

Fostering Quarter 1 Report

April-June 2023

Executive Report



Quarterly reports to the Executive Board are a requirement of the Fostering Service to meet Standard 25.7 of the National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services. They are a key part of the documentation considered by OFSTED when conducting a Service inspection.

Introduction

There continues to be significant development across the Fostering Service through the Fostering Service Transformation Plan. The plan includes,

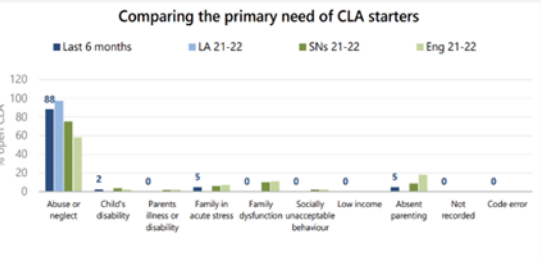
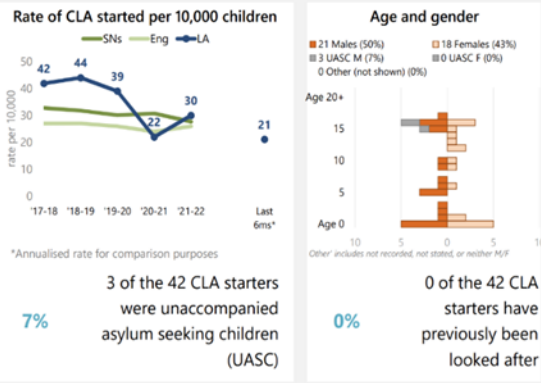
1. Digital Transformation Programme - is ongoing. There are several digital forms that have been launched for foster carers to access in relation to their financial requests. We have completed two Meet and Greet Sessions with Foster Carers to explain our Digital Transformation Programme, these were overall positive, though some foster carers are understandably anxious regarding the plan. Support will be put in place for all Foster Carers for them to access all digital forms. There are plans for a separate Kinship Care Website which will enable all Kinship Carers to access information and contact the Kinship Care Team when they require support. The Foster Carer Enquiry Form as well as the Foster Carer Application Form are now digital, meaning that all potential foster carers can apply in a more streamlined way reducing delay.
2. Recruitment of Foster Carers and Links with Communication Team- Recruitment has increased over the last quarter. The timescales of assessments being completed for potential foster carers has increased and is part of the audit activity across the fostering service. The Recruitment Officer now has links with the Communication Team who contribute to recruitment activity.
3. Retention of Foster Carers/Allowances- A review of allowances has been undertaken, there has been increases in most allowances.
4. Commissioning and Contract- The Fostering Front Door is continuing to develop relationships across our Independent Fostering Agencies, there is ongoing work to identify how placements are matched across the BBCL (BwD, Blackpool, LCC and Cumbria) Framework to ensure that we have access to local placements when needed for our children.
5. Payments Panel/Governance- The Payments Policy has been reviewed and completed. A Payments Panel has now been introduced to ensure that all discretionary and extra ordinary payments requests are scrutinised and reviewed through appropriate governance procedures.
6. Workforce Development- There has been some instability across the fostering service considering the pace and level of change that is ongoing. Efforts are being made to stabilise the teams using TRACK values.

The plan continues to focus on the development of the Fostering Service with the aim of recruitment and retention of foster carers being a priority. We have seen a clear increase in this area, which is positive however, the plan remains in the early stages, though is gathering speed and momentum.

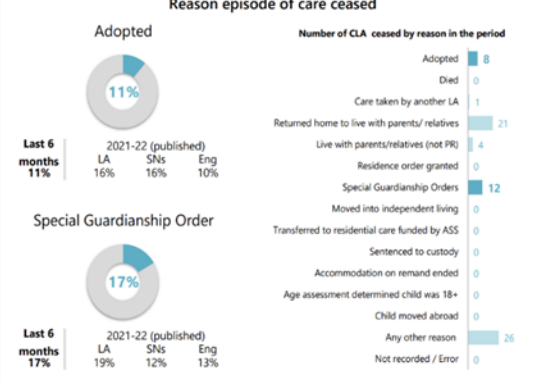
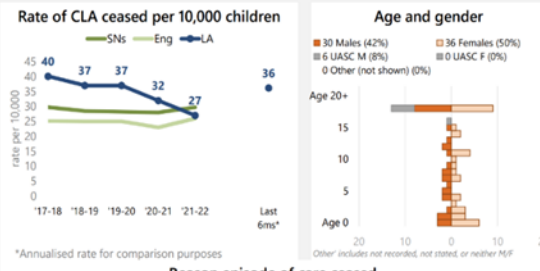
Children in our Care and Fostering Overview:

There continues to be a decrease in the number of children who are looked after by the local authority. In the last 6 months the number of children becoming cared for by the local authority is 42 compared to the previous quarter where there were 44. The number of children being cared for in Blackburn with Darwen is above the average nationally. In the last 6 months 72 children left the care of the Local authority. In this quarter 6 children left care due to Special Guardianship Orders.

42 CLA started in the last 6 months

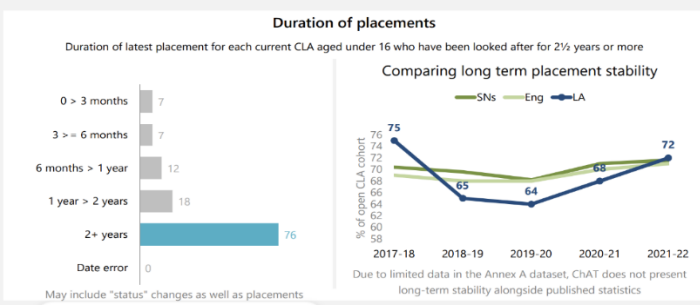
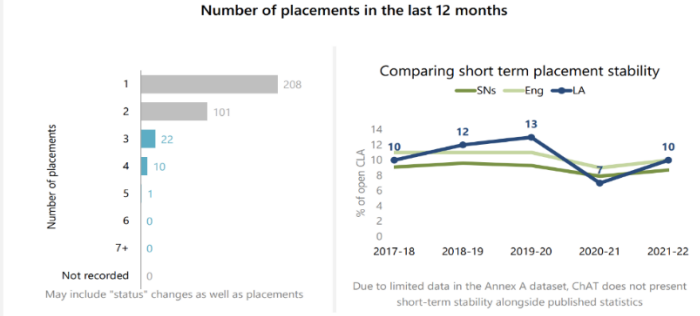
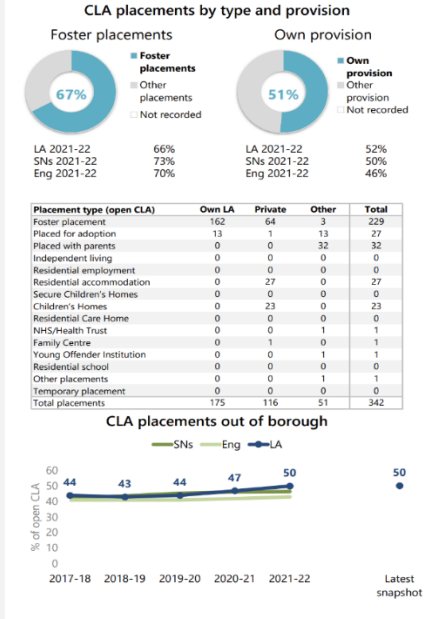


72 CLA ceased in the last 6 months



Children Looked After (CLA) placements

Snapshot 30/06/2023



As with previous quarters, the highest cohort of children and young people in our care who remain the most difficult to place children and young people are aged between 11-16. This is an ongoing, persistent trend both locally and nationally. Feedback from neighbouring local authorities and from Independent Fostering Agencies remains the same in that it is an increasing struggle to recruit foster carers for this age, meaning a lack of foster placements for this age range of children and young people. In BWD we have seen several large sibling groups needing to be placed in foster care, this presents as a challenge in trying to keep siblings together wherever possible, meaning there is a need for fostering exemptions.

Recruitment remains ongoing for foster carers to care for children with disabilities, primarily are placed in residential settings as opposed to fostering. There is an ongoing campaign to try to recruit foster carers for children with Special Educational Need and Disability (SEND) but this remains a local and national

challenge. The Fostering Team are working in collaboration with the Children with Disabilities Teams to be creative and solution focussed and to also look at how adaptations can be utilised to expand the choice of foster placements, for example for children with physical needs.

Despite these challenges, it remains positive that 229 children out of 342 children who are looked after in Blackburn with Darwen are placed in foster care.

The Foster Carer Register is produced weekly, and Senior Managers meet with the Fostering Service to look at placement availability, data and vacancies. The fostering service continues to utilise the 'Fostering Front Door' offer whereby an experienced Social Worker is supporting the Recruitment Officer with applications, but also coordinates placement searches both in-house and on the framework with Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA's). This remodel has been positive in that the Social Worker has a solid overview along with the Team Manager of the placement vacancies in the team and will liaise directly with foster carers, offering at times an enhanced support offer to them at the point of placement.

The BBCL (BwD, Blackpool, LCC and Cumbria) collaborative sub-regional framework continues to be the framework in which we source foster placements when we cannot provide our own in house foster carers. This framework has helped to generate some success with 'closer to home' placements in the Lancashire footprint. Work has been undertaken with Fostering Front Door to build and improve on relationships with providers. The Fostering Front Door worker is now undertaking quarterly meetings with providers to identify and pre-emp placements that will become available, to ensure that we are being prioritised with those independent fostering households that are local to us. A review of this framework is due to take place in August, which will include BBCL and over 30 IFA providers.

Placement Stability

The Department uses a definition of placement stability based on 3 or more placements in a 12-month period that is calculated on a cumulative basis over the year. Placement stability has been increasing since 2019-2020 and is the same when compared to national statistics.

Reasons for placement instability remain the same as in previous quarters and includes the disruption of placements for teenagers displaying challenging behaviours, missing from home episodes and an influx of larger sibling groups all posing challenges for foster carers to manage in the longer term. It remains the case that babies and under 2s are placed in parent and child foster placements. The support offer to these placements is intensive and includes foster carer training as an integral element, alongside timely, collaborative disruption meetings.

Changes in educational placements also impact significantly upon placement stability, this is mainly due to the child investing in secure teacher and peer relationships and then suffering the loss of these. It can also be challenging for the young person to emotionally invest in further foster placements when the first has disrupted. This is when the service refers to the REVIVE service where consultations and assessments take place to support this group of young people and their carers to offer therapeutic interventions.

There is currently development around the process of Disruption Meetings with a view to develop these to be more collaborative and to follow the Systemic Model. This piece of work is being jointly undertaken through the Fostering Service, The Independent Review Service and through the Children in Our Care Service with the plan to provide detailed analysis on placement disruptions across the service to inform future learning to prevent further placement disruptions. Disruption Meetings are planned to take place across all placements including short- and long-term foster placements, Kinship Care placements including SGO placements.

Engagement with Children and Young People

The VOICE group meet both in person and virtually with children in our care and care leavers to gather views, ideas and feedback. Young people and care leavers are regularly involved in the recruitment to social care posts and consist of a panel which provides information to the interview and recruitment process. Young people are involved in the 'Journey to Foster' training and we are currently in the application process for a care experienced young person to attend Fostering Panel as a panel member. There are plans to introduce visits with young people to potential foster carers to inform the assessment process. During this review period children and young people from the Voice group have co-produced a Children and Young People guide for children coming into care.

Feedback is gathered from children in our foster placements regularly as part of the foster carer annual review, and at other events. Feedback is gathered to support the co-design of service delivery and to ensure children and young people with lived experience help shape services now and, in the future, that services are fit for purpose and appropriately meet need.

Feedback from Children in Foster Care:

Female 9 years, been in foster placements for 3 years.

When asked what she liked about her foster placement, she said, 'the foster carers are so nice, we have fun, we have 3 dogs and about 30 animals. She said she really likes it in foster carer and now doesn't feel sad as much.

Female 11 years, in a fostering kinship, placement of 2 years.

When asked what she wanted, 'I want Nanna to get the SGO'.

Male 4 years, in a family and friends fostering placement.

When asked what he liked about his placement, he said, 'everything, I have everything I need, my aunty

and uncle are the best and I love them very much.'

Male 7 years, in a foster placement.

He said, 'my home is nice and full of love, I get treats and I feel safe, nice room, nice clothes, my foster carers are like my real mum and dad.'

Female 10 years.

She said she loves horse riding and loves that her foster carers stay and watch her.

Engagement with Foster Carers

Blackburn with Darwen has a Foster Carer Association (FCA), they meet regularly, and have an Elected Committee. The Chair of the FCA sits on the Corporate Parenting Specialist Advisory Group amongst other groups. The FCA are currently updating their website, which is used to communicate messages and news updates about events. The foster carer support group also meets regularly and is attended by the Children's Services Elected Member. The FCA also meets bimonthly with Senior Managers and Team Managers from Fostering.

There are two Meet and Greet engagement sessions planned for July to gather feedback regarding the ongoing transformation plan. It is hoped that these sessions will provide opportunities for Foster Carers to engage in and co-produce the ongoing transformation work.

Promoting Children's Health, Emotional Development, Education and Leisure:

Attendance at school of children in our care remained at 93% and is consistently above that national average for children who are looked after. Feedback states that Foster Carers are integral in supporting our children and young people in education and in Blackburn with Darwen this is an area of strength. Children and Young People across Blackburn with Darwen attend a wide variety of activities which contribute to their overall learning and achievements. All local children in our care are given access to free sport and leisure activities within the Borough. Foster carers are provided with a MAX Card, which offers heavily discounted access to a range of leisure parks and facilities around the Northwest.

New Directions continue to work with all children in our care from Year 9 and have supported all our Year 11's with applications to colleges and training providers.

There is a Designated Nurse, who takes an active role in following up health issues and assisting with health promotion work. Figures for Quarter 3 show that 88% of all Children in our Care have an up-to-date health assessment. 85% of children who are looked after having had a dental check up in the last 12 months which a significant improvement on previous quarter which was 69% is demonstrating the work that has been undertaken across the service to improve in this area.

Foster carers have a Health Passport for each child in their care, which is a record of all the child's health details. Foster carers are provided with the relevant training and support to meet the specific needs of the child in placement, and they can access support from the Children with Disabilities Team with aids and adaptations, Disability Links registration and information and advice where needed.

In relation to emotional wellbeing, Children in our Care have access to Clinical Psychology and related services through REVIVE and the East Lancashire Child and Adolescent Service (ELCAS) also known as Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS). The REVIVE Service is a partnership between Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council's Children's Services and East Lancashire Hospital Trust to provide emotional health support for children known to the Local Authority and is based at Duke Street. REVIVE delivers consultation to Foster Carers, training and direct intervention on emotional health and well-being. The Team consists of Clinical Psychologists, a Play Therapist and Mental Health Practitioners.

The Limes in Darwen continues to be used to provide therapy and is now a hub which is used by foster carers along with children and young people.

The Fostering Service

Workforce

The Fostering Service restructure has now been agreed, there are now four Team Manager Posts across both the Permanence Team and The Mainstream Team. There are two new Advanced Practitioner posts across both teams which are being recruited to. The Mainstream Fostering Team has been divided into two teams, the first being the Supervision and Support Team, with the second being the Recruitment and Assessment Team. This is to enable the teams with the respective team manager, to focus on each specific area. This will reduce the timescales of fostering assessments meaning placements for our children and young people will be available earlier, reducing the need for agency fostering placements. This will also ensure one team is able to focus on approved foster carers aiding foster carer retention.

During this quarter a Supervising Social Worker has been off sick with work related stress and remains off, this is being managed through the HR process.

Kinship Care

At the end of this quarter, there were 28 family and friend fostering households, with a further 11 households approved under Regulation 24. There have been 41 referrals and initial assessments completed within this quarter with 19 progressing to full combined assessment. This is a decrease from the previous quarter, however, is on par with past quarters. Assessments continue to take place all over the UK for e.g., Preston, Watford, and London. 4 assessments have been presented to fostering panel and been approved as full family and friends fostering households. There have been 4 resignations in the same quarter due to the carers becoming Special Guardians.

SGO support – we have a RAG rating system in place, whereby cases that have the potential to breakdown are rated 'Red' those needing quite a bit of support 'Amber' and those rated lower are green. At the end of June, there were 17 open cases plus 3 SGO support talks. We currently have 2 cases on red; we have seen challenges particularly with adolescent girls age 12/13+, we have 6 girls aged 12, who we are mindful of and in contact with the carers to ensure they have support. There is an Action Plan in place to identify and pre-empt SGO disruptions. Part of the plan is the development of the SGO Support offer which includes, training, direct support, access to The Adoption Support Fund, escalation to other services and the development of the Kinship Care Support Group. The first support group is due to be held on the 12-07-2023.

The SGO panel is held every fortnight to consider all assessments where the permanence plan is that of

SGO. This includes assessments during care proceedings, the PLO process and for children placed under a care order. The Permanence Team Manager attends this panel and the Service Lead for Fostering and Resources chairs the panel which is also made up of other professionals from children's social care including the IRO Service Manager and a legal representative.

Analysis of ethnic breakdown of carers

There are 76 mainstream fostering household of which;

The total number of White/British fostering households consists of 47 couples and 17 single carers

The total number of Asian households is 11 households with 10 being couples and 1 being a single carer
1 White/British and other, ethnicity being (afro Caribbean)

Focus on any issues that have arisen from ethnic matching

Fostering Front Door liaises with the Social Worker following a successful offer of placement match. Where there are ethnic discrepancies, Fostering Front Door will ensure the Social Worker is aware and they are in an agreement with proceeding. If not, it is at the Social Worker's discretion whether to consider the placement as an option or not. Should a non-cultural matched placement be made, specific support is offered on a case-to-case basis, training is provided around non cultural matched places for Foster Carers.

Foster Carer Recruitment and Assessment

Recruitment of Foster Carers has increased since the last quarter after a slow start in the New Year. We had a busy 2 weeks over the fortnight with activities planned for every day. From dog walks, coffee and cake mornings and information evening the fortnight was busy for the Team. The launch included drummers locally which was exciting. People spent that first week reaching out to me letting me know how nice it was that everyone was out celebrating fostering and showing the service in such a positive light. Social media reach for May alone was 40k people with the first day images being the most liked and shared. This was positive for the service as it has been some time since we have seen that amount of organic interaction. We also ran a competition with all our looked after children. Painted rocks and the top 3 were picked for prizes.



There are ongoing campaigns for emergency and short break placements, including Pace and Remand placements alongside placements for teenagers. The Let's Foster website, social media and digital targeted recruitment bring a multi-channelled approach to the recruitment of foster carers. The recruitment activity planned over the coming months includes,

- Radio and DAX (targeted digital recruitment) took place for 3 weeks over Foster Care Fortnight, this is planned again for over the summer holidays and Christmas
- Leaflet drops in new local areas
- Specific Local events attended including Blackburn Pride and BFI Event at Witton Park
- Refer a Friend relaunch across the council and out to carers, where employees can refer potential applicants and if approved will receive £250
- NHS Staff App now has a link to the Lets Foster website
- Bus stop advertising has taken place across the borough
- We have successfully filmed and collaborated with foster carers to gain their stories as foster carers for Blackburn with Darwen.

Social media had a reach of over 70k for the quarter. A new bidding structure started which has seen an increase in the number of enquires coming from Facebook which is positive. Not all the enquiries are leading to usable enquiries, but it is good to see an increase in the number. As the months go on and work is done on the bidding strategy and targeting, we should see the number of enquiries from people who are able to move forward increase, and we should see less wastage from people who are not ready to foster.

Alongside this, we are testing some new visual organic posts which performed well. Alongside the new bus stop that went out towards the end of April we have seen some good traction on other types of ads. The bus stops have performed well. QR codes on each of them have shown that people are interacting with them, and it has been commented on that people are seeing them and liking them.

Information Evenings continue to be held monthly as well as other targeted face to face activities. Community partnerships continue with Blackburn Rovers, Burnley Football Club and the Hawks Ice Hockey Team to promote and embed the sense of the importance of community and the need for local carers for our children. There is partnership working between BWD Corporate Communication Team and the Recruitment Officer to ensure a targeted and collaborative approach to recruitment.

The plan is to recruit 12 Fostering households in a 12-month period from April 2023 to April 2024. At this stage we have approved 6 Fostering Households with a further 4 households in assessment, meaning that we are well on our way to achieving this target. We are aware that we have lost 2 applications to Independent Fostering Agencies, due to the significant difference in fostering allowances. We continue to push the strengths of fostering for Blackburn with Darwen which includes the level of support offered from the Fostering Service, Foster Carer Training, close relationships with partners and other agencies as well as Blackburn with Darwen being a small family focused council. We know from discussions with neighbouring local authorities and IFA's that our data for recruitment highlights that we are on a par or above them in relation to recruitment of foster carers.

We also spent time at the family hubs opening. These were a great opportunity to speak to people around the borough as well as staff. Ads also ran over this quarter in The Pigeon Carrier, focusing on Teenagers.

We are considering the new Stable Homes agenda and how this will work for us in terms of recruitment and retention of foster carers. We are currently in discussion with neighbouring authorities around this and have been working with the DfE to develop proposals to highlight our position in being a trailblazer for this.

2023/2024				
Month	Enquiries	IV	Approval	Conversion
Apr-22	11	3	2	27%
May-22	27	4	2	15%
Jun-22	28	6	0	21%
Total	66	13	4	20%

2023/24	Enquires	IV	Approval	Conversion
Q1	66	13	4	20%

Same period last year

2022/23	Enquires	IV	Approval	Conversion
Q1	16	6	1	38%

Quick breakdown of enquiries

Facebook Paid	48
Social Media	3
Google	7
Press	1
Bus Stops	3

Current snapshot of active assessments.

- ROI – 3
- IV – 3
- Assessment – 4

Fostering Panel

The Service coordinates two fostering panels, the main fostering panel and annual review panel. The Team Managers act as Panel Advisor and maintain the panel members list along with their training. The two panels are independently chaired. Feedback and evaluation are collated from both panels to inform service delivery. Meetings are now taking place regularly with the Independent Panel Chairs to inform learning and development for the panels and the Fostering Service.

During this quarter we had 5 mainstream fostering households presented to panel approved to offer short break and short-term placements. 3 households have returned to panel for 1st annual review and 1 fostering household returned to panel following an allegation.

3 households were presented to panel with a recommendation for approval as family and friends' carers

There have been 23 fostering households presented to the annual review panel for annual review.

During this quarter we have had 3 mainstream fostering households resign. 1 household transferred to an IFA. 1 foster carer made the decision to resign due to financial restraints. The 3rd resignation was due to having no spare bedroom as she had continued to support 2 young people post 18 under Staying Put arrangements.

In relation to feedback, forms are sent to all attendees including social worker and whilst the return rate is

low, feedback is generally positive.

Panel have continued to provide positive feedback regarding the quality of assessments and verbal presentation of the social workers.

Training for Foster Carers:

During this Quarter period, our carers continue to access the online training offer through Me-Learning, The Scils and Eils online training continues to be offered, along with mandatory safeguarding training.

TSD training was delivered to 10 foster carers in June, and they all successfully completed their portfolios.

Regarding the service training offer for 2023, this has been made available to carers with a plan of both online and face to face training sessions offered to our carers. This includes conference style days where carers can attend and be offered training by several services in one day. Foster carers feel this would be very beneficial to those who work alongside their fostering role. We have received mixed feedback from foster carers in relation to training with many foster carers feeling the training offer is positive, with some foster carers wanting a wider range of training. Foster Carer training is an area of focus for 2024.

Complaints

1 complaint has been received during this quarter. An adoptive parent sent a complaint regarding poor communication with the fostering service and a delay in identifying a short break carer for her adopted daughter. This has now been addressed and resolution sought.

Compliments

4 compliments have been received this quarter. A foster carer praised the support she had received from the Fostering Front Door social worker, highlighting the support he had provided. In addition, a Team Manager shared information about a piece of collaborative work across the Children with Disability Team and Fostering Service which supported a placement and prevented a carer going into crisis.

An Independent Reviewing Officer provided the below compliment in relation to long standing Foster Carers.

'Just wanted to acknowledge how amazing these foster carers are & how lucky we are to have them.

They have looked after J for the vast majority of his life & have supported J to recently move onto his potential forever home.

J had lived with them for about 23 months by my reckoning & thrived in their care & was very much part of their family from the outset.

The Foster Carers are a lovely warm couple who have a complete focus on the child & work collaboratively with parents, profs, Adopters & were so helpful in promoting J's contact with baby sibling.

The greatest compliment I could give is to say that I would happily allow my children & grandchildren (not that I have any grandchildren & am far too young & not past 30) to be looked after by them.'

A Foster Carer provided the following feedback in relation to a Supervising Social Worker (SSW)

'SSW is worth her weight in gold.... I cannot believe how efficient she is. She just gets the job done going above and beyond. Whilst handing out praise I would also like you to recognise the great work FFD also does.'

Allegations

There have been no allegations during this quarter

Specific Incidents and Restraints

There have been 1 incident recorded where a Young Person went missing from home. The correct procedure was followed, and the Young Person returned to placement.

Bullying Reports

There have been no reports of bullying over Quarter 1

Serious illness and accidents

There has been no serious illnesses or accidents during this quarter

Exemptions

During this quarter we had no new exemptions. We have 1 fostering household with an existing exemption in place which is supported by their Supervising Social Worker with no concerns noted.

Short Break Placements

There are currently 8 approved short break carers. During this quarter we have had 9 children accessing short breaks.

Commissioned Placements and Budget

All children and young people placed in commissioned placements are part of the Case Tracking and Commissioning Panel which continues to have strategic oversight and monitoring of placements. This panel also provides oversight and planning to ensure that there are robust plans for those children and young people that could be brought back to in-house provision, as well as ensuring timely decision making to achieve permanence.

There continues to be significant pressures due to challenge of recruiting and securing placements for teenagers and large sibling groups both in fostering and residential placements. The financial position across both areas is closely monitored throughout the year.

The local authority continues to take its quota of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) (up to 0.1% of the population). There are referrals at least by weekly, via the Northwest Regional Strategic Migration Partnership. We currently have 18 UASC cases open to Children in Our Care (CIOC), all who are living in appropriate accommodation. Predominantly these children are placed with IFA and residential placements due to there not being enough foster care placements in house. Although the local authority receives funding for UASC, this does not cover the weekly costings of their placements and places additional financial pressure on the commissioning budget.

Total number of commissioned foster placements used in this period – 74

- **49 placements x** Non long term matched including: -
 - **2 x** ICO's including 1 concurrency placement and 1 YP who returned home to parent
 - **4 x** Section 20's including 2 UASCs, 1 x parent and child placement also under PLO; 1 teenage YP whose placement ended in Q1
 - **9 x** Placement Orders including a sibling group of 3; 2 x sibling pairs; 2 individual children of which 1 moved to adoptive placement during Q1
 - **32 x** FCO's, including:
 - 10 individual YP being considered for long term matching
 - pair of long term UASC's (uncle and nephew);
 - sibling pair pending SGO plan to IFA carer being approved at Permanence Panel

- sibling pair that moved from in-house to IFA
- sibling group of 4 placed together
- sibling pair placed together for over 3.5 years, but different issues needing support mean long term matching has not progressed
- 1 YP placed in November during care proceedings
- sibling pair who placed 3 months ago but is hoped this will be their long-term placement here
- parent and child placement where permanence plan for child remains undetermined
- 6 siblings split across 2 foster homes initially, and split into 3 x pairs during Q1 of which one pair moved in-house

Number of new commissioned foster placements made in this period – 4

- 2 siblings (of 6) moving to new IFA together
- 2 siblings moved from in-house to IFA

Number of ended commissioned foster placements - 7

- 1 x ICO Returned home to parent whilst care proceedings ongoing
- 4 x FCO's - 4 siblings (out of group of 6) moved to IFA and inhouse
- 1 x S20 – 16-year-old YP moved to St Silas Nightsafe after placement came to a mutual end
- 1 x PO – moved to adoptive placement

Number of long terms matched commissioned foster placements used in Q1 – 25 x FCO's;

- There were **3** new long-term matches made within this period, including a pair of siblings.
- No long-term matched placements ceased

Additionally, 4 placements were under a retainer for 2 pairs of siblings, however never taken up.

There were **42** ongoing non-long-term matched placements at the end of Q1:

- 30 x FCO's
- 1 x ICO's
- 8 x PO's
- 3 x S20's

There are **25** FCO's in long term matched placements at the end of Q1.

Service Priorities for the Next Quarter., these priorities remain the same as the previous quarter.

1. The management team will continue to monitor compliance with Fostering Regulations and National Minimum Standards and will increase the number of case file audits completed each month.
2. The transformation plan for the fostering service remains a priority. This plan and the key priorities will drive forward placement sufficiency and stability as well as recruitment and quality assurance.
3. Placement sufficiency and stability will continue to be a key area of focus. The relationships with independent fostering providers is the key element which will be the area of development in the next quarter to ensure that we are able to provide local placements to our children and young people within this framework.
4. Recruitment will focus upon our offer to potential foster carers for us to be competitive. The recruitment drive will focus on foster carers who can support teenagers, to respond to the increasing demand for urgent placements. This will also enable a support package of short breaks to be considered for those young people who are more challenging to place and/or in fragile placements currently and will seek to assist with placement stability alongside our Revive offer.

5. There continues to be the need to recruit foster carers who can offer a Remand/PACE foster carer household.

