

Looked After Health Team, City Hospitals Sunderland
Report to Corporate Parenting Board

2nd July 2018

1. Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the activity of the Looked After Health team to Sunderland Corporate Parenting Board.

In this quarter there was an average of 607 children looked after. 46 were recorded as being placed outside of the North East.

2. Compliance data for health assessments Quarter 1

- 2.1** Local Authorities are responsible for making sure a health assessment of physical, emotional and mental health needs is carried out for every child they look after. Initial Health Assessments (IHAs) must happen within 20 working days of the child becoming looked after. In order for the health team to ensure compliance with statutory timescales it is imperative they are advised of the child becoming looked after and consent for health assessments received in a timely manner.

Table 1 – Initial Health Assessments

	Quarter 1
Number	55
Compliance (target 100%)	90.5%

- 2.3** The compliance has improved back to the usual levels following the disruption on the implementation of Liquid Logic at Together for Children. Two children were not brought to their arranged appointment and there were three health assessments required from services out of the North East which have not been performed in a timely manner. There is a pathway in place to address this issue.
- 2.4** The RHA must happen at least every six months before a child's 5th birthday and at least once every 12 months after the child's 5th birthday. Table 2 depicts the compliance rate.

Table 2 – Review Health Assessments

	Quarter 1
Number	98
Compliance (target 100%)	95%

- 2.5** Non-compliance was due to 6 children not being brought for their arranged appointment. 8 children placed out of the area did not have their health assessments completed on time.

3.0 Health Passports

- 3.1** The pathway for providing Health passports works well, thanks to the continued efforts of Claire Elwell, Named nurse.

Table 3 – Health Passports Issued

	Quarter 1
Number	4
Compliance	100%

4.0 LAC Health Team

- 4.1** The Named Nurse LAC has been on long term sick leave since November 2017, contingency plans are in place to cover her absence. The Children and Young People's Nurse is 'acting up' as Named Nurse LAC during the period of sickness.
- 4.2** Dr Kim Barrett, who has undertaken the role of Designated Dr for LAC for a number of years, has stepped down from the role. Dr Sarah Mills has taken over the role and responsibility for the Looked After service as well as sharing the role of Medical Advisor to the Adoption Panel with Dr Sian Firth
- 4.3** Dr Sian Firth has taken up the role as Named Doctor for LAC.
- 4.4** The Designated Nurse LAC post is vacant, and was put out to advert in early June.

5.0 Developments

- 5.1** Dr Mills and Dr Firth met with Jane Wheeler, participation lead to discuss how we can work with the young people by attending the Change Council and accessing other opportunities.
- 5.2** Claire Elwell, Named nurse attended the Change Council away day on 30th May to get ideas around a leaflet for young people which will explain the health assessments. She also encouraged them to give feedback on how the health action plan produced at the end of a health assessment could be more young person friendly.
- 5.3** Dr Mills, Dr Firth and Chloe Busby, Safeguarding nurse CCG attended the Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Child meeting in Leeds on 14th June 2018 to hear more about working together through collaboration and meeting the needs of this particularly vulnerable and complex group.

- 5.4** Dr Mills and Kelly Haslem, Community CYPS manager met on 18th June to begin working together on improving the mental health support for looked after children and young people.
- 5.5** The Looked After Admin team are working hard to ensure there is a feedback loop for the health outcomes collected at each health assessment. The team look forward to presenting this data to Corporate Parenting Board in the near future.

6.0 Recommendations

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

Signed



Dr Sarah Mills
Locum Paediatric Consultant
Designated Doctor for Looked After Children

21.06.2018

