

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

1 April 2019

HEALTH OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

LOOKED AFTER HEALTH TEAM, CITY HOSPITALS SUNDERLAND

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 600 children looked after, this has decreased from the previous quarter.

2. Compliance data for health assessments - Quarter 4

Initial Health Assessments

- 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	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Number	66	62	80	61
Compliance (target 100%)	90.5%	76%	93%	100%

- 2.2 Please note figures are not accurate due to the timing of this meeting. Currently the team are 100% compliant for the first quarter ever.

Review Health Assessments

- 2.3 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	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Number	144	165	144	126
Compliance (target 100%)	95%	95%	95%	98%

- 2.4 The compliance was 100% for January and March. Two young people refused to attend their health assessments. One has been seen since, the looked after nurses will attempt to engage with the remaining young person in the coming months.

Out of Area Health Assessments

- 2.5** Children placed out of the North East are seen by their local looked after health teams. Their figures will be discussed separately to those seen by Sunderland.

Table 3 – Out of Area Health Assessments

	Quarter 4
Number	14
Compliance (target 100%)	71%

- 2.7** These were all review health assessments. Out of area review health assessments are requested 3 months in advance. 2 of the teams could not accommodate the assessment in time (3 young people affected) and one young person did not attend two appointments when they were offered but now have an appointment booked for April.
- 2.8** Dr Sarah Mills and Vicky Smith, Designated Nurse have completed an audit looking at the timeliness and quality of Out of Area Health Assessments, this will be presented at the next corporate parenting board meeting.

3.0 Health Passports

Table 3 – Health Passports Issued

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Number	6	11	19	11
Compliance	100%	100%	89%	100%

- 3.1** In the 2019 work plan the Health passport will be revised in line with improved joint working between the next steps and looked after health teams.

4.0 Looked After Health Team

- 4.1** City Hospitals Sunderland and South Tyneside Hospital Trusts will merge on 1st April 2019. Work will be undertaken to align the services across both geographical areas. Reporting to the Local authority and Clinical Commissioning Group will remain separated in both areas at the present time.

5.0 Developments

- 5.1** A leaflet for young people which will explain the health assessments is in development. The text and the design work has been produced to match the 'Commitments' leaflet produced by Together for Children. This has been made in conjunction with the Change Council and the second draft is waiting for final sign off by the Change Council.
- 5.2** The data collection for health outcomes has been established. Data is collated after each health assessment basis looking at issues such as smoking rates, substance misuse and obesity. The team will also be able to gather information on the services they provide at the health assessment for example performing blood tests, giving immunisations or carrying out sexual health screening. The initial data is coming through and this will be presented Corporate Parenting Board in the near future.

6.0 Recommendations

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

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SM' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr Sarah Mills

Locum Paediatric Consultant

Designated Doctor for Looked After Children

