

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

16 APRIL 2018

HEALTH OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

1. Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on health Looked After Children (LAC) activity to Sunderland Corporate Parenting Board.

2. Compliance data for health assessments quarter 3

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.

2.2 Table 1

LAC IHAs	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Compliance IHAs	80%	90%	98%	60%

2.3 As can be seen in table 1 there has been a decline in compliance with IHAs for quarter 4, this has been due to late notifications caused by the migration of data from CCM to Liquid Logic. There was a total of 24 late notifications, it is anticipated that these problems will be resolved for the next reporting period. Due to poor weather conditions 2 children were unable to attend and 3 children out of area have not had their assessments completed.

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

LAC RHAs	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Compliance RHAs	90%	94%	87%	96%

2.5 As can be seen table 2 demonstrates there was an increase in compliance with RHAs for quarter 4; the 4% non-compliance was due to children placed out of area not having health assessments completed on time.

3.0 Health Passports

- 3.1 The improvement activity around issuing of health passports was described in a previous report. Table 3 demonstrates there has been an improvement in compliance for quarter 4.

Table 3

Health passports issued	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Compliance Health passports	100%	100%	73%	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 LAC clinics have been reorganised in order for the LAC doctors to undertake the RHAs which would have been undertaken by the Named Nurse. 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 been recruited to the role and is currently being inducted to the post which will involve spending time within the CCG and across the partnership.
- 4.3 The Designated Nurse LAC is currently working her notice and will be resigning from the role at the end of June

5.0 Recommendations

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

Anne M Brock

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