

# SOUTH LANARKSHIRE'S CHILDRENS SERVICES: SHARED DATASET

[Draft 2019.]

'Aspiring to  
Successful Outcomes  
for vulnerable  
children in South  
Lanarkshire through  
Strategic needs  
assessment and  
performance  
measures'

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

## Contents

<b>Background</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>1. Child protection</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>2. Corporate Parenting</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>3. High Level Outcome 1: We are successfully tackling issues of neglect and its impact on children</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>4. High Level Outcome 2: We are successfully tackling domestic abuse and its impact on children</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>5. High Level Outcome 3: We are successfully tackling child sexual exploitation</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>6. High Level Outcome 4: We are successfully tackling parental substance misuse and its impact on children</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>7. High Level Outcome 5: Our Initial response to child protection concerns are keeping children safe and supporting protection</b> <b>28</b>	
<b>8. High Level Outcome 6: Our multi-agency processes support the ongoing protection of children while involved in the child protection system</b> .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
<b>9. High Level Outcome 7: Our multi-agency processes at the end point of formal child protection processes are effectively supporting ongoing protection of children</b> .....	<b>31</b>
<b>10. High Level Outcome 8: Our initial response to child protection concerns pre –birth are keeping unborn babies safe and supporting protection</b> .....	<b>32</b>
<b>11. High Level Outcome 9: We are successfully improving the physical, mental and emotional health of looked after children and care leavers</b> .....	<b>34</b>
<b>12. High Level Outcome 10: We are successfully improving how well our looked after children are achieving and their learning is optimised</b> .....	<b>38</b>
<b>13. High Level Outcome 11: Our care leavers are becoming successfully independent into adulthood</b> .....	<b>41</b>
<b>14. High Level Outcome 12: We are successful in providing nurturing and stable care arrangements and achieve permanency without delay</b> .....	<b>43</b>
<b>15. High level outcome 13: We are successfully preventing looked after children and young people entering the criminal justice system</b> .....	<b>45</b>

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

## **BACKGROUND**

The Scottish Government's vision is that 'We live in the best place for children to grow up'. Many policy areas contribute to this vision, including Getting it Right for Every Child, the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare, the Child Protection Improvement Programme and corporate parenting, but underpinning each of these is the ambition to improve outcomes for children and young people.

It is in this context that the Scottish Government asked CELCIS (Centre for Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland) to support the development of a minimum core dataset for child protection committees as part of the Child Protection Improvement Programme and in response to Recommendation 10 of the Child Protection Systems Review, detailed below:

"The National Child Protection Leadership Group and Child Protection Committees Scotland should support local areas to deliver robust continuous improvement programmes. This should include working with relevant organisations to synthesise and share learning from different sources including inspection, research, reviews and local practice. The Data and Evidence work stream of the Scottish Government Child Protection Improvement Programme should develop a strategic programme to deliver robust data sets to support child protection improvement. The Scottish Government should develop a national resource for advice on using child protection data for local planning and service development."

The Care Inspectorate was asked to develop a revised model of scrutiny for children's services to be in place from April 2018. The focus of the revised model is children in need of protection, within the context of Getting it Right for Every Child, and those subject to corporate parenting. This would include those looked after at home, those in residential and secure care, those in kinship and foster care and care leavers. The Scottish Ministers asked the Care Inspectorate to develop a relevant dataset to support partners to understand and measure their own performance in relation these groups of children and young people. As part of the new inspection of child protection and corporate parenting, the inspection bodies will expect to see measurement and reporting against the dataset. The ability to demonstrate performance and progress against these measures will formulate part of the inspection findings.

Recognising the potential for duplication across the two datasets, it was agreed that a single shared dataset spanning child protection and corporate parenting would be developed jointly by the Scottish Government, Care Inspectorate and CELCIS, according to their roles outlined above.

### Purpose of the dataset

The aims of the shared dataset for community planning partnerships, child protection committees, corporate parenting groups, chief officer groups and individual agencies are that it provides a set of meaningful indicators that:

- Enables child protection committees and corporate parenting groups to assess what difference their systems and services are making to the lives and wellbeing of children and young people, within the context of integrated children's services planning at the local authority area level.
- Provides clarity to child protection committees and corporate parenting groups on what indicators they should (as a minimum) collect, noting that child protection committees and corporate parenting groups can also collect additional measures that respond to locally important issues.
- Supports the self-evaluation, continuous improvement and service planning activities of child protection committees and corporate parenting groups.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

- Aligns with the Care Inspectorate's revised model of Joint Inspection of Services for Children and Young People, which is due to be implemented from April 2018.
- Improves the consistency of data collection and reporting across child protection committees and corporate parenting groups, so helping the Scottish Government and national partners to assess more effectively how well Scotland's child protection and looked after children and care leaver systems are working.
- Enables individual partners to interrogate their own data and consider learning for their individual agencies as well as contributing to the shared approach of using the dataset

[https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/News/A\\_SHARED\\_DATASET-CONSULTATION\\_VERSION\\_230318.pdf](https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/News/A_SHARED_DATASET-CONSULTATION_VERSION_230318.pdf)

## OVERVIEW

As part of our work to produce a shared dataset based on the document Care Inspectorate '**A shared dataset: Aspiring to successful outcomes for vulnerable children in Scotland through strategic needs assessment and performance measures**'. We have started to collate one dataset to analyse and respond where necessary the data around our key processes and outcomes. The sections below are part of our annual Quality Indicator 1.1 and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2019. The data will demonstrate where we making improvements in the safety, wellbeing and life chances of vulnerable children and young people and provide some reassurance that joint working is leading to those improved outcomes as well as identifying our areas for improvement. The Indicators provide a context for partners to better understand our systems as a whole alongside outcome and process measures, although some analysis has been provided the understanding around why some of the data has increased or decreased is required. A multi-agency session to further analyse and interrogate the dataset is planned to inform the production on the new children's services plan.

# 1. Child Protection Chapter

## OVERVIEW

Child protection means protecting a child from abuse or neglect, which may cause significant harm. Child protection measures require constant vigilance and we all have a role to play in protecting South Lanarkshire's children and young people. Partnership working is at the heart of everything we do and plays a vital role in ensuring the protection of South Lanarkshire's children and young people. (adapted from <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-guidance-child-protection-scotland>)

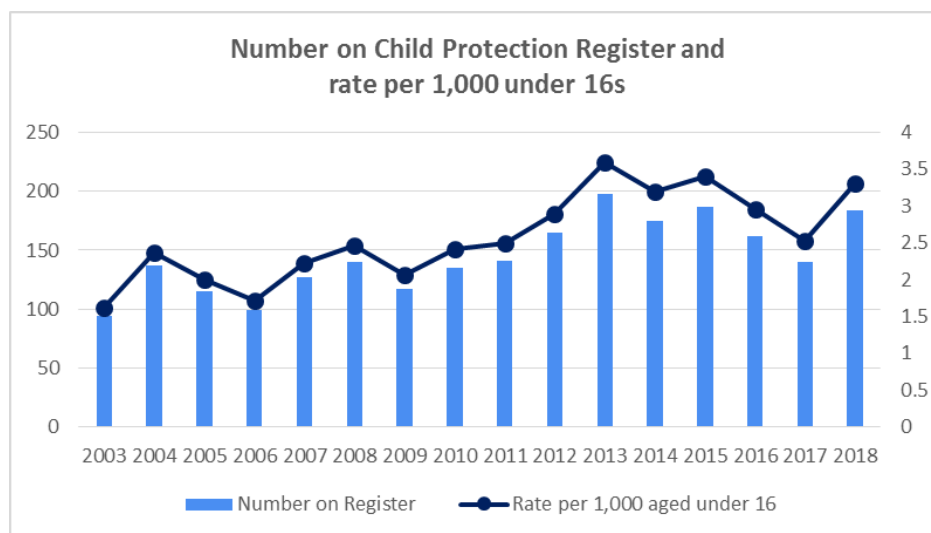
There were 184 children on the Child Protection Register in South Lanarkshire in 2018. The Child Protection Registration rate in 2017, of 2.53 per 1,000 aged under 16, was a tenth lower in South Lanarkshire than the Scottish rate of 2.96 per 1,000. However in 2018, after a decrease consecutively for two years there has been a slight increase to 3.3 per 1,000.

In 2018, Deregistration's – at 254 – over the longer term have increased significantly. The Deregistration rate, at 4.6 per 1,000 aged under 16, in South Lanarkshire was higher than the Scottish average of 4.1 per 1,000.

In South Lanarkshire, parents were significantly more likely than in Scotland as a whole to be the main abuser identified at case conferences – 91%, compared to 79%. In 2017-2018 the main concern raised at Child Protection Case Conferences in South Lanarkshire related to Parental Drug misuse – raised 83 times. Partners recognise that parental drug misuse is becoming an increasing concern and often there are negative consequences on parental mental health as a result of drug misuse.

## CHILD PROTECTION REGISTER – NUMBERS AND RATES

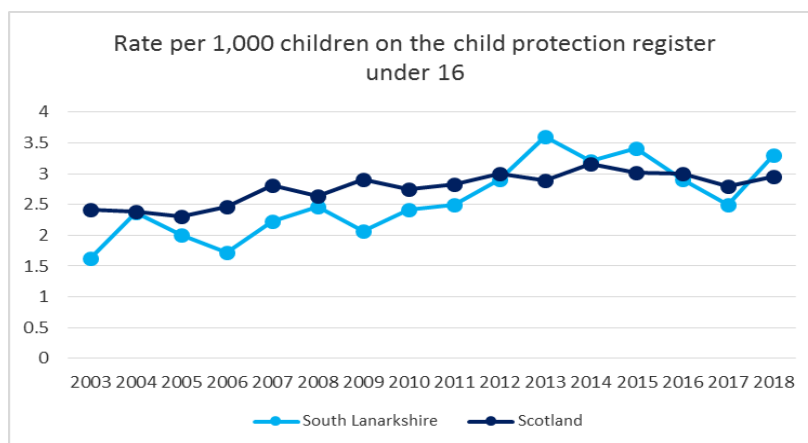
Chart 1- Number on Child protection register and rate per 1,000 under 16's



In 2018, chart one shows there were 184 children in South Lanarkshire on the Child Protection Register. Between **2015 and 2017** the numbers fell consecutively for three years and were below the Scottish figure in 2016 and 2017. However in 2018 the figure shows an increase of 44.

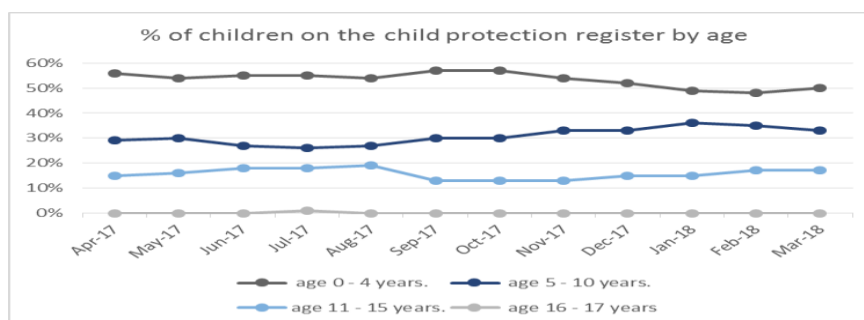
Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 2-** Rate per 1,000 children 0-15 on the Child Protection (CP) register in comparison to Scotland



Figures in 2018, evidence a rate of 3.3 per 1,000 children on the child protection register under 16, with the rate in 2016 and 2017 at its lowest compared to the Scottish rate since 2012. However after a decrease for **three consecutive years** the current figures show a slight increase and above Scotland rate of 2.97 per 1,000.

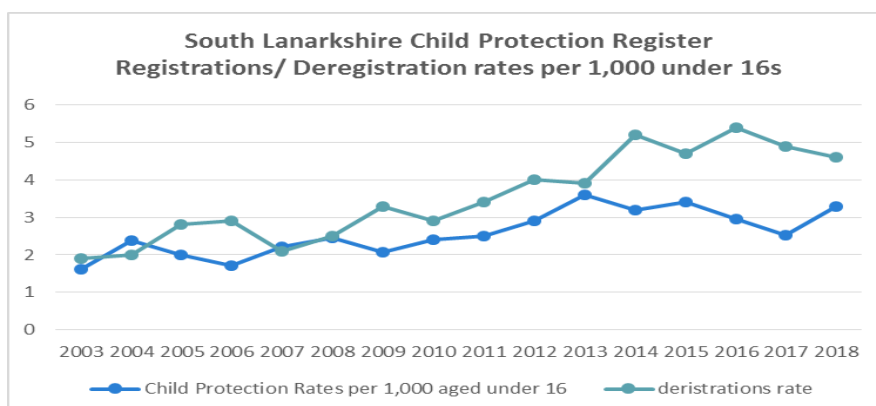
**Chart 3-** Percentage of children on the child protection register by age 2017-18



In 2017-18 half of children on the child protection register were aged under five and half were over 5. (33% 5-10, 17% 11-15 years of age). Chart three evidences a decrease in the age group 0-4 years in comparison to an increase in the 5-10 year olds.

**CHILD PROTECTION REGISTER – REGISTRATIONS AND DEREGISTRATIONS**

**Chart 4-** Rate per 1,000 children under 16’s child protection register Registrations and Deregistration rates per 1,000 under 16’s



Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

Chart 4 in 2018 shows the South Lanarkshire **Deregistration rate** was 4.6 per 1,000 *children Aged 15 or under* – the lowest rate since 2013 and higher than the Scottish average of 4.1 per 1,000. **This was the third consecutive** year that the South Lanarkshire rate was above the Scottish rate.

There were 254 **Deregistrations** from the Child Protection Register in South Lanarkshire in 2018 – this was the lowest number since 2013 and the second consecutive annual decline in Deregistrations. Over the **2017 to 2018** period the number of Deregistrations in South Lanarkshire decreased by 17 or 6.3% – less than half of the decline experienced over this period in Scotland as a whole (13.7%). Between **2008 and 2018** the number of Deregistrations increased by 110 or 76.4% in South Lanarkshire – over four times the increase experienced in Scotland as a whole over this period, of 18%.

Chart 5- Percentage of Deregistrations by length of time on the Child Protection Register

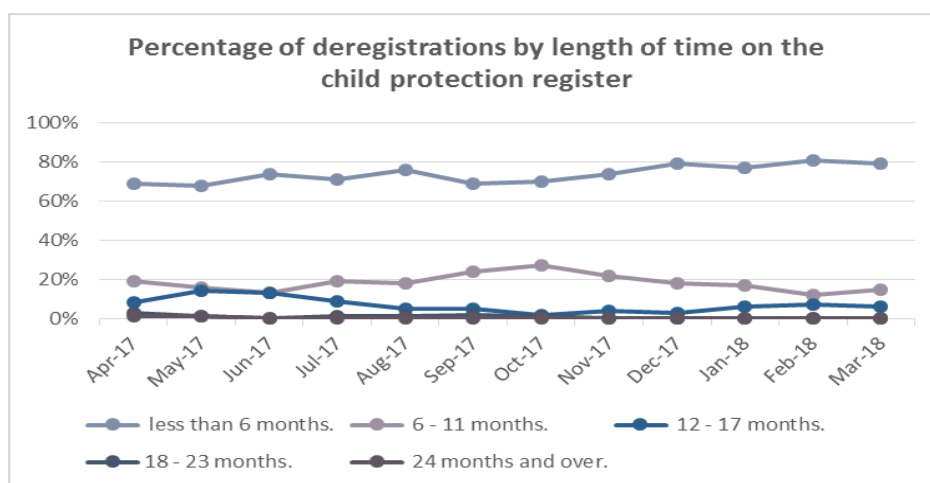


Chart 5 shows, the month to month percentage of deregistrations of children who spent less than 6 months on the child protection register has increased slightly to the current figure of 79% of deregistrations. A decrease on 6-11 months the current figure is 15% and 12-17 months increase to a current figure of 6% with the last two age groups being at 0% for the last 5 months.

### CHILD PROTECTION REGISTER – CASE CONFERENCES

Chart 6- Rate per 1,000 children under 16's child protection register case conferences

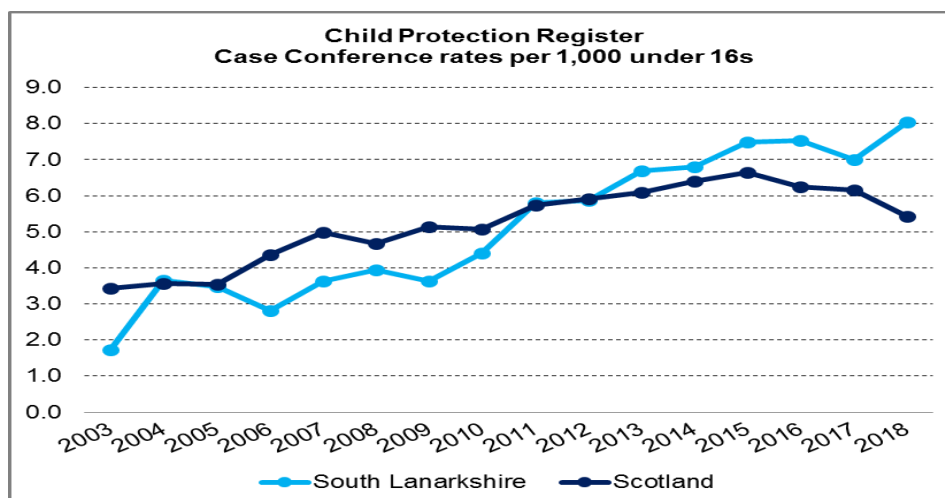


Chart 6 in 2018, shows, both the Scottish and South Lanarkshire rates had been increasing, since 2005 and 2006 respectively, but both rates fell in 2017. In 2018 the Scottish rate continued to fall, while the

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

South Lanarkshire rate increased. The South Lanarkshire Case Conference rate was 8 per 1,000 children Aged 15 or under. This was higher than the Scottish rate of 5.4 per 1,000 children Aged 15 or under. Since 2013 the South Lanarkshire rate continues to evidence an increasing trend.

In 2018 there were 384 **Case Conferences** related to Child Protection in South Lanarkshire. Between **2017 and 2018** the number of Child Protection Case Conferences in South Lanarkshire increased by 80 or 15.6%, whereas in Scotland as a whole they fell by 11.6%.

Chart 7- Rate per 1,000 children under 16's child protection register case conferences

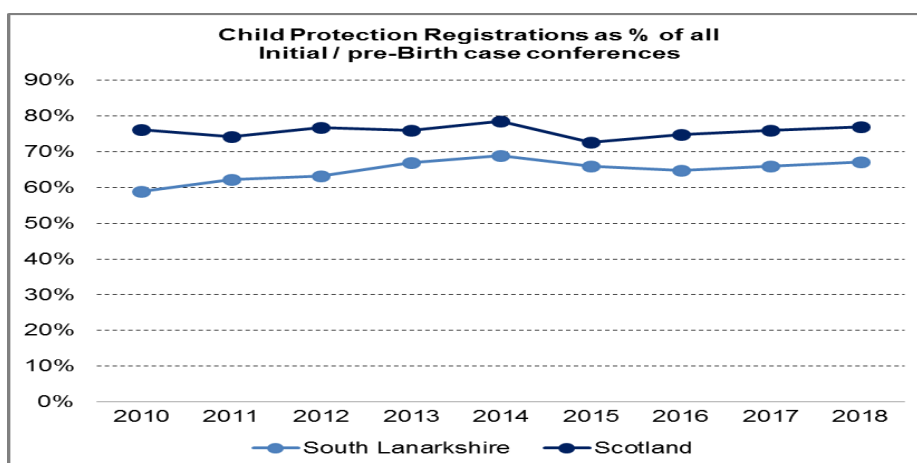
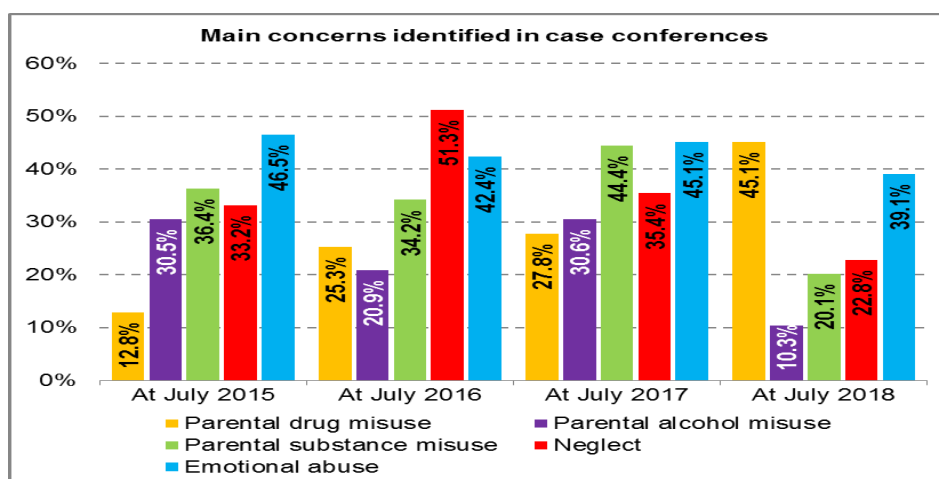


Chart 7 shows in 2018 in South Lanarkshire 67.1% of Case Conferences resulted in **new Child Protection Registrations**. 67.1% compared to a Scottish average of 76.9%. The South Lanarkshire 'conversion' rate has always been lower than the Scottish rate.

### CHILD PROTECTION REGISTER – CASE CONFERENCES - CONCERNS

In 2017-2018 the largest number of concerns raised at Child Protection Case Conferences in South Lanarkshire related to Parental Drug misuse – raised 83 times. The next highest was Emotional abuse – 72 times – followed by Domestic Abuse – identified 43 times – Neglect was identified 42 times, and Parental Mental Health problems were identified 38 times.

Chart 8 - Percentage of times certain *Main concerns* were identified at Case Conferences in South Lanarkshire.



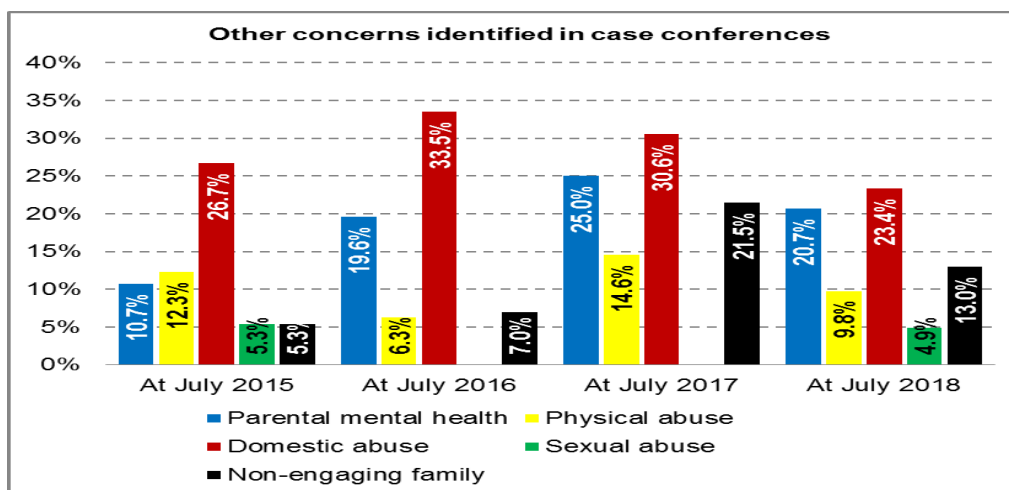
Source South Lanarkshire Central Research Unit



Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

Recognising that a parent can have more than one concern we increasingly show *Parental Drug misuse* as the highest issue of concern in Case Conferences followed by emotional abuse. Chart 9 demonstrates in 2018, a decrease in all the other concerns. Findings evidence that in some cases the impact of emotional abuse correlates with parent’s mental health instability as well as a direct relationship with domestic abuse.(\* substance misuse concern includes both alcohol and drugs)

**Chart 9** -Percentage of times certain *other concerns* were identified at Case Conferences in South Lanarkshire.

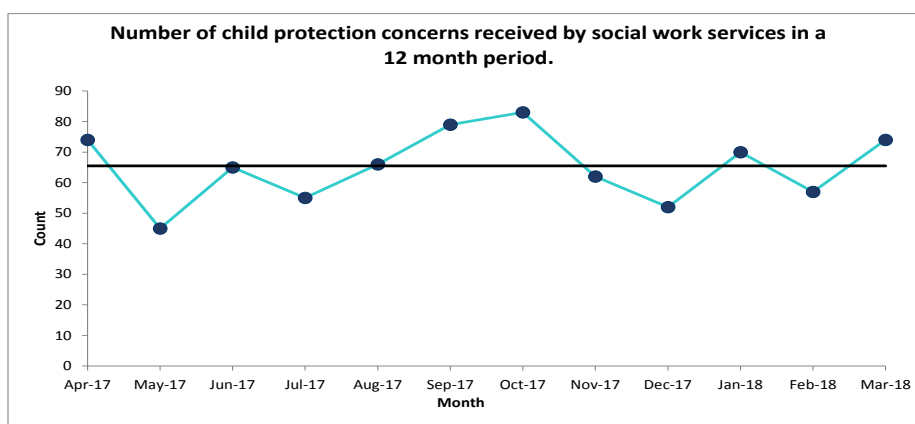


Source South Lanarkshire Central Research Unit

Chart 9 shows, *Domestic abuse* has continually been a significant concern raised – although recently it has been raised relatively fewer times. Parental Mental Health issues have been an increasingly common concern over time. We recognised that domestic abuse, emotional abuse and parental mental health are inextricably linked. Overall we need to understand this relationship further and identify actions to mitigate all three.

### CHILD PROTECTION SHARED DATASET MEASURES

**Chart 10** – Number of child protection concerns received in a 12 month period



In the data collection period of April 2017-March 2018 there were 782 notifications of child protection concerns which, generally fluctuate in South Lanarkshire within an acceptable range of between 50 and 70 notifications on a monthly basis. In the specified period an increase in notifications can be seen from

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

September to October 2018 before once again returning to within usual ranges. This may have been for a number of reasons including large sibling groups. No one type of concern was highlighted and therefore a heightened risk to people or the organisation that required further action. Referral routes vary and whilst predominantly from Police, Health, Social Work and Education, notifications are also received from other services, family members and the public.

**Chart 11** – Number of repeat child protection concerns received by social work services in a 12 month period

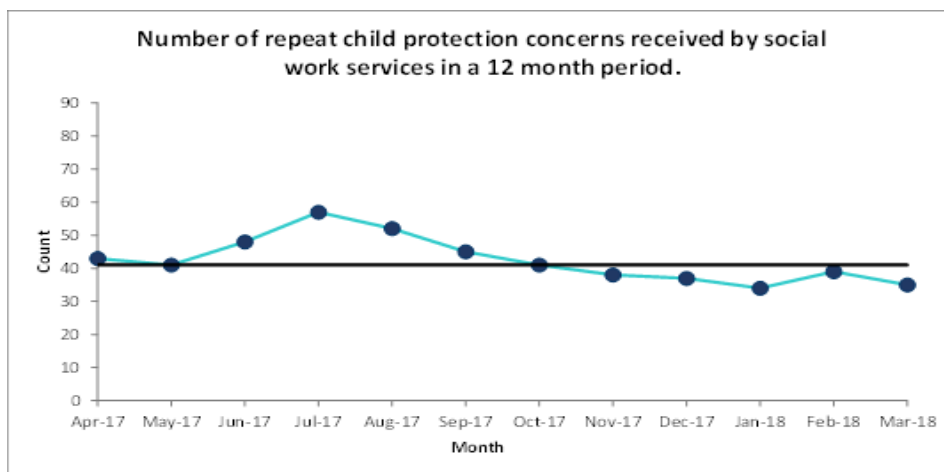
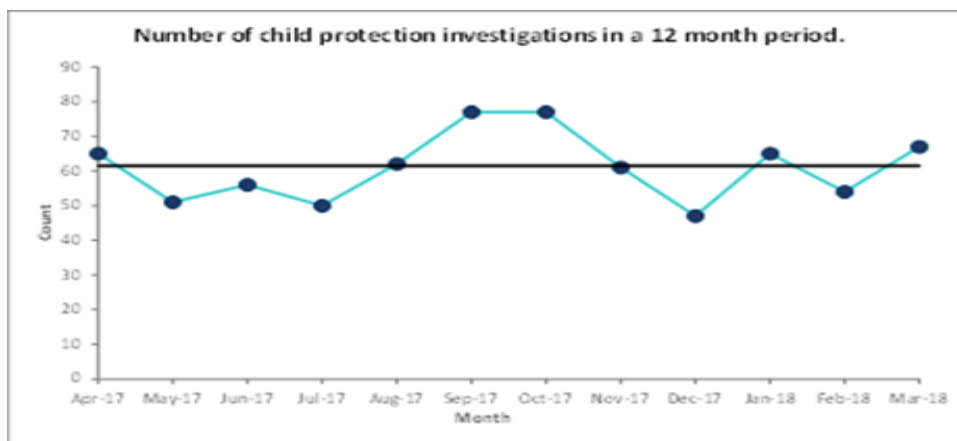


Chart 11 shows the trend of repeat child protection concerns which, has been decreasing since October 2017. The latest figure shows 38% of repeat concerns. There are various reasons for repeat concerns which are worth further investigation.

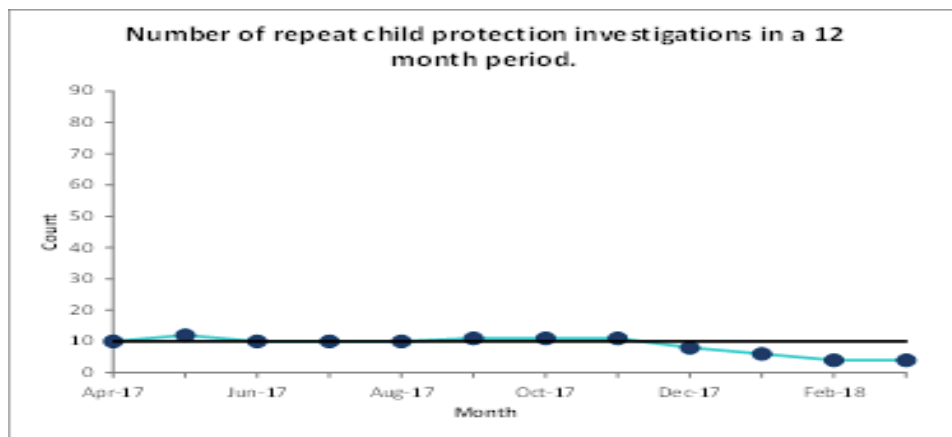
**Chart 12** – Number of child protection investigations in a 12 month period.



In the same period there were 752 child protection investigations. The conversion rate from notification of child protection concern to investigation remains consistently high in South Lanarkshire. As a hypothesis this could be because (a) referrals are always appropriate and meet criteria or (b) thresholds are low. The increase in the period August 17 – November 17 can be explained by large sibling groups over the specified period. It is also the same period as implementation of the new Initial Referral Discussion (IRD) process and could, in part, explain the increase in those going to investigation before settling back down again in December 2017.

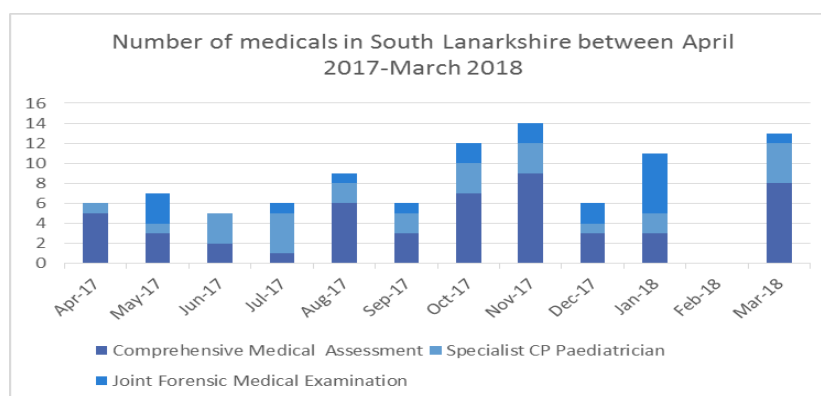
**Chart 13** – Number of repeat child protection investigations in a 12 month period

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities



There are a wide variety of reasons for repeating child protection investigations more than once, and in most cases it relates to responding to an increased risk often due to a parent’s addiction, on-going mental health problems, or domestic violence in the home. In chart 14 there were 214 repeat investigations with our trend beginning to show a decrease in the numbers of repeat investigations in November 2017.

Chart 14 Number of comprehensive ,specialist and joint forensic medical



As part of our child protection processes some cases require a medical at the point of IRD. Chart 14 shows the numbers and type across a 12 month period. In the period of April 17- March 18. There were 50 comprehensive medicals, 26 specialist CP paediatrician, 19 forensic medicals and 164 joint investigative interviews.

Chart 15 – Number of Initial child protection case conferences (ICPCC) in a 12 month period.

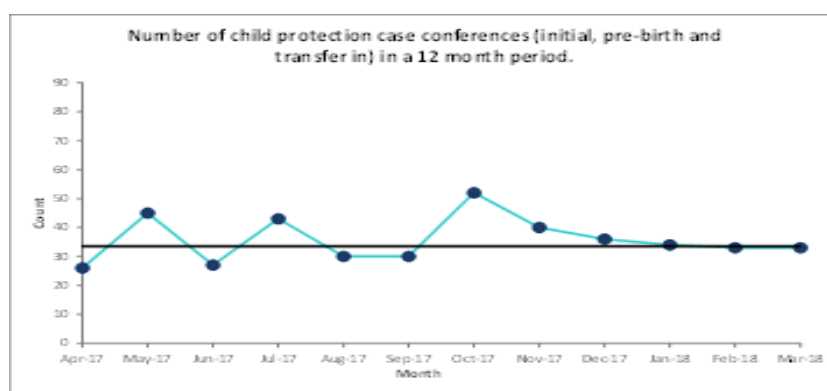
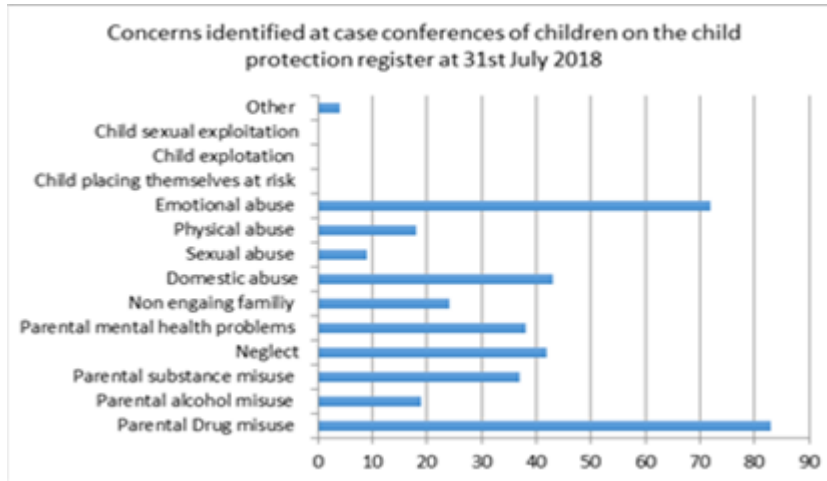


Chart 15 illustrates that there were 429 child protection case conferences (initial, pre-birth and transfer in) in a 12 month period and a decline since November 2017. Although overall our number of case conferences

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

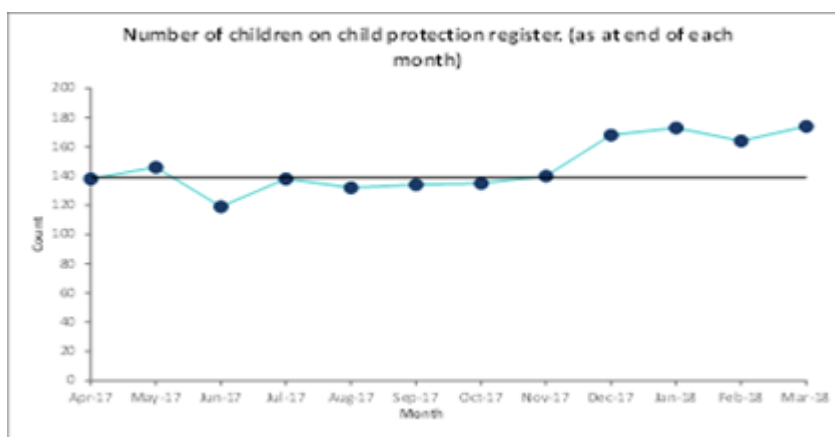
have increased over the years in a national comparison our conversion rate evidences that our percentage of child protection registrations from case conferences is 65.9%, lower than the national average of 75.9%.

**Chart 16 – Concerns identified at case conferences of children on the child protection register at July 2018**



Since 2012, multiple concerns can be recorded at each case conference (rather than just the main category of abuse). This means that the total number of concerns is larger than the total number of registrations, and that figures on concerns identified from 2012 onwards are not comparable to previous data on category of abuse/risk. Although a main category / indicator of concern is identified at the time of a child being placed on the Child Protection Register in South Lanarkshire, other factors are often also prevalent in some family situations and are recorded at the same time. Indicators of potential or actual risk are considered in relation to prevalence and will often occur together, particularly in complex and vulnerable circumstances for children and young people where there are a number of risk factors. Particular attention is required in wellbeing and risk assessments on the cumulative impact for the child. The identified concerns in this period in relation to the national picture also reflect trends in the local landscape at that time. The key areas are actively being addressed in a number of forums.

**Chart 17 – Number of children on the Child Protection Register (at the end of each month)**



As is often the case, there is a lot of variability from month to month in the numbers of children on the Child Protection Register at a local authority level. This is due to the numbers of children involved. In many cases, there are no obvious reasons for changes, although in some areas, sibling groups entering and leaving the system has led to fluctuating numbers. The overall figure of 2.8 per 1,000 children (0-15yrs) on the Child Protection Register for the period shown was lower than the national average of 3.0

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

in the same year.

**Chart 18 – Percentage of children on the Child Protection register with a disability (at the end of each month)**

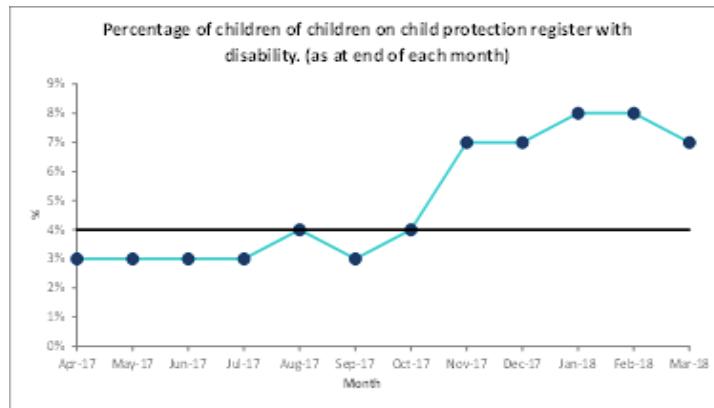
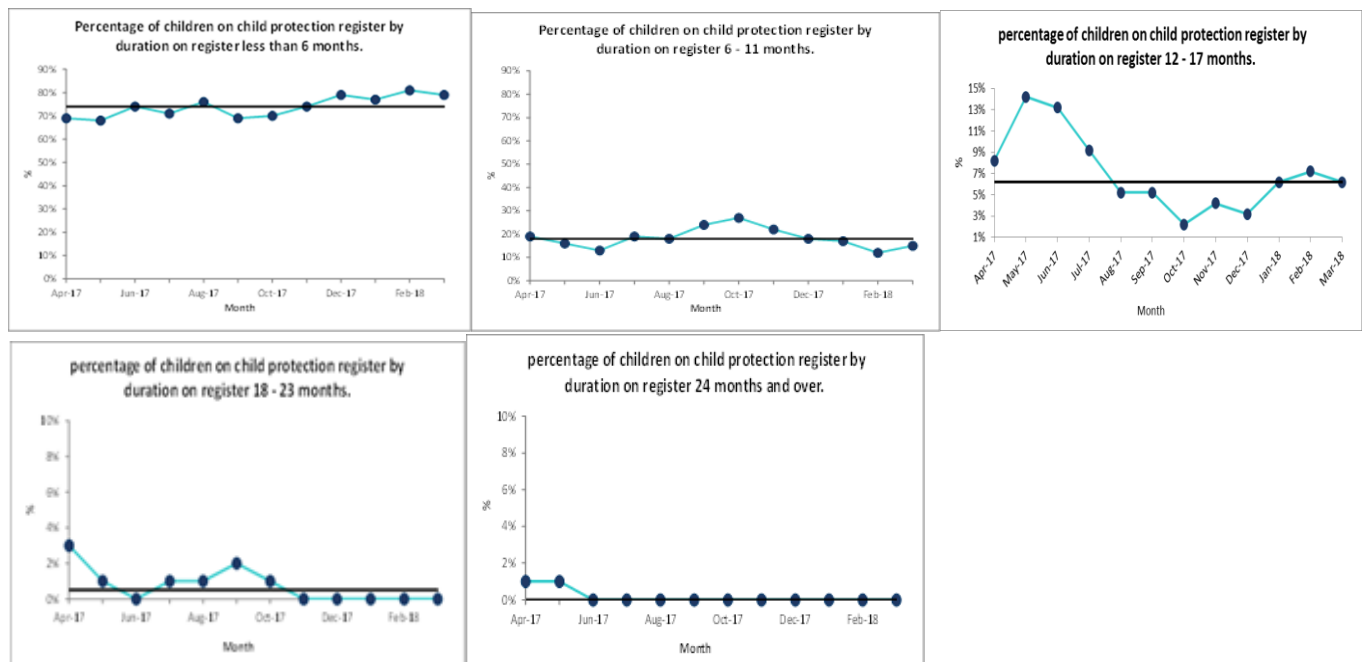


Chart 18 illustrates the percentage of children with a disability over a 12 month period. The chart evidences an increasing trend with the current figure of 7%. As a theory this could be due to improved recording.

**Chart 19 – Percentage of children on Child Protection Register by duration in months. (family of measures)**



The charts above illustrate improving trends in all the charts, with 74% of children on the child protection register for less than six months, 18% for 6-11 months, 6.5 % for 12-17 months, 1% 18-23 months and 0.5% for 24 months and over.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

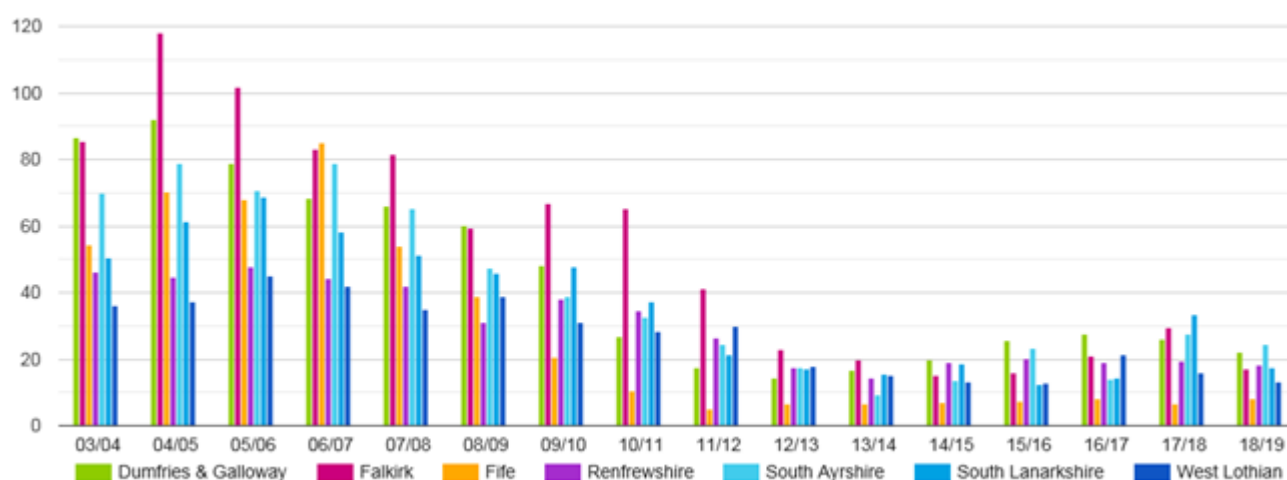
## CHILDREN'S HEARING SYSTEM - NUMBER OF HEARINGS

### OVERVIEW

In South Lanarkshire in the period 2017-2018 to 2018-2019 the number of children referred to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) decreased by 22.2% or by 154 children. Of the 539 children and young people referred, 407 (72%) had care and protection non offence referrals and 158 (28%) offence referrals. The most common ages for children and young people to be referred to the reporter continues to be 9-17 year olds. There were 1,689 children's reporter hearings in the period– with the number of Children's Reporter Hearings held in South Lanarkshire decreasing slightly, by 0.4% or by 6 hearings. This compared with a decrease of 2.8% in Scotland as a whole.

In 2018-2019, in terms of the decisions made by Children's Reporter in South Lanarkshire, it was determined that for 30.6% of children a hearing was arranged on new grounds. For a further 27.4% of children involved no hearing was arranged as the child was referred to the local authority, and for 20.2% of children there was no indication of need for compulsory measures. Relatively fewer children in South Lanarkshire saw no indication of need for compulsory measures, compared to Scotland as a whole – 20.2% against 27.2%. A total of 191 (78.3%) children had a decision made to impose a Compulsory Supervision Order (CSO) in 2018-2019 in South Lanarkshire. This was relatively fewer than was the case in Scotland as a whole. Relatively more in South Lanarkshire saw the grounds for referral considered in reviews of CSOs. At the end of financial year 2018-2019 a total of 472 children in South Lanarkshire were subject to a CSO and a total of 38 Child Protection Orders (CPO) were made.

Chart 20- Rate of Children per 1,000 referrals received-offence by the children's reporter with comparator councils

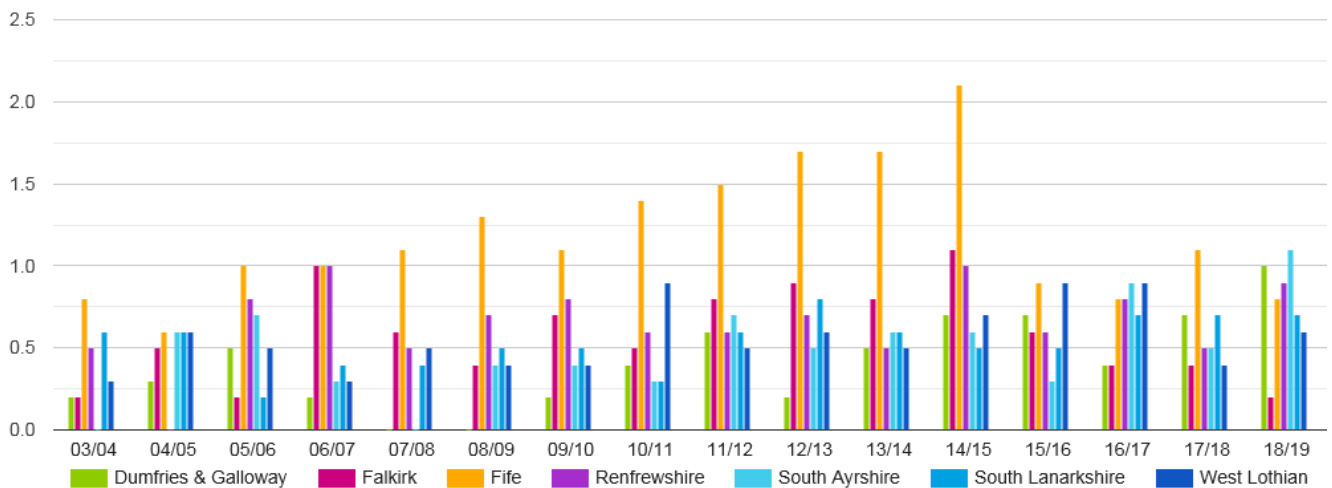


Source: Scottish Children's Reporter Administration  
[http://www.scra.gov.uk/resources\\_articles\\_category/official-statistics/](http://www.scra.gov.uk/resources_articles_category/official-statistics/)

Of the 539 children and young people referred, 158 (28%) were offence referrals. Chart 20 shows South Lanarkshire is third lowest area at 9.8 per 1,000 compared to the comparator areas of Renfrewshire 18.6, Dumfries and Galloway 25.1, Falkirk 11.9, South Ayrshire 21.8 and above West Lothian 8.9 and Fife 7.9 per 1,000 referrals.

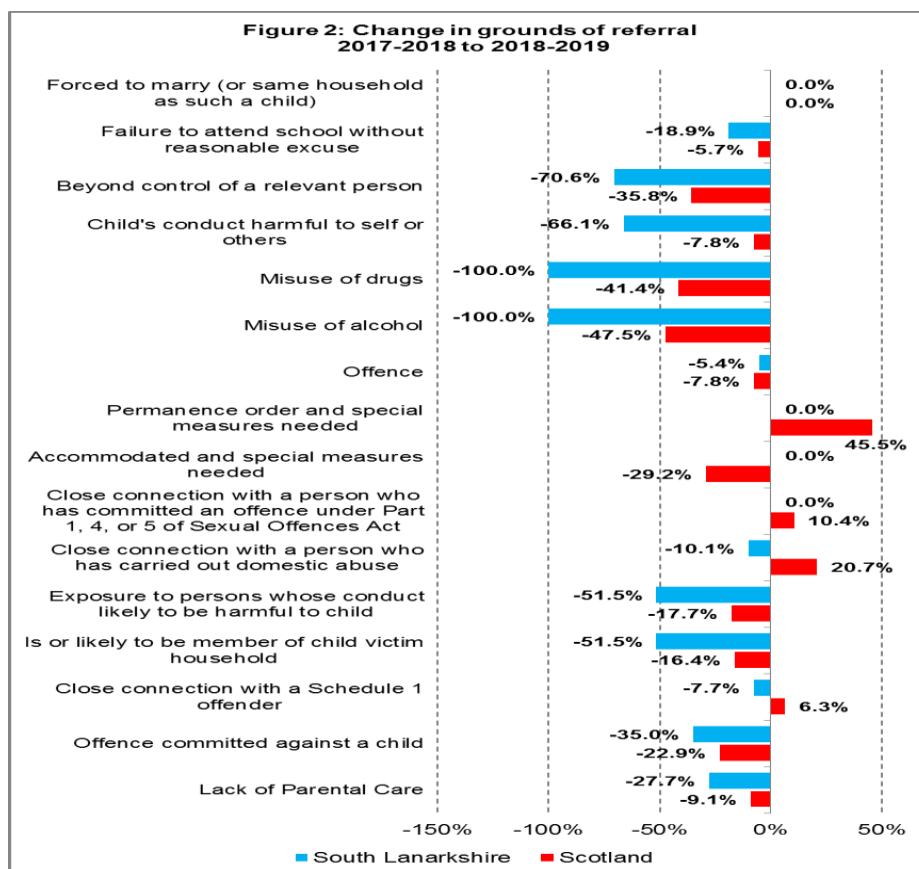
Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 21-** Rate of Children’s per 1,000 with Child Protection Order by comparator councils



In South Lanarkshire in 2018-19 the number of CPO’s decreased by 3 from the previous year with the rate remaining the same for three years 0.7 per 1,000. In 2018, South Lanarkshire rate was the third lowest with comparator councils. The rates per 1,000 are as follows Dumfries and Galloway 1.0, Fife 0.8, Renfrewshire 0.9, South Ayrshire 1.1 with South Lanarkshire being higher than Falkirk 0.2 and West Lothian 0.6 per 1,000.

**Chart 22-** Change in grounds of referral in 2017-2018 to 2018-2019

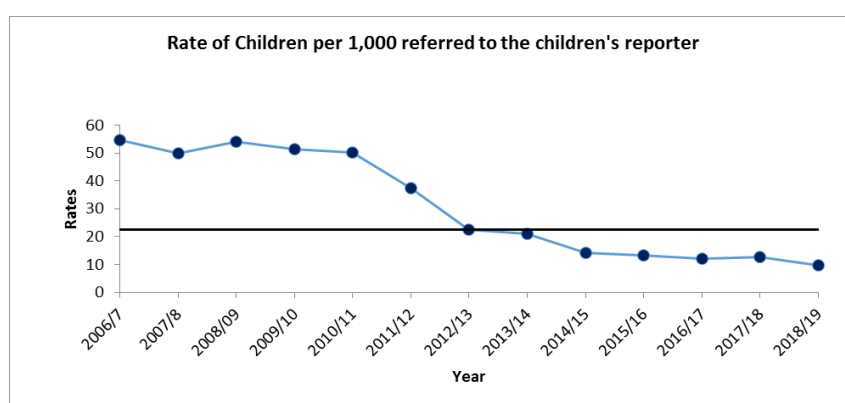


Source South Lanarkshire Central Research Unit

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

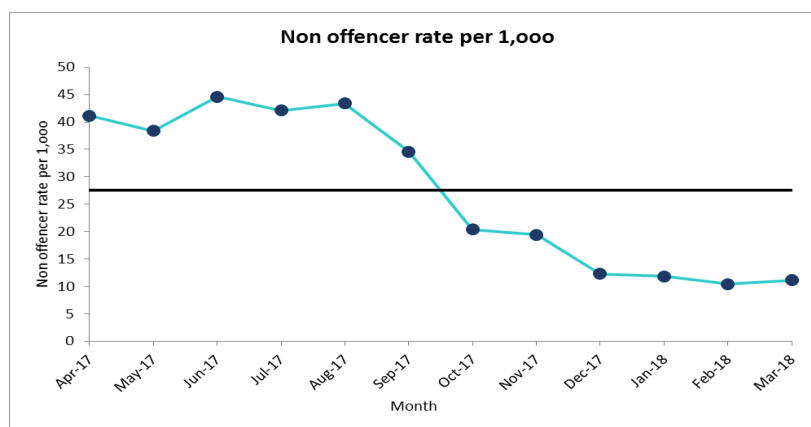
Chart 22 shows the change in the main grounds of referral in South Lanarkshire and in Scotland over 2017-2018 to 2018-2019 period. As this figure shows, referrals in South Lanarkshire fell in twelve categories over the 2017-2018 to 2018-2019 period. For ten the downward trends were significantly greater in South Lanarkshire than in Scotland as a whole. For referrals due to the child committing an offence the fall in South Lanarkshire was slightly smaller than in Scotland as a whole. The number of children referred to the Children’s Reporter due to the child’s close connection with a person who has carried out domestic abuse showed a decrease of 10.1% over the 2017-2018 to 2018-2019 period, compared to a 20.7% rise in Scotland as a whole. This was also the case for those referred as they had a close connection with a Schedule 1 offender, falling by 7.7% in South Lanarkshire but increasing by 6.3% in Scotland as a whole. Over the 2017-2018 to 2018-2019 period there were no referral grounds that showed an increase in South Lanarkshire.

**Chart 23** – Rates per 1,000 children referred to Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration in a 12 month period



The rates of referral to the childrens reporter have been decreasing since 2010 both nationally and locally. In 2018 the rate was 12.6 per 1,000 which has now decreased further to 9.8 per 1,000 in 2018/19.

**Chart 24** – Rates per 1,000 children and young people on Non offences



The rates of children and young people who had care and protection non offence referrals to the childrens reporter have been decreasing since 2010 both nationally and locally. The latest figure in the data collection period was 11.1 per 1,000 in March 2018.



Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 25 – Rates per 1,000 of hearings held**

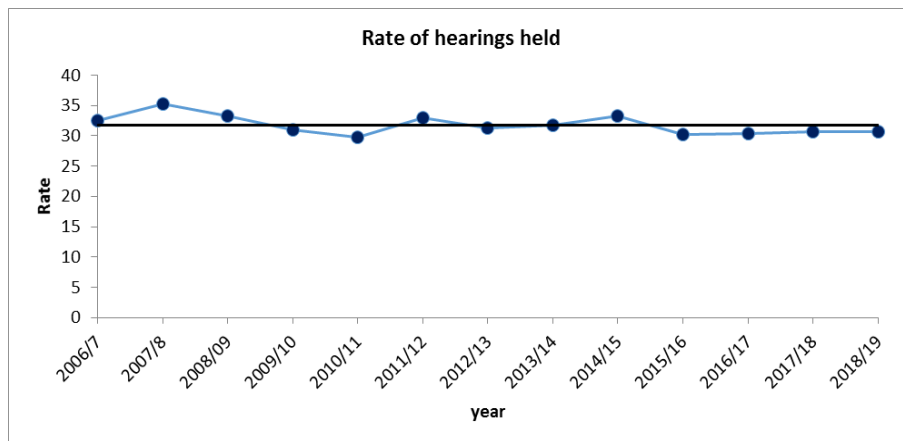


Chart 25 illustrates the rate of hearings held has remained static, with a minimal decrease in the last three years. Current figure in March 2018 was 31.5 per 1,000.

**Chart 26 – Rates per 1,000 children and young people subject to a Compulsory Supervision**

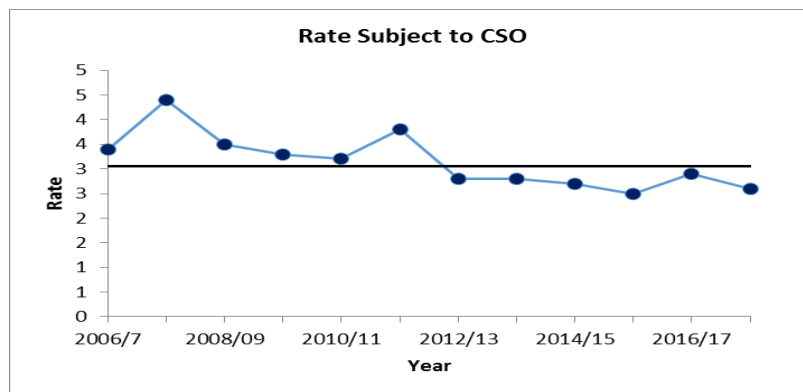


Chart 26 illustrates a decreasing trend in children and young people subject to Child Supervision orders. Current figure in March 2018 was 2.6 per 1,000.

**Chart 27 – Rates per 1,000 children and young people terminated Compulsory Supervision Order(CSO)**

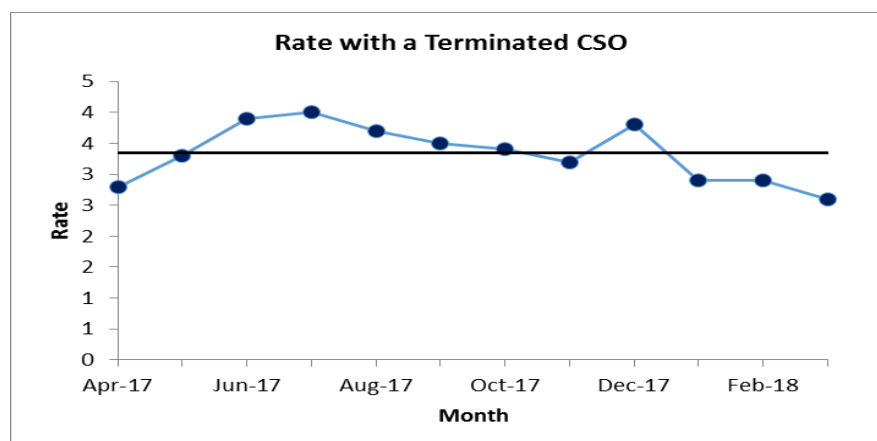


Chart 27 evidences a downward trend in the rate of children and young people with a terminated CSO. Current figure in March 2018 was 2.6 per 1,000.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 28** – Rates per 1,000 children and young people with a SCRA Joint Report

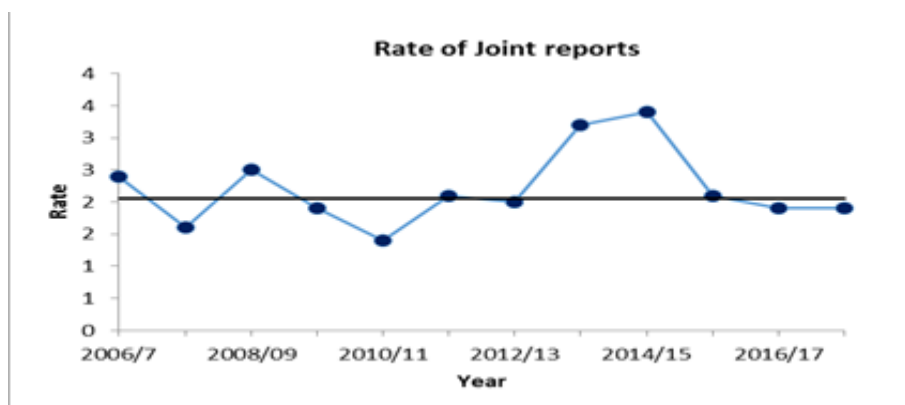
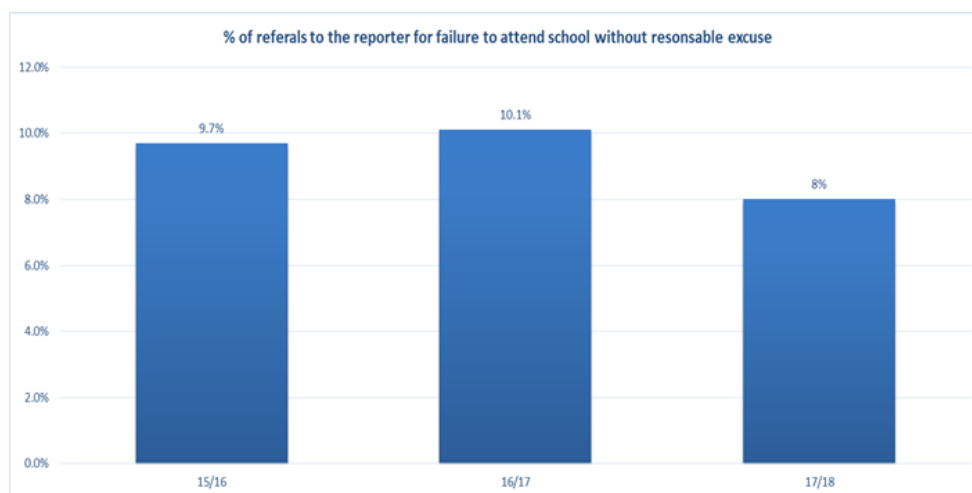


Chart 28 illustrates a variable trend in SCRA joint reports with a current rate of 2.05 per 1,000

**Chart 29** – Percentage of referrals to the reporter for failure to attend school without reasonable excuse



Vulnerable Young people who disengage with school are known to become involved in risk taking behaviours sometimes leading onto youth offending. The latest figures 17/18 show 8% of children and young people were referred to the reporter on the grounds of failure to attend school without reasonable excuse a decrease from the previous year within the wider context of increased referrals (148 of 1,855 referrals). Positive changes have included Head Teachers receiving data in a way that enables them to analyse their attendance trends and patterns of all pupils and in vulnerable populations.

## 2. Corporate Parenting

### OVERVIEW

Under the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, 'looked after children' are defined as those in the care of their local authority – sometimes referred to as a 'corporate parent'. There are many reasons children may become looked after, including: they face abuse or neglect at home; they have disabilities that require special care; they are unaccompanied minors seeking asylum, or who have been illegally trafficked into the UK; or they have been involved in the youth justice system.  
(<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-guidance-child-protection-scotland/>)

In July 2018, there were 655 Looked After Children in South Lanarkshire or 10.64 per 1,000, below the Scottish rate of 14.3 per 1,000. A total of 252 children Started to be Looked After.

There were 341 Males or 52.3% of Looked After Children and 314 Females or 47.9%, 475 or 72.5% – were aged 5 to 15, with 125 or 19.1% being aged under 5, and 55 or 8.4% were aged 16 or over. Compared to Scotland as a whole, Looked After Children in South Lanarkshire were relatively younger – 8.4% were aged 16 and over compared to 11.8% in Scotland as a whole. As part of the continuing care/staying put agenda, 46 young people aged 16-21 have remained within our care.

A total of 79 Looked After Children had Additional Support Needs/ disabilities – the highest figure recorded since 2004. This represented 12.1% of all Looked After Children – and it was above the Scottish average of 10.6%. A total of 13 or 2% of all Looked After Children in South Lanarkshire came from Minority Ethnic Communities. The proportion of Looked After Children in South Lanarkshire has always been significantly less than that in Scotland as a whole but due to data issues no Scottish data for 2018 is available.

Shifting the balance of care in South Lanarkshire's is a key priority. Our 2018 figures show 88.5% of children and young people were in community settings compared to 11.5% in residential settings.

In 2018, just under a third of South Lanarkshire Looked After Children were Living with Foster Carers with a further raise of 187 or 28.5% living with Friends and Relatives (Kinship). In 2018, 178 or 27.2% were being supported to live at home with their parents.

Our figures demonstrate that the largest number of looked after children accommodated have been with Foster Carers and this has remained steady since 2015, 97% of foster placements have been locally based foster care, and not Purchased Foster Care). Trends over the years have seen a decrease in the use of community based settings.

A total of 37 or 20.8% of Looked After Children being looked after Away from Home in 2018 had experienced 3 or more placements. In 2015-2017, the South Lanarkshire figure was always below the Scottish figure however, the current figure shows a slight increase above Scotland. Following further analysis of the data to understand this increase we found that our data has been inflated by incorrect data which included house moves of carers.

Nearly half of Looked After Children had been Looked After for between 1 and 4 years – 314 or 47.9% – with a further 213 or 32.5% having been Looked After for under 1 year. A total of 117 or 17.9% had been Looked After for between 5 and 11 years and 11 or 1.7% had been Looked After for between 12 and 15 years. Compared to Scotland as a whole, Looked After Children in South Lanarkshire had generally spent less time being Looked After – 19.6% had been Looked After for 5 years or more compared to 29.8% in Scotland as a whole. In percentage terms South Lanarkshire has seen a greater increase over both periods in those Looked After for between 12 and 15 years, compared to the Scottish increases. The number Looked After for under 1 year has increased recently and over the longer term, whereas in Scotland as a whole the number has declined over both periods.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

Permanent Fostering –Average time (in months) from recommendation for permanence to registration at panel in 2019 for children 1-4 years old was 22 months and for 5-11 year olds 16 months. We recognise improving timescales and tackling drift will be a key improvement going forward.

In 2017-19 Adoption from recommendation to registration for babies under 1 year reduced from 11 – 7 months supported by our dedicated service from the parenting assessment team and for 1-4 year olds in the same period the data demonstrates a reduction from 21 months to 17 months.

All establishments and partners to work together to address the needs of learners and enable care experienced pupils to reach their potential. In 2017/18 83.3% care experienced pupils had achieved one or more qualification at SCQF Level 3. This is the highest figure since 2014-2015 and the first increase since 2014-2015. This is the highest figure since 2014-2015 and the 2nd consecutive annual increase but is below the Scottish average of 86.1%.

A total of 66.7% of Looked After Children who left school in 2017-2018 had achieved one or more qualification at SCQF Level 4 in comparison to the Scottish figure of 76.4%.

The school leaver initial destinations have increased **consecutively for three years**. In 2017-2018 a total of 90% of Looked After Children were in Positive Destinations (work, education, and training) – close to a record high and above the Scottish average of 83% – Follow up Destinations Survey taken 9 months later, the South Lanarkshire figure current figure is 78% and above the Scottish figure of 76%.

In 2016-2017, just over three-quarters of exclusions of Looked After Children in South Lanarkshire involved Females and the Male exclusion rate was around a third of the Female rate. Compared to Scotland as a whole, the overall Looked After Children exclusion rate and the exclusion rates for Females and Males in South Lanarkshire were below the comparable Scottish rates. Data shows a continuing trend of reducing exclusions over the last three years with looked after at home pupils 0.30% down from 0.54% in 2014/15 and looked after away from home pupils 0.20% down from 0.46 in 2014/15.

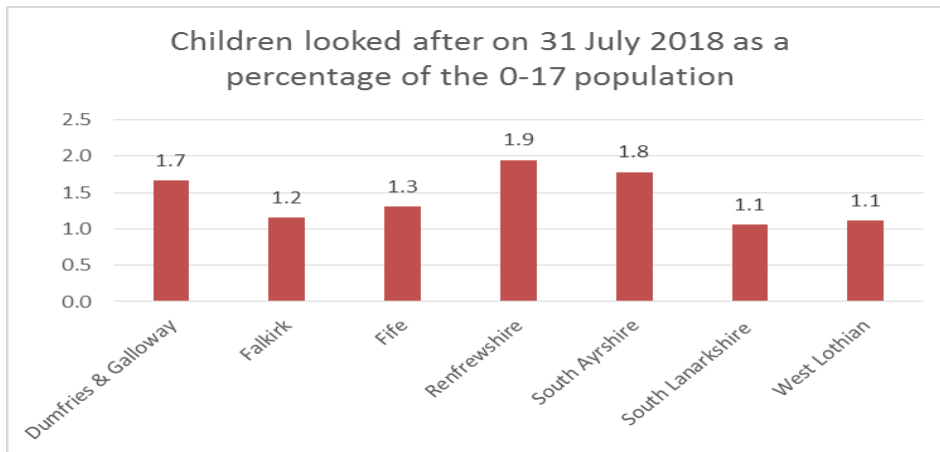
Attendance patterns for looked after pupils have remained stable over a number of years and have seen a recent improvement for pupils looked after at home up from 79.8% in 2016/17 to 84.5% in 2017/18 as a result of this work. The data shows Improvements across all (primary, secondary and ASN) sectors. The attendance data also evidences a reducing gap between looked after away from home pupils and looked after at home pupils of 10.6% in 2014/15 to 8.9% in 17/18 a reduction of 1.7%.

In 2018, 79% of Looked After Children who left care, left with a Pathway Plan and 100% had a Pathway Coordinator – both above the Scottish averages of 75% and 77% respectively. The proportion with a Pathway Plan was the highest since 2015. In South Lanarkshire all of those who left care were still in contact with the Council, compared to only half in Scotland as a whole.

In 2018, for the 6th consecutive year, none of the Looked After Children eligible for Aftercare in South Lanarkshire had been identified as having experienced homelessness. In 2018-2019, former Looked After Children accounted for 6.59% of all youth homeless applications in South Lanarkshire. This is significantly below the figure for Scotland as a whole of 11.6%. They have always accounted for a smaller share of youth homeless applications here than in Scotland as a whole.

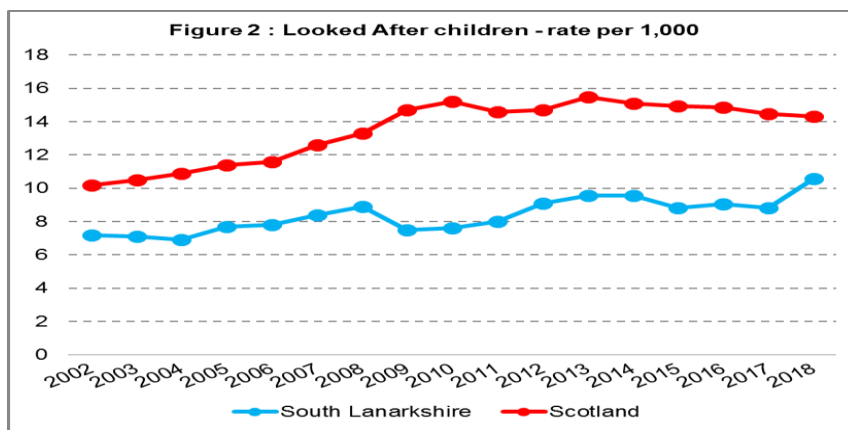
Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 30-** Children looked after as a percentage of the 0-17 population with local authority Comparators



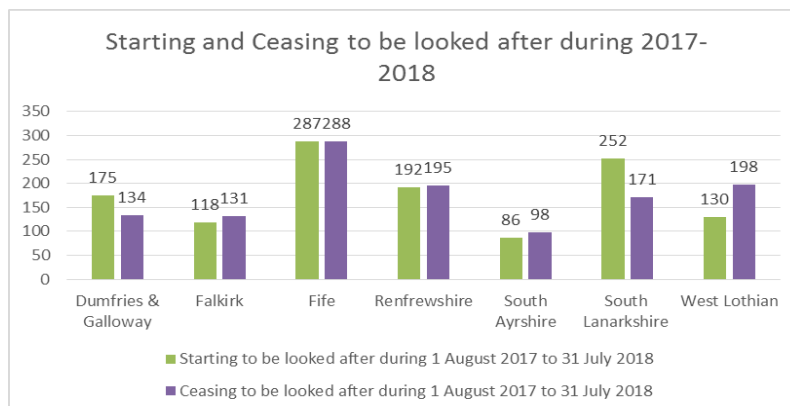
In 2018, the last comparable figures show South Lanarkshire as a percentage of the 0-17 population was 1.1%, below a Scottish level of 1.4% and the sixth lowest local authority across Scotland.

**Chart 31-** Rate per 1,000 of Looked After Children under 18 and young people



As at 31 July 2018, there were 549 children and young people looked after, equivalent to a rate of 8.8 per 1,000 population in comparison to the Scottish figures of 14.5 per 1,000. Chart one shows a minimal increase at a local level alongside an increasing national picture, and a notable gap of 5.7 per 1,000 rate between Scotland and South Lanarkshire. Although a slight increase this picture demonstrates our key priority to provide early help to prevent needs from escalating.

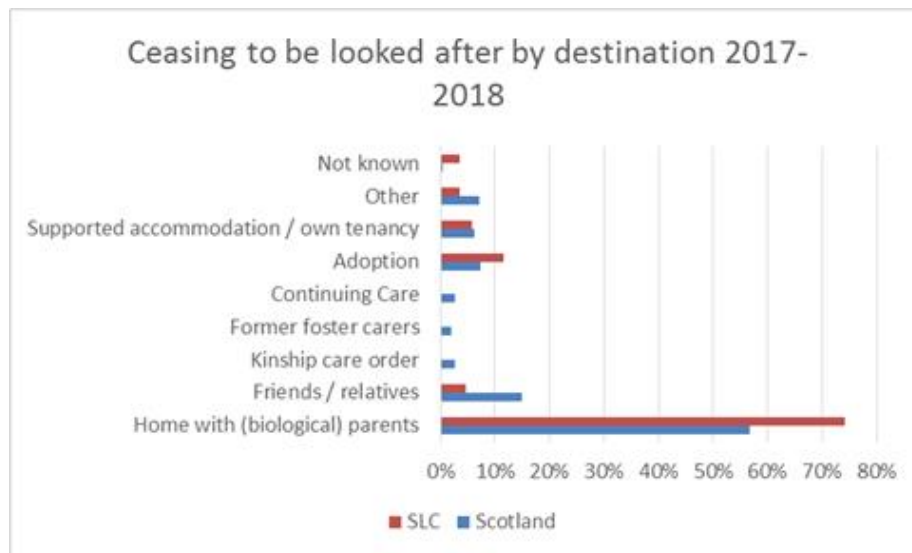
**Chart 32-** Starting and Ceasing to be Looked After during 2017-2018 with comparator authorities



Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

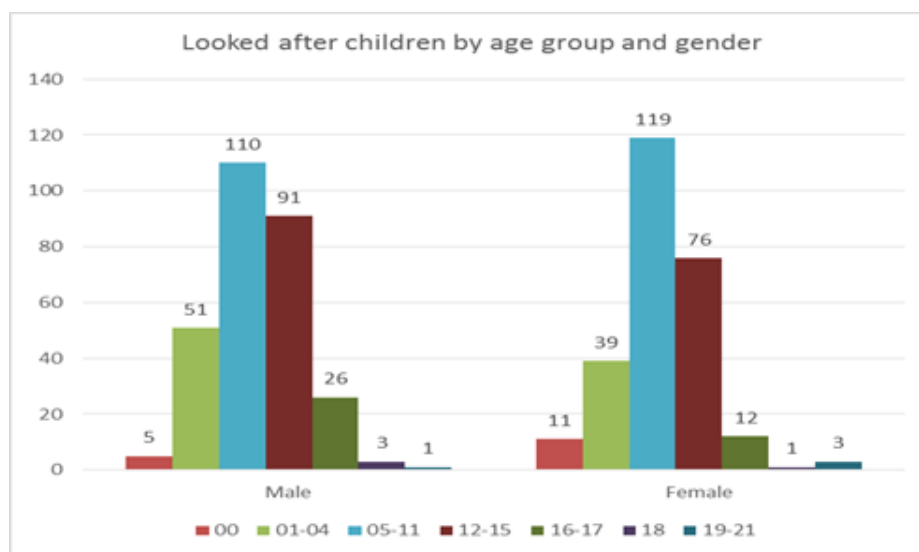
Chart 32 shows that in 2018, a total of 252 children Started to be Looked After - while 171 Ceased to be Looked After. Recently and over the longer term the numbers Starting to be Looked After have increased in South Lanarkshire whereas they have declined in Scotland. The numbers Ceasing to be Looked After in South Lanarkshire have also increased recently and over the longer term. In 2017-2018 of those Ceasing to be Looked After, 74.3% ended up Living with their biological parents – compared to only 56.7% in Scotland as a whole. A further 11.7% were Adopted compared to 7.3% in Scotland.

**Chart 33-** Starting and Ceasing to be looked after by destination 2017-2018



In 2017-2018, of those Ceasing to be Looked After, 74.3% ended up at home with their biological parents. 11.7% were Adopted and 5.8% were in Supported Accommodation or their own tenancy. A total of 4.7% were living with friends/relatives. Compared to Scotland as a whole, significantly more ended up at Home (74.3% compared to 56.7%) and being Adopted (11.7% compared to 7.3%) whilst significantly less with friends relatives – 4.7% compared to 15%.

**Chart 34-** Children Looked After characteristics, disability, ethnicity and age

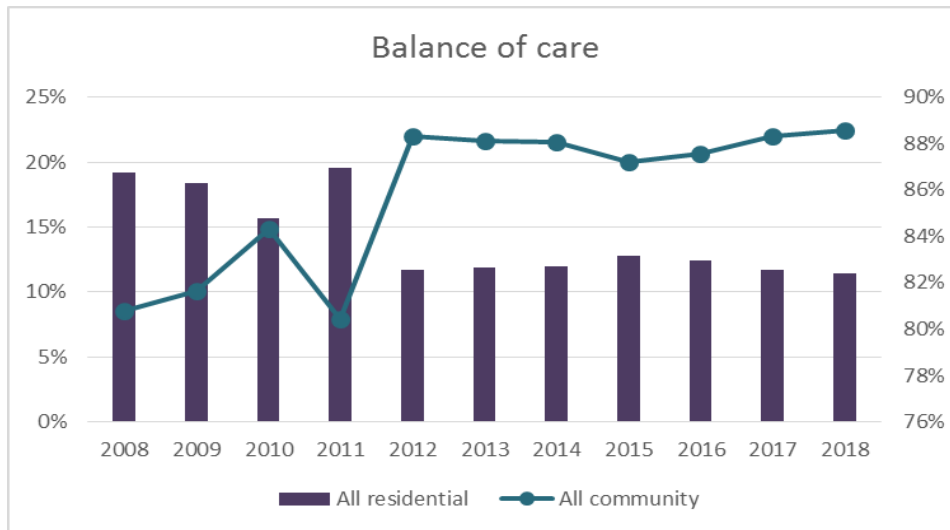


In Chart 34 we can see that in 2018, of all the South Lanarkshire’s Looked After Children 341, or 52.1% were male and 314 or 47.7% were female. A total of 79, 12.1% had additional needs, including disabilities, 13 or 2% were identified as coming from a minority ethnic community. Of the 549 Looked

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

After children, a total of 106 (19.3%) were under 5, 396 or (72.1%) were aged 5-15, with, 38 or (0.7%) were 16-17, 4 (0.1%) aged 18 and 4 (0.1%) 19-21. Since 2009, generally a greater proportion of Looked After Children in South Lanarkshire have had Additional Support Needs or disabilities than in Scotland as a whole.

**Chart 35 – Balance of Care between residential and community settings**



In the period of 2016-2018 chart 4 evidences an improving trend and shift of the balance of care from residential settings to community settings. In 2018, the current figures show 88.5% in community settings and 11.5 % in residential settings.

**Chart 36 – Balance of Care between residential and community settings**

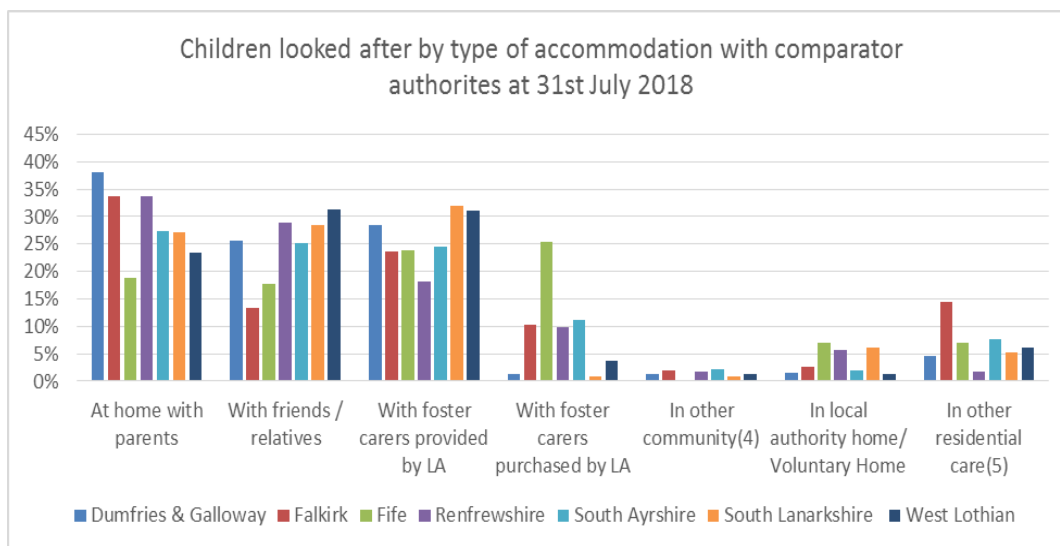
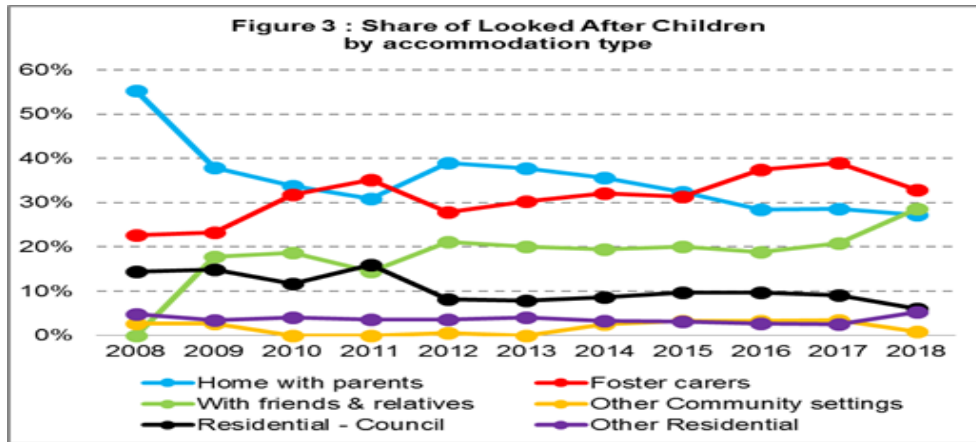


Chart 36 above shows a breakdown in placement type with the first five categories as community and the last two as residential. The chart contains information from comparative authorities. In the reporting period in South Lanarkshire, 27% of children and young people were Looked After at Home with parents, 1% above the Scotland total of 26%, 29% with Kinship Carers Friends/Relatives, 1% above the Scotland total of 28%, 33% with Foster Carers provided by LA, 8% above the Scotland total of 24%, 1% with Foster Carers purchased by Local Authority, 9% below the Scotland total of 10%, 1% in other community (includes prospective adopters), the same as Scotland's total, 6% in Local Authority Home/in Voluntary Home, 1% above Scotland's total of 5%, 5% in other residential care (includes residential

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

school, secure accommodation) the same as Scotland's total.

**Chart 37- Percentage share of looked after children by accommodation type**



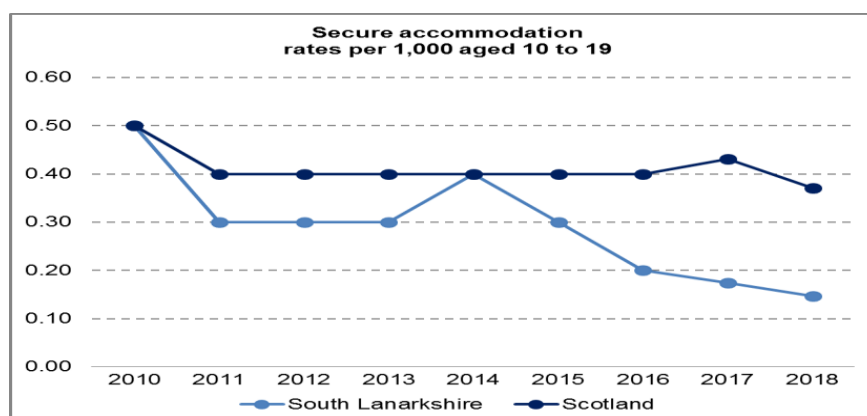
Source, Central Research Unit

In 2018, chart 37 shows an improving trend of looked after children living with foster carers and friends and family with:

- 33% living with Foster Carers
- 29% living with Friends and Relatives in Kinship Care
- 27% living at Home with their Parents
- 1% in other community settings (including perspective adopters)
- 6% in Local Authority Home/ in Voluntary Home
- 5% in other residential care (includes residential school, secure accommodation)

Since 2015, the largest numbers have been with Foster Carers (with 97% of them being in Provided and not Purchased Foster Care). Over both the recent and longer term, increasing Looked After Children - have been living in the community settings with Foster Carers, etc. or living with Friends and Relatives and less likely to be in Council Residential settings.

**Chart 38- Rate per 1,000 children aged 10-19 years old in secure accommodation in South Lanarkshire and Scotland**



Source South Lanarkshire Central Research Unit

In 2018, there were 5 children from South Lanarkshire in Secure accommodation – the lowest number ever recorded since at least 2010. The rate for South Lanarkshire children in secure accommodation per 1,000 children Aged 10 to 19 was 0.15 per 1,000 – the lowest rate ever recorded for South Lanarkshire since at least 2010 and the fourth consecutive annual decline. The South Lanarkshire rate was below Scottish rate of 0.37 per 1,000 children aged 10 to 19.



Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

### 3. High Level Outcome 1: We are successfully tackling issues of neglect and its impact on children

Chart 39 Neglect as a concern identified in case conferences

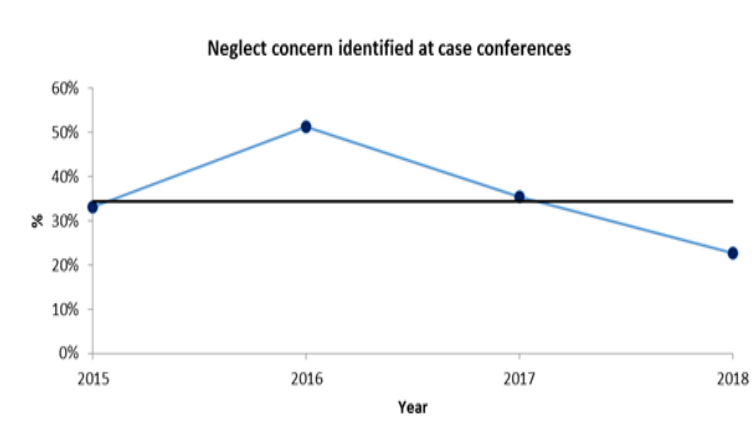
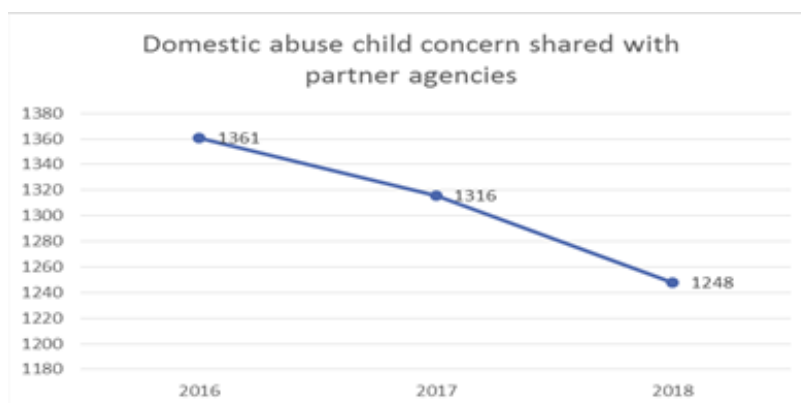


Chart 39 evidences a decreasing trend in neglect concern over the last two years with the latest figure 22.8% in 2018. At present we don't collect the other suggested measures in the national dataset under neglect. Our newly established neglect subgroup will work together to identify local measures that will increase our understanding and inform the neglect subgroup action plan.

### 4. High Level Outcome 2: We are successfully tackling domestic abuse and its impact on children

Chart 40 Domestic Abuse child concerns shared with partner agencies



In the last three years, the data evidences a reduction in domestic abuse child concerns. These are then shared with partner agencies. The percentage of children at present during a recorded domestic incident in 2018 was 41%. The same as the previous year.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 41** No of children exposed to more than one reported (repeat concerns) incident of domestic abuse in a 12 month period

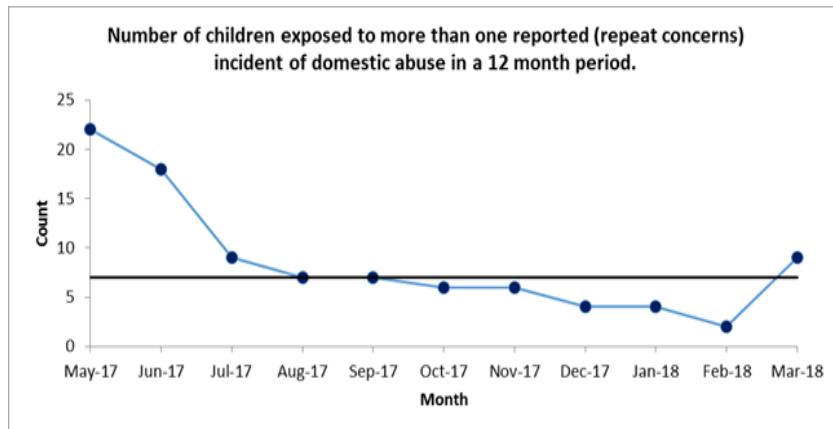


Chart 41 demonstrates a reducing trend in the number of children exposed to more than one reported (repeat concerns) incident of domestic abuse with a current figure of nine in March 2018.

**Chart 42** Percentage referred through domestic abuse screening where there has been a child protection concern by police or SW in a 12 month period

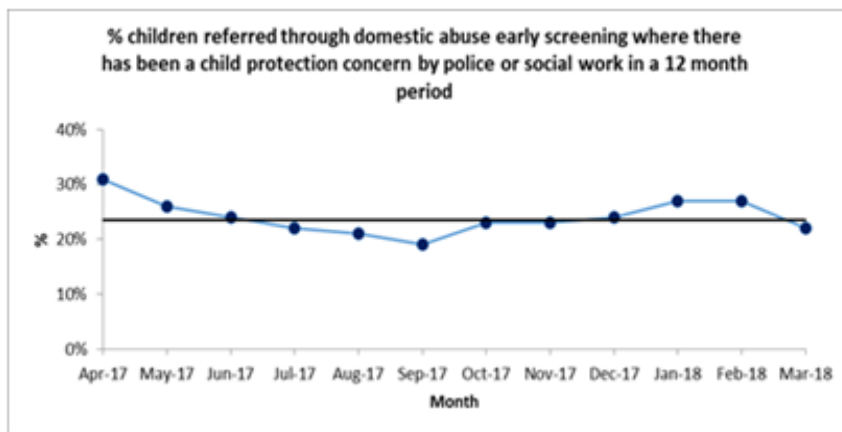


Chart 42 evidences a variable trend of children referred through domestic abuse early screening where there has been a child protection concern by police or social work. The variation reasons are not known and are worth further investigation. The current figure was 22%.

**Chart 43** Percentage of domestic abuse concerns that resulted in MARAC/MATAC referrals in a 12 month period

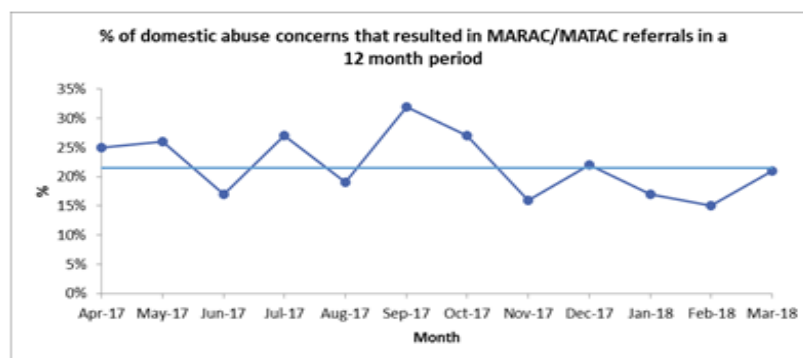


Chart 43 evidences a reduction in the percentage of domestic abuse concerns resulting in

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

MARAC/MATAC referrals in a 12 month period. The latest figure in March 2018 was 21%.

**Chart 44** Number of Marac/Matac repeat referrals in a 12 month period

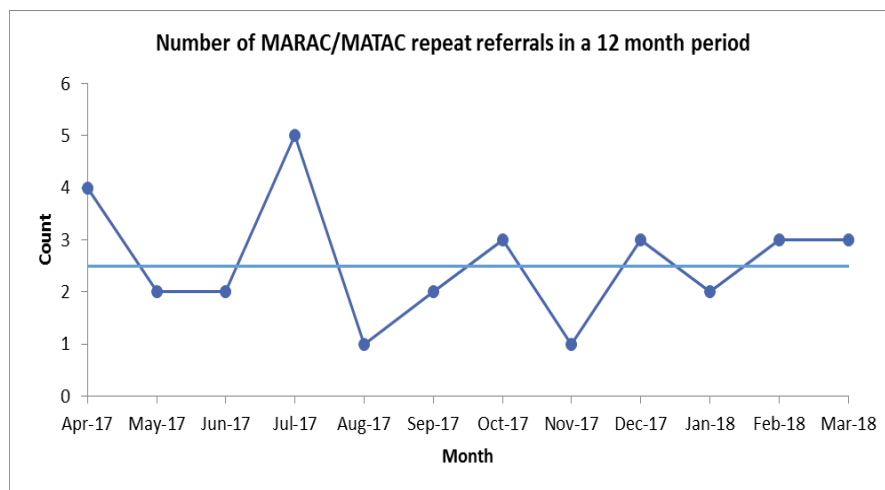
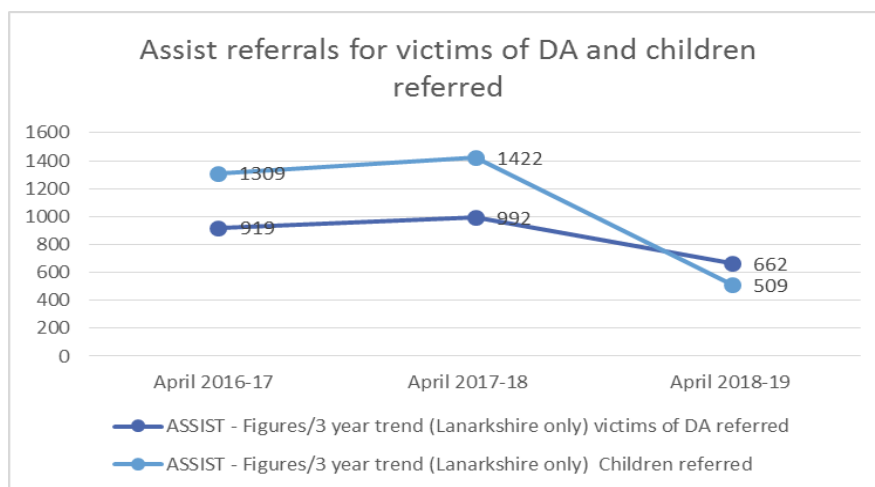


Chart 44 evidences a variable trend in the number of repeat Marac referrals which can occur due to a number of reasons. To understand the variation, further investigation is required. The latest figure was three in March 2018.

**Chart 45** Assist referrals for victims of DA and children referred

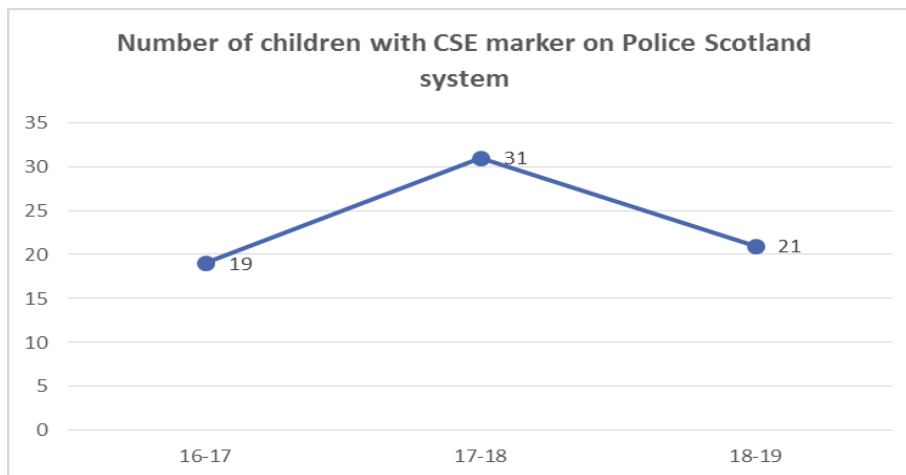


ASSIST is a specialist domestic abuse advocacy and support service focussed on reducing risk to and improving the safety of victims of domestic abuse. Its aim is to ensure that all victims of domestic abuse (women, children and men) are safe, informed and supported throughout their involvement with the criminal justice system. Chart 46 evidences a downward trend in referrals, the latest figures for Victims of Domestic Abuse was 662 and for children referred was 509. On further investigation we found that the reduction in referrals has been a result of GDPR.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

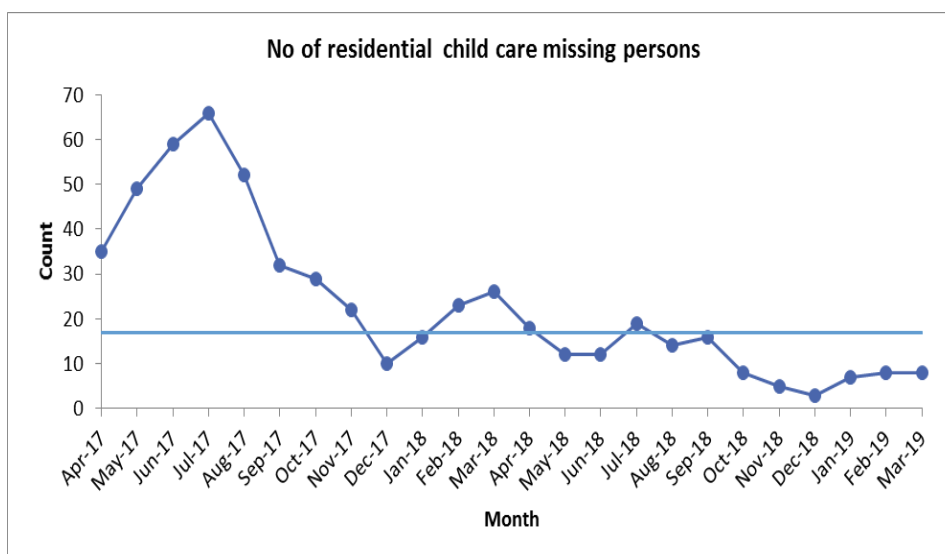
## 5. High Level Outcome 3: We are successfully tackling child sexual exploitation

Chart 46 Number of children with CSE marker on police Scotland System



The number of children with a child sexual exploitation marker on Police Scotland system has been variable in the period 2016 -2019 .The latest figure was 21 in 18/19.

Chart 47 Number of residential child care missing persons

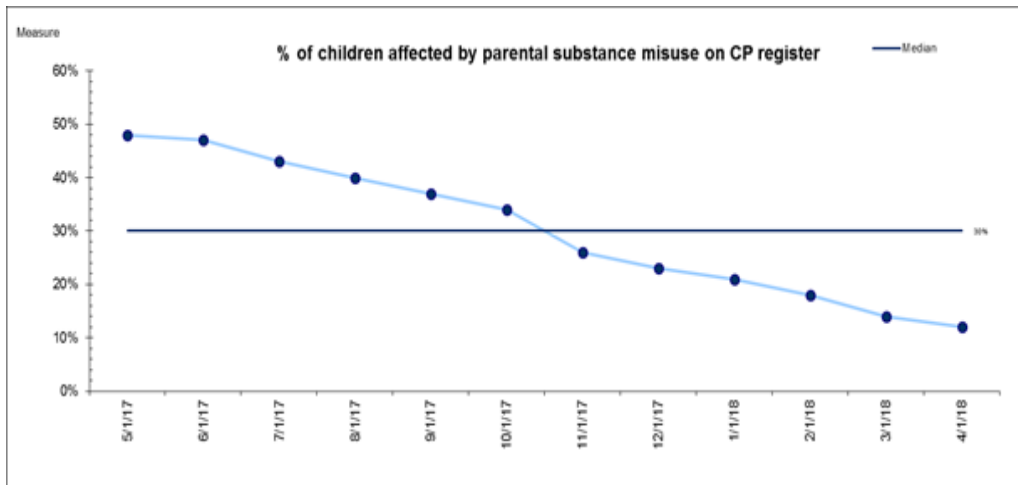


Partners have developed a proactive approach to missing children in care from residential settings which has resulted in a significant downward trend in missing and repeat episodes. The latest figure was eight in March 2018.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

## 6. High Level Outcome 4: We are successfully tackling parental substance misuse and its impact on children

**Chart 48** Percentage of children affected by parental substance misuse on the child protection register

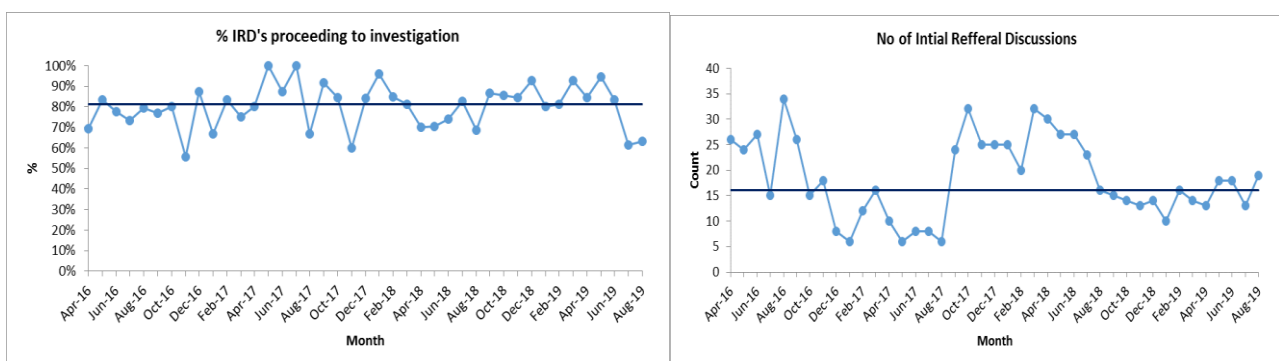


Similar to domestic abuse and parents with mental health problems, parental substance misuse features in a large number of open cases. It is clear this substance misuse can have an impact on the health and development of children, from pre-birth to adulthood.

Over the last reporting period May 17-April 18 there has been a decrease in the children registered on the child protection register affected by substance misuse, with a year on year reduction of 4%. This trend will be monitored to see if this becomes a sustained improvement. Although the annual figure has decreased by 13, the decrease in relation to the concern requires further scrutiny.

## 7. High Level Outcome 5: Our Initial response to child protection concerns are keeping children safe and supporting protection

**Chart 49** – Number of children subject to IRDS or equivalent and Chart 6 % of IRD’s progressing to CP investigations

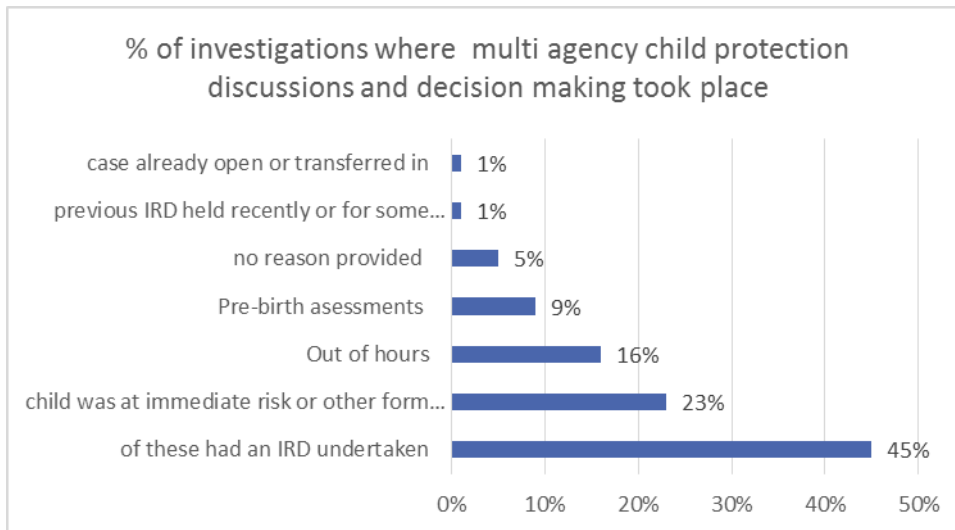


As part of an Initial Referral Discussion process (IRD) health, education, social work and police have the

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

opportunity to share information and reach a collective decision as to whether or not the concern is child protection and should proceed to a child protection investigation. Consideration is also given to the need for a medical examination and/or a Joint Investigative Interview. In the reporting period April 2017-March 2018 there were 256 Initial Referral Discussions with 80.5% progressing to a child protection investigation..

**Chart 50 – % investigations where multi agency child protection discussions and decision making took place**



In the reporting period March18- April 2019 partners recently reviewed where a recorded IRD did not take place and a multi-agency planning meeting took place instead (in principle an IRD in another format). The number of notifications of concern that proceeded to child protection investigation were 607, 45% (275) of these had an IRD undertaken and 55% (332) had a multi-agency planning meeting take place. The reasons for this are provided for most cases in the chart above.

**Chart 51 – Percentage of child protection investigations progressing to initial child protection case conference**

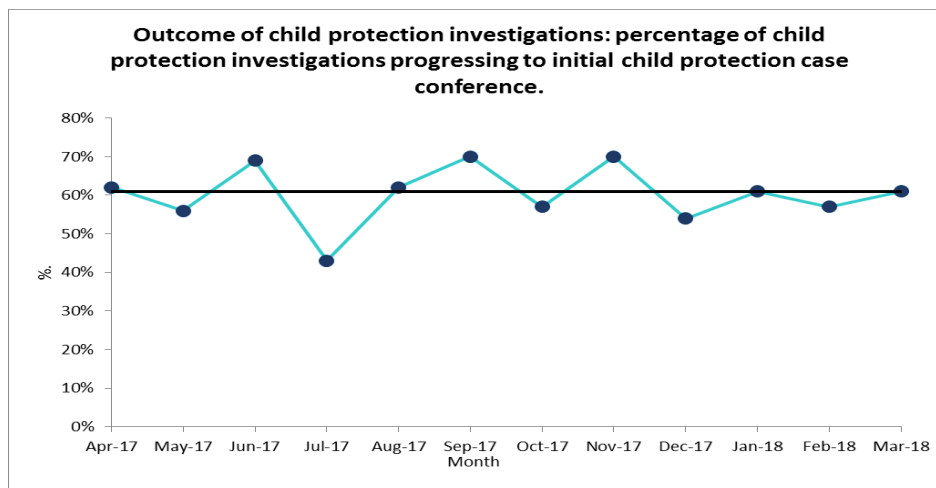
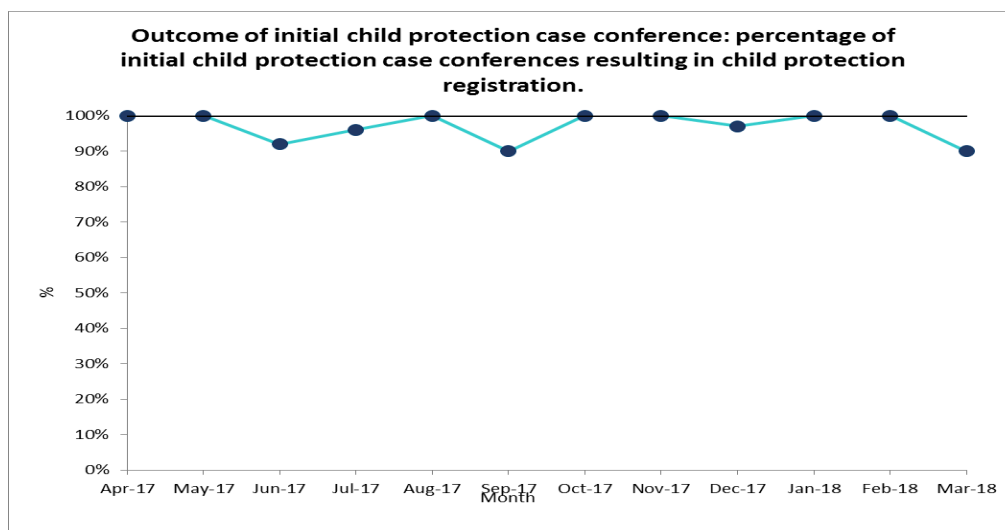


Chart 51 illustrates the conversion rate from investigation to child protection case conference, with a decreasing trend since December 2018. The latest figure in March 2018 61%.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 52 – Percentage of Initial child protection case conferences resulting in child protection registration**



The conversion of initial case conferences leading to child protection registration evidences, common cause variation and remains stable, indicating that those cases discussed at case conferences have been identified appropriately. The latest figure in March 2018 was 90%.

**Chart 53 – Percentage of Agreed child protection plans received by participants within 5 calendar days of ICPCC**

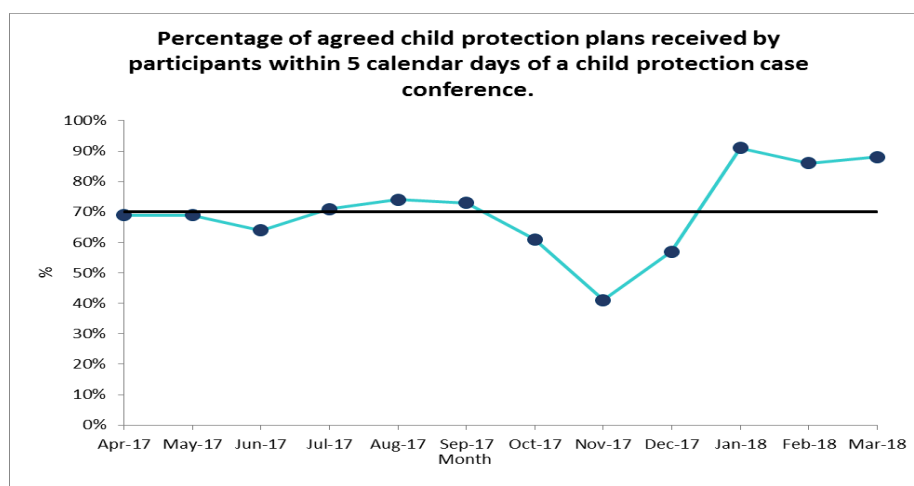
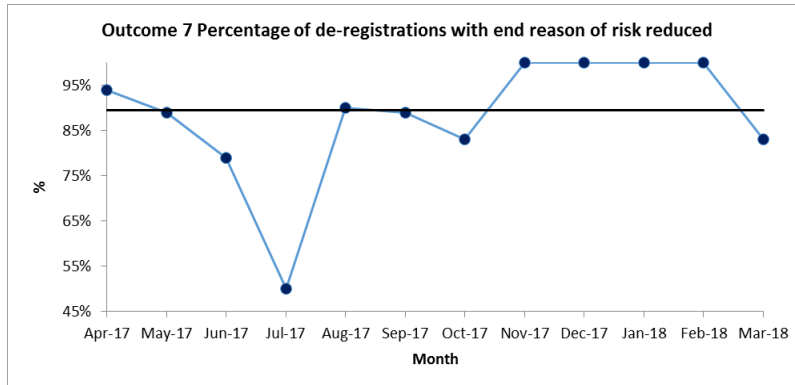


Chart 53 demonstrates an increasing trend and improvement since November 2017 of child protection plans being received by participants within 5 calendar days. The latest figure was 88% in March 2018.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

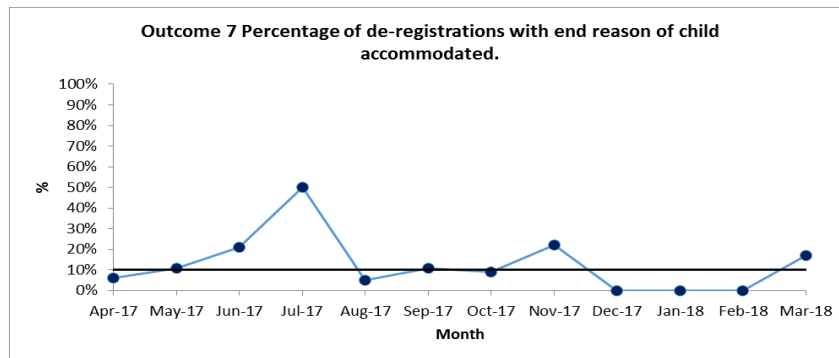
## 8. High Level Outcome 7: Our multi-agency processes at the end point of formal child protection processes are effectively supporting ongoing protection of children

**Chart 54 – Percentage of the de-registration with end reason of risk reduced**



The percentage of de-registration with end reason of risk reduced has an increased trend and improvement since November 2018. The latest figures was 83% in March 2018.

**Chart 55 – Percentage of the de-registrations with end reason of child accommodated**



The percentage of de-registrations with end reason of child accommodated remains low. The latest figure was 17% of children accommodated.

**Chart 56 – Number of re-registrations ( within 24 months of registration)**

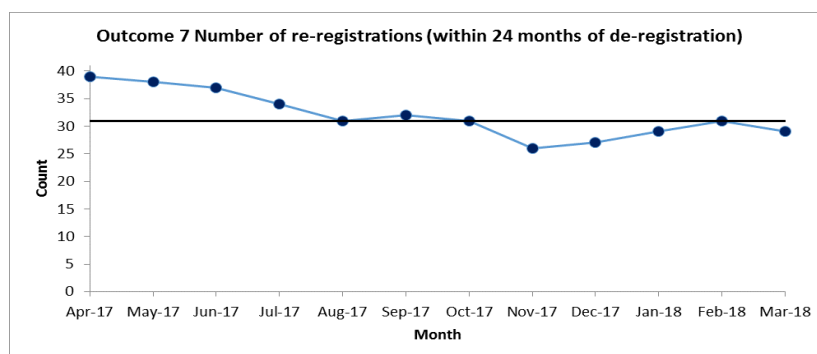


Chart 56 demonstrates a decreasing trend in the number of re-registrations within 24 months. The latest figure was 29 in March 2018. Partners recognise that these figures must be looked at in conjunction with

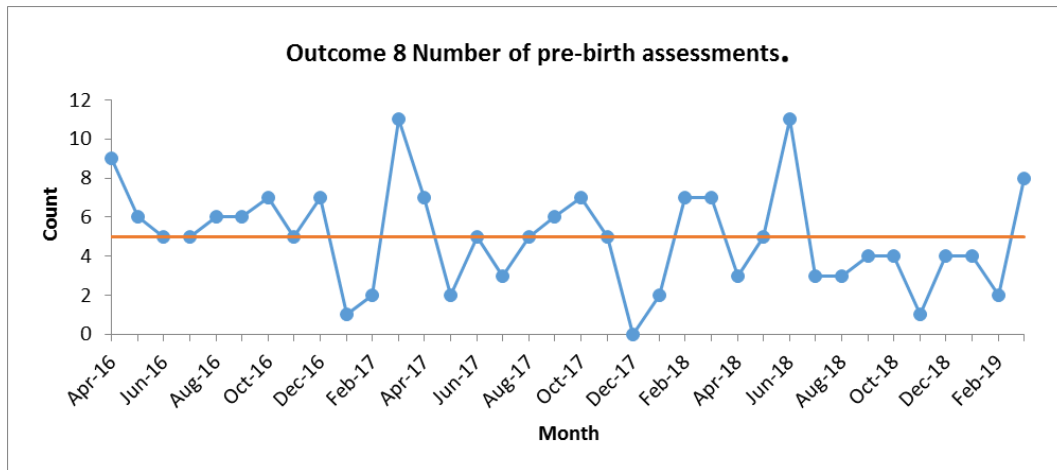


Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

de-registration in the same period. The low number of re-registrations indicate that Child protection planning has been effective with and risks have been reduced.

### 9. High Level Outcome 8: Our initial response to child protection concerns pre –birth are keeping unborn babies safe and supporting protection

**Chart 57 – Number of pre-birth assessments**



Pre-birth involvement forms a small but increasing part of child protection work in Scotland. Social workers have the task of protecting the unborn baby from current risk and making a plan for predicted risks, at the same time as developing good working relationships with expectant parents. Chart 57 shows during the period 2016-2019 , 304 pre- birth assements were undertaken . The latest figure is was 8 in February 2019 and the trend remians variable .

**Chart 58 – Number of pre-birth child protection case conferences**

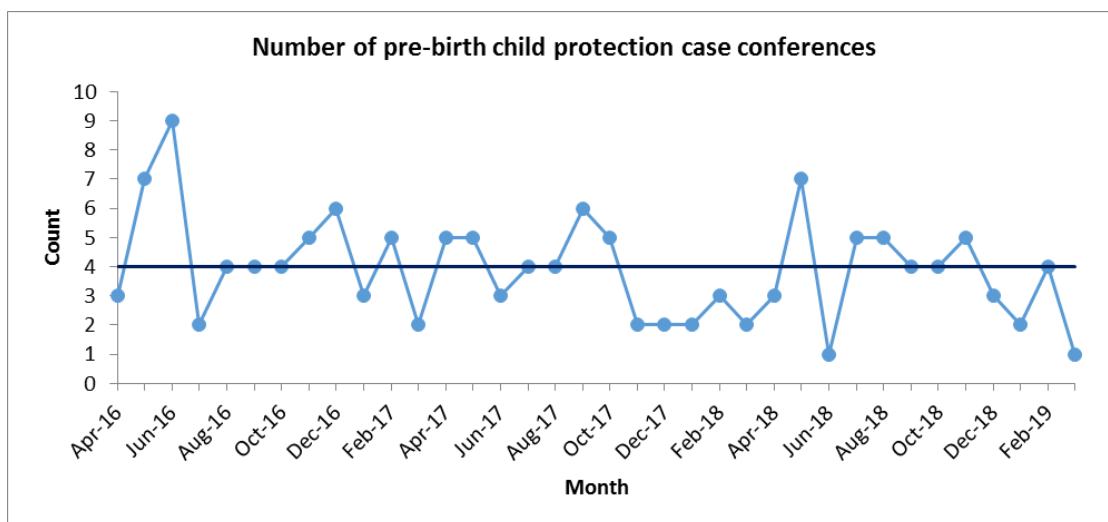
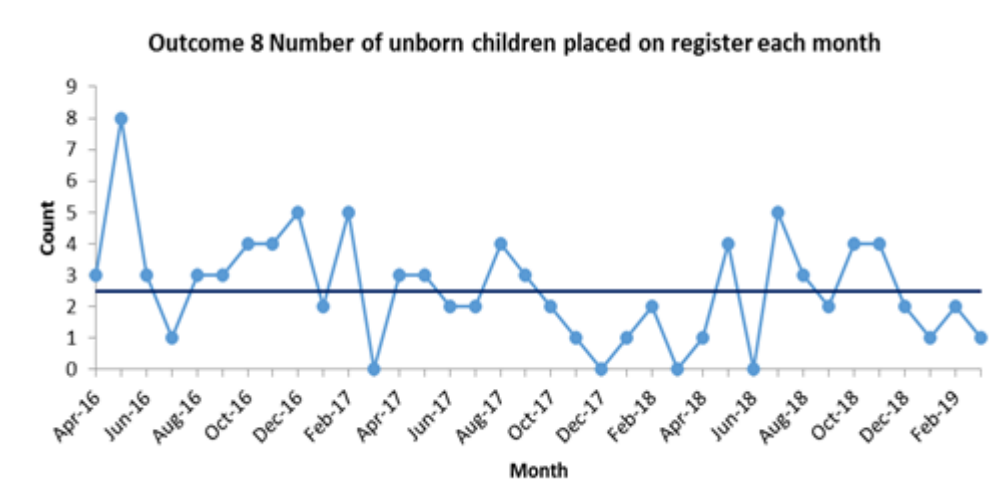


Chart 58 shows that 73% (238) proceeded to case conferences. There was a small period of improvement between October and April with the latest figure of 1 case in February 2019 .

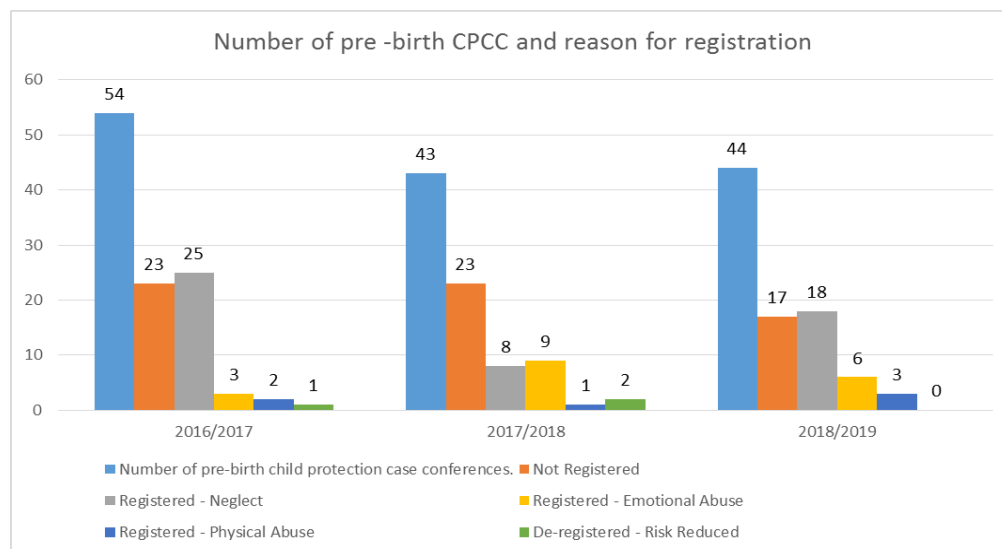
Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 59-** Number of unborn babies placed on the child protection register



In the last three years the figures have decreased from 2016 when there were 41 unborn babies registered pre-birth, 23 in 2017 and 29 in 2018. (Chart 59 shows a downward trend from August 2017 which was sustained between September to April 2018, evidencing an improved trend for that period.

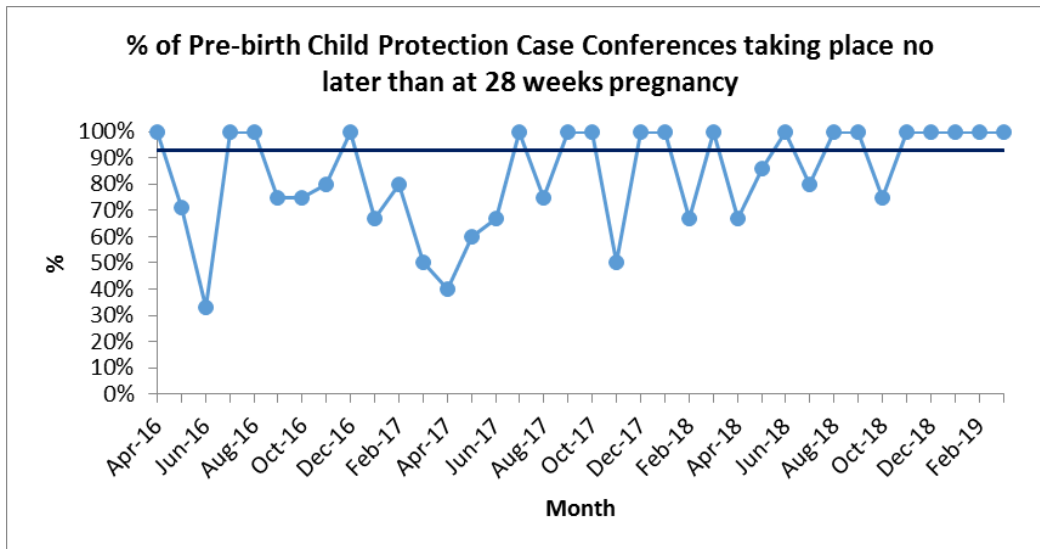
**Chart 60 –** Number of pre-birth Child Protection Case Conferences and reason for registration



In the reporting period April 16 – February 19, 93 unborn babies were placed on the child protection register for the reasons above. In 2018-19, of the 44 case conferences 17 were not registered, 18 were registered for neglect, 6 were registered for emotional abuse and 3 physical abuse.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 61 – Percentage of pre-birth Child protection case conferences taking place no later than 28 weeks of pregnancy**



In the reporting period, 92.7% of pre-birth Child Protection Case Conferences were held before the 28th week of pregnancy. 66% were registered within the main national indicators of concern i.e. Neglect, emotional abuse and physical abuse. Chart 61 evidences 100% reliability in the process and an improved trend from October 2018 until February 2019.

**10. High Level Outcome 9: We are successfully improving the physical, mental and emotional health of looked after children and care leavers (breakdown by looked after status)**

On the basis of available evidence, poorer health outcomes are more likely for care experienced children and young people than other groups of children and young people, particularly with respect to mental health. To support the health needs of care experienced children and young people a health needs assessment is offered to all Children and Young People within 4 weeks of becoming accommodated.

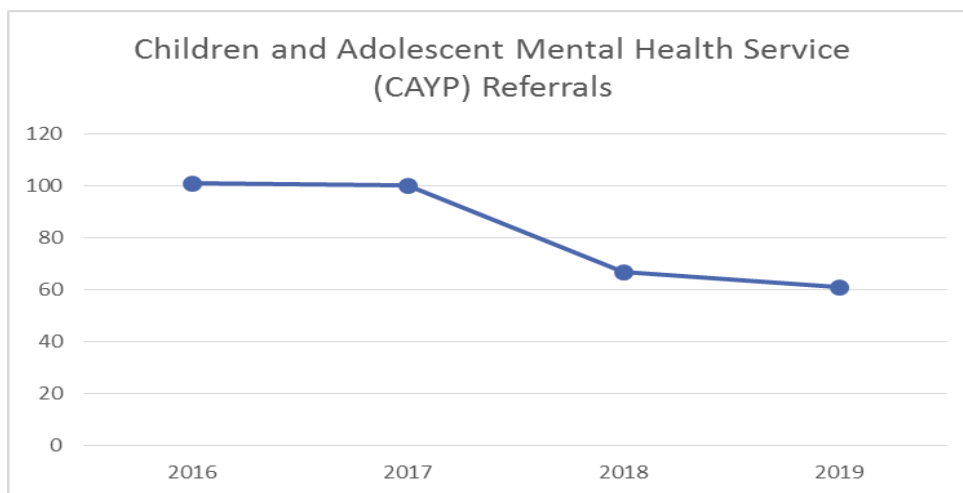
**Chart 62- Percentage of all Looked After Children with one or more concerns at their 27 month child health review**



Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

In 2017-2018 of the child health reviews undertaken for LAC, 38% had more than one developmental concern. This is higher than their peers at 17.6%, a gap of 12.6%. The highest concern is speech, language and communication and emotional behavioural concerns.

**Chart 63-** Number of children and young people referred to the children and adolescent mental health service(CAMHS) CAYP team



The CAYP Team was established in 2004 and is part of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) in NHS Lanarkshire. They provide a service to infants, children and young people (aged 0-18) accommodated in foster care and children’s houses in North and South Lanarkshire. Chart 63 evidences a decreasing trend in referrals in the last three years, with a total number of 268 referrals.

**Chart 64-** Percentage of CEL 16 HNA completed within 4 weeks of notification

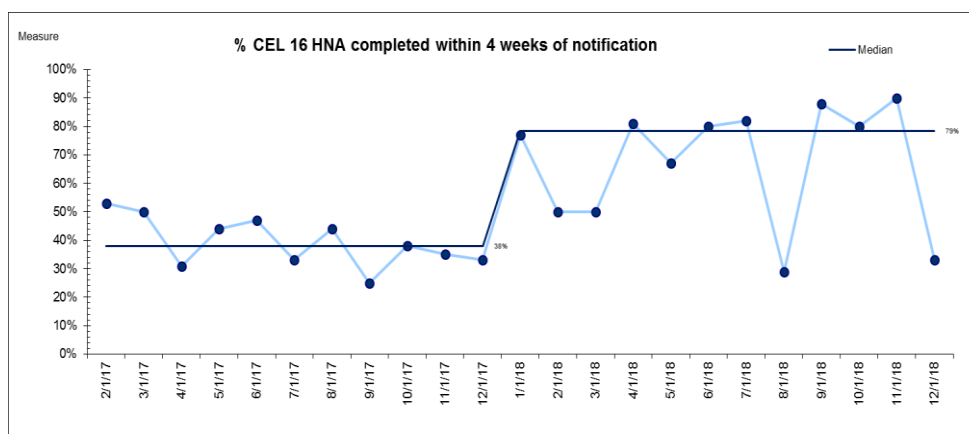
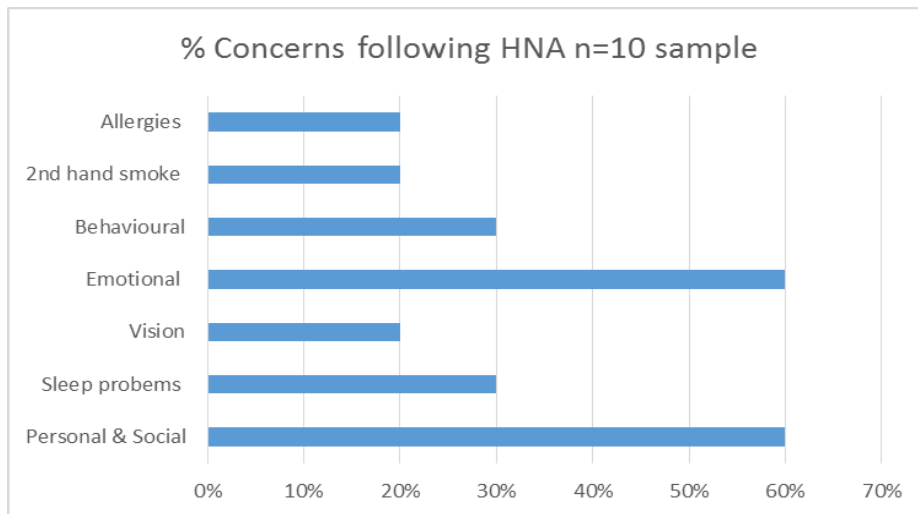


Chart 64 evidences an achievement of 79% reliability of completion of children in both pre five and school age Children having a health needs assessment carried out by 4 weeks. Lower percentages are evident in school age children during term time holidays periods. This is currently being addressed with a significant reduction in term time working and significant investment to expand the school nursing workforce. In the period January 2017 to December 2018, 272 children and young people were assessed; 64% were school age and 36% were preschool. The chart demonstrates an improving trend for uptake of the HNA within a 4 week period and a shift from 38% to 79%. An improvement group has been established to scope out ways to continue to improve participation and the process to increase the HNA completed within the desired timeframe.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 65- Percentage concerns identified as a result of the health needs assessment**



In a sample of 10 cases, we identified, the following concerns as part of the health needs assessment. The most frequent concerns raised was in relation to personal, social, emotional and behavioural concerns. Sleep issues continues to be a recurring theme as previously highlighted in the 2017-18 viewpoint survey. In all cases children were up to date with their immunisations and registered with a dentist. All the children were assessed using the SDQ tool to establish a baseline of a total difficulties score in relation to mental health A HNA data base has recently been established in consultation with clinical quality to allow for data to be more robustly collated and information to be analysed and assessed to inform areas for improvement .Work is progress to create a database and reporting mechanism to allow better analysis of the output of the Health needs assessment.

**Chart 65- Percentage Cel 16 HNA notification to Health within 5 days**

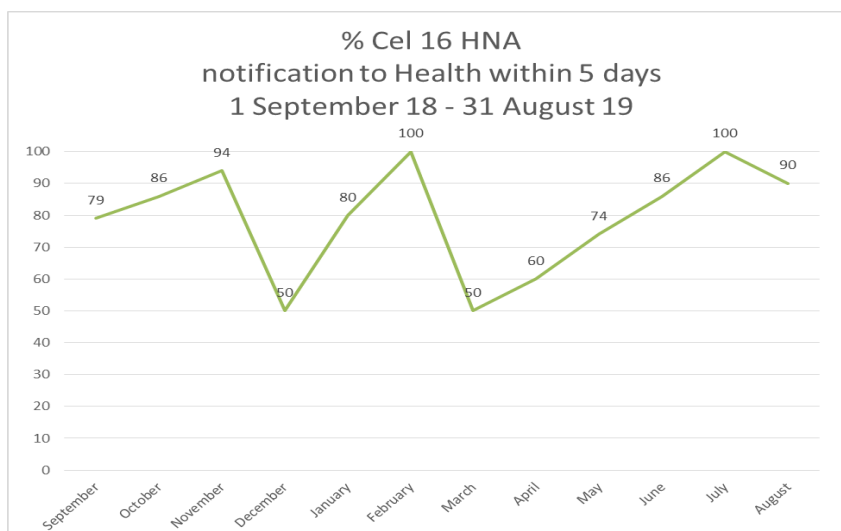
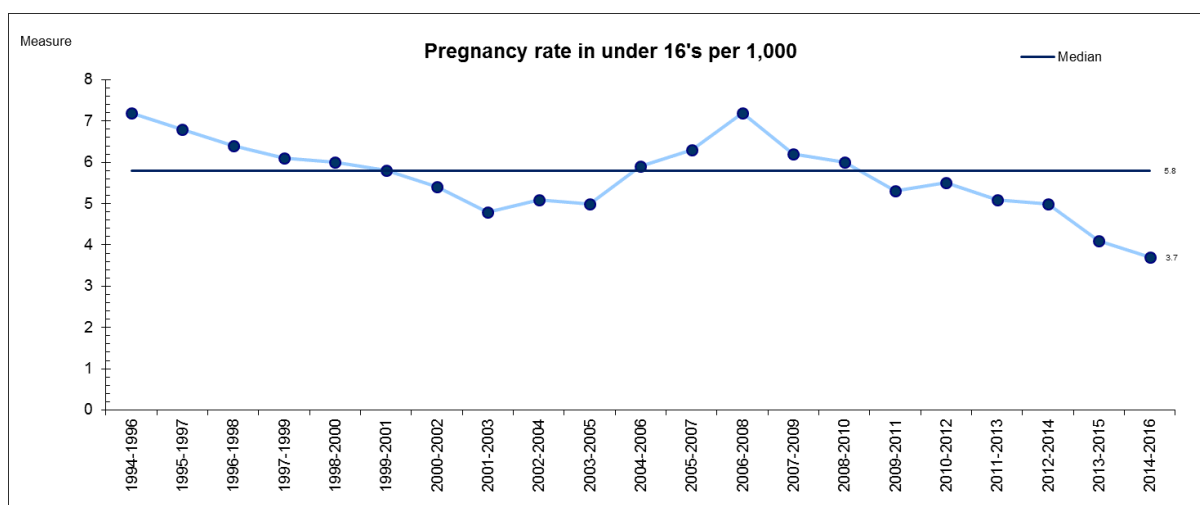


Chart 65 shows an improving trend from March 18- August 2019. In the period September 18 –August 19 there were 304 notifications from social work to health, 217 were within the 5 days and 84 were out with the 5 day time period.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 66-** Rate of teenage pregnancies in under 16's



Rates of teenage pregnancy in South Lanarkshire have followed the national trend and have reduced over time. The teenage pregnancy rate for those under 16 is currently 3.7 per 1000 13-15 year olds a reduction of 1.4 in the rate from previous figures.

**Chart 67-** Baseline data for Looked after children accessing Active schools

*Table 4 – Active Schools participation for those receiving free school meals or being looked after*

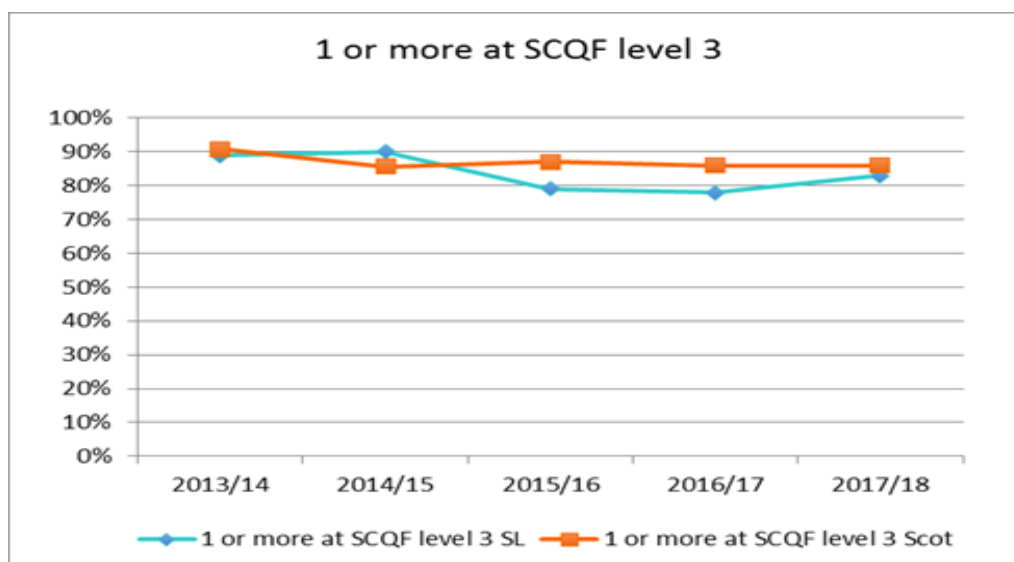
	No. who participated	No. who did not participate	Total no. in school	% of whole school	% participation
Receiving free school meals	2698	3382	6080	15%	44%
Not receiving free school meals	15116	18627	33743	85%	45%
Looked after at home	48	120	168	0.4%	29%
Looked after away from home	156	218	374	0.9%	42%
Not looked after	17665	21672	39337	99%	45%

Looked after children at or away from home may be disadvantaged in terms of participation in the Active Schools programme. A scoping exercise established a baseline in 2018- 2019. The table shows that children Looked after away from home are more likely to participate in the active school programmes 42% compared to those children looked after at home 29%.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

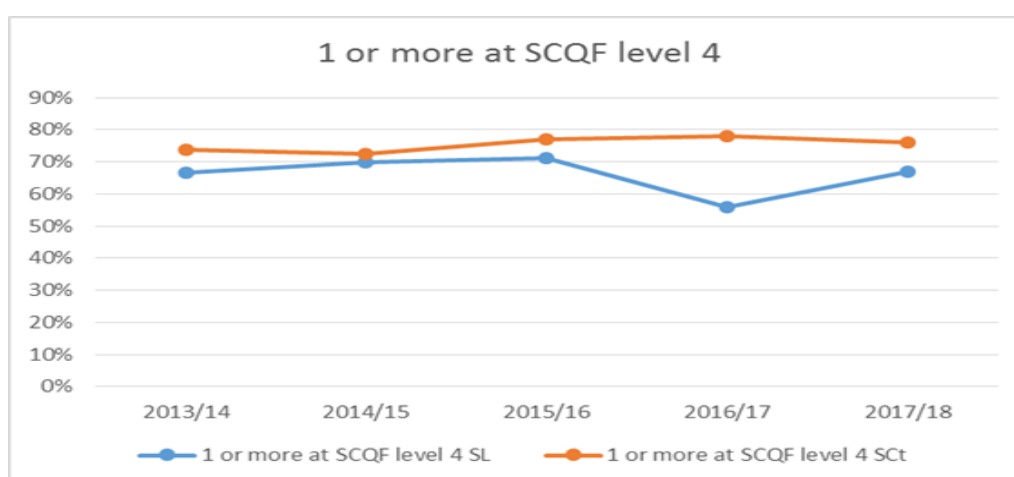
### 11. High Level Outcome 10: We are successfully improving how well our looked after children are achieving and their learning is optimised (breakdown by looked after status)

Chart 68- Looked After Children with at least one SCQF level 3 qualification



All establishments and partners work together to address the needs of learners and enable care experienced pupils to reach their potential. In 2017/18 83.3% care experienced pupils had achieved one or more qualification at SCQF Level 3. This is the highest figure since 2014-2015 and the first increase since 2014-2015. Chart 15 shows the percentage of Looked After Children leaving school in South Lanarkshire having achieved one or more qualifications at SCQF Level 3. Compared to the situation in Scotland as a whole, the South Lanarkshire figure of 83.3% was below the Scottish average – where 86.1% of Looked After Children who left school had achieved one or more qualifications at SCQF Level 3.

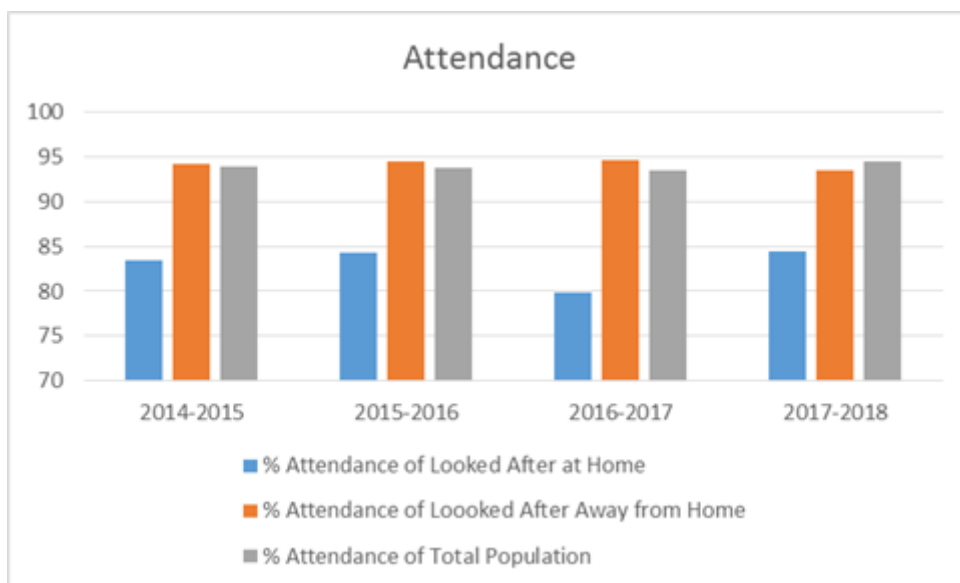
Chart 69- Looked After Children with at least one SCQF level 4 qualification



A total of 66.7% of Looked After Children who left school in 2017-2018 had achieved one or more qualification at SCQF Level 4 in comparison to the Scottish figure of 76.4. Chart 29 shows an increase from the previous year's figure of 55.6%

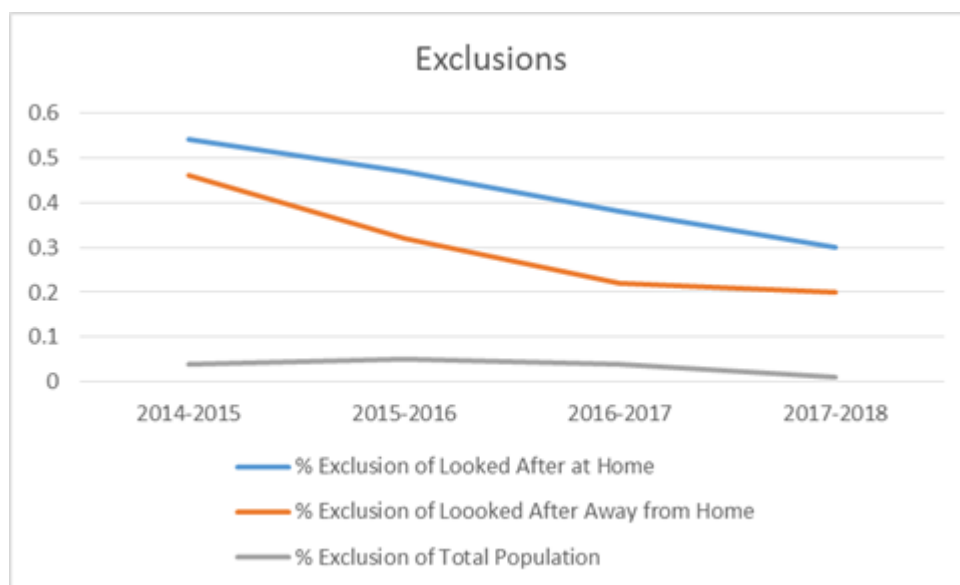
Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

Chart 70 - % attendance for care experienced young people



Attendance patterns for looked after pupils have remained stable over a number of years and have seen a recent improvement for pupils looked after at home up from 79.8% in 2016/17 to 84.5% in 2017/18 as a result of this work. The data shows improvements across all (primary, secondary and ASN) sectors. The attendance data also evidences a reducing gap between looked after away from home pupils and looked after at home pupils of 10.6% in 2014/15 to 8.9% in 17/18 a reduction of 1.7%.

Chart 71- % attendance for care experienced young people

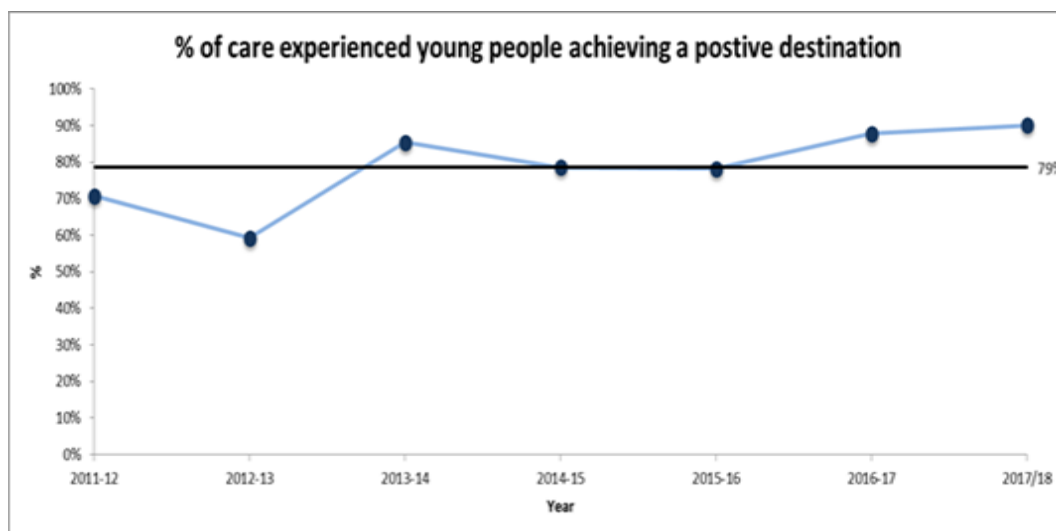


In 2018, we put in place a new Operating Procedure (A8) to ensure that if an exclusion is being considered for a child who is looked after, then all actions to avoid the requirement for an exclusion have been put in place and that the assigned social worker is aware of the decision to exclude. Data shows a continuing trend of reducing exclusions over the last three years with looked after at home pupils 0.30% down from 0.54% in 2014/15 and looked after away from home pupils 0.20% down from 0.46 in 2014/15.



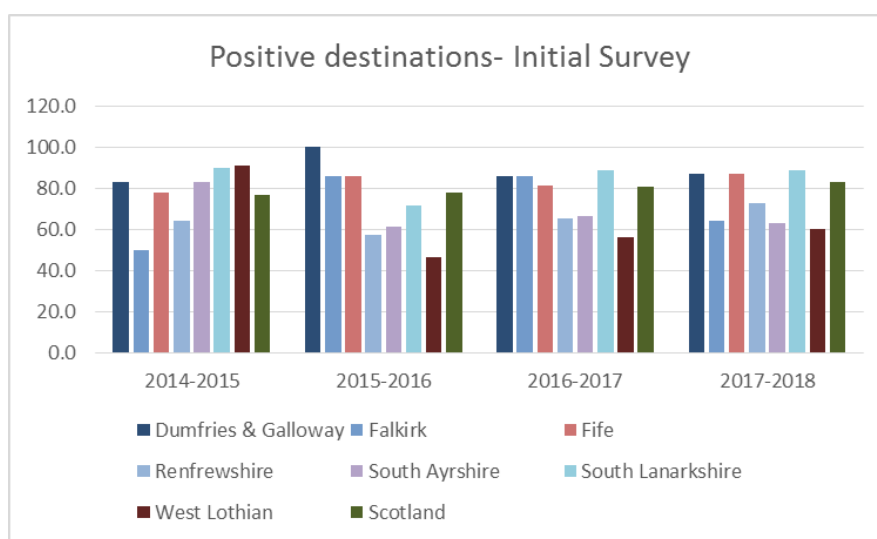
Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 72-** Percentage of care experienced young people achieving a positive destination



Youth employment is crucial to the future life chances of young people. In particular the transition from school to the world of work is a critical time to intervene and ensure young people sustain a positive post school destination and more importantly achieve their full potential. The Scottish Care Leavers Covenant supports Scotland’s corporate parents and parents/carers in fulfilling their duties, to improve the life chances of all of Scotland’s care leavers. Care leavers often struggle on their journey into adulthood, for many the leap from care to independence is too great, and too many continue to experience problems that lead to poorer outcomes than the general population. Chart 32 shows in 2017-2018, the South Lanarkshire figure of positive destinations achieved by care experienced young people has increased to 90%, evidencing an upward trend. When we stratify the data into Looked after at home – the figure is 78.95% and Looked after away from home – 96.77 % (19 looked after at home, 31 away from home).

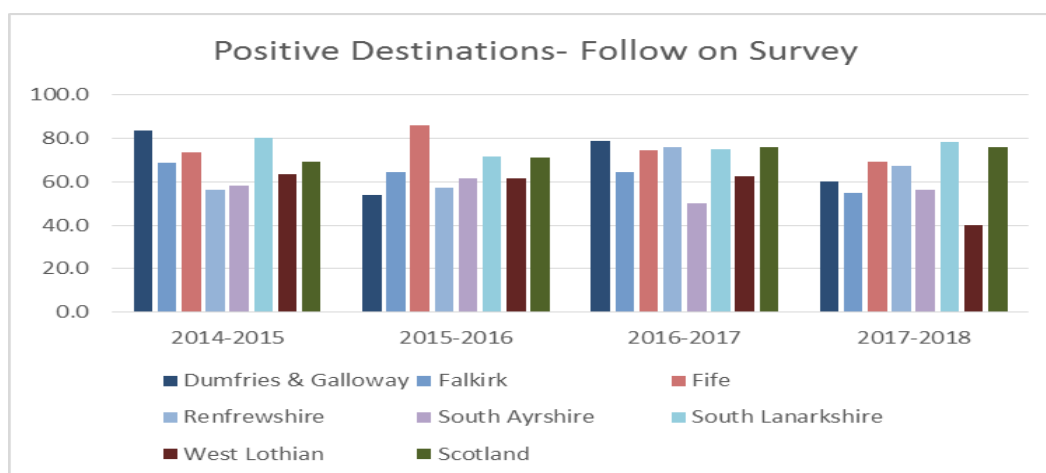
**Chart 73-** % of care experienced young people achieving a positive destination



In 2017-2018, of the 18 Looked After Children who left school in South Lanarkshire, the Initial Survey of their Destinations found that 89% of them were in Positive Destinations (in work, in training, or in education). This was above the Scottish average, where 83% of Looked After Children school leavers were in a Positive Destination.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

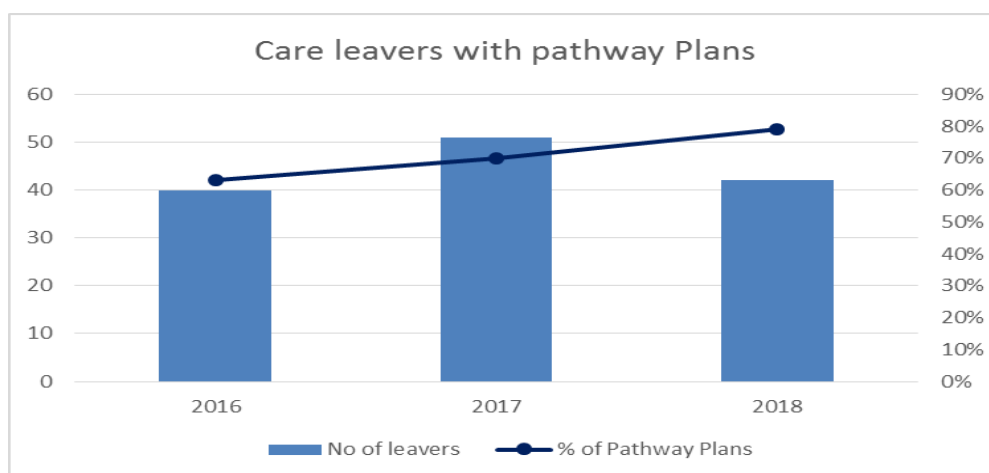
**Chart 74-** % of care experienced young people achieving a positive destination



In the Follow On Survey the proportion in South Lanarkshire of Looked After Children school leavers who were in a Positive Destination in 2017-2018 was 78%. This was above the Scottish figure of 76%. From 2013-2014 in South Lanarkshire the proportion in Positive Destinations has never been higher in the Follow On Survey than in the Initial Survey. This was the highest Positive Destinations figure recorded for South Lanarkshire Looked After Children since 2014-2015 and the figure has now increased for two consecutive years.

## 12. High Level Outcome 11: Our care leavers are becoming successfully independent into adulthood

**Chart 75** –Percentage and number of care leavers with pathway plans



In South Lanarkshire in 2018, 79% of Looked After Children who left care left with a Pathway Plan and 100% had a Pathway Coordinator – both above the Scottish averages of 75% and 77% respectively. This was the ninth consecutive year that all South Lanarkshire Children who left care had a Pathway Coordinator. The proportion with a Pathway Plan was the highest since 2015. Chart 35 shows an increasing trend in the number of care leavers with a Pathway Plan, a consultation with young people involved in Pathways Planning was undertaken to strengthen partnership working. The consultation strengthened our reviewing process and resulted in an increase from 63% in 2016, to 80% in 2018, of young people having appropriate Pathway Plan.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Table 1** – Providing secure and well supported housing and tenancies will help young people achieve more successful independence

	<b>01/04/2016-31/03/2017</b>	<b>01/04/2017-01/04/2018</b>	<b>02/04/2018-31/03/2019</b>
<b>No. of Throughcare applications on list</b>	70 Active- 29 Deferred- 41	88 Active- 29 Deferred- 59	87 Active – 44 Deferred - 43
<b>No. of new Throughcare applications received</b>	20/51 39%	5/42 36%	12/
<b>No. of Throughcare applicants housed</b>	14	11	8
<b>No. of Throughcare applicants who terminated their tenancy within 12 months of previous years allocation</b>	0	3 1- Prison 1- Abandonment 1- Moved to NLC	0
<b>Tenancy Sustainability Rate based on Previous Years Lets (Charter Indicator 20)</b>	100%	79%	100%
<b>No. of applicants who's tenancy was converted from SSST – SST</b>	6	1	5
<b>Average No. Of days for Throughcare applicants to commence a tenancy after activation of their Housing Application</b>	152	352	190
<b>Average Age of Throughcare applicants housed between</b>	NA- Question not considered at this time	20yrs	20yrs
<b>No. of Throughcare applicant who refused an offer</b>	4	0	3

Providing secure and well supported housing and tenancies help young people achieve more successful independence. We manage housing need for throughcare on a separate housing list to prevent any need for homelessness and the current figure is zero.

Table 1 shows that of the 9 allocations made to Throughcare applicants during 2015/2016, 4 tenants continue to reside in their tenancies as at 31 March 2019. One tenant abandoned their tenancy and 1 applicant moved outwith South Lanarkshire during 2018/2019. Of the 14 allocations made to Throughcare applicants during 2016/2017, 11 continue to reside in their tenancies as at 31 March 2019.

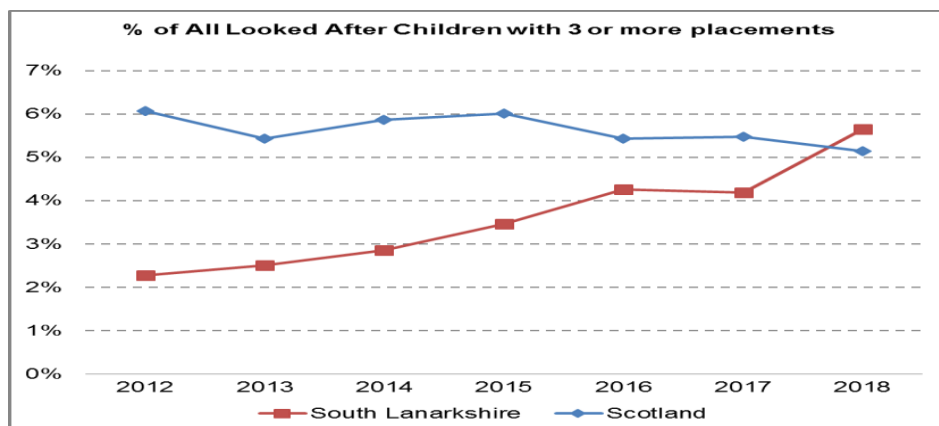
In 2018/2019 there were 8 allocations made to Throughcare applicants and all continue to remain in their tenancies as at 31 March 2019.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

### 13. High Level Outcome 12: We are successful in providing nurturing and stable care arrangements and achieve permanency without delay

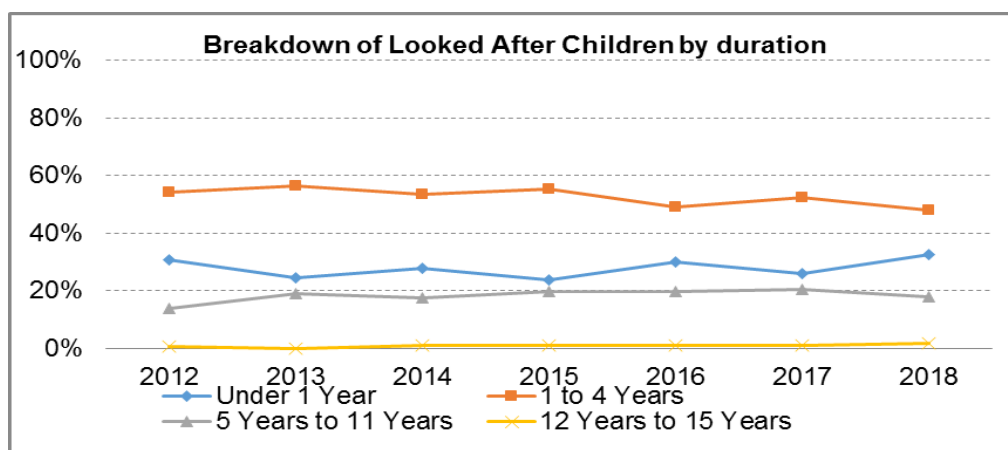
#### Security and Stability of Care

Chart 76- Percentage of all Looked After children with 3 or more placements



In 2018, a total of 37 Looked After Children or 5.65% had 3 or more placements, above the Scottish figure of 5.14%. Chart 6 shows an increase in South Lanarkshire figures since 2014 and the Scottish figures dropping. However, a positive gap of 3.91% of existed in 2017. Partners will explore the data for 2018 to gain intelligence around the increase in the 2018 figure.

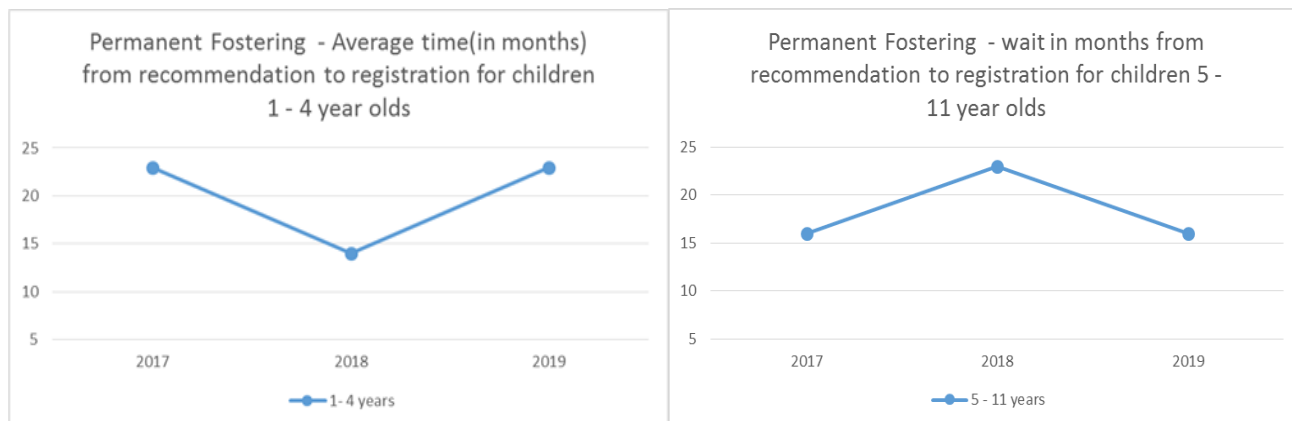
Chart 77- Percentage share of Looked After Children by accommodation type



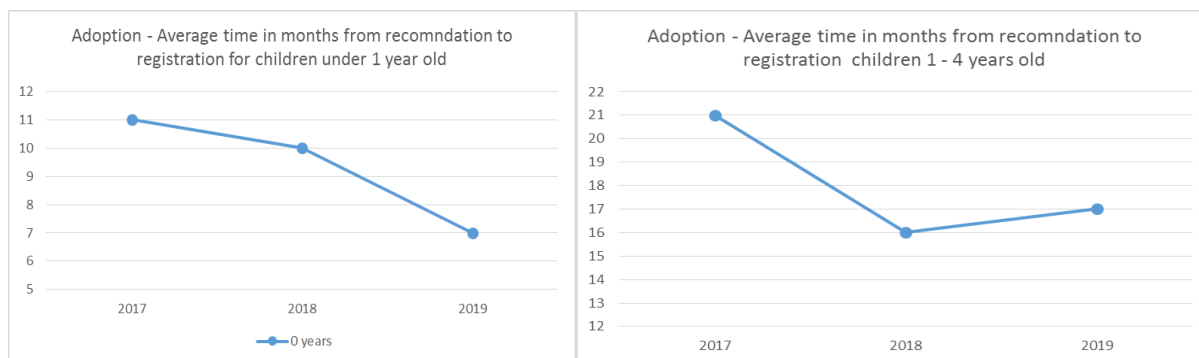
In 2018, 32.5% (213) of Looked After Children have been looked after under a year, 47.9% (314) between 1-4 years, 17.9% (117) between 5-11 years – with a further 1.7% (11 children) having been Looked After for 12 -15 years. Chart 9 shows, in the last year there has been an increase in under one year, 26%-32.5% a decrease in 1-4 years, 52.3%-47.9%, a slight decrease in those Looked After for 5-11 years, 20.6 to 17.9% has, a slight increase in 12-15 years 1.1- 1.7%. Relatively more in South Lanarkshire had been Looked After for less than 1 year than in Scotland as a whole – 32.5%, compared to 24.2%. Significantly fewer in South Lanarkshire had been Looked After for between 5 and 11 years than in Scotland as a whole – 17.9%, compared to 26.2% in Scotland – or for 12 to 15 years – 1.7%, compared to 3.6%.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

**Chart 78 – Permanence/Fostering –Average time (in months) from recommendation to registration for children 1-4 years old and 5-11 years old**



**Chart 79– Permanence/Fostering –Average time (in months) from recommendation to registration for children 1-4 years old and 5-11 years old**



The Parenting Assessment Capacity Team (PACT) offers an assessment of parenting capacity to parent(s) of new-borns where previous children had been removed, and for all infants who are accommodated at birth (up to 2yrs). Chart 79 evidences variation with the latest figure in 2019 for 1-4 years at 22 months and 5-11 year olds 16 months. Chart 26 evidences between 2017-2019 a downward trend for both age groups and a reduction in wait from recommendation to registration, for under 1 years form 11 – 7 months. For 1-4 year olds in the same period the data demonstrates a reduction from 21 months to 17 months.

Children, Young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities

### 14. High level outcome 13: We are successfully preventing looked after children and young people entering the criminal justice system

Chart 80– Early and Effective Intervention screenings

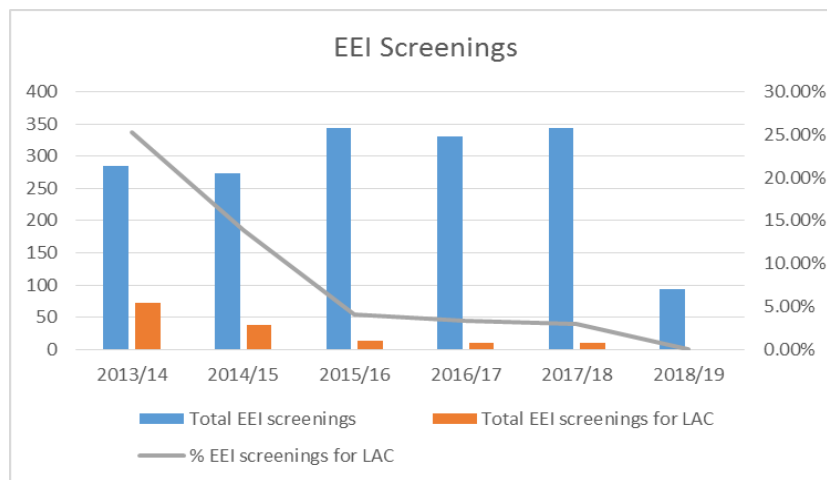
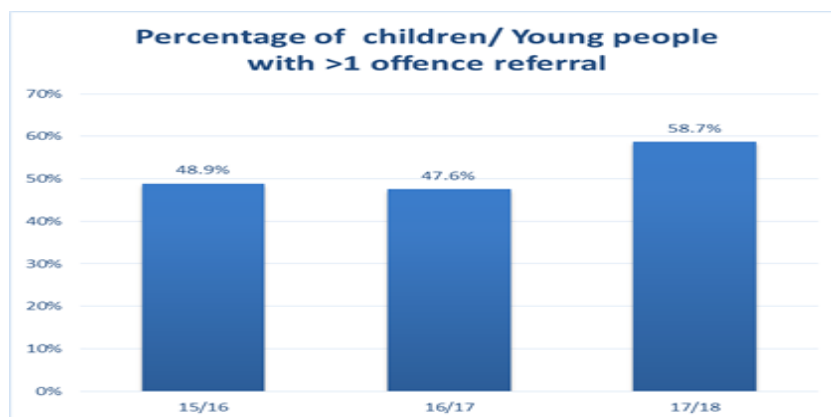


Chart 80 reflects that there has been a downward trend of referrals of young people who are referred to Early and Effective Intervention (EEI) between 2017 and 2019. The reduction in referrals to EEI has been particularly significant over the last year in respect of care experienced young people, reflecting our focus and commitment to decriminalisation of this group.

Chart 81– Percentage of children /Young people with > 1 offence referral



The percentage of children and young people with > 1 offence referral is 58.7% in 17/18 .An increase of 8% from last year. This sits within the context of an increased referral count of 167 young people contributing to 917 referral.