

Northumberland Tyne & Wear NHS Trust

Sunderland Children Looked After Report

June 2019



Sunderland Children Looked After Report

March – May 2019

1. Activity

	March -18	April - 19	May - 19
Referrals	18	5	19
Referrals discharged unseen	2	4	2

Referrals discharged unseen

The following provides narrative in relation to reasons why the young people were not seen by the service.

March

1. Young man aged 17 years old, CYPS attempted to engage him in therapy on 3 occasions which he declined, agreed to discharge him from CYPS as he did not wish to engage.
2. Young person was referred to CYPS, carers were contacted to offer appointment and CYPS were informed the young person had moved out of area.

April

1. Attempted to offer an appointment, did not wish to engage, young person moved out of area.
2. Young person did not wish to engage, Consultant Clinical psychologist offers sessions into residential home and staff can be provided with support/ advice and scaffolding to support the young person's mental health until they feel ready to access direct 1:1 therapy within CYPS.
3. Multi agency meeting held regarding the child's presentation, all professionals in agreement child does not require CYPS intervention at this time.
4. Young person did not attend 2 arranged appointments, due to young person not wishing to engage case reviewed and discharged by clinical psychologist.

May

1. Young person previously seen in CYPS and discharged by clinical psychologist, clinical psychologist has spoken with social worker and advised young person does not require further intervention from CYPS at this time.
2. Young person had moved out of area when contacted to arrange an appointment.

2. Referral Urgency

All cases referred to CYPs either by phone, fax, and email or in written format are reviewed on a daily basis by a member of the clinical duty team and a senior clinical lead. The purpose of this initial review is in order to signpost any cases that have been inappropriately referred and to ensure any cases that require an urgent or priority response are highlighted and actioned immediately.

All cases into the service are categorised into either Urgent or Routine. An urgent referral will be offered a telephone triage appointment within 4 hours and a face to face assessment within 24 hours.

	March -18	April -19	May -19
Urgent	1	2	0
Routine	17	3	19
Total	18	5	19

3. Waiting List

The Trust is currently undertaking a significant data migration to support national reporting requirements as such current waiting time information is unavailable for LAC however the average wait for first contact for the CYPS service is currently 18 weeks from referral to entering treatment.

The Trust is currently undertaking a range of initiatives to increase clinical capacity to support the reduction of waiting times within community services in addition to additional funding secured from the CCG within the 2019/20 contracting round.

Current treatment pathways are under review in CYPS and clinical pathways have been reviewed and enhanced to meet the needs of our Looked After Children. We have established weekly Consultant Clinical Psychology time into the residential homes in Sunderland to offer scaffolding, supervision and advice and support to staff when young people do not wish to engage in direct therapy.

CYPS are in the process of setting up a group based intervention for foster carers in Sunderland with the aim of commencing this in September. The group will consist of 12 foster carers attending for 10 fortnightly sessions with a clinical psychologist and a fostering social worker from Together for Children. The aim of these sessions will be initially to provide foster carers with training on attachment and how to support the children they care for using attachment-focused strategies. Following this the sessions will then move on to a consultation focus aimed at supporting carers to put the techniques into practise.

The overall goal is for carers to feel they are better able to understand why their foster child presents the way they do, and feel more confident in managing it in a way that promotes attachment security, which will hopefully reduce the risk of placement breakdown. They will be flexibility during the sessions to ensure the foster carers get what they need out of attending. CYPS will use pre and post outcome measures and evaluation forms to monitor how helpful it has been and support evaluation and planning of the next groups moving forward.

4. Current Caseload

	March -19	April- 19	May - 19
Total Children Looked After	126	120	129
Total CYPS Caseload	2352	2314	2380
Total % Children Looked After	5.3%	5.2%	5.4%