

# **Corporate Parenting Performance Report**

**People - Childrens** 



January 2022 Performance

Produced by Business Intelligence & Performance (People)

# **Corporate Parenting Board - Performance**



## Introduction

This purpose of this report is to provide the Corporate Parenting Board with an overview of performance. These indicators are grouped together under the relevant areas. Work will continue with managers to develop targets.

## **Overview of Performance**

The report assesses the performance of available data during or as at the end of the last month, snapshots of this data are taken. Performance is compared with the previous month and whether there has been an improvement or decline in performance. Where appropriate, a target has been set to ensure high performance and drive improvement and there is RAG rating for these indicators. Targets have been set in line with national and statistical neighbour rates/averages and this information is included in the report where it is available and in discussion with Service Managers. Sparkline graphs have been included to illustrate trends.

## **RAG Rating and Performance Direction**

Where a target has been set, indicators are RAG rated using the criteria below: **Green** Performance is good and in line with or exceeding target: consistent with the National/Statistical Neighbour average. **Amber** Performance is below target; inconsistent with National/Statistical Neighbour average; action is in place with likelihood of improvement. **Red** Performance is poor; well below expected levels nationally; improvement is required.

Latest performance is compared with the previous month with arrows indicating direction of performance as follows:



- improved performance compared with previous month
- same performance compared with previous month
- decline in performance compared with previous month

## **Benchmarking Note:**

Good and Outstanding Statistical neighbours for are Shropshire, Wiltshire, East Sussex, Cornwall and Suffolk. The latest available benchmarking data has been included.



	Benchmarl Eng AV	king 19/20 Good + AV	Current Target	Baseline Dorset March 2020	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Direction of Performance	Status	Trend
Pro	ofile												
	Measure												
	Rate of children in care a	as at end of month											
	67	57.6	60	70	65.0	64.6	65.1	65.1	64.6	64.1			$\sim$
	Number of children who	became CIC											
			10	21	8	7	13	14	13	10			$\checkmark$
	Number of children who	ceased to be CIC											
			13	22	7	13	9	13	14	12	$\otimes$		$\sim$
110	alth												
не	alth												
	% of New Children in Ca	re receiving their IHA w											$\sim$
			95	28	87.5	66.7	84.6	16.7	8.3		$\boldsymbol{\otimes}$		
	% CIC for 12 months or r												$\frown$
	91	92	90	79	82.4	84.7	84.2	82.0	81.3	78.6	$\otimes$		
	% CIC in care 12 months				42.0	45.5	47.7	50.4	57.4	<b>60.4</b>			
	40	30.4	85	78	42.8	45.5	47.7	50.1	57.1	60.1	$\bigcirc$		
	% of ALL CIC at end of m 86	92	nmunisations 88	83	88.5	87.9	86.2	85.7	83.8	81.3	•		
	80	92	88	83	88.5	87.9	80.2	85.7	83.8	81.3	$\otimes$		
Fm	otional Wellbein	וס											
		<u>.0</u>											
	% of children for CIC for	at least 12 months age	4-16vrs with compl	eted SDO assessme	nt								
	81	83.8		61	79.8	80.3	82.0	85.4	86.3	86.4			$\checkmark$
	Average SDQ score for c	hildren in care who hav	ve been in care for m	ore than 12 month	s (age 4 to 16)								
	13.7	14.1	15	18.6	15.2	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.4	15.4			$\sim$
Saf	fety												
501	Cty												
	% of children in care (at	any point in last 6 man	the) with at least or	o missing onicodo :	n the last 12 man	the							
	% of children in care (at 11	11.6	10	16	14	13	12	12	12	13	$\bigotimes$		~
	% Children in Care who			10	14	15	12	12	12	15	•		
	7.4	nave had more that 1 e 7.4	pisode of wissing	8.2	8	8	8	9	9	9	$\bigotimes$		~
	7.4 Number of allegations n		arc	0.2	0	0	0	9	9	9			
	10	12.0		27	2	1	1	1	0	3	$\bigotimes$		



	Benchmark Eng AV	king 19/20 Good + AV	Current Target	Baseline Dorset March 2020	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Direction of Performance	Status	Trend
P	acement												
	% Children in Care living	in foster placement											
	71.8 (18/19)	73.3 (SN 18/19)			71	70	70	70	69	70			$\smile$
	% of CIC at end of month	n with 3+ placements in	previous 12 month	S									
	9	9.4	10	11	6.8	9.2	9.1	9.5	8.7	8.8	$\otimes$		
	% of children in care for	2.5 years or more, aged	under 16 who have	e been in their place	ement for 2 or mo	ore years							
	70	72.2	70	69	67.7	64.8	64.9	67.4	67.1	66.9	$\otimes$		$\searrow$
	% Children in Care living	in a commissioned place	ement										
	51	41		49	54	53	54	56	55	55			$\checkmark$
	% CIC placed 20 miles av	vay from home											
	21	34	35	47	43.5	44.4	43.8	43.1	43.5	43.3			$\sim$
	% CIC placed outside Do	rset											
	42.1	25.6	30	40	40.8	41.0	40.8	40.1	43.0	43.3	$\bigotimes$		
	Number of unregulated	placements (H5, P2, R1)											
			10	47	20	22	21	19	18	18			$\frown$

E	ducation											
	% Children in Care with	an Education Health and	Care Plan									
	45.2	39.58			NA	38	39	38	39	41		
	% Children in Care achi	eving expected standards	in Key Stage 1									
						Data not availat	ole due to COVID		Data publishe	d August 2022		
	% Children in Care achi	eving expected standards	in Key Stage 2 Mat	ths								
	51 (18/19)	48.6 (SN 18/19)				Data not availat	ole due to COVID		Data publishe	d August 2022		
	% Children in Care achi	eving expected standards	in Key Stage 2 Wri	ting								
	50 (18/19)	46.3 (SN 18/19)				Data not availat	ole due to COVID		Data publishe	d August 2022		
	% Children in Care achi	eving expected standards	in Key Stage 2 Rea	ding								
	49 (18/19)	46.9 (SN 18/19)		51.0		Data not availat	ole due to COVID		Data publishe	d August 2022		
	Average Attainment 8	core for Children in Care										
	17.7	19.08				Data not availat	ole due to COVID		Data publishe	d August 2022		
	Average progress 8 sco	re for Children in Care										
	1.23 (18/19)	1.42 (SN 18/19)				Data not availab	ole due to COVID		Data publishe	d August 2022		
	% of children with a PE	P within 20 days of comin	g into care									
					NA	NA	NA	NA	100	NA		
	% all Children in Care U	nauthorised absence										
	1.4 (18/19)	1 (SN 18/19)	1		NA	1.84	2.29	2.34	3.02	2.16		



Bench Eng AV	marking 19/20 Good + AV	Current Target	Baseline Dorset March 2020	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Direction of Performance	Status	Tren
ucation												
Average Attendance	% for Children in Care of s	chool age										
		95		NA	93.3	92.6	91.1	89.9	89.0	$\otimes$		
% Children in Care w	ho have been in care for 12	2 months who have	had at least one Fix	ed Term Exclusion	n (in the month)							
		12		NA	2.1	2.5	3.8	2.8	3.8	8		/
	o on roduced timetable											
% all Children in Car	e on reduced timetable											
				NA	4.6	1.4	2.8	3.8	5.8	$\otimes$		
ermanence		d permanence plan		NA	4.6	1.4	2.8	3.8	5.8	$\bigotimes$		~
ermanence	is or more with a complete	d permanence plan 90	73	NA 97.1	4.6 96.2	1.4 98.1	2.8 97.8	3.8 98.5	5.8 98.7	8		
ermanence % of CIC for 4 month												
ermanence % of CIC for 4 month	is or more with a complete											
ermanence % of CIC for 4 month	is or more with a complete e achieved Permanence			97.1	96.2	98.1	97.8	98.5	98.7	0		
ermanence % of CIC for 4 month % Children who hav	is or more with a complete e achieved Permanence			97.1	96.2	98.1	97.8	98.5	98.7	⊘ ⊗		
% of CIC for 4 month % Children who hav % Children Achieved 12.2	is or more with a complete e achieved Permanence I Permanence SGO		73	97.1 33.2	96.2 34.3	98.1 35.5	97.8 36.6	98.5 41.2	98.7 40.1	0		<

## Sufficiency

Number of Foster carers at end of month													
		215	200	196	198	194	194	193	190	$\otimes$			
Number of new househ	olds recruited – Mainstr	eam											
			22	0	2	0	1	0	1		$\wedge \sim$		
Number of new househ	olds recruited – Connect	ed Person											
			18	0	0	2	2	1	5				
Number of new househ	olds recruited – Tempora	ary											
				2	1	0	0	5	0	8	$\sim$		
Number of households	de-registered – exclude o	connected carers											
		2	22	1	0	1	1	0	1	$\otimes$			
Number of households	resigned												
			64	3	4	1	1	3	6	$\otimes$	$\sim$		
Number of applicants u	ndergoing assessment (F	oster Carers)											
				10	12	13	13	13	11	$\otimes$			
Number of allegations r	nade against foster care	rs that were substa	ntiated										
			14	0	0	1	0	1	1	0			

% Care Leavers who are in touch with Dorset Local Authority (19-21yrs)

92.2

Number of Health passports due within the month (2 months in arrears)

Number of health passports completed (2 months in arrears)

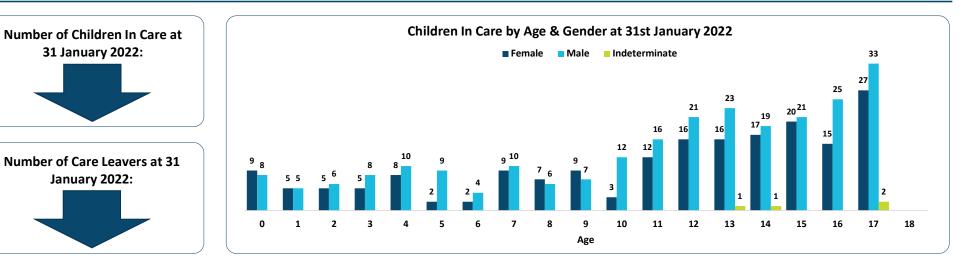


	Benchmar	king 19/20	Current Target	Baseline Dorset	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Direction of	Status	Trend
	Eng AV	Good + AV	current ranget	March 2020	700g	50p 21	000 21	1107 21	200 21	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Performance	Status	
Α	doption												
	Number of adoptions fir	nalised in month											
				16	0	1	1	4	0	0			
	Number of children livin	ng in adoptive placement	ts pending adoptio	n orders									^
	Number of children with	and the second second			21	20	21	23	21	21			$\sim$
	Number of children with	h a match identified			0	2	1	0	0	0	0		$\sim$
	Number of children whe	ere family finding is ong	ning		U	2	1	U	U	U			
	in a set of children whe	in a raining many many is ongo			18	15	13	10	12	12			
	Numbers of Adoption pl	acement order revocation	ons over last 12 m	onths									
				2	7	7	6	7	7	5			$\sim$
	Average number of days	s between entering care	and moving in with	h adoptive family fo	or adopted childre	en (adjusted for fos	ter carer adoption	s)					
				412	482	487	522	508	541	532			~
	The average number of	days from the date of th	e placement order										
				203	253	253	268	239	260	251			-~~
	Number of adoptive fam	nilies recruited		60	-								$\sim$
	Number of adoptive Far	nilios in accossment		60	5	0	1	1	4	3	$\mathbf{\otimes}$		
	Number of adoptive rai	nines in assessment			41	41	NA	44	54	51	$\bigotimes$		$\neg$
					41	41	NA NA	44	J4	JI			$\sim$
C	are Leavers												
	% Care Leavers with an	up to date pathway plar	at end of month										
		ap to acto patitica) p.c.	95	66.5	82	76	71	65	62	81			$\sim$
	% Care Leavers who are	living in suitable accom											
	88	89.8	96	88	94	94	94	95	95	93	$\otimes$		
	% Care Leavers who are	in Employment Education	on or Training (19-2	21yrs)									
	52	55	60	48	54	52	53	54	51	48	$\bigotimes$		

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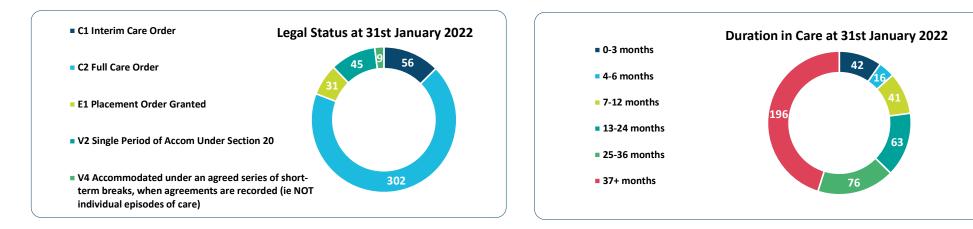




### Comments:

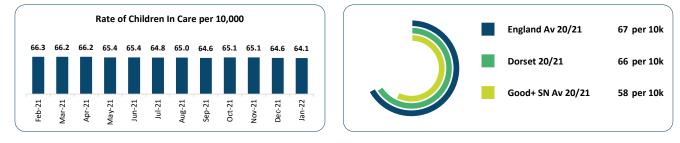
We continue to see a reduction in our total number of children in care, which is now much closer to our statistical neighbours. This in part is due to improved processes and oversight of children coming into Dorset Council's Care and progressing their permanence option in a timely manner.

We also have seen a slight decrease in our total children and young people who are care leavers this month. There will be an increase in the overall number of care leavers in the medium term as our 17-year-old young people turn 18 and transition into the care leaver services. We have established a monthly multiagency transitions group to support smooth transitions into post 18 support for our young people.



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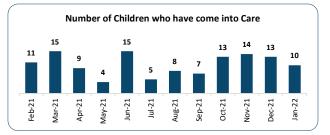


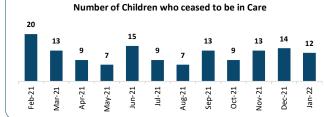


### Comments:

Our rate of Children in care per 10,000 has steadily reduced month on month since January 2021.

Our rate of children in care is now lower than national average for the past year. This is positive and a continuing improving picture for Dorset Council. We do remain with a higher rate of children in care then our good + statistical neighbours. We are committed to continuing to work towards achieving a similar rate per 10000 as Good+ Statistical neighbours. Considerable efforts have been made and continue to be made to only have children come into our care when appropriate to do so and they achieve permanence without drift or delay.





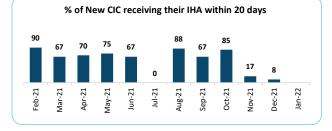
### Comments:

We continue to see a trend of less children entering care then leaving for the past 12 months. Whilst this is positive and a result of the refined processes, we remain committed to ensuring children coming into our care in a planned way and achieve permanence in a timely way; this remains our priority.

Attention continues to be given to ensuring that plans for permanence include all permanence options which are being explored and progressed in a timely manner.

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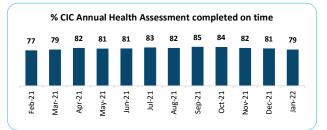


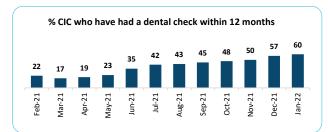
**Comments:** % of New Children in Care receiving their Initial Health Assessment (IHA) monthly data is reported 1 month after the month is due, this is to allow for the data to fall into the month due, i.e. a child accommodated on the 31 December would not be calculated until 26 January. Data is from our Mosaic system. Benchmarking data is currently not available. We have seen a decline in performance in completed IHAs since November 2021. We continue to monitor our children in achieving consents within 5 working days of the young person coming into care and their Initial health assessment. We continue to work closely with our health colleagues to address any issues in real-time with all professionals involved fully committed to improving performance. Time taken to navigate access to services for identified health needs is increased when a child is placed out of area, due to out of area medical capacity. Monthly meeting re-instated between Corporate Parenting Service Manager and Designated Nurse for Children in Care and Care Leavers. Meeting held on 26 January 2022 to review current model to create capacity and flexibility where specific circumstances impact on ability to secure consent. Given more children are entering care in a planned way, consent to be sought prior to child entering care.

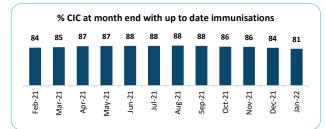
91 %

81 %

92 %

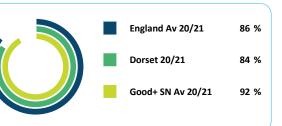












### Comments:

Figures shown on the graph are for children in care for 12 months or more, the percentage having their Annual Review Health Assessment (RHA) completed on time. It should be noted that our measures are different from the CCQ who measure % of children in each month who have had their review health assessment as opposed to our measure. Review Health Assessments out of area response is determined by out of area health team capacity.

### Comments:

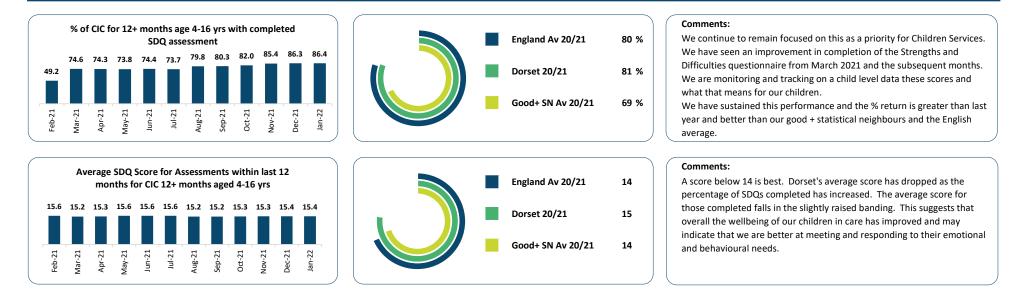
Figures shown on the graph are for children in care (CIC) for 12 months + and whether they have had a dental check within the last 12 months. We continue to see an improvement in our children accessing a dentist for their 12 monthly dental check. Our children accessing their annual dental check is also a month on month improving picture as our children are now seen as a priority vulnerable group in the South West. Performance was impacted due to the global pandemic.

### Comments:

Figures shown on the graph are for the percentage of children in care at end of month with up to date immunisations. CCG data shows Immunisations for Children in care are up to date with the UK Immunisation schedule for the month of those due an RHA in the month.

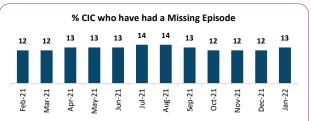
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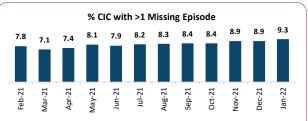
# EMOTIONAL WELLBEING Council



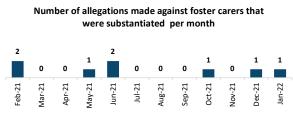
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13% of our children in care had a missing episode in January 2022 and 12% in December 2021, a slight increase in previous month's figures. However, our data shows that this remains a consistent picture across the year, as monthly percentages since February 2021 have ranged from 12% - 14%. The daily missing meeting now has consistent attendance from the Police missing team and IMPACT (child exploitation team) will also share information and practice, for those young people open to their service.

During January 2022 there has been an increase to 9.3% in Children in Care with more than one missing episode. We remain a statistical outlier with our current data set, when compared to our good + statistical neighbours and England average. As noted previously, the daily missing meeting and consistency in professionals engaging with our children in care who have gone missing, will develop our responses and practice to reduce the % of children in care who have missing episodes.

In January 2022 there were 3 allegations made against foster carers. 2 of these did not progress beyond referral.

There has been one allegation substantiated against a foster carer in January 2022.

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2021 and will continue to reduce this number in the coming months.



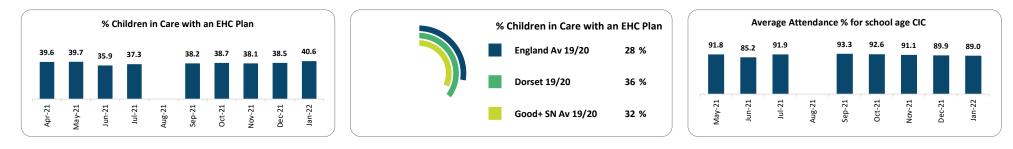


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	19/20		Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
		Children with a PEP within 20 days of coming into care (%)	NA	NA	NA	NA	100	NA
1.0	1.3	Children in Care Unauthorised absence (%)	NA	1.8	2.3	2.3	3.0	2.2
15	13	Children in Care 12+ months who have had at least one Fixed Term Exclusion (%)*	NA	2.1	2.5	3.8	2.8	3.8
		Children in Care on reduced timetable (%)	NA	4.6	1.4	2.8	3.8	5.8
_	-		1.0 1.3 Children in Care Unauthorised absence (%)   15 13 Children in Care 12+ months who have had at least one Fixed Term Exclusion (%)*	1.0 1.3 Children in Care Unauthorised absence (%) NA   15 13 Children in Care 12+ months who have had at least one Fixed Term Exclusion (%)* NA	1.0 1.3 Children in Care Unauthorised absence (%) NA 1.8   15 13 Children in Care 12+ months who have had at least one Fixed Term Exclusion (%)* NA 2.1	1.0     1.3     Children in Care Unauthorised absence (%)     NA     1.8     2.3       15     13     Children in Care 12+ months who have had at least one Fixed Term Exclusion (%)*     NA     2.1     2.5	1.0     1.3     Children in Care Unauthorised absence (%)     NA     1.8     2.3     2.3       15     13     Children in Care 12+ months who have had at least one Fixed Term Exclusion (%)*     NA     2.1     2.5     3.8	1.0     1.3     Children in Care Unauthorised absence (%)     NA     1.8     2.3     2.3     3.0       15     13     Children in Care 12+ months who have had at least one Fixed Term Exclusion (%)*     NA     2.1     2.5     3.8     2.8

Comments:	Indicator	England Av 18/19	Dorset 18/19	Good+ SN Av 18/19	Good+ SN 18/19 Range
County and National data is not available for 2021 year due to Covid-19	Children in Care achieving expected standards in KS2 Maths (%)	0.5	0.6	0.5	35% - 46%
pandemic. The use of these indicators , for accountability, is suspended.	Children in Care achieving expected standards in KS2 Writing (%)	0.5	0.4	0.5	32% - 42%
Dorset Council continues to support our schools to provide the best education for all.	Children in Care achieving expected standards in KS2 Reading (%)	0.5	0.4	0.5	25% - 37%
	Average Attainment 8 score for Children in Care	19.2	14.4	15.4	14.9 - 17.8
	Average progress 8 score for Children in Care	-1.2	-1.0	-1.4	- 0.931.33

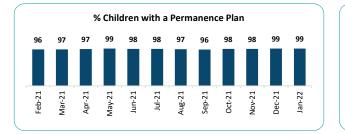
### Comments:

Work has been implemented to improve the way the systems works around school moves for children with an EHCP. There has been a slight decrease in average attendance to 89% - Analysis has been undertaken with year 10 and 11 having the highest unauthorised absence out of all year groups. Year 11s are to be the focus in the February pupil progress meeting to analyse this in further detail. There has been an increase in the number of CiC (12 months +) with at least one fixed term exclusion (3.8%). The number of children with at least one fixed term exclusion has increased to 11 (from 9 in December). A piece of work is being undertaken to set up training and support for staff on alternatives to exclusion with a focus on the pupil voice at reintegration meetings. The percentage of children in care on reduced timetables has increased in January to 5.8%. This is being monitored in CiC CMOOE meetings. This is at an individual child level and being monitored for specific reasons for the individual child.



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#### % Children who have achieved Permanence 41 40 37 35 34 33 30 25 25 27 27 =eb-21 Jul-21 an-22 Mar-21 Apr-21 Sep-21 lun-21 Aug-21 Oct-23

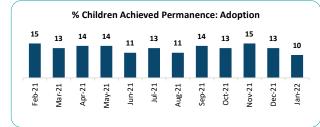
### Comments:

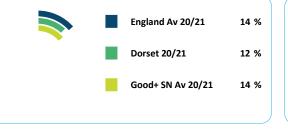
This continues to be a consistent picture for Dorset Children with month-on-month seeing consistent performance. We have processes in place and a data dashboard to track permanence and we continue to monitor and track our children's permanence option and timeliness of achieving permanence. A monthly permanence report is also shared with senior managers and operational staff. There continues to be growing scrutiny from our Quality Assurance and Reviewing Officers to ensure further oversight of timeliness and quality of permanence plans. Figures are taken from Mosaic for children in care for 4 months or more at the end of each month

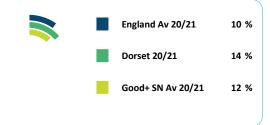
### Comments:

We remain committed to ensuring our children are achieving permanence in a timely way. This performance has reduced slightly since December 2021. This remains a key focus and performance in this regard should steadily improve in coming months as seen throughout 2021. This is due to better monitoring and tracking of our children's journey to permanence in our care, supported by improved data (dashboard) accessible by our staff.









## **Comments:** Figures are taken from ChAT and include children who left care in the last

6 months.

We continue to look at all options for securing permanence for our children whilst in our care.

### Comments:

Figures are taken from ChAT and include children who left care in the last 6 months.

Dorset Council continues to progress and track our children through the adoption process in a timely way, in close partnership with ASPIRE.

People - Childrens

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Indicator	Dorset 18/19	Dorset 19/20	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
No of approved foster carers (All)	186	202	201	203	202	205	202	197	196	198	194	194	193	190
No of new households recruited														
Mainstream	21	22	2	3	3	1	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	1
СР	14	18	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	2	2	1	5
Temporary CP	0	0	1	5	5	2	8	1	2	1	0	0	5	0
No of households de-registered (excludes connected carers)	16	22	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
No of households resigned	44	64	2	3	3	2	4	4	3	4	1	1	3	6

### Comments:

Enquiries continue to show improvement with an increase of 27.8% compared with January 2021. It is interesting to note that despite January traditionally being a quieter month the numbers have continued to rise.

This calendar year there have been 235 enquiries which progressed to 104 initial visits and the recruitment of 19 fostering households. To ensure the conversion rate is as high as possible:

1. Enquirers are welcomed positively, provided with a personal service and responded to within 24 hours.

2. Prospective carers are given clear, engaging verbal and written information that highlights what Dorset Council Fostering can offer at every touch point with a consistent message.

3. The application process is smooth and efficient with fostering carers approved within 26 weeks where possible

Current work to strengthen sufficiency includes;

•The commissioning and use of a marketing agency.

•Redesigning of Dorset Councils Fostering image.

•A specific micro-site.

•Focussed Google advertising

•Face-to-face recruitment

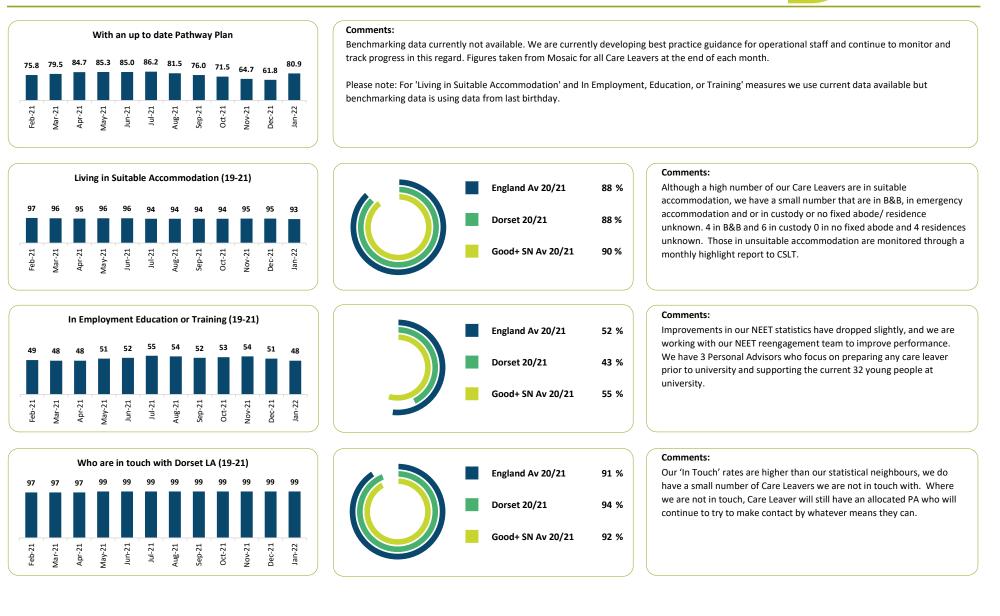
•A focussed background awareness campaign to provide a constant drip effect.

A piece of work is also being undertaken within the team to review current vacancies and to explore on an individual basis with households if approvals can be increased and there is scope to increase individual vacancy rates.



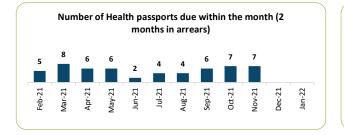
People - Childrens Produced by Business Intelligence & Performance (People)

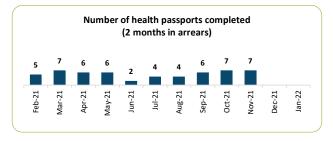




People - Childrens Produced by Business Intelligence & Performance (People)







### Comments:

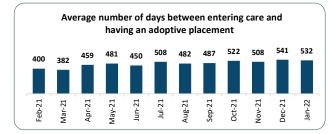
Health passports provide an overview of health for a young person leaving our care.

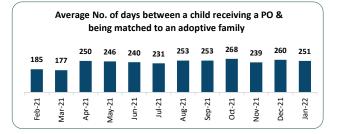
It details immunisations, allergies, medication, health history such as any significant illnesses known or operations. It also supports our young people to know their health information and where to go for support if needed. For example, sexual health services, mental health services Health Passports are shared by Dorset's Child in Care Nurse with our Children in Care 6 months prior to their 18 birthday. This is an in-person discussion and is also shared electronically and in paper form with our children their current social worker and their Personal Advisor to support smoother transitions.

People - Childrens

Produced by Business Intelligence & Performance (People)

Indicator	Dorset 19/20	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
Number of adoptions finalised in year	16	2	2	1	2	0	1	1	4	0	0
Number of children living in adoptive placements pending adoption orders	-	18	19	20	20	21	20	21	23	21	21
Number of children with a match identified	-	3	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
Number of children where family finding is ongoing	-	22	19	17	19	18	15	13	10	12	12
Number of revocations of Placements Orders	2	8	8	8	6	7	7	6	7	7	5
Number of adoptive families recruited	60	0	2	3	2	5	0	1	1	4	3
Number of adoptive Families in assessment	-	49	46	45	45	41	41	NA	44	54	51





National 2019	376
Dorset 2019	285
Good+ Statistical Neighbours 2019	342

National 2019	178
Dorset 2019	129
Good+ Statistical Neighbours 2019	149

### Comments:

Dorset have continued to perform well among statistical neighbours for the time
a child starts in care and moves to their adoptive family.
All data is taken from Aspire Adoption Agency.

There were no adoption orders made in December. Several were scheduled for January, 4 are delayed by the Somerset ruling until after March. All of those children remain with their adopters. Early permanence avoided delay in children being placed with adopters. All 12 children subject to family finding are linked with potential adopters. The 5 revocations are for historic children whose plan has changed to foster care.

The timescales look slow. This is skewed by a few children with high level needs who took longer to be successfully placed and a few children waiting for their placement order to be revoked. Young children continue to be matched and placed quickly. Timescales for each child are reviewed monthly by senior management .

Aspire maintains around 30 available adopters a third of which will consider early permanence. Comprehensive tracking means that if a a suitable inhouse adopter is not identified by the time a child receives a placement order, external searches are immediately initiated.

