

Corporate Parenting Summary Report

December 2012 – External Version

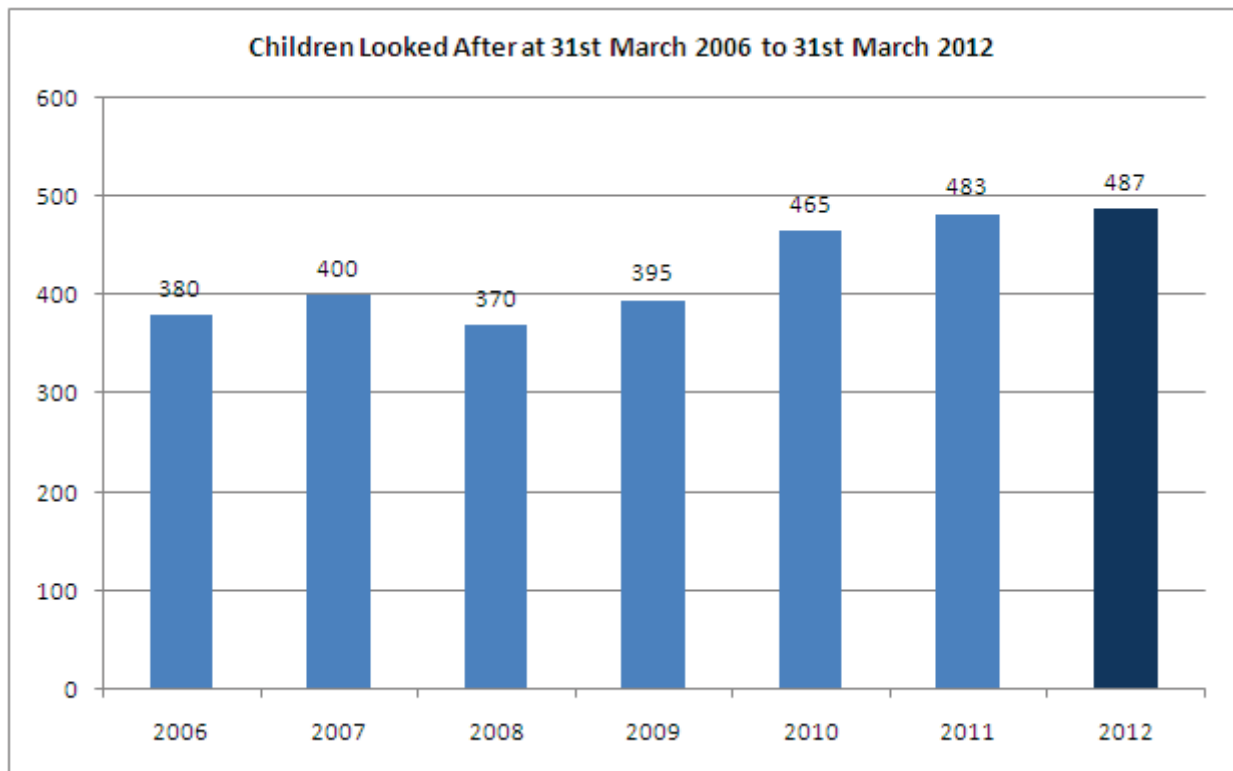
The purpose of this report is to highlight key performance activity relating to Children in Care and to identify key performance issues and the direction of travel for the key indicators.

Contents

RAG Rating	Direction of Travel	Section
<u>Children Looked After Numbers</u>		
Red	Worse	Looked After Children (Excluding Respite) as at 31 st March 2012
Red	Better	Children Looked After at 31st March 2010 to 2012. Rates per 10,000 Children aged under 18 years
Red	Better	Children Looked After last 12 months
Red	Better	CAFCASS Care Applications
Red	Better	Children and Families in Care Proceedings
<u>Profile of Children Looked After Year Ending 31st March 2011</u>		
N/A	N/A	Children Looked After by Age Band
N/A	N/A	Children Looked After by Age and Gender
N/A	N/A	Children Looked After by Legal Status
N/A	N/A	Children Looked After by Ethnicity
N/A	N/A	Children Looked After by Placement Type
Green	Slightly Worse	Children looked after at 31 March by distance between home and placement by Local Authority
N/A	N/A	Children who started to be looked after during the year
<u>Health of Children Looked After</u>		
Amber	Slightly Better	Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children
Amber	Slightly Worse	Health and Dental Checks for Children Looked After
Red	Worse	Sexual Health and Substance Misuse
<u>Improving Educational Outcomes</u>		
Amber	Better	Percentage of School Age LAC with a PEP in the last 6 months
Green	Better	Percentage of children who have been looked after continuously for at least twelve months with at least one fixed exclusion 2010
<u>Increasing the number of care leavers in 'settled, safe accommodation'</u>		
Green	Better	Care leavers at 19 - Suitable accommodation
Amber	Worse	Care leavers at 19 - in education, employment and training
<u>Corporate Parenting Processes</u>		
Amber	Worse	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales
Amber	Better	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements
Amber	Better	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement
Green	Better	Adoption and Special Guardianship Order

Looked After Children (Excluding Respite) as at 31st March 2012

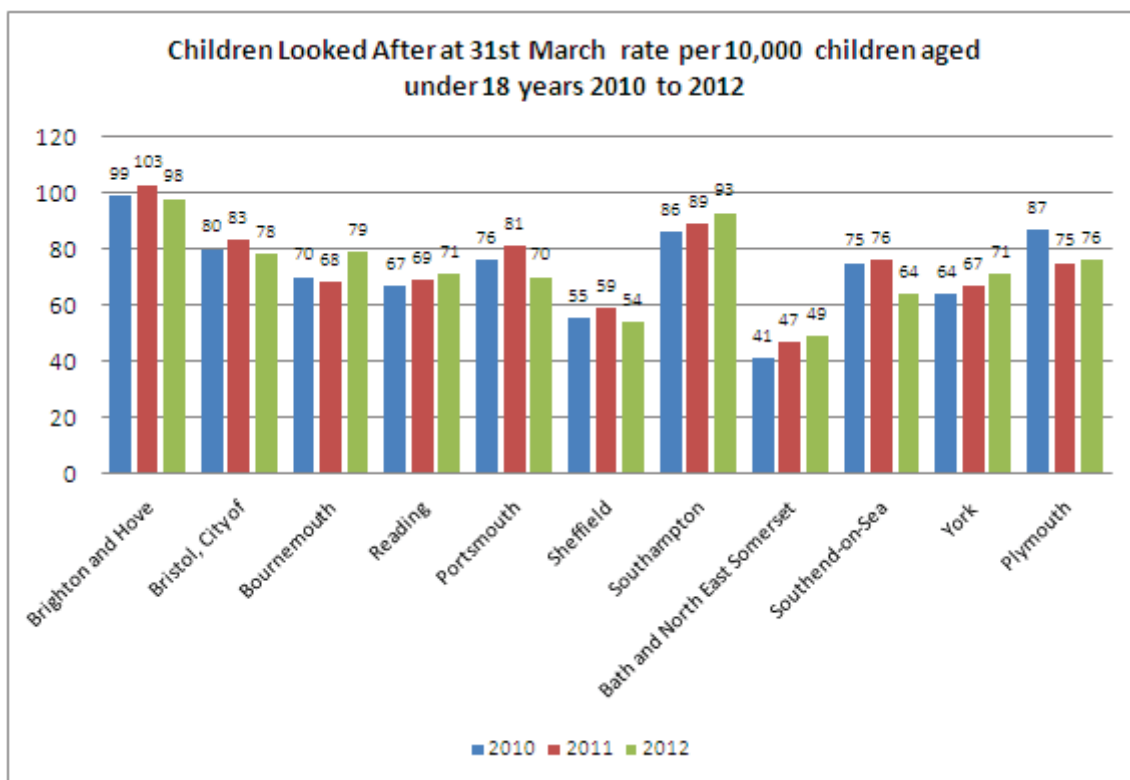
Figure 1: Number of Looked After Children (excluding Respite) at 31st March 2006 to 2012



Source: SSDA903

The number of Looked after Children at 31st March 2012 is 487, a 1% increase from 2011 compared to a 2% increase nationally, and a 32% increase from 2008 compared to a 13% increase nationally.

Figure 2a: Children looked after at 31st March 2010 to 2012. Rates per 10,000 Children aged under 18 years¹



Source: SSDA903

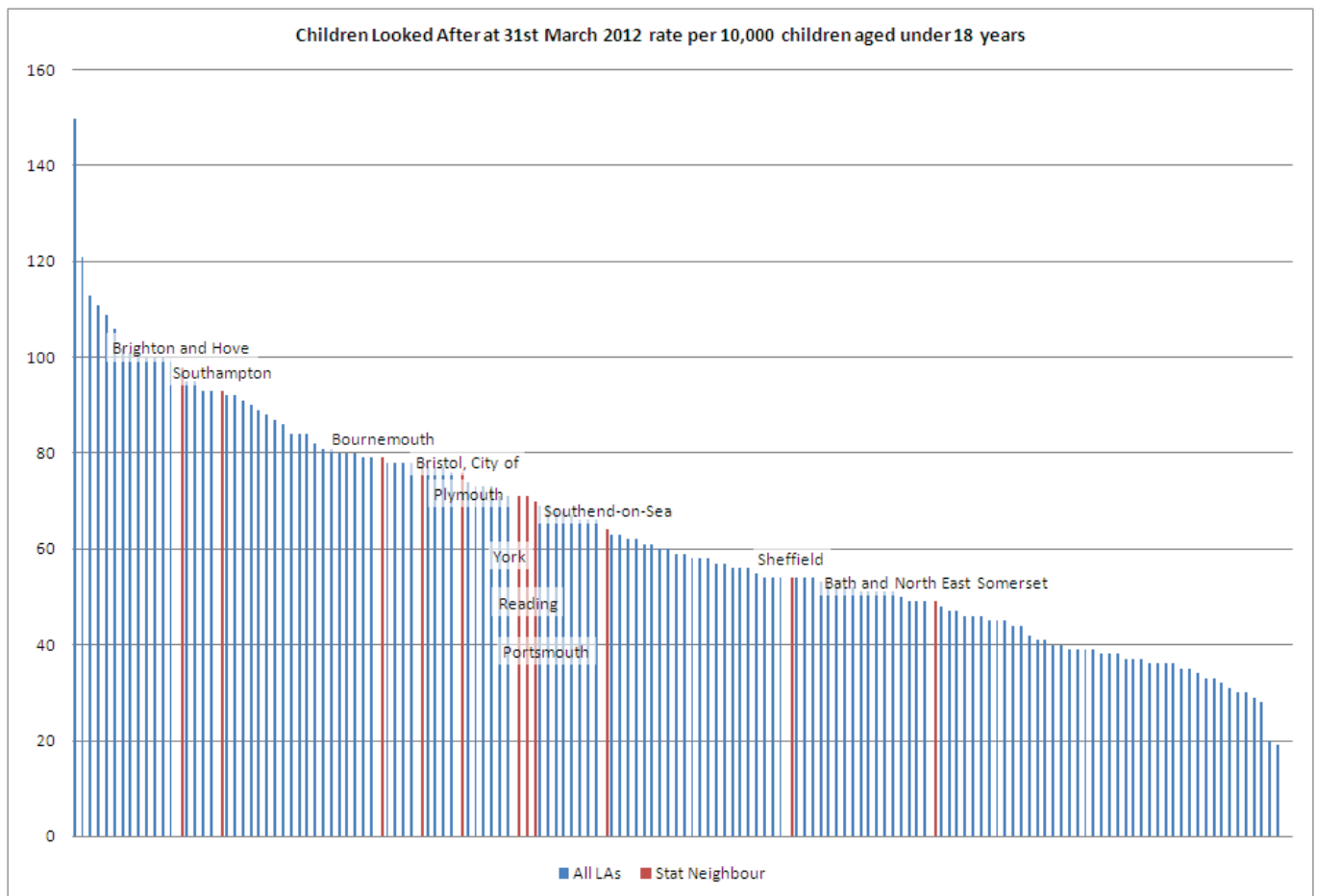
The rate of children looked after per 10,000 children aged under 18 has fallen from 103 as at 31 March 2011 to 98 as at March 2012. The reason that our rate per 10,000 has fallen despite the number of children looked after remaining unchanged is because the mid-year 2011 projection for children aged 0-17 based on 2011 Census is 49,900 and the 2010 mid-year projection was 46,900.

The rate for 2012 is higher than the 2011 national average (59 per 10,000) and the average for our statistical neighbours² (70.5 per 10,000). Brighton and Hove's LAC number would need to fall to 352 to be in-line with the statistical neighbour average and 295 to be in-line with the national average. Our closest statistical neighbours in terms of demographics are Bristol and Bournemouth and our LAC number would need to fall to 390 and 392 respectively to be in-line with our closest neighbours.

¹ The rates per 10,000 children under 18 years have been derived using the mid-year population estimates for 2009 provided by the Office for National Statistics.

² Statistical Neighbours (SN) are ranked in order of statistical closeness, with the top SN being closest: Bristol, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Reading, Sheffield, Southampton, Bath and North East Somerset, Southend-on-Sea, York and Plymouth
Corporate Parenting Summary Report - Dec 2012 Final Version EXTERNAL

Figure 2b: Children looked after at 31st March 2012. Rates per 10,000 Children aged under 18 years³

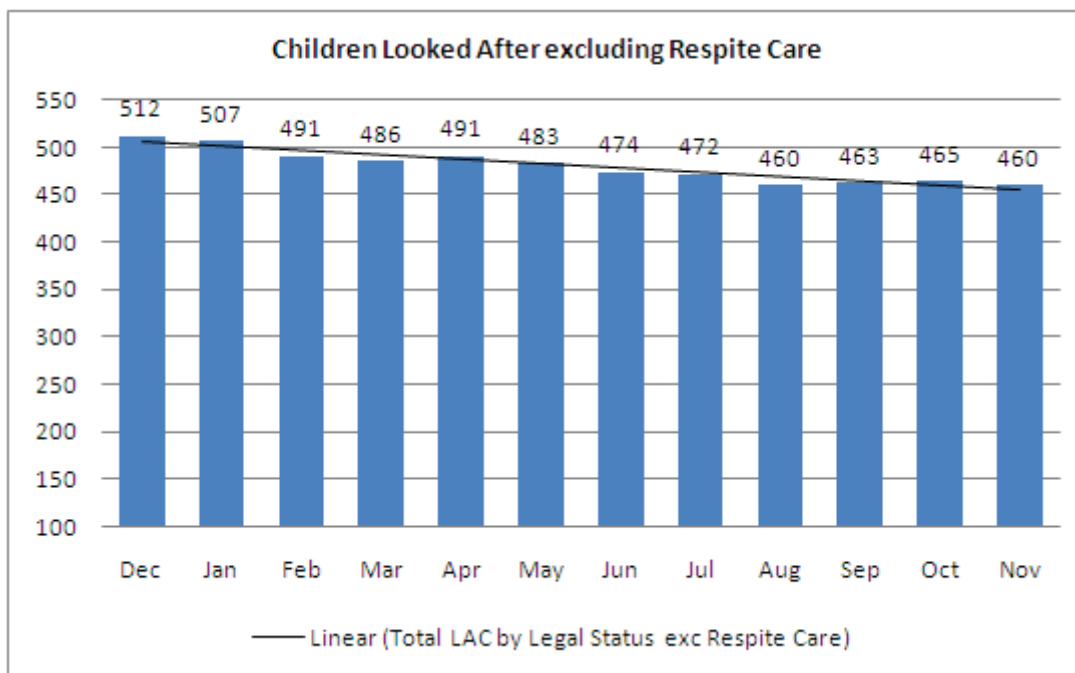


Source: SSSA903

Figure 2b reveals that the 2011/12 LAC Rate per 10,000 for Brighton and Hove Children is ranked 14th highest out of 152 Local Authorities in England. The LAC rate as at 30th November 2012 per 10,000 is 92.2 which would place Brighton and Hove joint 19th highest with Wirral.

³ The rates per 10,000 children under 18 years have been derived using the mid-year population estimates for 2009 provided by the Office for National Statistics.

Figure 3: Children looked after year ending 30th November 2012



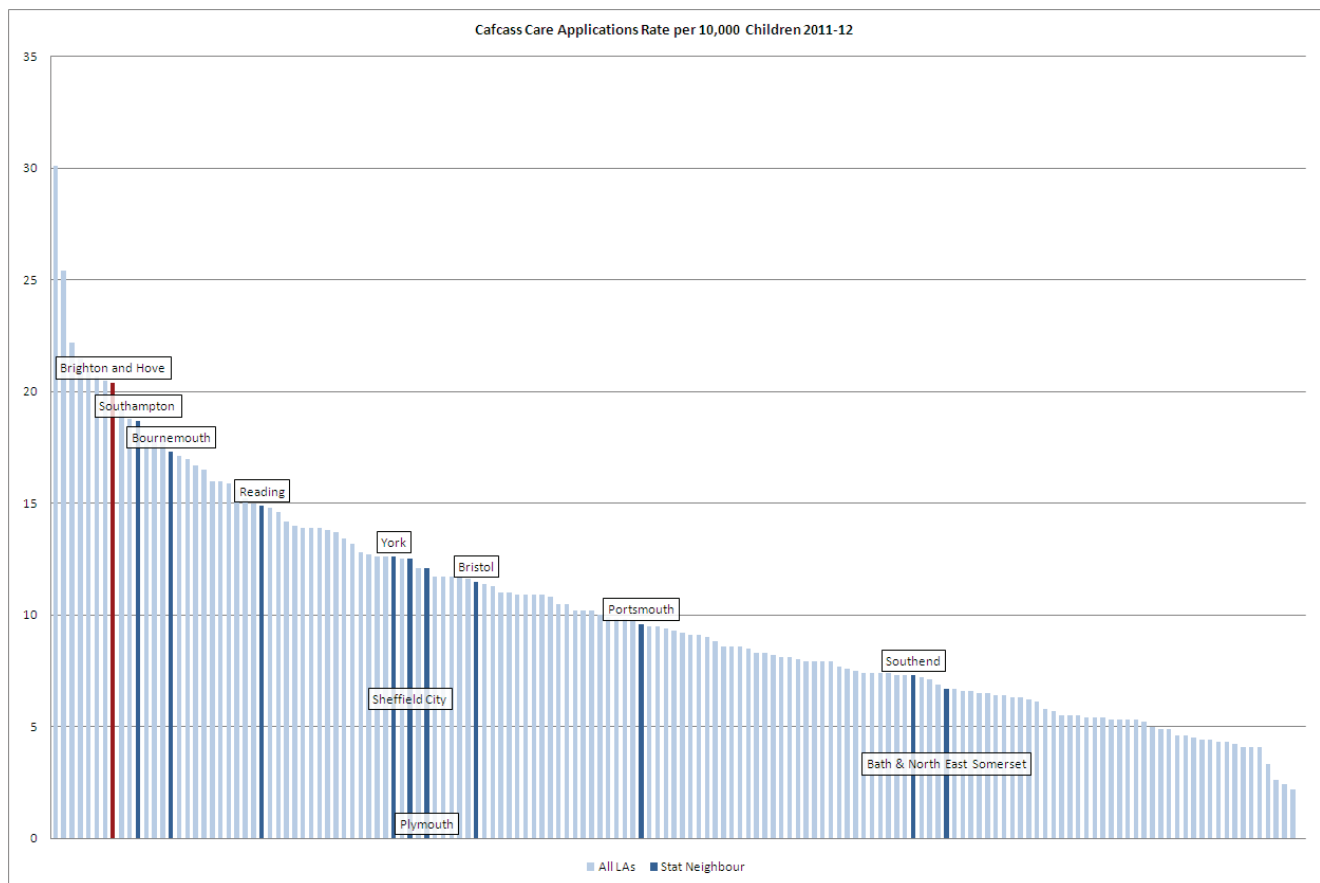
Source: Monthly Monitoring November 2012

The number of Looked after Children (excluding respite) fell slightly this month from 465 last month to 460 in November 2012. The number of Looked After Children has fallen from 514 in November 2011 – a 10.5% reduction. 200 children (43.5% compared to 40% nationally) are on a Full Care Order, 81 (17.6% compared to 20% nationally) are on an Interim Care Order, 90 (19.6% compared to 29% nationally) are Section 20 and 87 (18.9% compared to 11% nationally) are on a Placement Order. The current rate of children looked after per 10,000 is 92.2, above the 2012 national average (59.1 per 10,000) and the average for our statistical neighbours⁴ (70.6 per 10,000). This would rank Brighton and Hove joint 19th highest out of 152 Local Authorities in England based on the 2012 position.

Processes have been developed in the CIN Team to discuss cases for children on the edge of care in both Team Manager’s supervision and CIN management meetings. The CIN Team has set up a Care Planning Forum to manage discussions around taking children into care. It is hoped that in the current year this will maintain a downward trend in LAC numbers.

⁴ Statistical Neighbours (SN) are ranked in order of statistical closeness, with the top SN being closest: Bristol, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Reading, Sheffield, Southampton, Bath and North East Somerset, Southend-on-Sea, York and Plymouth
Corporate Parenting Summary Report - Dec 2012 Final Version EXTERNAL

Figure 4: Cafcass Care Applications Rate per 10,000 Children 2011-12



Source: Cafcass.

Please note that the unit of measurement is a Care application, upon its receipt by Cafcass from the Court and its entry into CMS. An application can involve multiple children.

Cafcass has published local authority level data on the number of Care Applications received in the years 2007-08 to 2011-12. Figure 4 illustrates the number of care applications received in 2011-12 as a rate per 10,000 children for the top 30 highest local authorities in England and reveals that Brighton and Hove is ranked 8th highest out of 152 local authorities in England. The rate for Brighton and Hove for 2011-12 is 20.4, above the national average of 9.2 and 12.3 for our statistical neighbours. Our statistical neighbours have been shaded in light blue.

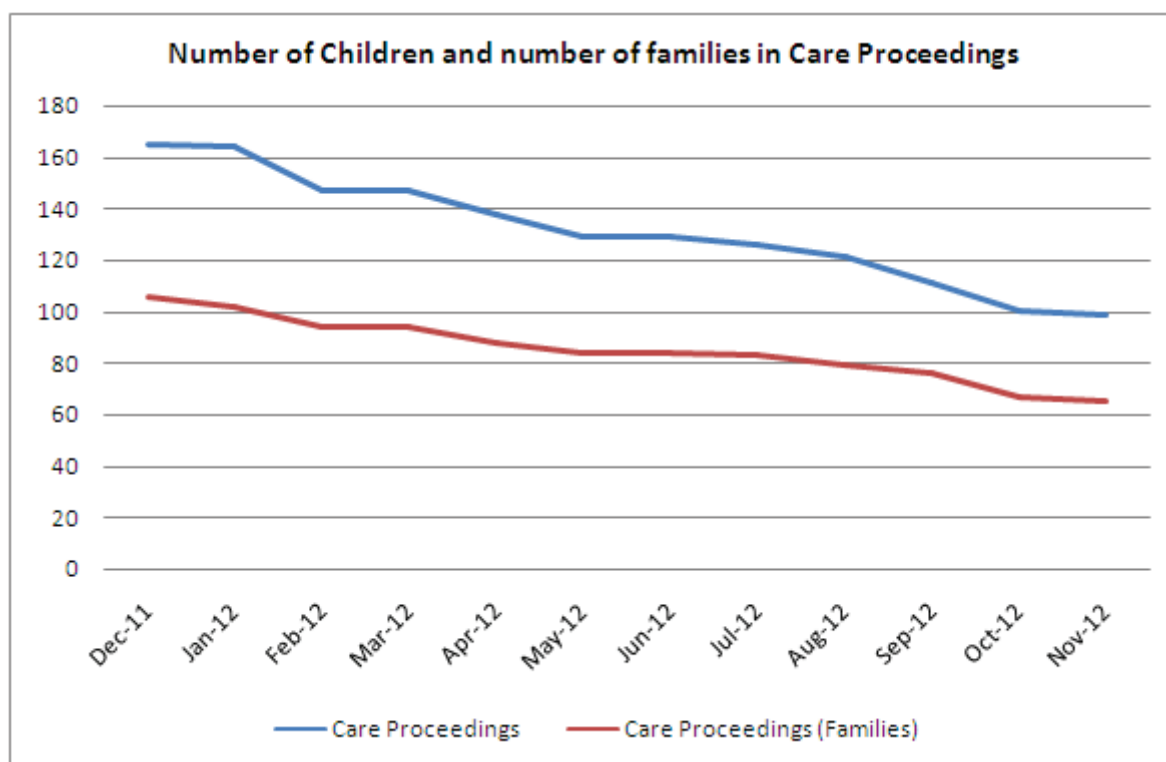
Table 1: Cafcass Care Applications 2007-08 to 2011-12

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Total care applications received (England)	6,323	6,488	8,832	9,204	10,218
Care applications received from Brighton & Hove	46	55	110	105	96
% increase from 2007-08 base (England)	-	2.6%	39.7%	45.6%	61.6%
% increase from 2007-08 base (Brighton and Hove)	-	20%	139%	128%	109%
% increase from previous year (England)	-	2.6%	36.1%	4.2%	11.0%
% increase from previous year (Brighton and Hove)	-	19.6%	100.0%	-4.5%	-8.6%
Rate of care applications per 10,000 children (England)	5.8	5.9	8	8.3	9.2
Rate of care applications per 10,000 children (Brighton and Hove)	10.0	11.9	23.5	22.4	20.4

Source: Cafcass

The data in Table 1 reveals that Brighton and Hove has experienced a 109% increase in 2011-12 from the 2007-08 base compared to a 61.6% increase nationally. However, the number of care applications has fallen in 2010-11 and 2011-12 in Brighton and Hove whereas the number of care applications has continued to rise nationally.

Figure 5: Number of Children and number of families in Care Proceedings



Source: Monthly Monitoring November 2012

There were 99 children in care proceedings as at 30th November 2012, down from 165 in December 2011. The number of families in care proceedings has also fallen from 106 as at December 2011 to 65. 16 children started care proceedings in the last 3 months compared to 24 in the previous 3 months. 11 families started care proceedings in the last 3 months compared to 16 in the previous 3 months.

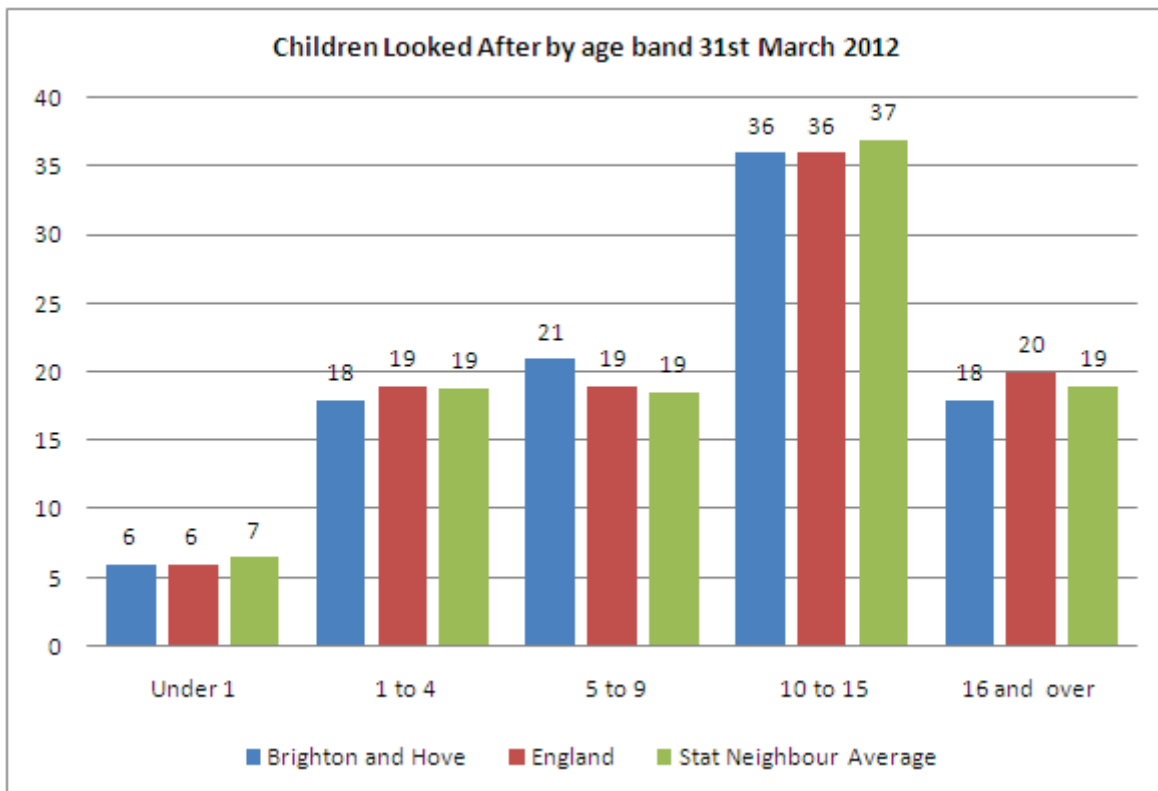
Children Looked After Year Ending 31 March 2012

An analysis of the Children Looked After Statistical First Release (SFR), which provides information about looked after children in England for the year ending 31 March 2012, has been provided in this section of the report to illustrate how the profile of Looked After Children in Brighton and Hove compares with the national average and our statistical neighbours. The figures are based on data from the SSDA903 return collected from all local authorities.

Please note that:

- Numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5
- Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements.
- Historical data may differ from older publications. This is mainly due to the implementation of amendments and corrections sent by some local authorities after the publication date of previous materials.
- The Statistical Neighbour Average (SN Average) has been calculated by averaging the percentages for the 10 local authorities in our statistical neighbour group.

Figure 6: Children Looked After by Age Band (Percentages)



Source: SSDA903

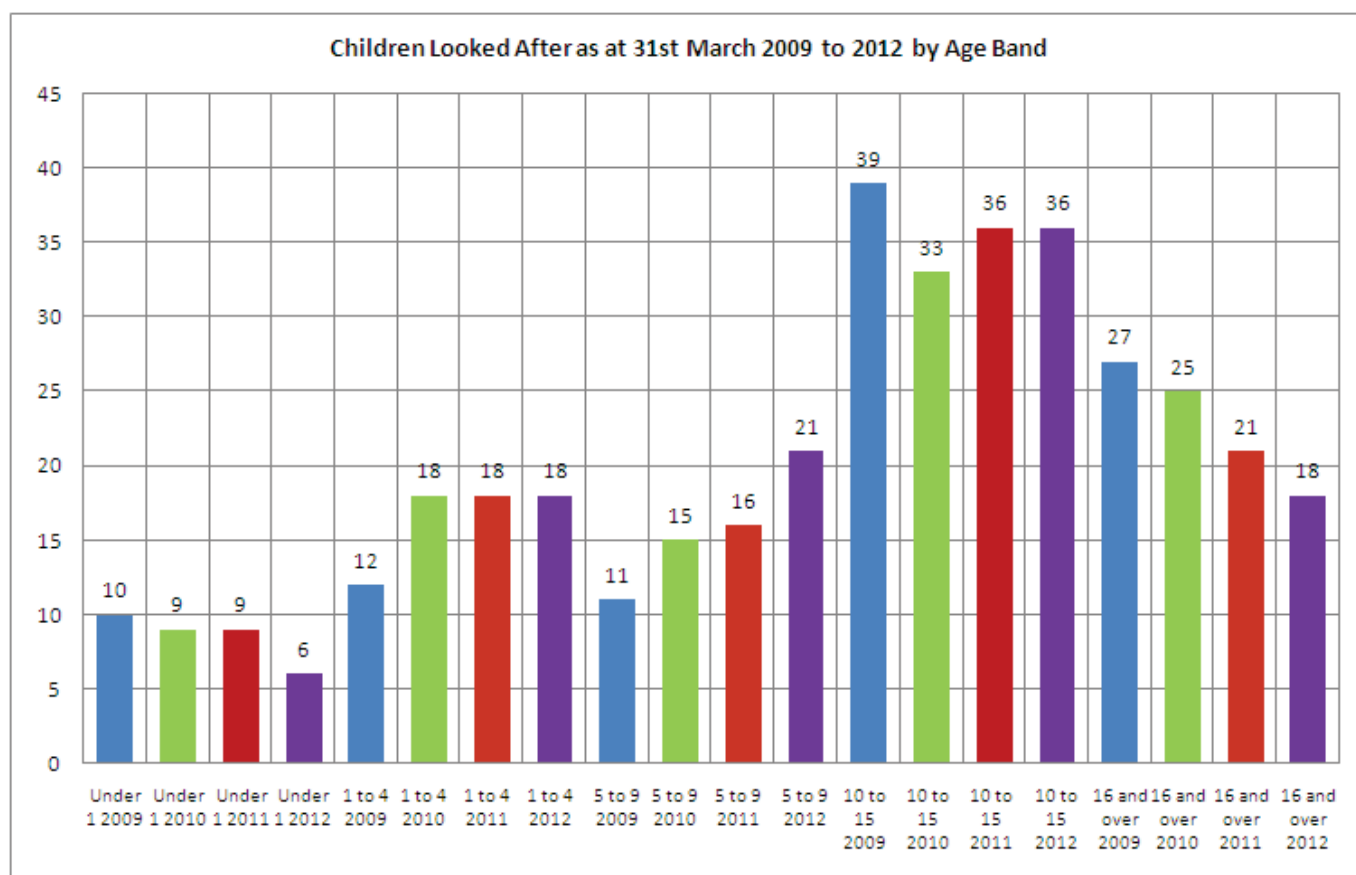
Figure 6 compares the percentage of children looked after by age band as at 31st March 2012. There are 30 children looked after aged under 1 which represents 6% of the cohort (6% nationally), a decrease from 43 in March 2011 when 9% of the cohort were aged under 1. There are 86 children aged 16 and over which represents 18% of the LAC cohort (20% nationally), a decrease from 102 in March 2011 when 21% of the cohort were aged 16 and over.

Table 2: Children Looked After at 31st March 2012 and 30th November 2012 by Age Band (Numbers)

Age Band	Mar-12	Nov-12
Under 1	30	32
1 to 4	90	75
5 to 9	104	87
10 to 15	177	180
16 and over	86	86
Total	487	460

Source: SSDA903 and Monthly Monitoring November 2012

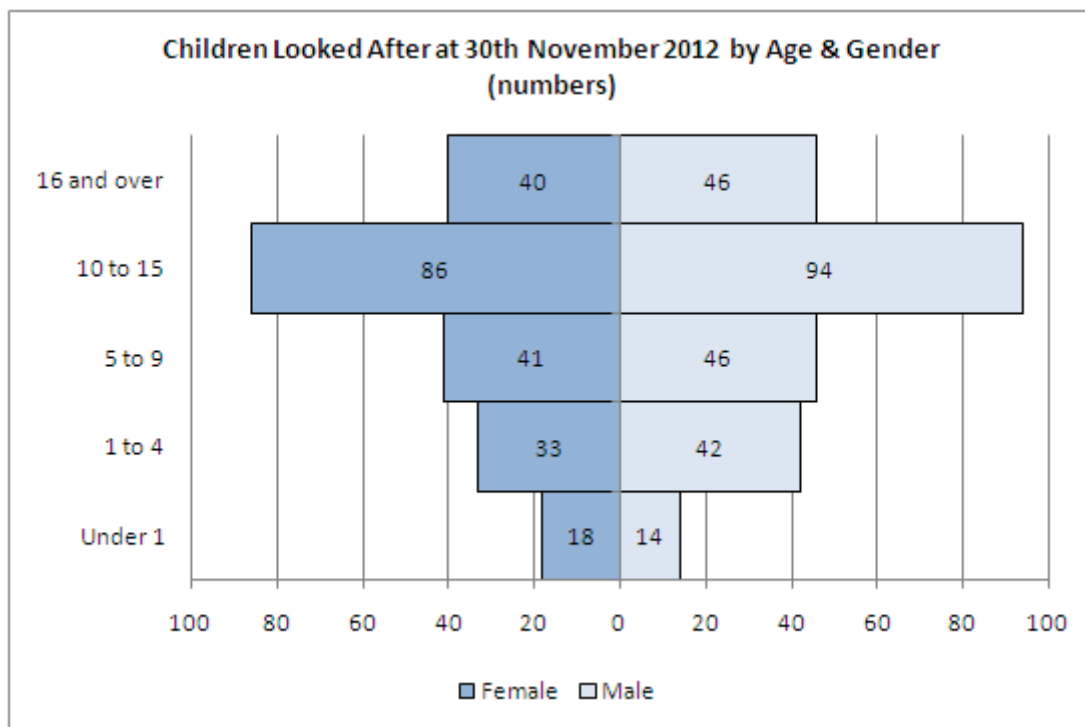
Figure 7 Children Looked After as at 31st March 2009 to 2012 by Age Band



Source: SSDA903

Figure 7 illustrates the percentage of children looked after by Brighton and Hove as at 31st March from 2009 to 2012 and reveals that the percentage of children aged 16 and over has fallen year-on-year from 27% in 2009 to 18% in 2012 whereas the percentage of children aged 5 to 9 has risen from 11% in 2009 to 21% in 2012. The decrease in the number of children looked after aged 16 and over is due in part to a fall in the number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children which is a trend shared both nationally and with our statistical neighbours.

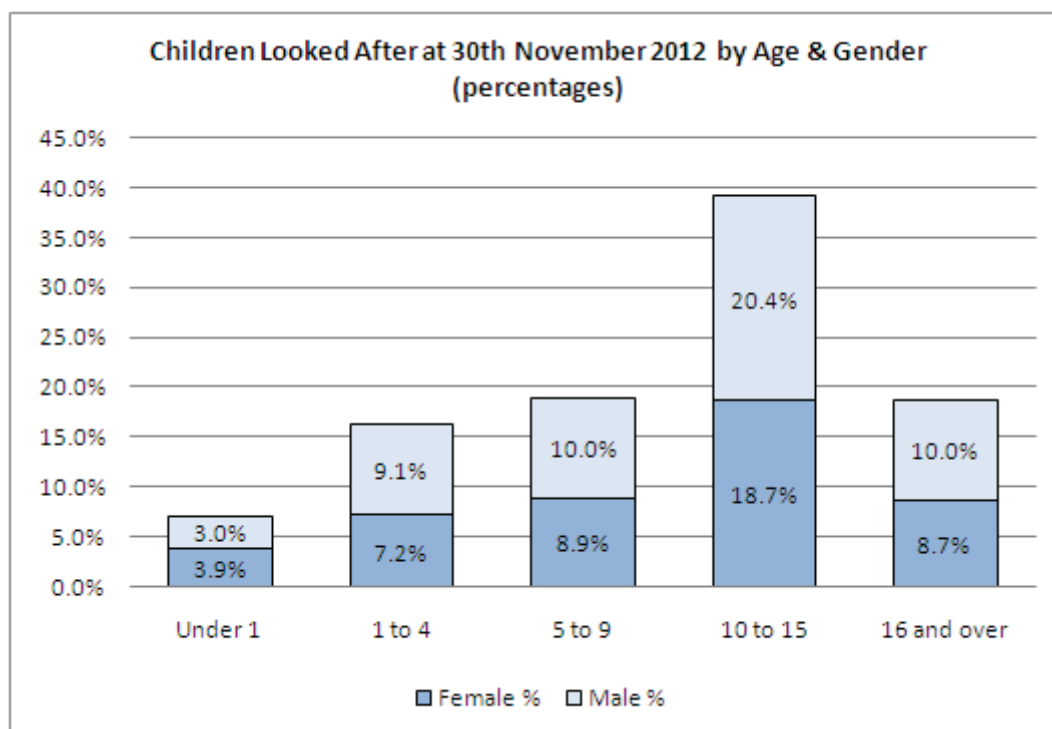
Figure 8a: Children Looked After at 30th November 2012 by Age & Gender (Numbers)



Source: Monthly Monitoring November 2012

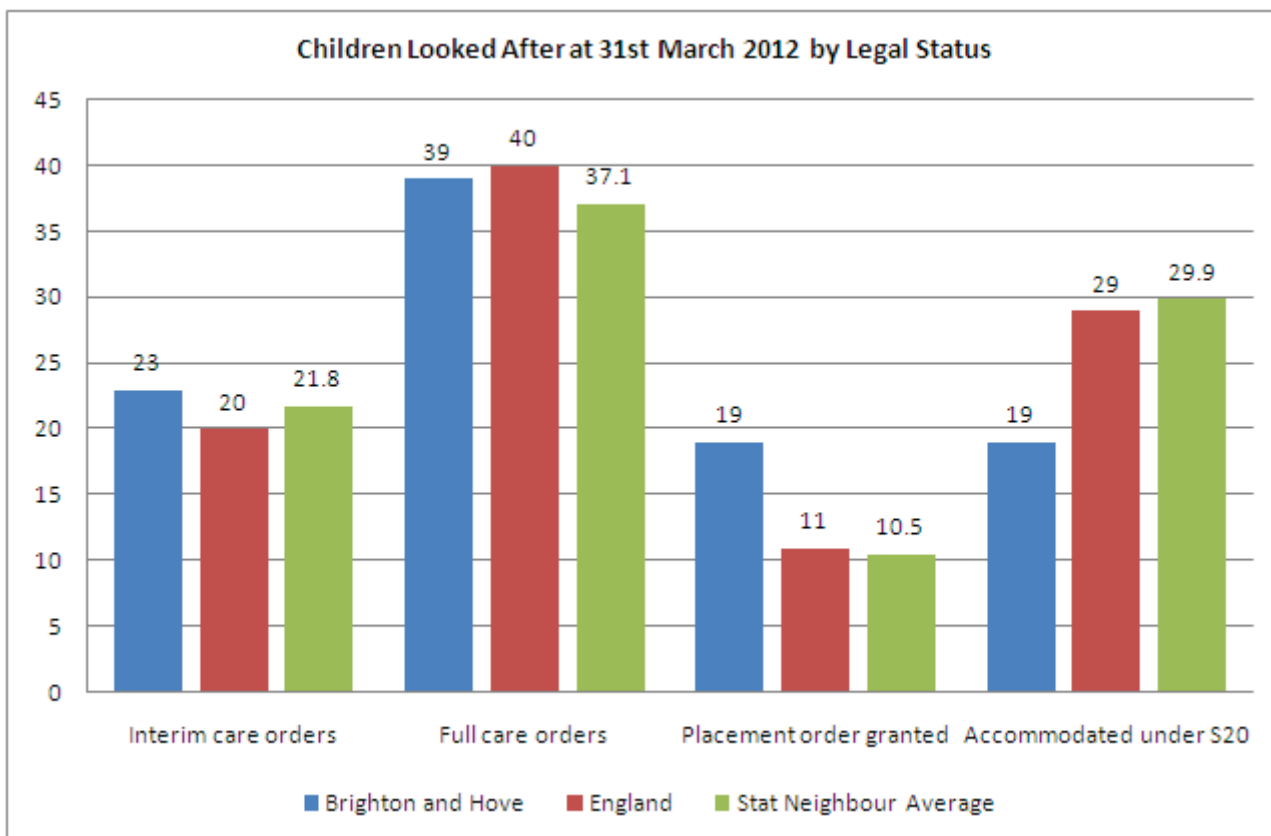
There are 242 male children (52.6%) and 218 female children (47.4%). Nationally, 56% of Looked after children are male. There are more male children in all of the age bands except for children aged under 1 with the biggest differences in the 10 to 15 and 1 to 4 age bands.

Figure 8b: Children Looked After at 30th November 2012 by Age & Gender (Percentages)



Source: Monthly Monitoring November 2012

Figure 9: Children Looked After at 31st March 2012 by Legal Status (Percentages)



Sources: SSDA903

Please note that other legal statuses have not been included in Figure 9 as the data has been suppressed for many local authorities due to the low numbers involved.

Figure 9 compares the percentage of children looked after at 31st March 2012 by legal status and reveals that the percentage of children on a Placement Order has increased from 11% as at 31st March 2011 to 19% as at 31st March 2012, above the England Average of 11% and 10.5% for our statistical neighbours. The percentage of children looked after on Section 20 has fallen from 25% as at 31st March 2011 to 19% as at March 2012, below the England Average (29%) and statistical neighbour average (29.9%)

Table 3: Children Looked After at 31st March 2012 by Legal Status for Statistical Neighbours (Percentages)

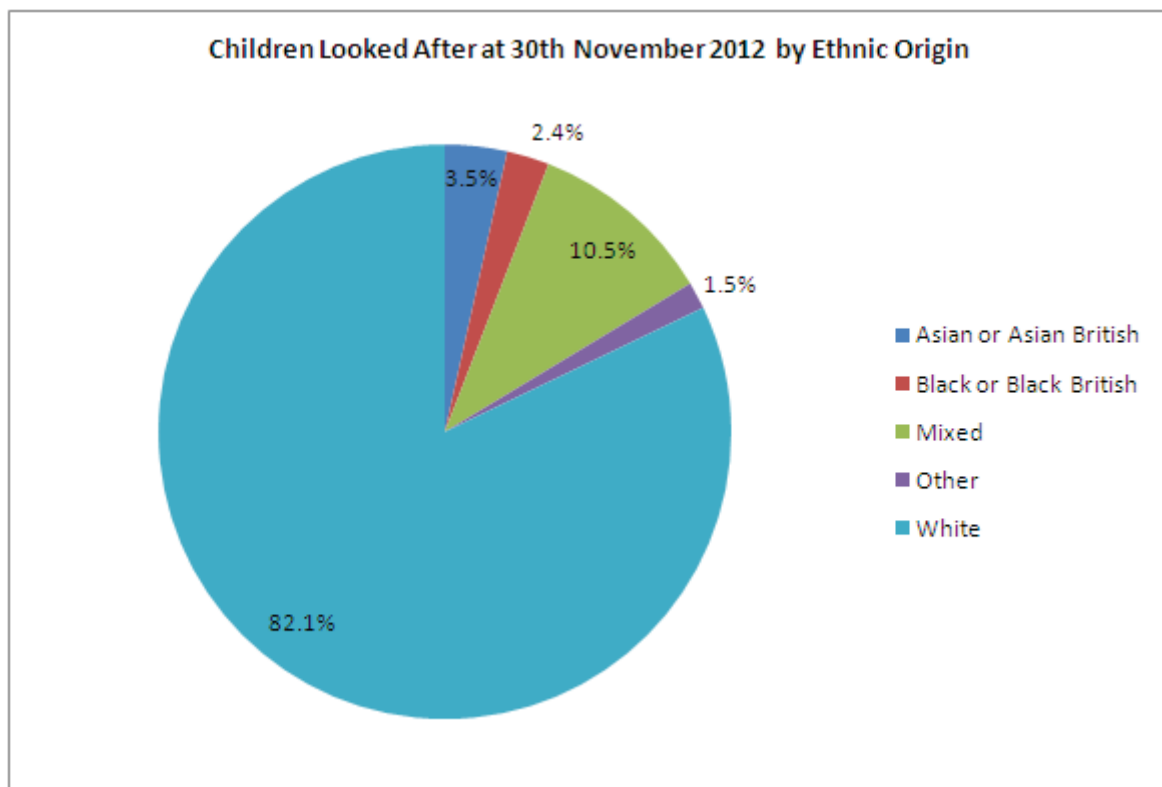
	All children looked after at 31 March 2012	Interim care orders	Full care orders	Placement order granted	Accommodated under S20
Brighton and Hove	485	23	39	19	19
Bristol, City of	685	20	44	9	26
Bournemouth	250	20	24	11	45
Reading	240	31	33	11	26
Portsmouth	300	21	45	9	23
Sheffield	610	25	37	14	21
Southampton	430	26	27	13	34
Bath and North East Somerset	165	10	40	5	46
Southend-on-Sea	240	18	45	9	27
York	255	25	42	9	23
Plymouth	385	22	34	15	28
England	67050	20	40	11	29
Stat Neighbour Average	356.0	21.8	37.1	10.5	29.9
East Sussex	620	27	41	15	17
West Sussex	675	15	40	9	35

Sources: SSDA903

X figures suppressed to protect confidentiality

Table 3 provides a breakdown of the children looked after by legal status for our statistical neighbours as at 31st March 2012 and reveals that Brighton and Hove has the highest percentage of children on a placement order and the lowest percentage of children accommodated under section 20 in our statistical neighbour group.

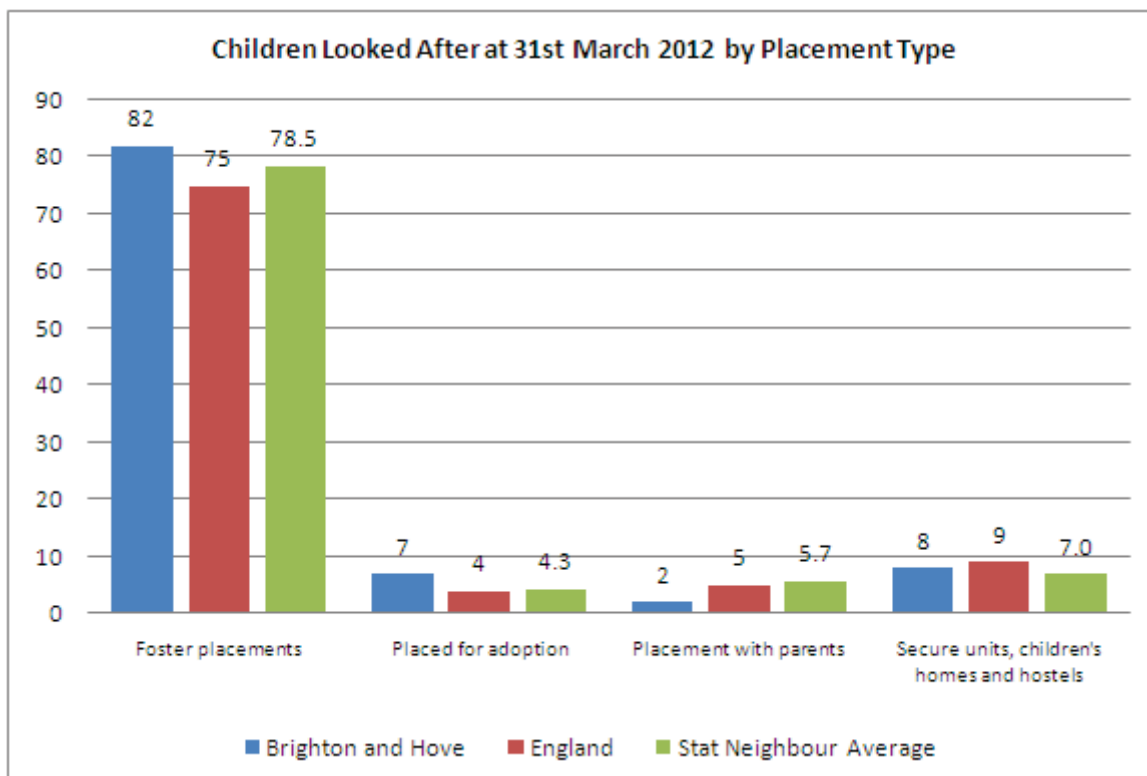
Figure 10: Children Looked After at 30th November 2012 by Ethnic Origin



Source: Monthly Monitoring November 2012

82% of Looked After Children in Brighton and Hove have a recorded ethnicity in the White Ethnic Origin category compared to 78% nationally, with 10.4% under Mixed (9% nationally), 3.5% under Asian or Asian British (4% nationally), 2.4% under Black or Black British (7% nationally) and 1.5% under Other (2% nationally).

Figure 11: Children Looked After as at 31st March 2012 by Placement Type

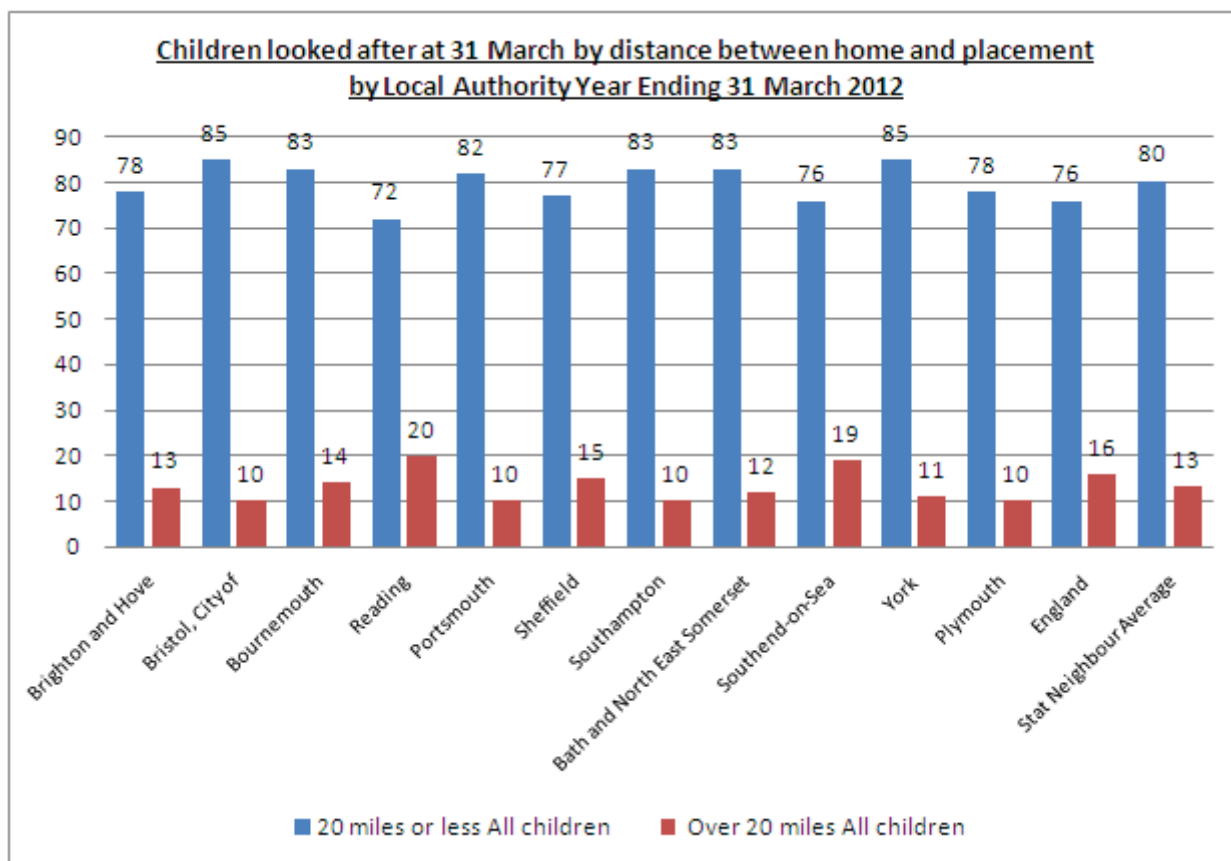


Sources: SSDA903

Please note that other placement types have not been included in Figure 11 as the data has been suppressed for many local authorities due to the low numbers involved.

Figure 11 illustrates that 82% of children looked after in Brighton were placed in foster placements as at 31st March 2012 compared to 75% nationally and 78.5% for our statistical neighbours. Of the total LAC cohort, 144 (29.6%) were placed with in house carers, 201 (41.3%) were placed with agency carers and 52 (10.7%) were placed with relatives or friends. Nearly 8% of children were placed for adoption as at 31st March 2012, up from 3% in March 2011 and above the national average of 4%.

Figure 12: Children looked after at 31 March by distance between home and placement by Local Authority Year Ending 31 March 2012



Source: SSDA903

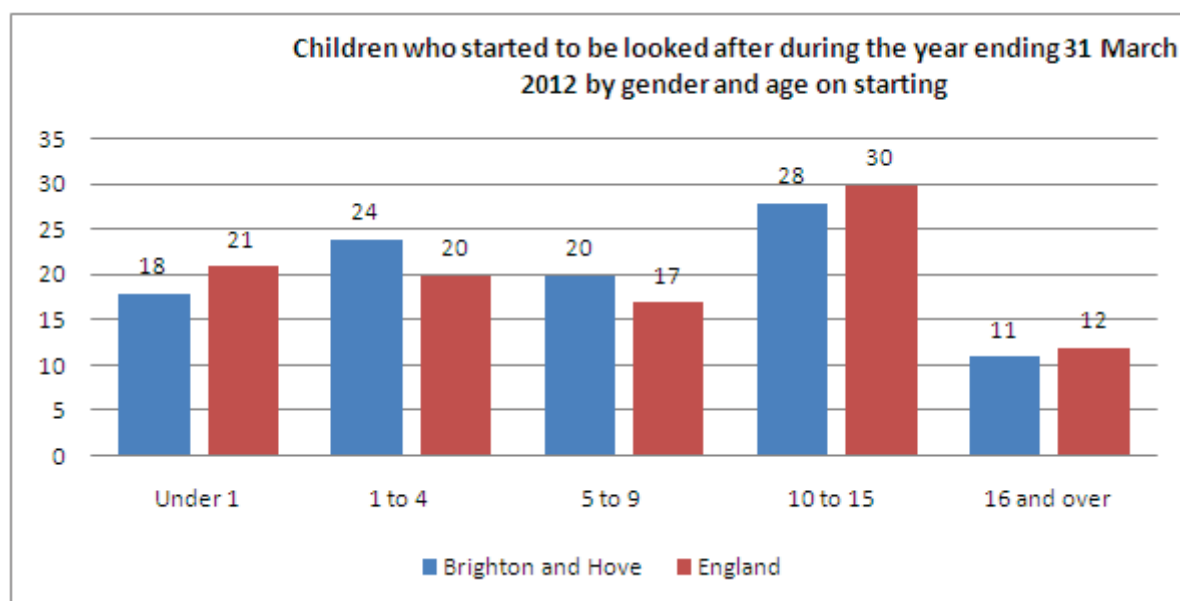
Figure 12 reveals that 78% of children looked after in Brighton and Hove at 31st March 2012 were placed 20 miles or less from their home address, down from 81% last year, with 13% placed over 20 miles (2% were not known and 7% were not recorded). The percentage of children looked after placed within 20 miles remains higher than the 2011/12 England Average (76%) but is slightly below the average for our statistical neighbours (80%). Many of the placements that are more than 20 miles from home are appropriate and can be positive for the child or young person. In Brighton and Hove, 34% of children were placed inside the local authority boundary and 57% were placed outside of the boundary. Nationally, 59% of children were placed inside the local authority boundary and 34% were placed outside with 4% not known and 4% not recorded. The percentages for Brighton and Hove are likely to be skewed given the size of the geographical area. The 3 year average (2010 to 2012) for children placed over 20 miles is 13% compared to 12% nationally and ranks Brighton and Hove 74th out of 152 Local Authorities.

"Home" address unknown or unavailable may occur with Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children or children missing from main placement.

For reasons of confidentiality distance is not recorded for children who were placed for adoption.

Placement locality denotes whether or not the placement at 31 March is within the geographical boundary of the responsible local authority.

Figure 13: Children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31st March 2012 (percentages)



Sources: SSDA903

Figure 13 compares the percentage of children starting to be looked after during the year ending 31st March 2012 by their age on starting⁵ with the national average. The data reveals that the percentage of children starting to be looked after during the year aged under 1 has fallen from 25% in March 2011 to 18% in March 2012, below the national average of 21%. The percentage of children starting to be looked after aged 16 and over has increased from 7% in March 2011 to 11% in March 2012, below the national average (12%). It is not possible to calculate a statistical neighbour average as the percentages for some local authorities have been suppressed due to the small numbers involved but a breakdown of our statistical neighbours has been provided in the table below.

Table 4: Children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31st March 2012 (percentages)

	All Children who started to be looked after	Male	Female	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 15	16 and over
Brighton and Hove	215	54	46	18	24	20	28	11
Bristol, City of	270	53	47	18	23	13	28	18
Bournemouth	140	48	52	27	23	16	26	8
Reading	120	43	57	21	24	19	33	x
Portsmouth	110	57	43	21	19	18	28	15
Sheffield	265	51	49	25	22	16	28	9
Southampton	190	53	47	23	30	21	21	4
Bath and North East Somerset	85	55	45	20	16	20	28	16
Southend-on-Sea	80	54	46	x	21	22	38	x
York	100	52	48	15	26	20	28	11
Plymouth	165	53	47	27	22	15	16	20
England	28,220	53	47	21	20	17	30	12

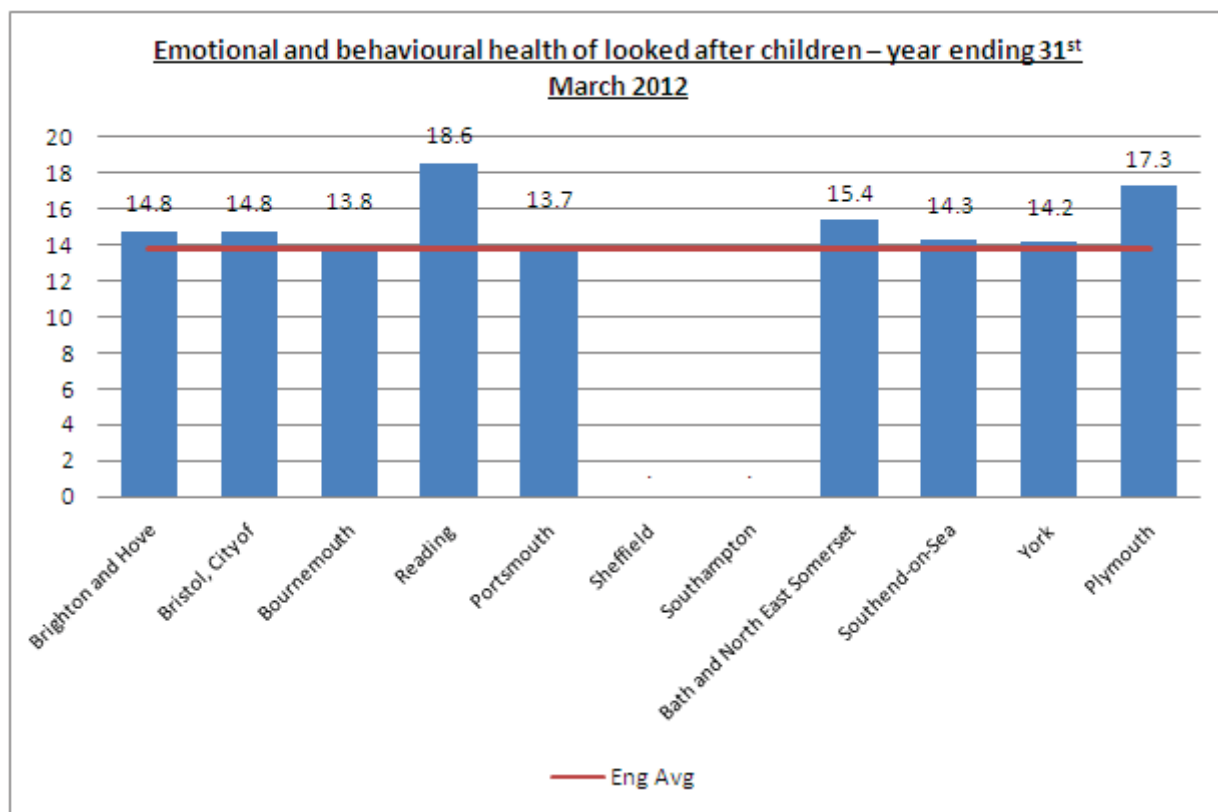
⁵ Only the first occasion on which a child started to be looked after in the year has been counted.

Health of Children Looked After

Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children

Definition: Since 2008, central government have required each local authority to ask carers to complete a 'Strength & Difficulties' Questionnaire for every child looked after at 31st March who has been in care continuously for one year or more and who is aged 4-16 years. The questionnaire produces a score from 10 (no indicators of difficulty or stress) to 40 (extremely high indicators of stress & difficulty) and good performance is indicated by a low number.

Figure 14: Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children – year ending 31st March 2012.



Source: SSDA903

Summary

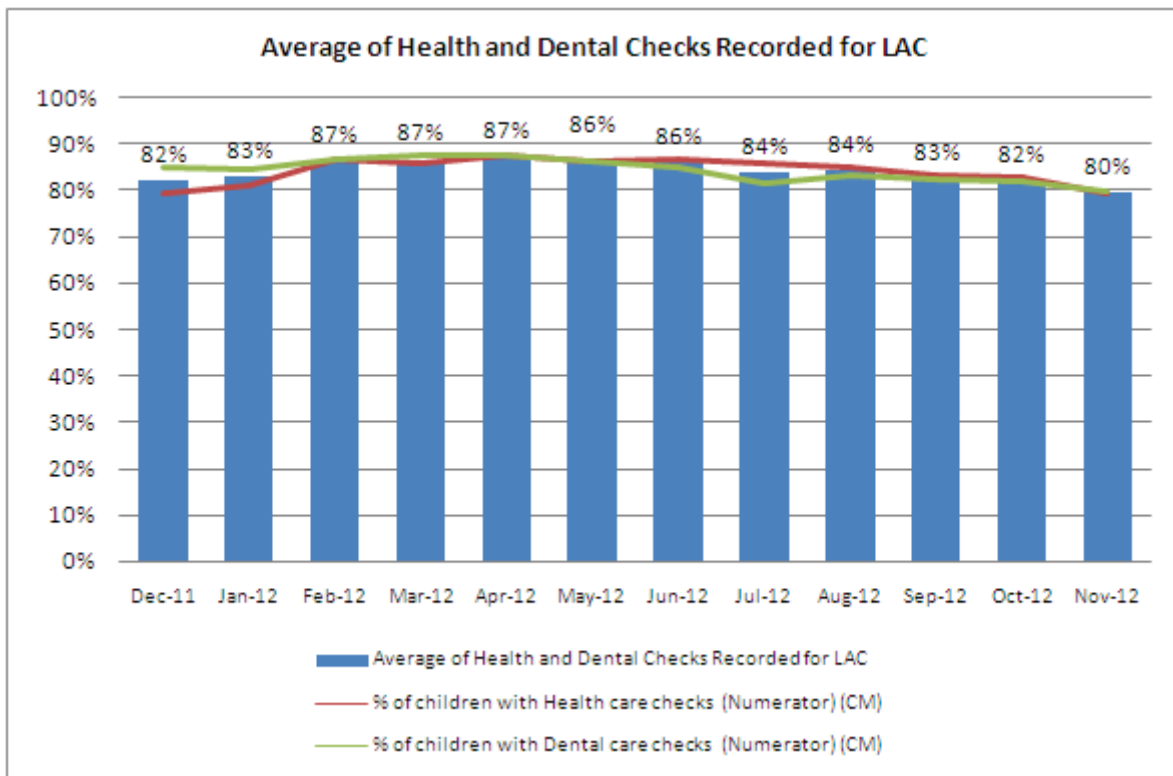
In Brighton & Hove, the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire is administered by the LAC Health team and an 84% return was achieved for 2011/12, compared to a national average of 70%. Children with Disability can be excluded and so we would not expect to achieve 100% return.

The average score gained by Brighton and Hove children and young people in care for 2011/12 is 14.8, an improvement from 15.5 last year but worse than the national average of 13.8. There are multiple factors involved in the emotional state of children and the cohort of children from year to year is not exactly the same, and these factors should be considered when making year-on-year comparisons. 46% of eligible children with an SDQ score were considered 'normal' (51% nationally) 10% were considered 'borderline' (13% nationally) and 43% were considered as 'concern' (36% nationally).

The LAC Health Team follow all high scores up with carers, young people, the Virtual School for Children in Care and Social Workers to ensure that they are receiving the right support. If the child or young person is not receiving the right level of support, the LAC Health would make or suggest a new referral to CAMHS or other agency.

Health and Dental Checks for Children Looked After

Figure 15: Average of Health and Dental Checks Recorded for LAC



Source: Monthly Monitoring Social Care Data November 2012

Summary

Timely health and dental checks recorded for LAC is 80% as at November 2012, down from 82% in December 2011, with the Children in Care Team at 80% and the Children in Need Team at 84%. Performance for the Post 16 Support Team has improved from 48% in December 2011 to 75%. The indicator is an average of health and dental checks with health checks at 79% and dental checks at 80%. Current performance remains below the national average of 84.3% for the year ending 31st March 2012.

Performance Issues

The majority of outstanding assessments are for children placed outside of Brighton & Hove. There are very few children who have not had their assessment completed on time by our Brighton & Hove health professionals. There have also been a number of 16 & 17 year old young people who despite much encouragement have refused to have their health and dental checks. It should be noted that the Post 16 Support Team and Young People’s Asylum Service do not have an Information Officer to assist with recording of health and dental checks.

Sexual Health and Substance Misuse

Sexual Health Definition Young women engaged in the service will be screened for vulnerability to conception using the 'you and sex' tool annually

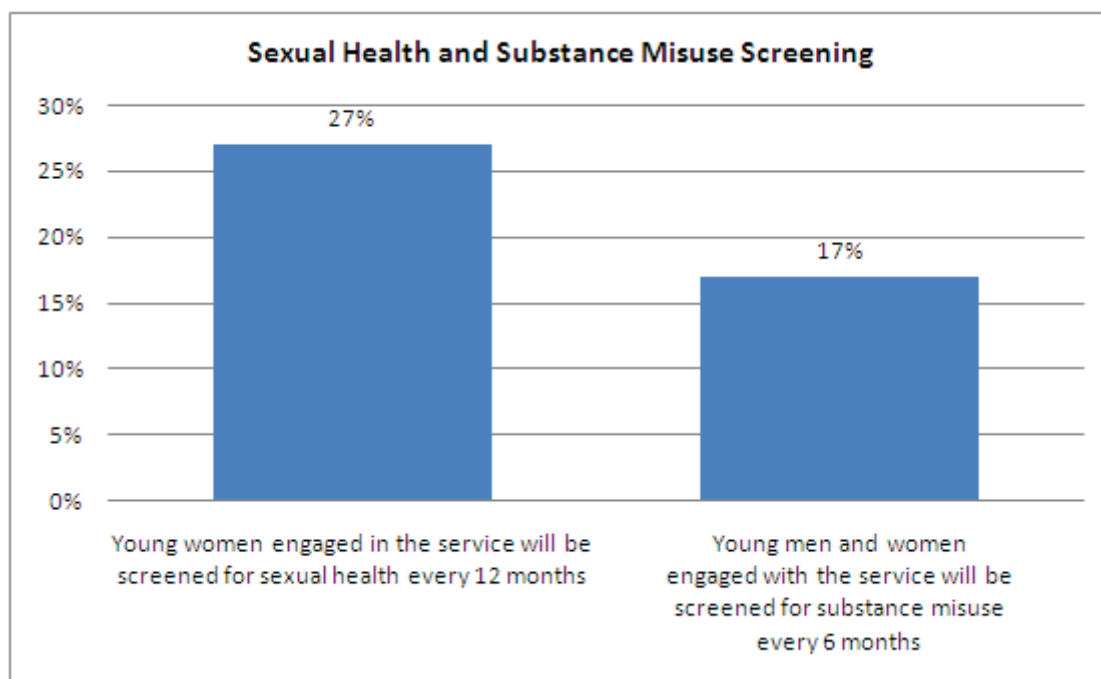
Target: –100% of young women on the caseload

Substance Misuse Definition: Young people (men and women) engaged with the service will be screened for substance misuse twice a year

Target: 100% of young men and women on the caseload

In the social care teams there are 85 young women aged 13-17 years and 182 young people aged 13-17 years.

Figure 16: Sexual Health and Substance Misuse Screening



Source: Snap shot of screening activity levels taken October 2012 from Care first

Overall: 22 (out of 85, 27%) of young women currently engaged in the service were screened for vulnerability to conception in the last 12 months and of these 55% received an intervention and 27% were referred. A total of 6 screens were carried out July-September. 31 (out of 182, 17%) of young people were identified as not having a substance misuse problem and so were not screened; a total of 7 (out of the remaining 158) young people had been screened for substance misuse in the last 6 months.

Sexual health screening levels continue to vary by team as follows: 44% for 16 Plus/Asylum, 10% for Children in Care and 30% for Children in Need. Substance misuse screening levels also vary by team as follows: 23% for 16 Plus/Asylum, 2% for Children in Care team and 60% for Children in Need.

Screening levels since have been steadily reducing over the past 12 months.

5.4% of children looked after continuously for at least 12 months year ending 31st March 2012 were identified as having a substance misuse problem during the year, above the national average of 4.1%.

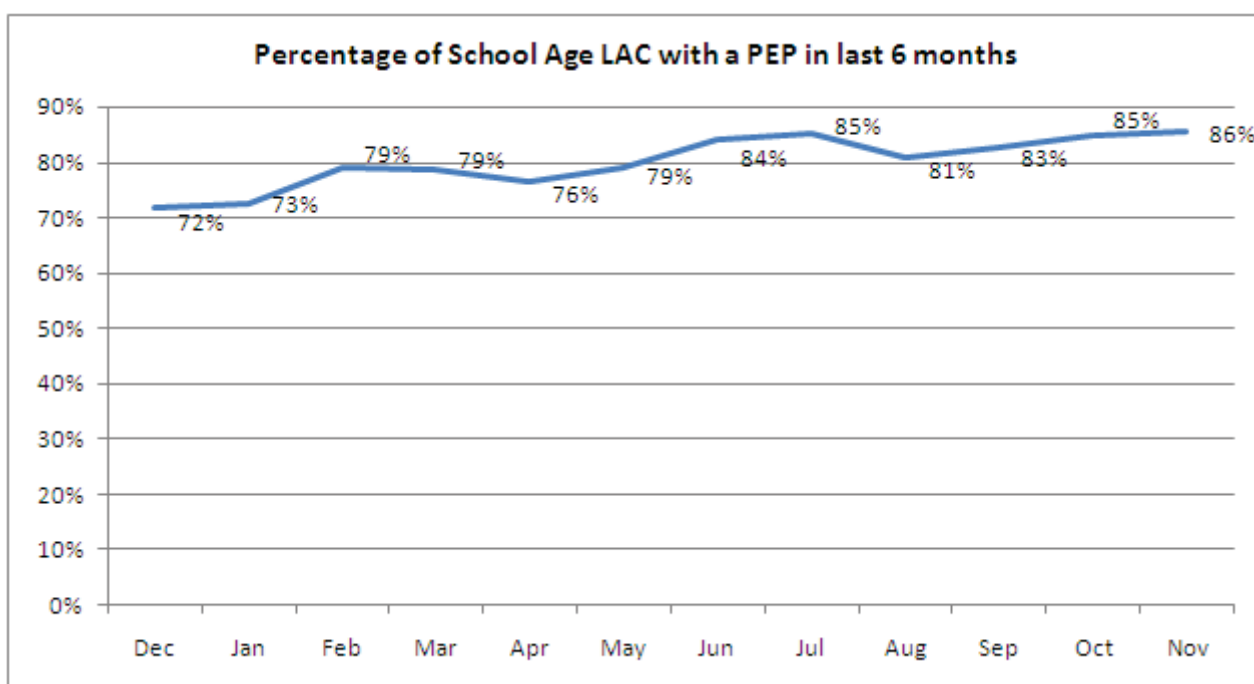
Improving Educational Outcomes

It must be noted that with comparatively small cohorts in Brighton & Hove, individual pupil outcomes will have a demonstrably bigger impact on the overall indicators.

Local indicator – Percentage of Children in Care with an up-to date Personal Education Plan (PEP)

Definition: Personal Education Plans (PEPs) are a statutory requirement for all school age children in care. A PEP is a personalised plan for each child that records any specific learning needs and identifies strategies and support to enable them to make progress in line with their peers. The PEP meeting also provides the opportunity to identify successes in all aspects relating to school performance as well as any other areas that may be causing concern. They are reviewed every six months. There are no national indicators for this target; however other LAs do use this indicator, including some of our statistical neighbours.

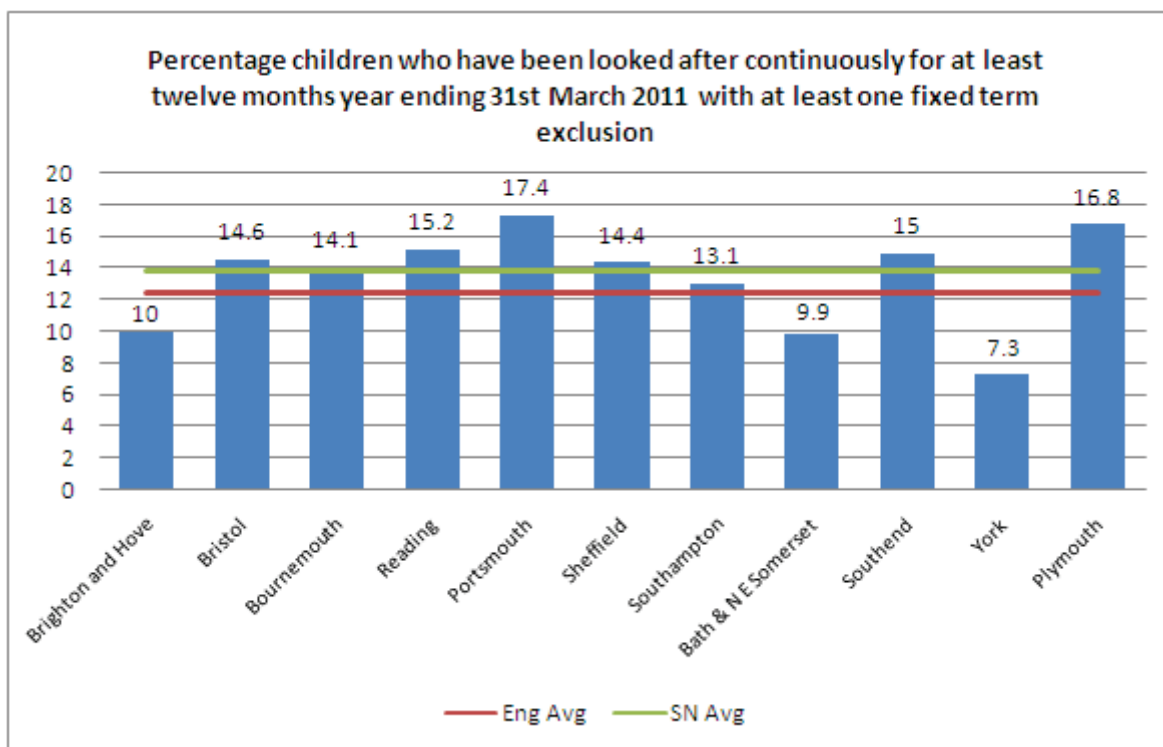
Figure 17: Percentage of School Age LAC with a PEP in the last 6 months



There were 269 children looked after as at 30th November who were of school age and had been looked after for 28 days or more. Of this cohort, 230 (86%) had a PEP Activity dated within the last 6 months recorded on Carefirst, an improvement from 72% in December 2011. It is anticipated that this improvement will continue and a target of 95% completion has now been set.

The Children in Care team have an information officer in post who has taken on responsibility for reviewing the status of PEPs. In the instance of a PEP being due, or out of date, the information officer emails the individual social worker and their manager. The Virtual School continues to provide individual support to social work colleagues and will provide more formal training once we have co-located next month. Any social work colleagues experiencing on-going difficulties in meeting PEP deadlines will have this addressed through supervision. The PEP is ready to go onto Carefirst, which will support colleagues to meet statutory requirements for the initiation and completion of the PEP report. This will happen in January once the Virtual School team; the Children in Care and 16+ social work teams have co-located to Lavender Street. The Virtual School team will continue to authorise PEPs for all children in care. The reporting and auditing of the quality of PEPs will also benefit from being on Carefirst – a work plan for this will be confirmed at the end of January.

Figure 18: Percentage of children who have been looked after continuously for at least twelve months with at least one fixed exclusion 2011⁶



Sources: CLA-NPD matched data for March 2011

Figure 18 reveals that 10% children who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months at 31st March 2011 received at least one fixed exclusion, an improvement from 17.6% in 2010 and below the national average of 12.4% and 13.8% for our statistical neighbours.

⁶ Exclusion information is collected from primary and secondary schools, CTCs and academies, maintained and non-maintained special schools.

The total number of children looked after continuously for at least twelve months as at 31 March regardless of age, including those for whom it was not possible to match school census data.

The number of children looked after continuously for at least twelve months as at 31 March aged between 5 and 15, including those for whom it was not possible to match school census data.

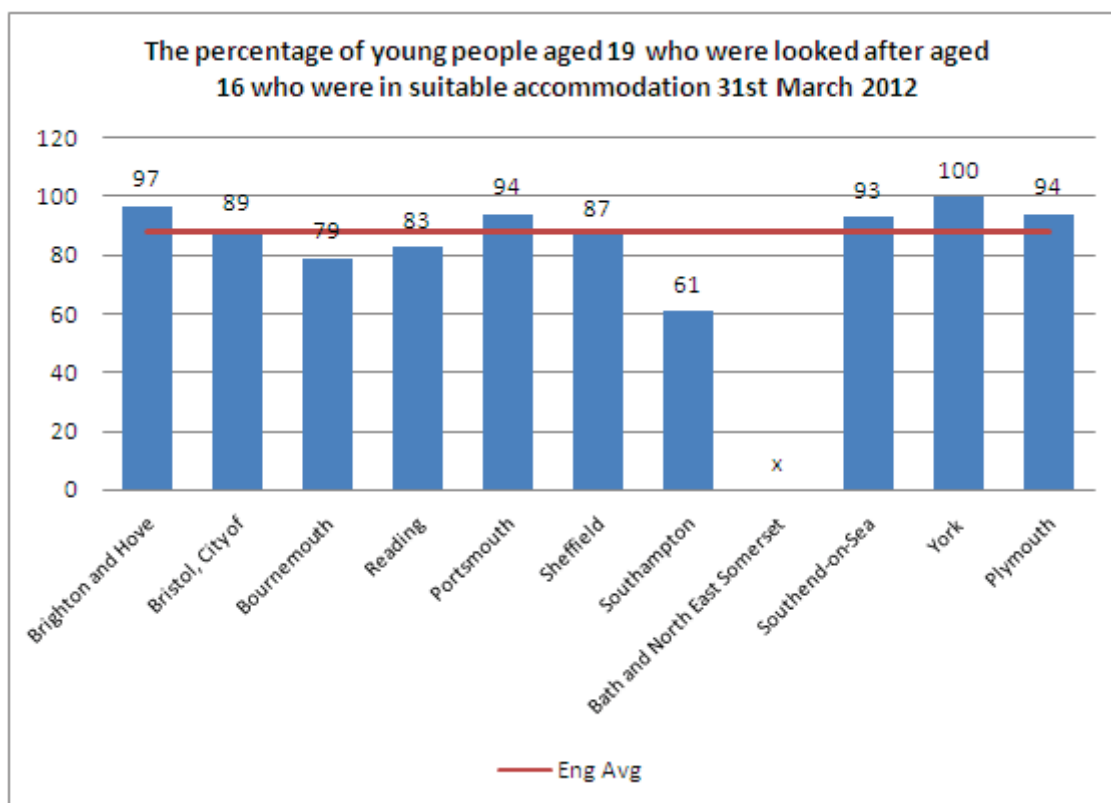
Increasing the number of care leavers in 'settled, safe accommodation'

Care leavers at 19 - Suitable accommodation

Definition: The percentage of former care leavers aged 19 who were looked after under any legal status (other than V3 or V4) on 1 April in their 17th year, who were in suitable accommodation.

Summary

Figure 19: The percentage of former care leavers aged 19 who were looked after on 1 April in their 17th year, who were in suitable Accommodation.



Source: SSDA903

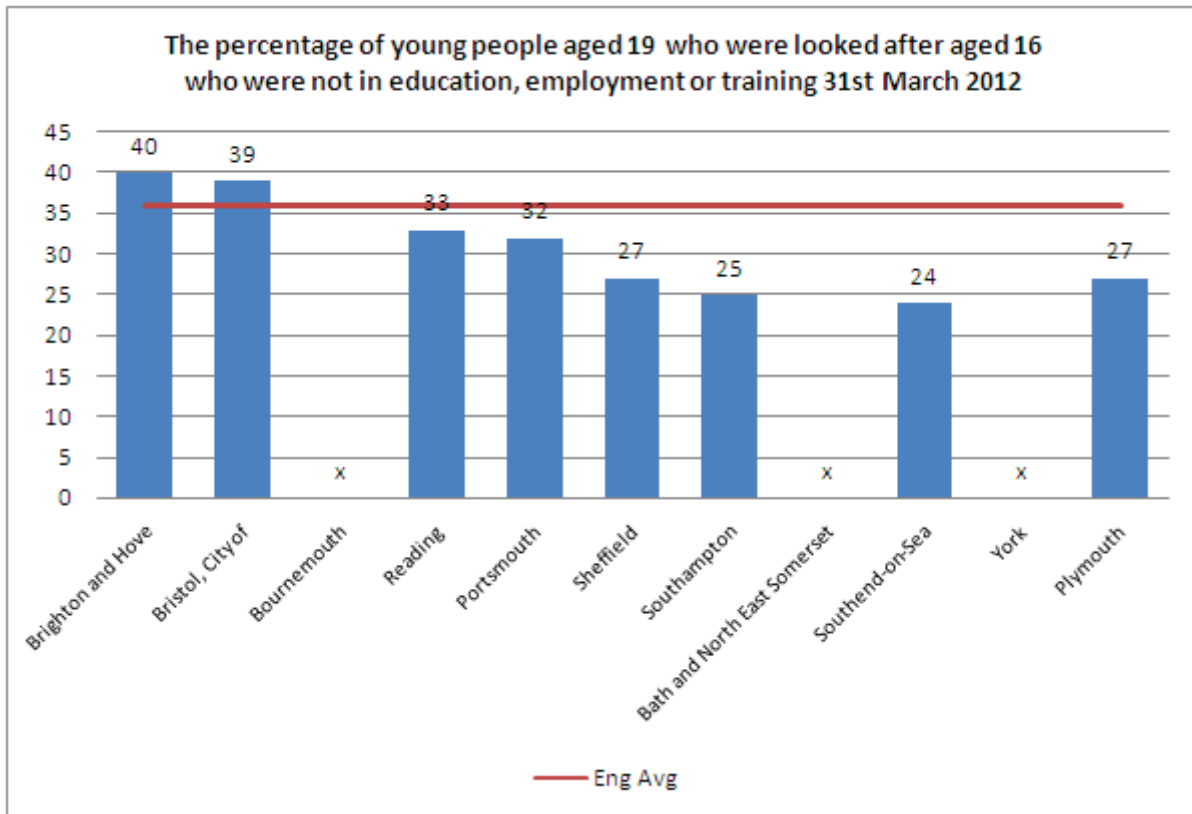
The outturn figure for 2011/12 is 96.6% which is an improvement from 93.8% in 2010/11 and above the 2011/12 England average (88%). The 3 year average (2010 to 2012) for this indicator is 91% which ranks Brighton and Hove 75th out of 152 LAs.

Care leavers at 19 - in education, employment and training

Definition: The percentage of former care leavers aged 19 who were looked after under any legal status on 1 April in their 17th year (other than V3 or V4), who were not in education, employment or training.

Summary

Figure 20: The percentage of former care leavers aged 19 who were looked after on 1 April in their 17th year, who were not in education employment or training.



Source: SSDA903

Summary

The outturn figure for 2011/12 is 39.7%, a fall from 29.2% last year and worse than the 2012 national average of 36%. The 3 year average (2010 to 2012) for this indicator is 32%, better than the national average of 34% and ranks Brighton and Hove 63rd out of 152 Local Authorities.

Performance Issues

23 out of a cohort of 58 (39.7%) were not in Education, Employment and Training in 2011/12 compared to 29.2% of care leavers in 2010/11. Information from the Brighton & Hove Youth Employability Service shows that of the 377 young people aged 19 years on its database, 213 (56.5%) are in Education, Training & Employment and 164 (43.5%) are NEET. There are several factors which have affected the increase of NEET young people for this period:

- Vacancies listed at B&H Job Centres have reduced by 300 compared to same period last year
- current notified vacancies (March '12) at 1,109 and total claimants over 6000

- within this cohort, the number of 16–24 year olds currently claiming JSA (March '12) are Brighton (1397) and Hove (635), a ratio of 6 people for every job vacancy
- Job Centres are also struggling to find work experience placements for 16–24 year olds particularly in the retail sector due to major employers in the city refusing to offer these opportunities after negative press reports”

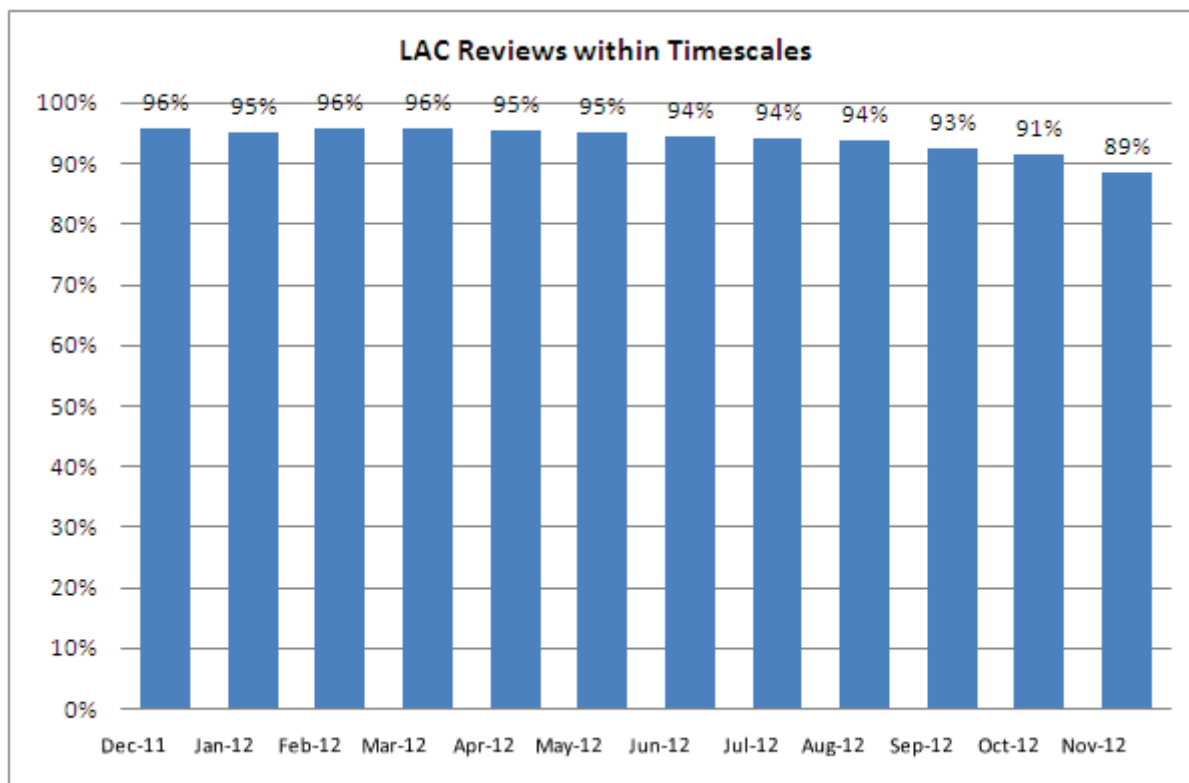
Corporate Parenting Processes

Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales (%)

Definition: The percentage of children looked after cases which should have been reviewed during the year ending 31 March that were reviewed on time during the year.

Summary

Figure 21: The percentage of children looked after cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed on time during the year



Source: Monthly Monitoring November 2012

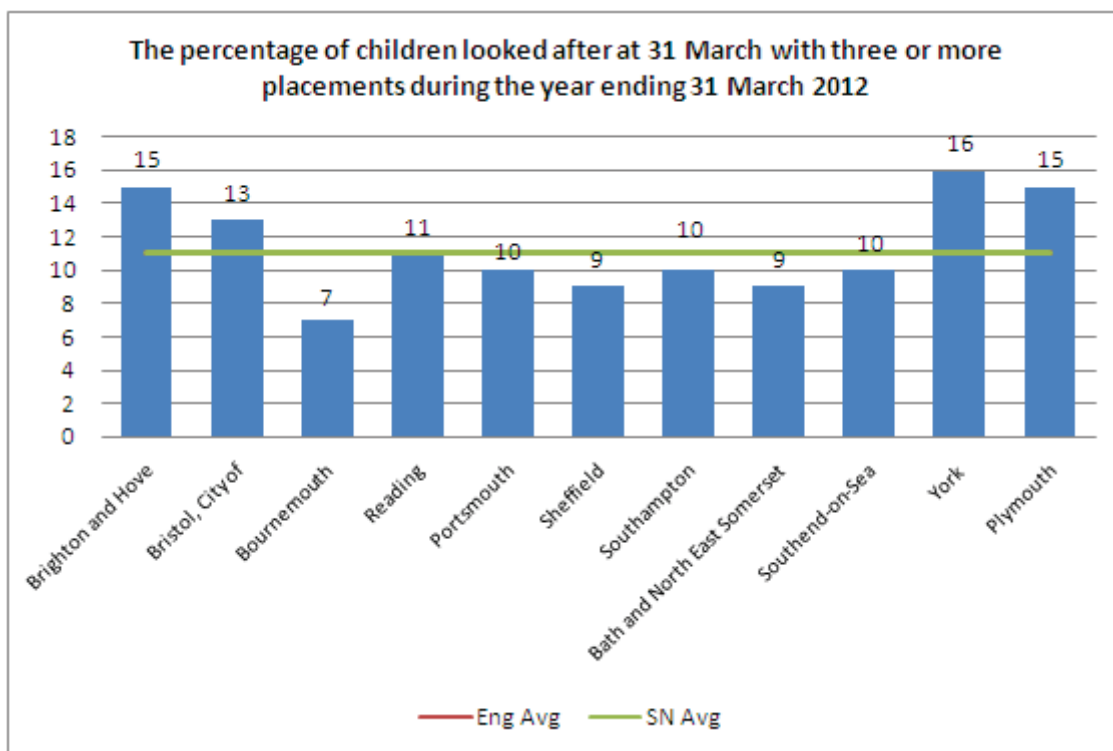
The percentage of Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales has fallen over the last 12 months from 96% as at December 2011 to 89% as at November 2012, slightly below the 2009/10 national average (90.5%) but above the statistical neighbour average of 87%. Please note that the national figures for 2010/11 and 2011/12 have not been published by DfE.

Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements

Definition: The percentage of children looked after at 31 March with three or more placements during the year.

Summary

Figure 22: The percentage of children looked after at 31 March with three or more placements during the year ending 31 March



Sources: SSDA903

The percentage of children placed three or more times during the year ending 31st March 2012 is 15%, above the national and statistical neighbour average of 11%. Although performance has improved to 11.7% in November, this remains slightly worse than the national and statistical neighbour averages (11%). The 3 year average (2010 to 2012) is 13% compared to the national average (11%) and ranks Brighton and Hove 116th out of 152 Local Authorities. 26.7% of children have been placed 2 times as at November 2012, an improvement from 35.2% in June but worse than the 2010/11 national average of 22%.

Performance Issues

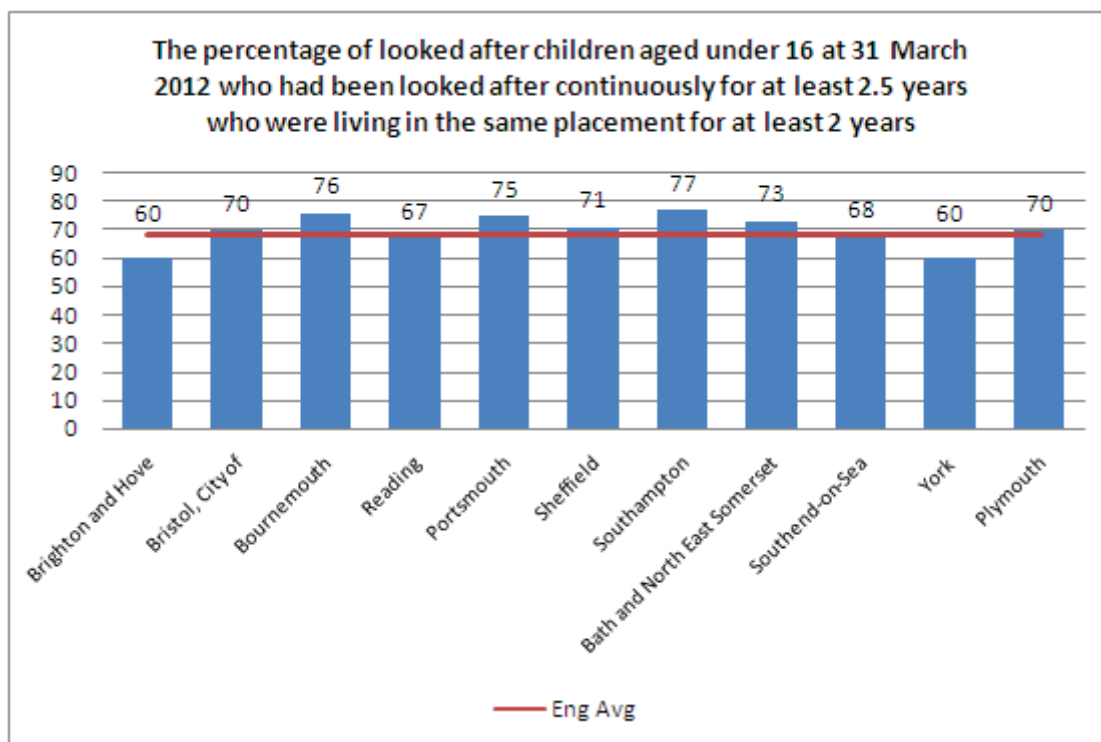
Commentary from the Children in Care Team Manager states that the performance has improved as a result of having a dedicated CiC Service which can focus more on placement stability.

Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement.

Definition: The percentage of looked after children aged under 16 at 31 March who had been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years who were living in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption and their adoptive placement together with their previous placement together last for at least 2 years.

Summary

Figure 23: Stability of placements of looked after children



Source: SSDA903

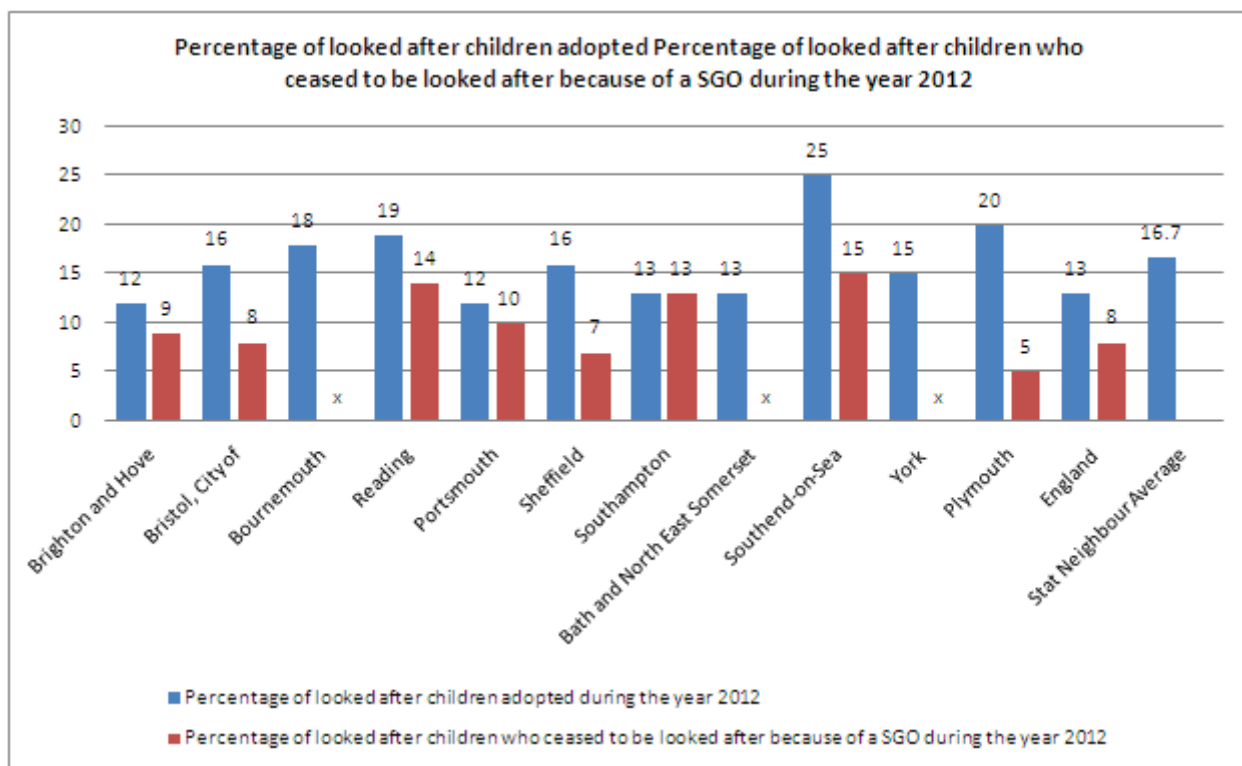
The outturn figure for 2011/12 is 60%, below the national average of 68%. Although performance has improved to 64% as at November 2012, this remains below the national average. The 3 year average is 65% compared to 68% nationally and ranks Brighton and Hove 101st out of 152 Local Authorities.

Performance Issues

There has been further consideration of the children that are not included in the numerator group to provide some additional information behind this performance indicator. Children that are permanently placed with foster carers but may have moved house with their carer. For example, if the carers move to another local authority (i.e. from Brighton to East Sussex) this would count as a placement move. However if the carers had moved house but remained within Brighton & Hove this would not count as a placement move. There are other anomalies that need to be highlighted as many of the children in the group are now settled with permanent foster carers but have not been in that placement for the last 2 years or they may have moved to permanent family and friends foster carers with a care plan of special guardianship or moved to foster carers that are being assessed as adoptive parents. This indicator is also affected by children in hospital placements as this will be counted as a placement move.

Adoption and Special Guardianship Order

Figure 24: Percentage of looked after children adopted Percentage of looked after children who ceased to be looked after because of a SGO during the year 2012



Source: SSDA903

12% of children who ceased to be looked after during the year ending 31st March 2012 were adopted, slightly below the national average of 13%. However, the percentage has improved to 16% for the year ending 30th November 2012. The 3 year average (2010 to 2012) is 14%, compared to 12% nationally, and ranks Brighton and Hove 49th out of 152 Local Authorities.

9% of children who ceased to be looked after because of a Special Guardianship Order during the year ending 31st March 2012, above the national average of 8%. The percentage has improved to 11.5% for the year ending 30th November 2012. The 3 year average (2010 to 2012) is 7%, level with the national average of 7%, and ranks Brighton and Hove 58th out of 152 Local Authorities.

The average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, for children who have been adopted is 556 days (3 year average 2010 to 2012), better than the national average of 636 days and statistical neighbour average of 580 days. This ranks Brighton and Hove 36th out of 152 Local Authorities.

The average time between a local authority receiving court authority to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family is 206 days (3 year average 2010 to 2012), worse than the national average of 195 days and the statistical neighbour average of 162 days. This ranks Brighton and Hove 90th out of 152 Local Authorities.

The percentage of children who wait less than 21 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family is 63% (3 year average 2010 to 2012), better than the national average of 56% but slightly below the statistical neighbour average of 64%. This ranks Brighton and Hove 41st out of 152 Local Authorities.

Glossary of Terms

Carefirst

The social care client record database used by keyworkers to record the majority of their work with children including Child Protection and LAC activity, social work case notes , assessments etc.

Statistical Neighbours

The introduction of statistical neighbours is linked to the Annual Performance Assessment 2007 and replaces the previous IPF (Institute of Public Finance) comparator authorities. The Statistical Neighbours for Brighton and Hove are:

Bath and North East Somerset, Bournemouth, Bristol, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Reading, Sheffield, Southampton, Southend-on-Sea, York

DfE

Department for Education

Monthly Monitoring

Monthly Monitoring is a large Excel spreadsheet containing data from Carefirst on all key indicators and performance measures relating to social care services for children

OFSTED

Ofsted is the inspectorate for children and learners in England. OFSTED deliver a comprehensive system of inspection and regulation covering childcare, schools, colleges, children's services, teacher training and youth work and work closely with CSCI and other inspectorate bodies

Statistical Returns

The primary statistical return for this service area is called the SSDA903 Return - this is submitted to DFE each Summer and provides detailed information from every local authority on Children Looked After, Care Leavers and Adoption. National and comparator data used in this report is extrapolated from published data on this return and from OFSTED published data.

Personal Education Plans

Personal Education Plans (PEPs) are a statutory requirement for all school age children in care. A PEP is a personalised plan for each child that records any specific learning needs and identifies strategies and support to enable them to make progress in line with their peers. The PEP meeting also provides the opportunity to identify successes in all aspects relating to school performance as well as any other areas that may be causing concern. They are reviewed every six months. There are no national indicators for this target; however other LAs do use this indicator, including some of our statistical neighbours.

Health Care Plan

A Health Care Plan is produced annually on the basis of a health care assessment undertaken by a health care professional. This is normally a health visitor or school nurse but where there are significant health issues this is normally undertaken by a paediatrician.

Substance Misuse

The term 'drug' is used to refer to any psychotropic substance, including illegal drugs, illicit use of prescription drugs and volatile substances. Young people's drug taking is often inextricably linked with

Corporate Parenting Summary Report - Dec 2012 Final Version EXTERNAL

the consumption of alcohol. Therefore the term 'substance' refers to both drugs and alcohol but not tobacco. Substance misuse is defined as 'intoxication by – or regular excessive consumption or and/ or dependence on – psychoactive substances, leading to social, psychological, physical or legal problems'. It includes problematic use of both legal and illegal drugs (including alcohol when used in combination with other substances).

Missing from Placement

All unauthorised absences of more than 24 hours must be recorded. The 24 hours are counted from the time a child left his or her normal placement or was seen by a responsible adult. Therefore, a child went out for the evening at 7 pm, would not be recorded as missing until 7 pm the next day, whilst a child who left for school at 8 am, would not be recorded as missing if he/she returned before 8 am the following morning. If that child actually attended school and left at the usual time (say 4 pm), he/she would not be considered to have absconded until 4 pm the following day. For this purpose, a responsible adult is either the child's carer, or a professional directly associated with the child's welfare or education (e.g. doctor, school teacher, social worker etc.). A child cannot be considered to have returned from absconding unless he or she completes a period of 24 hours of being looked after, before absconding again.

Adoption

A child is adopted when a court grants an adoption order. This must follow a period of being 'placed for adoption' for at least 13 weeks with the prospective adopter(s). As soon as an adoption order is granted the child ceases to be looked after. The effect of the adoption order is that the birth parents no longer have any parental rights and responsibilities for their child. Those rights and responsibilities are given to the adoptive parents.

Special Guardianship Order

Special guardianship is an order made by the court that places a child or a young person to live with someone permanently and gives legal status for non parents who are or wish to care for that child or young person in a long term secure placement. The Adoption and Children Act 2002 introduced special guardianship and special guardianship orders.