

UASC Update

Sharon Davey, Strategic Manager CIC, Care Leavers, Fostering & Adoption

January 2024



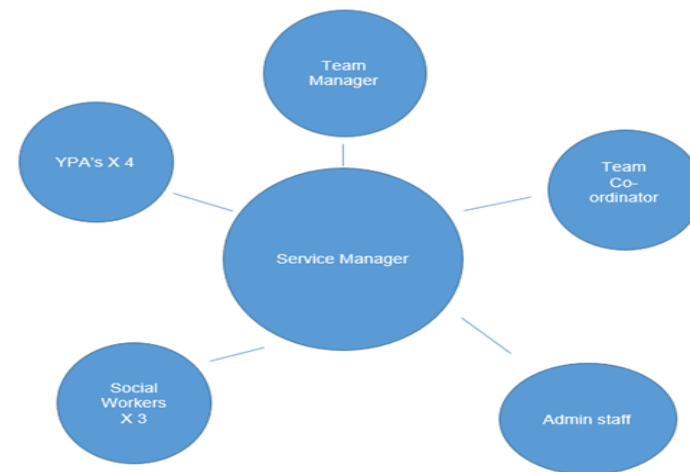
UASC Terminology & meet the team

UASC Definition- Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) are children and young people who are seeking asylum in the UK but who have been separated from their parents or carers. While their claim is processed, they are cared for by a local authority.

Spontaneous Arrivals – This is where the child/young person arrives in the UK by their own means and are presented to the local authority in an unplanned way. They are usually encountered by police/social services in the first instance. The local authority in which the child first presents is then responsible for their care.

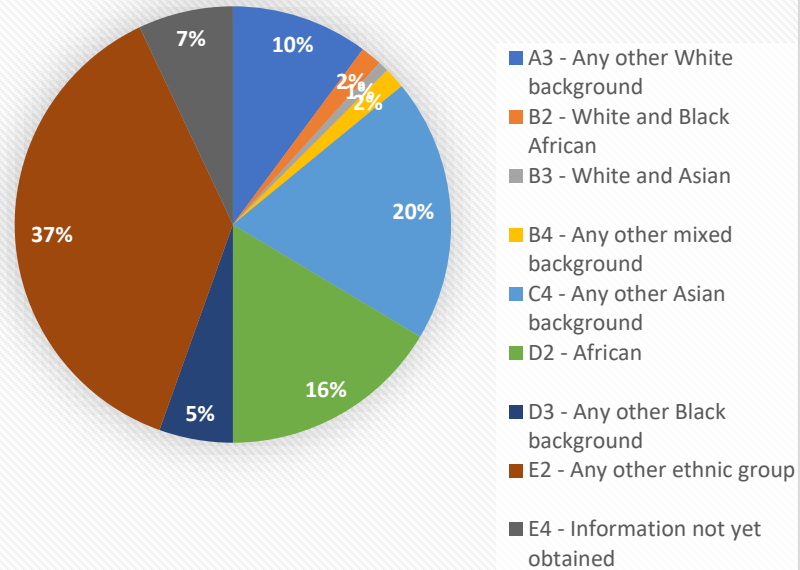
National Transfer Scheme - The National Transfer Scheme (NTS) has been established to enable the safe transfer of unaccompanied children in the UK from one local authority (the entry authority from which the unaccompanied child transfers) to another local authority (the receiving authority). The transfers are usually from both Kent and Croydon Home Office intake Units where young people are often placed in temporary accommodation by the Home Office.

UASC Team make up-

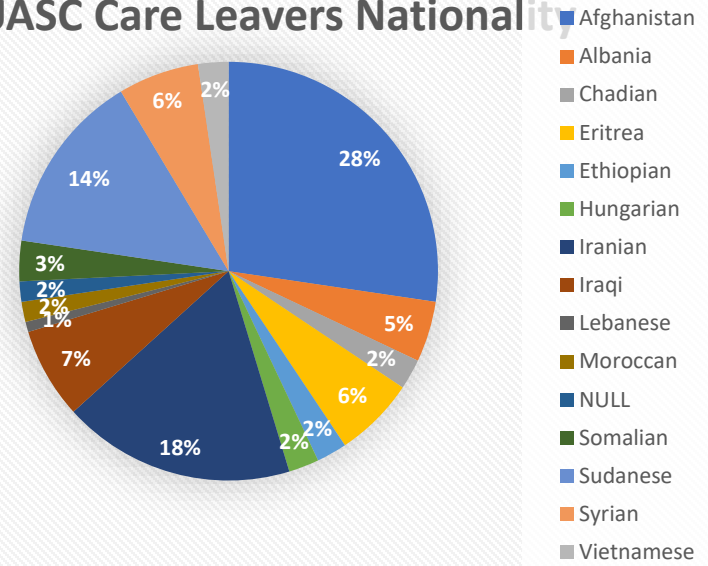


UASC Profile

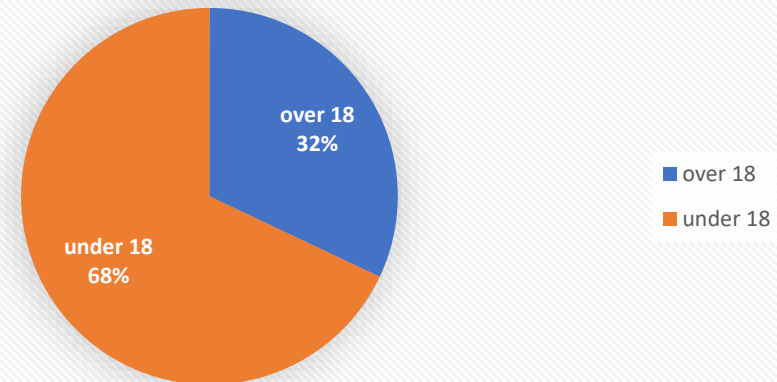
UASC Care Leavers Ethnicity



UASC Care Leavers Nationality



UASC Care Leavers Age Range





What's Working Well

- We are developing social inclusion opportunities for your UASC young people such as a monthly football club, access to Independent Visitors and the use of the VCS Alliance Team to find community based activities/groups for young people based on their interests.
- We are promoting advocacy services such as NYAS and the Refugee Council to provide independent advice/guidance for UASC young people.
- We ensure that UASC young people are supported to access an asylum solicitor.
- We have procured the use of two Translating Services to allow easy access to translators.
- We are quick to support UASC young people into education where they have the opportunity to socialise and meet others. The Virtual School have a designated case worker who solely focuses on UASC young people.
- We have promoted celebration events such as Eid which was attended by 28 young people. Halal food was supplied and gift bags.
- Some of the UASC young people that we have supported have gone on to progress through college, learn to drive, attend university, and gain their own tenancies and employment.
- We have a young person who wants to be involved in CICC.
- We have been involved in setting up the Care Leavers Hub at Stanley.
- A young person has cooked a meal for their YPA.



Forming Community Links

A common theme that we often find among our young people is that of accessing the wider community is very important to them.

- We have been able to form some positive links within the community such as becoming a partner agency with Recyke y'bike who can provide free refurbished bikes for our young people and Durham Cricket who have kindly provided us with several free tickets for an upcoming match which a lot of our young people from Afghanistan, where cricket is the national sport are really looking forward to.
- We also continue to run a monthly football session held at one of Durham Councils Leisure Centers which continues to be well attended!

