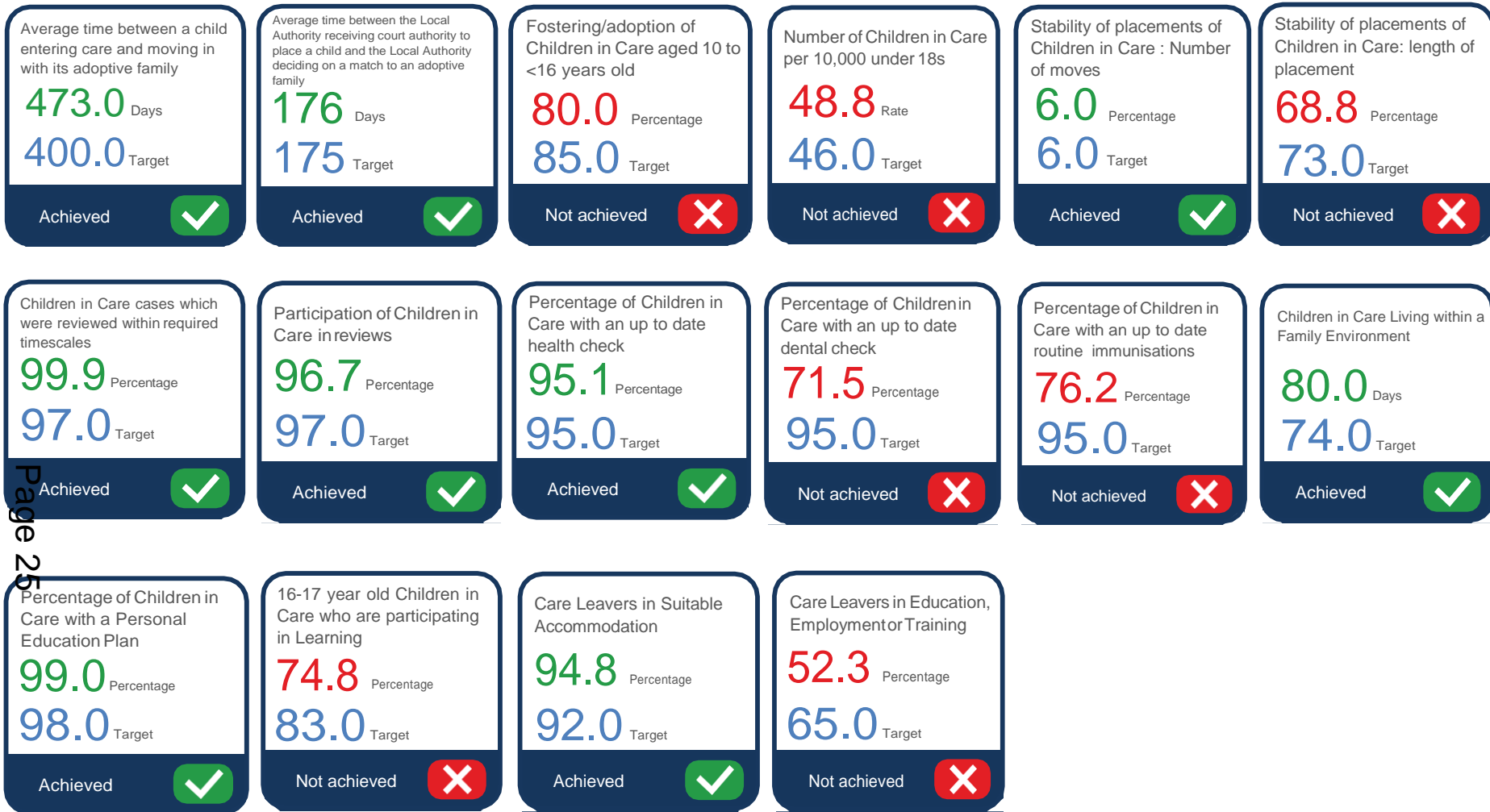


Appendix A – Children in Care Measures



Corporate Parenting Panel



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family

Average number of days between the child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family. A lower number of days taken to move a child from care into an adoptive family indicates a better performance.



Achieved

473

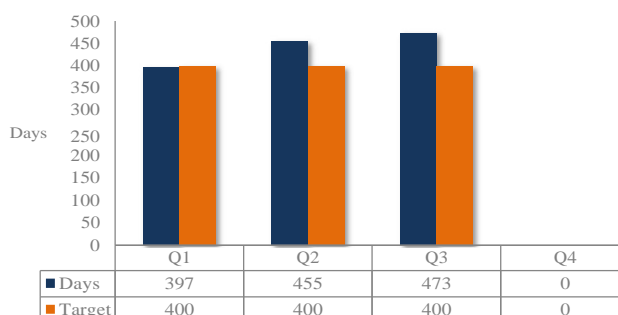
Days
Quarter 3 December 2021



400

Days
Target for December 2021

Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 415, Q2: 416, Q3: 368, Q4: 386

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, Lincolnshire continues to achieve target in this measure. There has been some delay in getting cases through the courts during Covid, and this will have had some impact on the statistics and data for this year and accounts for the increased timescales. As the measure is a 'rolling' 3 yearly average, as we have moved forward the calculation has taken into account more of the time period covered by the pandemic, which has in turn increased the rolling average figure. The most recent published comparator data is from the three year period before the pandemic (2015-18), however, Lincolnshire remains better than the national figure (486) from that period, although it is now higher than the statistical neighbours (456.33) from that pre-Covid period.

About the target

Target set significantly better than national average.

About the target range

A lower value of 490 has been set as this would mean performance is worse than the most recent national figures

About benchmarking

Benchmarking information is available for 2018, however, 2019 figures have not yet been released.

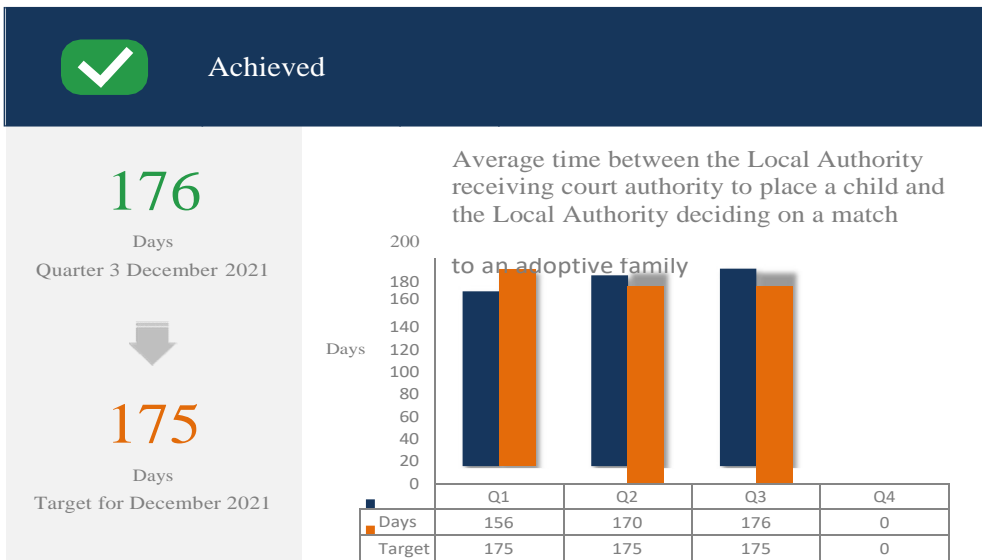


Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Average time between the Local Authority receiving court authority to place a child and the Local Authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family

Average number of days between the local authority receiving the court order to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family.
A lower number of days taken to match a child to an adoptive family indicates a better performance.



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 129, Q2: 131, Q3: 122, Q4: 153

The performance this quarter continues to achieve target, despite the Covid 19 pandemic, and is better than National comparator figures. However, it has shown an adverse trend recently. The Covid-19 pandemic continues to affect this PI and, as this measure is a 'rolling' 3 yearly average, as time has moved on the 'average' has taken into account more of the time period within the pandemic, pushing up the figure. The most recent published comparator data (Stat Neighbours 155.44 and National 175) is from a mainly pre-Covid period (2017-20) so is not a like-for-like comparison with Lincolnshire's current performance.

About the target

Target has reduced to 175 to take into account recent trends of a higher number of adoptions, which is expected to impact figures. However, the revised target remains significantly better than the most recent published National figures.

About the target range

Both upper and lower tolerances have been set at 10 days (average).

About benchmarking

Benchmarking information is available for 2020



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Fostering/adoption of Children in Care aged 10 to <16 years old

Percentage of Children in Care aged 10 to under 16 who have been fostered or placed for adoption



Not achieved

80.0

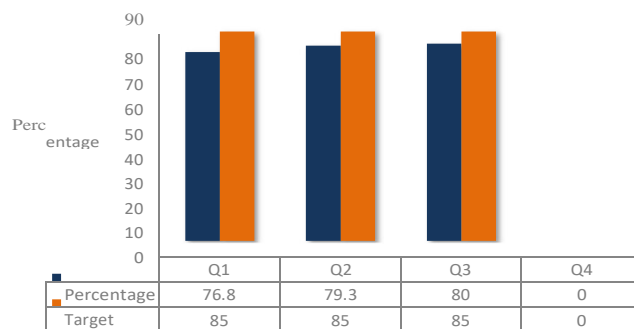
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2021



85.0

Percentage
Target for December 2021

Fostering/adoption of Children in Care aged 10 to <16 years old



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 79.8%, Q2: 78.1%, Q3: 76.8%, Q4: 78.9%

This performance remains under target. The vast majority of children in care within this age group are placed in foster care settings but this has been impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic as placement options have reduced as a result of foster carers initially isolating, being offline and some very recently returning to fostering. Following the government relaxation and gradual easing the capacity of fostering beds available is still slowly recovering but is still significantly reduced to what it was prior to Covid. However, there has been an increase in the numbers of younger children in residential placements in the past year. These are often children who have experienced a number of foster placement moves who struggle to adjust to the expectations of living in a family environment. Residential care has provided a nurturing environment for this group and has enabled them to settle yet our transformational work which is ongoing supports our practice in identifying local resources for those children who are deemed to have sufficiently progressed and are assessed as suitable for foster care or alternative in house provision. There has also been a concentrated focus on reunifying children with their birth families this year whilst we await revocation of Care Orders or granting of private law orders e.g. Special Guardianship Orders within the Court.

About the target

Target reduced to 85% as performance has remained under target at 82% over the past year. This is indicative of a reduction in the number of foster carers, challenges in foster carer recruitment and children with complex needs.

About the target range

A 2% variance is set for the upper value and 3% for the lower value.

Meeting the upper tolerance level would achieve a performance level not reached recently and show a change in the overall trend.

About benchmarking

Benchmarking data no longer available



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Number of Children in Care per 10,000 under 18s

Children in Care per 10,000 population aged under 18. There are a number of reasons why a child may be 'looked after' by the local authority. Most often it is because the child's parents or the people who have parental responsibilities and rights to look after the child are unable to care for the child, have been neglecting the child or the child has committed an offence. The local authority has specific responsibilities and duties towards a child who is being looked after or who has been looked after. This measure is reported taking a snapshot in time. So, for example Q2 is performance as at 30th September.

A lower rate of children looked after by the Local Authority indicates a better performance.



Not achieved

48.8

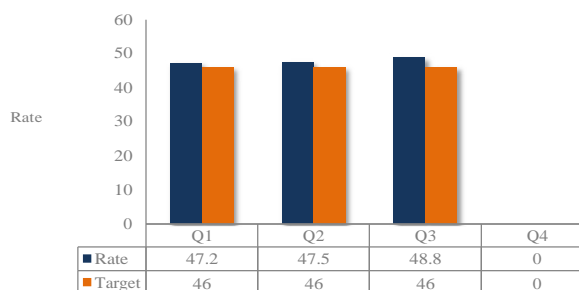
Rate
Quarter 3 December 2021



46.0

Rate
Target for December 2021

Number of Children in Care per 10,000 under 18s



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 44.4, Q2: 45.2, Q3: 47.1, Q4: 46.8

This measure has not achieved the target of 46 per 10,000, moving slightly above the upper target tolerance of 48 per 10,000. The number of Children in Care starters over Quarter 3 2021/22 has increased by around 39% compared to Quarter 2, whilst the number of care leavers has remained reasonably static. The increase in new entrants to care has pushed the Children in Care per 10,000 figure further up over the past quarter. The growth in numbers is partly attributable to the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children that have arrived as part of the new temporary mandated scheme for all Local Authorities in relation to the National Transfer Scheme. The expectation is that Lincolnshire will take a maximum of 103 children which equates to 0.07% of the general child population and therefore there continues to be a likely impact of growth going forward. Despite the growth this quarter and the potential for future increase there continues to be an emphasis on prevention from children going into care and exit planning from the care system where it can be achieved. However, despite the increase, the Lincolnshire number of Children in Care per 10,000 remains significantly below the most recent published figures both nationally and by our statistical neighbours (67 per 10,000 and 63.4 per 10,000 respectively as at 31st March 2021).

About the target

Target Remains Same as Previous Year

About the target range

The Upper and lower Target allows for the number of LAC to vary between approximately 626- 699. This is about +/- 35 children from target.

Anything above or below this number would be flagged as worse than target, i.e., indicating a significant variance from the current position.

About benchmarking

Comparator information is available and is showing an increasing trend

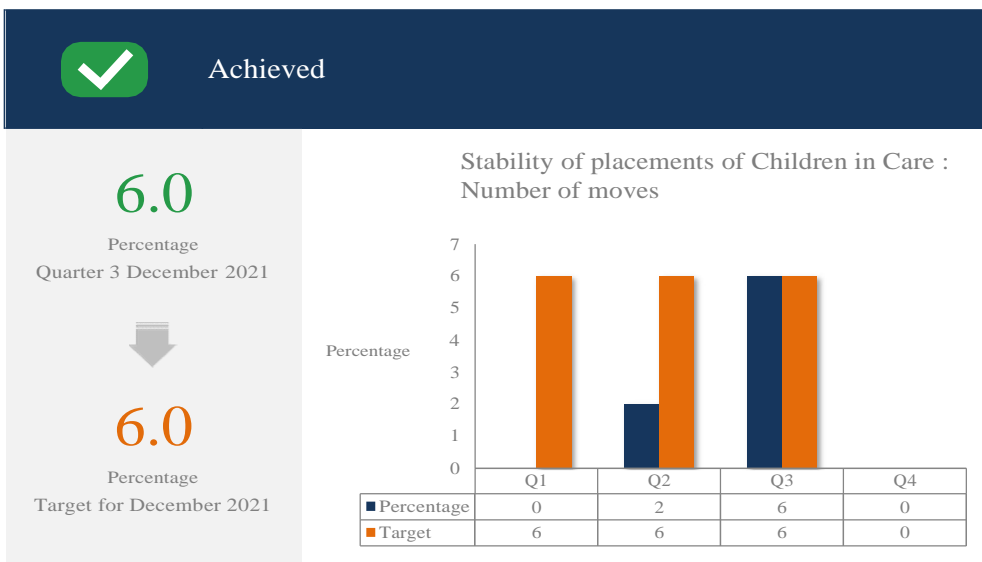


Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Stability of placements of Children in Care : Number of moves

Percentage of Children in Care with three or more placements



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 1%, Q2: 1%, Q3: 2%, Q4: 8%

Current performance has met the targets set.

About the target

Target remains same as 2020/21. Performance remains good in comparison with the 11% stated national figure. However we have seen a deterioration this year which reflects the reduced choice of placement options and complexities of young people placed.

About the target range

Achieving the upper tolerance level should maintain LCC's position within the top quartile nationally and still maintain LCC as one of the best performing of our statistical neighbours. Comparative performance within our statistical neighbours is 9.6%. Anything below the lower level should be shown as a significant improvement over last year.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis

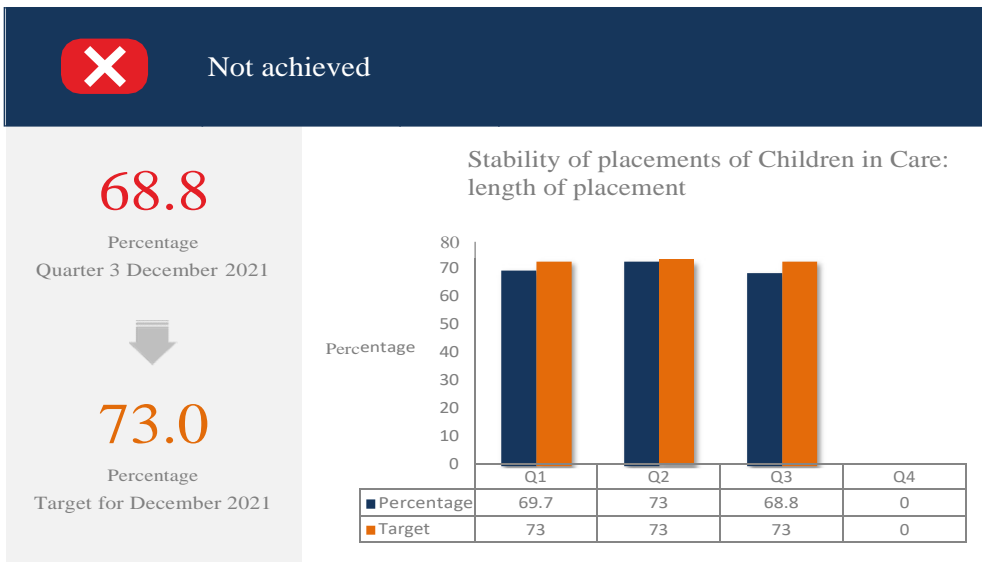


Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Stability of placements of Children in Care: length of placement

Percentage of Children in Care in the same placement for at least two years



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 72.8%, Q2: 69.2%, Q3: 70.9%, Q4: 72.2%

Performance remains below target. For all placements, the service continues to ensure that foster carers are well supported and that potential problems are identified early. This has been reinforced by the embedded caring2learn approach which has supported and empowered foster carers to share, find and deliver solutions within a context of a tailored fostering service training and support offer.

Nevertheless we have continued to see that some stable placements disrupt unexpectedly and this can have a significant impact upon this indicator. The impact of reduced carer resources during the pandemic has also played its part and cannot be underestimated. The service have also seen an increase in the number of much younger children with care plans for long term fostering and this will present challenges in achieving placement stability for some children due to the local and national shortage of foster carers who want to care on a long term or permanent basis.

About the target

Target remains the same as previous years and above the present performance of statistical neighbours. Tolerances for this measure take into account the current performance.

About the target range

Tolerances for this measure take into account the current performance.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis

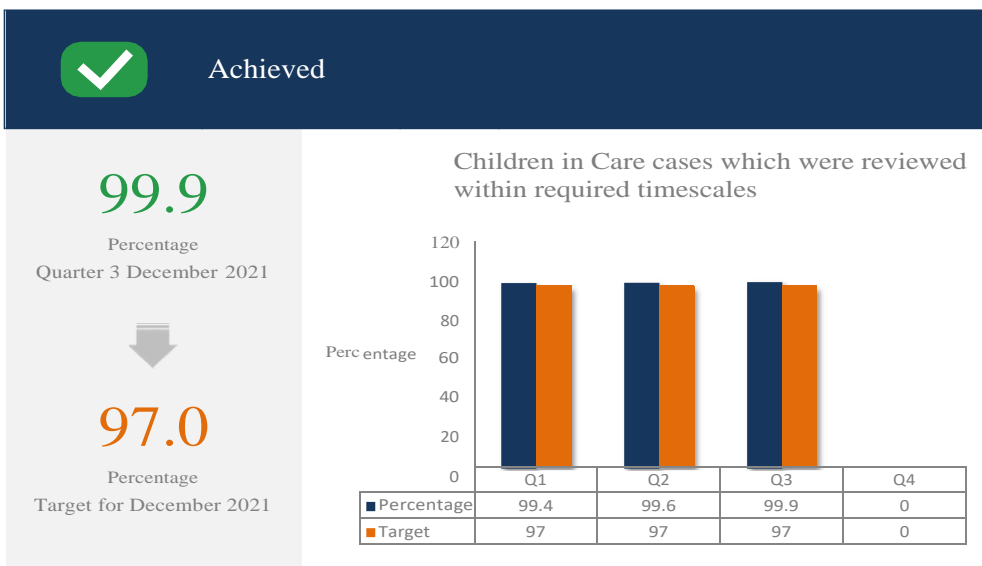


Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Children in Care cases which were reviewed within required timescales

Percentage of Children in Care cases that have been reviewed within timescales



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 99.2%, Q2: 98.6%, Q3: 98.4%, Q4: 98.7%

Current performance has met the targets set.

About the target

Target remains at 97% to take into account current performance.

About the target range

As the target is 97%, an upper value of 3% has been set.

A lower value of 95% has been set to highlight any performance lower than 95%

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Participation of Children in Care in reviews

Percentage of Children in Care who participated in their reviews



Achieved

96.7

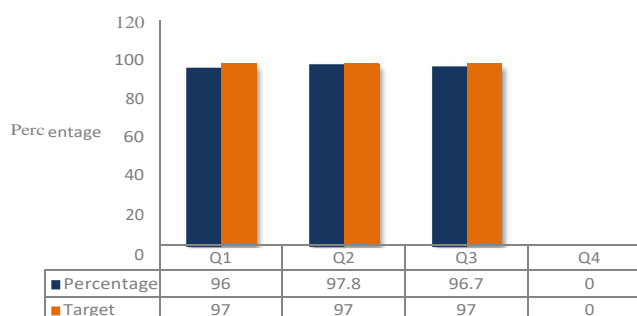
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2021



97.0

Percentage
Target for December 2021

Participation of Children in Care in reviews



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 99.7%, Q2: 99.8%, Q3: 99.2%, Q4: 97.6%

Current performance has met the targets set.

About the target

Target remains at 97% to take into account current performance.

About the target range

As the target is 97%, an upper value of 3% has been set.

A lower value of 95% has been set to highlight any performance lower than 95%

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis

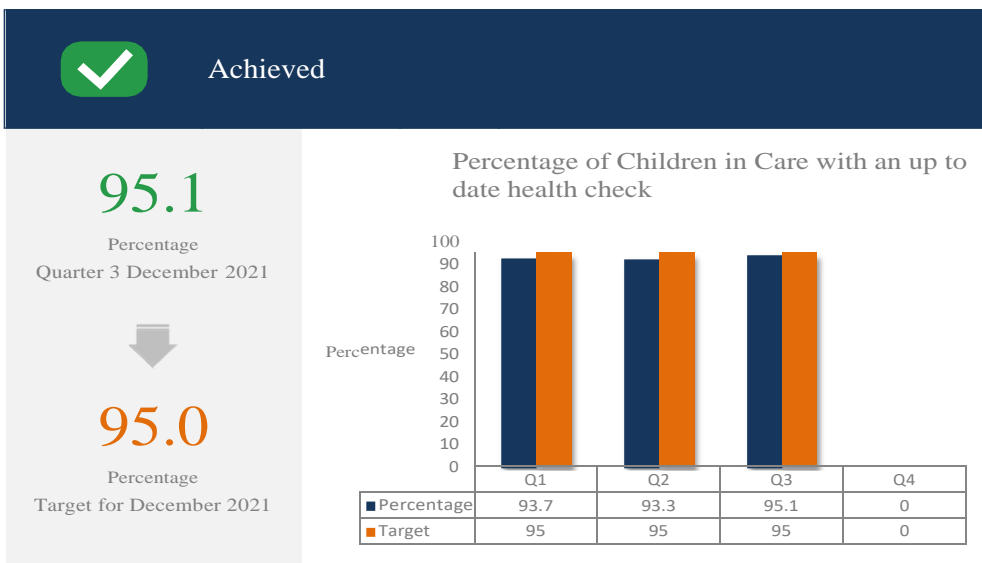


Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Percentage of Children in Care with an up to date health check

Percentage of Children in Care with an up to date health check record



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 93.4%, Q2: 96%, Q3: 94.1%, Q4: 91.2%

Current performance has met the targets set.

About the target

Remain as previous year, tolerance allows performance to be in line with this year's performance.

About the target range

An upper tolerance of 4.5% has been set. This would mean that if all checks were done within timescale we would have achieved an excellent outcome, which would be shown as better than target.

A lower tolerance of 2% has been set to allow for under performance. Data from the last two years shows achieving 93% is very achievable and performance has not often fallen below this marker.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Percentage of Children in Care with an up to date dental check

Percentage of Children in Care with an up to date dental check



Not achieved

71.5

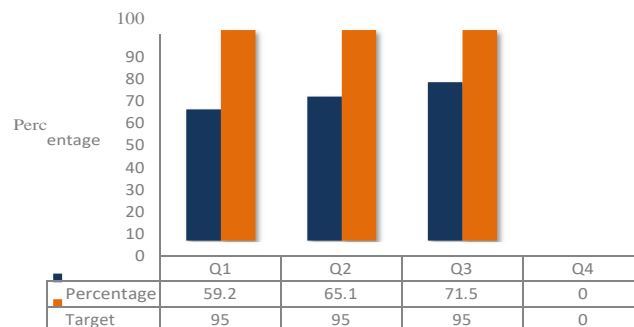
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2021



95.0

Percentage
Target for December 2021

Percentage of Children in Care with an up to date dental check



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 89%, Q2: 76.5%, Q3: 69.9%, Q4: 49.5%

This measure continues to improve and is now sitting at 71.5% which is an increase from 65.1% in the last quarter, however this measure remains below the target of 95%. Prior to Covid, we were seeing increased difficulties in children being able to register with a National Health Service Dentist. Many of these appear to have made the decision to only provide private dentistry thereby impacting on the number of NHS practices available. This, coupled with the impact of the COVID19 Pandemic has impacted significantly on the number of Children in Care with an up to date dental check.

Access to NHS dentistry is a national issue and the availability of dentists across the county continues to impact on our ability to ensure that all children in care have regular dental checks. Efforts continue to be made to ensure that all children in care are registered with a dentist and dentists are working to ensure that dental checks are being completed, although it is likely to take some more time to deal with the backlog of appointments.

About the target

Remain as previous year, tolerance allows performance to be in line with this year's performance.

About the target range

An upper tolerance of 4.5% has been set. This would mean that if all checks were done within timescale we would have achieved an excellent outcome, which would be shown as better than target.

A lower tolerance of 2% has been set to allow for under performance. Data from the last two years shows achieving 93% is very achievable and performance has not often fallen below this marker.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Percentage of Children in Care with an up-to-date routine immunisations

Percentage of Children in Care with an up to date routine immunisations recorded



Not achieved

76.2

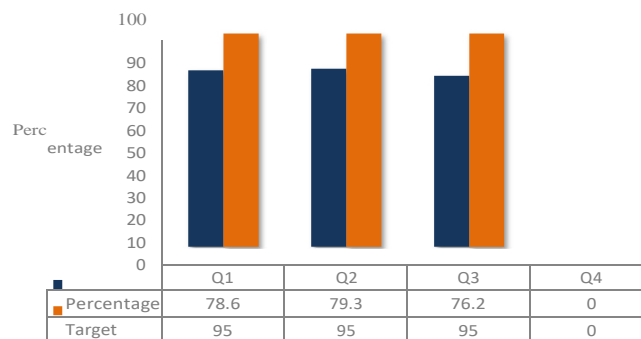
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2021



95.0

Percentage
Target for December 2021

Percentage of Children in Care with an up to date routine immunisations



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 85.8%, Q2: 79.8%, Q3: 76.5%, Q4: 80%

The number of routine immunisations being completed continues to be impacted by the Covid Pandemic, with the measure staying broadly static at 76.2% in to 79.3% in the last quarter. The majority of overdue immunisations continue to be the teenage boosters which are undertaken in school. These were clearly delayed due to schools being closed for extended periods of time.

The health immunisation team have projected that it will take approximately 18 months for the programme to be fully back on schedule. However, further pressures have been added to their workload due to the need to catch up on those that have been missed/delayed during the pandemic and also the increase in their workload due to all males now being offered the HPV and all school population being offered the COVID19 and flu immunisations.

About the target

Remain as previous year, tolerance allows performance to be in line with this year's performance.

About the target range

An upper tolerance of 4.5% has been set. Achievement of this would indicate that all LAC received all their health checks within timescale – achievement of 100%.

A lower tolerance of 1% has been set to allow for under performance. Data from the last two years shows achieving 94% is very achievable and performance has not often fallen below this marker.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis

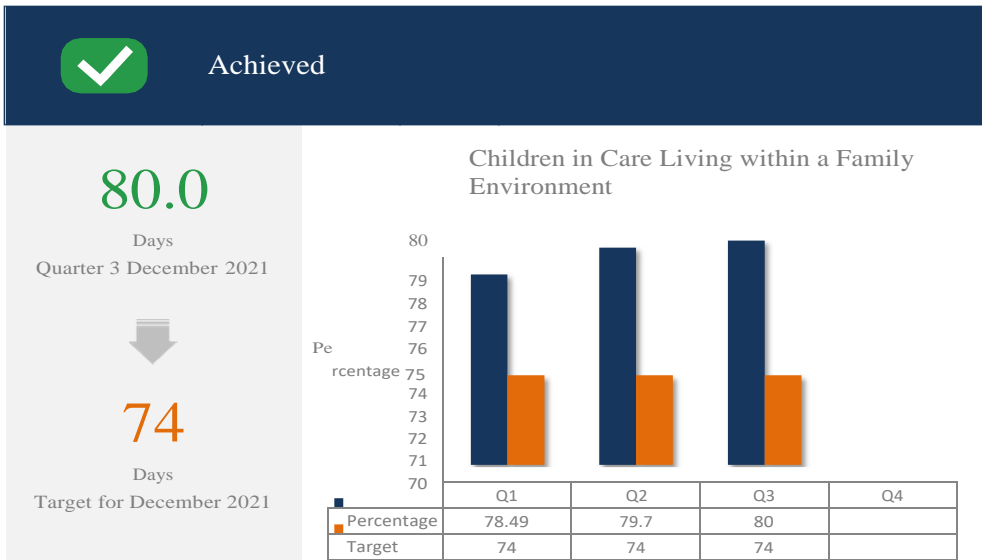


Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Children in Care Living within a Family Environment

Percentage of Children in Care Living within a Family Environment



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 79.6%, Q2: 78.6%, Q3: 78.6%, Q4: 77.8%

Performance remains above target and has improved slightly on last quarter (79.65% in Q2 2021/22 compared to 78.5% in Q1 2020/21). It confirms that, for the vast majority of children in care, a family placement is deemed the most suitable means of offering care and maintaining children within their family networks.

About the target

The target has been set to 74%. This is a new Performance Indicator which includes children in care living with parents as well as in foster and adoption placements.

About the target range

We would like to see performance between 70% and 77%, so we have set the lower range to -4% and the upper range to +3%.

About benchmarking

We are unable to benchmark against other local authorities as this measure includes children residing with their parents.



Learn and Achieve

Learn and Achieve

Percentage of Children in Care with a Personal Education Plan

Percentage of Children in Care with a Personal Education Plan



Achieved

99.0

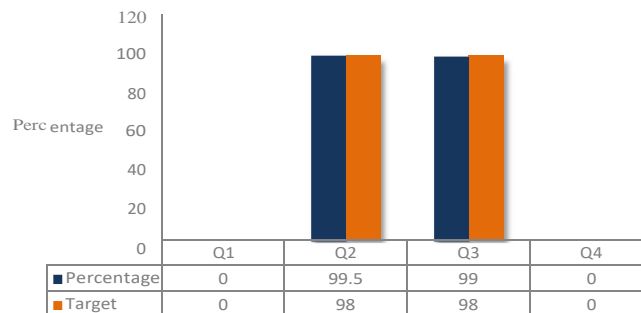
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2021



98.0

Percentage
Target for December 2021

Percentage of Children in Care with a Personal Education Plan



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: N/A, Q2: 100%, Q3: 100%, Q4: 99%

Current performance has met the targets set.

About the target

Target remains at 98%, reliability of the EPEP system and timely notification of Virtual school should see the performance being reached.

About the target range

Lower tolerance is set to 2% below the target which would represent poor performance. The tolerance range reflects the need for emergency placements out of county/in county for a small proportion of children in care.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis.



Ready for Adult Life

Ready for Adult Life

16-17 year old Children in Care who are participating in Learning

This measures young people recorded as being Children in Care participating in learning at the end of the reporting period and will not take into consideration the length of time that they have been in local authority care.

Numerator: Number of Children in Care participating in learning at the end of the reporting period.

Denominator: Number of Children in Care at the end of the reporting period.

The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100. The parameters of this measure were previously defined as recording 16–18-year-old Children in Care participating in learning. As of Q1 2017/18 onwards, the Department for Education no longer require monitoring of children aged 18, and so the measure has been amended accordingly, restricting data provision to 16-17 year old Children in Care only. A higher percentage of Children in Care participating in learning indicates a better performance.



Not achieved

74.8

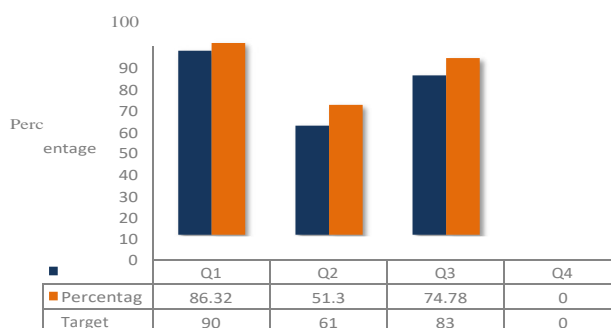
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2021



83.0

Percentage
Target for December 2021

16-17 year old Children in Care who are participating in Learning



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 87.5%, Q2: 58.8%, Q3: 85.96%, Q4: 89.47%

The performance for this quarter is below the lower target tolerance for this performance indicator by 3.2%. This represents approximately 4 young people. The Virtual School has been selected to participate in the DfE Post 16 pilot which runs from Sept21 – Mar 22. The pilot has enabled the Virtual School, working in partnership with post 16 providers, Leaving Care and Social Care colleagues, to allocate additional funding through the PEP process to promote young people's access to and engagement in further education. This will assist the Virtual School to find placements for those Young People not participating in learning and provide individual learners with advice and support through the Personal Education Plan regardless of where placed.

About the target

Target remains the same as the previous year. Q2 & Q3 targets lower to allow for the expected dip at this time of year due to September being the start of the tracking process

About the target range

The target range is set at a level to allow for 2 percentage points above the target and 5 percentage points below the target.

About benchmarking

Benchmarking information is not available for this cohort



Ready for Adult Life

Ready for Adult Life

Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation

A care leaver is a young person who reaches the age of 18 who had been in local authority care.

Numerator: Number of care leavers turning 19 years of age in the year who are living in accommodation deemed as "suitable".

Denominator: Number of care leavers turning 19 years of age in the year.

The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100. A higher percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation indicates a better performance.



Achieved

94.8

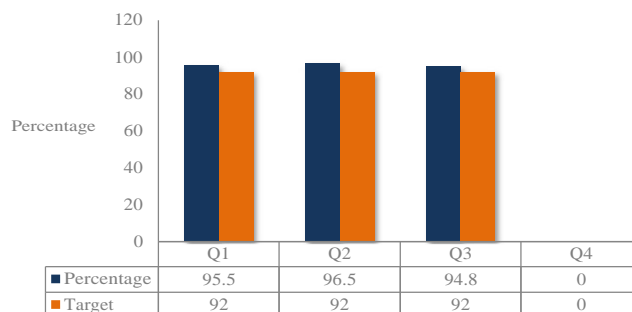
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2021



92.0

Percentage
Target for December 2021

Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 92.8%, Q2: 96%, Q3: 93.7%, Q4: 94%

The good performance in relation to accommodation continues to be down to good working relationships with District Councils and their willingness to view care leavers as a priority group. The continued flexibility and resilience of our housing provider Nacro should also be noted, which during the pandemic and with its gradual easing, continues to ensure safe accommodation is on offer. The above combined with persistent and creative work of the leaving care service continues to ensure that nearly every care leaver is suitably accommodated.

About the target

Target to remain the same as previous year, we are above both national and similar authority average

About the target range

The lower target has been set at the 25% quartile. Meaning if we fall below this we will not be in the top 25% of authorities. The upper target has been set 5% above this

About benchmarking

Benchmarking information is available and we constantly perform better than comparators



Ready for Adult Life

Ready for Adult Life

Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training

The number of care leavers turning 19 years of age in the year who are in either Education, Employment or Training



Not achieved

52.3

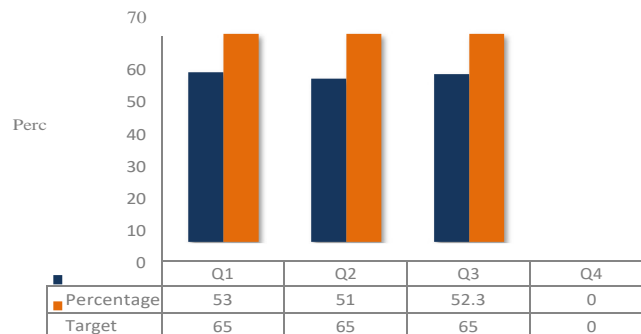
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2021



65.0

Percentage
Target for December 2021

Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training



About the latest performance

Performance in 2020/21 - Q1: 52%, Q2: 55.1%, Q3: 52.8%, Q4: 49.8%

This measure remains below target but is slowly improving despite fluctuations and is up from 49.8% to 52%. The Leaving Care Service continues to monitor every single young person who is not in EET. The Service continues to report on a monthly basis the efforts of the service to re-engage individuals back into EET and the Corporate Parenting Manager tracks this performance. A survey has been carried out with every Care Leaver who are not in EET and the main barriers reported back are poor mental health (depression and anxiety) lack of qualifications and substance misuse issues. The new Aspirations worker is focusing on supporting young people back into employment and assisting young people to access the Covid-19 recover initiatives, but issues such as poor mental health and substance use continue to be a barrier. The Leaving Care service is working with the Corporate Parenting Manager to look at the emotional wellness and recovery of young people, alongside the plethora of activity to support young people accessing EET, as mental health/emotional wellbeing is one of the biggest barriers to our young people accessing EET, so much so a wellbeing worker is being recruited. A further piece of work is being undertaken to fully understand the lived experiences of these young people in EET and fully appreciate why they are in EET and develop individual plans. It is anticipated that legacy Covid-19 will continue to impact on emotional wellbeing and EET.

About the target

Target reduced to 65% this is based on both recent performance and in comparison with other local authorities nationally.

About the target range

Tolerances for this measure take into account the current performance.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis

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