

# Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 January 2024

## Quarter Two, 2023/24 Performance Management Report



### Report of John Hewitt, Chief Executive

#### Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide.

#### Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present an overview of progress towards delivery of the key priorities within the Council Plan 2023-27 in line with the council's corporate performance framework.
- 2 The report covers performance in and to the end of quarter two, 2023/24, July to September 2023.

#### Executive Summary

- 3 The County Council is a key partner within the County Durham Together Partnership. Collectively partners work towards delivering a shared plan - the [County Durham Vision 2035](#). The vision document was developed with partner organisations and the public. It sets out what we would like the county to be like over the next decade and beyond. The vision is for:

**a place where there are more and better jobs, people live long, and independent lives and our communities are well connected and supportive.**

- 4 We have set out how the council will effectively deliver its services and its contribution to achieving this vision in our [Council Plan](#). The Council Plan is structured around five thematic areas: our economy, our environment, our people, our communities, and our council. We monitor our success through a suite of Key Performance Indicators (our corporate performance framework), which forms the basis of this report.
- 5 During quarter one, to allow greater clarity of performance against our objectives, we introduced a new easy-read report format structured around a suite of dashboards (attached at appendix two). Greater data visualisation has provided more focus and greater transparency on trends, direction of travel, benchmarking and performance to target. The new format has been reviewed by scrutiny and feedback has been universally positive.
- 6 We want to be a well-functioning local authority in relation to performance, and continue to work to achieve the best practice model as set out by the

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)<sup>1</sup>. We will continue to develop the following through our performance management processes and the wider Corporate Business Intelligence Review:

- (a) An organisational-wide approach to continuous improvement, with frequent monitoring, performance reporting and updating of the corporate and improvement plans.
- (b) A corporate plan which is evidence based, current, realistic and enables the whole organisation's performance to be measured and held to account.
- (c) Clear and effective mechanisms for scrutinising performance across all service areas. Performance is regularly reported to the public to ensure that citizens are informed of the quality of services being delivered.

## Context

- 7 The council is a large organisation providing a broad range of services, and our operating environment can at times be challenging. However, we continue to show strong performance across our key outcomes.
- 8 Demand for statutory children's social care and early help remains consistent overall, though the composition of needs and interventions are increasingly complicated. Successful recruitment has reduced vacancy rates and performance improved in the quarter.

## Recommendation

- 9 Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
  - (a) Note the overall position and direction of travel in relation to quarter two performance, and the actions being taken to address areas of challenge.

## Background papers

- County Durham Vision (County Council, 23 October 2019)  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s115064/Draft%20Durham%20Vision%20v10.0.pdf>

## Other useful documents

- Council Plan 2023 to 2027 (current plan)  
<https://www.durham.gov.uk/media/34954/Durham-County-Council-Plan-2023-2027/pdf/CouncilPlan2023-2027.pdf?m=638221688616370000>
- Quarter One, 2023/24 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s178933/Q1%202023-24%20Corporate%20Performance%20Report%20-%20Cabinet%2013.09.23.pdf>
- Quarter Four, 2022/23 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s174900/Item%204%20Q4%202022-23%202%201.pdf>

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<sup>1</sup> [Best Value standards and intervention](#)

- Quarter Three, 2022/23 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s166398/Corporate%20Performance%20Report%20Q2%202022-23%20v2.1.pdf>
- Quarter Two, 2022/23 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s166398/Corporate%20Performance%20Report%20Q2%202022-23%20v2.1.pdf>

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Finance**

Latest performance information is being used to inform corporate, service and financial planning.

### **Consultation**

Not applicable.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Equality measures are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

### **Climate Change**

We have declared a climate change emergency and consider the implications of climate change in our reports and decision-making.

### **Human Rights**

Not applicable.

### **Crime and Disorder**

A number of performance indicators and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

### **Staffing**

Performance against a number of relevant corporate health indicators has been included to monitor staffing issues.

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable.

### **Risk**

Reporting of significant risks and their interaction with performance is integrated into the quarterly performance management report.

### **Procurement**

Not applicable.



# Corporate Performance Report

Quarter Two, 2023/24



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## Executive Summary

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- 1 This performance report covers the second quarter of the 2023/24 financial year (July to September 2023). It sets out our progress towards delivering the key priorities set out within our [Council Plan 2023-27](#).
- 2 Performance is reported on an exception basis with key messages structured around the five thematic areas of, our economy, our environment, our people, our communities, and our council.
- 3 In any given quarter, we will only include key performance indicators which have been updated during that quarter, for example, educational attainment will be updated annually in quarter three.

### Our people

- 4 The priority aims to help our residents live long and independent lives and remain in good health for as long as possible. We will protect and improve health by tackling the leading causes of illness and early death, inequalities and the challenges around mental health. We will ensure a sustainable high-quality care market and will invest in a multi-million pound programme to transform our leisure centre venues.

### Going Well

- 5 Demand overall for Early Help and statutory support remains consistent with previous trends. Improved practice has led consistently low re-referral rate for statutory children's social care referrals. The latest rate was 18% in quarter two, slightly higher than the quarter 1 (16%) but remains below latest benchmarks. This means fewer children and their families require further support from safeguarding services following support.
- 6 Children's social care assessments completed in 45 days completed in the quarter improved to 82% (from 75% in quarter one 2023/24), and is now similar to national and regional benchmarks. This had reduced in previous quarters as a result of capacity issues.

### Issues we are addressing

- 7 The number of children in care continues to increase in County Durham. The service is reviewing these trends and learning will feed into strategic Placement Sufficiency work and preparation for the implementation of the Care Review proposals
- 8 A shortage of educational psychologists (a national problem) to undertake the required assessment, and capacity challenges in providing suitable provision has meant that the timescales for completion of 20 weeks for Education and Health Care Plans is not currently being met. The service is implementing plans to build capacity to meet increased demand and manage new requests within the context of a graduated approach to ensure children are supported with quality provision in an appropriate setting.

### Risk Management

- 9 The government's statutory guidance for best value authorities sets out the characteristics of a well-functioning authority. This details the arrangements that councils should have in place for robust governance and scrutiny including how risk

awareness and management should inform decision making. The latest risk management progress report can be found [here](#)



# Our People

## Priority Aims:

County Durham is a place where people will enjoy fulfilling, long and independent lives. We aim to,

- ensure children and young people will enjoy the best start in life, good health and emotional wellbeing
- ensure children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities will achieve the best possible outcomes
- ensure all children and young people will have a safe childhood
- promote positive behaviours
- better integrate health and social care services
- tackle the stigma and discrimination of poor mental health and build resilient communities
- people will be supported to live independently for as long as possible by delivering more home to meet the needs of older and disabled people
- support people whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protect adults with care and support needs from harm
- protect and improve the health of the local population, tackling leading causes of illness and death

## National, Regional and Local Picture

### Children's Social Care

- 10 In 2022, three independent reviews looked at various aspects of the children's social care system to identify the changes needed to achieve improvement. The reviews were:
  - the Independent Review of Children's Social Care,
  - the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel's national review into the murders of ALH and SH, and
  - the Competition and Markets Authority's report into the children's social care market.
- 11 The reviews looked at the full breadth of children's social care and heard from thousands of people with lived experience of these services or who work in them. It concluded that the best way of promoting children's welfare is very often by supporting children's families and the loving relationships around them. However, to achieve this vision, requires a rebalancing of children's social care away from costly crisis intervention to more meaningful and effective help for families, so that it achieves the outcomes children deserve.
- 12 There are six key pillars of the government's strategy which will need to be taken forward in phases. These will address urgent issues facing children and families now, as well as laying the foundations for whole system reform and setting direction for change.
- 13 There are two key drivers which will define this work:

- The government's response to the consultation on Stable Homes Built on Love (published September 2023), and
- National Framework for Children's Social Care and Children's Social Care Dashboard.

14 Effective delivery of the new strategy and national framework for children's social care will require a significant investment in time, energy and resource (supported by some government funding), if we are to implement the reforms successfully.

15 National arrangements are being developed to take forward the key proposals in the Care Review, a National Implementation Board will lead this. The service area is making preparations where it is able to, but much of the direction and way forward is still awaited from government.

### **SEND**

16 Work is underway to develop a whole system approach to the education system which meets the needs of all children in the county, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). This is being delivered through two key strands within the service which will work together.

17 Firstly, the Education Review aims to deliver a sustainable school's system in County Durham, including addressing the current financial and projected budgetary position, sufficiency of school places, quality and stability of leadership, current condition of buildings, and accessibility and suitability of schools and settings to provide outstanding learning.

18 The second involves the High Needs Sustainability Programme which will take forward phase 2 to cover the three strands from the Department for Education's (DfE) Delivering Better Value Programme and other High Needs Block initiatives.

19 The Sustainability Programme will have the following objectives:

- strengthening leadership of alternative provision,
- implementing the SEND action plan, which will incorporate the findings of the DfE sponsored Delivering Better Value work,
- increasing capacity for the numbers of special needs children coming through the system,
- developing our approach in relation to post-16 in the context of SEND provision,
- considering investment opportunities to improve the Special School estate,
- alignment of services to meet the needs of children,
- raising confidence in mainstream schools and implementation of graduated response,
- transitions and re-integration.

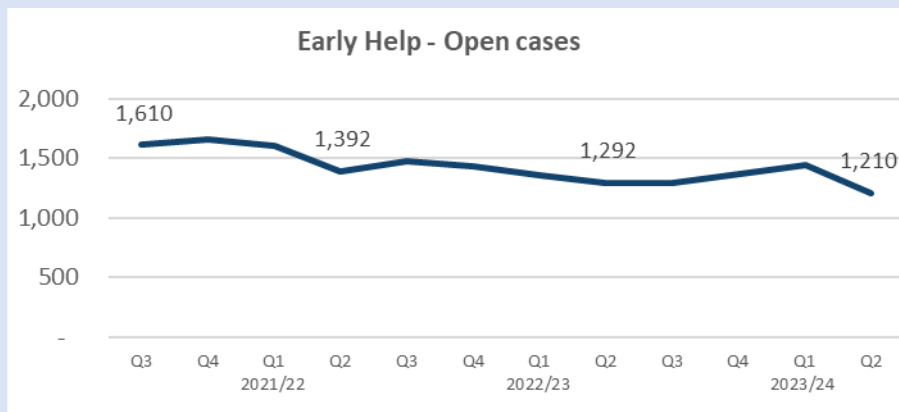
20 This will strive to ensure that children, young people and their families are provided with the right support at the right time, in the right place and is focussed on developing a sustainable education system in the county in light of significant challenges.

# Children's Social Care Dashboard: Early Help and Referrals

(12 months ending 30 September 2023 / at 30 September 2023)

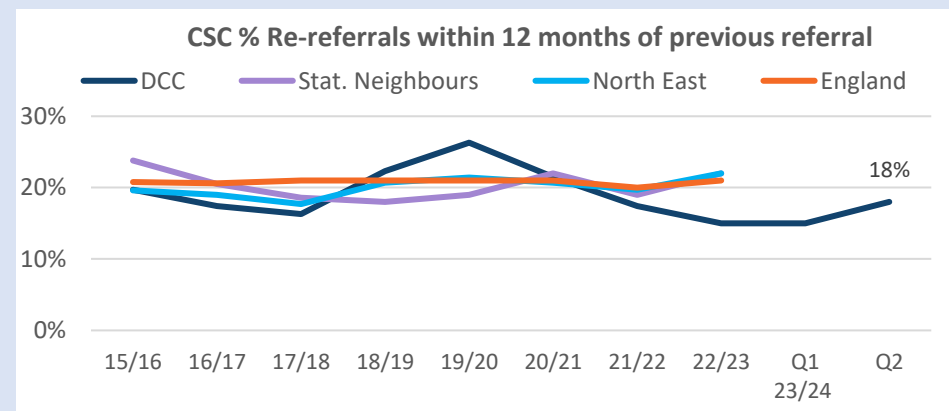
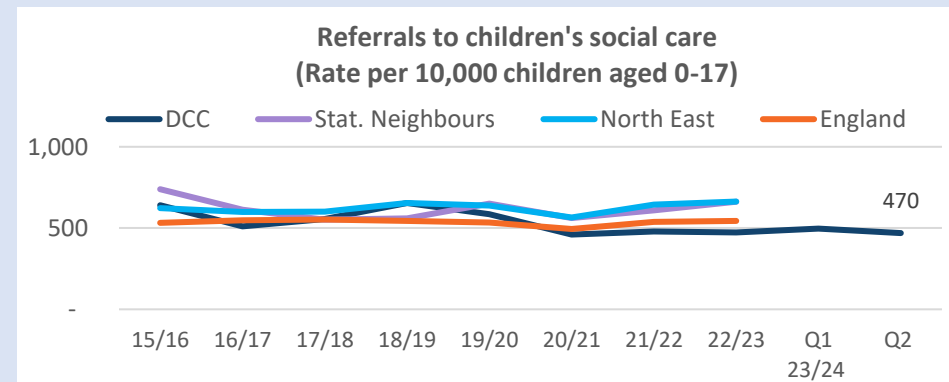
## Early Help

- Overall demand for Early Help support reduced post-Covid but has been rising since October 2022, however, numbers have reduced to their lowest in the last three years.
- Feedback from families and young working with the service continues to be very positive with 90% of parent/carers and 87/88% of children/young people happy or very happy with the support they received.



## Rate of Referrals (per 10,000 children aged 0-17)

- Demand for Children's Social Care remains lower than latest benchmarks.
- Following the reduction during Covid-19, when schools were shut, referrals increased slightly but are not as high as pre-Covid-19 levels.
- Referral rates have remained fairly static with slight raises and decreases since 2020/21.
- Repeat referrals were at their peak in 2019/20 and similar to the overall referral rate have risen and fallen but are quite consistent and lower than benchmarks.

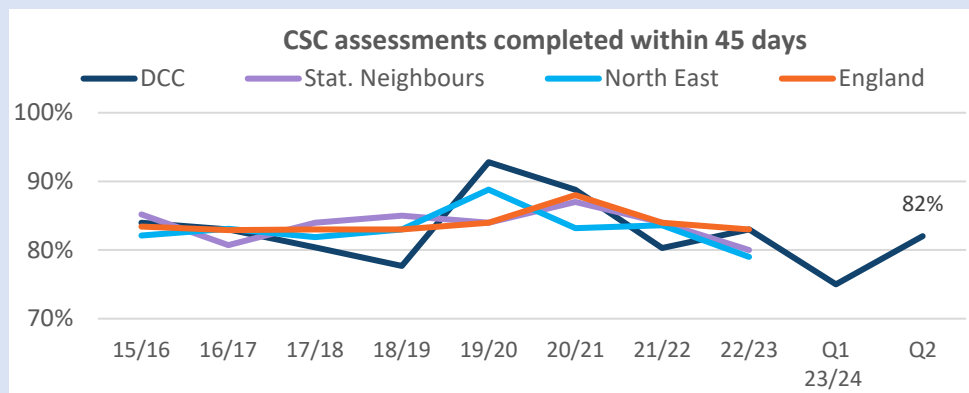


# Children's Social Care Dashboard: Assessments, protection plans, in need, social worker vacancies

(12 months ending 30 September 2023 / at 30 September 2023)

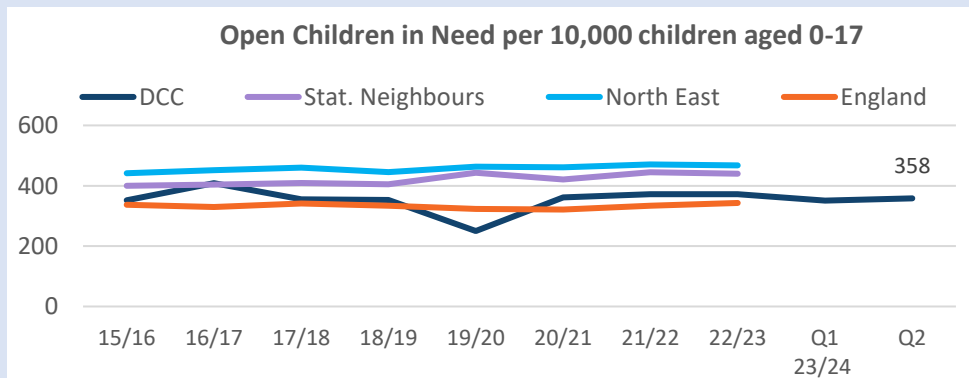
## Assessments completed within 45 days (%)

- Q1 2023/24 saw a dip in the % of assessments completed within timescale, taking us lower than our statistical comparators.
- However, Q2 saw an increase back to 82% bringing the service back into line with our comparators who as at 2021/22 were all at 84%.



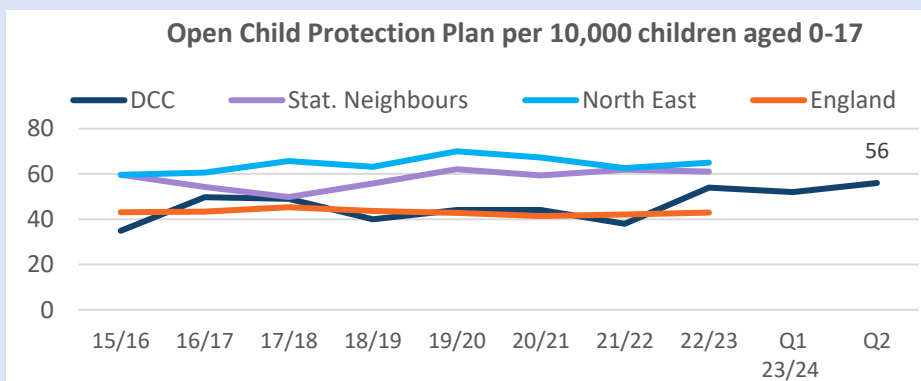
## Open Children in Need (per 10,000 children aged 0-17)

- Children in Need rates have been consistent since 2020/21 and are now currently at 358 per 10,000 children aged 0-17.
- This rate is higher than the latest England average of 334 in 2021/22, however DCC is lower than their Statistical Neighbours and the North East (445 and 471 respectively).



## Open Child Protection Plans (per 10,000 children aged 0-17)

- Child Protection Plan rates have been increasing since 2021/22 and are now currently at 56 per 10,000 children aged 0-17.
- This rate is higher than the latest England average of 42 in 2021/22, however DCC is lower than their Statistical Neighbours and the North East (62 and 63 respectively).



## Social Worker Vacancies

Following an increase to 20% the proportion of social worker vacancies has reduced to 14% at the end of September. This is 12 more vacancies than the same point last year although there has been an increase in head count of 17 over the same period.

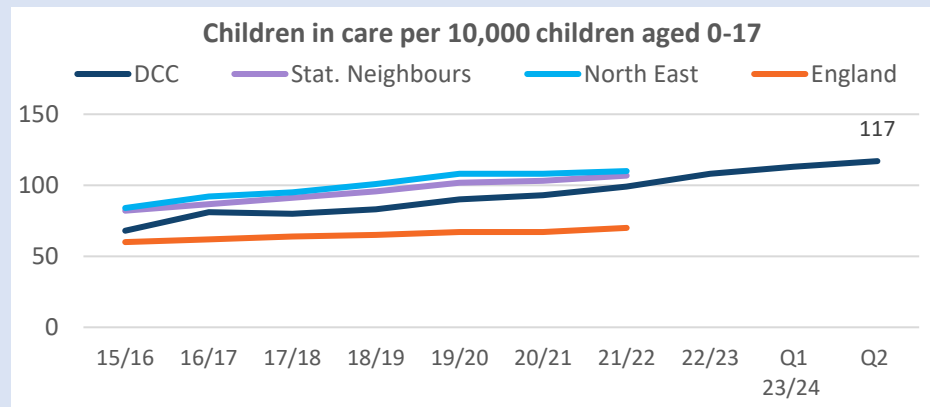


# Children's Social Care Dashboard: in care, unaccompanied asylum seeking children

(12 months ending 30 September 2023 / at 30 September 2023)

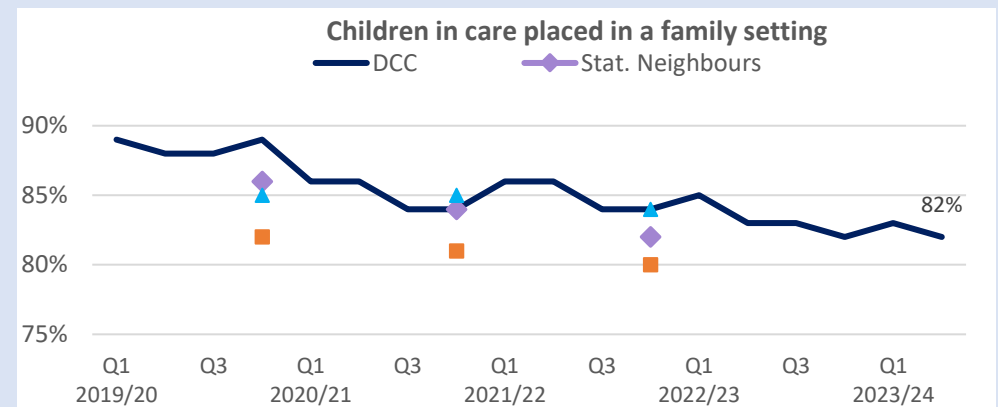
## Children in Care (per 10,000 children aged 0-17)

- Children in Care rates have been rising since 2015/16 and are now currently at 117 per 10,000 children aged 0-17.
- This rate is higher than the latest England average of 70 in 2021/22 and is also higher than our Statistical Neighbours and the North East (107 and 110 respectively).



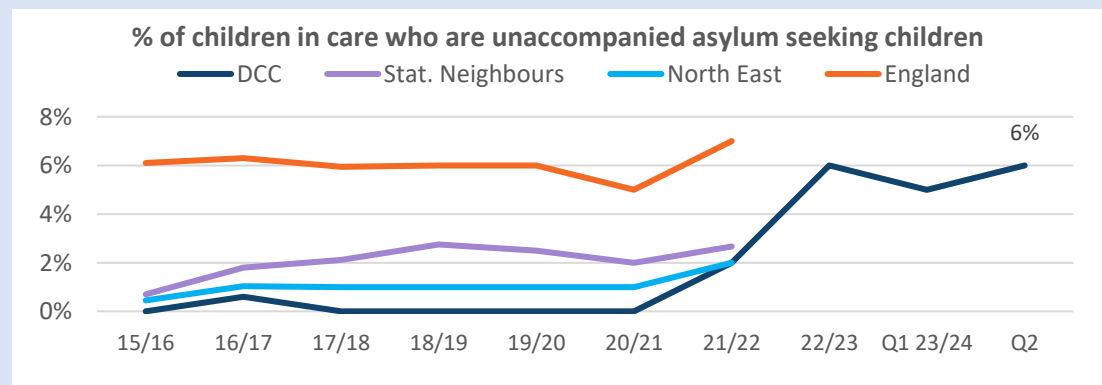
## Children in care placed in a family setting

Although the proportion of children in care living in a family setting is reducing, the number of children in these placements is increasing and it is the rising number of children in care that is influencing the reduction, but the proportion remains in line with benchmarks.



## Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)

- The % of UASC has been rising since 2020/21 and are now currently at 6% of all Looked After Children.
- The latest England average is higher than this at 7%, however DCC does have a higher proportion of UASC than its statistical neighbours and the North East (3% and 2% respectively).



## Children's Social Care and Early Help

- 21 Overall demand for early help and statutory support remains consistent with previous trends. Improved practice has led to a consistently low re-referral rate for statutory children's social care referrals. The latest rate, 18% in quarter two, is slightly higher than the quarter one (16%) but remains below latest benchmarks. This means fewer children and their families require further support from safeguarding services following support.
- 22 While statutory demand remains low, the number of children and young people receiving intensive support (children on a Child Protection Plan and taken into our care) remains relatively high. This is indicative of ongoing high levels of complexity and a change in the composition of demand.
- 23 Specifically, the number of children in care continues to increase. The North East has the highest level of children in care in England and County Durham is now slightly higher than the North East rate based on latest benchmarks. Underlying growth in the number of children in care is continuing but is accelerating further due to the increase in unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) placed in County Durham as part of national relocation plans. UASC now comprise 6% of all children in care compared to just 2% at the end of 2021/22.
- 24 In addition to this new national demand, the number of children in care who are residents in the county is also increasing. The service is reviewing these trends and learning will feed in to strategic placement sufficiency work and preparation for the implementation of the Care Review proposals.
- 25 As previously reported, capacity issues arising from high caseloads had been impacting the timeliness of statutory children's social care assessments which the service has been addressing over the summer. The proportion completed in the quarter improved to 82% (from 75% in quarter one), and is now similar to national and regional benchmarks. The service continues to monitor.
- 26 There has been a reduction in social worker vacancies since last quarter. Over the last year vacancy rates have been high after challenges in recruitment led to a smaller number of newly qualified social workers (NQSW) joining us in autumn 2022. The vacancy rate has fallen in August and September largely due to 40 NQSWs who have come into post in the last couple of months following more successful recruitment campaigns throughout 2023. In the 12 months to the end of September, we have seen 74 new starters join the service compared to 54 the previous year.
- 27 Our Social Work Academy was created in 2016 to allow us to support a greater number of NQSWs through their first year in practice. Our Academy offer remains strong and has recently been extended to provide additional support to social workers in their second year of practice, and there are plans to extend that support into the third year of practice.
- 28 Additional capacity from newly qualified staff will take time to embed and improve caseload pressure, but recruitment and retention of staff remain a priority for the service and a range of activity is planned to include;
  - supporting our own practitioners to qualify through the social work apprenticeship scheme,

- supporting the next cohort of Step Up to Social Work scheme (six participants will start the programme from January 2024)
- partnering with Frontline from autumn 2024, and expect to support 10 participants who we hope will join us as NQSWs in autumn 2025.
- working within our regional teaching partnership (North East Social Work Alliance or NESWA) to increase social work training capacity.

29 A range of changes to pay, career development, progression and non-pay benefits have been implemented over the last year to retain staff as well as ongoing staff wellbeing support. Wellbeing support for social workers takes a range of forms including a wellbeing portal, which provides information for employees at all levels on a range of issues including physical activity, nutrition, remote working, mental health and emotional wellbeing, bereavement, domestic abuse, and substance misuse to specialist workshops on wellbeing and self-care. In addition, specialist support offers employees or teams who have been involved in a traumatic event to benefit from de-brief sessions, reflection sessions or a commissioned specialist offer designed to promote reflection and healing.

30 Flexible working can have a positive impact on employee engagement and wellbeing, supporting practitioners to better balance their work and home life, and support practitioners with caring responsibilities to stay in, or return to, the workforce. The service is currently undertaking an evaluation of a proactive approach to flexible working which is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

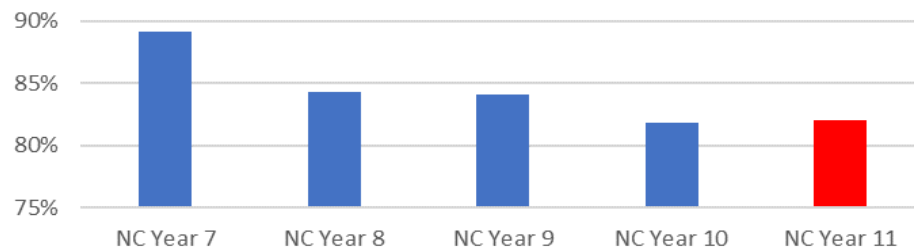
# Education Dashboard

(academic year 2022/23 / as at 30 September 2023)

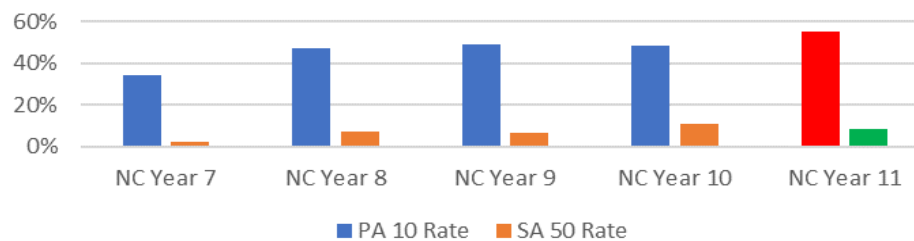
## Attendance

- Typical trend is declining attendance in the older the year group.
- Year 11 bars are distinct in colour as their attendance is based on five half terms as opposed to the regular six due to exams and study leave. The red and green bars on the lower graph still represent PA 10 Rate and SA 50 Rate.
- PA – Persistent Absence: Percentage of pupils with an absence rate above 10%.
- SA – Severe Absence: Percentage of pupils with an absence rate above 50%.
- The latest data (Spring and Autumn term 22/23) published by the DfE shows a national absence rate of **7.3%** and a regional rate of **7.7%**.
- As of the end of the last academic year (22/23), Durham's overall absence rate sat at **7.6%**.

Attendance Rate by Year Group



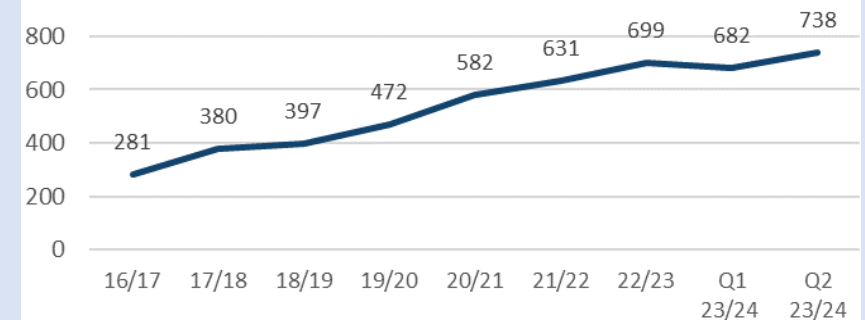
Persistent and Severe Absence Rates by Year Group



## Elective Home Education

- Annual data is based on the end of academic years and accounts for year 11 leavers. Quarterly data is as at the end of each quarter and so Q1 2023/24 data is as at the end of June hence the dip in numbers.
- Quarter 2 data shows there has been an increase to 738 at the end of September.

Children who are electively home educated





## **Attendance**

- 31 Comparison of attendance data between 2021/22 and 2022/23 shows that rates of overall absence have decreased. Primary overall absence decreased by almost half a percent and secondary overall absence by 0.25%. Rates of persistent absence have also decreased, in primary schools by almost 2%, in secondary schools by almost 2.5% and in special schools by 1.6%. Current local data projections appear to show that rates of overall and persistent absence continued to decrease into the summer of 2023, and the early signs are that this trend appears to be continuing into the early part of the new academic year.

## **Elective Home Education**

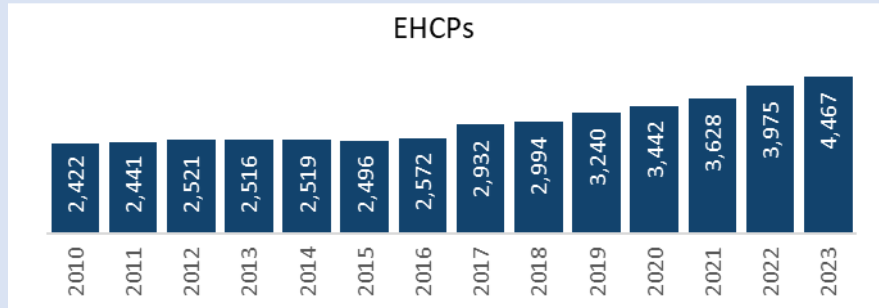
- 32 The DfE have made changes to how elective home education (EHE) and children missing from education (CME) data is collected and reported. Where it appears to the local authority that a child is not receiving suitable education via EHE, such children and young people must now be reported as children missing from education. County Durham's percentage increase in the number of children and young people in EHE using new data collection parameters between September 2022 and May 2023 was 18% compared with a national increase of 18.7%. When comparing local data to the end of the academic year 2022/23 with the same period the previous year, there was a 9% increase. Therefore, rates of children and young people EHE have continued to rise, although local rises are less than those seen nationally. Local child not in school (CNIS) operational and strategic panels bring together former EHE and CME panels into one 'child not in school' partnership.
- 33 The operational CNIS panel considers access to education, ensuring children are receiving suitable education and safeguarding / welfare of the children and the strategic CNIS panel considers key trends / themes and plans appropriate supportive actions as a result of findings.

# SEND Dashboard

(12 months rolling / annual data)

## Education, Health and Care Plans

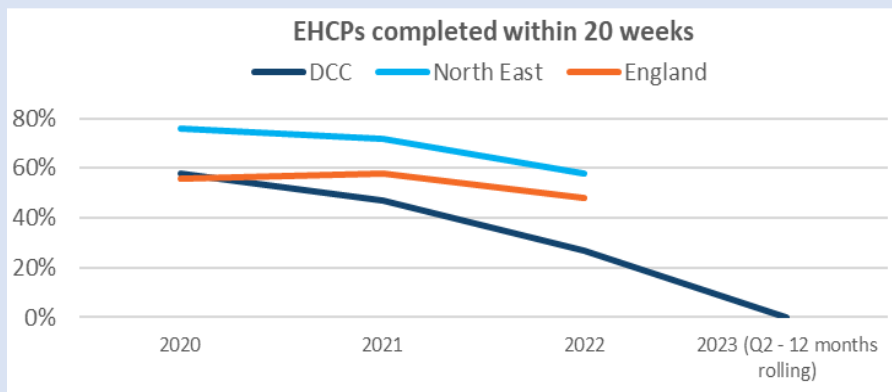
- The number of children and young people with an EHCP continues to increase.
- This is an 11% increase on 12 months ago. This is an 10% increase on 12 months ago.



## EHCPs completed with 20 weeks

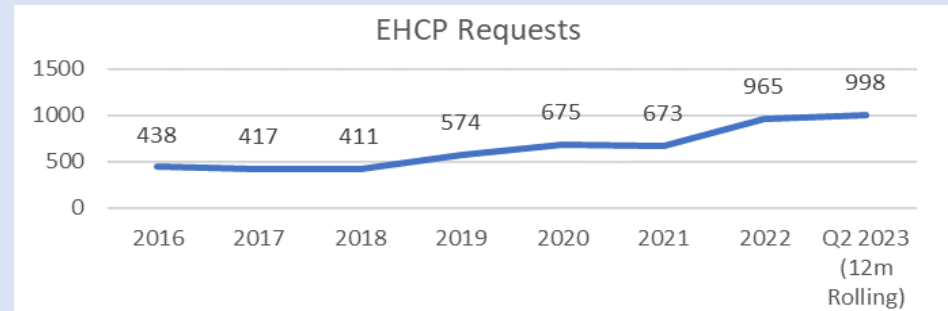
The higher level of demand alongside the shortage of educational psychologists (a national problem) and the time it takes to commission and agree suitable provision has meant that no new EHCPs were fully completed and agreed within the expected 20-week timescale during the quarter.

In 2022 we issued 603 EHCPs an **increase of 79%** since 2019, again greater than regional (+39%) and Eng (+27%).



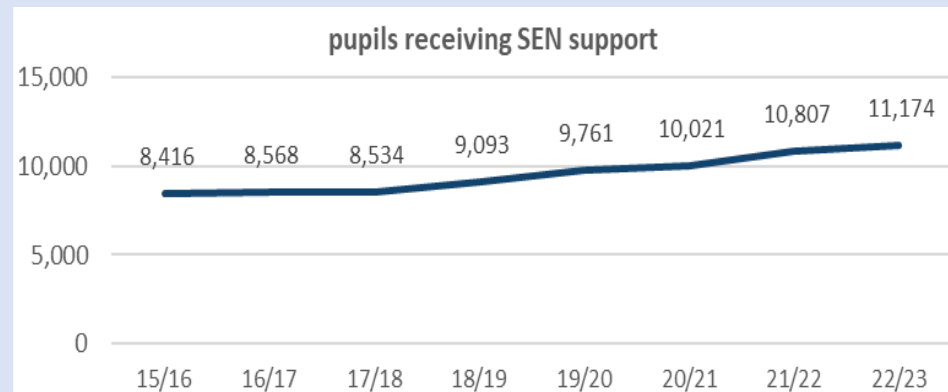
## Education, Health and Care Plan requests

There has been an increase in new requests for EHCPs. For the whole of 2022 EHCP requests increased by 68% compared to 2019, greater than NE +36% and England + 39% over the same period.



## Special Educational Need support

Similar to EHCP numbers, the number of pupils on SEN Support continues to increase (3.4% on last year). The average annual increase in SEN Support numbers over the last 8 years is 4.2% compared to 3.7% in North East and 4.7% nationally.



## Education, Health and Care Plans

- 34 Requests for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) continue to increase substantially with 55% growth in the last two years. The assessment process is complex with a number of inputs required from schools and health services in line with the statutory guidance.
- 35 A shortage of educational psychologists (a national problem) to undertake the required assessment, and capacity challenges in providing suitable provision has meant that the timescales for completion of 20 weeks for Education and Health Care Plans is not currently being met.
- 36 There are significant barriers to increasing educational psychology capacity, and expanding the physical capacity of our special school sector to meet the escalating demand we are experiencing.
- 37 The service is implementing plans to build capacity to meet increased demand and manage new requests within the context of a graduated approach to ensure children are supported with quality provision in an appropriate setting. Specifically, this involves;
- procurement of agency support for educational psychologists to add capacity and ensure existing waiting times are minimised, in addition to a range of activity to support wider recruitment and better retention of staff,
  - review how psychological advice is currently being provided, and explore alternative models but still meet the required quality standards,
  - reducing reliance on statutory assessment through identifying and meeting needs earlier, and implementing the graduated approach in mainstream educational settings through the Delivering Better Value programme,
  - implement new casework system to streamline process and make best use of staff capacity.
- 38 Despite these challenges at a broader system level County Durham performs well and we have recently been invited by DfE to work with three neighbouring local authorities to share best practice through the newly established Regional Improvement Partnership.

# Data Tables

D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog PI
				Major planning applications determined within 13 weeks	Jul-Sep 23	76.2%	90%	73.7%	86%	81%	Yes	No

D = Direction of Travel	T = compared to target	C = compared to England average	G = Gap between our performance and England average
meeting or exceeding the previous year	better than target	Better than the England average	The gap is improving
worse than the previous year but is within 2%	Worse than but within 2% of target	Worse than the England average but within 2%	The gap remains the same
more than 2% worse than the previous year	more than 2% behind target	Worse than the England average	The gap is deteriorating

This is the overall performance assessment. Its calculation is dependent upon whether the indicator has an agreed target.

Key Target Indicator	Key Tracker Indicator
targets are set as improvements, can be measured regularly and can be actively influenced by the council and its partners. When setting a target, the D, C and G have already been taken into account.	no targets are set as they are long-term and / or can only be partially influenced by the council and its partners. Therefore, D, T, C and G are used to assess overall performance
better than target	Direction of Travel (D) is meeting or exceeding the previous year <b>AND</b> the gap with England (G) is improving
Worse than but within 2% of target	Direction of Travel (D) is worse than the previous year <b>OR</b> the gap with England (G) is deteriorating
more than 2% behind target	Direction of Travel (D) is worse than the previous year <b>AND</b> the gap with England (G) is deteriorating

More detail is available from the Strategy Team at [performance@durham.gov.uk](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk)

# Our Economy: summary data tables

## Employability and Skills KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog PI
					16-17-year-olds in an apprenticeship	Apr-Jun 23	7.3%	Tracker	8.5%	4.8%	7%	Yes	No

## Education KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog PI
					Uptake of free early education entitlement for 3-4-year-olds	2023	93.7%	Tracker	92.8%	93.7%	98.6%	No	No
					Children meeting expected standards in maths and reading at KS2	2022/23	65%	Tracker	67%	59%	60%	Yes	No
					Average grade of achievement within GCSE English and Maths to a Grade 5	2021/22	4.65	5 by 2030	new			No	No
					Disadvantaged cohorts meeting basic threshold measures in English and Maths	new			new			No	No
					Young people in education, employment and training	June 2023	94.8%	above N / NE	94.2%	95%	93.9%	Yes	No

# Our People: summary data tables

## Childrens' Social Care KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog PI
					Early help cases open	At Sep 23	1,210	Tracker	1,292			Yes	No
					Children's social care referrals per 10,000 population	At Sep 23	470	Tracker	479	538	644	Yes	No
					Children's social care re-referrals	At Sep 23	18%	Tracker	15%	21%	22%	Yes	No
					Children's social care assessments completed within 45 days	At Sep 23	80%	Tracker	83%	83%	79%	Yes	No
					Children in need per 10,000 population	At Sep 23	358	Tracker	372	343	467	Yes	No
					Children in need	At Sep 23	3,827	Tracker	3,794	403,090	24,350	Yes	No
					Children on a child protection plan per 10,000 population	At Sep 23	56	Tracker	54	43	65	Yes	No
					Children looked after per 10,000 population	At Sep 23	117	Tracker	108	70	110	Yes	No
					Children looked after	At Sep 23	1,183	Tracker	949	82,170	5,750	Yes	No
					Care leavers aged 16-24	At Sep 23	301	Tracker	283			Yes	No
					Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children as a percentage of all children in care	At Sep 23	6%	Tracker	6%	7%	2%	Yes	No
					Social worker vacancies	At Sep 23	14%	Tracker	13%	17%		Yes	No
					Children in care in a family setting	At Sep 23	82%	Tracker	83%	80%	84%	Yes	No
					Families on our Stronger Families Programme attaining significant and sustained outcomes	Q1 2023/24	983	1,230	581			No	No

## Education KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog PI
					Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage achieving a good level of development	2021/22	64.5%	Tracker	n/a	64.5%	64.1%	No	No
					Pupils attending a school judged 'good or better' by Ofsted	2023/24	84.5%	Tracker	83.1%	88.1%	87%	Yes	No
					Pupils attending a primary school judged 'good or better' by Ofsted	2023/24	94.3%	Tracker	94.3%	91.6%	94.6%	Yes	No
					Pupils attending a secondary school judged 'good or better' by Ofsted	2023/24	70%	Tracker	75.3%	83.8%	76.8%	Yes	No
					Children who are electively home educated	July-Sep 23	738	Tracker	699			Yes	No
					Children eligible for free school meals	2022/23	30.6%	Tracker	29.1%	23.8%	30.4%	Yes	No
					Take-up on free school meals	2022/23	23%	Tracker	20.6%	18.6%	23.8%	No	No

## SEND KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog PI
					Children and young people with an EHCP	2023	4,489	Tracker	4,038			Yes	No
					New requests for EHCPs	2023	197	Tracker	179			Yes	No
					EHCPs completed within 20 weeks	Oct 22-Sep 23	0%	Tracker	27%	48%	56%	Yes	No
					Pupils on SEN support	2022/23	11,174	Tracker	10,807			No	No