



Hampshire
County Council

Looked After Children in Hampshire Statement of Need - 2018

Public Health
Hampshire

Version Control

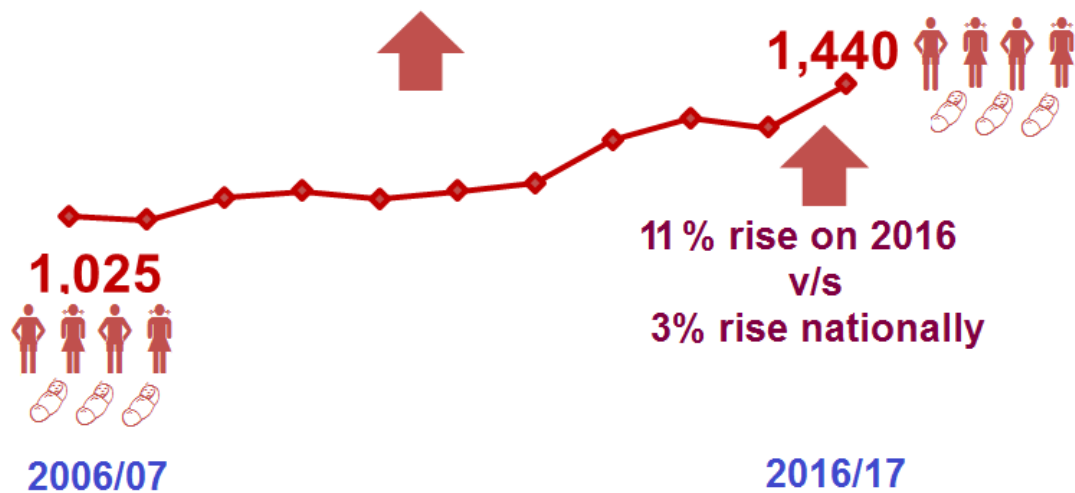
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Contents

Hampshire statistics.....	4
Key findings.....	5
Introduction.....	7
Demographic profile of LAC	7
<i>Looked after children</i>	7
<i>Looked after unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC)</i>	8
Age.....	9
Gender.....	10
Reasons for being looked after	10
Ethnicity profile	10
Locality of placement.....	11
Foster placements.....	11
Adoption of LAC.....	11
Special guardianship order among LAC	12
Outcomes for LAC.....	12
<i>Health and development outcomes</i>	12
Immunisation.....	12
Dental checks.....	15
Health assessments.....	16
Substance misuse among LAC	17
<i>Social outcomes</i>	18
Emotional & behavioural health.....	18
Offending rates among LAC	20
<i>Educational outcomes</i>	21
Educational attainment at key stage 2 and key stage 4	21
Special education need (SEN)	27
Absence from school	29
Exclusions from school.....	30
<i>Care leaver outcomes</i>	32
Not in education, training or employment (NEET).....	32
Transition to adulthood	32
Conclusion.....	33
References	34

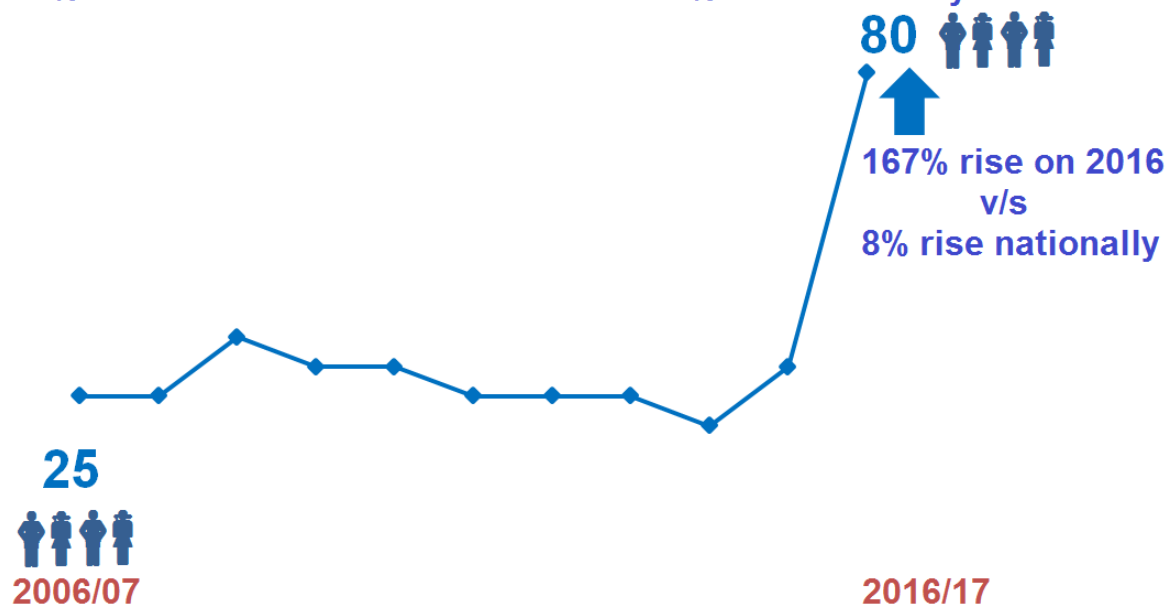
Looked After Children (LAC)

41% rise in LAC over the decade v/s 21% rise nationally



Unaccompanied asylum seeking LAC

220% rise in UASC over the decade v/s 35% rise nationally



Key findings

In Hampshire

- The number of Looked After Children (LAC) continues to increase, 2016/17 saw more children coming into care with fewer leaving care.
- There has been a sharp rise in the number of LAC who were UASC.
- Both the rise in numbers of LAC and UASC is greater than the national rise.
- Reasons for being looked after varied – the main reason was family dysfunction (48%), whereas across England it was abuse or neglect (58%).
- Age, gender and ethnicity profiles remain unchanged from previous figures.
- Proportions of children fostered within the Council boundary were higher than the national average, but fewer were close to their home.
- Adoptions have fallen, down from a peak in 2015
- Special guardianship order among LAC suggests a rising trend
- A third of LAC may remain unprotected with no up-to-date immunisation. However, this may be an anomaly due to the way assessment of immunisation status and impact of flu vaccination are undertaken.
- There's a positive rising trend in dental assessments.
- Whilst annual health assessments are lower compared to England, development assessments of younger children under 5 have been prioritised and are higher.
- Difficult to interpret trends in the prevalence of substance misuse among LAC.
- Over half of eligible LAC with a strengths and difficulties questionnaire (SDQ) score, had 'normal' emotional and behavioural health and 38% had scores which were a cause for concern, similar to the national averages.
- Declining trend in LAC convicted or subject to a final warning or reprimand, similar to the national proportion.
- Better achievement at Key stages 2 and 4 – Attainment of the expected Key stage 2 standard in combined reading, writing and mathematics is continuing to improve, with higher attainment in individual subjects compared to the national average. Key stage 4 improvement in nearly every measure, placing the cohort above the National and South East region LAC averages.
- Higher proportion of school aged LAC have SEN (56.3%), compared to just 13.9% among non-LAC.
- Absence rates are higher than for non-LAC but have decreased from last year.

- Higher fixed period exclusions (12.23%) than exclusions non-LAC (3.82%), nationally (11.44%) and an increase from 11.75% in 2015.
- Transition experience among care leavers needs to be prioritised – Reporting on figures of “Staying Put” care leavers need improvement.
- Increased risk of poor life outcomes among care leavers – higher NEET (37%) when compared to peers who would have not been in care nationally (13%) and the south east region (9.7%). Teenage pregnancy rates have fallen but girls in care and care leavers are still at high risk of teenage pregnancy – 5% were NEET owing to pregnancy or parenting, compared to 7% nationally.

Introduction

This 2018 statement of need provides information on LAC in Hampshire and was a priority theme identified in the 2017/18 Hampshire JSNA work programme. It references several statistical first releases (SFR) published by the Department for Education (DfE) that provide an update of existing data sources. For most of the analysis the figures quoted relate to a specific sub-set of LAC who have been in care for more than 12 months at 31 March and thus excludes those on a series of short-term breaks. Where possible, figures are mainly presented for the last five years to allow comparisons back to 2013. Not all data is comparable where it is collected across different age bands, settings, geographies and time periods. This needs to be considered when reading this document.

Looked after children (LAC) /Children in care (CiC)

The terms 'looked-after children (LAC)' or 'children in care (CiC)' or 'children looked-after (CLA)' are interchangeable and refer to all children under the age of 18 (under 25 if with SEN [Special Education Need]) being looked after by a local authority. It includes both those subject to a care order under Section 31 of the Children Act 1989 and those looked after by a voluntary agreement with their parents under Section 20 of the Act. Alongside planning secure and reliable care and responding to the child's need to be well and healthy, local authorities have a duty to promote the educational achievement of LAC who often have unmet emotional, mental and physical health needs that impact on their education. It is a strategic aim of Hampshire County Council (HCC) to reduce the number of LAC.

Demographic profile of LAC

Looked after children

The DfE publishes annual data on the numbers of LAC. Figures for Hampshire at 31 March 2017 show that the number and rates of LAC have continued to rise in the past five years. There were 1,440 LAC in Hampshire, an increase of 135 on 2016, equivalent to an 11% rise which is greater than the 3% rise seen nationally. This means 51 children per 10,000 of the population were looked after, up from 46 children per 10,000 in the previous year. Whilst increases have been higher in Hampshire, they start from a lower base (see table 1 and figure 1).

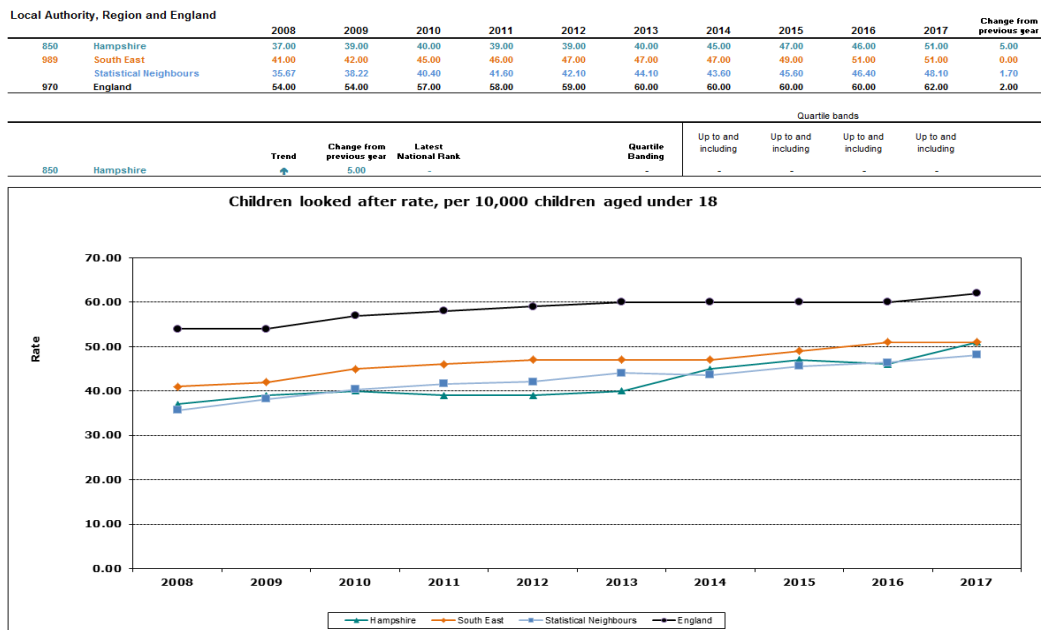
It is important to note that whilst these published statistics relate to the period 2016/17, local figures would indicate much higher estimates of the actual LAC population.

Table 1: Numbers and rates of looked after children (LAC)

Year		Numbers	Rates per 10,000 children aged under 18 years
2017	Hampshire	1,440	51
	England	72,670	62
2016	Hampshire	1,305	46
	England	70,440	60
2015	Hampshire	1,335	47
	England	69,480	60
2014	Hampshire	1,265	45
	England	68,810	60
2013	Hampshire	1,130	40
	England	68,060	60

Source: DfE SFR 50/2017

Figure 1: Trends in the rate of LAC



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

The number of children starting to be looked after in 2016/17 was 645 and has risen on figures (505) in the previous year. The 28% increase rise on 2015/16 figures In Hampshire has been higher than the national rise of 2%. At the same time, 530 children ceased to be looked after. This has fallen by 3% compared to 2015/16 figures and the fall has also been greater than the national fall of 2%. So, Hampshire has experienced more children coming into care and fewer children leaving care.

Looked after unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC)

In 2017 there were 80 looked after unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) in Hampshire, a sharp increase of 167% compared to a much lower figure of 30 UASC in 2016 (table 2 and figure 2). This rise in looked after UASC in Hampshire is greater than the 8% rise seen nationally for the same period. Implementation of the *National Transfer Scheme*¹ distributing UASC across local authorities is largely responsible for the rise in LAC over this period. Unaccompanied asylum-seeking

children represented 6% of the total LAC population in Hampshire which is identical to the national proportion.

Table 2: Numbers of looked after UASC

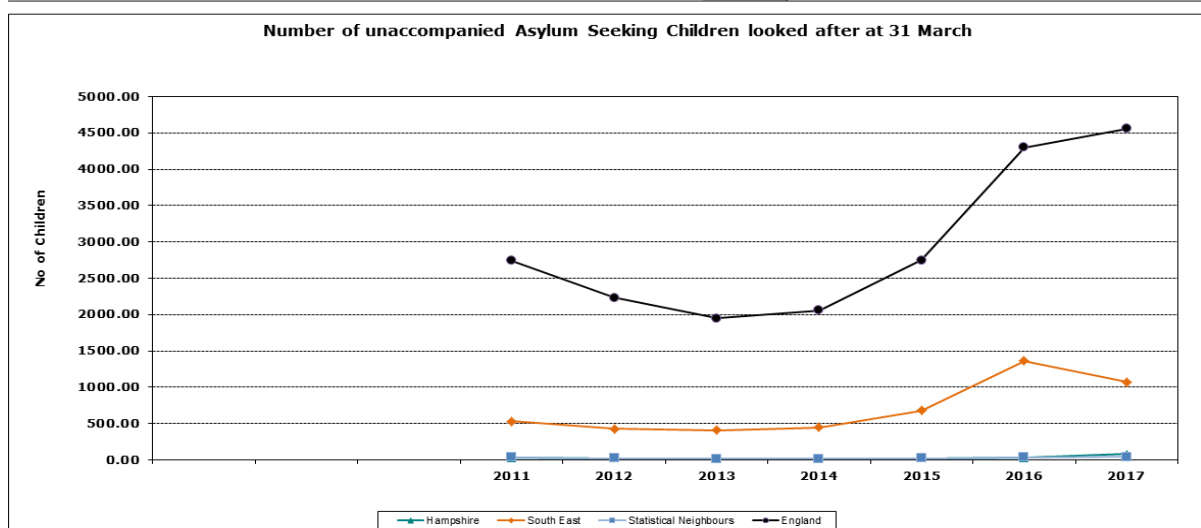
Year		Numbers
2017	Hampshire	80
	England	4,560
2016	Hampshire	30
	England	4,210
2015	Hampshire	20
	England	2,740
2014	Hampshire	25
	England	2,050
2013	Hampshire	25
	England	1,950

Source: DfE SFR 50/2017

Figure 2: Trend in the number of UASC

Local Authority, Region and England	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change from previous year
850 Hampshire	-	30.00	25.00	25.00	20.00	30.00	80.00	50.00
989 South East	-	530.00	430.00	450.00	680.00	1360.00	1070.00	-290.00
Statistical Neighbours	-	33.75	21.11	17.22	15.00	32.50	38.50	6.00
970 England	-	2740.00	2230.00	1950.00	2060.00	2750.00	4560.00	260.00

Local Authority, Region and England	Trend	Change from previous year	Latest National Rank	Quartile Banding	Quartile bands			
					Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including
850 Hampshire	↑	50.00	-	-	-	-	-	-



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Age

Data for 2016/17 in table 3 shows that the majority (42%) of LAC in Hampshire are aged 10 – 15 years old, which is similar to the national picture (39%). The age profile of LAC in Hampshire is very similar to last year, with little change in the proportion of children in each age group. It would appear that the impact of the rise in the number of UASC which tend to older children has not yet influenced the age profile of LAC.

Table 3: Looked after children by age group

Year		Under 1 N (%)	1-4 years N (%)	5-9 years N (%)	10-15 years N (%)	16+ over N (%)	Total No. of LAC
2016/17	Hampshire	53 (4)	198(14)	289(20)	606(42)	294(20)	1,440
	England	3,820(5)	9,170(13)	14,100(19)	28,540(39)	17,040(23)	72,670
2015/16	Hampshire	60 (4)	160 (12)	290 (22)	535 (41)	260 (20)	1,305

	England	3,540 (5)	9,140 (13)	14,090 (20)	27,220 (39)	16,460 (23)	70,440
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Source: DfE SFR 50/2017

Gender

The gender break down of Hampshire's LAC in 2016/17 is also similar to the national picture (see table 4).

Table 4: Gender of looked after children

Year		Male		Female		Total No. of LAC
		Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	
2016/17	Hampshire	819	57	621	43	1,440
	England	40,960	56	31,710	44	72,670
2015/16	Hampshire	725	56	580	44	1,305
	England	39,670	56	30,780	44	70,440

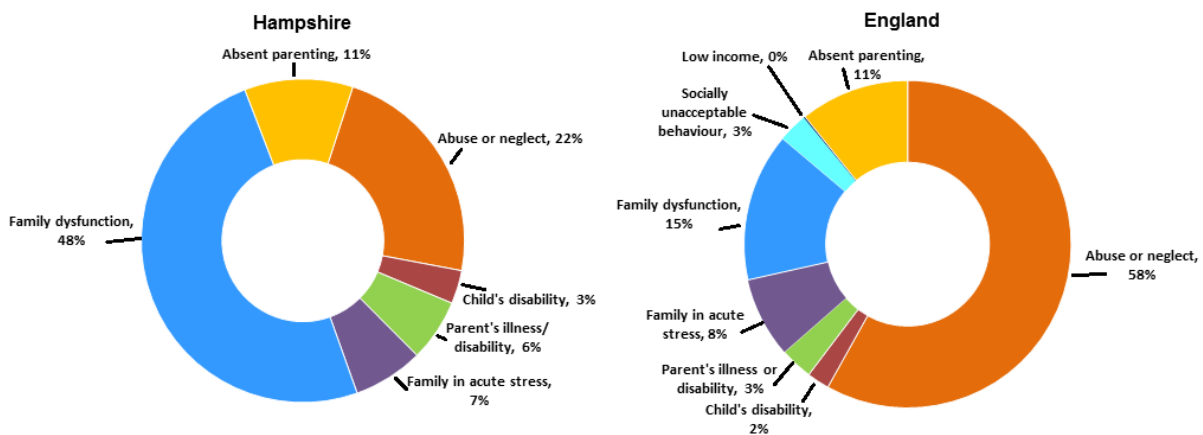
Source: DfE SFR 50/2017

The majority of Looked After Children are boys.

Reasons for being looked after

The reasons for being looked after among the 644 children who started to be looked after in 2016-17 are presented in figure 3 and show the variation in need between Hampshire and England. In Hampshire family dysfunction, 48% (311) accounted for the highest category of need whereas across England it was abuse or neglect 58% (19,060 children).

Figure 3: Reasons for being looked after



Source: DfE SFR 50/2017

Ethnicity profile

Table 5 shows that the ethnicity profile of Hampshire's LAC in 2016/17 reflects the overall ethnicity profile across Hampshire and is similar to the profile in 2015/16. The impact of the rise in the number of UASC has not yet influenced the ethnicity of LAC.

Table 5: Ethnicity of looked after children

Year		White N (%)	Mixed N (%)	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Other ethnic groups	Other N (%)	Total No. of LAC
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				N (%)	N (%)	N (%)		
2016/17	Hampshire	1,277(89)	48(3)	37(3)	26(2)	38(3)	14(1)	1,440
	England	75%	9%	5%	7%	3%	1%	72,670
2015/16	Hampshire	1,180 (91)	50 (4)	25 (2)	10 (1)	20 (2)	20 (1)	1,305
	England	75%	9%	4%	7%	3%	1%	70,440

Source: DfE SFR 50/2017

Locality of placement

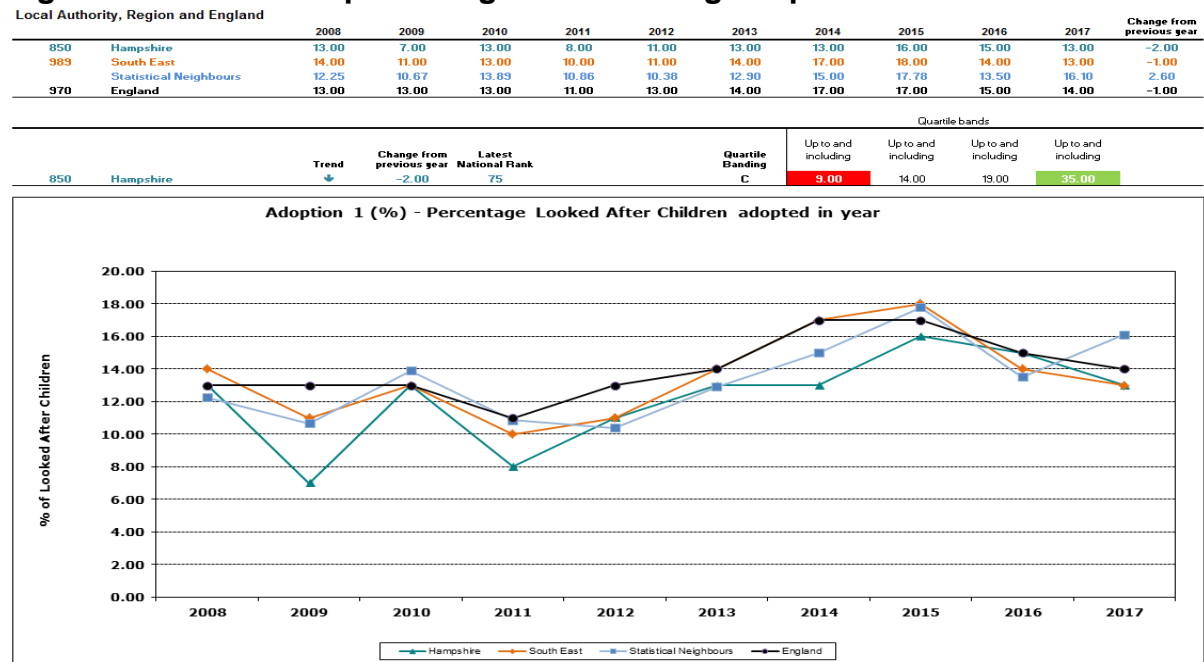
Foster placements

Most LAC are accommodated in foster placements. In 2017 three quarters (75%, 1,074 children) of Hampshire's LAC were cared for in foster placements, a similar proportion to that nationally (74%). Data for 2016/17 show that a high proportion of children fostered were placed within the Council boundary (71%, 1,024 LAC), higher than the national average (60%). Most children in care tend to be placed close to their home, with 980 LAC (68%) in Hampshire placed within 20 miles of their home address, lower than the national proportion (74%). Under one third of LAC (28%) were placed over 20 miles away, compared to 19% nationally. For the remaining 7% the distance from "home" was either not known or not recorded.

Adoption of LAC

In Hampshire of the 530 children who ceased to be looked, 70 (13%) were adopted in 2017. This is a decline of 18% on 2016 when 85 LAC ceased to be looked after due to adoption. Across England there has also been a drop in the numbers of LAC being adopted following the earlier increasing trend in adoptions since 2011, especially from the peak seen in 2014/15 (see figure 4).

Figure 4: Trend in the percentage of LAC being adopted

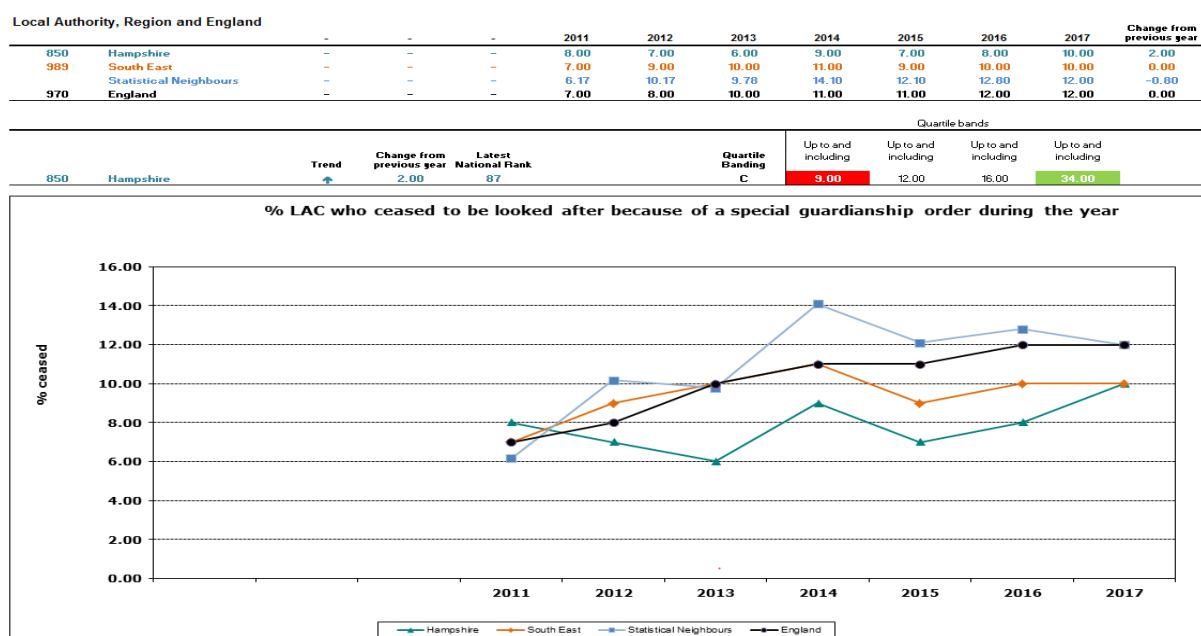


Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Special guardianship order among LAC

A special guardianship order (SGO) is an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's 'special guardian'. It is a private law order made under the Children Act 1989 and is intended for those children who cannot live with their birth parents and who would benefit from a legally secure placement. In Hampshire, 10% of children (51 LAC) ceased to be looked due to a special guardianship order in 2017, compared to 12% nationally. The increasing number of special guardianship orders among LAC suggests a rising trend (figure 5).

Figure 5: Trend in the percentage of SGOs among LAC



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Outcomes for LAC

Health and social needs among LAC

Given the impact that poor physical, emotional and mental health can have on learning, the promoting of good health and acting on any early signs of health issues, will help resolve some of these needs². Children's Services have the responsibility for health care and developmental assessments of LAC to be undertaken by Health Services at each stage of their journey through care to develop plans that meet the breadth of their needs. Information on outcome indicators are available for the 962 Hampshire children looked after at 31 March 2017 for at least 12 months.

Health and development outcomes

Immunisation

'Up-to-date' immunisation reports on whether a LAC has had all the vaccinations that a child of their age should have received by the end of 31 March. The report includes vaccinations which should have been given before the child became looked after. Children who have not received their vaccinations due to parental choice, for health reasons, or because the young person refuses are reported as 'not up-to-date'. Children for whom the local authority are not sure if vaccinations are up-to-date, for example an asylum-seeking child whose early vaccination history is not known, or whose country of origin vaccination requirements are not known, are also regarded as being 'not up-to-date'. Whilst assessment of 'up-to-date' immunisation status is a clinical decision, social services are required to make arrangements via their health plan to achieve full immunisation for that age.

Fewer LAC in Hampshire had 'up-to-date' vaccinations (69%) in 2017 than in 2016, down from 72% in 2016. This means that a third of Hampshire LAC are less likely to be appropriately immunised and may be unprotected, or partially protected against some diseases. In a few cases LAC may actually be even fully protected but this cannot be assumed and is not known.

There are several reasons for the discrepancies in vaccination uptake among LAC. The list of vaccinations prevalent at the time needs to be taken into account. It is not static and when new vaccinations are introduced a proportion of LAC will already be beyond the age range for this. Additionally, some LAC will be under section 20 arrangements¹ (S20s) where the Local Authority does not share parental responsibility and thus it remains parental choice as to whether their child receives any or further immunisations. Other reasons for the fewer 'up-to-date' vaccinations could be due to underreporting of the vaccination uptakes; data flow issues and frequent placement moves. An important factor to consider is the impact of reporting by 'up-to-date' immunisation status in relation to children's flu vaccination. Thus, if a child in an eligible age group for the flu vaccination does not attend, the County Council records the child on the system as being 'not up-to-date', irrespective of whether they receive flu vaccination subsequently and this status will always show as incomplete throughout their LAC time. This results in the reporting for LAC showing lower than they actually are just because they missed the flu vaccination. If the flu vaccination is removed from the data collection the number of children with 'up-to-date' immunisations increases significantly and so these figures need to be better understood.

Whilst the apparent decrease in 'up-to-date' vaccinations could also be due to the increased numbers of UASC, these figures need to be further explored to be fully understood as they are lower than the England average of 84% being 'up-to-date' and ranks Hampshire as the 14th lowest in the country (figures 6 and 7 and table 6).

¹ Section 20 accommodation (S20 Children Act 1989) is where a young person cannot find anywhere to live and may be accommodated by the Local Authority and acquires 'looked after' status. Children's Services have a duty to take such steps which are reasonably practicable to accommodate the young person.

Further, Hampshire does not compare favourably when benchmarked against its CSSNBT statistical neighbours². Traditionally Children's Services have experienced some issues with retrieving immunisation data and work is still in progress to improve this.

² The Children's Services Statistical Neighbour Benchmarking Tool (CSSNBT) provides a method for benchmarking progress by comparing performance against designated Local Authorities deemed to have similar characteristics, known as statistical neighbours.

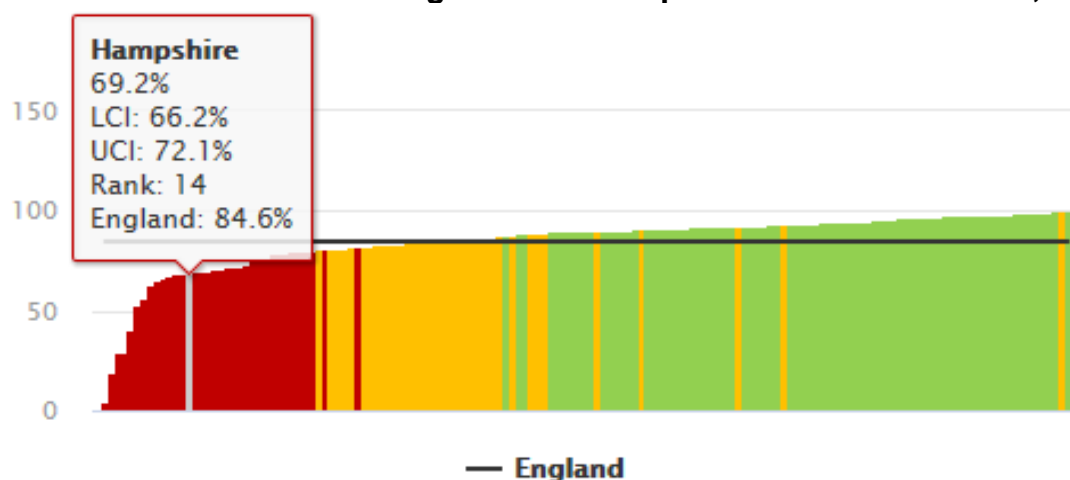
Figure 6: Benchmarking of LAC with up-to-date immunisations, 2017

Area	Value	Lower CI	Upper CI
England	84.6	84.3	84.9
South Gloucestershire	93.7	87.6	96.9
West Sussex	92.8	89.9	94.9
Central Bedfordshire	90.7	86.0	93.9
Cambridgeshire	88.0	84.6	90.8
West Berkshire	85.0	76.7	90.7
Leicestershire	81.2	76.6	85.1
Warwickshire	80.2	76.6	83.4
Hampshire	69.2	66.2	72.1
North Somerset	69.0	61.4	75.7
Worcestershire	29.9	26.0	34.1
Gloucestershire	29.4	25.0	34.2

Source: Department for Education (DfE)

Source: Public Health England (PHE) Child Health Profiles

Figure 7: National benchmarking of LAC with up-to-date immunisations, 2017



Source: Public Health England (PHE) Child Health Profiles

Comparing vaccination uptake amongst LAC with non-LAC poses a challenge and is not ideal. This is because determining 'up-to-date' immunisation status in LAC differs from that used for non-LAC which assesses immunisation status using Public Health England's algorithm for routine vaccination of individuals with uncertain or incomplete status.

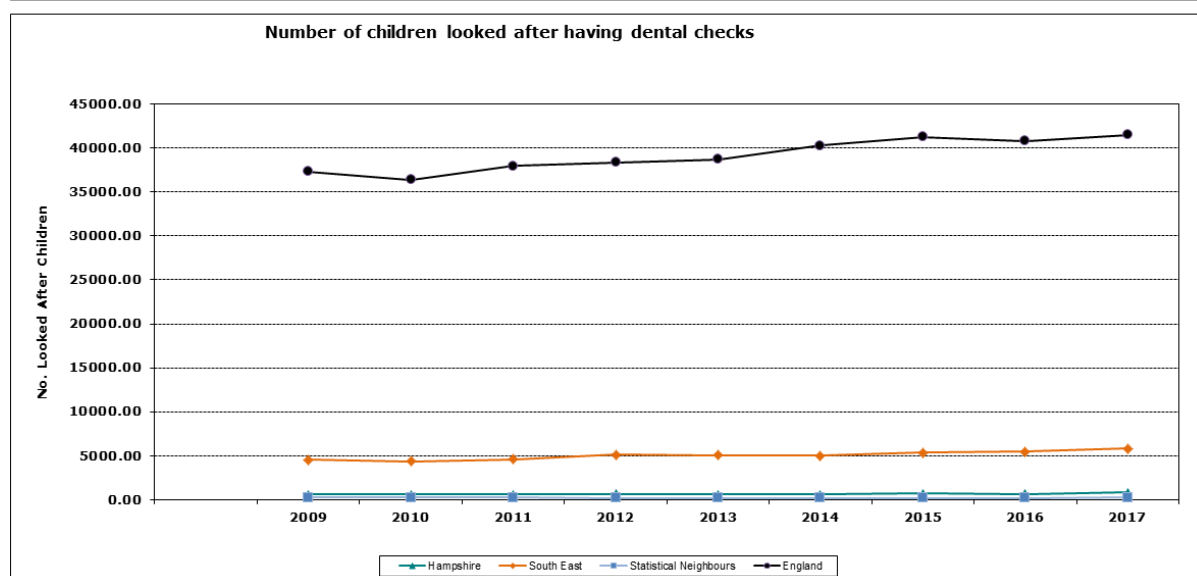
Dental checks

All children covered in this cohort can be expected to have their teeth checked by a dentist, even very young children. Children who have declined to have their teeth checked are recorded as not having received a dental check. In 2016/17, 84% of Hampshire's LAC had their teeth checked by a dentist, similar to the national average. This is an improvement on figures in 2015/16 when 71% of LAC had dental assessments and suggests a positive rising trend in dental assessments in Hampshire (figure 8 and table 6).

Figure 8: Trend in the number of LAC having dental checks

Local Authority, Region and England		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change from previous year	
850	Hampshire	-	630.00	620.00	605.00	645.00	585.00	610.00	690.00	670.00	807.00	137.00
989	South East	-	4540.00	4400.00	4600.00	5100.00	5090.00	5030.00	5330.00	5450.00	5830.00	380.00
	Statistical Neighbours	-	229.50	230.50	231.50	206.00	199.50	206.00	223.00	218.50	235.60	17.10
970	England	-	37300.00	36400.00	37970.00	38370.00	38720.00	40240.00	41250.00	40770.00	41490.00	720.00

		Trend	Change from previous year	Latest National Rank	Quartile Banding	Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including
850	Hampshire	↑	137.00	-	-	-	-	-	-



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Health assessments

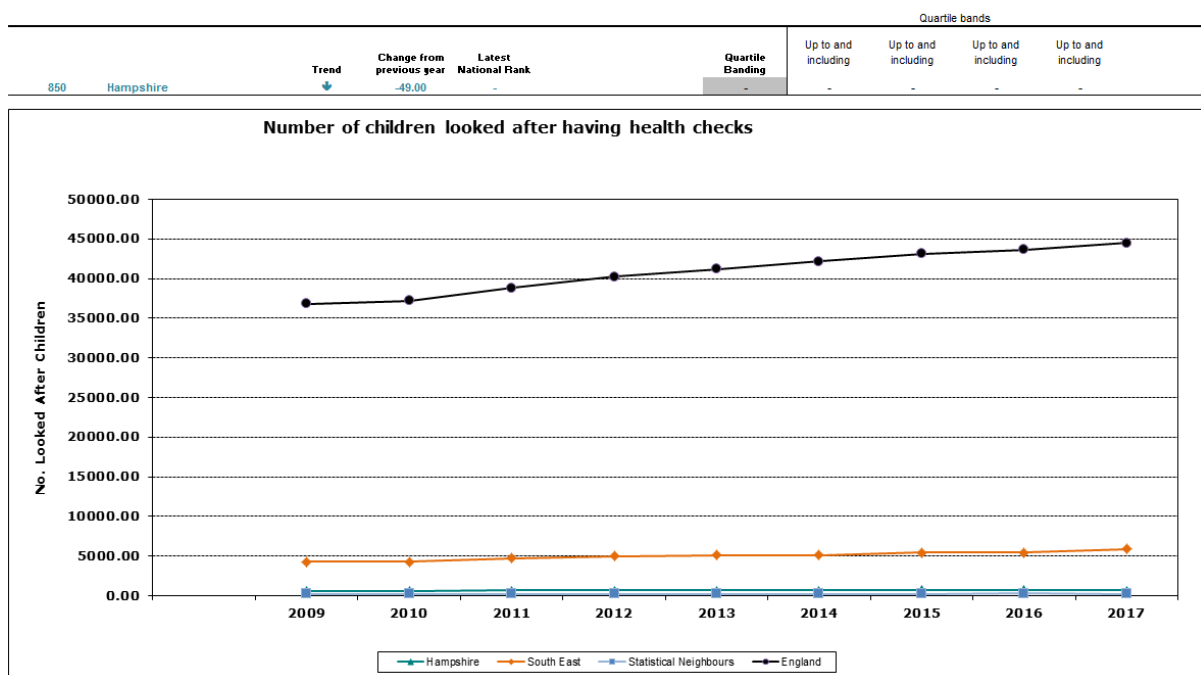
Health assessments must be carried out by a doctor or other suitably qualified professional twice a year for children under 5 years of age. Both these assessments must be carried out for the annual assessment requirement to be satisfied for under 5s. For children aged 5 or over, a single annual assessment fulfils the requirement. Children who decline to have a health assessment are reported as not having received an annual assessment.

The proportion of Hampshire's LAC undergoing annual health assessments was 72%, lower than the proportion in 2015/16 (79%) and the England proportion of 89%. There has been a delay in Health Services allocating LAC to a medical professional for their annual health assessment and a waiting list is in place resulting in health assessments not being completed within the required timescales.

Of the 107 LAC aged 5 years and under, 100 had up-to-date development assessments which is 93% and above the national average of 82%. This is an increase from 90% in 2015/16 and indicates that development assessments of younger children have been prioritised in Hampshire (figure 9 and table 6).

Figure 9: Trend in the number of LAC having health checks

Local Authority, Region and England		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change from previous year	
850	Hampshire	-	585.00	635.00	665.00	660.00	670.00	645.00	725.00	745.00	696.00	-49.00
989	South East	-	4275.00	4300.00	4710.00	4970.00	5100.00	5140.00	5460.00	5470.00	5870.00	400.00
	Statistical Neighbours	-	217.50	220.50	229.00	221.50	227.50	226.50	242.50	259.50	240.50	-19.00
970	England	-	36800.00	37200.00	38840.00	40200.00	41200.00	42140.00	43140.00	43630.00	44490.00	860.00



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Table 6: Health care & development assessments in looked after children

Year		Number of children whose immunisations were up-to-date	Number of children who had their teeth checked by a dentist	Number of children who had their annual health assessment	Number of children aged 5 or younger	Number of these children with up-to-date development assessments	Number of LAC at 31 March who had been looked after for at least 12 months
2016/17	Hampshire	666 (69%)	807 (84%)	696 (72%)	107	100 (93%)	962
	England	41,980 (84%)	41,490 (83%)	44,490 (89%)	4,730	3,900 (82%)	49,750
2015/16	Hampshire	680 (72%)	670 (71%)	745 (79%)	100	90 (90%)	945
	England	42,280	40,770	43,630	5,120	4,260	48,490

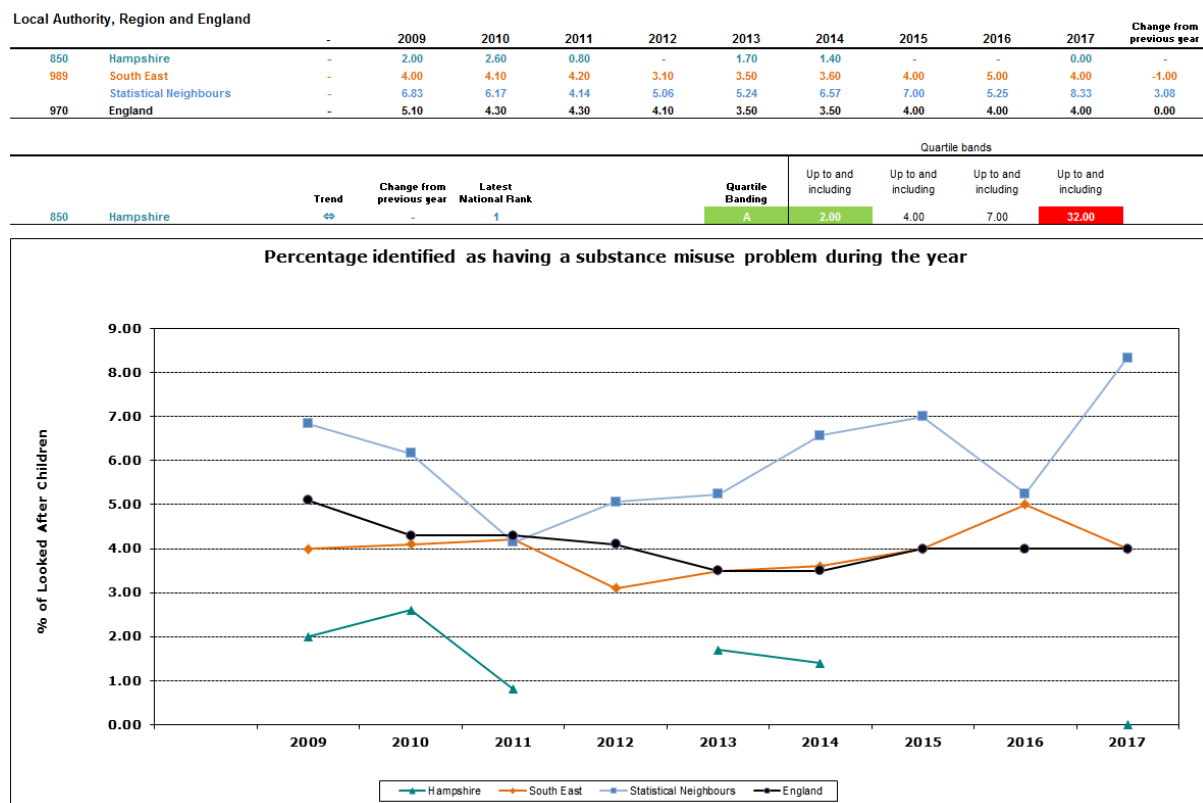
Source: DfE SFR 50/2017

Substance misuse among LAC

Although the exact prevalence of drug and alcohol misuse amongst children and young people is difficult to establish, LAC are more likely to have higher levels of substance misuse problems compared to their peers³. Data in figure 10 and table 7 make it difficult to interpret trends in the prevalence of substance misuse among Hampshire's LAC population. Nationally 4% of LAC were identified as having a

substance misuse problem; the same as in 2015/16 and 49% received an intervention.

Figure 10: Trend in the percentage of LAC having substance misuse problems



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Table 7: Substance misuse in looked after children

Year		Number identified as having a substance misuse problem during the year	Percentage identified as having a substance misuse problem during the year	Number who received an intervention for their substance misuse problem during the year	Number who were offered an intervention but who refused it during the year	Number of LAC at 31 March who had been looked after for at least 12 months
2016/17	Hampshire	0	0	0	0	962
	England	2,040	4%	990 (49%)	690	49,750
2015/16	Hampshire	x	x	0	0	945
	England	1,850	4%	930 (50%)	740	48,490

Source: DfE SFR 50/2017

x = number less than or equal to 5 or percentage where the numerator is less than or equal to 5 or the denominator is less than or equal to 10.

Social outcomes

Emotional & behavioural health

Research⁴ indicates that LAC are five to six times more likely to develop mental health problems than their peers. They have a four to five times greater risk of self-harm and a six to eight times greater risk of conduct disorders. There is a lack of reliable national data and information on suicides among children and young people

in the care system. However, this tends to come mainly from Scandinavia and in Sweden the risk of suicide for care leavers is more than twice the general population risk⁵, Whilst issues around the generalisability of different child welfare systems to LAC in the UK make drawing meaningful comparisons challenging, the detrimental impact of mental health pressures in child welfare systems is being increasingly recognised across most countries. In 2016 work on mental health by several committees prompted a House of Commons Education Committee inquiry⁶ focusing specifically on the mental health and well-being of LAC. Among issues such as access to services, coordination of care, LAC input into service development and support, it highlighted the lack of reliable data about LAC with mental health concerns.

Data for 2016/17 suggest that just over half (51%, 456 children) of eligible LAC with a strengths and difficulties questionnaire (SDQ) score, had 'normal' emotional and behavioural health, 11% had 'borderline' scores and 38% had scores which were a 'cause for concern', similar to the national averages. The level of emotional and/or mental health problems among Hampshire LAC at 14.1 is identical to the national SDQ score (table 8 and figure 11).

Table 8: Emotional & behavioural health of looked after children

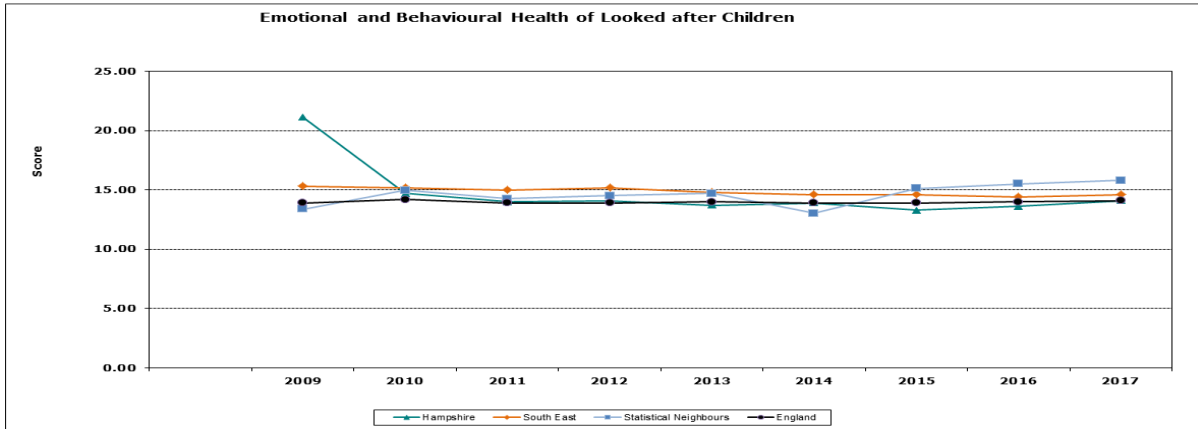
Year		Total number of eligible children aged 5-16	Number of eligible children with an SDQ score	Percentage of eligible children for whom an SDQ score was submitted	Average score per child	Percentage of eligible children with an SDQ score considered		
						Normal - 0 to 13 (%)	Borderline – 14 to 16 (%)	Concern – 17 to 40 (%)
2016/17	Hampshire	746	456	61	14.1	51	11	38
	England	38,010	28,810	76	14.1	49	12	38
2015/16	Hampshire	730	545	75	13.6	51	13	36
	England	36,870	27,610	75	14.0	49	13	38
2014/15	Hampshire	675	450	67	13.3	52	15	33
	England	36,120	25,950	72	13.9	50	13	37
2013/14	Hampshire	580	355	61	13.9	51	11	38
	England	34,770	23,650	68	13.9	50	13	37
2012/13	Hampshire	555	375	67	13.7	52	14	34
	England	33,830	24,080	71	14.0	50	12	37

Source: DfE SFR 50/2017

Figure 11: Trend in emotional and behavioural health of LAC

Local Authority, Region and England			2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change from previous year
850	Hampshire	-	21.10	14.70	14.00	14.10	13.70	13.90	13.30	13.60	14.10	0.50
889	South East	-	15.39	15.20	15.00	15.20	14.80	14.60	14.60	14.40	14.60	0.20
	Statistical Neighbours	-	13.39	14.95	14.27	14.51	14.70	13.03	15.12	15.52	15.79	0.27
970	England	-	13.90	14.20	13.90	13.90	14.00	13.90	13.90	14.00	14.10	0.10

		Trend	Change from previous year	Latest National Bank	Quartile Banding	Quartile bands			
850	Hampshire	↑	0.50	69	B	Up to and including 13.25	Up to and including 14.20	Up to and including 15.25	Up to and including 19.90



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

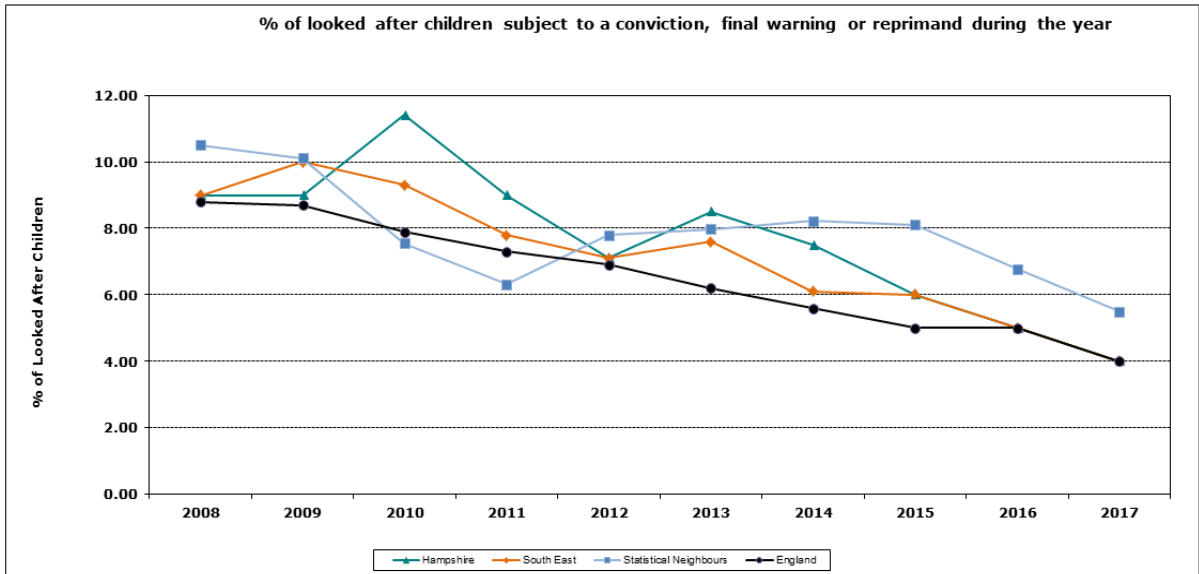
Offending rates among LAC

Four percent of children aged 10 -17 years (25 children out of 654 children aged 10 - 17 years) were convicted or subject to a final warning or reprimand during the year, similar to the national proportion. The latest available data suggest a declining trend and reflects the national direction of travel (see figure 12).

Figure 12: Offending in LAC

Local Authority, Region and England		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change from previous year
850	Hampshire	9.00	9.00	11.40	9.00	7.10	8.50	7.50	6.00	5.00	4.00	-1.00
989	South East	9.00	10.00	9.30	7.80	7.10	7.60	6.10	6.00	5.00	4.00	-1.00
	Statistical Neighbours	10.50	10.11	7.55	6.31	7.79	7.98	8.23	8.11	6.78	5.50	-1.28
970	England	8.80	8.70	7.90	7.30	6.90	6.20	5.60	5.00	5.00	4.00	-1.00

		Trend	Change from previous year	Latest National Rank	Quartile Banding	Quartile bands			
850	Hampshire	↓	-1.00	31	B	Up to and including 3.50	Up to and including 5.00	Up to and including 7.00	Up to and including 13.00



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Educational outcomes

Information on attainment, special educational need (SEN), absence and exclusions are based on LAC data that has been matched to attainment, school census, alternative provision census and where applicable pupil referral unit (PRU) census data. It includes children who have been continuously looked after for at least 12 months up to and including 31 March because 12 months is considered an appropriate length of time to gauge the possible association of being looked after on educational attainment. However, it is important to note that a child may not have been in the care of a local authority for the whole of a key stage period and this may impact on the data.

Recent changes in school accountability systems and assessment models will affect progress and attainment calculations. Progress measures are now published for all schools included in the new national model to cover as many looked after children as possible.

Educational attainment at key stage 2 and key stage 4

Key stage 2

Attainment at key stage 2

At the end of key stage 2, pupils are assessed by national curriculum tests in reading, mathematics and grammar, punctuation and spelling. Pupils also receive a

teacher assessment outcome in writing, science, reading and mathematics based on the standards in the interim frameworks for teacher assessment. The combined measures use the reading and mathematics test results and the outcome of the writing teacher assessment. New key stage 2 assessments were introduced in 2016 to assess the new, more challenging national curriculum and the expected standard was raised. As a result, figures from 2016 onwards are not comparable to earlier years.

In 2017, 28% of LAC reached the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics. It is lower than the 66% attainment for non-looked after children, with a difference of 38 percentage points. However, whilst overall attainment was low, it was higher for individual subjects and ranged from 41% in reading to 57% in grammar, punctuation and spelling (see table 9 and figure 13).

Table 9: Attainment at Key stage 2

Year		% of children attaining expected standard in reading	% of children attaining expected standard in writing as measured by teacher assessment	% of children attaining expected standard in mathematics	% of children attaining expected standard in grammar, punctuation spelling	% of children attaining expected standard in reading, writing, mathematics
2016/17	Hampshire LAC	41	48	41	57	28
	Hampshire NLAC*	76	81	77	78	66
	England LAC	45	47	46	50	32
	England NLAC	72	76	75	77	61
2015/16	Hampshire LAC	42	51	40	47	25
	Hampshire NLAC*	71	80	72	74	59
	England LAC	41	46	41	44	25
	England NLAC	66	74	70	73	53

Source: DfE, SFR20/2018

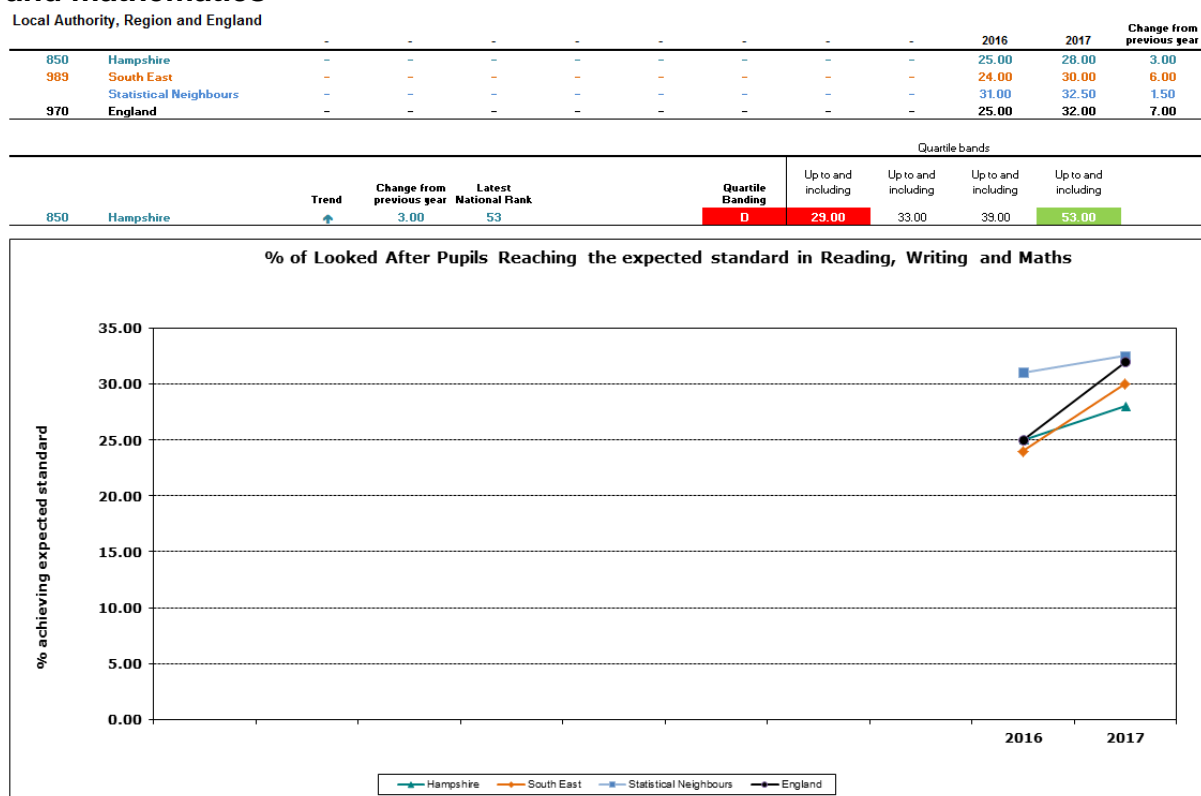
*NLAC - non-looked after children

When comparing the Hampshire LAC cohort at Key Stage 2 with the corresponding national LAC cohort, the data show that for overall reading, writing and mathematics, attainment among Hampshire's LAC is four percentage points below the national LAC result but is above for grammar, punctuation and spelling, equal to national in writing and below for reading and mathematics.

A comparison with statistical neighbours shows a slightly different picture, but these results need to be interpreted with caution due to underreporting by some of the local authorities for some of the Key Stage 2 measures. For instance, attainment of Hampshire's LAC is below the statistical neighbour average for overall reading, writing and mathematics, but this average excludes eight of Hampshire's 11 statistical neighbours, making meaningful interpretation a challenge. Individual subject attainment suggests a more favourable performance among Hampshire's LAC. They had better attainment in reading and writing, grammar, punctuation and spelling and similar attainment in mathematics against the statistical neighbour average, which excluded four of Hampshire's statistical neighbours. Whilst the

limitation around data reporting presents a challenge, year on year improvement at this stage is also difficult as we only have two years of the new curriculum data, which are not comparable with previous years making trend analysis misleading.

Figure 13: Key stage 2 attainment of expected standards in reading, writing and mathematics



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT) CLA-NPD

Progress at key stage 2

Progress measures aim to capture the progress that pupils make from the end of key stage 1 (typically age 7) to the end of primary school (typically age 11). They are a type of value-added measure, which means that pupils' results are compared to the results of other pupils nationally with similar prior attainment. Progress scores are calculated for each of reading, writing and mathematics.

In 2017, the Key stage 2 progress methodology was further refined to allow greater number of prior attainment groups and better comparisons between pupils working below the standard of the tests. Pupils in special schools were included in the calculation of prior attainment groups for the progress measures in 2017. In addition, pupils who were entered for the test but were not awarded a scaled score were also included in progress calculations (whereas they were excluded in 2016).

Table 10 and figure 14 show that in Hampshire for the years shown in the tables LAC progressed less well with higher negative scores in reading, writing and mathematics at key stage 2 compared to the national average for LAC. Compared to

non-LAC, progress was lower for LAC, reflecting the national picture for the cohort. Moreover, the data suggest a fall in progress scores among Hampshire LAC between 2016 and 2017 and that within this timeframe they performed less well. It is important to note that LAC after are not a homogenous group and that individual characteristics and circumstances can result in very different academic profiles year on year. For example, within the 2016-17 cohort, 62% of the cohort had special education needs and or disabilities (SEND) and over a third had some kind of emotional or mental health need and thus getting worse academically. There were 2,518 children who had been in care for fewer than 3 years and whose outcomes were worse than those in the care system for longer. A number of children experienced care placement moves during Year 6 and did not achieve the expected standard.

Table 10: Progress scores at key stage 2

Year		Progress score for reading	Progress score for writing	Progress score for mathematics
2016/17	Hampshire LAC	-2.20	-1.50	-3.10
	Hampshire NLAC*	-0.20	0.00	-0.70
	England LAC	-0.70	-0.90	-1.10
	England NLAC	0.00	0.00	0.00
2015/16	Hampshire LAC	-1.50	-1.10	-2.20
	Hampshire NLAC	0.10	0.60	-0.70
	England LAC	-0.50	-1.00	-1.30
	England NLAC	0.00	0.00	0.00

Source: DfE, SFR20/2018

*NLAC - non-looked after children

Key stage 4

Schools are now judged against attainment 8 (A8), progress 8 (P8), the proportion of pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) and the proportion of pupils achieving the Basics (a grade 4 or better in both English and mathematics). Additionally, in 2017, new, more challenging GCSE courses were examined in these two subjects for the first time. These are graded on a 1 to 9 point scale.

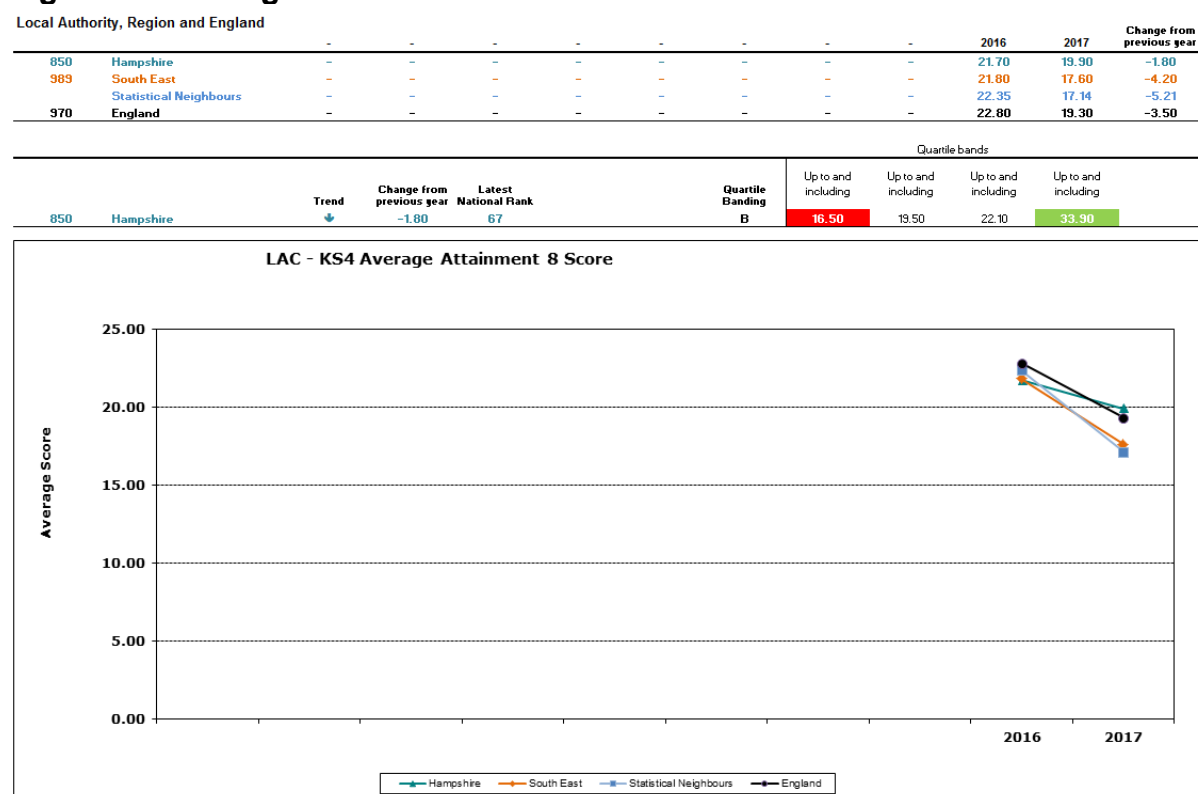
Despite these significant changes, results have improved since 2016 in nearly every measure at Key Stage 4 for Hampshire's LAC, reflecting the strong focus and priority placed on these children by the Virtual School and wider Children's Services.

The performance of Hampshire's LAC particularly improved in English and mathematics for the second year running, placing the cohort above both the national and south east region LAC for this measure (known as 'The Basics'), and second highest amongst its 11 statistical neighbours. The cohort was in line with national LAC for both attainment 8 (2nd highest out of the 11 statistical neighbours) and progress 8 (4th highest out of the 11 statistical neighbours). Further information on attainment 8 and progress 8 is detailed below.

Attainment 8 at key stage 4

Attainment 8 measures the average achievement of pupils in up to 8 qualifications. The average Attainment 8 score for LAC in Hampshire was 19.9, higher compared to 19.3 for LAC in England. Non-looked after children had higher attainment scores for Hampshire (47) and England (44.6). However, this is to be treated with caution as the number of looked after children with 8 qualifications is relatively small. Also, attainment 8 scores in 2017 are not comparable with those in 2016 because they were calculated using slightly different point score scales, in order to minimise change following the introduction of 9-1 reformed GCSEs.

Figure 14: Average attainment 8 score



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT) CLA-NPD

Progress 8 at key stage 4

Progress 8 aims to capture the progress a pupil makes from the end of key stage 2 to the end of key stage 4 and is thus a relative measure. Looked after children in Hampshire progress less well with a progress 8 score of -1.20 compared to the national average (-1.18). With better progress 8 scores of -0.14, non-LAC progress more than LAC. However, it is important to note that the progress 8 measure reflects school type and length of most recent period of care. For Hampshire's LAC, the average progress 8 score declined from -1.05 in 2016 to -1.20 in 2017.

Attainment in English and Mathematics at grades 4 or above

In 2017 pupils sat reformed GCSEs in English language, English literature and mathematics for the first time, graded on a 9 to 1 scale. Attainment is measured by looking at the percentage of pupils achieving grade 4 or above in both English and mathematics (A*-C). Pupils can achieve the English component of this with a grade 4 or above in English language or literature. In Hampshire, 19.6% of LAC achieved grade 4 or above in English and mathematics, placing them above both national (17.5%) and statistical neighbour LAC attainment (16.1%). This result in 2017 also placed the cohort above the national LAC average for the first time. The Hampshire LAC attainment is lower than the 68.3% achievement in non-LAC which also reflects the national picture (see table 11).

When comparing the 2017 reformed GCSEs to the equivalent revised data from 2016, it is important to note the changes in methodology underpinning the 2017 data. The bottom of a grade 1 in reformed GCSEs maps onto the bottom of a grade G of unreformed GCSEs, a grade 4 aligns to the bottom of a grade C and a grade 7 equates to a grade A. So, at 19.6%, LAC achievement of a grade 4 or better in both English and maths in 2017 is higher than the 15.9% performance of a grade A*-C in English and maths in 2016.

Reformed GCSE results are not directly comparable with the earlier non-reformed GCSEs prior to 2016 due to revised content of English language, English literature and mathematics subjects making trend analysis misleading.

Table 11: Percentage attainment in English and Mathematics at grades 4 or above, 2017

Year		% LAC achieving a grade 4 or above in both English and Mathematics	% NLAC achieving a grade 4 or above in both English and Mathematics
2016/17	Hampshire	19.60	68.30
	South East	14.80	66.50
	Statistical Neighbours	16.05	66.88
	England	17.50	59.10

Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT) CLA

Special education need (SEN)

Looked after school aged children are more likely to have a SEN than the general pupil population with around 70%⁷ having SEN and needing additional consideration. Table 12 shows this higher prevalence of SEN with 56.3% of Hampshire's school aged LAC having SEN, compared to 13.9% among the non-looked after pupil population in 2016/17. Over a third (32.8%) of LAC have some form of SEN and 23.5% are statemented. So, it is important that all LAC with SEN receive the educational provision that meets their needs.

Table 12: Special education needs in looked after children

Year		Number of school aged LAC at 31 March who had been looked after for at least 12 months and matched to census data ³	Looked after children with				All non-looked after children with SEN %
			No SEN N (%)	SEN without statement or EHC plan N (%)	SEN with a statement N (%)	Total children with SEN N (%)	
2016/17	Hampshire	707	309 (43.7)	232 (32.8)	166 (23.5)	398 (56.3)	13.9
	England	36,080	15,760 (43.7)	10,670 (29.6)	9,650 (26.7)	20,320 (56.3)	14.4
2015/16	Hampshire	700	295 (41.9)	235 (33.7)	170 (24.4)	405 (58.1)	13.9
	England	35,260	15,040 (42.7)	10,720 (30.4)	9,510 (27)	20,220 (57.3)	14.4
2014/15	Hampshire	665 ⁴	285 (42.6)	215 (32.5)	165 (24.9)	385 (57.4)	13.7
	England	34,820	13,750 (39.5)	11,440 (32.9)	9,630 (27.6)	21,070 (60.5)	14.4
2013/14	Hampshire	535 ⁵	195 (36.8)	195 (36.4)	145 (26.9)	340 (63.2)	14.6
	England	32,870	10,980 (33.4)	12,360 (37.6)	9,530 (29)	21,890 (66.6)	17.8
2012/13	Hampshire	540	185 (34.5)	215 (39.5)	140 (26)	355 (65.5)	16.2
	England	32,510	10,480 (32.2)	12,780 (39.3)	9,250 (28.5)	22,030 (67.8)	17.4

Source: DfE

The accompanying charts (figures 15 and 16) show the prevalence of SEN in school aged LAC aged 4 and above matched to the School Census.

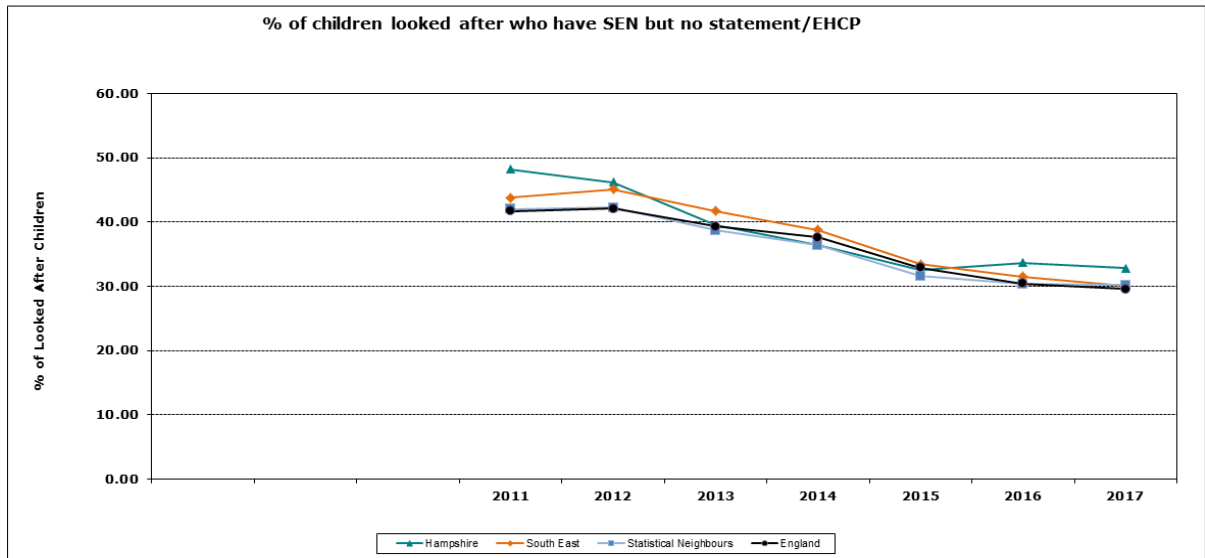
³ Looked after children aged 4 and above who have been matched to the School Census (including Pupil Referral Units) or local authority Alternative Provision (AP) Census. If a child has been recorded on more than one census, then they have only been counted once.

Figure 15: Trend in the percentage of LAC with SEN support

Local Authority, Region and England

				2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change from previous year
850	Hampshire	-	-	48.20	46.20	39.50	36.40	32.50	33.70	32.80	-0.90
989	South East	-	-	43.80	45.10	41.70	38.80	33.40	31.50	30.00	-1.50
	Statistical Neighbours	-	-	42.03	42.21	38.66	36.38	31.56	30.36	30.22	-0.14
970	England	-	-	41.70	42.10	39.30	37.60	32.90	30.40	29.60	-0.80

				Quartile bands					
		Trend	Change from previous year	Latest National Rank	Quartile Banding	Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including
850	Hampshire	↓	-0.90	-	-	-	-	-	-



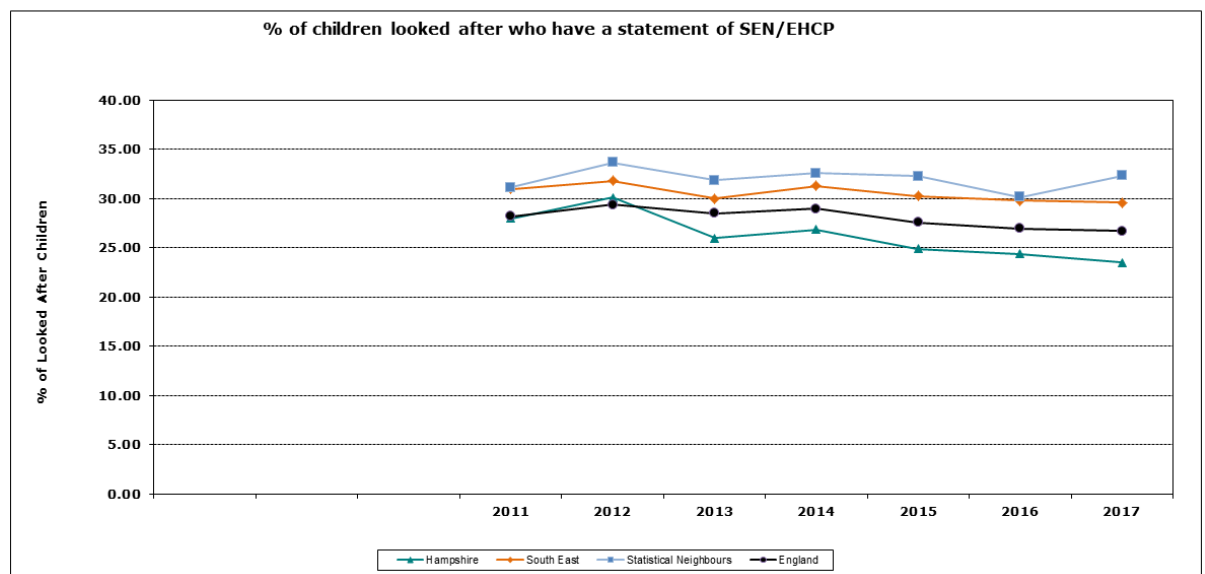
Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Figure 16: Trend in the percentage of LAC with statement of SEN/EHCP

Local Authority, Region and England

				2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change from previous year
850	Hampshire	-	-	28.00	30.10	26.00	26.90	24.90	24.40	23.50	-0.90
989	South East	-	-	31.00	31.80	30.00	31.30	30.30	29.80	29.60	-0.20
	Statistical Neighbours	-	-	31.14	33.66	31.88	32.61	32.27	30.20	32.33	2.13
970	England	-	-	28.20	29.40	28.50	29.00	27.60	27.00	26.70	-0.30

				Quartile bands					
		Trend	Change from previous year	Latest National Rank	Quartile Banding	Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including
850	Hampshire	↓	-0.90	-	-	-	-	-	-



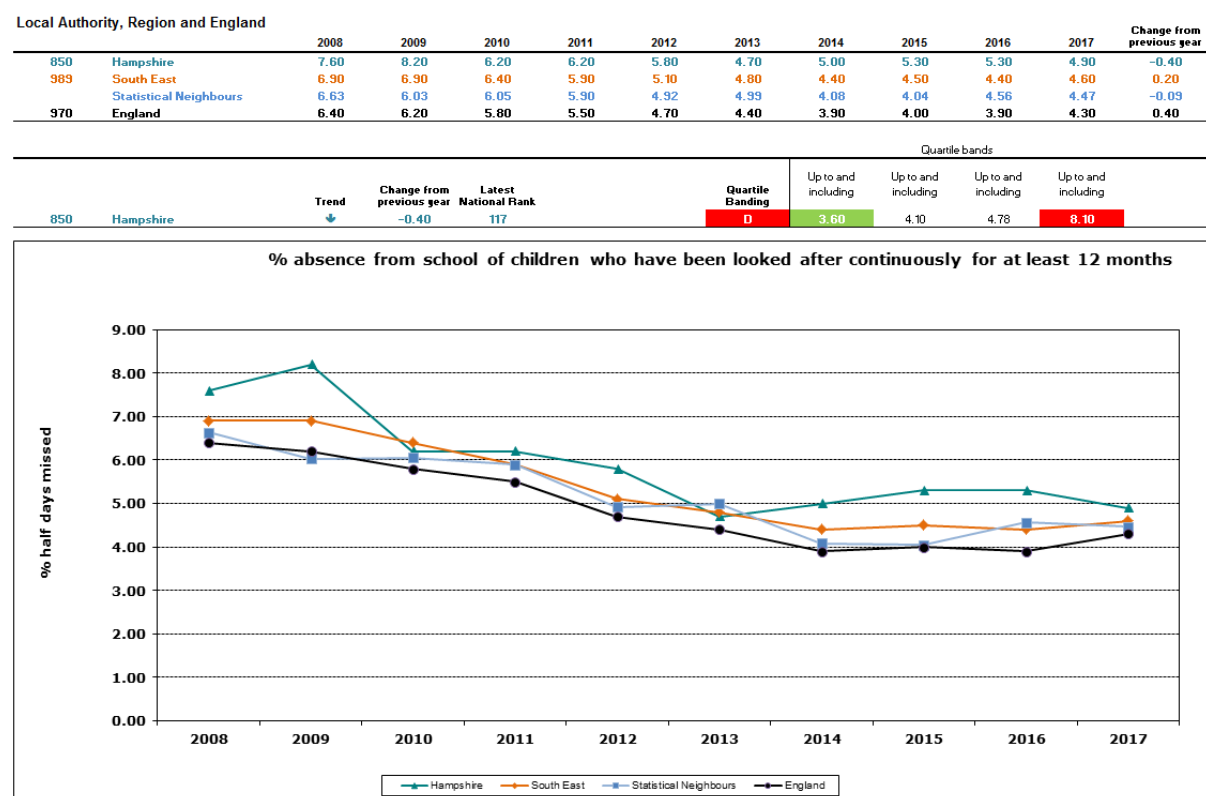
Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Absence from school

Overall absence rates for LAC in Hampshire are higher than for non-looked after pupils, 4.9% versus 4.3% sessions missed. However, nationally the absence rate for LAC at 4.3% is lower than for non-looked after pupils who missed 4.7% of sessions in 2017. The lower rates among LAC nationally are believed to be due to their lower authorised absence rates - 3.1% of sessions for LAC were missed due to authorised absence, compared to 3.4% of sessions for all children. Authorised absence has remained stable at 1.3% of sessions in Hampshire. Hampshire's unauthorised absence rate for LAC at 1.2% of sessions missed is identical to the national figure.

Absence rates for LAC in Hampshire have decreased since 2016 – overall absence decreased from 5.3% of sessions missed in 2016 to 4.9% in 2017. This is in contrast to the National picture which shows an increase in absence rates from 3.9% to 4.3% sessions missed (see figures 17 and 18).

Figure 17: Overall absence from school among LAC

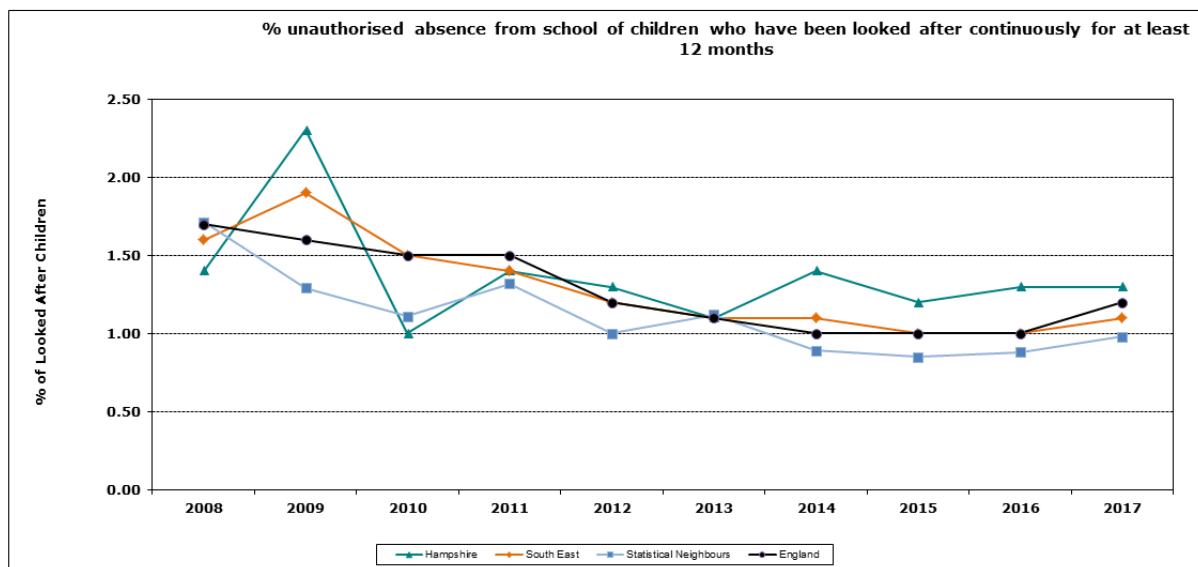


Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Figure 18: Unauthorised absence from school among LAC

Local Authority, Region and England		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change from previous year
850	Hampshire	1.40	2.30	1.00	1.40	1.30	1.10	1.40	1.20	1.30	1.30	0.00
989	South East	1.60	1.90	1.50	1.40	1.20	1.10	1.10	1.00	1.00	1.10	0.10
	Statistical Neighbours	1.71	1.29	1.11	1.32	1.00	1.12	0.89	0.85	0.88	0.98	0.10
970	England	1.70	1.60	1.50	1.50	1.20	1.10	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.20	0.20

		Trend	Change from previous year	Latest National Rank	Quartile Banding	Quantile bands			
						Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including
850	Hampshire	↔	0.00	102	C	0.73	1.00	1.40	3.20



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

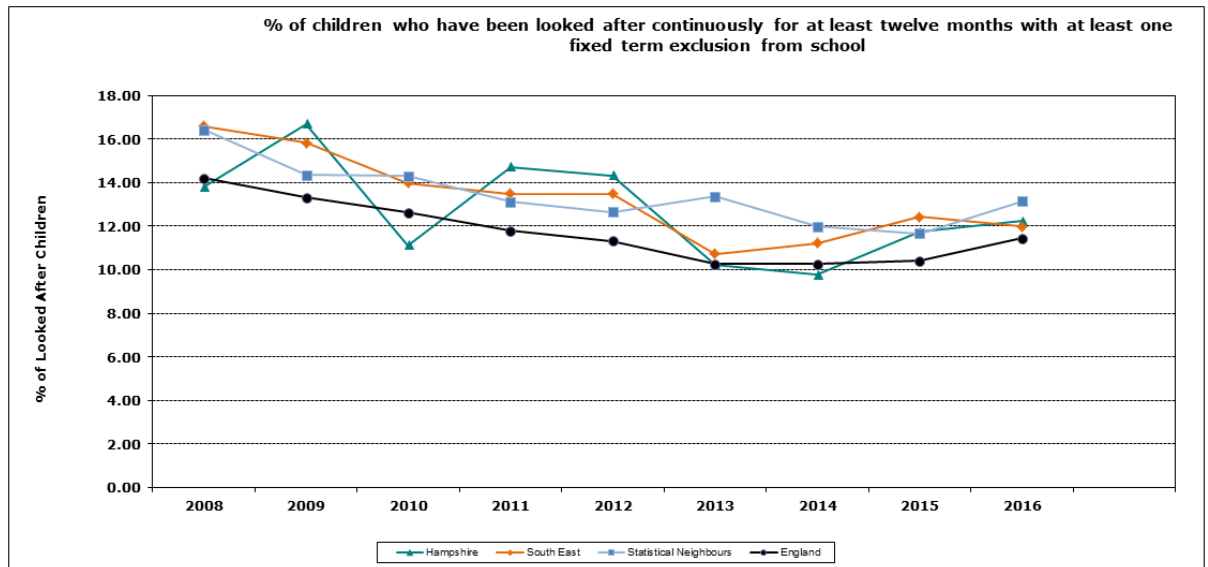
Exclusions from school

Exclusions data are collected two terms in arrears. For example, the summer school census collects information on exclusions occurring during the autumn term. This is to allow time for any independent reviews' panels and governing body reconsiderations to be concluded before supplying information to the DfE. As a result, the latest exclusions data available is from the academic year 2015/16. This is matched to the LAC from year ending 31 March 2016. Thus in 2016, 12.23% of Hampshire LAC had at least one fixed period exclusion which compares unfavourably to the rate of 3.82% for non-LAC. The Hampshire rate is also higher than exclusions nationally (11.44%) and has increased from 11.75% in 2015. There has also been an increase in exclusions among LAC nationally between 2015 and 2016 (see figure 19).

Figure 19: Exclusions from school among LAC

Local Authority, Region and England		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	-	Change from previous year
850	Hampshire	13.80	16.70	11.13	14.73	14.32	10.22	9.76	11.75	12.23	-	0.48
989	South East	16.60	15.83	13.99	13.48	13.48	10.74	11.22	12.43	11.99	-	-0.44
	Statistical Neighbours	16.43	14.36	14.31	13.12	12.66	13.36	11.99	11.66	13.15	-	1.49
970	England	14.20	13.32	12.62	11.79	11.33	10.27	10.25	10.42	11.44	-	1.02

		Trend	Change from previous year	Latest National Rank	Quartile Banding	Quartile bands			
						Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including	Up to and including
850	Hampshire	↑	0.48	85	C	9.78	11.23	13.53	21.54



Source: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

Care leaver outcomes

Care leavers tend to have poor social outcomes such as unemployment, homelessness, mental illness or criminal activity in later life. Whilst the DfE collects activity data on the current cohort of care leaver's participation in employment, education and training and accommodation, it does not capture information on all aspects of their lives.

Not in education, training or employment (NEET)

There were 505 children who turned 19, 20 or 21 in the 2017 who were previously looked after in Hampshire. Activity was known for 82% of these former care leavers, lower relative to the England average (90%).

An estimated 190 (37%) care leavers were not in education, training or employment (NEET) in 2017, compared to 9.7% of peers aged 19-24 in the South East region and 13% nationally who would not have spent time in a care setting. The Hampshire proportion of former care leavers NEET is lower than the national average (40%). About 120 care leavers (25%) were in training or employment, and 20% were in education. Five per cent (25 care leavers) were NEET owing to pregnancy or parenting, compared to 7% nationally. We need to be cautious interpreting year on year changes in proportions as they can easily be affected up or down by knowing the activity of more children.

Information for children age 17 and 18 was collected for the first time in 2016 and due to concerns over the completeness of the data, it has been published as experimental statistics and therefore should be treated with caution. The local authority was in touch with 71% of 17 and 18-year old care leavers, which is lower than the national average of 93%. The data suggest that 32% were in education, 9% in training or employment and 27% were NEET. It is important to note that information was not known for 29%.

Transition to adulthood

Commencing at 16 –18 years, the journey to adulthood among care leavers is much earlier than their peers, who tend to remain at home into their 20s. They are thus less likely to experience smooth transition as they face the complexities of adult life.

A "Staying Put" care arrangement is where a LAC continues to reside with their former foster carer/s and enables young people to experience a transition from care to independence and adulthood that is similar to that which most young people experience, based on need and not on age alone. An estimated 25% of 19 and 20-year old care leavers continued to remain with their former foster carers nationally, but Hampshire appears to have no "Stay Put" care leavers of the 120 who used to live with foster carers based on this DfE submission. We need to be cautious about

reading too much into these data as they are experimental statistics and because local intelligence does show that the Council has several “Stay Put” care leavers.

There are a range of independent and semi-independent living options available that that need to be suitable for care leavers. Accommodation for those care leavers aged 19 to 21 in Hampshire, where the information is known, show that 380 (75%) were in suitable accommodation, 35(7%) in unsuitable accommodation and accommodation was not known for 90 care leavers (18%) in 2017. At 84%, a higher proportion of 19 to 21-year-old care leavers were in suitable accommodation nationally. For care leavers in Hampshire, the most common accommodation was to live independently, 169 (33%). Twelve per cent were living with parents or relatives and 9% were in semi-independent living arrangements.

Conclusion

This report provides useful intelligence on LAC in Hampshire. It concludes that the number of LAC continues to increase with a sharp rise in the number of LAC who were UASC. Overall, there is a mixed picture in terms of outcomes. There are unmet health needs among LAC, with lower proportions receiving annual health assessments, possibly immunisations and higher emotional and/or mental health problems than the national average. However, there’s a positive rising trend in dental assessments and development assessments of younger children under 5. Whilst convictions are declining, LAC continue to have lower educational attainment, a higher prevalence of SEN and increased tendency for exclusions from school than non-LAC. Adoptions have declined. Care-experienced children and young people are also at an increased risk of poor life outcomes when compared to peers who have not spent time in a care setting, with higher NEET levels.

Reporting of “Staying Put” care needs, need to be prioritised to improve the capture of the transition experience among care leavers. More needs to be done, working collaboratively across, public health, children’s services, health, children and families and the voluntary sector. Potentially, outcomes for LAC would be better achieved with closer integration across services through a whole system approach. Health Services need to be in a position to provide the required health assessments for LAC. The report recommends that these findings inform service provision for LAC to improve life chances for this vulnerable group of children.

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