

# Corporate Parenting Panel

Date: Monday 18 September 2023  
Time: 10.00 am  
Venue: Committee Room 2 - Shire Hall

## Membership

Councillor Sue Markham (Chair)  
Councillor Marian Humphreys  
Councillor Penny-Anne O'Donnell  
Councillor Brett Beetham  
Councillor Caroline Phillips  
Councillor Jerry Roodhouse

Items on the agenda: -

- 1. General**
  - (1) Apologies**
  - (2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**
  - (3) Minutes of the previous meeting** 5 - 10
- 2. Voice, Influence & Change Team - Updates** 11 - 20
- 3. Performance Data** 21 - 22
- 4. Child Exploitation and Missing Episodes**

Presentation from George Shipman - Service Manager (Safeguarding Communities) and Vicky Woodfield - Delivery Lead Social Work Operations Manager, in relation to Child Exploitation and Missing Episodes.
- 5. Mental Health Services for Children in Care and Care Leavers** 23 - 38

Report presented by Helen Broughton - Commissioner (Vulnerable People), supported by Chris Evan from Coventry Warwickshire Partnership Trust and Zoe Hutchinson from CWMind.

**6. Development of the Work Programme and Items on the Forward Plan** 39 - 42

Items from the Forward Plan relevant to the remit of the Panel.

**7. Any Other Business**

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 16 October 2023 at 10.00 am

The meeting will be held in Committee Room 2, Shire Hall.

**Monica Fogarty**  
Chief Executive  
Warwickshire County Council  
Shire Hall, Warwick

## Disclaimers

### 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. Any changes to matters registered or new matters that require to be registered must be notified to the Monitoring Officer as soon as practicable after they arise.

A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless they have a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if they have not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests relevant to the agenda should be declared at the commencement of the meeting.

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web  
<https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1>

### Public Speaking

Any member of the public who is resident or working in Warwickshire, or who is in receipt of services from the Council, may speak at the meeting for up to three minutes on any matter within the remit of the Committee. This can be in the form of a statement or a question. If you wish to speak please notify Democratic Services in writing at least two working days before the meeting. You should give your name and address and the subject upon which you wish to speak. Full details of the public speaking scheme are set out in the Council's Standing Orders.

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# Corporate Parenting Panel

Monday 15 May 2023

## Minutes

### Attendance

#### Committee Members

Councillor Jeff Morgan (Chair)  
Councillor Marian Humphreys  
Councillor Jerry Roodhouse  
Councillor Sue Markham

#### Officers

Helen Barnsley, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting Service  
Deena Moorey, Virtual School Head

#### Others Present

Angela Richardson, Designated Nurse Children in Care for Warwickshire  
Norma Wilson – Warwickshire resident and former foster carer

### 1. General

Before the meeting started, Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting introduced Norma Wilson to the panel.

Norma was a foster carer for Warwickshire for 28 years, caring for 140 children. The panel learnt that not only had Norma been a foster carer but every year, she provides Christmas hampers for all the children in care. They have always been well received by the children but especially so during the pandemic and now, with the cost-of-living crisis. Norma has sent out over 250 hampers. In addition, the panel learnt that it was not only Christmas hampers that Norma provides, but also Easter hampers.

The Chair, on behalf of the whole panel and officers, thanked Norma for what she has done and continues to do, saying that she is incredible. The Chair added that it is important to recognise the achievement of people like Norma and extended thanks from the whole of Warwickshire County Council.

#### (1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Penny-Anne O'Donnell and Councillor Caroline Phillips.

Apologies were also received from John Coleman - Director of Children & Families Service, Nigel Minns - Executive Director People Directorate and Umar Teerab - Corporate Parenting

FSW-Voice, Influence & Change.

## **(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

None.

## **(3) Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes from the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

There were no matters arising.

## **2. Children in Care Council - Update**

Maria Dionisi, Family Support Worker - Voice, Influence & Change , confirmed that the information in the report relates to the period from 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

The following information was highlighted to the panel –

December 2022 saw a lot of Christmas activities with over 75 people in attendance. There was support for Norma and her Christmas hampers.

Liss Phillips, Family Support Worker - Voice, Influence & Change, visited ministers in London in February 2023 in relation to the Baby Box Project and received positive feedback for the work and that other authorities and groups look at what Warwickshire has done as good practice. It was confirmed that there will be a review of the content of the boxes with a view to update them over the summer 2023.

Following the work done by the young inspectors in relation to the standards of rented property, it was confirmed that many of the recommendations from the 2021 visits have been done. Following a question from the Chair, it was confirmed that the majority of landlords have taken on board the work of the young inspectors and are happy to work with them. Work will continue with further visits and updated recommendations. The panel will be kept updated.

Liss Phillips explained that some factors that are inspected can be emotive such as no visitors/curfews/not allowed to decorate rooms. Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting confirmed that there should be no curfews on supported living and that there are changes coming up over the next few months and that all supported accommodation will have to be registered and with that there will be regulations. There may well be rules in relation to overnight visitors and the safeguarding issues to consider. Family and friends should be allowed – with the right checks in place.

Every accommodation will need to be registers with Ofsted and as a result there may be closures of some accommodation that won't be able to meet the new standards or who don't want to.

### **3. Performance Data**

Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting presented the performance information to the Panel and invited questions.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse asked in relation to children missing or away from placement if it would be possible to have a trend line in order to provide context for the current data. Sharon Shaw suggested that officers from the team for missing children are invited to a future meetings in order to provide an answer.

It was highlighted to the Panel that the term missing is used, but that does not always mean that officers do not know where a child is, just that they are not where they are supposed to be. For example, they could just be late returning home, or they could be with friends when they should be with home. It was noted by the Panel that long term missing trends tend to apply to Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers. The Chair asked for a further breakdown of the missing episodes so that Panel members could see where children were missing for ten minutes or two/three days so that they could get a better understanding of the issue.

In relation to Short Term Placements it was confirmed that there are two areas where Warwickshire County Council needs to improve. The first is regarding the number of children in care. The total number is reducing but there has been an increase in the number of teenagers entering care and finding them a foster place can be challenging.

The number of children's homes are reducing due to no longer being financially viable. As a result it can take longer to find a permanent placement which is preferable to a series of short-term placements. It was noted that this is a national issue. However, there are now children's home in Warwickshire, run by the council, with plans for an additional one in the north of the county. There are 82 children in residential care as of this meeting but only one is currently in a Warwickshire County Council owned home. The Chair confirmed that this area will continue to be monitored by the Panel.

Sharon Shaw asked the Panel to note that with a child is put into the care of a family member, which is exactly where they should be, this is counted as a placement move.

It was confirmed that 12% of children in care in the county are Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers. This figure has increased and Warwickshire County Council now has the second highest number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers in the West Midlands. It was noted that the government has recently increased the number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers that local authorities are expected to take in.

### **4. Report from the Virtual School Head**

Deena Moorey, Virtual School Head presented the report which covers the period January 2023 to March 2023 and confirmed that overall, the report is positive in relation to key stage outcomes.

The highlights were as follows -

For 4- to 5-year-olds, 21% have a good level of development but that is lower than the national figure. It was noted though, that this cohort is making progress and that a lot of the issues are as a result of problems associated with the pandemic and lockdowns.

For Key Stage 1, performance is at 37.5% which is 7.5% higher than the national figure for Year 2.

For Key Stage 2, 28.6% reached expected reading and maths test which is higher than was expected for this cohort (at 25%) but still slightly lower than the national figures.

For Key Stage 4, children leaving year 11, performance is above the national figure and from the starting point they were at, the performance is higher than expected. The Panel noted that additional blocks of tuition have been offered.

Councillor Marian Humphries thanked officers for the report and asked for information in relation to pre-school education and any progress that is, or isn't, being made? It was confirmed that the virtual school starts at the age of 2-years-old and that there is work with social workers to ensure that all 2-year-olds in care are accessing nursery provision (including childcare) Service Manager - Corporate Parenting stated that asking for progress reports is something that officers can look in to.

Following a question in relation to the date from 4/5 years ago, it was confirmed that the Warwickshire outcomes are presented against the national figures. Children in care often have a lot of catching up to do educationally as well as coping with a range of challenges. In comparison to four years ago, Warwickshire County Council is performing slightly higher.

The Chair asked if it was possible for officers to build in an historical context regarding the performance of the virtual school. Deena Moorey confirmed that that would be doable but the panel was asked to note that the grading system has changed and the data was different during the Covid period. It may not be a fair picture.

## **5. Corporate Parenting Panel Road Shows**

Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting asked the Panel for clarification on what they would like to see/achieve from the roadshows.

The Chair stated that the Panel would like to enhance relationships with the district and borough councils in relation to corporate parenting. They need to be more involved with the work of the county council's officers and members. The Panel agreed that there should be a focus on engagement and promotion of the work done at Warwickshire County Council.

It was agreed that housing is the primary area where better relationships with the district and borough councils would bring a benefit to the county council. Consideration was given to officers and members of the panel potentially attending district and borough meetings, as well as representatives from the district and borough councils attending the Corporate Parenting Panel at the county council.



In particular, attendance from departments that could support Warwickshire's Leaving Care Office, such as Sports and Leisure officers, would be an area to focus on.

Following a question in relation to the risk to the children in care if districts and boroughs don't have a full understanding of the work done by the county council, Sharon Shaw stated that officers are looking at shared responsibility, such as the provision of housing and the local offer for care leavers. It is vital that officer from across councils work together to offer an enhanced programme and that children in care or leaving care are not overlooked.

## **6. Placement Stability for Children in Care**

Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting confirmed that placement stability is a key focus for officers in 2023. If children are able to be placed with a family member, then there will be less disruption and that is the focus.

It was agreed that the discussion in Item 3 covered this report and the minutes could reflect this.

## **7. Governance for Child in Care and HELAC Feedback**

Angela Richardson, Designated Nurse Children in Care for Warwickshire gave a verbal update to the Panel and offered assurance that the Integrated Care Board (ICB) is the replacement for clinical commissioning groups (CCGs). Work is done in a place-based manner to offer a greater understanding of the needs of children in care.

It was confirmed that there is now a Designated nurse in Warwickshire and in Coventry for children in care.

There will be internal Quarterly reports for children in care in relation to health assessments and needs for all children in care.

The previous annual report from SWIFT that was presented to the Panel will now be from the ICB.

The work of the Health of Looked after Children (HELAC) group identified strategic and operational priorities to ensure that the right people are focused on the right priorities.

Sharon Shaw, Service Manager Corporate Parenting confirmed the performance in relation to health assessments is currently 89%. Some authorities, not Warwickshire, have issues with some health providers saying that they will not complete health assessments. There is a need to be realistic that there won't be a true change in compliance across the board – so for children placed outside Warwickshire. Officers are focused on looking at this and ensuring that it is an area that doesn't get forgotten. This is an issue that needs to be looked as a national issue as well as a regional level. 17 other authorities have raised complaints in relation to the compliance of health assessments.

## **8. The Vanguard Project**

It was agreed that this item be moved to the next meeting (June 2023).

### **9. Development of the Work Programme and Items on the Forward Plan**

The updated work programme was agreed by the Panel.

### **10. Any Other Business**

Following the recent Ofsted focused visit, the Panel learnt that they were extremely pleased with the work in relation to care leavers and unaccompanied asylum seekers.

The verbal report stated that the council's work with unaccompanied asylum seekers is exceptional and this was echoed in the written report.

The Panel passed on their thanks and said well done to the team, this is tremendous work. In 2017 the council was classed as required improvement and the last report was good so it is looking positive for the next report.

### **11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 19th June 2023 at 10am.

The meeting will be held in Shire Hall, Warwick.

The meeting rose at 11:26

.....  
Chair

## Corporate Parenting Panel

### CiCC/CLF & Voice, Influence and Change Team Update

#### 1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 That the Panel note the work of the Children in Care Council (CiCC), Care Leavers Forum (CLF) and the Voice, Influence and Change Team (Participation).
- 1.2 That the Panel acknowledge the work that continues to take place with young people.

#### 2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This is a standing item on the Corporate Parenting Panel agenda which updates members on the work of the CiCC and CLF.

#### 3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no significant financial implications to consider at this stage.

#### 4. Environmental Implications

- 4.1 There are no significant environmental implications to consider at this stage.

#### 5. Supporting Information

This update covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April – 4<sup>th</sup> September.

##### 5.1 *Children in Care Council Updates*

**May** – Youth Voice Event – see below for more details

**June** – What Happens After 18? One of our care experienced apprentices led the session around what support is in place for when the children turn 18 and potentially leave their foster homes. This was supported by a team leader from the leaving care team.

**July** – July saw the Children in Care council take part in a bowling evening with a burger meal to celebrate the end of the year and the children's commitment to the forum. This provided a great time for staff and children to enjoy time together.

## 5.2 **Care Leavers Forum Updates**

**May** – Youth Voice Event – see below for more details.

**June** – Focus – Mental Health. Guest speakers from Cov & Warks Mind (Melissa Gray) and from Aspire in Arts (Morgan Snow). Mindfulness sessions were run and young people could talk about their mental health and how they think support could be better.

**July** – July saw the Care Leavers Forum go out for a meal together to celebrate the end of the year and their commitment to the forum. Staff and young people had a great time socialising together.

## 5.3 **Young people involvement in interviews**

Through the last 6 months, we have had many requests for young people to either sit on the interview panel for new positions, or to form a youth panel to interview potential candidates. Below are a few of the interviews that young people have been involved in:

30<sup>th</sup> May/5<sup>th</sup> June – Family Group Conference Coordinator  
29<sup>th</sup> June – SEND and Inclusion Service Manager  
20<sup>th</sup> July – Trauma Informed Practitioner (Positive Directions)  
6<sup>th</sup> July – Residential Home Manager  
14<sup>th</sup> August – Youth Worker  
24<sup>th</sup> August – Operational Manager – Residential Homes  
1<sup>st</sup> September – Leader Practitioner for Trauma within YJS and FAST  
8<sup>th</sup> September - Chief Constable of Warwickshire

## 5.4 **Chill ‘n’ Grill Sessions**

Our monthly Chill ‘n’ Grill sessions were re-launched for 2023 on the evening of 27<sup>th</sup> April and have continued to happen each month on the last Thursday evening. Around 20 young people from our leaving care and UASC teams attend to share food, socialise together and play outdoor games.

## 5.5 **Brothers and Sisters’ Day – 6<sup>th</sup> April**

On 6<sup>th</sup> April, in line with National Sibling Day, an event was hosted at Myton Park to celebrate brothers and sisters in care or who have left care. Around 50 attended with their families. Activities at the event included:

- Tea cup ride
- Swing boats
- Bouncy Castle
- Arts and crafts
- Face painting
- Guess the name of the Teddy

There was also an ice cream van, candy floss stall, cake stand and BBQ so no one went hungry! The Easter Bunny made an appearance and all the children loved being involved in an Easter Egg hunt. A professional photographer was also at the event and took photos of the sibling groups which will be given to the children and their families.

The event was a fantastic opportunity for our brothers and sisters in care to spend time together and take part in activities with each other.

Feedback from the event:

*'K and J thoroughly enjoyed the day. They loved the Easter egg hunt, burgers and of course the free ice cream van. J said "we should come here more often"'*

*'Such friendly and committed staff, making the children feel so special'.*

*'Just like to say a big thank you to you and all the staff today that organised and managed today's siblings day'.*



## 5.6 Paediatric First Aid – 28<sup>th</sup> April

In partnership with Warwickshire Fire Service, a paediatric first aid course was organised and delivered for our care experienced young parents. This was a fantastic opportunity for our young parents to gain confidence and learn life saving skills to help with their parenting and to know how to respond if they



have an emergency situation with their children. The course also built friendships between our parents and their children.



### 5.7 Youth Voice Event – 9<sup>th</sup> May

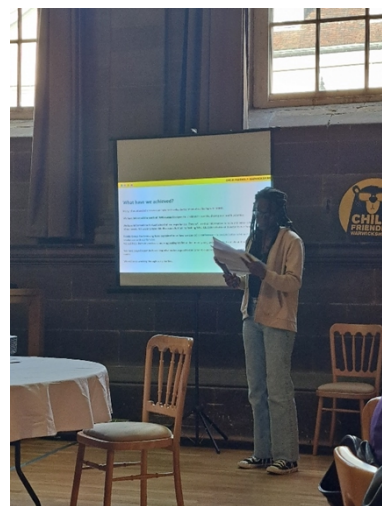
On 9<sup>th</sup> May, 39 children and young people from across Warwickshire came to our Youth Voice event held at Shire Hall. Many of these children are active participants of our forums including Care Leavers Forum, Children in Care Council, Youth Council and Impact (forum for young people with SEND). The event was an opportunity to hear our young people's voices and opinions on key areas that they have said are important to them:

- Mental health in young people
- Safety in Warwickshire
- Things to do in Warwickshire
- Young people's experience in schools/college

Councillors, elected members and senior leaders were invited to come to the event and sit in on the discussions around these topics with the young people. Each group was then asked to bring forward some recommendations from their discussion groups to be brought to senior leaders and corporate board. There were also a number of activities at the event for the participants to be involved in. These included:

- African Drumming
- Salt Sculptures
- Fake tattoos
- Magnet making
- Scrapbook ideas

Food was provided at the events from a local catering firm. The event also gave the opportunity for reps from each of the four forums to speak about the work that their forums have done and what they are planning to address in the future.



### 5.8 **Foster Carer Conference – 18<sup>th</sup> May**

The fostering team held their conference for their foster carers on 18<sup>th</sup> May and the Voice, Influence and Change team were invited to lead on a workshop. This workshop was titled 'Making Memories' and talked about the importance of life story work with photos and scrapbooks. One of our care experienced apprentices produced a powerpoint with ideas for scrapbooking and how to include the children they are fostering in making memories. They then delivered this workshop alongside two other staff. The workshop also talked about the brothers and sisters work and links to the Children in Care Council and Care Leavers Forum.

### 5.9 **Legoland Trip – 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

During the May half term a group of 38 children in care aged 7-14 took a trip to Legoland, accompanied by 13 staff members. After an early start, the coach travelled to Windsor to have a fun packed day. The weather was sunny and the children enjoyed the rides, looking at the Lego builds around the park and enjoying time with other children.



### **5.10 Provider Forum – 7<sup>th</sup> June**

On 7<sup>th</sup> June, a forum was held for accommodation providers for our young people including supported accommodation, independent fostering agencies and residential settings. As part of this forum we were asked to provide feedback from young people about their experiences of these. One of our care experienced apprentices worked with the deputy lead of the voice, influence and change team to collate young people's voices and present these at the forum.

### **5.11 Refugee Celebration Event – 19<sup>th</sup> June**

As part of Refugee Celebration Week, Warwickshire hosted a celebration for all of our asylum young people on the evening of 19<sup>th</sup> June. Over 60 young people attended along with their PAs, wider staff, senior leaders and councillors. There was a meal, music, dancing and lots of activities including a photo booth and caricaturist. The evening included an awards ceremony to recognise educational and personal achievements and acts of kindness. The award for the Young Person of the Year 2023 was awarded to Even Daniels.



### **5.12 Staff Conference – 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> July**

26 young people came along to the staff conference on both days to help run an activity designed to help staff understand how a young person may feel when they come into contact with Children & Families services. The activity was fun but filled with lots of learning potential for the conference attendees. Feedback from staff was that the activity did make them think about young peoples' experiences and how they may feel.





### **5.13 Peppa Pig World/Paulton's Park Trip – 27<sup>th</sup> July**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> July, a group of 53 young children with their carers attended a trip to Peppa Pig World within Paulton's Park. A full coach, with pick up points in Nuneaton and Warwick, transported the group down to Romsey early in the morning to arrive at the park for 10:15am. Everyone then split into the family/carer groups to enjoy the park's attractions together. Some children who were unable to come with their carers were supported by staff. This included siblings who are in separate homes and don't live together. The day was a huge success with huge smiles from everyone getting back on the coach at 3:30pm for the journey home.



### **5.14 Football Tournament in Herefordshire – 29<sup>th</sup> July**

On 29<sup>th</sup> July, representatives from our UASC football team were invited to Herefordshire to take part in a tournament against other teams in the west midlands. This event happens yearly and the young people really love to play against others. Warwickshire played really well and came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the tournament overall.

Football continues to run every Sunday in Coventry and is very well attended. Two of the players are shortly to undergo their Coaching qualification to help to support and lead the teams.



### **5.15 Brothers and Sisters' Residential – 21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> August**

From 21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> August, 25 children aged between 7 and 15 went to the Pioneer Centre near Kidderminster to take part in a fun packed activity residential. All the children were part of sibling groups, with the majority not currently living in the same home. The break away gave them the opportunity to spend time together, eat together and have overnight stays together.

Throughout the residential, children took part in archery, high ropes, zip line, caving and even a forest walk in the Wyre Forest. Meals were prepared for us by the Pioneer staff and there were three hot meals a day! The evenings were spent having a film night, socialising together or doing the inflatable challenge course.

Following the residential, we are planning to meet with the children again so they can see each other. There were also a number of new recruits from the residential to our children in care council!





**5.16 Young Parents Butlins Weekend – 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> September (Young Parents Picnic 17<sup>th</sup> August)**

From 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> September, a group of 8 care experienced young parents were given the opportunity to go on holiday with their children. The group went to Butlins in Minehead for a weekend of fun activities and socialising together. In preparation for going, the group met in advance and had a picnic in the park together. This gave them the opportunity to get to know each other before the holiday and for the children to play together.



## 6. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

6.1 An update report to be presented to the next Corporate Parenting Panel.

### Appendices

None.

### Background Papers

None.

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): none

Other members: none



**805 Children in Care**

An increase of **5 Children in Care** since 31 July 2023

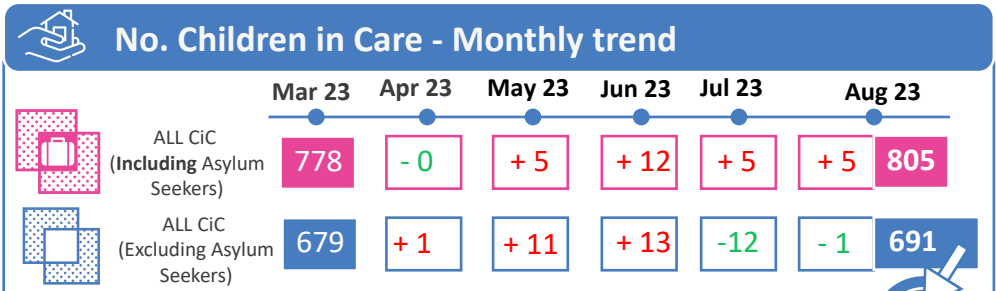
**Children in Care Placement Type**

**WCC Foster Carer (inc Family and Friends carers)**  
336 children (41.7%); which is an increase of 8 children on the previous month end.

**Placed for Adoption**  
11 children (1.4%) of all CiC at 31/07/2023; the same number as the previous month end.

**Agency Foster Carer**  
177 CiC (22.0%); an increase of 5 children since 31/07/2023

**Residential Establishment**  
76 children (9.4%); a decrease of 4 children since 31/07/2023



At 31 August 2023, Warwickshire's Children in Care population increased by 5 to 805, whilst the no. of CiC excluding asylum seekers decreased by 1 to 691. **630 CiC target for 2023/24**

**Legal Status of Children in Care as at 31 March 2023**

**53.7%** (432) of CiC are on a **Full Care Order**; this is a decrease of 5 children since 31/07/2023.

**11.8%** (95) of CiC are on an **Interim Care Order**; this is an increase of 6 children since the previous month end.

**3.9%** (31) of CiC are on a **Placement Order**; this is an increase of 1 child since 31/07/2023.

**30.4%** (245) of CiC are subject to **S20 Accommodation**; this is an increase of 3 children since the previous month end.

**Leaving Care Activity Status**

As at 31 August 2023, of those Relevant and Former Relevant Care Leavers (aged 16 - 21) ...

- 85.7%** had a contact within the last 8 weeks
- 80.2%** were in suitable accommodation
- 50.6%** were in EET (Employment, Education & Training)

**CiC out of county as at 30th June 2023**  
**22.0%** (175) of CiC were placed outside the LA boundary and more than 20 miles from where they used to live  
*NB. Please note that this is a quarterly measure*

**CiC 'Missing' or 'Away from placement without authorisation'**

33 children in care were missing (74 missing episodes)

During August 2023 there were **74 episodes** of a child missing or away from their placement without authorisation. This related to **33 individual children** with **18 children** having multiple missing episodes during the month.

**Gender**

62.0% (499) Male

38.0% (306) Female

0 'Indeterminate'

**Ethnicity**

**1/4 (26.7%)** of Children in Care (Including Asylum Seekers) are **Minority Ethnic (215)**;

**73.3% (590)** are of White ethnicity

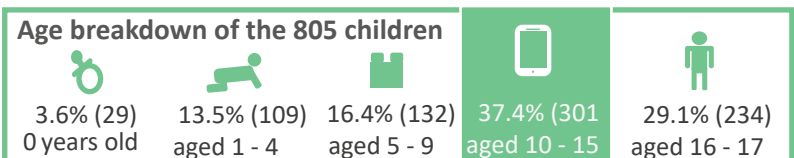
**Allocated Team**

**14.2% (114)** of Children in Care are Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers

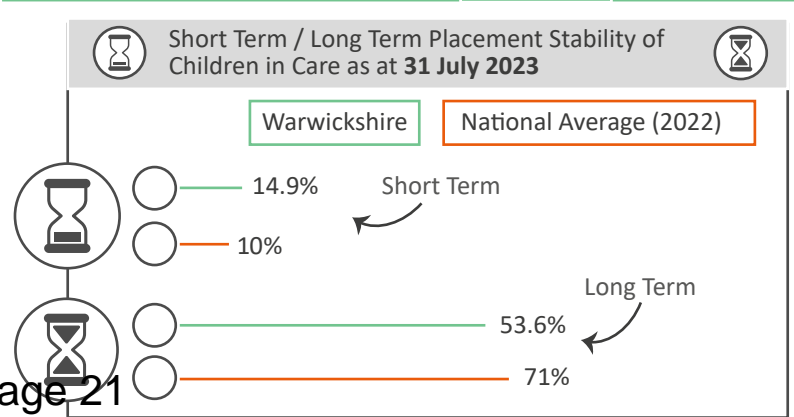
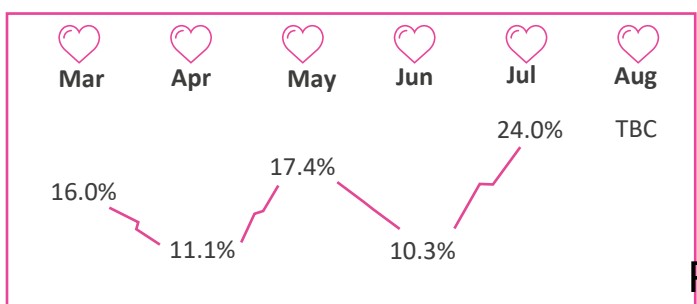
**5.2% (42)** are allocated to the Children with Disability teams

**27.7% (223)** are allocated to the CiC 14-18 Years Team

**87.2%** of Children in Care at 31 August 2023 have had a 'completed' health assessment in the last 12 months



**% of CiC accommodated during the month (who remained accommodated) and who had their IHA within 20 working days (Monthly trend)**



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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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## Corporate Parenting Panel Work Programme 2023/2024

Item	Report detail	Date of Meeting
Update from CICC and Care Leaver Forum and Change Team	Children in Care Council/Care Leaver's Forum, & Voice, Influence and Change Team Update	* Standing items for every meeting
Performance Data	Report which includes key data regarding CLA & Care Leavers	
Development of Work Programme for 2023 and Forward Plan information	To consider proposed work programme & future areas of work for the panel; including information from the forward plan with items relevant to the remit of the panel	
Report from the Virtual School Head	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Spring Term</b> (March/April) - focus on validated achievement outcomes</li> <li>• <b>Summer Term</b> (July/August) - focus on other work of the Virtual School such as enrichment opportunities, as this supports the raising achievement agenda.</li> <li>• <b>Autumn term</b> (November) - focus on provisional achievement outcomes</li> </ul>	<b>Quarterly Report – next report due 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023</b>

Report detail	Date of Meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>District and Borough Charter in relation to Corporate Parenting (Lisa Barker)</del></li> <li>• <del>Work Force Strategy (John Coleman)</del></li> </ul>	<p><del>19<sup>th</sup> June 2023</del> (Meeting cancelled – rescheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Exploitation and missing episodes</li> <li>• To consider the need and mental health timescales for care leavers and CLA receiving a CAMHS/RISE service and a report into the process for mental health assessments</li> </ul>	<p>18<sup>th</sup> September 2023</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District and Borough Charter in relation to Corporate Parenting (tbc)</li> <li>• Work Force Strategy (tbc)</li> </ul>	<p>16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (Rescheduled)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Fostering and Adoption Report – to include information in relation to private fostering.</li> <li>• Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Annual Report</li> <li>• Private Fostering Annual Report</li> </ul>	<p>13<sup>th</sup> November 2023</p>
	<p>15<sup>th</sup> January 2024</p>
	<p>25<sup>th</sup> March 2024</p>

**Actions from the previous meetings/Additions to the work programme**

- County Line – a police representative will be asked to attend
- Partnership working with District and Borough colleagues - A Charter with shared objectives will be presented to the panel after April 2022
- Review into the turnover of Social Workers to identify any trends (John Coleman).
- Invitation to be sent to a representative of the Police to join a discussions in relation to missing children (Sharon Shaw).

**Information circulated to Members outside of meetings - none currently**

**Items included on the Forward Plan relevant to the remit of the Panel:**

The remit of the panel is to secure elected member and cross-organisation support and commitment for delivering improvement services and better outcomes for looked after children, young people and care leavers:

Decision	Description	Date due	Decision Maker
Annual Education Sufficiency Update 2023	Annual Education Sufficiency Update 2022 - providing updated data and context in support of the Education Sufficiency Strategy	12 October 2023	Cabinet

**Upcoming Member Development Sessions**

Please contact Helen Barnsley (Senior Democratic Services Officer) if you would like more information or if you are missing a calendar invitation. All development sessions will be held via Microsoft Teams unless otherwise stated.

OSC Workshop for Chairs/Vice Chair & Spokes	18th September @ 2pm	Beth Evans (external)
Code of Conduct	28 <sup>th</sup> September @ 10am	Sioned Harper Nic Vine
Suicide Prevention Training (SP:OT Suicide Prevention Overview Training)	4 <sup>th</sup> October @ 2pm	Hannah Cramp & Papyrus <a href="http://www.papyrus-uk.org">www.papyrus-uk.org</a>
The Tackling Modern Slavery and Supporting Survivors Conference 2023	10 <sup>th</sup> October – 9am start	Online course – members to contact Helen if interested in joining
Suicide Prevention & Mental Health & Wellbeing at WCC	11 <sup>th</sup> October @ 2pm	Hannah Cramp & WCC Public Health Team

**Future Meetings - 2023/24**

- 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 10am
- 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 10am
- 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 10am
- 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 10am