

# 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





# 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

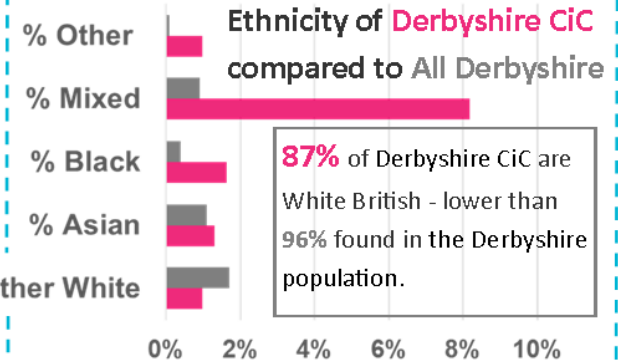
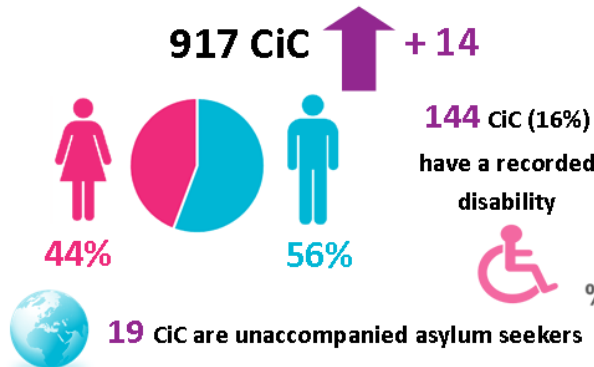
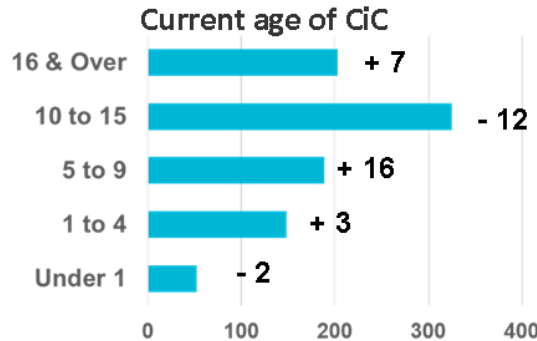
Multi-agency QA programme - led by Derby & Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

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

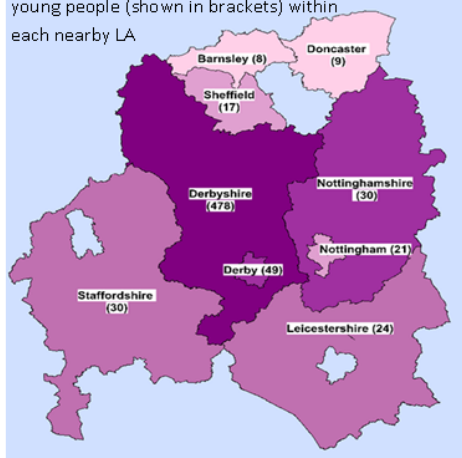
Map 1, Derbyshire Children in Care around the UK.

Dots indicate children and young people placed outside nearby LAs

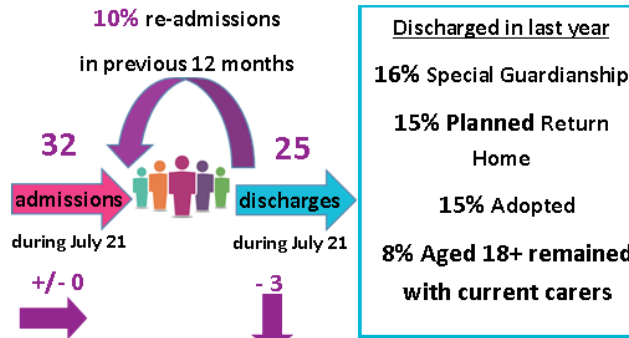


### Map 2 Children in Care in nearby LAs

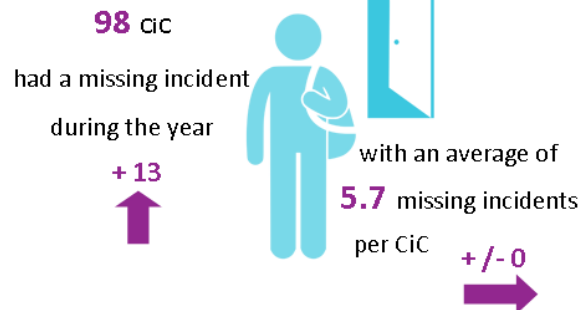
Shows counts of 8 or more children and young people (shown in brackets) within each nearby LA



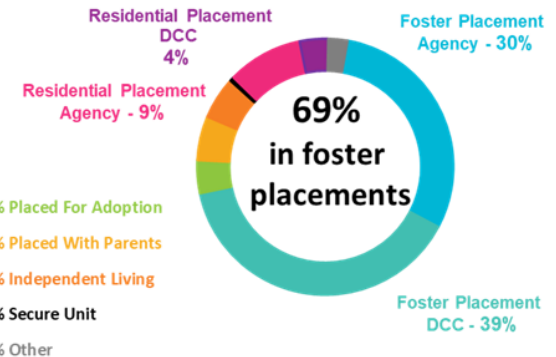
### Admissions and Discharges



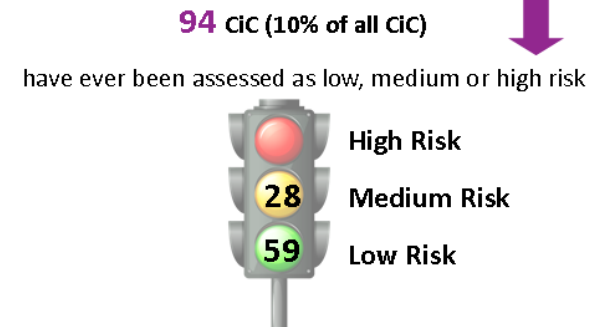
### Missing



### Placement Type



### At Risk of Exploitation

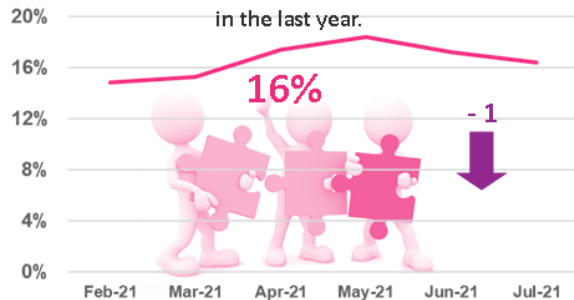




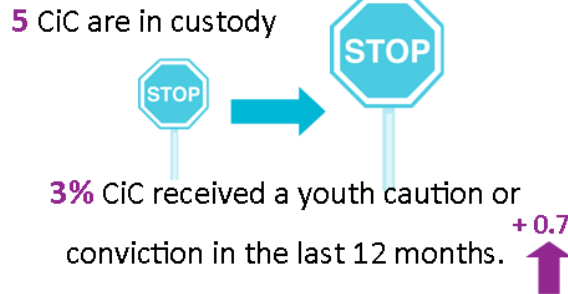
# Children in Care Performance

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

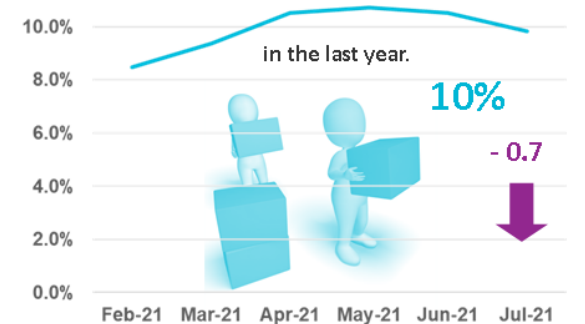
### % of CiC with 3 or more social workers



### CiC Offending

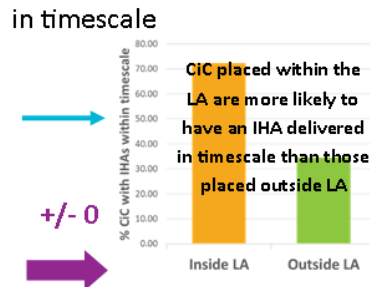


### % of CiC with 3 or more placements

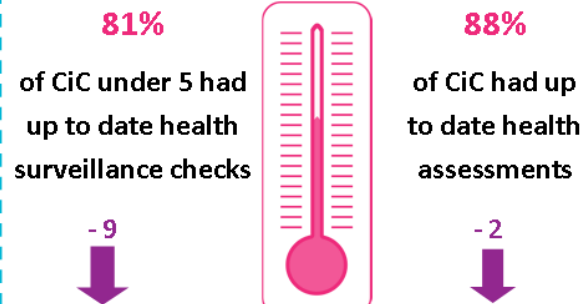


Visits to and reviews of children in care continue to show good performance, with the percentage of cases in timescale consistently **exceeding 90%**.

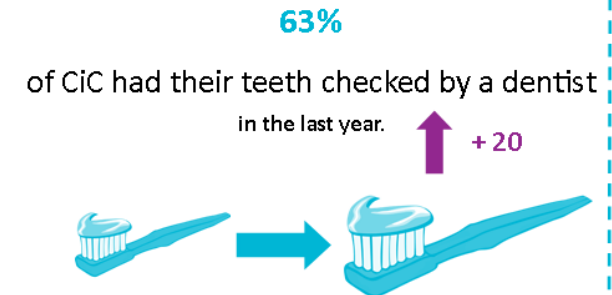
### 58% received Initial Health Assessments



### CiC Health Assessments



### CiC Dental Checks



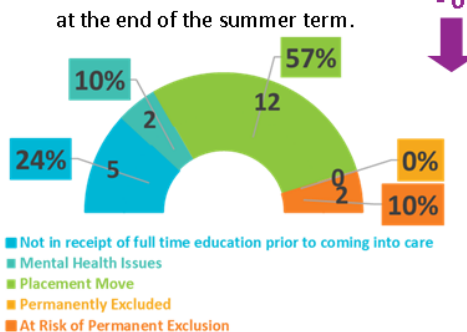
### CiC Mental Health and SDQs

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

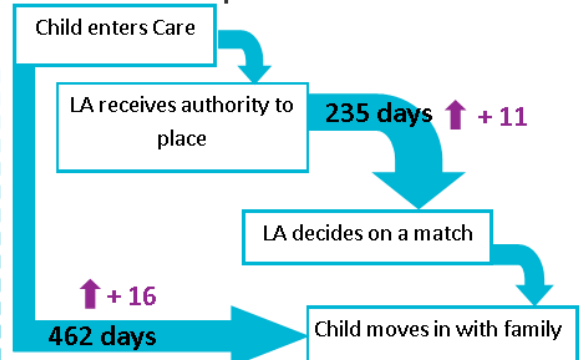
**+0.1**



### 21 CiC Not in Full Time Education



### Adoption Timeliness

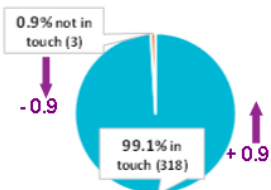


# Care Leaver Performance

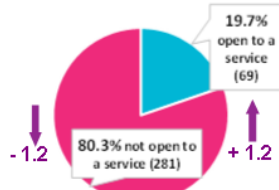
## Derbyshire Care Leavers — as at 31st July 2021

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

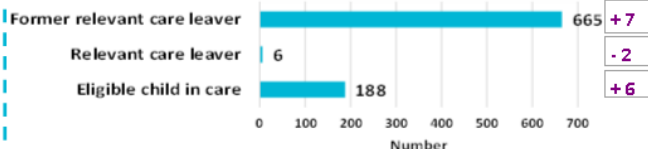
### 17 to 21 year olds In Touch



### Open to a Service (age 21+)



### Care Leaver Status



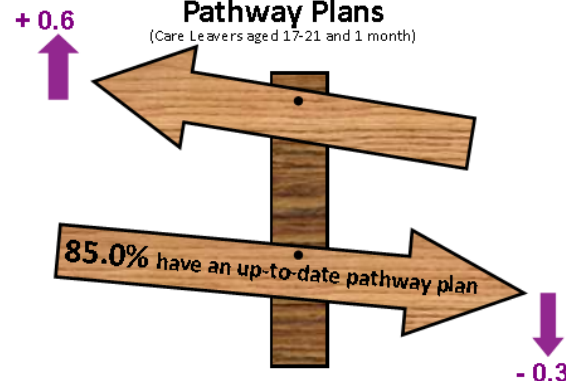
**Eligible:** A young person aged 16 or 17 who has been looked after for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14 and who is **still being looked after**. A leaving care worker (PA) supports alongside a social worker.

**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

(Care Leavers aged 17-21 and 1 month)



### Location of Care Leavers

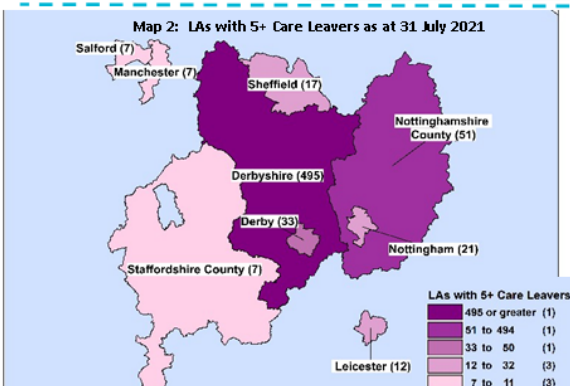
(age 16-25)

Map 1: dots 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

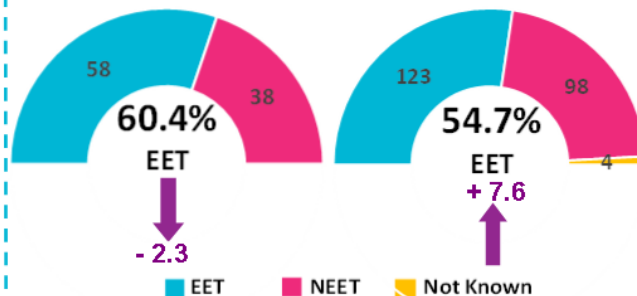
Map 1: Derbyshire Care Leavers around the UK



### Employment, Education & Training (EET)

17 & 18 year olds

19 to 21 year olds

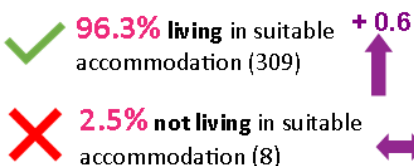


### Custody



### 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

