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| REPORT TO: | Corporate Parenting Panel 13 November 2019 |
| SUBJECT: | Children Looked After Health (CLA) Commissioning and Performance |
| LEAD OFFICER: | Fiona Simmons – Designated CLA nurse Julia Simpson – Designated CLA doctor Laura Saunders – Senior commissioning manager |
| CABINET MEMBER: | Cllr Alisa Flemming, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learning |
| WARDS: | All |
| <p>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON:</p> <p>The commissioning and provision of effective, safe and efficient services for children and young people who are looked after supports the corporate objective “Our children and young people thrive and reach their full potential”</p> <p>These services are commissioned by the Children and Maternity Integrated Commissioning Team on behalf of Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCCG) and Local Authority, some meet statutory requirements. Through working on behalf of both the CCG and Council the team aims to develop high quality services where health and social care services are appropriately integrated to improve outcomes for children and young people.</p> <p>Designated CLA professionals are employed by the CCG to support commissioning functions by providing expert clinical advice. This is to ensure that services delivered offer value for money and the CCG is assured that the children and young people in the care of the borough are being safeguarded, and their health needs identified and met.</p> <p>NHS Safeguarding Accountability and Assurance Framework- 2015</p> <p>Corporate Plan for Croydon 2018-2022</p> | |
| <p>FINANCIAL IMPACT</p> <p>No financial considerations for the Local Authority</p> | |

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| <p>1. RECOMMENDATIONS</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Panel to note the report which is an update on arrangements for improving health outcomes for Croydon’s Children Looked After including initial health assessments, review health assessments and CLA emotional and mental health and wellbeing.</p> |
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2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report appended is in response to the Panel’s request for an update on health commissioning arrangements, service delivery and performance for children looked after including:

- Initial Health Assessment Performance
- Review Health Assessment Performance
- Children Looked After emotional wellbeing and mental health services

3. DETAIL OF YOUR REPORT

“Assessing, reviewing and improving the health and wellbeing of children looked after” report is appended.

4. CONSULTATION

This report has been produced in collaboration between health commissioners, the designated CLA professionals, health provider leads and Council Improvement leads.

5. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

No financial implications of this report.

6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

No legal implications of this report.

7. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

There are no human resources impacts of this report

8. EQUALITIES IMPACT

There are no equalities impacts of this report

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

There are no environmental impacts of this report

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

There are no crime and disorder reduction impacts of this report

11. DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS

There are no data protection implications of this report.

11.1 WILL THE SUBJECT OF THE REPORT INVOLVE THE PROCESSING OF 'PERSONAL DATA'?

Not applicable

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APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT

None

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

1. Assessing, reviewing and improving the health and wellbeing of children looked after” report.

Assessing, reviewing and improving the health and wellbeing of children looked after.

Introduction.

In response to the Panel's request for an update on the health of children looked after, this report is presented in four parts including:

1. Initial Health Assessment Performance
2. Review Health Assessment Performance
3. Performance of Emotional wellbeing and mental health services for Children Looked After
4. Commissioning developments

Part 1 - Initial Health Assessment Performance

The Children and Maternity Integrated Commissioning (CMIC) team on behalf of Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) commissions:

- Coordination and administration of arrangements for delivery of initial health assessments from the Children Looked After nursing service at Croydon Health Service (CHS)
- Delivery of 6 initial health assessments per month from the Children's Medical Service at CHS
- Delivery of up to 48 initial health assessments per month from North Croydon Medical Centre GP practice
- Delivery of initial health assessments when required from other health providers when children and young people are placed beyond 20 miles from Croydon's boundaries.

Performance for Initial Health Assessments is routinely monitored through quarterly contract review meetings and reported to the Children Looked After multiagency Health and Wellbeing Group. Improving the performance (including uptake, speed of delivery, quality and shared information across health and social care) is a key priority of the Children's Improvement Programme Health Action Plan.

Governance for performance and delivery of health assessments sits within the Directorate for Quality and Performance in the CCG and this is monitored on a bimonthly basis.

Performance is measured using the entry point into care for the previous month i.e. May 19 performance is for children with a point of entering care (POC) in April 19 as this is the most reliable method for reporting activity. The data in Figure 1 has been taken from social care and health commissioning data.

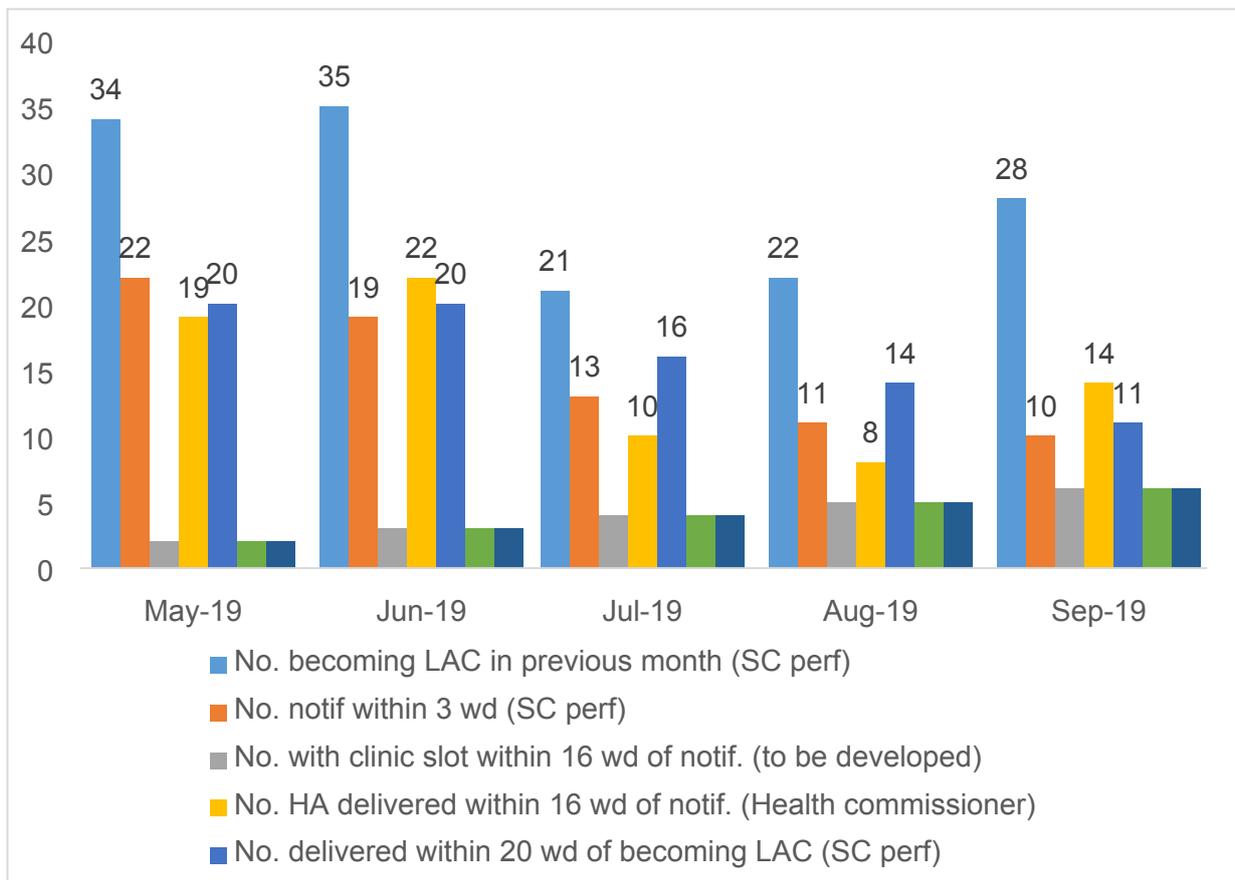


Figure 1: Initial Health Assessment performance data

Commentary:

- April-July an average of 56% of IHAs were requested by social care within 3 working days (target 75%), however in August this fell to 50% and September 44%
- May-July an average of 60% of IHAs were delivered within 16 working days of request – local providers (target 75%): however by September 2019 this had declined to 50%
- May-July an average of 64% of IHAs delivered in partnership within 20 working days of child becoming looked after (target 75%): however by September this had fallen to below 50%

From September 2019, monitoring began for the number of children who have not received an initial health assessment within 20 days. The first cross-referenced social care and nursing report showed that there were 23 CLA who had become looked after before July 2019 and had not received their IHA. Of these 10 had refused to attend, a further 4 were placed out of borough and for the remaining 9 the reason was not given. ‘Were not brought’ rates continue to remain higher than the target of 20% and this continues to be a barrier to timely IHA completion.

Work is underway between CLA health colleagues and the performance team in the local authority to ensure that the reporting process is standardised across the partnership. Pathways across the CLA health service are being reviewed to ensure that joint working and communication between local authority and health is robust. This will ensure that an escalation process is in place to:

- Effectively capture those reasons for, and any emerging themes around non-attendance.
- Actively encourage uptake of appointments for initial health assessments.

Where themes are identified, the partnership will work collaboratively to address gaps in the process to enable it to be a seamless one.

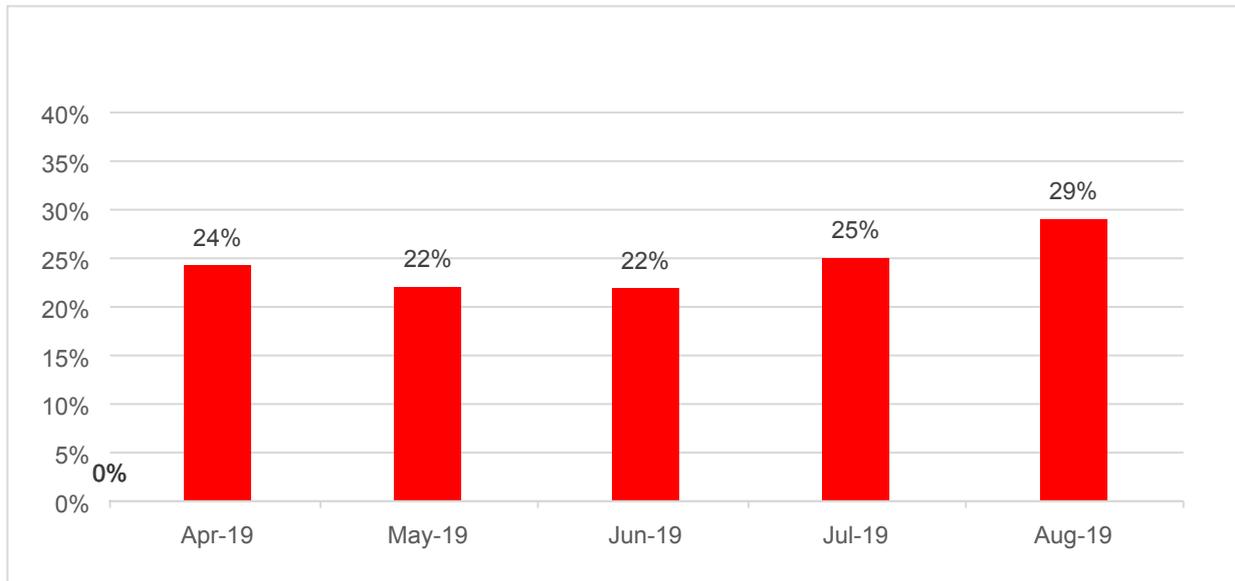


Figure 2 IHA - % performance in relation DNA rate for local providers (target is less than 20%) Data Source CLA Nurses Performance Report Sep 2019

Part 2 - Review Health Assessment Performance

Review health assessments should be completed every 6 months for children under 5 and every year for those over 5. Croydon CCG commissions:

- Coordination, administration and delivery of review health assessments from Children Looked After nursing service at Croydon Health Service (CHS)
- Delivery of review health assessments from health providers in those instances where Croydon's children looked after are placed beyond 20 miles from the borough.

Figure 3 highlights current performance and demonstrates that work is required to meet the target of 95%. The table relates to those children placed in care for a period of 12 months who have received a health assessment.

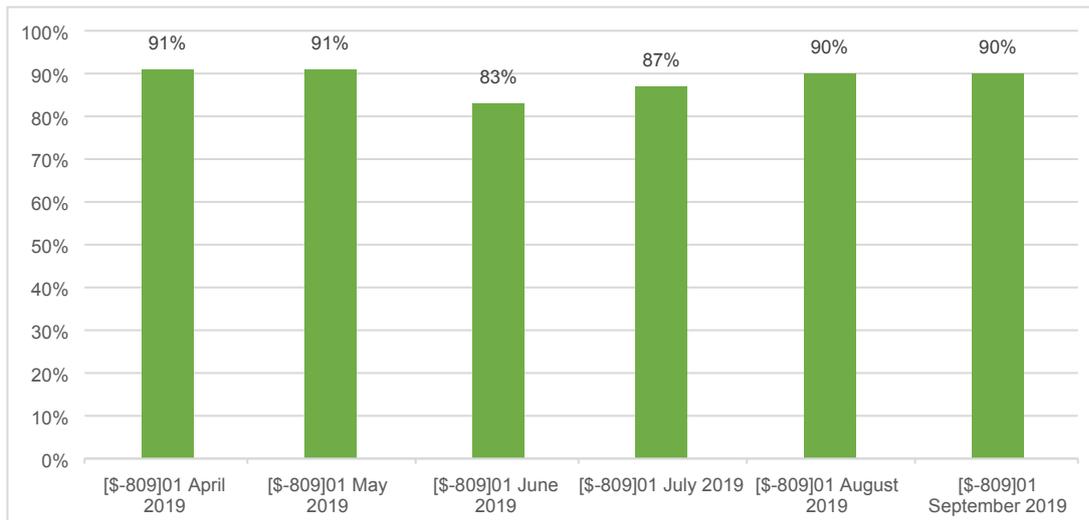


Figure 3: % CLA in care at least 12 months who have had a health assessment

'Were not brought' rates for RHA is considerably lower than that of IHA's. The target for DNAs is below 20% which other than June 2019 the service was successful in achieving (Figure 6).

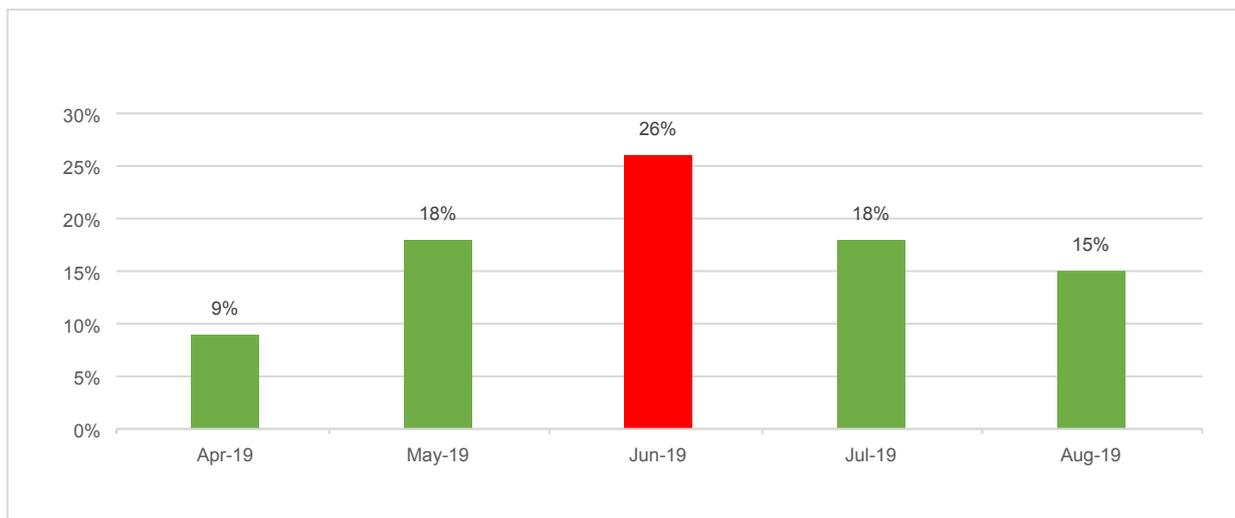


Figure 4; RHA DNA's for local CLA nursing service (target is less than 20%)

Part 3 – Performance of Emotional wellbeing and mental health services for Children Looked After

The Children and Maternity Integrated Commissioning service on behalf of Croydon Council commissions:

- A specialist CLA CAMHS service from South London and Maudsley NHS Trust
- Compass - a specialist counselling service for UASCs from a voluntary sector organisation - Off the Record

In Q1 and 2 2019/2020 there were 31 and 35 referrals respectively of CLA to the CLA CAMHS service provided by SLAM. This is an increase since last year when referral averaged on 25 per quarter.

During 2018/219 the numbers of CYP accepted into treatment averaged 16 per quarter. Q1 2019/2020 there were 22 CYP accepted into treatment.

SLAM discharged 63 children during 2018/2019, an average of 16 per quarter. In Q1 2019/2020 15 CYP were discharged.

This data suggests reasonable flow in and out of the service while individuals receiving the service for on average 74 weeks.

Off The Record (Compass) provides a counselling service to 14-24 year olds UASC (unaccompanied asylum seeking CYP). Data for 2018/19 shows that 69 children and young people were referred for treatment and all received an intervention. In Q 2019/2020, 49 referrals were received and all received an intervention. From April 2018 to June 2019 21 have been discharged after receiving treatment.

Part 4 - Commissioning developments and next steps

Commissioners and CLA health professionals are working with the social care improvement team to review the initial health assessment pathway and improve quality of assessments. A pathway has been developed and is currently being imbedded, whilst being reviewed at the multi-agency CLA health operational group. The governance for this lies with the CLA Health and Wellbeing Board whose strategic actions are recorded in the Children's Improvement Action Plan. The following also absorb some of these actions:

- The CQC Children Looked After and Safeguarding (CLAS) action plan
- Safeguarding inspection outcome action plan.

The plans include better communication between professionals to ensure that the children and young people in our care are receiving good quality services that are meeting their individual health needs. Lead professionals are also listed alongside actions in an effort to encourage ownership of pathways and of good service delivery.

Contracts and provider performance will continue to be managed robustly by the Children and Maternity Integrated Commissioning team.

Overall governance of reporting and performance is monitored by the Quality and Performance directorate, which in turn reports to the Quality Committee in the CCG.

Commissioning developments for emotional and mental health of CLA includes co-location of elements of the CLA CAMHS service with Council CLA service to strengthen integrated working to deliver improved access and outcomes. This should support with the increase of referrals which have been identified as low by the CLA Health and Wellbeing board.

There is also ongoing work strengthening integration of voluntary sector provision to support improved access and outcomes.

In addition to the developments specifically related to IHAs, RHAs and Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Services there are a number of actions, reviews and service developments being considered and proposed by the CLA Health and Wellbeing Board. All professionals who are involved in the delivery of health services to the

Croydon Children Looked After population will therefore play an active role in the following:

- Improved processes in health service delivery for those children and young people placed Out of Borough. This is ongoing and is reviewed on a bi monthly basis as part of the Health and Wellbeing board. Improved communication across the partnership mean that professionals are able to hold extraordinary meetings whenever the need arises
- Articulation of health offer for care leavers. This includes the implementation of a health passport by the end of January 2020. A small task and finish group has been convened to finalise logistics, costing, and determine the cohort who will initially receive the passports.
- Development and implementation of a health pathway for children with special education needs and disability (SEND)
- Improvements in immunisations and dental uptake in the Children Looked After population. The CLA designates are working with Public Health principals to devise pathways for uptake of oral health and immunisation services in the borough. A small task and finish group has been convened, with the aim of updating the Health and Wellbeing board about progress made in early January 2010.
- Completion of a CLA health needs analysis led by Public Health to determine the health needs of the CLA population. This will ensure that the CCG is commissioning services that meet their needs, improve their health outcomes and ensure that the children and young people in this cohort are safeguarded. The estimated date of completion for this piece of work is April 2020.