



Working collaboratively to improve outcomes for children, young people and families

# **Corporate Parenting Board: Performance Report**

## **Surrey County Council**

### **August 2020**

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**Date:** 07 September 2020

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### **Notes on periods used in this document:**

Throughout this document quarters refer to the year beginning 1 April. For example Q1 19/20 covers the period from 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2019.

## 1. Key Messages



### Good News

Short term stability of placements for looked after children continues to better the target (8.3% in August 2020, target of 9.0%). There has also been an improvement in the data quality in this area and there is now a 97% match between what is recorded on the Liquidlogic Children's System (LCS) and records held by the Gateway to Resources and Finance departments.

Performance in relation to initial health assessments continues to improve. Of looked after children who have been looked after for less than a year, 96% have had an initial health assessment.

Of children who have been looked after for more than a year, 93% have had a review health assessment completed in the expected timescales.

The proportion of care leavers recorded as being in touch remains consistently high (702, 98% of care leavers in August 2020) and exceeds the target (95%).



### Areas of Potential Concern

The long term stability of placements for looked after children continues to fall slightly short of the target of 70% (66% in August 2020).

The proportion of children looked after for less than a year who have an up to date dental check has decreased and remains below the target of 80% (31% in August 2020 compared to 38% in July 2020).

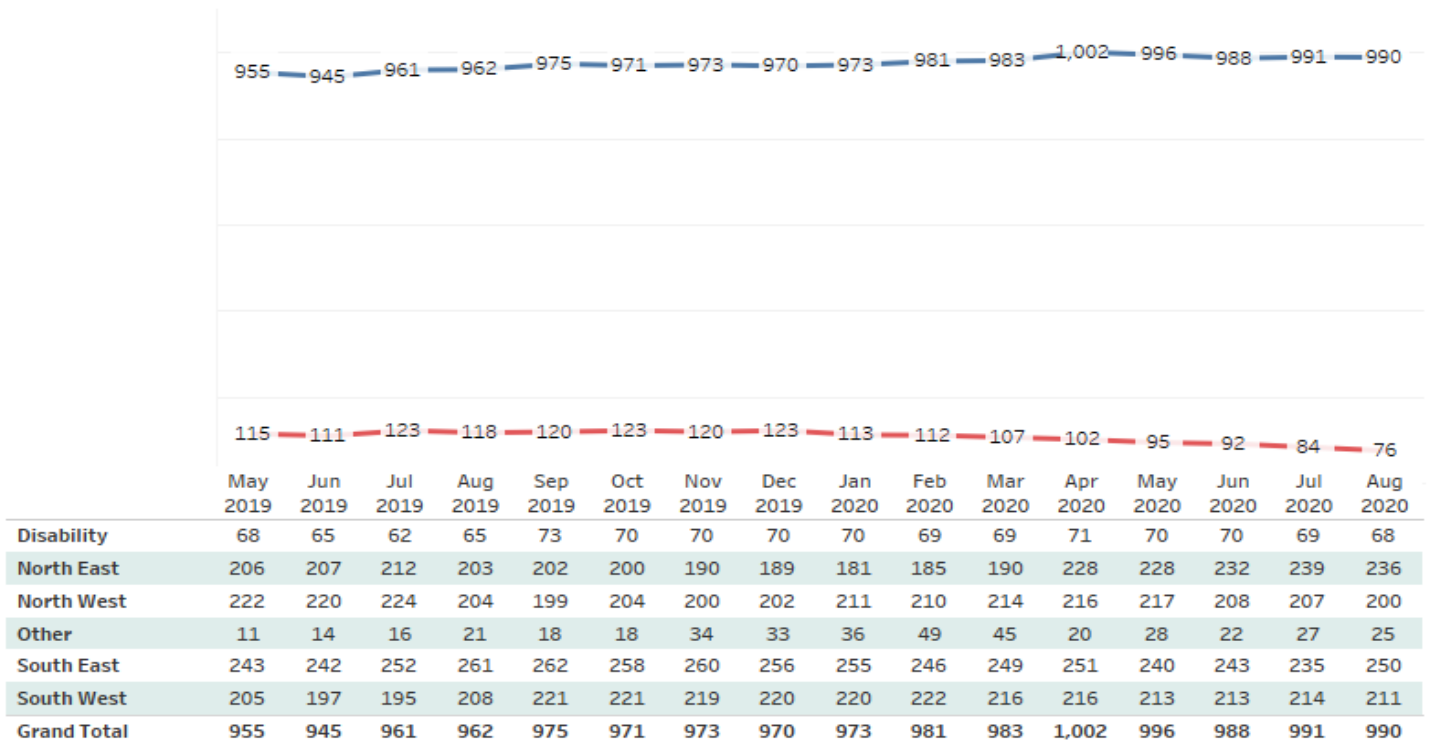
The proportion of children looked after for more than a year who have an up to date dental check has also decreased and is below the target of 90% (69% in August 2020 compared to 75% in July 2020).

## 2. Looked After Children Totals

2.1. There were a total of 990 looked after children at the end of August 2020 which is 3% higher than at the same point the previous year.

**Number of Looked After Children at the End of Each Month**

■ Looked After Children ■ Of which UASC



2.2. The 76 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) currently supported by Surrey County Council is 0.03% of the child population. The nationally set target is for each local authority to support 0.07% of their child population as UASC. For Surrey, with a child population of 260305, this would equate to 182 children. UASC account for 8% of the children currently looked after by Surrey.

2.3. The rate of looked after children per 10,000 population is currently 38.0. This remains below our statistical neighbour average of 47.6 and the region average of 53.0 looked after children per 10,000 population.

	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Mar 2014	Mar 2015	Mar 2016	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Mar 2019
<b>Surrey</b>	32.0	30.0	33.0	33.0	31.0	31.0	34.0	34.0	36.0	37.0
<b>South East</b>	45.0	46.0	47.0	47.0	47.0	49.0	51.0	51.0	51.0	53.0
<b>Statistical Neighbours</b>	37.0	36.5	36.5	36.5	37.4	38.2	38.9	41.5	43.8	47.6
<b>England</b>	57.0	58.0	59.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	62.0	64.0	65.0
<b>East Sussex</b>	51.0	57.0	60.0	57.0	55.0	52.0	51.0	52.0	57.0	56.0
<b>Hampshire</b>	40.0	39.0	39.0	40.0	45.0	47.0	46.0	51.0	56.0	59.0
<b>Essex</b>	50.0	54.0	50.0	42.0	38.0	34.0	33.0	33.0	33.0	34.0
<b>Hertfordshire</b>	46.0	44.0	42.0	41.0	39.0	38.0	38.0	34.0	33.0	34.0

### 3. Age Profile of Looked After Children

3.1. The charts below show the proportion of children in care allocated to the area teams split by age group. The charts compare the figures at the end of the most recent month to 1 year ago. This data excludes unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) and young people aged 18+.

**Age Profile of Looked After Children (excluding UASC)**



3.2. Looking at the specific areas, North West and South West have a higher proportion of looked after children aged between 10 and 15. There does appear to be a difference in the age profile when comparing the West of the county to the East.

3.3. Surrey's age profile of looked after children is broadly in line with the latest national figures for Looked After Children (below). Comparator figures will be included in future reports.

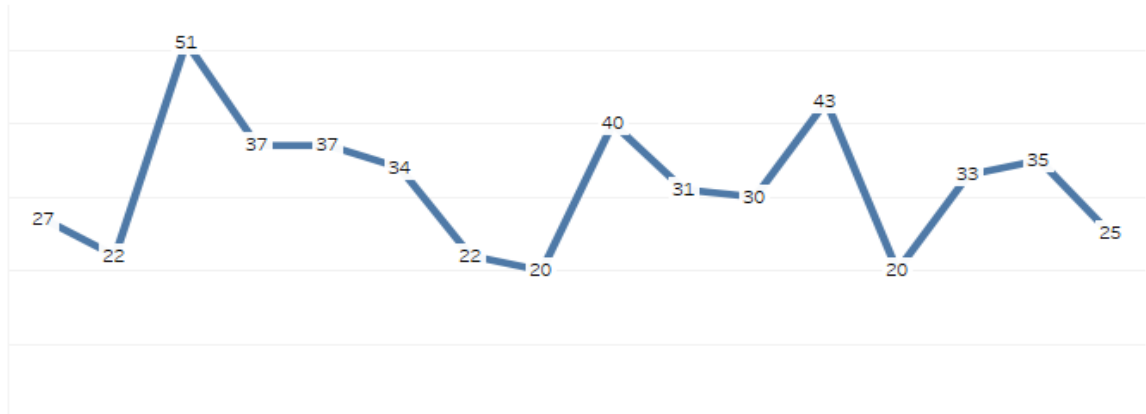
6% of children are aged under 1  
 19% are aged 5-9 years  
 23% are aged 16 and over

13% are aged 1-4 years  
 39% are aged 10-15 years

#### 4. Children Becoming Looked After (including UASC)

4.1. The number of children becoming looked after has decreased since the previous month and is lower than the same period last year. The 12 month average is 31 children becoming looked after each month.

**Children Becoming Looked After by Month (including UASC)**

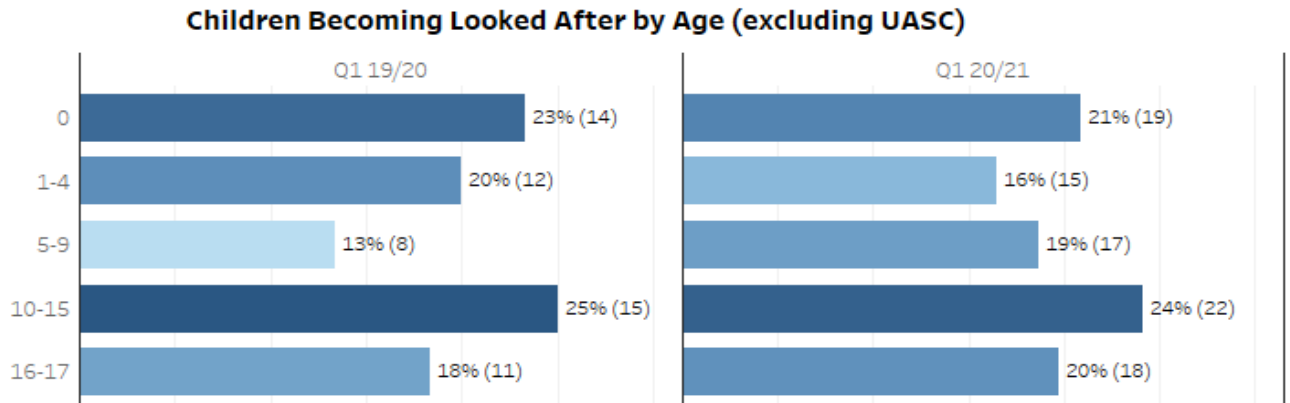


	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020
North East	9	6	12	8	5	3	4	6	4	10	7	22	7	5	12	3
North West	3	2	8	3	7	11	6	5	11	5	9	6	5	5	7	1
South East	8	6	13	13	7	10	5	5	15	6	11	8	2	7	5	11
South West	5	4	7	11	10	8	5	2	7	6	1	5	5	11	10	2
Disability	1	1	1		2	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Other	1	3	10	2	6	1	1	1	1	2		1		4		7
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>25</b>

	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020
Care Order	6 (22%)	1 (5%)	2 (4%)	5 (14%)	3 (8%)	3 (9%)	3 (14%)		5 (13%)				1 (5%)			
Custody / Remand			1 (2%)					2 (10%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)			1 (5%)			1 (4%)
EPO	1 (4%)		1 (2%)	3 (8%)	1 (3%)	3 (9%)	3 (14%)		3 (8%)		1 (3%)		2 (10%)		3 (9%)	3 (12%)
ICO	12 (44%)	5 (23%)	12 (24%)	17 (46%)	8 (22%)	5 (15%)	12 (55%)	8 (40%)	17 (43%)	10 (32%)	10 (33%)	20 (47%)	7 (35%)	12 (36%)	18 (51%)	4 (16%)
Placement Order			1 (2%)	2 (5%)				1 (5%)								
PPO		1 (5%)	3 (6%)	2 (5%)	7 (19%)			1 (5%)	2 (5%)			1 (2%)			1 (3%)	1 (4%)
S20	18 (67%)	19 (86%)	44 (86%)	18 (49%)	33 (89%)	26 (76%)	12 (55%)	12 (60%)	23 (58%)	21 (68%)	20 (67%)	29 (67%)	12 (60%)	25 (76%)	21 (60%)	12 (48%)
Other																5 (20%)

**5. Age Profile of Children Becoming Looked After (excluding UASC)**

5.1. The age group breakdown of children entering care between 1 April 2020 and 30 June 2020 is shown below along with the same period last year for comparison. This data excludes unaccompanied asylum seeking children.



5.2. There has been little changed in the age profile of children becoming looked after although more children aged between 5 and 9 became looked after in Q1 2020/21 than in the same period the previous year.

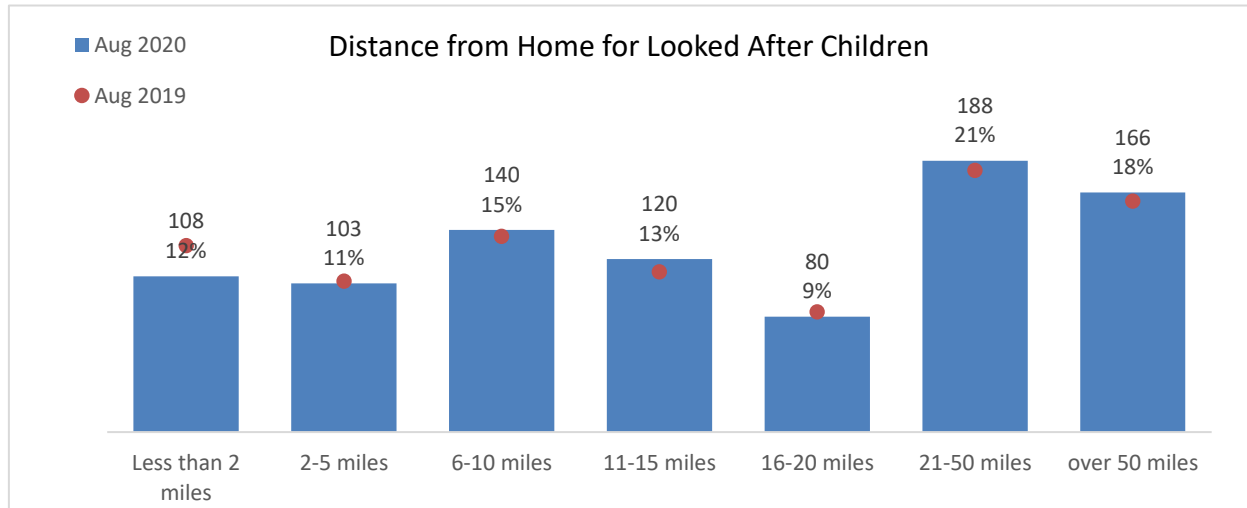
**Children Becoming Looked After by Age (excluding UASC)**

	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020
<b>0</b>	4 (19%)	4 (25%)	9 (27%)	4 (12%)	5 (16%)	2 (8%)	5 (25%)	6 (38%)	4 (11%)	4 (15%)	6 (20%)	4 (10%)	5 (25%)	10 (34%)	10 (29%)	3 (14%)
<b>1-4</b>	6 (29%)	3 (19%)	4 (12%)	9 (26%)	3 (10%)	6 (25%)	5 (25%)	1 (6%)	5 (14%)	3 (12%)	7 (23%)	9 (21%)	4 (20%)	2 (7%)	4 (11%)	7 (33%)
<b>5-9</b>	3 (14%)	2 (13%)	5 (15%)	8 (24%)	3 (10%)	2 (8%)	4 (20%)	1 (6%)	11 (30%)	4 (15%)	4 (13%)	9 (21%)	3 (15%)	5 (17%)	4 (11%)	4 (19%)
<b>10-15</b>	6 (29%)	3 (19%)	6 (18%)	9 (26%)	12 (39%)	8 (33%)	3 (15%)	3 (19%)	11 (30%)	9 (35%)	9 (30%)	12 (29%)	2 (10%)	8 (28%)	10 (29%)	2 (10%)
<b>16-17</b>	2 (10%)	4 (25%)	9 (27%)	4 (12%)	8 (26%)	6 (25%)	3 (15%)	5 (31%)	6 (16%)	6 (23%)	4 (13%)	8 (19%)	6 (30%)	4 (14%)	7 (20%)	5 (24%)

## 6. Placements

### 6.1. Distance From Home

For children currently in care with a home and placement address recorded, 61% (551 children) have been placed within 20 miles of their home address, this is a very slight decrease when compared with the same period 12 months ago. 18% (166 children) of looked after children are placed more than 50 miles from their home address.



### 6.2. Placement Categories

The table below shows placements by type of provision. This information is provided by Finance and is in relation to July as figures for August have not yet been finalised.

Placement Type	Jul 2019	Jul 2020	Change
Fostering - Total	658 68%	683 69%	+25 +1%
<i>Of which Internal</i>	423 <b>44%</b>	478 <b>48%</b>	55 <b>+4%</b>
<i>Of which External</i>	235 <b>24%</b>	205 <b>21%</b>	-30 <b>-3%</b>
Placed for Adoption	16 2%	23 2%	7 0%
Other Placements	287 30%	285 29%	-2 -1%
<b>Total Placements</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>+30</b>

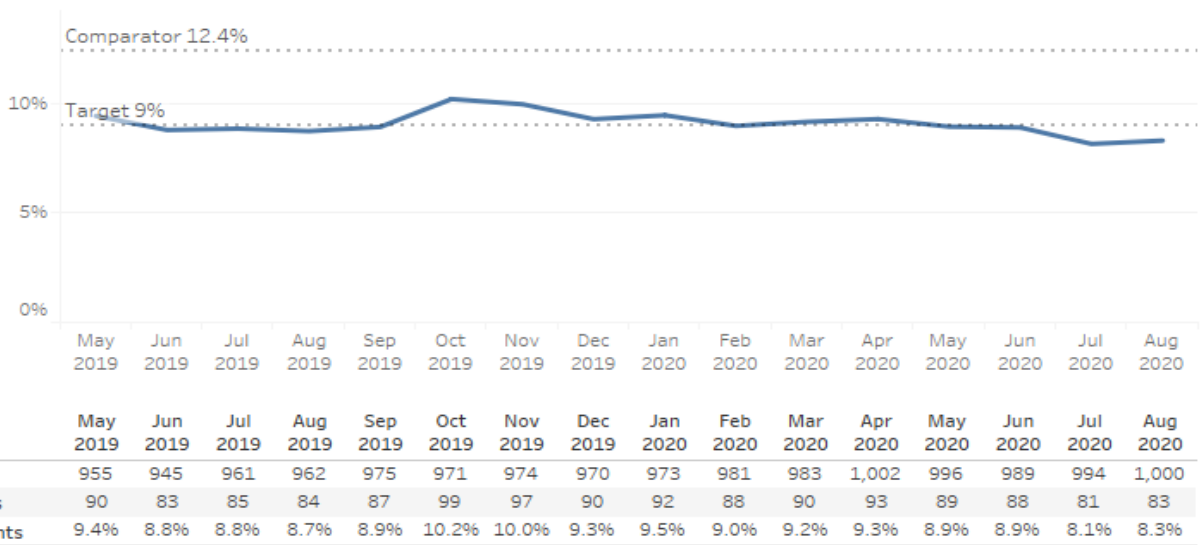
6.3. 'Other Placements' includes Independent Living, Children's Homes and Residential Placements.

6.4. Plans are in place to attempt to increase the proportion of placements that are made to in-house fostering services. There has been an increase of 4% in the proportion of children placed in internal fostering placements compared to the same point last year.

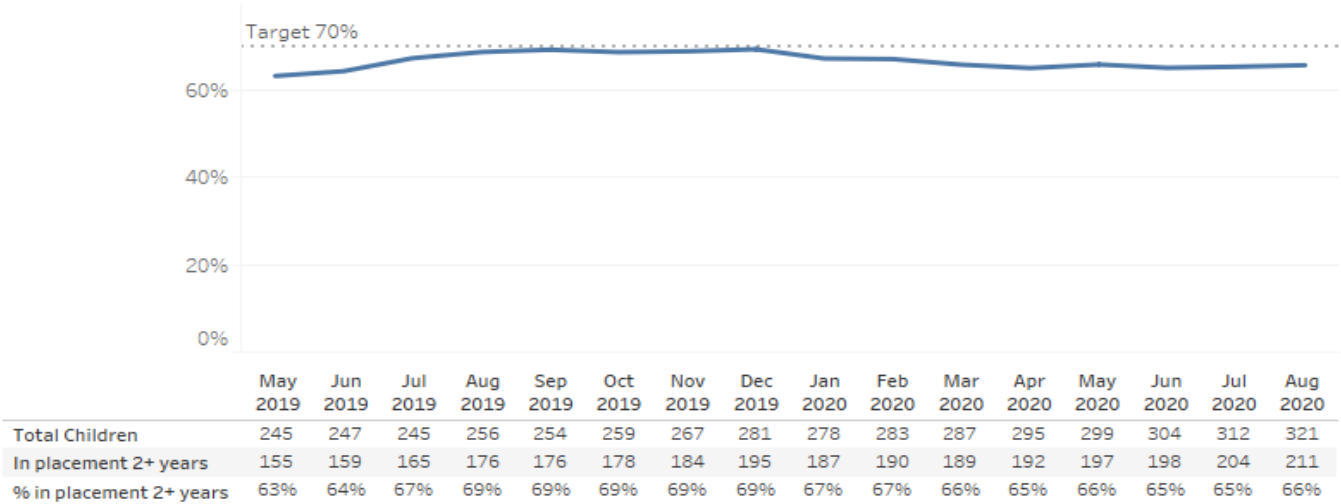


## 7. Placement Stability

### Short Term Stability - Looked After Children with 3+ Placements in 12 Months



### Long Term Stability - Looked After Children Aged Under 16 Who Have Been Looked After for At Least 2.5 Years and In Their Current Placement for 2+ Years

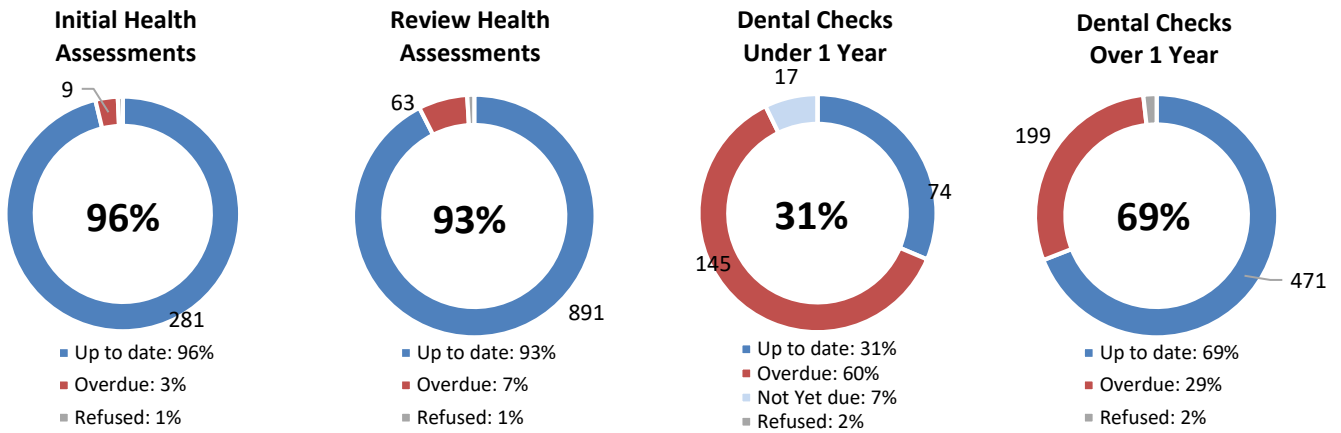


7.1. Short term stability has shown improvement over the last 12 months and has bettered the target of 9.0% for the last 4 months.

7.2. Long term stability continues to fall short of the 70% target.

7.3. Data quality has been improved in this area and there is now a 97% match between what is recorded on the Liquidlogic Children's System (LCS) and records held by the Gateway to Resources and Finance departments.

### 8. Health and Dental Check Status at Month End

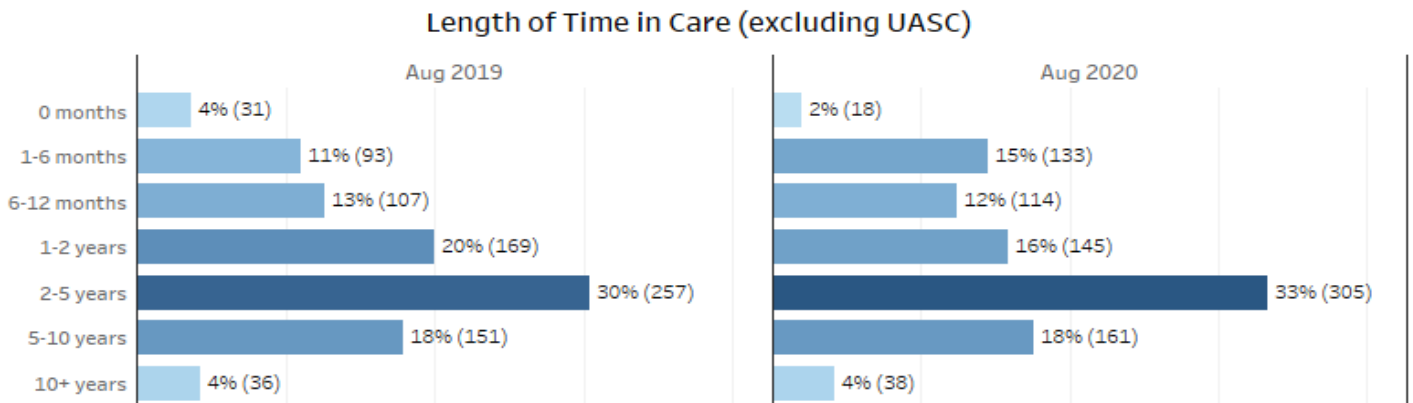


- 8.1. Of looked after children who have been in care for under 1 year, 96% have had an initial health assessment. The proportion of those with an assessment completed within timescale was 57%.
- 8.2. The proportion of children with a review health assessment carried out within the expected timescales (every 6 months for children under 5 years and every year for children aged 5+) has decreased slightly from 94% in July 2020 to 93% in August 2020.
- 8.3. The proportion of children looked after for less than a year with an up to date dental check remains significantly below the target of 80% (31% in August 2020).

## 9. Length of Time in Care

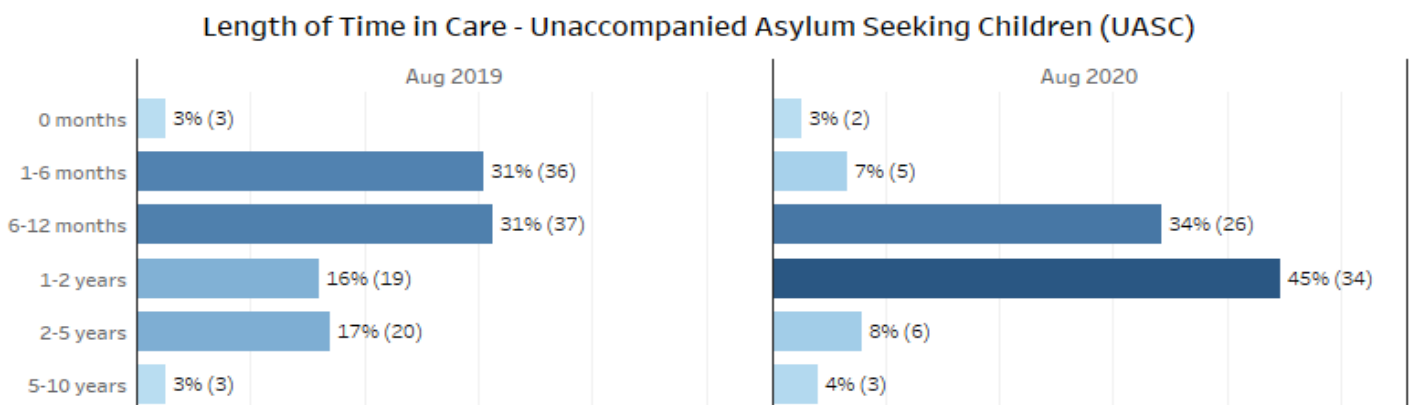
### 9.1. Length of Time in Care (excluding UASC)

The chart below shows the length of time in care for children looked after as at August 2020 with a comparison to the same point in time 12 months ago. An increase has been seen in the number and proportion of children who have been looked after for between 1 and 6 months and those looked after for between 2 and 5 years.



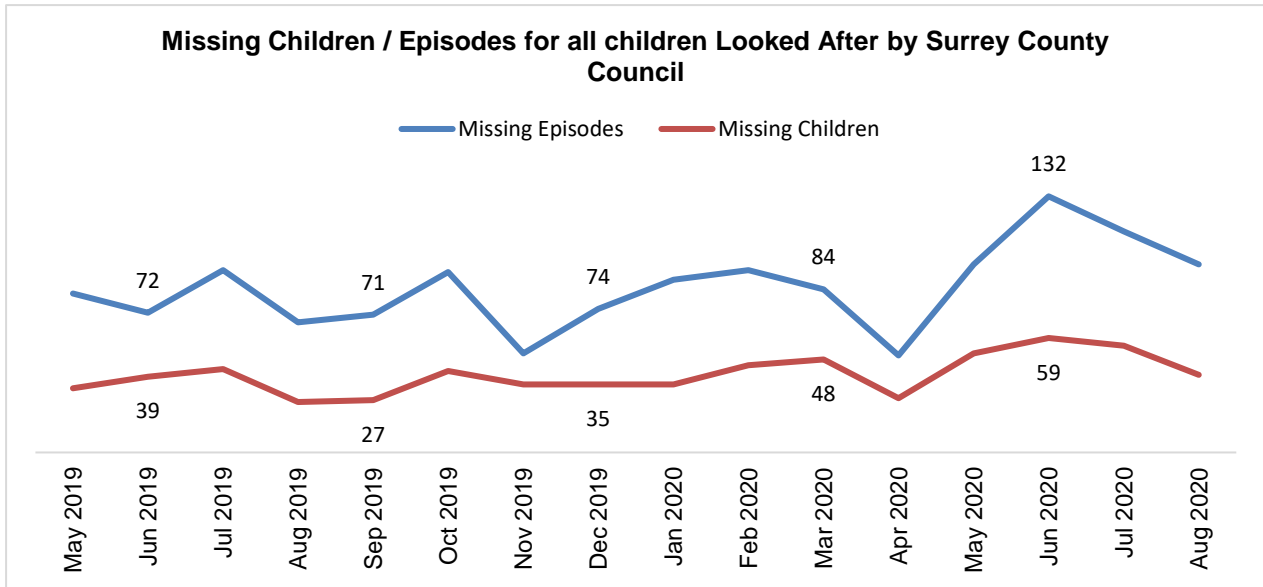
### 9.2. Length of Time in Care - Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)

The chart below shows the length of time in care for all UASC at the end of the period with a comparison to the same point in time 12 months ago.



9.3. When compared to the same period in the previous year, there has been an increase in the number and proportion of unaccompanied asylum seeking children who have been in care for 1-2 years and a corresponding decrease in children who have been in care for between 1 and 6 months.

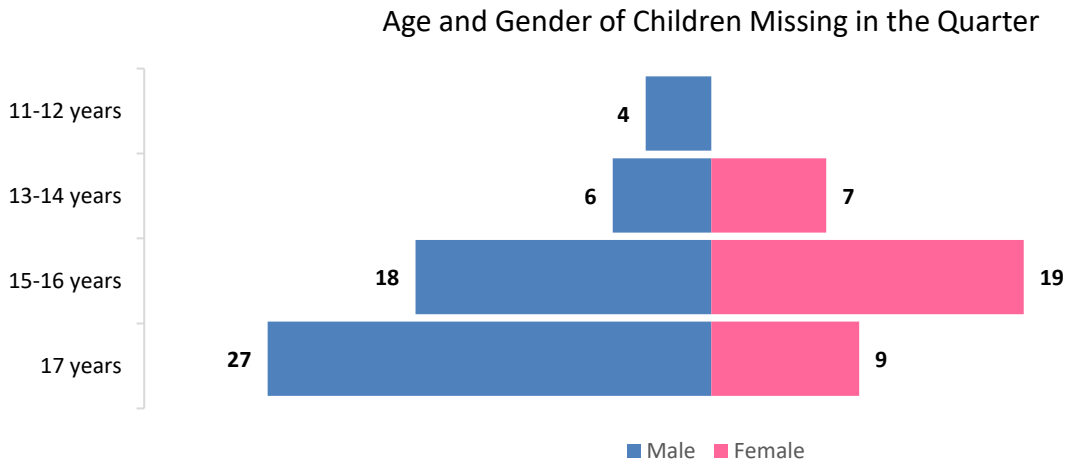
**10. Looked After Children Going Missing**



	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020
<b>Episodes</b>	82	72	94	67	71	93	51	74	89	94	84	50	97	132	114	97
<b>Children</b>	33	39	43	26	27	42	35	35	35	45	48	28	51	59	55	40

10.1. The number of missing episodes and children going missing has decreased over the last 3 months although the numbers seen are considerably higher than for the same 3 month period in the previous year.

**10.2. Age and Gender Profile for Children going missing from care**



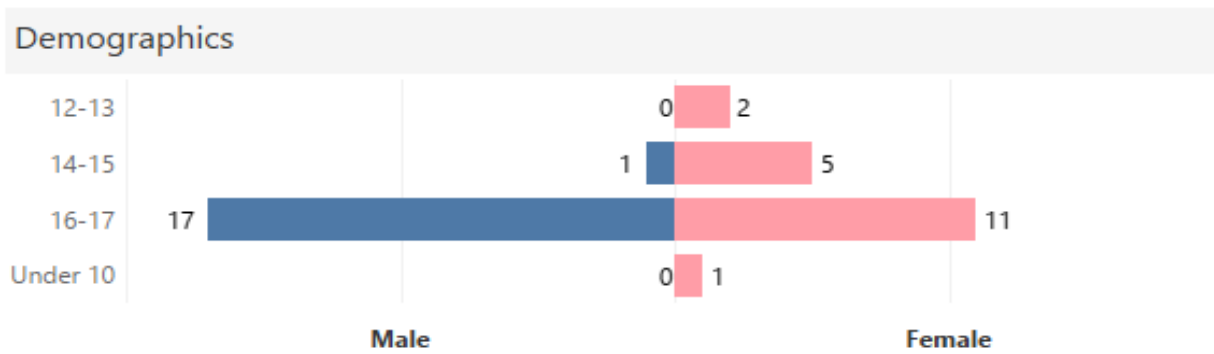
10.3. The profile of children who went missing in Q1 2020/21 shows that children who were male and aged 17 years old formed the largest group of children who went missing.

### 11. Looked After Children at Risk of Exploitation

11.1. Following recent research Surrey has now implemented a more specific Red, Amber Green (RAG) rating:

- Red = Experiencing
- Amber = Significant
- Green = Emerging

11.2. Of the 166 children currently identified as at risk of exploitation, 37 children (22%) are currently looked after.

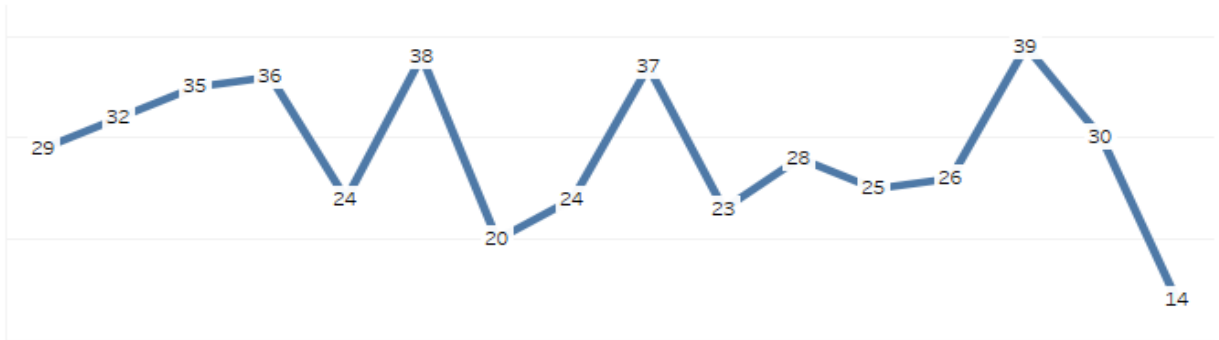


11.3. The age/gender profile above shows the breakdown of current looked after children who are identified as at risk of exploitation. Males aged 16-17 years old account for 46% of those identified as at risk.

## 12. Looked After Children Leaving Care (including UASC)

12.1. The number of children leaving care has decreased over the last 3 months and the 14 children leaving care during August 2020 is significantly lower than the average for the last 12 months of 27 children leaving care each month.

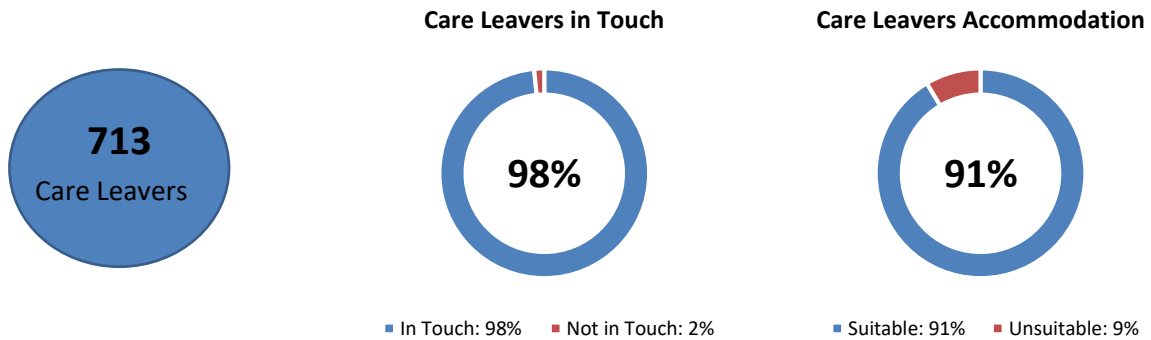
**Looked After Children Leaving Care by Month (including UASC)**



	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020
North East	7	6	9	8	6	7	5	4	6	3	3	3	4	6	1	3
North West	5	5	7	10	3	6	3	3	5	3	6	4	6	9	7	5
South East	5	5	6	4	4	8	3	9	15	4	9	11	5	4	7	3
South West	5	10	8	4	2	9	6	1	5	4	6	4	4	9	7	2
Disability	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	2	3	1	
Other	6	4	5	8	7	7	2	6	5	6	2	2	5	8	7	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14</b>

	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020
<b>Adopted</b>	2 (7%)	4 (13%)	5 (14%)	2 (6%)		4 (11%)	2 (10%)		2 (5%)		2 (7%)		1 (4%)	2 (5%)	1 (3%)	
<b>Adult Services</b>	1 (3%)	4 (13%)	2 (6%)	1 (3%)	2 (8%)		2 (10%)	1 (4%)	2 (5%)	2 (9%)	3 (11%)	1 (4%)	2 (8%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)	1 (7%)
<b>Age Assessmet 18+</b>	1 (3%)			1 (3%)												
<b>Another LA</b>	1 (3%)				1 (4%)					1 (4%)				1 (3%)	2 (7%)	
<b>Any Other Reason</b>	3 (10%)	7 (22%)	3 (9%)	6 (17%)	3 (13%)	9 (24%)	6 (30%)	1 (4%)	10 (27%)	4 (17%)	4 (14%)	3 (12%)	6 (23%)	4 (10%)	7 (23%)	2 (14%)
<b>Custody</b>	1 (3%)															1 (3%)
<b>Independent Arrangement</b>	8 (28%)	6 (19%)	9 (26%)	12 (33%)	2 (8%)	10 (26%)	5 (25%)	8 (33%)	13 (35%)	9 (39%)	9 (32%)	7 (28%)	12 (46%)	16 (41%)	6 (20%)	4 (29%)
<b>Moved Abroad</b>						1 (3%)										
<b>Remand Ended</b>					1 (4%)											
<b>Returned Home</b>	9 (31%)	8 (25%)	16 (46%)	7 (19%)	11 (46%)	6 (16%)	4 (20%)	12 (50%)	10 (27%)	3 (13%)	8 (29%)	7 (28%)	3 (12%)	10 (26%)	3 (10%)	2 (14%)
<b>SGO</b>	3 (10%)	3 (9%)		7 (19%)	4 (17%)	8 (21%)	1 (5%)	2 (8%)		4 (17%)	1 (4%)	6 (24%)	2 (8%)	2 (5%)		1 (7%)
<b>Staying Put</b>											1 (4%)	1 (4%)		3 (8%)	9 (30%)	4 (29%)

### 13. Care Leavers



13.1. There are currently 713 care leavers supported by Surrey County Council. Of these care leavers 702 (98%) are currently in touch and 652 (91%) are recorded as living in suitable accommodation.

13.2. The number of care leavers has increased slightly compared to the previous month (709 in July 2020 to 713 in August 2020). This number is expected to generally follow the looked after trend, albeit with a delay.

Accommodation Type	Suitable	Unsuitable	Total
B: With parents or relatives	46	4	50
C: Community home or other residential	42	0	42
D: Semi-independent, transitional	260	1	261
E: Supported lodgings	42	0	42
G: Gone abroad	0	0	0
K: Ordinary lodgings, without support	2	0	2
R: Residence not known	0	5	5
S: No fixed abode/homeless	0	4	4
T: Foyers and similar supported housing	6	0	6
U: Independent living	168	2	170
V: Emergency accommodation	2	1	3
X: In custody	0	10	10
Y: Other accommodation	10	1	11
Z: With former foster carers	73	0	73
Not Recorded*	-	-	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>713</b>

13.3. The table above shows the types and suitability of accommodation for our care leavers. The data shows that the majority of care leavers are living in semi-independent (37%) and independent living (24%) placements with a further 10% of care leavers remaining with their former foster carers.

13.4. Excluding those whose accommodation type is recorded as 'R: Residence Not Known' or 'X: In Custody', 13 care leavers are presently known to be living in unsuitable accommodation.

\* Where 'Not Recorded' is shown, this refers to where a valid placement type and suitability code have not been recorded and is not in relation to the address itself.

## 14. Education, Employment and Training (EET) of Care Leavers

Care Leavers in Employment



14.1. Of the 713 care leavers 503 (71%) are currently in education, employment or training (EET).

14.2. The table below gives a full breakdown of each employment and training status for our care leavers.

<b>EET / NEET</b>	<b>Activity Status</b>	<b>Care Leavers</b>	<b>% (rounded to nearest %)</b>
<b>EET</b>	F1: Full time higher education	48	7%
<b>EET</b>	F2: Other full time education	325	46%
<b>EET</b>	F3: Full time training / employment	76	11%
<b>EET</b>	P1: Part time higher education	0	0%
<b>EET</b>	P2: Other Part time education	22	3%
<b>EET</b>	P3: Part time training / employment	32	4%
<b>NEET</b>	G4: NEET illness or disability	41	6%
<b>NEET</b>	G5: NEET other circumstances	127	18%
<b>NEET</b>	G6: NEET pregnancy or parenting	24	3%
<b>NEET</b>	Not Recorded	18	3%
<b>Total</b>		<b>713</b>	

14.3. Please note that in the above 'higher education' refers to studies at a higher academic level than A-Levels. 'Other Education' refers to studies at A-Level or below.

14.4. The data table shows that the largest proportion of our care leavers who are in education, employment or training are in 'Other full time education'. A large number of these care leavers are former Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children.