

**CCG Sunderland update**  
**Report to Corporate Parenting Board**  
**17th January 2022**

**1.0 Purpose of the report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Demonstrate our duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in care
- To assure the corporate parenting board that health services to children in care are provided without undue delay or geographical prejudice
- To demonstrate the aim of the Looked After Health team is for sustained improvement in the health and wellbeing of children in care and those leaving care
- To assure the child's voice around health issues are included wherever possible
- Report on compliance to statutory targets from the Looked After Health Team for South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust

Please note that data reported within this report is Q2 data (July, August, and September).

**1.2 COVID-19**

- 1.2.1 No change to the service provision from the health team and face to face clinic appointments continue to be offered.

**2.0 Compliance data for health assessments**

**2.1 Initial Health Assessments (IHA)**

- 2.1.1 Local Authorities are responsible for ensuring a health assessment of physical, emotional, and mental health needs is completed for every child within 20 working days of becoming looked after.

Table 1 - Initial Health Assessments

Quarter	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Number	41	56	39		
Compliance	93%	96%	90%		

- The Health Team have been able to demonstrate that they continue to offer appointments within timescales.
- 3 appointments were cancelled by carers and rearranged, 1 cancelled as no consent; this accounted for the 10% seen outside of the 20 working day timeframe.

## 2.2 Review Health Assessments (RHA)

- 2.2.1 The RHA must happen at least every six months before a child's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday and at least once every 12 months after the child's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday within the month they became looked after.

Table 2 - Review Health Assessments

Quarter	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Number	144	140	86		
Compliance	98%	85%	91%		

- Of the 86 appointments 78 complied with timescales.
- The team are now monitoring appointments as it was highlighted that numerous appointments were being rearranged, which was impacting on compliance
- We are working with Together For Children to help understand the reasons for cancelled appointments; we are raising awareness through training and attending Carers drop-ins and also amending wording to appointment letters.

## 2.3 Out of Area Health Assessments

Table 3 – Health assessments performed on behalf of Sunderland for children and young people placed outside of area

Assessment	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
IHA	0	4	2		
RHA	14 (93%)	50%	100%		

## 3.0 Health Passports

- No information received regarding health passports.
- The health passport APP is now in development and will be shared with our young people for agreement when completed.

## 4.0 Dental Appointments

- 4.1 Dental appointments: 62% of young people had been seen at the time of their health assessment. 18% were not due and 20% were due and had not been seen.

## 5.0 Service improvements

- 5.1 The development of the regional Health Passport App is ongoing.

- 5.2 Health Assessment feedback project: the health team have attended both Change Councils to seek young people's views. Telephone feedback is to be gathered from Young People following their health assessments to get feedback from Young People not part of the Change Council.
- 5.3 Dental: regional scoping is currently being carried out to look at dental pathways.

## **6.0 Recommendations and Actions**

The Corporate Parenting Board is asked to note the content of the report.

**Jo Morgan**  
**Designated Nurse Cared for Children**  
**Sunderland CCG**