Corporate Parenting Panel

Agenda

4 December 2012

TUESDAY 4 DECEMBER 2012, 2.00pm COMMITTEE ROOM 1, SHIRE HALL, WARWICK

1. General

(1) Apologies for Absence

(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election of appointment to the Council. A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which s/he has a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless s/he has a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if s/he has not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Must leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with (Standing Order 42)
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests must still be declared in accordance with the new Code of Conduct. These should be declared at the commencement of the meeting.

- (3) Minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2012
- (4) Chair's Announcements

2. Introduction to the Fostering Service

As an introduction to fostering, Members are provided with the Annual Report of the Service and will receive a DVD and verbal presentation to better understand the processes and procedures involved.

3. Looked After Children – Action Plan

An updated and colour-coded version of the Action Plan that was last reviewed at the previous meeting on 22 October.



4. Leaving Care – Action Plan

Members are provided with the Leaving Care Action Plan to review how young people are being prepared for work. Also provided is the national Charter for Care Leavers, produced by the Department for Education.

5. Performance Data

Members are provided with a range of datasets relating to Looked After Children, adopted children and children leaving care.

Corporate Parenting Panel Membership

Councillors: John Appleton, Peter Fowler, Bob Hicks, Clive Rickhards, Carolyn Robbins (Chair), Chris Williams

Relevant Portfolio Holder

Councillor Heather Timms - Children and Schools

General enquiries

Please contact:

Richard Maybey, Democratic Services Officer, Warwickshire County Council

T: (01926) 476876

E: richardmaybey@warwickshire.gov.uk



Minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel meeting 22 October 2012

Present:

Members

Cllr Appleton

Cllr Fowler

Cllr Hicks

Cllr Rickhards

Cllr Robbins (Chair)

Cllr Williams

Officers

Brenda Vincent, Service Manager - Safeguarding Richard Maybey, Democratic Services Officer

1.1 Apologies for absence

Cllr Timms (Portfolio Holder, Children and Schools)

- 1.2 Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests
 None
- 1.3 Minutes of the Corporate Parenting Steering Group held on 8 May 2012
 Noted

1.4 Chair's Announcements

The Chair welcomed members and officers to this inaugural meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel, and suggested that Item 5 of the agenda (Terms of Reference) be taken first to establish a consensus on the approach to future meetings. This was agreed (see section 5 of the minutes below).

2.0 Looked After Children – Action Plan

- 2.1 Members questioned the likelihood of the authority being able to "safely reduce the number of LAC" (the first entry in the action plan), given the rising numbers detailed in the LAC dataset (circulated at the meeting).
- 2.2 Brenda Vincent explained that the Safeguarding Business Unit is working with the Social Research Unit on a project (known as the "Dartington project") to reduce LAC numbers via alternative evidence-based interventions.
 - This focuses primarily on interventions for children aged 12+ experiencing family breakdown
 - The project is based around proven evidence-based interventions, such as Triple P and Functional Family Therapy
 - Members asked that the lead officer for the project (Phil Sawbridge) attend a future meeting to provide a progress update with evidence and outcomes
- 2.3 Brenda agreed to update the LAC Action Plan for the next meeting using a Red/Amber/Green colour coding system to indicate progress.

2.4 Members noted that there was no reference in the Action Plan to preparing young people for work. Brenda explained that this would be part of the Leaving Care Action Plan and agreed to bring this to the next meeting.

3.0 Report of the Adoption Service, 2011-12

Members noted the report, particularly the good progress the authority has made in increasing number of children approved for adoption. However, it was acknowledged that there is still difficulty in matching those children with a suitable family, often due to issues around placing siblings and complex needs.

4.0 Performance Data

Adoption Scorecard

- 4.1 Brenda Vincent explained that the government has introduced an Adoption Scorecard system that allows prospective adopters to compare the performance of various adoption providers
 - The latest scorecard for Warwickshire shows that performance is better than the English average
 - It was acknowledged that a large proportion of the timescales involved in adopting a child is caused by court processes

Virtual School

- 4.2 Brenda explained that the Virtual School is based around a previous government initiative to have a dedicated headteacher for Looked After Children
 - For Warwickshire, this is Anne Hawker, who has a small team of staff who support the work of the school
 - The team works with designated teachers in schools to help remove barriers to learning, which involves the development of Personal Education Plans (PEP) for each Looked After Child
- 4.3 Members noted a big jump in GCSE attainment from 2010 to 2011 and asked if there were any reasons for this
 - Brenda explained that due to the relatively small numbers of pupils involved, the jump in performance could be simply due to the calibre of students that year and the focus by the Virtual School on learning in the earlier age group, not just those taking their GCSEs

5.0 Terms of Reference

Following discussion on how the aims and objectives of the Panel should be developed and taken forward, the following points were agreed:

- 5.1 Regular reports are needed to inform Panel members of current issues, including:
 - Datasets on Looked After Children (LAC) monthly
 - Adoption Services report *bi-annually*
 - Fostering Services report *quarterly*
 - Adoption Scorecards annually
 - National LAC performance data annually

- Reports arising from Ofsted inspections as and when
- 5.2 The Panel will report annually to Cabinet, but it should explore other ways of raising the profile of Corporate Parenting among elected members, which may include:
 - Sending reports to full Council
 - Sending specific issues to Overview & Scrutiny
 - Organising events, such as a visit from the Children in Care Council
- 5.3 The Panel should meet 6 times a year, every 2 months, and seek to hold topic-based meetings with appropriate experts invited to provide information/evidence
 - Topics should be decided 2 meetings in advance to allow sufficient preparation time, and topics should be prioritised towards areas of concern
 - It was acknowledged that members of the Panel had varying levels of knowledge on Corporate Parenting issues, therefore each meeting should include a short overview of the topic from officers on the current processes and issues etc.
 - Consideration should be given to a broad work programme setting out the topics to be looked at over the forthcoming 12 months
- 5.4 The Corporate Parenting Policy and Strategy is due to be refreshed, and should include a section on the role and responsibilities of Elected Members, which the Panel should help in developing
- 5.5 The Corporate Parenting Pledge issued to all Elected Members should be looked at by the Panel, with a view to refreshing it and/or re-issuing it
- 5.6 It was noted that signposting information has recently been issued to young people in care (i.e., the playing cards with QR codes) and has been positively received. Information is now being developed for the younger age groups

Resolved

The next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel will be on 4 December 2012 at 2pm to consider:

- Introduction to the Fostering Service, covering the processes involved
- Updated and colour-coded Looked After Children Action Plan
- Leaving Care Action Plan
- LAC performance data from similar authorities
- Number of LAC attending grammar schools

The subsequent meeting will be on 11 February 2012 at 10am to consider:

- Introduction to the advocacy and complaints procedure for LAC
- Introduction to and outcomes of the Dartington project

Brenda Vincent to make arrangements for the Children in Care Council to meet with elected members, possibly on the day of Full Council.

The meeting closed at 11.40am	Chair

Warwickshire County Council Fostering Services Annual Report

1. Introduction

This is the first annual report of the Fostering Services since the re-configuration of the Services. A structural chart is included at the end of the report.

The re-configuration follows recommendations made by a working group chaired by Brenda Vincent. The re-configuration was agreed by S.L.T. and took effect from 1 October 2011.

The Services was inspected by Ofsted in June 2011 against the revised Foster Care Minimum Standard which became operational on 1st April 2011. These standards had been reissued to place greater weight on outcomes for children, delegation of responsibilities to foster carers and clearer expectations on levels of support Local Authorities and I.F.A.'s are expected to provide to carers. The Service was also involved in Ofsted's Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Inspection in 2011 and underwent a Risk and Assurance Internal Audit in April 2012. The Care Planning Regulations, which were also implemented on the 1st April 2011 also significantly impacted on this Service leading to revisions in the Placement Plan documentation.

The Service provides a range of foster carers offering placements from E.D.T. placements, short term and respite, long term and permanence, Parent and Baby and Staying Put placements for young people over 18.

On the 31st March the number of Foster Carer Households was 352. The Service is successful in being able to meet the placement needs of the majority of Warwickshire's Looked after children and young people.

2. Re-configuration of the Service

Following the work and recommendations of the working group, all staff members were consulted on the proposed changes involved and the new structure. Staff were invited to state their preference re: working tasks and geographical areas. It was important to ensure that Fostering Services had a presence in the North and South of the County and Rugby.

In addition co-location within Children's Teams was sought. This has been partially successful. In addition, Fostering Services attendance at Children's Panels had to be maintained.

The structure now consists of:

- Fostering North Practice
- Fostering South Practice
- Kinship Care Practice (set up on 1 January 2012)
- Central Recruitment and Training Practice

In additions E.D.T. foster carers remain within the Emergency Duty Team Services. The Service also retains the Practice Leader Development post.

The re-organisation of the Services has been within the current establishment staffing levels. At this stage, it is uncertain whether the staffing establishment within the Kinship Care Practice is appropriate and this remains under review.

South Fostering Service

This Service is responsible for assessing, supporting, supervising and reviewing foster carers from Warwick, Stratford and Rugby. The team is currently based in Orion House, but will be moving in late 2012, early 2013.

It would be beneficial for this Practice to be based with Warwick/Leamington Children's Team when the property rationalisation programme in Warwick district takes place. The key benefits of combining the 3 previous Fostering Teams, is this team is now large enough to respond to different service pressures. Staff members, especially those supporting carers in Stratford and Rugby, work flexibly, hot desking from other sites and working from home. Assessments are also allocated faster.

North Fostering Service

Based in Hilary Road, this service manages foster carers in Nuneaton, Bedworth and North Warwickshire and Coventry. The Practice provides the same services as South Fostering. This team currently shares office space with ISIS. Building rationalisation means this team will be in the same office as Nuneaton Children's Team in future.

Fostering Duty Service

With the re-configuration of the service, South Duty and North Duty were amalgamated into one county duty system based in Nuneaton. The benefits from this re-configuration include:

- Consistency of practice
 - The service is delivered by 6 Social Workers and 1 Manager (2nd Manager available). This reduces the need for 2 Managers to be on duty at the same time. Carers will get to know Duty Social Workers and vice versa.
- Improvement in relationships with Multi Agency Commissioning and Agencies on the Fostering Framework Agreement.
- Lack of repetition of tasks between North/South placements searches. These are now county searches. There are standard expectations.
- Easier to identify trends re: needs of placement location, age etc. An example of this is identifying the volume of requests for respite placements.

Challenges to the County Duty system include

- Amalgamating two different systems has taken time.
- Currently the social workers in the duty system are all based in the North. These
 workers have had to learn about some carers including approval categories,
 vacancy rates, strengths and support needs (this will improve with time as carers are
 used for placements from county duty)
- Communication between North and South Fostering, but also communication with Children's Safeguarding Teams in the South (again, this is improving)

The greatest challenge currently to the Duty Service is the volume of referrals. Between April 2011 and March 2012, the Duty Service received in excess of 480 referrals. Over 200 of these were new referrals including requests for respite care. There were 61 referrals for respite care in this period. (In the 4 months from April 2012 a further 71 referrals for respite have been received).

The number of Looked After Children in April 2010 was 640 and in March 2011 was 679.

Alongside this increase in Looked After numbers there has been:

- Staying Put placements. This provision meets the needs of Looked After Children but the impact is often a reduction in numbers of children placed with the carer (adults cannot share with children)
- Numbers of young people, because of their individual needs, requiring solo placements.
- Increase in respite requests. This in part is due to the delay in children moving onto adoption or returning home. This increase requires further investigation.
- The numbers of Parent and Baby placement requests. There were 38 requests for Parent and Baby placements with a growing number of parents being over 18 years and requests for the baby placements including children up to the age of 4.
- Increase in request for placements for young people aged 17 and over.
- Fostering Framework providers do not have the capacity to meet the 3 Local Authority needs (Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire). This is resulting in more spot purchasing outside of the Framework Agreement.

There were 146 referrals made to the Framework in this period.. From this, 36 placements were made with either Tier 1 or Tier 2. 36 further placements were spot purchased.

The remaining 71 children were either found 'in house' provision (including some changes to carers approval categories), moved into independent accommodation, had STEPS or residential placement or did not come into care.

Kinship Care Practice

This Practice was established in in January 2012 with a newly appointed Practice Leader. This Practice is based in Rugby.

This Practice is currently not fully staffed. There should be 4.5 Social Workers but as of 31st March 2011 there were 2 full time Social Work vacancies.

Benefits of a county Kinship Care Practice include:

- Development of expertise in a variety of kinship assessments.
- Closer working relationship with Legal Services.
- Opportunity to develop be-spoke Kinship Support Services i.e. specific preparation sessions.
- Opportunity to monitor the volume of Kinship assessments and the outcomes.

Current challenges to the Kinship Team include:

Not fully staffed

- Volume of referrals
- Recognition that each of the Children's Safeguarding Teams approaches this work slightly differently.
- Kinship policy procedures and forms still at a draft stage.
- Delay in receiving information and referrals from Children's Safeguarding Teams.

Central Recruitment and Training Practice

This practice has remained in Warwick, but has reduced staffing. A new Practice Leader has been appointed (in post from May 2012).

This practices core business is to recruit and train foster carers and to provide the opportunity to gain a professional qualification through the teams QCF centre. Recruitment priorities remain carers for teenagers (young people 10-17 years represent the largest group of looked after children), Permanence and Parent and baby. There is also a growing need for carers to offer placement to sibling groups under 5 years of age.

Family Link Service

This service provides respite placements for children with disabilities. As of the 31st March 2012 there were 28 Family Link carers.

The funding provided by Children's Services for Family Link was one of the services that WCC agreed to reduce funding over 3 years. During this year, the staffing ratio has reduced from 1 Practice Leader and 2 Social Workers to 1 Social Worker. With the introduction of the Care Planning Regulations the majority of placements have been assessed as Section 17 placements. Work is ongoing between I.D.S. and Fostering Services to plan for the future of this service. The Social Worker is jointly supervised by the Fostering Registered Manager and an I.D.S. Practice Leader. Despite the changes, the service remains one of a number of support services for families with children who have disabilities.

Social Care Workers

The re-configuration of the service has resulted in Social Care Workers providing a consistent approach to support to carers across the county. Two Practice Leaders (1 North and 1 South) manage all the Fostering Social Care Workers. This enables the service to prioritise need.

There have been 2 county meetings with Brenda Vincent, Lesley Malley and Social Care Workers. These meetings have enabled Social Care Workers to prioritise tasks, with support being their key task. Two Social care workers have been identified to participate in Triple P training, and during 2012-13 it is hoped that all Social Care Workers will be trained in the Triple P Parenting Programme. A service which will be used to support carers.

Administration Team

With the changes in locations and retirements this service has undergone a high level of change. The service now has a Team Administrator who joined the team in April 2012. As of the 31st March there were 2 full time administrative vacancies (now appointed to)

Administrative Service developments have included the development of specific fostering budgets and on-going work on Care First to ensure appropriate fostering codes and improved screens.

3. Challenges to the Fostering Service

> Demand for Foster Placements capacity issues

As the Looked After population increases, it is becoming increasingly difficult to provide the volume of placements needed.

Matching placements is becoming extremely difficult. Warwickshire is not alone with this problem. There is a national shortage of foster carers.

Within Warwickshire the Fostering Service is recognised as a key component to meeting the needs of children and young people locally. The service has continued to receive funding and Foster Carer Payments for caring for children have remained in line with the Fostering Network Payment Rates. This lack of placement can result in:

- More placement moves for children and young people (due to limited matching opportunities)
- Placements needing increased level of support from both Children's Teams and the Fostering Services.
- Increased disruption rate.
- The need to undertake agency searches This is extremely time consuming as the duty service has to negotiate with both Framework providers and other providers. These searches can be requested 2 and 3 times for the same child.
- The Framework Agreement which is due to run for another 12 months has failed to respond to Local Authorities increasing demands.
 - > Ability to meet the needs of certain categories of young people
 - Warwickshire does not have any specialist schemes
- Lack of solo placements increases the need to look outside of the WCC Fostering Services.
 Children and Young People are then placed further afield, with all of the difficulties this creates for the child, their family and the Social Worker. The current skills to foster payment scheme makes solo placements less attractive to experienced carers.
- Parent and baby placements. These are complex placements with different expectations on carers including attending court
- Permanency placements. These placements are often taken up with short term placements making planning difficult.

Recruitment of Foster Carers

The current recruitment market is an extremely competitive environment. The Framework Agreement resulted in 13 I.F.A.'s increasing recruitment in Warwickshire. Other Local Authorities, such as Coventry, are also advertising in this area (20 mile radius for Coventry takes their service into Warwickshire).

Warwickshire Recruitment Services is currently reviewing the front end of the service.

The team currently recruit via radio, adverts in a variety of newspapers and magazines, voucher scheme to encourage word of mouth recruitment, bus advtertising, and direct marketing. With a new practice leader in post the service is now further streamlining the front end of the service. New campaigns are being developed using websites, Google, Facebook etc.

Kinship Services

As a new practice this service, children's teams and legal services need to work together to 'bed in' new procedures, improve communications and work to tighter timescales.

This service is currently not fully staffed and the impact is assessments are still being allocated across the service. The vacant posts have been advertised, but in the short term it is creating additional pressures. Staffing levels will need to continually be reviewed.

The volume of kinship viability referrals continues to rise, often with 2 and 3 family members being put forward. Ideally there would be family meetings or family Group conferences to support families to prioritise the most appropriate member to be assessed. This is not happening at present due to staff shortages and children's teams not having the capacity. There

are still inconsistencies between children's teams and delays in getting referrals and information to the kinship practice.

Support needs for kinship carers are diverse and the service is working on support groups, information packs and specific preparation materials.

4. Service achievements

Appendix 2 is the annual data set for the service. Some key data as of 31 March 2012:

- 580 Foster placements
- 110 new carer applications
- 40 approvals
- 1 application rejected by fostering panel
- > Ofsted Inspection June 2011

Ofsted gave the service an overall rating of 'Good' with some outstanding features

- Helping children to be healthy good
- Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do outstanding
- Helping children make a positive contribution outstanding
- Achieving Economic Wellbeing outstanding
- Organisation good
- Promoting Equality and Diversity outstanding

There were 2 recommendations:

- Ensure that foster carers are trained in health, first aid and administration of medication, they keep a written record of medication, first aid and treatment given to children during placement (NMS6). The service has revamped and increased the level of training offered re: health and first aid. First Aid has become a core training requirement for carers. On-line First Aid training is now provided.
- Ensure foster carers implement a proportionate approach to any risk assessment and Safe Care Practice Act (N.M.S.4).
- Safe Care Plans have been reviewed to ensure they are specific to a child in placement.
- Risk and Assurance Services Audit 2011

This audit highlighted 100% compliance in several areas:

- CRB
- Health checks
- Approval of carers by Head of Service
- Checks with Local Authorities
- Evidence of carers Skills Levels payments

Areas for Improvement:

- Guidance on ex-partner references
- Evidence of ID checks to be retained
- Payment of carers not up to date on Care First, resulting in over payments missed payments

All the above areas have been/or are regularly reviewed. The new structure with one manager will improve consistency of practice re, references, ID etc.

Payments to carers is regularly reviewed by S.L.T., Finance and all Children's Teams are working to improve payment to carers.

- Training and Development of Carers
- Every year the service run over 50 training events for foster carers, each course has 20 -25 places available for carers, and an addition 2 places are available on every course for social workers/other professionals.
- On approval every fostering households starts to work towards completion of the CWDC training, support and development standards, they have one year in which to complete them. Completion of these standards and attendance at training is linked to the payment for skills scheme at level 1.
- Core Training is run 3 times per year and carers can complete these courses via a distance learning option which is available via hard copy or electronically. Courses in the core suite are Child Protection Safeguarding, Attachments, Equality and Diversity, Making Placements Work and Basic First Aid. All courses in the core suite have a distance learning option available apart from the basic first aid which has an online option.
- Continual Professional Development training sits alongside the core training provision and
 offers more specialised training, foster carers select to attend courses that are relevant to
 the type of fostering provision they offer. Courses include Managing Challenging
 Behaviours Positively, Caring for Teenagers, Working Positively with Birth Families,
 Preparing for Permanency, Recording Skills, Allegations training, Self Harm, Internet
 Security and Safety, Cannabis and Alcohol training, Working with School, Promoting
 Healthy Lifestyles, Awareness of Domestic Abuse and its impact on children etc.
- Kinship carers are invited to all training and have an additional course specifically for them called Kinship Carers Training.
- A specific course is run for Male carers called Men in Foster Care and we are developing a stage 2 of this course.
- The children in care council are involved in the planning of many of the training courses on offer to carers and we are working to include the children in care council in more of our training, specifically the core training.
- All of our training is linked to the Fostering Services National Minimum Standards 2011 and the Every Child Matters Outcomes. We have also linked training to the CWDC training, support and development standards and the QCF diploma for the children and young people's workforce.
- The QCF centre has received positive inspection reports for the last 8 years; the centre is considered a Centre of Excellence by the awarding body City and Guilds.

The Warwickshire Foster Carer Training Programme offers development opportunities to all foster carers. Foster carers have a key role in the life of children and young people and our aim is to provide them with professional training and development opportunities to support them with the children and young people they look after.

The Qualification Credit Framework (QCF) Diploma for the Children and Young Peoples Workforce is aimed at those people already working in the Children and Young People sector which includes Foster Carers. The intention is to make both the system and the qualifications offered far more relevant to the needs of employers and more flexible and accessible for learners. Completion of the QCF Diploma or the Warwickshire Modules is linked to the payment for skills scheme at level 2.

Benefits of the QCF Diploma to foster carers: Professional Qualification with further opportunities, Self Esteem and self confidence are boosted, Skills & Abilities recognised formally, better understanding of Partnership working. An assessor working with the carer for many months aids reflection gives support to learning and encourages participation in continual professional development activities.

Benefits of the QCF Diploma to the department: Clear Career Structure for Foster Carers, Professionally qualified workforce, Confident and happy carers mean happier children & YP,

Carers working towards educational achievements are more likely to assist the children and young people in their care with their education, A qualification is proof that someone has the right skills to do their job well, a key benefit we have noted is that there is evidence of more placement stability. We believe this is due to foster carers receiving regular support from their assessor, giving them opportunity to discuss issues and move forward.

We have 4 intakes a year and currently have 24 QCF learners working towards their diplomas and 1 carer has just completed, we have experienced no drop out from Warwickshire learners. QCF replaced NVQ and we were successful in helping over 150 foster carers to achieve their NVQ, 86 of these are still fostering actively for Warwickshire and 36 carers are from other fostering agencies.

Working in partnership with foster carers households

The Registered Manager meets with the Warwickshire Foster Care Group 5 times a year. This enables the Manager to consult with the group re: ongoing developments. The newsletter also enables feedback from carers.

The service consults annually with all foster carers via a questionnaire (which is sent out to carers in September/October) Examples of developments from the responses include extra supervision and support for new foster carers, A planned review of carer finance with under fours.

- > New developments in the service include
- The service has developed a DVD to assist unaccompanied asylum seekers to understand living in a foster family and for foster carers to begin to understand the additional needs of caring for an unaccompanied minor from another country.
- Cares having access to We Learn to enable confidential e mailing
- On Line First Aid training

5. Service Priorities for April 2011 - March 2012

The service has seen a lot of changes over the previous 12 months, via the introduction of new Fostering Minimum Standards and the re-configuration of the structure and the service. All of these changes need to settle in.

Priorities for 2012-13:

- To Increase the number of foster placements available via:
 - Streamlining the front end of the recruitment service. Increase numbers of groups, provide weekend preparation groups, directly book in home visits to potential carers if the initial telephone contact is positive.
 - Review and update recruitment material. Expand recruitment via websites, blogs, Google etc.
 - Increase the number of assessments completed within 6 months to 90% of assessments. Current N.M.S. is 8 months involvement in sub-regional working.
 - The Framework Agreement ends in 2013. The Service with M.A.C. need to review and secure a position within the consortium which provides local placements at a competitive price.
 - Children's Teams need to amend their practice and consider some external placements. There are at least 3 providers in the current Framework that offer a competitive price similar to the in-house costs. If the placement is local, it should be considered as it may be a more appropriate match.
- Review and improve processes to provide more permanent foster placements. Not all
 children/young people can return home or be adopted. Permanent care that has been well
 matched with a young person's needs is a positive alternative. It often ensures, a young
 person can remain in their local area and maintain contact with families.

- Recruit using individual adverts and profiles of young people. Dev carers not being entered into the Duty database.
- · Parent and Baby placements
 - This has remained a difficult service to recruit new carers into. Placement requests are varied, from caring for a young parent and her baby and providing support and guidance. Through a parent or parents to ascertain whether they are able to safeguard their baby and meet his/her needs. The service needs to consider involving other services and professionals to support carers e.g. working with Family Centres, training Social Care Workers re: enhancing parenting skills.
 - Finance for these placements needs to be reviewed.
- Work to decrease the number of children with 3 or more moves. Warwickshire have not over the last year been able to reduce these moves. Matching placements and lack of carers are only part of this problem. Support to carers from a range of services has to be considered.
- In conjunction with Adoption Services develop a concurrent placement pilot, which could enable carers to be approved as both adopters and foster carers with a view to placing earlier with adopters. A workshop for professionals to be arranged.
- To complete the review of foster carer payments and
 - To include Skills Levels 1 and 2.
 - To consider a payment scheme for solo placements
 - To review Long Term Savings
- To continue to learn from complaints/cause for concerns/carer evaluations.

5 TEAM PLAN

Additional Targets 2012-13 (optional)

Here, add details of any new targets/objectives that were not part of the original 2011-14 plan. Please state what needs to be done, and why the new objective/target has been set.

Objective/Target	Timescales	Action to be taken	Reason for Adding New Objective/Target
Review processes, timescales and preparation group material for potential fostering applicants	6 months	Produce Focus on Fostering Preparation material. Induct fostering staff on the new materials.	WCC is no longer a member of Fostering Network and therefore needed to produce own materials. Increase flexibility into the preparation groups and speed up the process.
Increase the number of Fostering applications by 10%	12 months	Increase advertising opportunities, re internet, Google etc. Redesign adverts for Teenage fostering. Review all current recruitment avenues	Increased need for local foster placements, due to the increase in looked after children figures. Increased use of IFAs
Improve level of support to all Foster Carers	12 months	SCW to be trained in Triple P parenting. Increase level of supervision to newly approved foster carers. SW to visit in first week of a placement.	Number of Placement moves for LA children. In response to feedback from Foster Carers.
Review paperwork and procedures for the kinship practice	12 months	Receive feedback from legal, children's teams, kinship team and carers	New paperwork recently implemented.

Involvement in sub regional work to ensure greater range of local placements	12 months	Work with MAC, fostering and the consortium to review future commissioning opportunities	WCC reviewing all services for quality and value for money. Framework due to end in 2013
Review Foster carer financial systems	12 months	To review feasibility of deducting long term savings at resource. Amend skill level payments.	To incorporate CWDC standards. To reduce the number of complaints re lack of Long term savings. To increase carers attendance at training courses
To review Parent and Baby placements, permanency placements and solo placements	12 months	Working groups to review current arrangements, payment and support. Re commendations to SLT	Increase in number of referrals for all 3 placement categories. To reduce the need for placement moves.
To explore the development of concurrent placements	12 months	Joint workshop with Fostering, Adoption, Panels and Children's Teams	New statutory guidance and regulations.
Confirm funding for Family Link service	12 months	Joint work with IDS to explore options re-funding and support to Family Link carers	Current Funding stream ends in March 2013

Warwickshire Fostering Services Lesley Malley Operationa Manager Fostering Tracy Avil South Fostering Practice Leader (Permanency) Jackie Garrison Foster Care Development Officer Janice Crookes North Fostering Practice Leader (Duty) Yvonne Brown North Fostering Practice Leader (Duty) David Price South Fostering Practice Leader (Permanency) Sybil Mlambo Kinship Team Practice Leader Dawn Jeffs Central Fostering Recruitment & Training Practice Leader Susan Eden Team Administrator Fostering Bob Clark Social Worker Family Link Annette Easto Admin Duty North NVQ Centre Charlotte Ward Social Worker Marie-Anne Bowell Social Worker Lynda Buckley Social Worker Becky Eden Social Worker Jim McGeoghegan Social Worker Recrutment & Training Gail Zur Admin North Philomena Dicksor Social Worker Jane Beck Social Worker Gary Smith Social Worker Sue Barlow Social Worker Joy Tuffen NVQ Internal Verification Manager Vacancy Admin North Fiona Bates Social Worker Kathy Louis Social Worker Clare Bradley Social Worker Debbie Clarke Admin South Sally Anne Crompto Social Woker NVQ Assessors Diane Plimbley Social Care Worker Sarah Carson Social Worker Victoria Putt Social Worker Karen McKay Social care Worker Lynn Secret Social Care Worker Amanda Trodd Admin Kinship Kelly Somers Social Care Worker Margery Blower Social Care Worker Sally-Anne Smith Social Care Worker Jen Brennan Admin Central & Family LInk Vacancy Social care Worker

Item 3

Action Plans relating Looked After, Fostering and Adoption Services – Updated November 2012

Plan	Action	Activities/Outcomes	Timescale	Comments
Safeguarding Business Unit Plan 2012-2014	Safely Reduce the number of LAC	Evidenced based programmes commissioned Revision of the role of Children's Panels Use of Going Home toolkit	December 2012	Referred to as the 'Dartington' Project. This includes a 'Matching Needs and Services' exercise
Adoption Services Action Plan 20-12-2013	To continue to recruit adopters for those children deemed harder to place i.e. older children, sibling groups and children with disabilities.	Increase in the number of adoption placements made in timely manner	March 2013	Also in the Placement Commissioning Strategy for LAC 2011-2013 (Sufficiency Duty)
	To continue to facilitate and increase the amount of workshops/training available for approved adopters.	Adopters Training programme in place	March 2013	
	To review the Preparation Groups in line with the Guidance issued by the Department of Education, to ensure that adopters are fully prepared for adoption.	Practice complies with revised national Guidance	March 2013	
	To respond to and implement changes required arising the Adoption Action Plan.	Service complies with national regulatory requirements	Ongoing	
	To develop a support groups for adopters in the 'north' of the County.	All adopters have access to support group	March 2013	
	To work with Fostering Services in the development on concurrent planning scheme, whereby young babies are placed with foster carers who are then in a position to adopt them should this be the plan.	Reduce placement delays and improve adoption performance timescale	March 2013	

Plan	Action	Activities/Outcomes	Timescale	Comments
Fostering Services Action Plan 2012-2013	To increase the number of foster placements available by (i) streamlining the front end of the fostering recruitment processes (ii) increasing the numbers of preparation groups, (including weekend groups) (iii) directly booking in home visits to potential carers if the initial telephone contact is positive thereby reducing delay by not waiting for them to return a reply slip.	Improve fostering preparation and assessment performance Reduce reliance on IFA placements	October 2012	
	Reviewing and updating the fostering recruitment material and expanding recruitment opportunities via websites, blogs, Google etc.	Increase the number of fostering enquiries using new technologies		
	Increasing the number of assessments completed within 6 months to 90% of assessments. (Current N.M.S. is 8 months).	Improve the number and range of internal fostering placements		
	The Framework Agreement ends in 2013. The Service with M.A.C. needs to review and secure a position within the Consortium which provides local placements at a competitive price.	To reduce the unit cost of external fostering provision – to ensure that such arrangements do not adversely impact upon the internal provision		

Plan	Action	Activities/Outcomes	Timescale	Comments
Fostering Services Action Plan 2012-2013 (continued)	tion Plan 2012-2013 to provide more permanent foster stability for looked after			Also in the Placement Commissioning Strategy for LAC 2011-2013 (Sufficiency Duty)
	To complete the review of foster carer Payments for Skills scheme to include the criteria for Skills Levels 1 and 2, consider payment arrangements for solo placements and to address the issue of long term savings.	To ensure that the scheme complies with new QFC requirements Increase placement options for young people with complex needs Streamline arrangements and ensure consistency regarding long term savings	November 2012 March 2013 January 2013	Also in the Placement Commissioning Strategy for LAC 2011-2013 (Sufficiency Duty)
	To decrease the number of children who experience 3 or more placement moves.	To enhance placement stability for LAC and bring performance in line with national average	March 2013	
	To recruit 30 fostering households over each 12 month period and complete 90% of the assessments within 6 months of application.	Increase placement choice, placement stability and reduce costs	March 2013	

Plan	Action	Activities/Outcomes	Timescale	Comments
Placement Commissioning Strategy for LAC	To review our current Kinship Strategy and support services, in line with new regulations and best practice.	Dedicated Kinship Care service established Increase in kinship placements	January 2012	Kinship Service set up
2011-2013 (Sufficiency Duty)	To explore opportunities with Coventry City Council to make the optimum of use of resources in recruiting, supporting and training adopters	To increase efficiency Increase placement choice	Ongoing	
	To develop a protocol with health for accessing CAMHS services for children and young people placed out of county.	To increase placement stability and outcomes for LAC	January 2013	
	To explore the feasibility of having a Framework Agreement for residential care and educational placements required	To ensure quality and best value in negotiating placements	July 2012	
	To develop further supported hostel accommodation for care leavers as placements within any extended family	To ensure living arrangements meet with statutory requirements	April 2013	
	arrangement appears unlikely for a significant number of young people known to Children's Services.	Enhance support and improve outcomes for care leavers		
	To develop and implement a strategy with housing providers and Supporting People to provide an equitable range of housing options for vulnerable young people.	To ensure living arrangements meet with statutory requirements Increase placement choice	April 2013	
		Enhance support and improve outcomes for care leavers		
	To develop and implement supported lodgings arrangements for care leavers.	To increase supported placement options	July 2012	

County Get Ready for Adult Life (Leaving Care) Service Action Plan (2012-13)

Item 4

	Service provement:	On-going/Outstanding Actions	Progress:	Completion:
•	WCC policy	Review County Strategy document and all procedures (see page 5)	On-going	March 2013
<u> </u>	and	Involve y/p, practitioners, managers and IROs to maximise ownership	On-going	March 2013
	procedures.	Improve consistency across county, particularly develop links with IROs due to scrutiny function	On-going	On-going
10/12)	Improve	Central dispersal of focused information to teams	Sustained	On-going
10	Improve	Sustain improved attendance at GRfAL Multi-agency Strategic Management Group	On-going	March 2013
ð	communicati	Sustain improved attendance at GRfAL & PA service Practice Leaders Group	On-going	March 2013
	on within the	Continue to contribute to Corporate Parenting Group	Established	On-going
(as	county	Develop County Wide Resource to improve staff performance	Established	On-going
453		Monthly supervision with Calvin Smith	Established	On-going
4		Reporting to SLT / OM meetings for consistency	On-going	March 2013
gy Total	Matrix	Offer 3 monthly Meeting for OM/PL & team in each locality.	To Progress	On-going
ĕ₽	Management	Receive appraisals to audit training needs of LC staff for SDAG.	To Progress	July 2013
. . .	· ·	Reviewing Financial Policy with managers across county (LTS/Independence/EET incentives)	On-going	On-going
tra S		Raise profile of LAC and care leavers, locally and nationally.	On-going	On-going
ເນ ≥	Promote Corporate	Attend Childrens Trust Boards, Forums with managers within People Group (LD, PD/MH)	On-going	On-going
e e		Develop links with other Groups and promote their corporate parenting opportunities	On-going	On-going
Communication Strategy Relevants; 280 care leavers: To	Parenting	Promote Care Leavers Charter; Data set and NCAS Access all Areas	3 3	3 3
<u>8</u>		Maximise participation through Forum/CICC, Inc surveys; consultation on strategy/ reports	Established	On-going
E O	Douticipation	Raise Participation within teams/support work and support 3 monthly practitioners meeting	Established	Tri-monthly
₽ 28 13	Participation	Participation is standard item on GRfAL Strategy group	Established	Bi-Monthly
S;	of Young	Encourage y/p to attend relevant conferences (le NIACE)	Established	On-going
ပို့ Ë	People in Strategic	County Wide Participation: attend county wide practitioners meeting; virtual member of management	Established	On-going
S	Development	forum; regular input into consultation hub; compile annual report of effectiveness of actions		
<u>0</u>	Development	Complaints/Advocacy so learning is incorporated into service development	In progress	In progress
8		Contribute to SIGMA (task and finish group due) & Particiapation of y/p in their reviews.	Awaiting	March 2013
26	Within WCC	Engage with Supporting People; Business Intelligence; Commissioning; JNSA; Transitions with adult	Developing	March 2013
1.6	WILLIEF WOO	provision (ld; pd; mh; IDS) RE: needs of care leavers and collaborative working.		
AC	Within	Develop links/partnerships/new partnerships with 3 rd sector organisations: accommodation providers;	Developing	March 2013
	Warwickshire	WAYC; EOS; Tiffin Club; Sport England, District Councils; JobCentres; Training Providors. RE: needs		
47	vvaiwicksiille	of care leavers and collaborative working., including supplementary funding.		
<u> </u>	National	Engage with West Midlands Leaving Care Management meeting (Benchmarking Forum)	Established	On-going
	Agenda	Improve engagement in research/forums/web-based surveys	On-going	On-going
	Agenda	Attend National conferences to improve own performance and service quality	On-going	On-going

	Service Improvement:	On-going/Outstanding Actions	Progress:	Completion:
	Improve monitoring	Improve current data collection (Care First) – audited allocations & workloads within teams. Scrutinise 'Relevants' across county, only a high level in Rugby remaining Improve range of data re outcomes (Care First) – EET, PA relationships	Completed IRO progressing In progress	Completed March 2013 March 2013
Monitoring Service Provision through Outcomes	Improve outcomes for LAC/CLs (Longitudinally & Nationally).	Targeted approach: Initially prioritise EET, sexual health, PAs, accommodation LAC Information Playing Cards for young people (over 13 years) and monitor usage Improve Pathway Planning/training/guidance, county workshop, and reviewed. Improve Promoting EET - new pathway plans/guidance; county workshop, and reviewed. Improved Health – new pathway plans/guidance; improve attendance at Assessments; Guidance Improved Sexual Health & relationships: Improved Identity needs being met – within Pathway Planning & promote support re specific needs Including collation of 'soft' data collated re Safer Sex, STIs, and parenting outcomes (6 monthly); Improved staff support: training, resources, "sexperts" (SH&EWB Implementation Group) & staff survey Improved knowledge of Benefits, welfare changes and work with others to promote care leavers Improve Transitions – more effective links with IDS; LD; PD and MH re FACS/CHC Improve procedural overlap with UASC Team – monitor specific issues re health; missing/discharge. Missing from Care – improved data entry and identify themes related to placement/accommodation Sustain EDT input as corporate parents – include planned work Continue to learn from other authorities who statistically perform higher (le Incentives for EET) Continue to undertake case file audits, focus on participation, identity, EET, accommodation, planning. Improve Quality Assurance framework, including young people as inspectors Improved Qualitative component of Independent annual audit (Improvement in all areas for GRfAL teams: 100% completed Pathway Plans within 3 months and reviewed 6 monthly; 100% financial planning/EET input prior to 18; Only deterioration in service is 4% decrease in individual work by PAs – monitored through contract.	Completed Completed Completed In progress On-going On-going On-going On-going In progress In progress Completed In progress Completed To Do Completed	Completed On-going Completed March 2013 March 2013 On-going On-going On-going March 2013 On-going In Review On-going To do Completed March 2013 Completed
Mo	Improve outcomes with Personal Advisor (PA) Service	Reviewed Contract for PA Service, particularly performance monitoring (quantitative /qualitative) Improve provision from 70% compliance to 100% Reviewed PA procedure, including provision within teams and developing other opportunities to promote young people choosing connected people N.B future NI at 19;20;21 years.	Completed Action Audit	Dec 2012 Dec 2012 March 2013
	Other Partnerships:	Develop input from other sources, le Targetted Youth Support; WAYC; Sport England (re activities for y/p). Explore further collaborative opportunities and sub-regional working	In progress	March 2013

Servic	ce Improvement:	On-going/Outstanding Actions	Progress:	Completion:
	Improve review /	Improve guidance re: stability; wishes, suitability, independence skills; risks and contingency	Completed	On-going
care leavers 89% rrage 64%	forward planning	Statutory visits forms for more effective placement monitoring	Completed	Completed
leave 64%	around	Case File audits within Teams re planning ahead	Completed	Completed
<u>8</u> 8	placements.	Awaiting Observatory's' Analysis of placements by locality/need.	In progress	In progress
and care is 89% Average	ріасеттеті.	Improve transitional planning for 16+ LAC out of county re continuity / support networks		
- (1)		Improve recruitment of placements for teenagers	In progress	In progress
LAC and verage is 48%; Ave		Improving Specialised support/securing permanency placements for teenagers	In progress	In progress
) S 9 () () () () () ()	On-going work with	Improved Matching (including continuity)	In progress	In progress
LAC average 48%;	fostering to	Increased support / monitoring of successful outcomes for the y/p and carers	In progress	In progress
Pr L	promote stability	Increase learning from Disruptions to identify learning / actions.	In progress	In progress
duty for 92.%; Av y: WCC	within regulated	Develop policy on care leavers with child in placement	In progress	In progress
Lty	placements.	Improved availability of emergency placement or respite options.	In progress	In progress
		Improved support for out of county placements within IPA, and return planning.	In progress	In progress
Si be		Support foster care training for Independence	In progress	In progress
sufficiency du 147: WCC 92 18th birthday:	Improve	Monitor Housing Protocol - increase in 16/17 yrs entering care?	Currently stable	?
suffi 1147: 18 th 1	partnership with	Hugh Gasker (SP) completing Needs Review – input re quality / cost-effectiveness.	Waiting.	Re-prioritised by SP.
	Supporting People:	Financial information about provision through SP	Oct 2012.	March 2013
our N N	Supporting reopie.	Convened meeting with Teams to review current provision and outstanding issues/services	Completed	Completed
meet o currently er Care t	Improved access to accommodation.	Supported Lodgings Procedure launched and Monthly approval panel	Completed	Completed
meet irrently r Care		8 secured; 4 in progress; awaiting 2 further.	Completed	Completed
Cur Ster		Stratford & NW are advertising locally for un-connected people	Completed	Completed
) : C		Advert circulated in all possible people within council.	In progress	On-going
<u>.</u>		Currently working with Providers	In progress	On-going
lat abi		(Mayday (in Warwick); Key2, Key Connexions; Leaving Care Company re further provision.		
	Improved access to	Liaise with MAC to consider joining Regional / C&W Supported Lodgings Framework	Completed	Completed
Accommodation to r Suitability : Cur Remaining in Foster	other unregulated	Liaise with the District councils, WCC Housing Strategic Implementation Group; contributing		
= =	housing options -	to the Development Plans and Equality Impact Reports & Strategic Commissioning (Care		
8 2	110doing options	and Choice Accommodation)	In progress	March 2013
۱		Planned meeting with MAC when needs assessment completed.	TBA	March 2013
_		Become more involved with Homelessness Strategy within council/region	TBA	March 2013

Servi	ice Improvement:	Ongoing/Outstanding Actions	Progress:	Completion:
	Work alongside	Care2Work Mark achieved and action plan progressing across county	Succeeded	On-going
	Virtual School (VS)	Meet with Virtual Head half-termly to resolve issues arising	Established	On-going
<u></u>	to monitor and	Contribute to Virtual School Steering Group.	Established.	On-going
3%	improve attainment	Data collection completed jointly, reported by Virtual Head	Established	On-going
34% is 43%)	and positive	Annual Workshop with Virtual School and all GRfAL re EET	Completed	Completed
	destinations	Actively engaged in development of Raising the Participation Age agenda within county	In progress	On-going
		PEP incorporated into Pathway Plan post-compulsory school age.	Completed	Completed
raining: Average populatio		Improved policy & guidance and support re EET for staff	Established	Established
in /er /pu		Financial guidance - post 21 for county consistency	In progress	March 2013
	Improve	Joint meeting with GRfAL, Virtual School, local FE & HE providers.	Established	Established
ind T 36%; neral	effectiveness of	Promote Tiffin Club within Teams / complete agreed actions	Established	On-going
and 36%	policy and	Promote work placements for care leavers within county council	Completed	Completed
g C g	procedures	Contribute to Regional Learners Progression Group,	Sustained	On-going
nent and T WCC 36%; %; (general		Meet with Warwick & Cov Uni re promoting to care leavers.	Completed	Completed
		Improve attendance at Higher Education and provide £1000/year bursary	Completed	On-going
oloy 1148 e is		Support Employability Officers (DWP/ESF Troubled Families Initiative)	In progress	On-going
currently NI17%; Average	Develop	Contribute to regional NEETS /RPA Strategy, (Stephen Height, Saltisford)	In progress	Dec 2012
C =	opportunities with	Promote and Develop links with CSWP	In progress	March 2013
on Fe	EET	Develop small grants from Tiffin Club (with CICC involvement)	Promotion	March 2013
ati Sul %;		Develop employability opportunities	In progress	March 2013
U		Promote post 21 support: including signposting & financial policy.	In progress	Dec 2012
Edu ot in EET : WCC =		Promote leisure activities within Pathway Planning Process	Completed	Completed
— —		Develop independent group work opportunities and peer support	Ongoing	Ongoing
. t V		WAYC – Movin' Project started in Jan 2012 – successfully reached 45 care leavers in		
Not ::	Other meaningful	WCC/CCC	In progress	Ongoing
	activities.	Develop peer mentoring opportunities	In progress	Ongoing
_		Playing Cards completed with opportunities / active citizenship.	Completed	On-going
		CICC – support development and training alongside opportunities	In progress	On-going
		Sport England/Olympic Legacy opportunities sub-regional	In progress	On-going



Summary of Review of Procedures



Dated Nov 2012

Completed:

• CO3 returns document May 2012 Applying for National Insurance Number (LAC) May 2012 • Information Cards for LAC (13 -18 years) distributed to teams Sept 2012

 Audit Standards July 2012

• Promoting Education, Employment and Training – incorporates NI information July 2012; Updated in Nov 2012

• Pathway Planning procedure & documents Nov 2012 Oct 2012

External website updated with Pathway Planning Doc s

In Progress:

 Personal Advisor Service (alongside contract management of Barnardos) In Consultation from September 2012

David DeMay completing draft - Jan 2103 IDS Protocol

 Policy re LAC in foster care who are parents To progress with fostering

 Sexual Health policy for LAC Brenda Vincent progressing

 Corporate Parenting policy Brenda Vincent progressing

Plans:

GRfAL Strategy

• Financial Policy (draft young person's guide, further work required) Awaiting LTS – BV progressing

• Definitions & Entitlements (to be made more accessible/comprehensive)

Inter-authority Protocol

Review of Supported Lodgings Procedure

• Quality Assurance, including OC3, audit; & closure letters /information etc

 Promoting Health and Wellbeing, incorporating Self-Harm Protocol End of March 2013

Overview of all Transitions Information

Regular Annual Reviews on all procedures to ensure current.

December 2012

End of Jan 2013 End of Jan 2013 End of March 2013 End of March 2013

Person now appointed re strategic lead.





Charter for Care Leavers

A Charter is a set of principles and promises. This Charter sets out promises care leavers want the Central and Local Government to make. Promises and Principles help in decision making and do not replace laws; they give guidance to show how laws are designed to be interpreted.

The key principles in this Charter will remain constant through any changes in Legislation, Regulation and Guidance. Care leavers urge Local Authorities to use these principles when they make decisions about young people's lives. The Charter for Care Leavers is designed to raise expectation, aspiration and understanding of what care leavers need and what Government and Local Authorities should do to be good Corporate Parents.

We Promise:

To respect and honour your identity

We will support you to discover and to be who you are and honour your unique identity. We will help you develop your own personal beliefs and values and accept your culture and heritage. We will celebrate your identity as an individual, as a member of identity groups and as a valued member of your community. We will value and support important relationships, and help you manage changing relationships or come to terms with loss, trauma or other significant life events. We will support you to express your identity positively to others.

To believe in you

• We will value your strengths, gifts and talents and encourage your aspirations. We will hold a belief in your potential and a vision for your future even if you have lost sight of these yourself. We will help you push aside limiting barriers and encourage and support you to pursue your goals in whatever ways we can. We will believe in you, celebrate you and affirm you.

To listen to you

We will take time to listen to you, respect, and strive to understand your point of view. We will place your needs, thoughts and feelings at the heart of all decisions about you, negotiate with you, and show how we have taken these into account. If we don't agree with you we will fully explain why. We will provide easy access to complaint and appeals processes and promote and encourage access to independent advocacy whenever you need it.

To inform you

• We will give you information that you need at every point in your journey, from care to adulthood, presented in a way that you want including information on legal entitlements and the service you can expect to receive from us at different stages in the journey. We will keep information up to date and accurate. We will ensure you know where to get current information once you are no longer in regular touch with leaving care services. We will make it clear to you what information about yourself and your time in care you are entitled to see. We will support you to access this when you want it, to manage any feelings that you might have about the information, and to put on record any disagreement with factual content.

To support you

• We will provide any support set out in current Regulations and Guidance and will not unreasonably withhold advice when you are no longer legally entitled to this service. As well as information, advice, practical and financial help we will provide emotional support. We will make sure you do not have to fight for support you are entitled to and we will fight for you if other agencies let you down. We will not punish you if you change your mind about what you want to do. We will continue to care about you even when we are no longer caring for you. We will make it our responsibility to understand your needs. If we can't meet those needs we will try and help you find a service that can. We will help you learn from your mistakes; we will not judge you and we will be here for you no matter how many times you come back for support.

To find you a home

• We will work alongside you to prepare you for your move into independent living only when you are ready. We will help you think about the choices available and to find accommodation that is right for you. We will do everything we can to ensure you are happy and feel safe when you move to independent living. We recognise that at different times you may need to take a step back and start over again. We will do our best to support you until you are settled in your independent life; we will not judge you for your mistakes or refuse to advise you because you did not listen to us before. We will work proactively with other agencies to help you sustain your home.

To be a lifelong champion

• We will do our best to help you break down barriers encountered dealing with other agencies. We will work together with the services you need, including housing, benefits, colleges & universities, employment providers and health services to help you establish yourself as an independent individual. We will treat you with courtesy and humanity whatever your age when you return to us for advice or support. We will help you to be the driver of your life and not the passenger. We will point you in a positive direction and journey alongside you at your pace. We will trust and respect you. We will not forget about you. We will remain your supporters in whatever way we can, even when our formal relationship with you has ended.

GET READY FOR

Guidance: What needs to be considered during pathway planning

This should build upon any previous plan, including their Care Plan or Pathway Plan. It is very important to focus on the positives as well as where there are difficulties.

NB this includes guidance in Leaving Care Act, LAC Reviews, Transitions Guidance & Care Planning Regs
If an UASC then consider triple planning, including voluntary returns.

Consider the information within their PEP completed until they are of statutory school age, and any other information available. (This plan should incorporate the PEP/PEET if not completed)

What do they enjoy or are good at?

What did they achieve at school – think broadly, socially, educationally, other....

What did/do they like and dislike? How could these be developed more?

What activities or routines do they do now? What motivates them?

Are they currently studying, working, and volunteering (full or part time)?

If so, what support is currently being provided? How attends parent evenings, supports

homework? Is it sufficient? Could the virtual school assist?

What experience and skills do they have? How can they get more?

What qualifications, training or relevant experience do they have?

What are their future goals? How can we develop this further, into an occupation?

What might be the obstacles in achieving this? How may they be overcome?

What do they need to achieve these goals and who have they spoken to about them?

What other training or employment is needed now or in the future?

Have they got an up to date CV, confidence in searching for jobs/education; interview skills?

Do they understand NI, Income Tax and other employment rights/responsibilities?

Who can help them to achieve their goals and ambitions?

What can we do to help this happen? Include the GRPAT Group.

What do they do when things don't go as well as expected? What might help to get back on track? What are their continuing needs for education/employment/training?

Include information from the recent Health Assessment and other available info. This must consider their physical, emotional and mental health.

Have they been informed about their right to meet with a specialist Looked After Doctor or Nurse to talk through their health, including health prevention, and to ensure support is provided?

If they refuse, what might encourage their participation? Talk to the HELAC nurse.

Are they registered with a GP/dentist and optician? Do they know where to find them and how to make an appointment? Do they have specialist services or know how get such support if needed? Are they, or anyone else, concerned about:

Their general health, e.g. eyesight/hearing; dental health, immunisations, eating habits; sleeping patterns, leisure activities, accidents, illnesses....

Any family health issues or difficulties, now or in the past?

Their diet /eating and the importance of exercise to stay healthy?

Their relationships with other people, and what would help?

Their ability to keep safe? Including any bullying or harm they are exposed to? Include social networks? Include any running away or missing from placement etc.

Their behaviour or emotional wellbeing (I.e. sadness / anger / anxiety / tiredness, lack of motivation / concentration / loneliness / changes in behaviour / feeling out of control)?

Their use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs/substances, gambling, gaming etc.?

Their sexual health and well-being (contraception, sexually transmitted infections, feeling pressurised by others, views about becoming a parent?)? Include the *GRPAT* Group.

Their access to sexual health information and local clinics?

Their identity (It must consider their Disability; Religion; Race; Linguistic Background &Culture; It should also consider any other identity needs, I.e. gender, sexuality, mental health)? Anything else?

If so, what support has been provided and what else might help?

What do they want to happen, who may support them in achieving this?

Can we make any referrals to support them more? Include contact full details of possible support? If the young person does become concerned about anything, who do they think they can talk to? What other support is available, i.e. confidential support; include these in their plan.

FAMILY & FRIENDS?

WHERE THEY LIVE: (inc Independence skills)?

VANCES

BEING INVOLVED?

Who are the most important people in their life; consider parents, siblings, wider family, friendships, previous carers, professionals? Consider current and historically.

How often do they have contact with these significant people?

Is there any consideration about living with family members or supported lodgings within network?

What are the parents'/carer's views? How have we taken these people's views into account?

What do they enjoy doing with these people, would they like to do other things?

How do they get there, are there any difficulties? How can these be sorted?

Is there anyone they would want to see or talk to more? Are there people that they miss?

How can we improve this support network?

Are there any difficulties, including risks, in these relationships or arrangements? What may help?

How can we promote continuity of these positive relationships if planned changes ahead?

Does the support network encourage & enable positive transitions to adulthood, what else is needed?

Do they understand the full range of Leaving Care Support: Allocated worker, Personal Advisors, Virtual School, Advocacy, Independent visitors, Mentors?

Do they know they can contact EDT if there is a crisis out of hours?

Their current arrangements:

How do they feel about their current accommodation?

Is this accommodation suitable and meeting their needs into the future?

Are the relationships positive within this accommodation?

If not, what needs to be done, by whom and by when?

What are the financial arrangements, do they have clear understanding of their budgeting?

What local activities do / could they do? What might help this happen?

Has anything happened in the past, which may reoccur and put their accommodation at risk?

What can we do to reduce this likelihood?

What is the plan if things start to go wrong? Outline the contingency planning.

Do they have the practical and other skills for independent living?

We have a duty to support them to feel fully prepared for living independently. Do they, or anyone else, think that they need more support about independence skills, I.e. Cooking, Budgeting, Washing, Ironing, Cleaning, Personal hygiene, Shopping, Public Transport?

Who will support them to develop this? Include the GRPAT Group.

Their future plans: (Staying Put, Supported Lodgings, Supported Housing, Independent Living, Other.)

Do they want to live with others? Whereabouts?

What are their choices available in the longer term? What do they prefer?

Is this realistic and/or suitable (separate assessment & review to discuss options beforehand)?

What needs to occur for the young person to move onto in their accommodation?

What are their other options if things don't go to plan?

We have a duty to assess their actual and anticipated ability to manage their finances.

Do they have a bank account, and do they feel confident to use it?

Do they, or others, have any concerns about budgeting? What might help?

Do they make good use of their Allowances? If in foster care, is this managed well by the carer?

Do they know what they will receive from the Team, now and in the future

(E.g. allowances, accommodation, incentives, LTS, birthday/Celebration, independence support, ongoing educational support may be available until 24, including university bursary)

Do they understand where else they can receive money, E.g. Employment, Benefits, Bursaries etc.?

Do they understand "saving" for more expensive items? What do they want to use their LTS for?

Do they feel able to ask for additional support? Who can they talk to?

Have they attended their LAC reviews and pathway planning meetings?

How involved do they feel? How can we improve this? What might get in the way?

Do they have any comments, complaints or compliments about the service?

Do they know they can talk to a manager if they are unhappy with the service (or the complaints unit?)

Do they understand their journey into / through care? Their current plan? What might help?

Do they have opportunities to meet with other Looked After people or Care Leavers?

Would they like to be more involved in developing the service?

Do they know about the Children In Care Council/FORUM, and other participation activities?

LAC Data - Notes for all tables on following pages

- 1. Figures for England prior to 2010 include figures for Cheshire and Bedfordshire, however performance in these former LAs are not shown in the tables. In 2009, Cheshire Local Authority split into Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester. Similarly, Bedfordshire LA split into Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire. Figures for Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire only include data for 2010 onwards for all indicators.
- 2. Percentages have been derived from unrounded numerator and denominator figures.
- 3. Percentages have been rounded to whole numbers but where the numerator was five or less or the denominator was 10 or less, they have been suppressed and replaced by a cross (x).
- 4. Symbols used:
 - x Figures not shown in order to protect confidentiality.
 - .. Not applicable, i.e. no children in the cohort.
 - '- Percentages less than 0.5% but greater than 0%
- 5. All tables include a rank to show the local authorities in order of performance (local areas with the best performance are ranked as number one). If a local authority has the same percentage then they will receive the same rank.
- 6. The latest data is from 2012. The data included in the average is from 2010, 2011 and 2012. The next available data will be the 2013 data, available in September 2013.

	Indicator	Numerators and	Notes
		denominators (link to data)	
	•	entage of children looked	d after at 31 March with three or more placements during the year ending 31
	March		
	1	2011 data can be found in table LAA10	 Data for all years are based on the snapshot taken in August 2012. Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term
			placements.
		http://www.education.gov.uk/ rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001026/ index.shtml	3. A child being placed for adoption with their existing foster carer is not included as a change of placement for the purposes of these figures.
		entage of looked after ch	ildren aged under 16 at 31 March who had been looked after continuously for in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption and their
			ment together with their previous placement, last for at least 2 years
		2011 data can be found	1. Data for all 5 years are based on the snapshot taken in August 2012
10	2	in table LAA11	Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term
4		III table LAATT	placements
		http://www.education.gov.uk/	3. The percentage is obtained from X/Y*100 where:
Placements		rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001026/	X = All who have been living in the same placement for at least two years, i.e. at 31
 		index.shtml	March they have been in the same placement continuously for more than 729 days
<u></u>			
Ü			inclusive of 31 March. Children who are placed for adoption at 31 March are now
a			only to be included in the numerator if their previous care placement, plus the
<u></u>			adoptive placement have together lasted more than 729 days. Y = All children aged under 16 on 31 March of the year of measurement who had
			been looked after for 2.5 years or more (i.e. for more than 912 days inclusive of 31
			March) on 31 March of the year of measurement. Exclude children who had been
			looked after at any time during the 2.5 year period under an agreed series of short term-placements.
	The perc	entage of looked after ch	ildren at 31 March placed outside LA boundary and more than 20 miles from
	where th	ey used to live	
	3	2011 data can be found	1. Placement locality denotes whether or not the placement at 31 March is within
	ာ	in table LAA6	the geographical boundary of the responsible local authority.
		http://www.education.gov.uk/	
		rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001026/ index.shtml	

	Indicator	Numerators and denominators (link to data)	Notes
	The perce	ntage of children wh	no ceased to be looked after who were adopted
Adoption	1	Data can be found in table LAE1 http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001084/index.shtml	 Only the last occasion on which a child ceased to be looked after in the year has been counted in the denominator. Figures in the denominator exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements. High percentages represent high performance, but percentages should not reach 100%.
o	The perce guardians		no ceased to be looked after because of a special
Ac	2	Denominators can be found in table LAE1 http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001084/index.shtml	 Only the last occasion on which a child ceased to be looked after in the year has been counted in the denominator. Figures in the denominator exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements. High percentages represent high performance, but percentages should not reach 100%.

Indicator	Numerators and denominators (link to data)	Notes
The propo	ortion of children leaving care over t	he age of 16 who remained looked after until their 18th birthday
1	Data is not currently published	1. Only the last occasion on which a child ceased to be looked after in the year has been counted.
		2. The numerator used in this calculation is all children who ceased to be looked after in the year ending 31 March who were aged 18 or over when they ceased to be looked after.
		3. The denominator used in this calculation is all children who ceased to be looked after in the year ending 31 March who were aged 16 and over when they ceased to be looked after.
		were looked after aged 16 who were not in employment, education
2	2011 data can be found in table LAF1	1. Figures exclude children now aged 19 years who were looked after on 1 April 2008 then aged 16 (and in their 17th year) under an agreed series of short-term placements.
	http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgate way/DB/SFR/s001026/index.shtml	2. Includes children who are not in employment, education or training due to illness or disability.
The propo	ortion of young people aged 19 who	were looked after aged 16 who were in suitable accommodation
3	2012 data can be found in table LAF2	1. Figures exclude children now aged 19 years who were looked after on 1 April 2008 then aged 16 (and in their 17th year) under an agreed series of short-term placements.
The perce		were looked after aged 16 who were in higher education
_	2012 data can be found in Table	Figures exclude children now aged 19 years who were looked after
4	LAF1	on 1 April 2008 then aged 16 (and in their 17th year) under an agreed series of short-term placements.
	http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgate way/DB/SFR/s001026/index.shtml	 Higher education includes all education levels above A level. It has been necessary to suppress other figures whenever it would be possible to calculate the value of a suppressed number by means of simple arithmetic with data from other publications.
	The proportion or training 2 The proportion of training 3	The proportion of children leaving care over to a distribution of the proportion of young people aged 19 who or training 2

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PERFORMANCE TABLES - PLACEMENT 1

The percentage of children looked after at 31 March with three or more placements during the year ending 31 March

Latest data 2012

A low percentage represents high performance

	Indicat for the		•	•		ldren with ng the year		N	umber of l	ooked afte	r children			Number of looked after children with three or more placements during the year			
Rank	ode	for the 3 year average in 2010, 2011 and 2012 (%)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	ENGLAND	11	12	11	11	11	11	59,380	60,910	64,460	65,520	67,050	7,030	6,780	7,320	7,220	7,380
92	937 Warwickshire	12	13	13	12	12	13	485	540	585	640	680	60	70	70	80	85

Source: SSDA903

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PERFORMANCE TABLES - PLACEMENT 2

The percentage of looked after children aged under 16 at 31 March who had been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years who were living in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption and their adoption and their adoptive placement together with their previous placement, last for at least 2 years

Latest data 2012

A high percentage represents high performance

	Indicator val for the 3 ye average in	placem adoption placement	age of look ent for at le on and their ot together last fo	east 2 years adoption	s, or are pland their apprevious p	aced for adoptive	CO		after child for at leas			placeme	Ū	ast 2 years, adoption a	or are pland their actions pland their actions pland	ced for doptive
Rank	인 LA Name 2012 (%)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	ENGLAND	65	66	67	68	68	22,030	21,230	20,770	20,060	20,890	14,320	14,030	13,990	13,680	14,240
5	5 937 Warwickshire	68	69	66	71	70	175	160	175	175	185	120	110	115	125	130

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PERFORMANCE TABLES - PLACEMENT 3

The percentage of looked after children at 31 March placed outside LA boundary and more than 20 miles from where they used to live

Latest data 2012

A **low** percentage represents high performance

	Rank	LA Name	Indicator value for the 3 year average in 2010, 2011 and 2012 (%)	children boundar where t	ge of looke placed out y 20+ mile they used to 2011	side LA s from		r of looked children 2011	after	children boundar	r of looked placed out: y 20+ mile: they used t	side LA s from
		ENGLAND	12	13	12	12	64,460	65,520	67,050	8,270	8,020	8,000
ſ	61	937 Warwickshire	11	12	11	10	585	640	680	70	70	70

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PERFORMANCE TABLES - ADOPTION 1

The percentage of looked after children who ceased to be looked after who were adopted

Latest data 2012

A high percentage represents high performance

		Indicator value for the 3 year	:	•	f looked at d during th	fter childre ie year	n			nildren who fter during)	N	umber of l adopted	ooked afte I during the		
Rank	မှာ O LA Name	average in		2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	ENGLAND	12	13	13	13	11	13	24,490	25,020	25,300	27,080	27,350	3,180	3,330	3,200	3,090	3,450
79	937 Warwickshire	11	9	12	12	10	11	225	230	230	250	295	20	30	30	25	30

Source: SSDA903

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PERFORMANCE TABLES - ADOPTION 2

The percentage of looked after children who ceased to be looked after because of a special guardianship order

Latest data 2012

A high percentage represents high performance

Rank	LA Code	Indicator value for the 3 year average in 2010, 2011 and 2012 (%)	children looked a special g du	age of look who cease after becau guardianshi ring the ye	ed to be use of a p order	ceased t	of childre o be looke ing the yea	d after	children looked a special gi	r of looked who ceased fter becausuardianship ing the yea 2011	d to be se of a o order
	ENGLAND	7	5	7	8	25,300	27,080	27,350	1,290	1,780	2,130
9	937 Warwickshire	5	4	4	7	230	250	295	10	10	20

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PERFORMANCE TABLES - LEAVING CARE 1

The percentage of children leaving care over the age of 16 who remained looked after until their 18th birthday

Latest data 2012

A high percentage represents high performance

				Percentag	e of childre	en leaving						
			Indicator value	care over	the aged o	f 16 who	Number (of children	leaving	Number o	of children	leaving
			for the 3 year	remaine	d looked af	ter until	care ove	er the aged	l of 16	care a	ged 18 or o	over
			average in	th	ne age of 18	8						
	Rank	O LA Name	2010, 2011 and 2012 (%)	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
		ENGLAND	64	62	63	66	9,180	10,000	10,000	5,740	6,280	6,570
1	26	937 Warwickshire	48	36	45	62	85	100	110	30	45	70

Source: SSDA903

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PERFORMANCE TABLES - LEAVING CARE 2

The percentage of young people aged 19 who were looked after aged 16 who were not in education, employment or training

Latest data 2012

A **low** percentage represents high performance

7 20	w a	Indicator value for the 3 year average in 2010, 2011 and 2012 (%)	aged 19 after aged educatio	ge of young who were 16 who we on, employr training 2011	looked ere not in		young peo were looke aged 16 2011		aged 16 education	young peo were looke who were n, employn training 2011	d after not in
	ENGLAND	34	32	33	36	6,200	6,290	6,610	2,010	2,060	2,400
	36 937 Warwickshire	36	41	34	34	40	45	65	15	15	20

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PERFORMANCE TABLES - LEAVING CARE 3

The percentage of young people aged 19 who were looked after aged 16 who were in suitable accommodation

Latest data 2012

A high percentage represents high performance

		Indicator value for the 3 year average in		ge of young who were d 16 who accommo	looked were in	Number of 19 who	young peo were looke aged 16	ople aged	Number of young people aged 19 who were looked after aged 16 who were in suitable accommodation			
700	LA Name	2010, 2011 and 2012 (%)	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	
	ENGLAND	89	90	90	88	6,200	6,290	6,610	5,600	5,650	5,840	
	56 937 Warwickshire	92	90	93	92	40	45	65	35	40	60	

Source: SSDA903

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PERFORMANCE TABLES - LEAVING CARE 4

The percentage of young people aged 19 who were looked after aged 16 who were in higher education

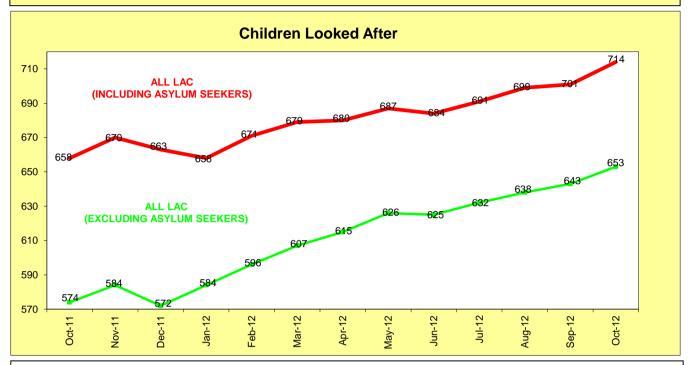
Latest data 2012

A high percentage represents high performance

Rank	LA Code	Indicator value for the 3 year average in 2010, 2011 and 2012 (%)	aged 19 after ago higl	ge of youn; who were ed 16 who her educati	looked were in	Number of 19 who v	young peo were looke aged 16 2011	ople aged	aged 16 v	young peo were looke who were ir education 2011	d after
	ENGLAND	7	7	6	7	6,200	6,290	6,610	460	390	430
39	937 Warwickshire	7	Х	Х	9	40	45	65	Х	Х	5

Warwickshire County Council

CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

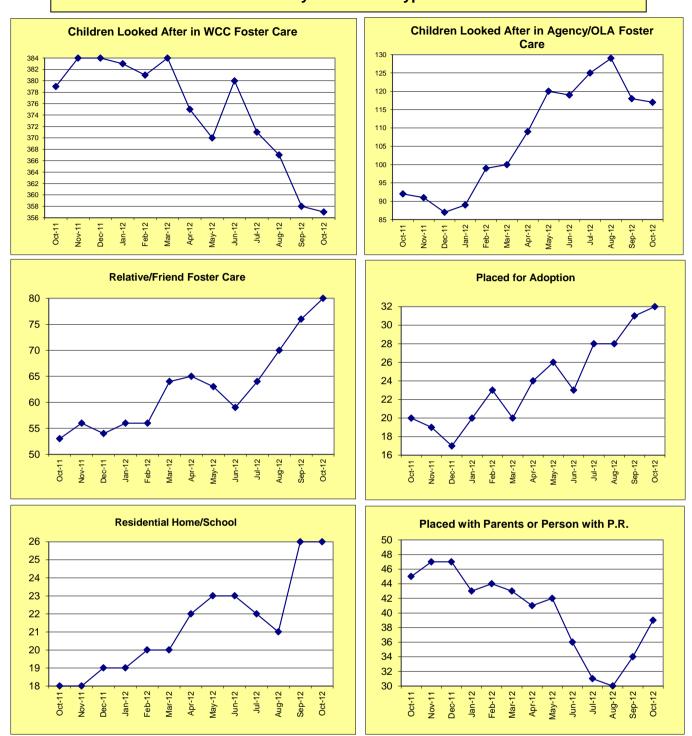


At 31 October 2012, Warwickshire's looked after population increased by 13 to 714 whilst the number of looked after children excluding asylum seekers increased by 10 to 653.

Number of Looked After cases allocated by team

	May-12	Jun-12	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	Oct-12
N. Warks Ch&F Team	72	69	67	64	64	65
North Warwickshire (ALL)	72	69	67	64	64	65
Bedworth Children's Team	144	155	159	158	157	160
Nuneaton Children's Team	65	59	67	69	70	73
Nuneaton & Bedworth (ALL)	209	214	226	227	227	233
Rugby Childrens Services Team	109	107	103	107	111	114
Rugby (ALL)	109	107	103	107	111	114
Stratford District Children's Team	81	80	80	81	80	78
Stratford (ALL)	81	80	80	81	80	78
Warwick District CAT	6	4	5	6	6	6
Kenilworth/Warwick	65	67	67	67	69	69
Leamington Ch&F Team	66	64	63	64	65	66
Warwick (ALL)	137	135	135	137	140	141
N/W, Nun & Bed Integrated Disability	5	5	5	6	6	6
Rugby Integrated Disability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stratford Integrated Disability	1	1	2	2	2	2
Wark & Lm Integrated Disability	8	8	8	9	8	9
IDS Autism Team	4	5	5	4	4	4
Integrated Disability Service (ALL)	18	19	20	21	20	21
Asylum Seekers	61	59	59	61	58	61
Other Countywide Services	0	1	1	1	1	1
Warwickshire (TOTAL)	687	684	691	699	701	714

Children Looked After by Placement Type at 31 October 2012



At 31 October 2012, an increase was seen in children placed in other placements (up 5 to 63), children placed with a relative/friend foster carer (up 4 to 80), children placed for adoption (up 1 to 32) and children placed with parents or person with P.R (up 5 to 39).

Decreases were seen in children placed with WCC foster carers (down 1 to 357) and children placed in Agency/OLA foster care (down 1 to 117).

There was no change in children placed in Residential Homes/Schools.

Looked After Children by Placement Type by Team at 31 October 2012

	WCC Foster Care	Placed for Adoption	al Home/	Agency/O LA Foster Care	Relative/ Friend Foster Care	Placed with Parents/ Person with PR	Other Placement e.g. Independent Living, Mother & Baby Unit
N. Warks Ch&F Team	42	4	0	8	5	2	4
Bedworth Children's Team	74	2	12	35	19	8	10
Nuneaton Children's Team	47	4	0	13	7	2	0
Rugby Children's Team	57	4	1	15	17	14	6
Stratford Children's Team	36	5	3	16	11	4	3
Warwick District CAT	3	0	0	1	2	0	0
Kenilworth/Warwick	30	7	2	6	9	4	11
Leamington Ch&F Team	34	6	2	9	9	5	1
N/W, Nun & Bed Int Disab	1		1	3	1		
Rugby Integrated Disability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stratford Integrated Disab	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Wark & Lm Integrated Disab	8	0	0	1	0	0	0
IDS Autism Team	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Asylum Seekers	24	0	0	10	0	0	27
Other Countywide Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Warwickshire (TOTAL)	357	32	26	117	80	39	63

FOSTERING

Approval Categories of Foster Carers at 31 October 2012 by District

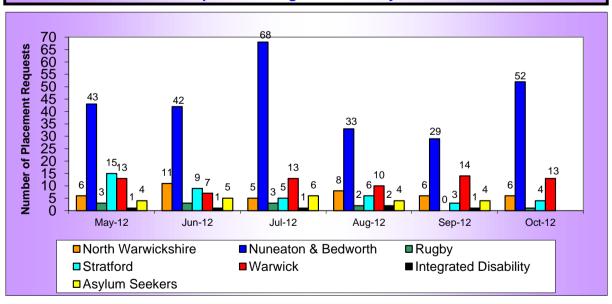
	Family & Friends	Family Link	General/ Mainstream	Contract Fostering	Staying Put
North Warwickshire	2	0	30	0	2
Nun & Bed	8	0	76	0	5
Rugby	45	1	21	0	4
Stratford	5	2	16	0	2
Warwick	7	0	10	0	1
EDT	0	0	4	0	0
North Fostering	0	0	16	0	0
South Fostering	0	0	90	0	6
Fostering Kinship	15	0	0	0	0
Short Break Care Service	0	24	0	4	0
Total	82	27	263	4	20

As at 31 October 2012 there were **373** foster care households in Warwickshire recorded on Carefirst. **3** foster carers are recorded as being approved for two categories of foster care.

Please note that the fostering teams are going from being district based to three separate teams, one for the north, one for the south and one specifically for kinship care. So far only a small number of carers have been transferred over to the new team codes. These reports will change as the transition is made from the old team codes to the new team codes.

There are currently **20** carers who are approved to provide 'staying put' placements for young people aged 18+. Of these **20**, **10** are approved solely for 'staying put' placements whilst the other **10** are also approved for foster care.

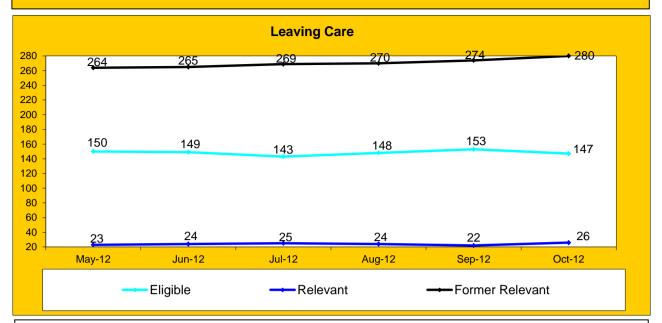
Foster Care Placement Requests during the month by District



Please note that this report pulls through where a 'placement request part 1' form has been completed by a children's team on Carefirst 6.

During October 2012 there were 76 placement requests recorded compared to 57 placement requests in the previous month.

LEAVING CARE



At 31 October 2012, Warwickshire's leaving care population increased by 4 to 453. Of these, 147 were eligible and still in the care system while a further 306 were either relevant or former relevant. All of these children have been looked after for 13 weeks or more since the age of 14 and were looked after at some point of their 16th year.

Number of Leaving Care Cases by District as at 31 October 2012

	Eligible (16/17 yrs but still Looked After)	Relevant (16/17 yrs previously looked after)	Former Relevant (18-21 who were either previously Eligible or Relevant)	District Total
North Warwickshire (ALL)	8	2	17	27
Nuneaton & Bedworth (ALL)	32	4	44	80
Rugby (ALL)	17	11	40	68
Stratford (ALL)	10	1	23	34
Warwick (ALL)	32	1	41	74
Asylum Seekers	42	2	94	138
Integrated Disability	5	0	6	11
Youth Offending	1	1	2	4
No Allocated Team	0	4	12	16
Allocated to Adult Services	0	0	1	1
Warwickshire (TOTAL)	147	26	280	453

Number of Young People aged 18+ in a Staying Put Placement as at 31 October 2012

	Staying Put with Former Foster	Staying Put but not Former
	Carer	Foster Carer
North Warwickshire (ALL)	1	0
Nuneaton & Bedworth (ALL)	5	0
Rugby (ALL)	9	0
Stratford (ALL)	3	0
Warwick (ALL)	0	0
Integrated Disability Service (ALL)	1	0
Asylum Seekers	0	0
No allocated team	0	0
Allocated to Adult Services	0	0
Warwickshire (TOTAL)	19	0