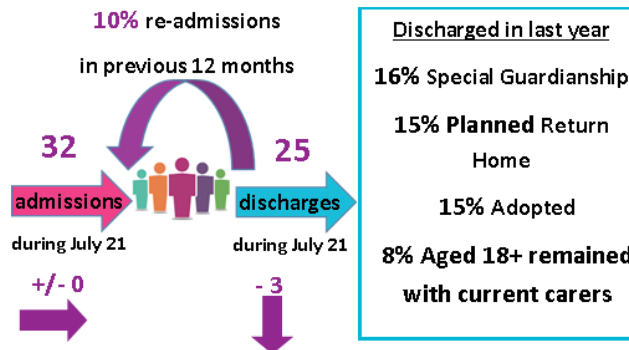


Map 2 Children in Care in nearby LAs

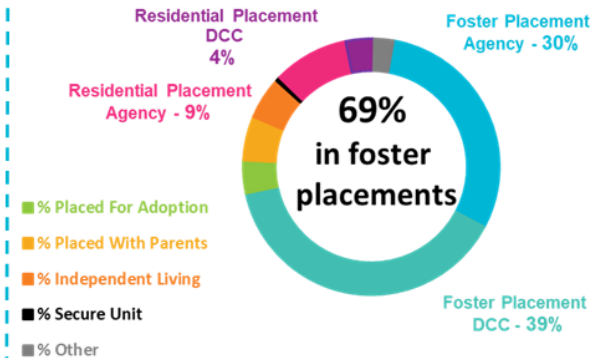
Shows counts of 8 or more children and young people (shown in brackets) within each nearby LA



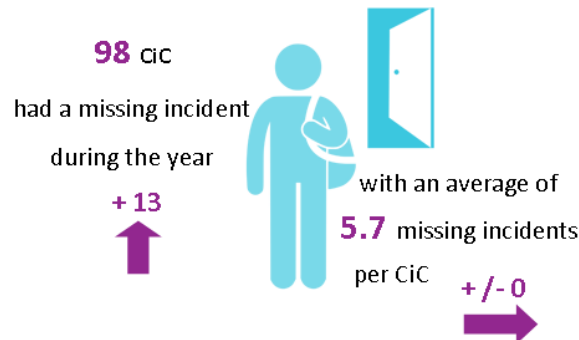
Admissions and Discharges



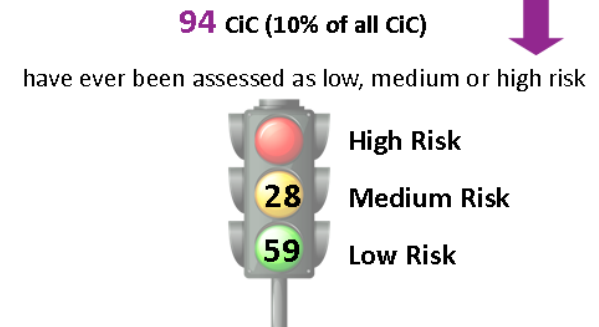
Placement Type



Missing



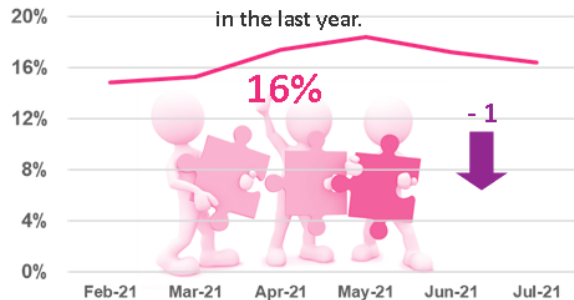
At Risk of Exploitation



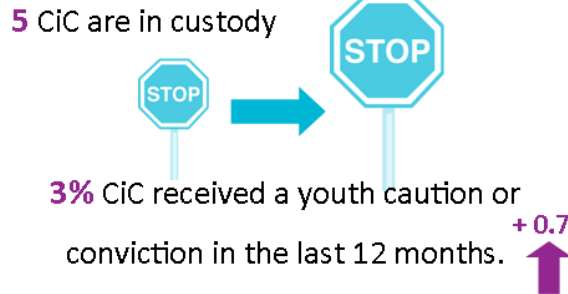
Children in Care Performance

Derbyshire Children in Care (CiC) - as at 31st July 2021

% of CiC with 3 or more social workers



CiC Offending



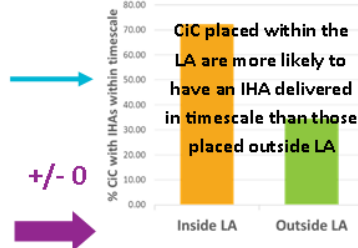
% of CiC with 3 or more placements



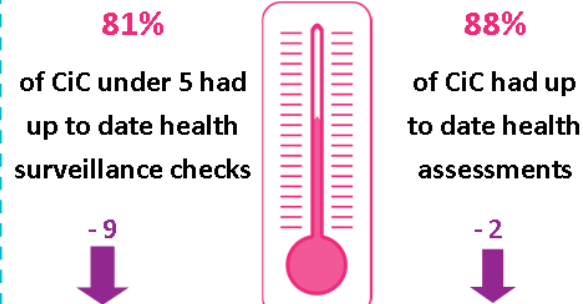
Visits to and reviews of children in care continue to show good performance, with the percentage of cases in timescale consistently **exceeding 90%**.

58% received Initial Health Assessments

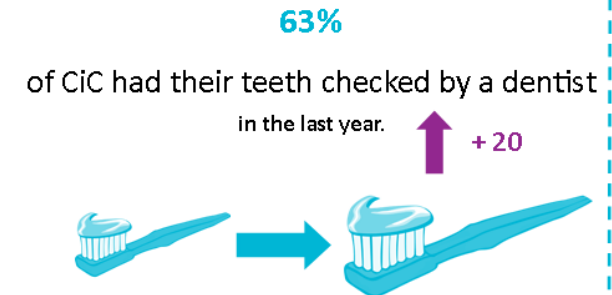
in timescale



CiC Health Assessments



CiC Dental Checks



CiC Mental Health and SDQs

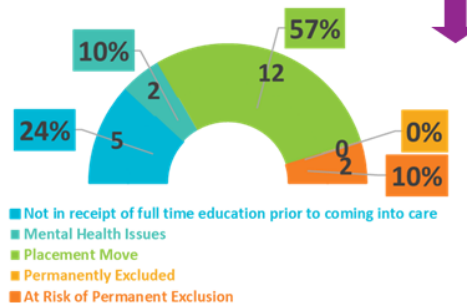
54% of CiC had an SDQ score indicating Cause for Concern

+0.1

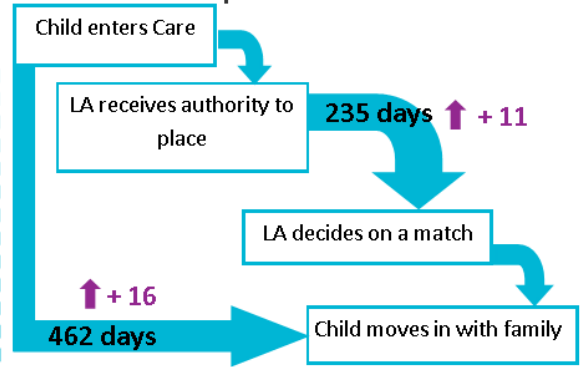


21 CiC Not in Full Time Education

at the end of the summer term.



Adoption Timeliness

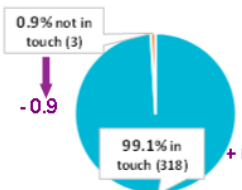


Care Leaver Performance

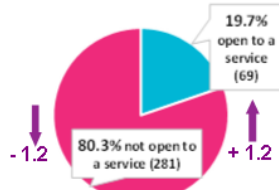
Derbyshire Care Leavers — as at 31st July 2021

There is currently a cohort of **859** care leavers aged 16-25 (including 188 eligible children in care) of which **575** are receiving a service

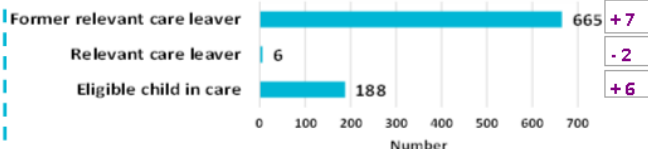
17 to 21 year olds In Touch



Open to a Service (age 21+)



Care Leaver Status

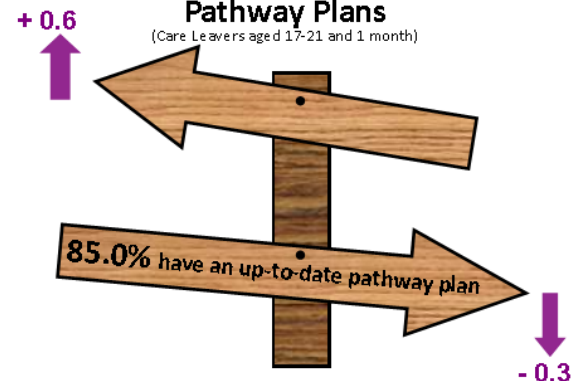


Eligible: A young person aged 16 or 17 who has been looked after for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14 and who is **still being looked after**. A leaving care worker (PA) supports alongside a social worker.

Relevant: As 'eligible' but the young person **has left care**.

Former Relevant: A young person over 18 who was previously 'eligible' or 'relevant'. LAs support this group until aged 21 or longer if they are in education or training.

Pathway Plans



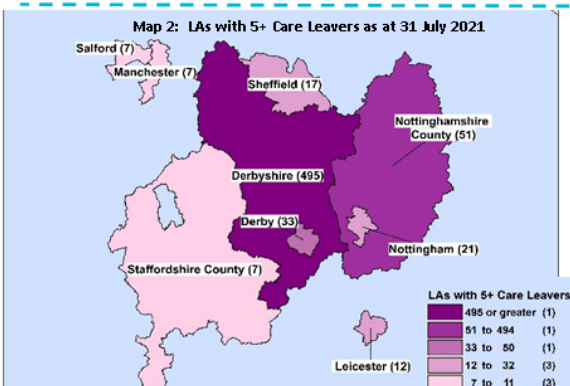
Location of Care Leavers

(age 16-25)

Map 1: Pins indicate the location of Derbyshire care leavers around the UK excluding those at nearby LAs

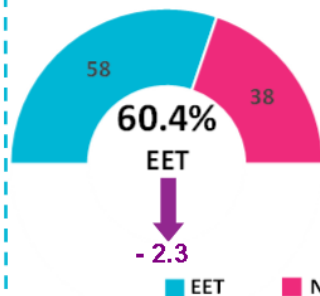
35.5% of care leavers aged 17-21 and 1 month are **living outside Derbyshire**
(↓ 0.3)

Map 2 shows counts of 5 or more care leavers (shown in brackets) within each nearby LA

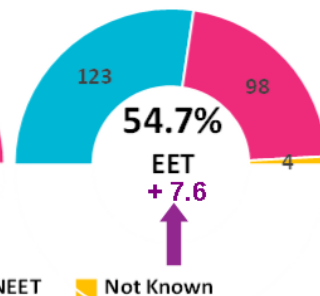


Employment, Education & Training (EET)

17 & 18 year olds



19 to 21 year olds

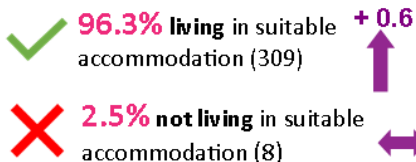


Custody



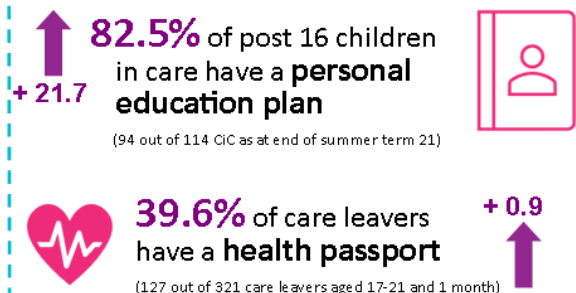
Suitable Accommodation

(based on 315 care leavers aged 17-21 and 1 month)



34 care leavers have **stayed put** (+4)
23 are living in **supported lodgings** (+3)

Post 16 PEPs & Health passports



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