



# Havering

LONDON BOROUGH

# **Quarter 3 Performance Report 2020/21**

## **Children and Learning O&S Sub-Committee**

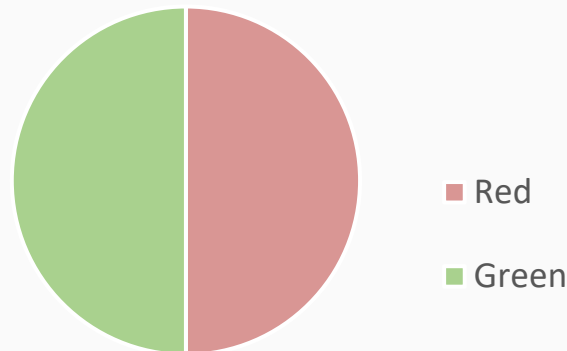
# About the Children and Learning O&S Sub-Committee Performance Report

- Overview of the Council's performance against the indicators selected by the Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee
- The report identifies where the Council is performing well (**Green**), within target tolerance (**Amber**) and not so well (**Red**).
- Where the RAG rating is '**Red**', '**Corrective Action**' is included in the presentation. This highlights what action the Council will take to improve performance.

## OVERVIEW OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES INDICATORS

- 6 Performance Indicators are now reported to the Children and Learning Overview & Scrutiny sub-committee
- Performance data is available for all 6 indicators this quarter
- All 6 indicators have been given a RAG status

Quarter 3 Indicator Summary



In summary, of the 6 indicators:

**3 (50%)** have a status of **Green**

**3 (50%)** have a status of **Red**

## Quarter 3 Performance – Children’s Services

Indicator and Description	Value	Tolerance	2020/21 Annual Target	2020/21 Q3 Target	2020/21 Q3 Performance	Short Term DOT against Q2 2020/21		Long Term DOT against Q3 2019/20	
% of Contacts progressing to Early Help	Higher is better	+/-5%	30%	30%	30%	↑	28.15%	↓	42.5%
% of LAC aged under 16 who have been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years and living in the same placement for at least 2 years*	Higher is better	+/-10%	70%	70%	58.7%	↑	56.6%	↓	64.3%
% of former relevant young people at age 18-21 who are in education, employment or training	Higher is better	+/-5%	75%	75%	67.6%	↓	71.8%	↑	58.4%
% LAC with an up to date pathway plan in place	Higher is better	+/-10%	70%	70%	73.1%	↑	72.7%	-	N/A

\*Also includes children who are placed for adoption and whose adoptive placement together with their previous placement last for at least 2 years

## Quarter 3 Performance – Children’s Services (contd.)

Indicator and Description	Value	Tolerance	2020/21 Annual Target	2020/21 Q3 Target	2020/21 Q3 Performance	Short Term DOT against Q2 2020/21		Long Term DOT against Q3 2019/20	
% of LAC cases with supervision in the last three months	Higher is better	+/-10%	95%	95%	98%	↑	96.1%	-	N/A
% of Education, Health and Care (EHC) assessments that are completed within 20 weeks	Higher is better	+/-10%	72%	72%	53%	↑	48%	-	N/A

## Highlights

The **percentage of contacts progressing to Early Help** is down compared with the same point in the previous year but has risen compared to the previous quarter, which coincides with pupils returning to classroom based learning in September. An Early Help worker is now based in the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to support and improve the identification of cases that would benefit from Early Help intervention. A new approach to repeat contacts was implemented in the MASH in early 2020/21, whereby all cases where 3 or more contacts have been received for a child are now being MASHed, analysed and progressed to either Social Care or Early Help with a view to an assessment being completed, depending on the level of need. This has led to an overall increase in cases progressing to an assessment (by either Social Care or Early Help).

Looking at the reasons for contacts, domestic abuse remains the most prevalent reason but during COVID-19 we have seen an increase in contacts regarding mental health (both child and parental) and a decrease in contacts concerning neglect, which is likely to be reflective of children being less visible to professionals during lockdown. This trend is being explored further through the local safeguarding partnership.

Data on the **percentage of LAC with an up to date pathway plan in place** is reviewed weekly in ISS. This, coupled with the role of the IRO service in ensuring (via LAC reviews) that a pathway assessment has been completed by 15 years and 9 months, has led to sustained improvement against this indicator. In addition to the timeliness of plans, there remains a focus on ensuring that young people are engaged with the pathway planning process and that their voice is evident.

We have seen, during the quarter, a reduction in the percentage of care leavers (aged 18+) with an up to date pathway plan. This is attributed to a combination of challenges associated with remote working, virtual visits and some of the young adults experiencing a level of disengagement due to lockdown restrictions. However, every care leaver does have a pathway plan and a clear strategy is in place for the review of post 18 pathway plans. Leaving Care Team managers are also being more robust in reviewing pathway plans, which is resulting in some being reassigned back to the workers for additional exploration and to better capture the views of the young adults.

## Highlights (contd.)

The **percentage of LAC cases with supervision in the last three months** has remained above target throughout the quarter. Performance in this area is closely monitored by the Head of Service and Group Managers and discussed at weekly performance meetings. The service's supervision policy was reviewed during 2020 and the expectation is now that case supervision on LAC cases should take place at a minimum every *two* months. From April 2021, performance will be reported against this new standard.



## Improvements required

The **percentage of LAC aged under 16 who have been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years and living in the same placement for at least 2 years** has increased compared with the previous quarter but remains lower than the same point last year and below our locally set target. The London average at the end of Quarter 2, based on informal benchmarking, was 65%. In addition to the systemic training offer that has been developed for carers with adolescents, fortnightly placement stability meetings are taking place to consider all children/young people who are moving to their 2nd placement. This is to identify individual triggers and patterns at an early stage and provide a robust approach to support, before challenges are experienced.

The **percentage of former relevant young people at age 18-21 who are in education, employment or training (EET)** has reduced compared to the previous quarter. Havering's performance in 2019/20 was better or similar to all comparator groups (statistical neighbours, London and England) for both the 17-18 year old and 19-21 year old cohorts. However, as noted previously, COVID-19 has had an adverse effect on many of our young adults, especially those working in retail, hospitality, health and hair and beauty, which can now be seen in these figures. In addition, a number of young adults in higher education are struggling to maintain course work and college engagement remotely. Most young people in education have been provided with a laptop and the service has ensured that a keyworker within the unit is available to offer support, which is evidenced through progress reports and conversations with the young people.

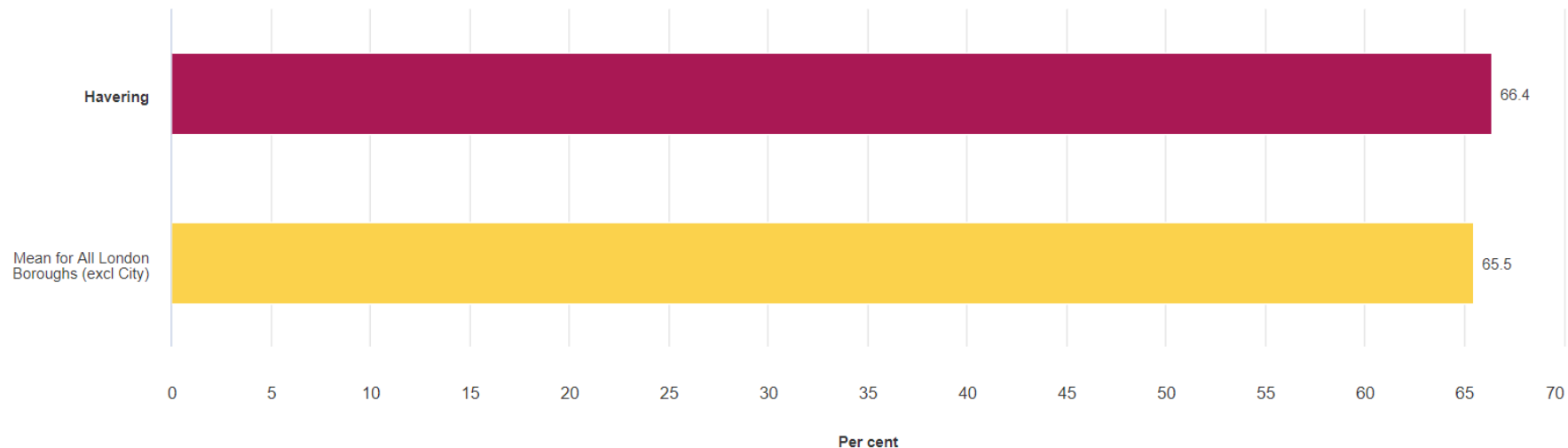
Moving forward, all pathway plans for young people will focus on EET and the outcomes will be closely monitored in supervision. Multiple strategies are being explored for young people, including for those currently on remand / in prison. A lot of work is going into ensuring that young people do not drop out of education due to the increasing challenge of COVID-19 restrictions and resulting impact on their emotional and psychological wellbeing. Our new Future Mentors Scheme will provide another layer of support to help care leavers to engage in EET and offer continued support to those young people already on a course or in employment. Mentors have now completed their training and the matching of mentors with young people began in November 2020. The Leaving Care service also continues to liaise with the Virtual School in order to target support to sustain EET, prior to the young people turning 18.

## Improvements required (Cont..)

The **percentage of EHC assessments completed within 20 weeks** was below target at the end of the December 2020. There was a reduction in new applications for education, health and care assessments initially in the quarter but volumes increased again as the schools settled back into the new academic year. Three new officers have been trained on the new assessment process, which has contributed to performance increasing from 48% in Quarter 2 to 53% in Quarter 3.

The chart below compares Havering's performance in 2019 with the London average for the same period. This data is from an annual return which is published each May for the previous academic year, so at present this is the most up to date benchmarking information available. It is yet to be seen how COVID-19 has impacted on performance in other areas.

Proportion of new EHC Plans issued within 20 weeks, including exceptions (%) (2019)

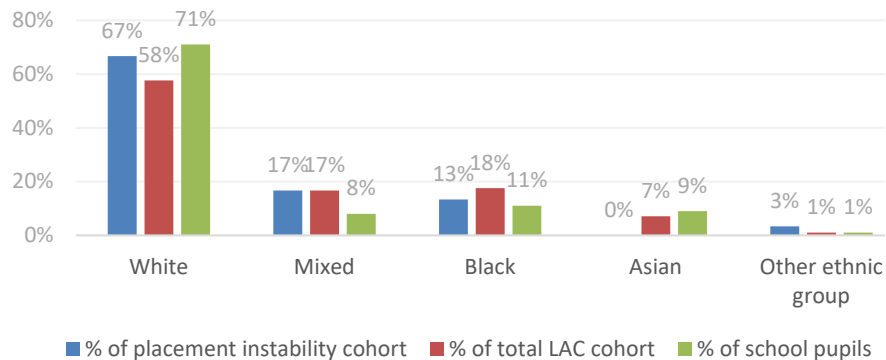


Source: LG Inform – Local Area SEND report for Havering

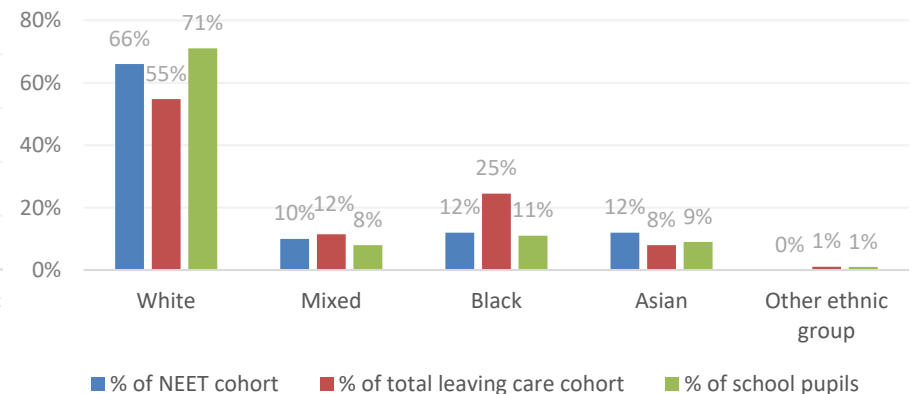
# Disproportionality

As part of Children's Services commitment to exploring issues of disproportionality, the charts below have been produced to compare the ethnic makeup of two cohorts of children and young people behind the indicators that are currently off target: placement stability and care leavers who are not in education, employment or training.

Comparing ethnicities of children who have been in care for more than 2.5 years and in their current placement for less than 2 years, with the wider population



Comparing ethnicities of care leavers not in education, employment or training (NEET), with the wider population



- For both of these cohorts (care leavers who are NEET and LAC whose current placement has lasted less than 2 years), the gender split is 50/50.
- Within the NEET cohort of 50 care experienced young people:
  - 13 young people were NEET due to pregnancy or parenting (all identifying as female or non-binary);
  - 7 young people were NEET due to illness or disability; and
  - the remaining 20 were NEET for other reasons, including 5 young people who were in custody.

# Any questions?

