



Sandwell

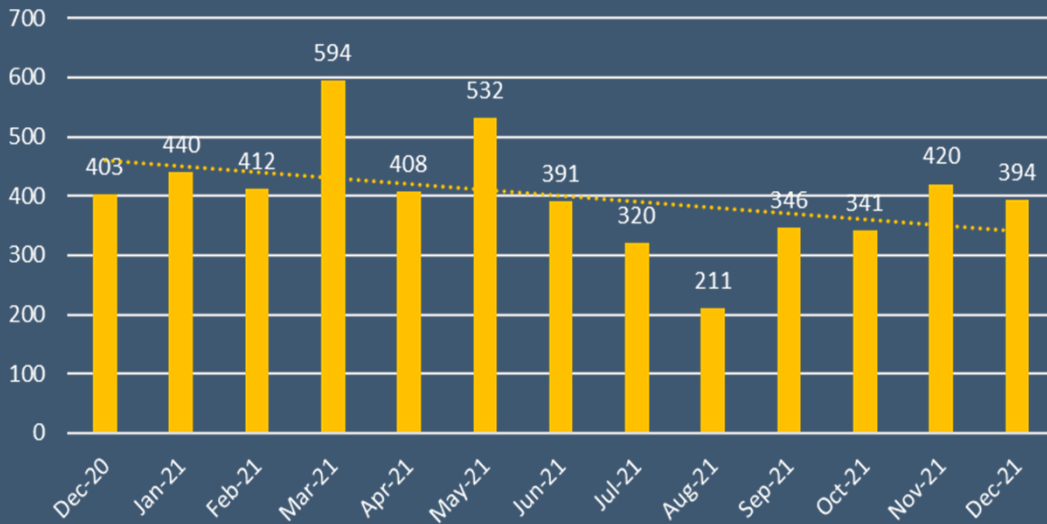
Children's Trust

**Key Performance – December 2021
(indicators comparative to Statistical
Neighbours, England and West Midlands)**

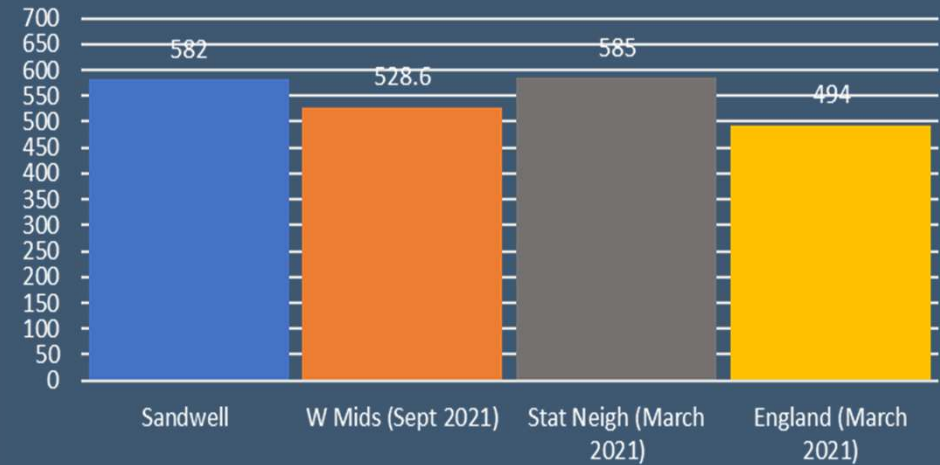
Scrutiny 14 February 2022

Referrals

Number of Referrals



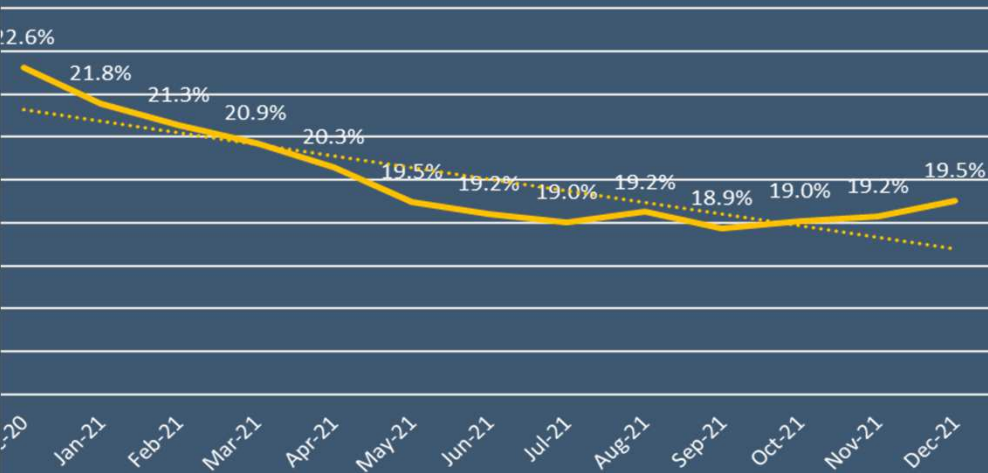
Referral Rates Per 10,000



- Last 12 months- referrals decreased to 582 per 10,000
- Rate for the prior 12 month was at 710 per 10,000
- SCT now lower than SN average- more in line with England and West Midlands average

e-referrals

Re-referral % in last 12 months



Re-Referral %



- Rates have reduced from 22.6% last year to 19.5% this year
- Now over 3.5% lower than our West Midlands comparators

Assessments

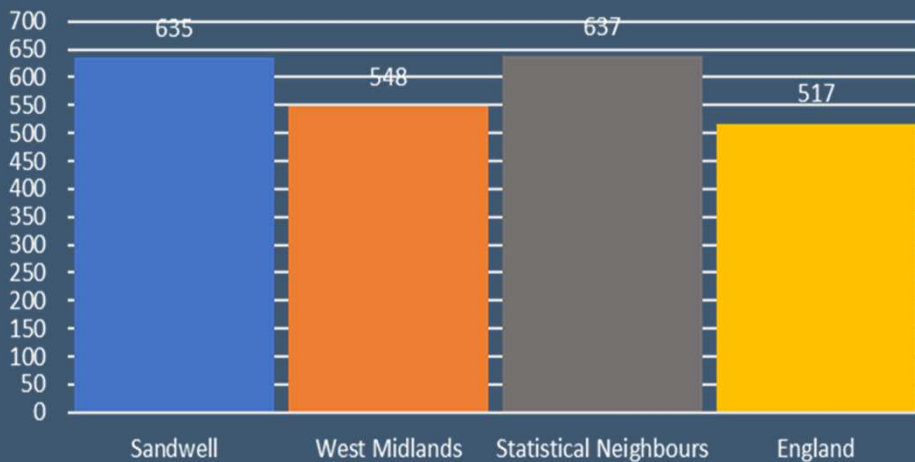
The Percentage of Single Assessments completed within 45 working days



Single Assessments within 45 working days



Assessment Rates Per 10,000



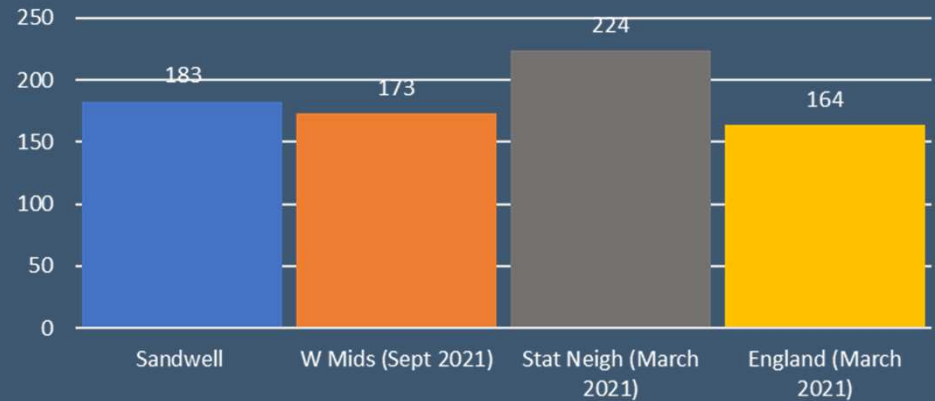
- **Fluctuated last 12 months 71% to 94%**
- **December 2021- 78.5%**
- **Average over the last 12 months- 83% (above West M average, slightly below SN and England Average)**
- **Rate of single assessments per 10,000 over last 12 months has reduced from 718 per 10,000 (March 2020) to 635 per 10,000**
- **Last 6 months- 529 per 10,000**
- **Now in line with our SN comparators**

Section 47 enquiries

Number of S47s



S47 Rates Per 10,000



Based on the 12 monthly rate- trajectory for the 12 months is a rate of 183 per 10,000

Significantly lower than 2018-18 rate of 312 per 10,000

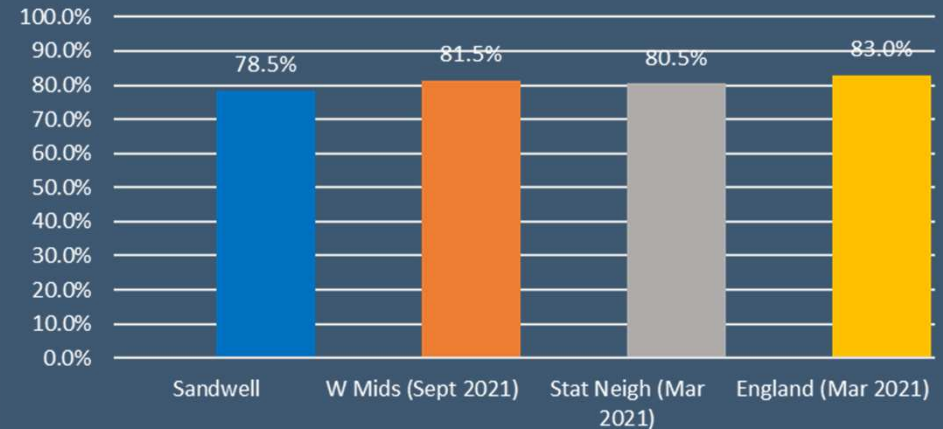
Current rate is below SN average and in line with regional comparators

Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs)

% Initial child protection conferences held within 15 days of the strategy discussion



Initial Child Protection Conferences within 15 working days



December 2021- 78.5% of ICPCs completed within 15 working days- slightly below SN

Last 12 months- timeliness is 86.6%- above comparators.

ICPC rate- now below SN comparators –from 110 per 10,000 to 65 per 10,000 (SN average 84.4)

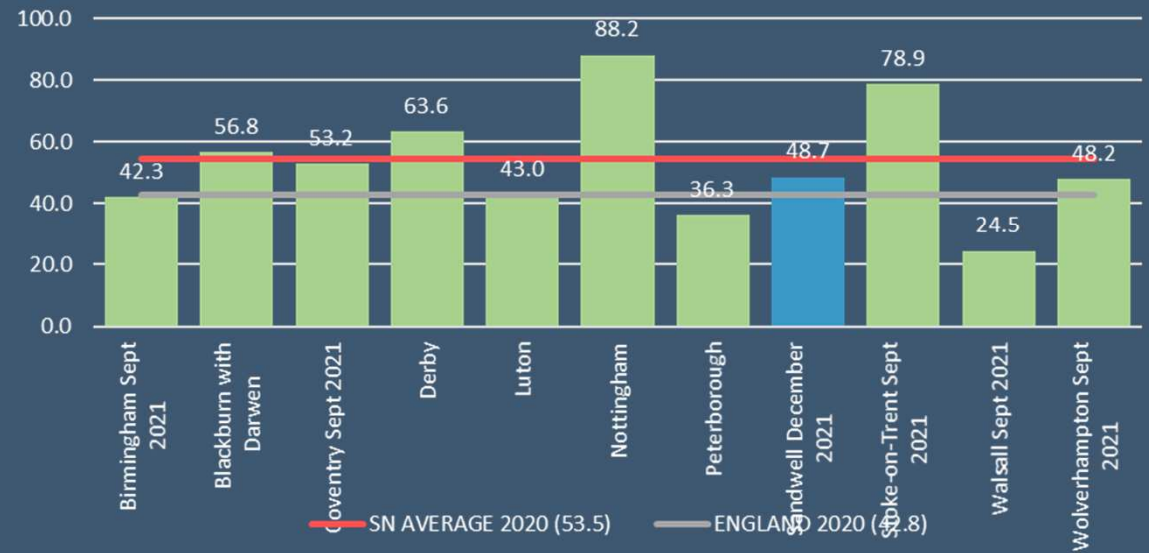
85% ICPCs resulted in a CP Plan, threshold seems to be more in line with what we would expect.

Child Protection Plans (CPP)

Number of Children with a Child Protection Plan



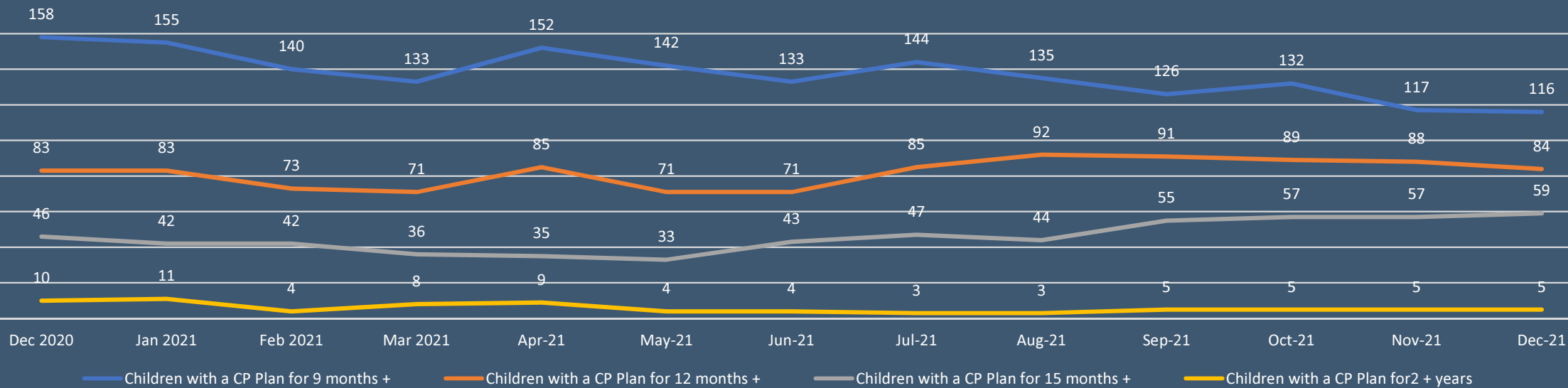
Rate of Child Protection Plans per 10,000 comparison to Statistical Neighbours



- Last 12 months- reduction in children on CPP - 576 to 404 (rates 69.8 to 48.7 per 10,000).
- Below SN average- more in line with West Midlands and England Averages.
- December 2020 and December 2021- 465 new CPP and 664 removed from CPP

Child Protection

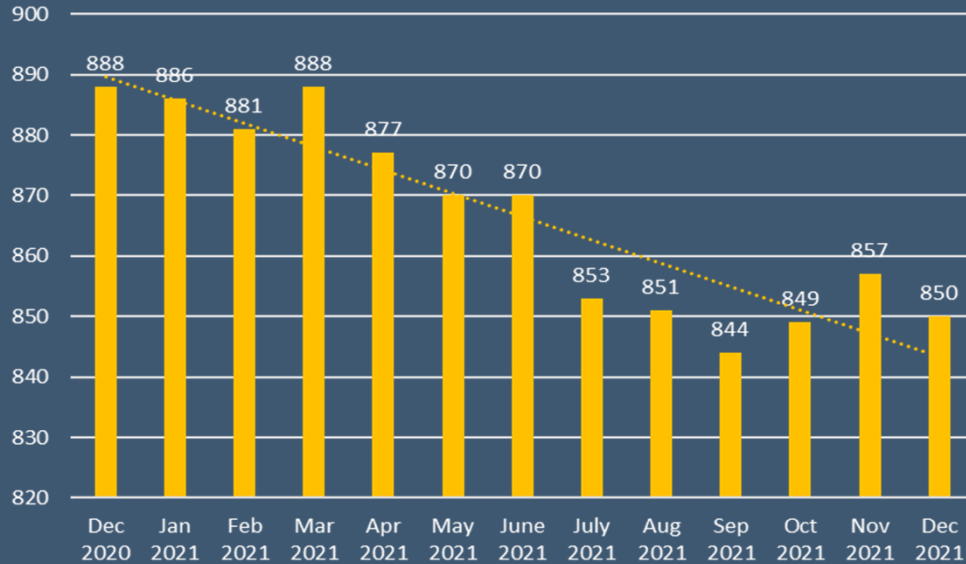
Children subject of a CP Plan for 9 months +, 12 Months +, 15 months + and 2 + years



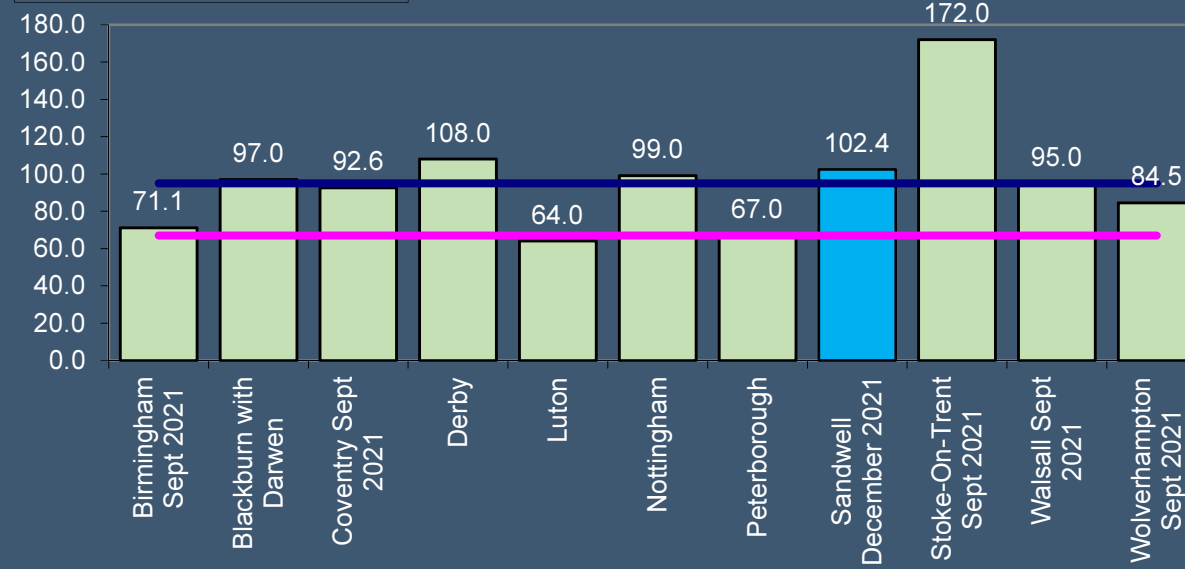
- 5 Children on a CPP longer than two years (equates to 1.2% of cohort)
- 1.6% below our SN average
- Of our current cohort of children who have previously been on a CPP within two years equates to 41 - 10.1% -
- Compares well with September regional average of 11.4%

Children in Care

Number of CIC at month end



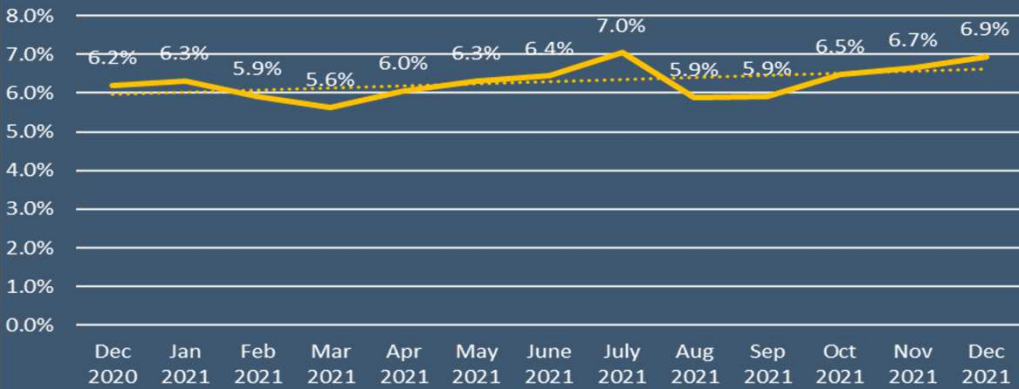
CIC Rate Per 10,000
 SN AVERAGE 2021 (95)
 ENGLAND 2021 (67)



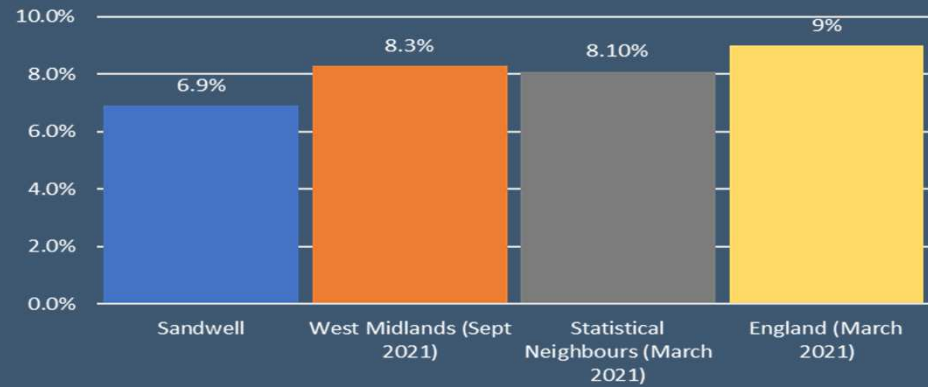
- 1 January 2021- 31 December 2021- 160 children entered care- 19.3 per 10,000
- Lower than SN comparators (24 per 10k) and lower than West Midlands average (24.9 per 10k)
- 184 left care- 22.2 per 10,000- is in line with West Midlands (22.1) although lower than SN (27.6)
- 31 December- 850 children in care (102.4 per 10,000)- reduction from 888 previous year (107.7)
- Currently- SN average 95 per 10,000

Placement Stability

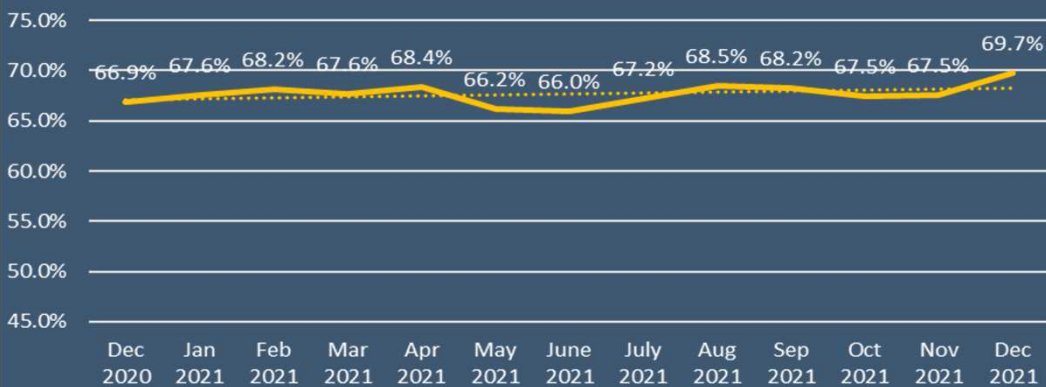
% Children in Care with 3+ Moves



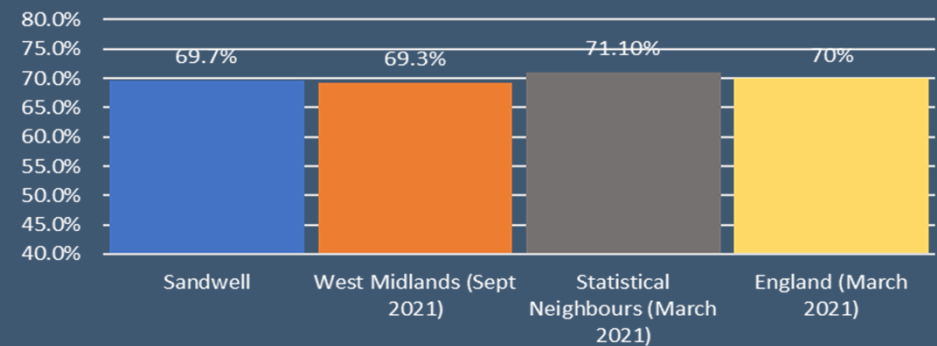
Children in Care with 3 or more Placement Moves in the last 12 months



% Children in Care in Same Placement for 2 + Years



Number of Children in Same Placement for 2+ years (2.5 years CiC)

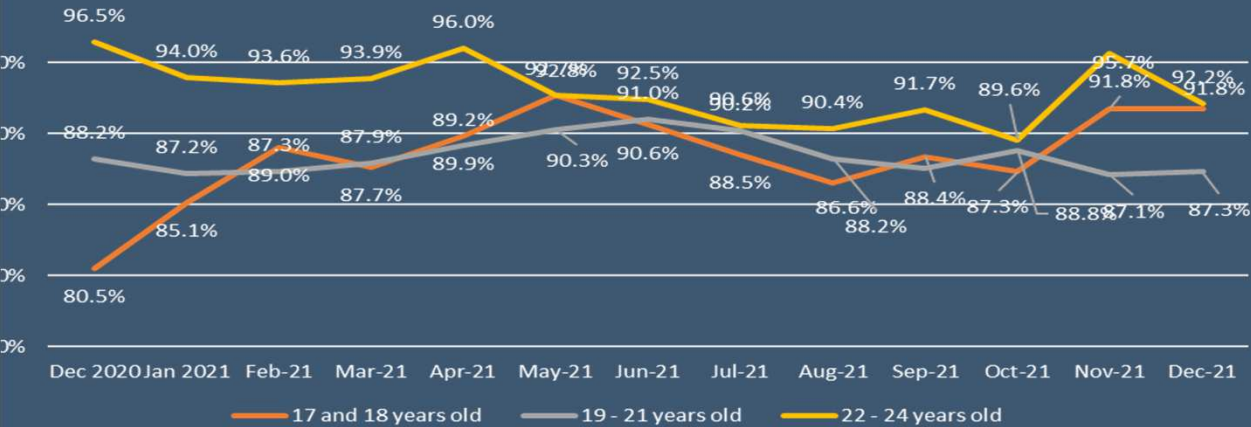


9 children had 3+ moves in last 12 months- equates to 6.9% - lower (better) than SN average (8.3%) and West Midlands (8.1%) and better than England Average (9%)

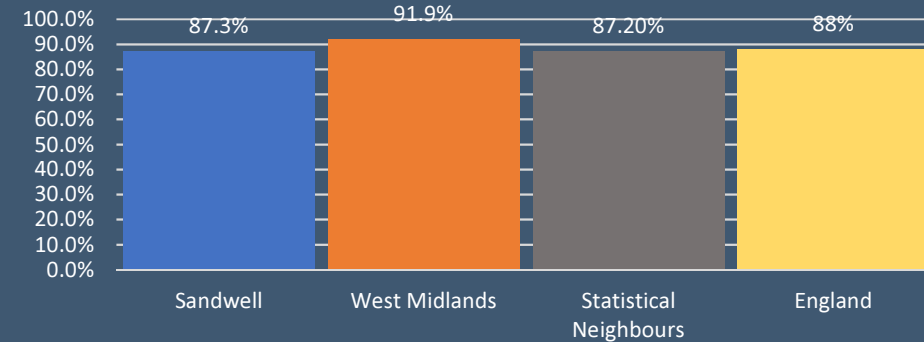
increase in children in care for 2.5 years remaining in the same placement for 2 years- increased from 67% to near to 70%- in line with our comparators

Care Leavers

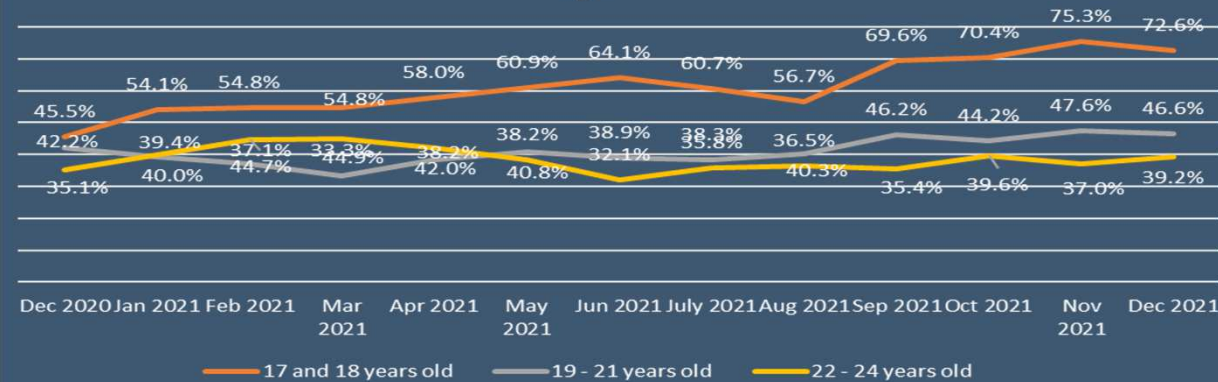
% Care leavers in Suitable Accommodation - by age



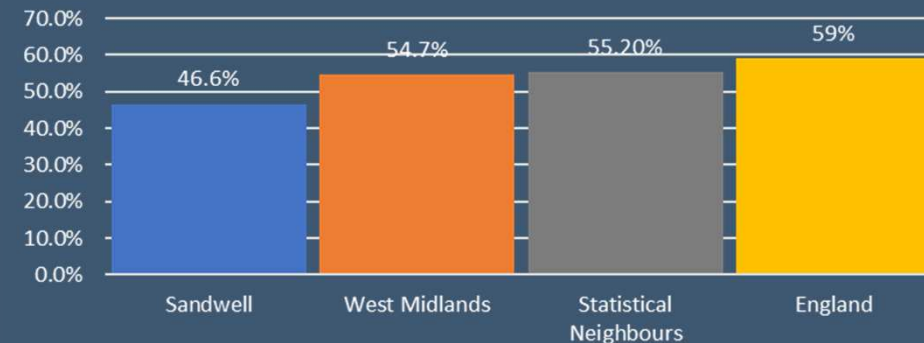
Care Leavers aged 19-21 in Suitable Accommodation



% Care leavers Engaged in Employment, Education or Training - by age



Care Leavers aged 19-21 Engaged in Employment, Education and Training



19-21yrs- 47% EET (53% NEET) - 8.6% below SN comparators and 8.1% below West Mids

17-18yrs- 73% EET

Accommodation- in line with our comparators

Ofsted inspection of Fostering Agency (2-6 August 2021)

Mosted inspection of Fostering Agency:



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Progress made

- Children feel safe and have positive relationships with their carers
- Carers advocate on behalf of their children, who are making good progress
- Good processes that will allow us to continue to improve
- Placement stability continues to be good including managed moves
- Permanent and stable staff working with clear systems
- Good partnership working with Education & Health
- Children know who they need to approach to speak to someone/ make a complaint
- Panel has been strengthened, rigorous process
- All carers have an allocated Supervising Social Worker
- Communication and engagement with carers is good
- Leaders are visible and know the service well
- Good management and QA oversight
- Robust safeguarding processes in place

Next steps

Next steps



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Recommendations

- Training for foster carer
- Support for disabled children re adaptations NMS
- Annual joint panel training
- Recruitment strategy – foster carers

Ofsted Monitoring Visit

16th & 17th November 2021



Children
in Care

“We can see **tangible progress..**
However, there remains a lot more to
do to secure permanence for many
children in care”

Lead Inspector



Positives - leadership



- We know ourselves well and are focusing on the right areas
- Progress evident in specific areas – significant progress- exploitation & missing
- Increased drive and focus
- Strong leadership oversight that is making a difference
- Clear commitment to improve
- Focus on staff wellbeing
- Newly Qualified Social Workers- positive about support and learning
- Workforce feel positive and valued
- Trust has responded well to the challenges of the pandemic



Progress in the quality of Social Work practice

Exploitation and homeless 16 & 17yr olds- significant progress responding to risk

Missing-positive progress- timely return home interviews

Quality Assurance- improved- further work to maximise impact

Independent Reviewing Officers- strength

Good use of interpreters and religious leaders

Children matched appropriately, culturally sensitive work

Permanency- increased focus and prioritising of plan and tracking

WASC- well supported- education, health & legal advice

Children's participation- strength, feel involved, valued, listened to



- Consistency of practice
- Ambition and pace re sufficiency of placements (complex needs)
- Many waiting for permanence plans- more urgency required
- Assessments- variable
- Changes of Social Worker- impacts progression of plans
- Many children need to benefit from direct work
- Stabilise workforce



Workforce- stabilise, permanent, newly qualified staff,
branding

Team Managers- **supervision, critical reflection**

Practice- **assessments** and **plans-** improve quality and
consistency

Permanence – additional capacity to drive forward plans

Direct work

Care leavers- **'EET'** and **accommodation**

Sufficiency

Front door

