



November 2006 | National Statistics

SOCIAL SERVICES PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK INDICATORS

CHILDREN



About CSCI

The Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) was set up in April 2004. Its main purpose is to provide a clear, independent assessment of the state of social care services in England. CSCI brings together into one body the social care components of the work of the National Care Standards Commission, the Social Services Inspectorate and the SSI/ Audit Commission Joint Review Team. CSCI combines inspection, review, performance and regulatory functions across the range of social care services in the public and independent sectors.

CSCI exists to promote improvement in the quality of social care and to ensure public money is being well spent. It works alongside councils and service providers, supporting and informing efforts to deliver better outcomes for people who need and rely on services to enhance their lives. CSCI aims to acknowledge good practice but will also use its intervention powers where it finds unacceptable standards.

Reader Information

Document Purpose	For information
Author	Commission for Social Care Inspection
Publication Date	November 2006
Target Audience	Social services directors, directors of children's services, chief executives and councillors of councils with social services responsibilities in England. Health care professionals, academics and social care stakeholders.
Further copies from	csci@accessplus.co.uk
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Internet address	www.csci.org.uk
Price	FREE
Ref. No.	CSCI-ARP-105-3000-TRI-112006 CSCI-182

SOCIAL SERVICES
PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT
FRAMEWORK INDICATORS
CHILDREN
2005–2006

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First Published: November 2006
This volume is available in pdf format on the CSCI website (www.csci.org.uk/care_professional/information.for-councils/paf.aspx) along with a file of all the numerators and denominators and PI values for all councils.

Design by Ministry of Design (www.ministryofdesign.co.uk)

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Acknowledgements

The Commission for Social Care Inspection acknowledges the work of staff in the Department for Education and Skills and the Information Centre for health and social care in the development and collection of the information contained in this report. We are particularly grateful to those who have provided the data and assisted with the detailed reporting of results within this publication.

In addition, CSCI acknowledges the substantial help and co-operation of the Local Government Association (LGA), the Association of Directors of Social Services (ADSS), the Social Services Research Group (SSRG) and representatives from individual councils. All these agencies have worked constructively on the development of the performance assessment arrangements for social services since their inception in 1998-99.

Introduction

This is the eighth set of Social Services Performance Assessment Framework (PAF) indicators. From April 2004 the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) assumed responsibility for the development of the Performance Assessment Framework Indicators, and for this annual publication. These functions had previously been the responsibility of the Department of Health (DH) and latterly also of the Department for Education and Skills (DfES). CSCI is an independent body and is currently the single inspectorate for social care in England. It has primary responsibility for promoting improvement and is creating an integrated approach to the inspection and assessment of services across all sectors.

The data collections that underpin the indicators are managed by DfES and the Information Centre for health and social care, and this means that the indicators retain their status as National Statistics. Their selection continues to require the approval of ministers and in meeting its development responsibilities.

CSCI uses the indicators as part of the evidence to inform their assessments of councils' performance, as summarised in the annual Social Services performance ratings. The indicators, however, only paint part of the picture and must be considered as part of a broader set of performance evidence.

CSCI also uses the PAF indicators and other quantitative and qualitative information to work with councils in their planning and monitoring of performance throughout the year. From 2005, Annual Performance Assessment datasets for children's services are being used for this purpose and also to monitor the implementation of policy initiatives. A suite of analytical tools has been produced to help CSCI, the councils, the DH and DfES to use this information.

The set of Personal Social Services (PSS) PAF indicators is designed to cover as many aspects of performance as possible whilst still being small enough to be manageable. Councils are encouraged to use the information to explore their own performance, compare it against others, and to help decide where improvements are needed. To focus attention on the key government priorities, a sub-set of the PSS PAF indicators are included in the statutory Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI) set.

In addition to the PSS PAF indicators, other comparative performance data can be found in the Key Indicators Graphical System (KIGS). KIGS contains some 400 indicators which are current and allows councils to plot their performance against all or a selection of other councils, or to examine relationships between indicators.

For 2005-06, there have been a number of changes to the set. These are summarised in Box 1, and detailed on the relevant indicator pages and in Annexes A and D.

Box 1 – Summary of changes to 2004-05 indicator set

Indicator	New	Amended definition / data	Deleted	Banding changed	Replaced / not collected
Children's Pls					
CF/A70 Progress made towards a comprehensive Children and Adolescents Mental Health Service (CAMHS)	✓				
CF/C22 Young children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption			✓		
CF/C23 Adoptions of children looked after		✓			
CF/C63 Participation of looked after children in reviews		✓			
CF/C64 Timing of core assessments				✓	
CF/C68 Timeliness of looked after children reviews	✓				
CF/C69 Distance children newly looked after are placed from home	✓				
Management of resources PIs					
MR/D59 Practice learning		\checkmark			

This document contains commentary and summary data for each of the indicators, together with contextual information and advice on using the indicators. To assist all those with an interest in the use of the data each council has been given a banding for their performance against each of the indicators. In the main these range from • ("investigate urgently") to •••• ("very good"). More information on this can be found in Annex A. The banding helps with the first step in understanding performance. To assist with more in-depth analysis of performance each page of indicator information includes pointers to related indicators and contextual information which should also be considered.

The full dataset for all Councils for 2005-06 and for previous years can be accessed on the CSCI website in Excel files. Definitions of PAF indicators for 2006-07 are available on the CSCI website at http://www.csci.org.uk/care_professional/councils/paf/performance_indicator_definiti.aspx. Definitions of PAF indicators for 2007-08 will be placed here when available.

Information about indicator definitions and data collected for previous years can be found on the DH and DfES PSS Statistics websites (see Annex E for details together with a list of related publications and how to obtain copies).

Commission for Social Care Inspection November 2006

Quick start

- The indicators of the Personal Social Services
 Performance Assessment Framework provide
 a tool for investigating Social Services
 performance, allowing comparison between
 councils and over time.
 - Other sources of information about performance are also available, including reports of inspections, and monitoring by CSCI's Business Relationship Managers of council activity through the year: these are taken into account to reach an overall view of performance. The Commission for Social Care Inspection's view of the performance of each council is set out in the performance report sent to the council following the annual review meeting with the council and other local agencies.
 - More detailed statistics can be found in a range of publications issued by the Department for Education and Skills and the Information Centre for health and social care and in the Key Indicators Graphical System. See Annex E for further details.
- A list of the indicators is on the back cover.
 A summary of performance against each of these can be found on pages 6-8. For more detail, a four page spread is included on each indicator, starting on page 13. The full data can be found on the Internet at http://www.csci.org. uk/care_professional/councils/paf/paf_reports_ and_data.aspx
- Performance against each indicator has been banded to give a general indication of where performance should be and where future improvements should be concentrated. In the main these range from ("investigate urgently") to ●●●● ("very good"). For more details, see Annex A.

 Before drawing firm conclusions you should look at related indicators and other evidence and information. Some help is given with this on each page of indicator information.

To make it easier to get started using the framework, there are some sample questions in Box 2 that you might want to ask about your council's services, together with some related PSS PAF indicators.

Box 2 — Some starting questions and PSS PAF indicators

To what extent is my council...

- Caring for children in home settings rather than residential care? (CF/B7, CF/C23)
- Investing now to prevent children and families needing more services later? [CF/ A70, CF/C19, CF/E44]
- Preparing children they look after for later life? (CF/A2, CF/A4, CF/C18-19, CF/C24)
- Providing children and families with the services they want? (CF/C63)
- Making sure people get the services they need? (CF/C20, CF/C63, CF/C68)
- Ensuring services are delivered quickly? (CF/C64)
- Protecting children from harm? (CF/A3, CF/ C20-21)
- Bringing stability into the lives of the children they look after? (CF/A1, CF/C23, CF/ C68, CF/C69, CF/D35)
- Providing services at a reasonable cost? (CF/B8)
- Supporting training of the social care workforce? (MR/D59)

Setting the context

The Performance Assessment System for Social Services

Background

The 1998 White Paper, *Modernising Social Services*, set out new arrangements to assess the performance of councils with social services responsibilities.

In 1999-2000, A New Approach to Social Services Performance was published as a consultation document, detailing the proposed PAF PIs and the relationship with the Best Value process. Also during this year, the Social Services Inspectorate (SSI) consulted on new monitoring arrangements and a review process.

In 2000-01, the process was launched, bringing together evidence from a range of sources to support the annual review of councils.

In 2002-03, star ratings were introduced that were compatible with the NHS system and the Audit Commission's Comprehensive Performance Assessment process (CPA). The ratings remain in use and are built up from four judgements: two from the children's assessment, and two from adults. For 2004-05 the children's social care judgement fed into a joint assessment with Ofsted based on the 'Every Child Matters' outcomes framework and which was then fed back into the CPA score. In 2005-06 there will be no transfer of judgements into CSCI star rating scales.

Evidence Base

Performance assessment pulls together evidence from a range of sources to give a comprehensive overview of how a council is discharging its social care responsibilities and feeds into the Audit Commission's CPA, which is concerned with overall council service provision.

Assessment is carried out in conjunction to other key stakeholders in order to reflect the changing nature of service delivery across social care, health and education.

For the 2005-06 performance round, the evidence used by CSCI to assess the performance of councils with social services responsibilities is as follows:

Performance data

The indicators associated with the Personal Social Services Performance Assessment Framework provide a statistical overview of social care performance. The information is set out in this publication and the indicators provide direct comparisons between councils and over time and allow targets to be set and monitored. They can be used together with a range of other statistical information available in the Performance Assessment Data and Information system (PADI) analytical tools, the Key Indicators Graphical System, and other statistical publications. A list of relevant publications can be found in Annex E. Children's social care measures in the Annual Performance Assessment dataset (APA) will be accessible on a CSCI CD-Rom of the PADI.

Annual Performance Assessment

The Annual Performance Assessment process for children's services was conducted jointly by CSCI and Ofsted for 2005-06 and uses:

- a single self assessment process
- the five outcomes from Every Child Matters
- a common set of standards and criteria
- an agreed set of performance indicators (PIs)
- available evidence from regulatory and other inspections across education and social services
- Joint Area Reviews (JARs)

From summer 2005 CSCI inspectors have been part of multi-disciplinary teams working with colleagues from Ofsted, the Healthcare Commission, the Audit Commission, and where appropriate, the Adult Learning Inspectorate to undertake JARs. Judgements from these reviews took the place of the APA for 47 councils in 2005-06.

Monitoring/Improvement

The joint Annual Performance Assessment process considers all admissible evidence sources, including both qualitative and quantitative information. The strengths and areas for improvement noted in the APA letter provide the basis for ongoing improvement dialogues with councils.

Other evidence sources

Evidence from the following sources is also used in assessing performance:

- Council plans including the Children and Young Persons' Plan
- Agreed minutes from CSCI monitoring meetings
- Regulatory activity relating to services provided by councils, including registrations, complaints and enforcement
- Serious case reviews (serious injury or death)
- Input from other relevant inspectorates

Formulating social care judgements

Since 2004-05 CSCI has based its judgements around the 'Every Child Matters' outcomes framework of: Being Healthy; Staying Safe; Enjoying and Achieving; Making a positive contribution; and Achieving economic well-being, together with a section on Service Management.

This framework is designed to improve the quality of social care services which children receive from councils or which councils commission for them.

The framework aims to:

- Focus on improved outcomes for those who receive services
- Support councils to develop internal performance management systems that are capable of monitoring progress towards national targets and translating them into local objectives

- Ensure that social care issues are appropriately addressed in Best Value Performance Plans
- Ensure that the corporate management and political scrutiny arrangements promote better social services that contribute to improved outcomes for users of services and enhanced community well-being
- Ensure that councils work effectively with other agencies and organisations to address the wider health and social care delivery issues
- Ensure that councils work effectively with regional and national government departments
- Assess councils' progress in implementing the government's policies for social care, meeting national targets and achieving value for money
- Identify and promote good practice
- Identify councils that are performing poorly and ensure that they take action to improve

Areas for Judgement

Councils are judged on the following areas:

- The contribution of the loyal authority's children's services in maintaining and improving outcomes for children and young people
- 2. The council's overall capacity to improve its services for children and young people
- 3. The contribution of the local authority's social care services in maintaining and improving outcomes for children and young people.

Services are judged on a scale of 1-4, as follows:

- 4 A service that delivers well above minimum requirements for users
- 3 A service that consistently delivers above minimum requirements for users
- 2 A service that delivers only minimum requirements for users
- 1 A service that does not deliver minimum requirements for users.

Key findings

Summary

- For England as a whole there has been some overall improvement against the children's performance indicators (see National summary of performance, page 9) for the seventh year running. Of the indicators that can be compared, 5 showed an improvement between 2004-05 and 2005-06 and 8 remained at a similar level or worsened slightly. Some indicators show significant and sustained improvement over time, for example the health of looked after children (CF/C19) or reviews of child protection cases (CF/C20). Others have not substantially improved, or improved at all, over a number of years, for example long term stability for looked after children (CF/D35), or looked after children absent from school (CF/C24). Of the indicators for which council bandings can be compared, 8 showed an increase in 2005-06 in the percentage of councils with 'acceptable' performance or better, 3 showed no change and 3 showed a fall. Improvement was reported for more than half of all councils for most of the indicators which could be compared between 2003-04 and 2004-05 (having excluded councils which achieved the best performance in both years).
- Performance still varies between councils for many of the indicators, but overall the variation reduced for the seventh successive year. Between 2004-05 and 2005-06 the inter-quartile range decreased for 7 children's indicators, and increased for 8. Some councils are performing very well against many indicators; others are not.

• The results for London still often appear to be different to those for Shire counties and Unitary councils with, for example, apparently better performance on relative spend on family support (CF/E44) and greater employment, education and training for care leavers (CF/A4) and apparently worse performance on educational qualifications (CF/A2) and fostering and adoption (CF/B7); the results for Metropolitan districts tend to lie in between. Unit costs in London and the South East are often higher because of higher wage rates and costs of premises (CF/B8).

All of the 150 councils provided data for all of the indicators. Data quality for existing indicators has improved during the last year. There is room for further improvement, which will be achieved in part as definitions and guidance are developed in the light of experience. Data quality for new Pls may take some time to 'bed down'.

Outcome 1 - Being healthy

- The new indicator on Progress made towards a comprehensive Children and Adolescents Mental Health Service (CF/A70) had an average score of 11, out of a possible maximum of 16, indicating that many services were in place, but not yet fully implemented.
- The average percentage of children looked after who had health and dental checks up to date (CF/C19) increased to 81% in 2005-06 from 78% in 2004-05. Performance was 'acceptable' or better for 97% of councils.

Outcome 2 - Staying safe

• The percentage of all children looked after who had three or more placements in the year (CF/A1) was 12%, down from 13% the previous year. The percentage of councils with no more than 16% of children having three or more placements during the year rose to 91% in 2005-06 from 89% in 2004-05.

- The percentage of all registrations to the child protection register that were re-registrations (CF/A3) rose slightly to 14%, having remained constant at 13% for the three preceding years.
 Performance was 'acceptable' or better for 91% of councils, compared to 89% in 2004-05.
- The percentage of all children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption (CF/B7) remained largely unchanged at 82% in 2005-06.
- 99% of all child protection cases were reviewed on time (CF/C20) in 2005-06, a figure unchanged from the previous year.
 Performance was 'acceptable' or better for 98% of councils, compared to 94% in 2004-05. Only 1% of councils reviewed fewer than 92.5% of cases on time, down from 11% in 2003-04.
- The percentage of children de-registered from the Child Protection Register who had been on the Register continuously for two years or more (CF/C21) remained unchanged, at 6%, having reduced in each of the five preceding years.
- 7.6% of children looked after for six months or more were adopted (CF/C23) in 2005-06, largely unchanged from the previous year.
 Performance was 'acceptable' or better for 67% of councils, compared to 75% in 2004-05.
 The percentage of councils rated 'very good', however, rose to 46% from 42% in 2004-05.
- 74% of all core assessments were completed within 35 working days of commencement (CF/ C64) in 2005-06, up from 67% in 2004-05. The percentage of councils for whom performance was 'acceptable' or better rose to 85% from 76% in 2004-05.
- All reviews due in the year were completed on time for 79% of children looked after at 31 March 2006 (CF/C68).

 The long term stability of children looked after (CF/D35) changed little from the previous year, with 51% of children looked after continuously for at least four years being in a foster placement and having been with the same foster carer for at least two years. Performance was acceptable for 59% of councils, compared to 50% in 2004-05.

Outcome 3 - Enjoying and achieving

- 53% of care leavers aged 16 or over had at least one GCSE at grade A*-G or a GNVQ on leaving care (CF/A2) in 2005-06, an increase from 50% in 2004-05. Performance was 'acceptable' or better for 80% of councils, unchanged from 2004-05. 8% of councils were rated 'very good', compared to 5% in the previous year.
- The percentage of children looked after for a year or longer who missed at least 25 days school (CF/C24) rose to 13%, from 12% in 2004-05. Performance was 'acceptable' or better for 71% of councils, a fall of two percentage points from the previous year. 5% of councils were rated 'very good'; half as many as in the previous year.
- 12% of all children newly placed in the year were, at 31 March 2006, placed more than 20 miles from the home address from which they were first placed (CF/C69).

Outcome 4 — Making a positive contribution

• The percentage of all young people looked after aged 10 and over who received a final warning, reprimand or conviction relative to the percentage for all young people aged 10 and over (CF/C18) fell from a ratio of 2.8 in 2004-05 to 2.6 in 2005-06. Performance was 'acceptable' or better for 65% of councils, an increase of 10 percentage points on 2004-05 and the highest percentage since 2000-01.

 79% of looked after children aged 4 and over participated in all their statutory reviews in the year (CF/C63). Performance was 'acceptable' or better for 74% of councils.

Outcome 5 - Achieving economic well-being

 The percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training at the age of 19 as a ratio of the percentage of all young people in education, employment or training (CF/A4) was 0.76 in 2005-06, compared to 0.70 in 2004-05.
 Performance was 'acceptable' or better for 96% of councils, compared to 90% in 2004-05.

Service management

- The average gross weekly expenditure per looked after child in foster care or in a children's home (CF/B8) increased by 6% over 2004-05, or by 2% allowing for inflation, to £716.
- Expenditure on children in need but not looked after remained at 39% of gross expenditure on all children's services (CF/E44).
- Councils directly provided or supported 12.8
 assessed social work practice learning days
 per whole time equivalent social worker in
 2005-06, compared to 10.1 days in 2004-05
 and 9.0 days in 2003-04 (MR/D59).

National summary of performance

	Indicator	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	Performance change (04-05 to 05- 06) ¹	Average council banding ² (05-06)	% councils ●●● or above³in 2005-06	% councils awarded top band ^{3,4} in 2005-06	% councils showing improvement (04-05 to 05- 06 ^{1,3,5})
	CHILDREN										
CF/A1	Stability of placements of children looked after ^{6,7}	15.0%	14.6%	13.0%	13.2%	12.5%	→	••••	91%	91%	65%
CF/A2	Educational qualifications of children looked after [joint working] ⁸	41%	43%	49%	50%	53%	7	••••	80%	8%	60%
CF/A3	Re-registrations on the Child Protection Register	14%	13%	13%	13%	14%	→	••••	91%	36%	53%
CF/A4	Employment, education and training for care leavers [joint working – old definition] ⁷	46%	49%	55%							
CF/A4	Employment, education and training for care leavers [joint working – new definition] ⁷			0.65	0.70	0.76	→	••••	96%	82%	64%
CF/A70	Progress made towards a comprehensive Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) ⁹					12					
CF/B7	Children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption	80.8%	81.7%	81.3%	81.3%	81.5%	71	••••	95%	26%	55%
CF/B8	Cost of services for children looked after ¹⁰	£487	£560	£620	£676	£716			40%	19%	
CF/C18	Final warnings/reprimands and convictions of children looked after	3.0	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.6	→	•••	65%	65%	63%
CF/C19	Health of children looked after	68.2%	71.6%	75.1%	78.1%	81.3%	71	••••	97%	74%	66%
CF/C20	Reviews of child protection cases ⁸	93%	97%	95%	99%	99%	→	••••	98%	73%	71%
CF/C21	Duration on the Child Protection Register	10%	8%	7%	6%	6%	\rightarrow	••••	97%	84%	48%
CF/C23	Adoptions of children looked after ^{8,11}	6.8%	6.9%	7.5%	7.6%	7.6%		••••	67%	46%	
CF/C24	Children looked after absent from school [joint working]	12%	12%	12%	12%	13%	Я	•••	71%	5%	55%
CF/C63	Participation of children looked after in reviews ¹¹				81%	79%		•••	74%	20%	
CF/C64	Timing of core assessments				67%	74%	71	••••	85%	40%	74%
CF/C68	Timeliness of LAC reviews					79%					
CF/C69	Distance children newly looked after are placed from home					12%					
CF/D35	Long term stability of children looked after ⁷	51%	51%	49%	50%	51%	71	•••	59%	0%	63%
CF/E44	Relative spend on family support	37%	38%	38%	39%	39%	\rightarrow	••••	87%	66%	67%

.. Not available

Notes

- 1. Performance improvement is where the value of the indicator has moved nearer to the range with the highest banding. See Annex A.
- 2. The average is defined as the band of the median performing council. Where applicable, it has been assumed that 'H' and 'L' bands are equivalent.
- 3. Percentages are based on the numbers of councils providing data that have not been suppressed, not the total numbers of councils (150). See Annex D.
- 4. Band 5 for most indicators but band 4 for CF/B8, CF/C21 and CF/E44, and band 3 for CF/C18. Indicators CF/A70, CF/C68 and CF/C69 were not banded for 2005-06.
- 5. Calculated as a percentage of councils that were not in the top band in both 2004-05 and 2005-06.
- 6. Averages shown are calculated from SSDA903 data (on a 100% basis for 2003-04 and a one third sample basis for earlier years); performance banding is based on SSDA903 from 2003-04 and on council data from the CLA100 prior to 2003-04.
- 7. Definition changed between 2003-04 and 2004-05.
- 8. Definition changed between 2002-03 and 2003-04.
- 9. Unbanded for 2005-06.
- 10. No performance change arrows or average council bandings are shown, as performance is compared within Area Cost Groups and council types only and not for England. See Annex A.
- 11. Definition changed between 2004-05 and 2005-06.

Performance against each of the indicators

There are up to three pages of text for each of the indicators. This is arranged under the headings:

- Rationale for indicator
- Good performance
- Bands
- Changes to definition
- Outcomes framework
- Related indicators
- Other related information to consider
- Notes on interpretation
- Data
- Commentary on performance
- Full definition.

Not all headings are present for all indicators.

There is also a chart page for each of the indicators showing:

- a ranked bar chart of councils' performance using colour coded bars to indicate what performance band has been awarded
- an arrow showing the direction of change for each council
- the banding awarded to each council.

(Please note, some of the longer labels have been shortened due to space restrictions.)

The data shown are averages for England and type of council. Area Cost Adjustment Group averages are also shown for the cost and efficiency indicator CF/B8. Data are shown from 1998-99 onwards (2000-01 onwards for cost indicators CF/B8 and CF/E44) where available; years within this period are omitted when data are not available. Data for earlier years back to 1997-98 may be found, where available, in the 2003-04 and earlier publications.

Detailed data for every council are available on the internet at http://www.csci.org.uk/care_professional/councils/paf/paf_reports_and_data. aspx. It consists of a spreadsheet showing performance for every council against each indicator and its numerator and denominator. CSCl's CD-Rom of the Performance Assessment Data and Information system (PADI) will contain a wider set of measures related to social care from the Annual Performance Assessment dataset.

The Key Indicator Graphical System also includes a wide range of data for each council (see Annex E for details of how to access this).

Key

For full description of each band see Annex A.

- Investigate urgently
- Ask questions about performance
- ••• Acceptable, but possible room for improvement
- •••• Good
- •••• Very good

The values for each band can be found in Annex B.

CF/A1

Stability of placements of children looked after (BVPI 49)

The percentage of children looked after at 31 March with three or more placements during the year.

Rationale for indicator

This PI is an important measure of the stability of care that a child has experienced. On the whole stability is associated with better outcomes placement instability was highlighted by the Social Exclusion Unit as a key barrier to improving educational outcomes. Proper assessment of a child's needs and an adequate choice of placements to meet the varied needs of different children are essential if appropriate stable placements are to be made. Inappropriate placements often break down and lead to frequent moves. The circumstances of some individual children will require 3 or more separate placements during a year if they and others are to be kept safe, but the variation between councils' performance in this area suggests that more can be done in many areas to reduce the number of moves.

Good performance

Low

Bands

			high	
••••	••••	•••	••	•
0<16.01			16.01<20	20<=100

Changes to definition

2000-01: data source changed from the Key Statistics return to CLA100.

2003-04: data source changed from CLA 100 to SSDA903, when this data collection changed to a 100% basis (from a one third sample basis).

2004-05: definition changed so that placing a child for adoption with their existing foster carers is no longer counted as a change of placement for the purposes of this Pl.

Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Staying Safe".

Related indicators

CF/B7 (children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption), CF/C23 (adoptions of children looked after), CF/63 (participation in reviews), CF/C68 (reviews on time), CF/69 (distance from home) and CF/D35 (long term stability of children looked after).

Other related information to consider

The age profile of children looked after (KIGS CH39-43), as placements for older children are more likely to break down. The percentage of children looked after who were placed with parents (KIGS CH46). Use made of short-term placements and care orders (the latter may lead to more moves being recorded, particularly when used for placements with parents), whether more than one placement is with the same foster carer or in the same residential home, and legal status. Where stability of placement is poor, it would be useful to determine if the problem is in the first year of being looked after or subsequently.

The Government recognises the importance of stability in improving outcomes for looked after children. A revised PSA target has been set — to increase to 80% by 2008 the proportion of children aged 16 or under who have been in care for two and a half years or more, who have been in the same placement for 2 years or more, or are placed for adoption. This will be the new PAF PI CF/D78 in 2006-07.

Notes on interpretation

Two sets of data are shown below; one based on the Key Statistics/CLA 100/SSDA903 100% data and the other based on the SSDA903 one third sample data up to 2002-03. This is because the previous trend data are only available on the basis of the one third sample SSDA903 return. Historically, there were differences between the data from the two sources. We believe that for

some individual councils the data collected on the CLA 100 and Key Statistics returns are unreliable (see Annex D).

Data

See Table 1.

Commentary on performance

Performance on this indicator has remained static for the past six years. The England average for 2005-06 was 12%, down from 13% the previous year. There was little variation in the council averages, indeed differences between the councils groupings have all but disappeared.

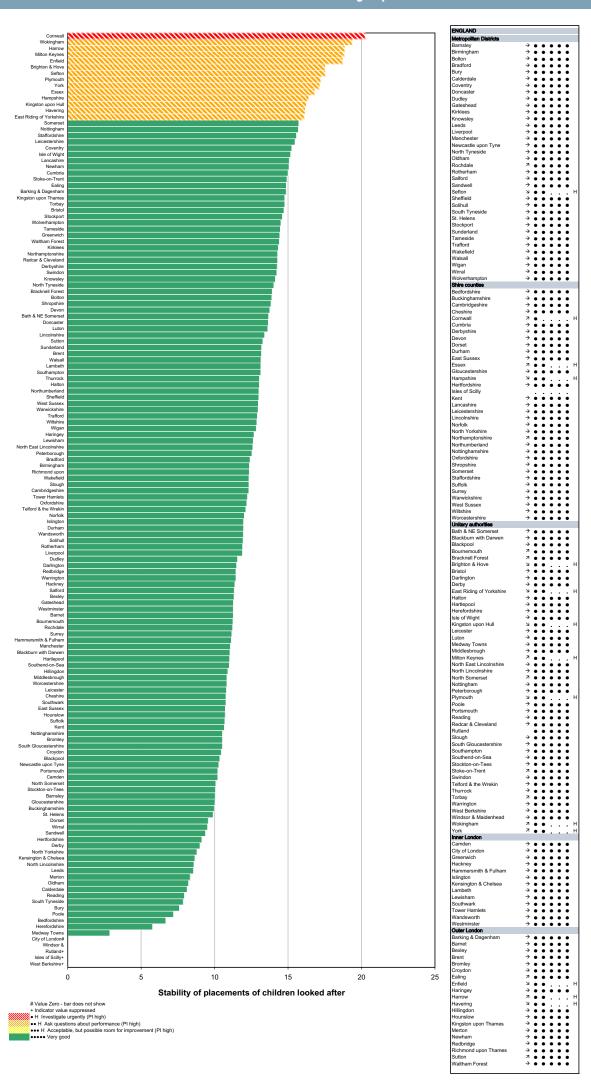
TABLE 1

Data used to monitor performance against indicator (Key statistics/CLA100/SSDA903 100%)

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ••• or more (Eng)
1998-99	16%	17%	16%	16%	11%	13%	74%
1999-00	15%	16%	15%	15%	11%	12%	87%
2000-01	13%	14%	13%	14%	10%	12%	79%
2001-02	12%	13%	12%	14%	10%	12%	86%
2002-03	12%	13%	12%	13%	11%	13%	92%
2003-04	13%	12%	13%	13%	13%	14%	87%
New Defn. 2004-05	13%	12%	13%	14%	13%	14%	89%
2005-06	12%	12%	13%	13%	12%	13%	91%

Historical trend data based on one-third sample SSDA903 data

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	
1998-99	18.6%	19%	19%	20%	12%	17%	
1999-00	18.5%	19%	18%	20%	15%	16%	
2000-01	16.6%	15%	17%	20%	13%	16%	
2001-02	15.0%	15%	14%	19%	12%	13%	
2002-03	14.6%	15%	14%	16%	13%	16%	



The percentage of councils in band 5, with no more than 16% of children having three or more placements during the year, rose to 91% from 89% in 2004-05. The number of councils in band one (20% or more) has decreased from five, in 2004-05, to one, in 2005-06.

Full definition:

The numerator: Of the children looked after in the denominator, the number who had three or more separate placements (as defined by the SSDA903 collection) during the year. All placements of 24 hours or more are counted, regardless of duration. Any placements that were already open on 1 April at the beginning of the year, and any which were open on 31 March at the end of the year are included. All placements regarded as 'temporary' are included; the only exceptions being the following special cases:

- · temporary periods on holiday or in hospital;
- where a foster carer goes on holiday for 21 days or less and the child temporarily stays with another carer during this time (only two such breaks allowed in any one year);
- other temporary absences of seven consecutive days or less, where the child then returned as planned to the previous placement.

These exceptional categories of placement are likely to be infrequent; they are not automatically recorded on the SSDA 903, and for consistency are not included in this count of looked after children. Where a child had placements during the year separated by periods of not being looked after, each placement is counted, even if they were with the same carer. Any placements that formed part of an agreed series of short term placements (under the provisions of Reg. 13 of the Arrangement for Placement of Children (General) Regulations, 1991) are not counted.

From 1 April 2004, a child being placed for adoption with their existing foster carers is no longer counted as a change of placement for the purposes of this Pl.

Source: SSDA903

The denominator: The total number of children who were looked after at 31 March, excluding any children who were looked after on that date under an agreed series of short term-placements (under the provisions of Reg. 13 of the Arrangement for Placement of Children (General) Regulations, 1991).

Source: SSDA903

CF/A2

Educational qualifications of children looked after [joint working] (BVPI 50)

The percentage of young people leaving care aged 16 or over with at least 1 GCSE at grade A*-G or a GNVQ.

Rationale for indicator

Educational attainment is one of the most important determinants of future outcomes and a measure that is supported by readily available information. There is clearly a need for cooperation between local authorities, schools, and other partners with an interest, to improve the attainment of children looked after. This should be orchestrated through the children's trust partnership arrangements. The indicator includes the majority of children looked after (for specific exclusions see the denominator), regardless of how long they have been looked after, as this emphasises the council's corporate responsibility for the education of vulnerable children.

Good performance

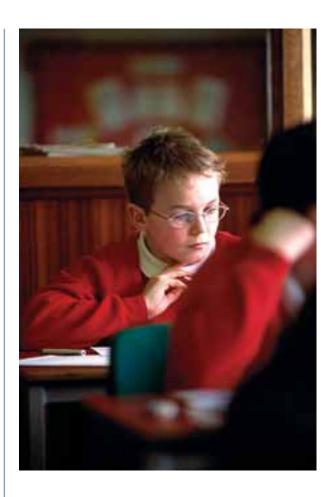
High and increasing

Bands

Low				high
•	••	•••	••••	•••••
0<25	25<45	45<50	50<70	70<=100

Changes to definition

2003-04: The definition of this indicator changed to exclude children whose date of birth suggests that they would not have taken exams before leaving care and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) who had been looked after for less than 2 years at the time that they left care.



Outcomes framework

The *Every Child Matters* outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Enjoying and Achieving".

Related indicators

CF/A4 (employment, education and training for care leavers) and CF/C24 (children looked after absent from school) — poor educational qualifications may be due to poor attendance at school. CF/A1 (placement stability) may also affect educational attainment as may CF/C68 (reviews on time) and CF/69 (distance from home).

Other related information to consider

The length of time for which children are looked after (KIGS CH57, CH70) and, in particular, the length of time that children covered by this indicator had been looked after during their

secondary school years. This indicator includes children (other than UASC) looked after for any length of time and may be unduly influenced by short term care. Consideration needs to be given to the percentage of young people leaving care aged 16 or over with 5 or more GCSEs at grade A*-C or a GNVQ, to give a fuller picture of the council's performance. Also the data collected in the OC2 return on children looked after for at least a year and published in *Outcome Indicators for Looked after Children* and in the Annual Performance Assessment (including the percentage of eligible children who sat an exam).

Notes on interpretation

Research has shown that the family and social backgrounds of looked after children suggest a higher likelihood of lower achievement and that looked after children achieve less well than their peers. Adverse factors in the backgrounds of children looked after need to be taken into account. The high percentage of children with statements of special needs, for example, in the looked after population is an important element (around 27% in the looked after population compared to around 3% in the general school-age population). Other factors include not having English as a first language or coming from poorer families (as evidenced by use of free school meals). See DfES website for tables on attainment

analysed against some of these factors: http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000640/index.shtml.

This is a volatile indicator because it often deals with quite small numbers of young people. Small changes can have large consequences for the resulting indicator values. Twenty-four councils, for example, had a denominator of 20 or fewer and six more had suppressed values. In addition, the presence in the cohort of: young people looked after for a brief period, over whose education a council can have limited or non-existent influence; young people with severe disabilities, who are unable to take any exams; and young people with mental health issues, can also have a significant effect on a council's resulting indicator score.

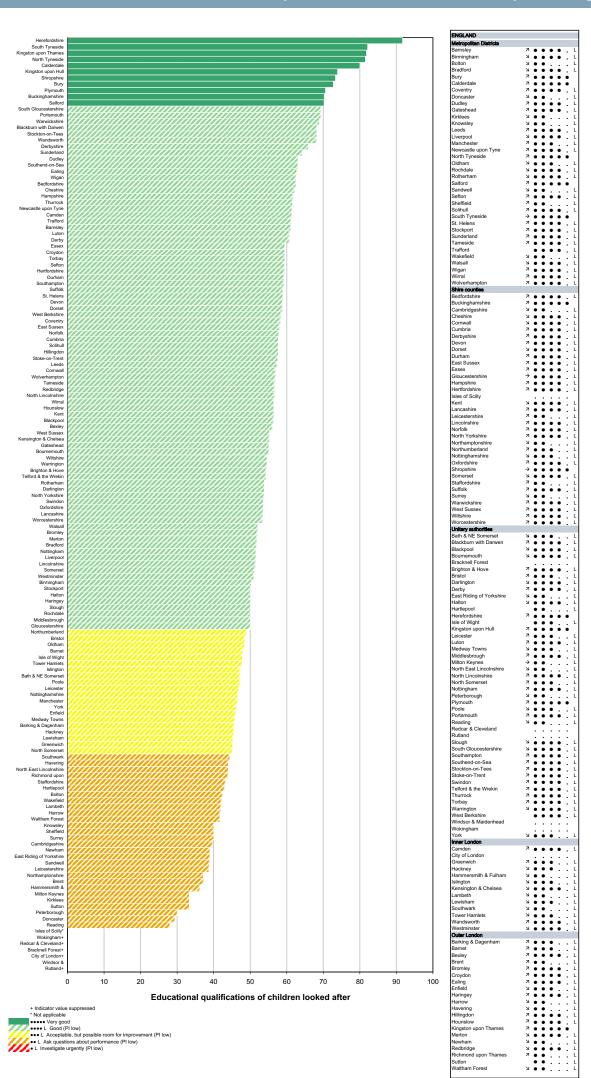
The most recent target set for children looked after to achieve 1 A*-G GCSE was the national Quality Protects target for 2002-03 of 75%. The PSA target on the education of looked after children, set in April 2003, sets a higher target than this, namely that at least 15% of children looked after achieve, in all local authorities, at least five GCSEs at A*-C.

Data

See Table 2.

TABLE 2

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ••• or more (Eng)
1999-00	31%	27%	36%	31%	24%	27%	49%
2000-01	37%	36%	42%	38%	33%	25%	26%
2001-02	41%	39%	47%	42%	35%	33%	34%
2002-03	43%	43%	48%	44%	38%	37%	43%
New defn. 2003-04	49%	48%	53%	50%	41%	43%	65%
New defn. 2004-05	50%	50%	52%	51%	51%	45%	80%
2005-06	53%	54%	55%	55%	47%	50%	80%



Commentary on performance

Performance has improved on this indicator. The England average for the percentage of young people leaving care at age 16 or over in 2005-06 with at least one GCSE or GNVQ was 53%. This was an increase of three percentage points from the previous year's figure, but well short of the national target of 75% that was intended to have been reached in 2002-03. Most of the council groupings made modest improvements in performance, continuing the trend of the past few years. Only Inner London's figure fell, from 51% in the previous year to 47% in 2005-06, though this followed several years of increase. Despite these positive trends, overall performance remains very distant from the comparable figure for the general population of 16 year olds in 2005 of 97%.

The percentage of councils achieving band three or better (with a score of at least 45%) remained at 80% in 2005-06. Eight per cent of councils achieved the top band (70% or over), an increase of three percentage points on the figure for the previous year.

Performance on this indicator has made only slow progress because, often as a result of the small numbers involved, a good result in one year for a council does not necessarily lead to a good result the following year. The volatility of the indicator can be evidenced by the fact that of the councils that achieved band 4 and above in 2004-05 (a modest score of 50% or more), only 72% achieved band 4 or higher in 2005-06. For all councils the range of the percentage changes that occurred, between the two years, spanned from -25% to +38%.

Full definition:

The numerator: Of the young people in the denominator, the number who on leaving care had obtained at least 1 GCSE at grade A*-G or a GNVQ. Qualifications gained before the young person was looked after and qualifications from examinations sat while the young person was looked after are included, even if the results were announced after the young person ceased to be looked after. Qualifications gained from examinations sat after the young person ceased to be looked after are not included. GCSE short courses, part one or full GNVQs at either foundation or intermediate level, and GNVQ language units are included; NVQs are not.

Source: SSDA903

The denominator: The number of young people who ceased to be looked after during the year at the age of 16 or over regardless of how long they had been looked after but excluding:

- Those aged 15 at 31 August 2004 who leave care between 1 April 2005 and 31 May 2005 and those aged 14 at 31 August 2004 who leave care before 31 March 2006;
- Unaccompanied asylum seeking children who have been looked after for less than two years at the time that they leave care;
- Young people who ceased being looked after who had only been looked after during the year under an agreed series of short term placements.

Source: SSDA903

CF/A3

Re-registrations on the Child Protection Register

The percentage of children registered during the year on the Child Protection Register who had been previously registered.

Rationale for indicator

The purpose of registration on the Child Protection Register is to devise and implement a child protection plan which leads to lasting improvements in the child's safety and overall well being. Some re-registrations are essential in responding to adverse changes in circumstance, but high levels of re-registration may suggest that the professionals responsible for the child's welfare are not intervening effectively either to bring about the required changes in the child's family situation, or to make alternative plans for the child's long term care.

Good performance

Generally low

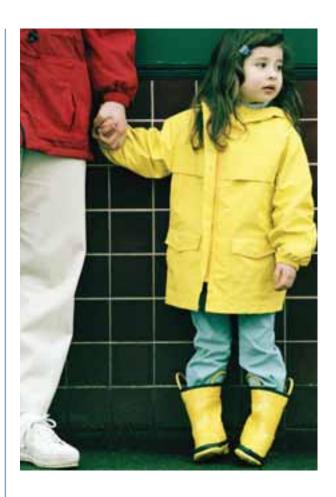
A very low level of re-registrations may, however, mean that a council is not re-registering some children who are in need.

Bands

	Low high							
•	••	•••	••••	••••	••••	•••	••	•
0<3	3<6	6<8	8<10	10<15	15<17.21	17.21<20	20<24	24<=100

Outcomes Framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Staying Safe".



Related indicators

CF/C20 (reviews of child protection cases) and CF/C21 (duration on the CPR). A good (ie low) figure for CF/A3 may have been achieved at the expense of a poor (ie high) figure for CF/C21.

Other related information to consider

The number of children on the register per 10,000 population under 18 (KIGS CH01). The levels of registrations and de-registrations (KIGS CH03 and CH10). Percentage of re-registrations who were re-registered within one year of last de-registration (KIGS CH13). The number of registrations and deregistrations in relation to the mobility of families whose children have been subject to child protection processes. The size of council areas. Difficulties in recruiting and retaining key social work staff may have an impact on this indicator (APA 6011SC-6014SC).

TABLE 3

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ●●● or more (Eng)
1998-99	15%	14%	15%	17%	13%	11%	76%
1999-00	14%	14%	14%	16%	13%	10%	73%
2000-01	14%	13%	14%	17%	11%	11%	70%
2001-02	14%	13%	15%	16%	13%	10%	80%
2002-03	13%	11%	15%	15%	11%	13%	83%
2003-04	13%	12%	14%	14%	12%	11%	84%
2004-05	13%	12%	15%	14%	12%	11%	89%
2005-06	14%	13%	16%	14%	12%	12%	91%

Notes on interpretation

Consideration needs to be given to the reasons for re-registration and to the timescales concerned in order to establish the extent to which re-registration is a result of inadequate child protection planning. A proportion of a council's re-registrations may be because a child had left a council area only to return to the same area. Also a child may have been registered and deregistered many years previously and so their re-registration might not relate to the failure of the council's child protection work.

Data

See Table 3.

Commentary on performance

Performance on this indicator has remained fairly static for the past seven years. The England average was 14% in 2005-06, an increase of one percentage point. The variation between council groups over the last few years remains largely unchanged.

The proportion of councils who were in band 3 or above, continued to rise, as it has for the past four years. In 2005-06 it was 91%, compared to 89% in 2004-05. The proportion of councils achieving band 5 remained unchanged at 37%.

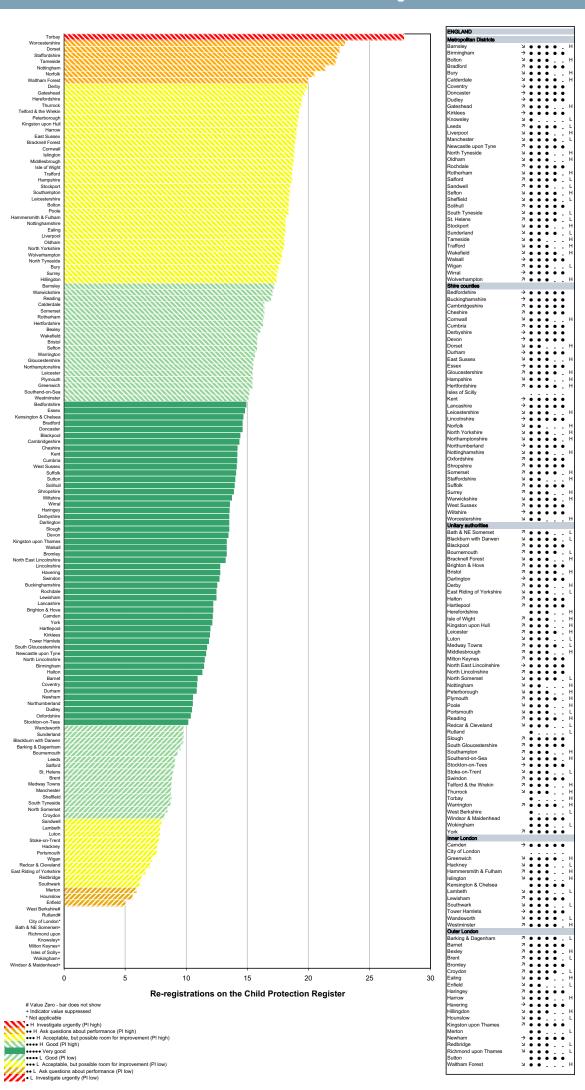
Full definition:

The numerator: Of the children in the denominator, the number who had previously been on the Child Protection Register of that council regardless of how long ago that was. New councils that have been created by local government reorganisation should include children who were previously on the Register of the corresponding old council. It is possible for an individual child to be re-registered by the same council more than once in the year. In such circumstances each occasion of re-registration should be counted in the numerator.

Source: CPR3 Table 7 line 2 and Table 9

The denominator: The number of children registered to the Child Protection Register at any time during the year. The denominator is a count of each occasion of registration in the year, and may count the same child more than once.

Source: CPR3 Table 5 and Table 9





CF/A4

Employment, education and training for care leavers [joint working] (BVPI 161)

The ratio of the percentage of those young people who were looked after on 1 April in their 17th year (aged 16), who were engaged in education, training or employment at the age of 19 to the percentage of all young people in the population who were engaged in education, training or employment at the age of 19.

Rationale for indicator

Research shows that care leavers experience high levels of unemployment and are at risk of homelessness and social exclusion. This indicator shows the performance of local authorities in improving outcomes for young people leaving their care, so that they are enabled to achieve, to make a positive contribution and to be offered the opportunity to secure their future economic well being.

Good performance

Generally high

Bands

Low				high
•	••	•••	••••	••••
0<0.4	0.4<0.5	0.5<0.6		0.6+

Changes to definition

2004-05: The definition of this indicator changed to apply a denominator of the percentage of local young people in education, employment and training to the percentage of care leavers in education, employment and training, and to produce a ratio of one to the other.

Outcomes Framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Achieving Economic Well-Being".

Related indicators

CF/A2 and CF/C24 deal with educational attainment and school attendance respectively; these are less of a final outcome than CF/A4, but data are available sooner and relate to more recent performance. CF/C63 (participation at reviews) and CF/C68 (reviews on time) are important in ensuring that the transition into adulthood for older children is effectively planned.

Notes on interpretation

Using the new definition, introduced in 2004-05, an outturn ratio of 0.92, for example, shows that the level of care leavers in education, employment and training is at 92% of the level of young people in education, employment and training in the local population.

Data for the percentage of all young people in employment, training or education were derived from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and can be found on the CSCI website at http://www.csci.org.uk/care_professional/councils/paf/additional_resources.aspx

Since these figures are from a survey they are subject to a margin of error. More importantly, the denominator covers a wider age-range than the numerator because the LFS is a national sample survey and limiting results to those aged 19 at council level could produce unreliable results. Ideally the LFS would have sufficient coverage to provide an estimate for 19 year olds at a local level so that the comparison with data on formerly looked after children at age 19 could be as precise as possible. Sample error, however, would be too great for this and hence the 18-24 year old cohort is used. Data on the regional and national variation in the percentage of 19 year olds in employment, education and training in 2003 suggests that

the difference between single years of age is not marked.

Nearly one council in three had fewer than 20 care leavers in the numerator. Small changes in the 19 year-old cohort can have large consequences for the end result.

Data

See Table 4.

Commentary on performance

Performance on this indicator has improved further. The England average for the ratio of young people aged 19 in 2005-06 who were looked after by councils in their 17th year on 1 April 2003 and who were engaged in education, training or employment at the age of 19, to that of other young people, was 0.76, a rise of 0.06 percentage points. In 2005-06 there was very little variation across the averages for most groups of councils; performance improved for all council groups on the previous year by around 0.04. The Inner and 0uter London councils, though, saw increases of 0.19 and 0.10, taking their averages to 0.89 and 0.81 respectively.

Ninety-six per cent of councils achieved band 3 or above, compared to 90% in 2004-05. Eighty-two per cent of all councils achieved band 5 with a ratio of 0.60 or greater (band 4 is not used for this indicator). Ten per cent of councils achieved a ratio of greater than 1.00. Six of these were London councils, 5 were metropolitan districts, mostly in the north, and 4 were unitaries, in the midlands and north.

Full definition:

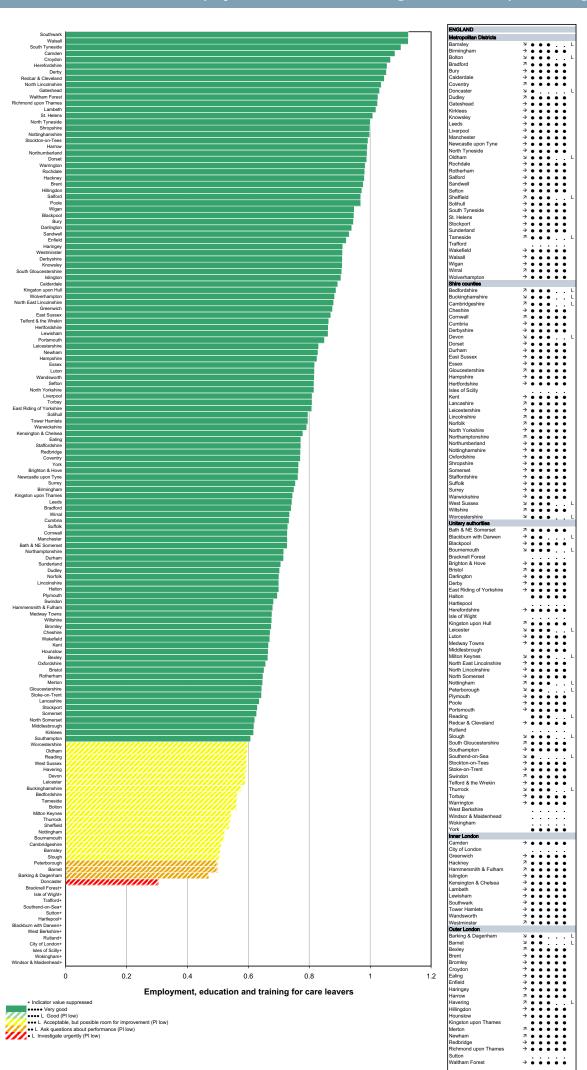
The numerator: The number of young people who were looked after who were in contact within the period 3 months before to 1 month after their 19th birthday and were engaged in education, training or employment, whether full time or part time as a percentage of all young people who were looked after whose 19th birthday is defined as follows (each young person is counted only once even if they ceased to be looked after more than once):

The number of young people whose 19th birthday falls in the year ending 31 March of the reporting year 't', who were:

- a. looked after on 1 April year 't-2' at the age of 16 and who ceased to be looked after before their 19th birthday; or
- b. who were looked after and turned 17 on the 1 April year 't-2' and who ceased to be looked after before their 19th birthday.

TABLE 4

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ●●● or more (Eng)
2001-02	46%	42%	46%	45%	49%	53%	57%
2002-03	49%	43%	49%	50%	50%	54%	68%
2003-04	55%	51%	57%	58%	53%	59%	87%
New defn. 2004-05	0.70	0.71	0.70	0.68	0.70	0.71	90%
2005-06	0.76	0.75	0.73	0.72	0.89	0.81	96%



Young people who had been looked after on 1 April of year 't-2' under an agreed series of short term placements are excluded.

The responsibility for obtaining, recording and returning this information rests with the council that had looked after the young person before he or she ceased to be looked after.

If the council does not know what has happened to the young person, the person should be included in the denominator but not in the numerator of this component of the indicator.

Source: SSDA903

The denominator: The percentage of young people in the population aged 18-24 at the time they are surveyed for the Labour Force Survey who were engaged in education, training or employment at the age of 18-24 (each young person is counted only once). For 2005-06, the most recent available LFS data are for 2004-05 at http://www.csci.org. uk/care_professional/councils/paf/additional_resources.aspx.

Source: Labour Force Survey (ONS)

CF/A70

Progress made towards a comprehensive Children and Adolescents Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
NEW INDICATOR

Councils' self assessment of progress on four elements of the implementation of the CAMHS framework

Rationale for indicator

Children and Adolescents Mental Health services have not hitherto been the subject of any PAF performance indicator. These services are, however, a key area for service improvement and consequently a measure was included for 2005-06. This indicator will allow an assessment of whether key elements of a good CAMHS service are in place in a local authority area. It is based on Appendix 2 of the Mental Health and Psychological Well-being of Children and Young People chapter of the National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services, which outlines the elements of a comprehensive CAMHS service.

The form of PI being used has not hitherto been used in the PAF PI set, though it is being used elsewhere for Treasury monitoring purposes and by Strategic Health Authorities. It is intended to be included for two years pending its replacement, through agreement with the DH, DfES and the Health Care Commission, by another, more outcome-focussed, measure.

Good performance

High

Bands

This new indicator will be banded for 2006-07.

Outcomes framework

The *Every Child Matters* outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Being Healthy".

Other related information to consider

Expenditure on CAMHS services and demand and staffing data (see *National CMHS Mapping Exercise 2005* report (DH, DfES, University of Durham 2006).

Notes on interpretation

Councils reported their self assessed score on each of the four components via the Durham CAMHS mapping website (http://www.camhsmapping.org.uk/2006/index.php.) The responses related to the position across the local authority (where there may be more than one CAMHS partnership) as at February 2006.

The method of scoring is slightly different for each of the four components, but broadly follows the following pattern: 1 for no protocols in place; 2 for protocols in place, but no services yet; 3 for protocols and services in place, but only partial implementation; 4 for everything in place and full implementation. The possible minimum score is 4 and the maximum is 16.

Because this is a new PI, using a new method of scoring, and because the robustness of the self-reporting by councils will need to be verified, this PI is not banded for 2005-06.

Data

See Table 5, overleaf.

TABLE 5

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London		% Councils ●●● or more (Eng)
2005-06	11	11	11	11	14	12	

Commentary on performance

The England average score for this indicator was 11, out of a possible maximum of 16. There was little variation from the England average in relation to council type, other than for Inner London which had an average score of 14.

Ninety-one per cent of councils rated themselves as having a total score of 9 or more. Fifty-one per cent of councils had a score of 4 in at least one of the components. Six per cent of councils had a total score of 15 or more. Two councils (1%), both in London, rated themselves as having a comprehensive CAMHS service.

Seven per cent of councils rated themselves as not having made much overall progress, with scores of 6-8. Of this group, half were unitary authorities. Thirteen per cent of councils had at least one rating of 1.

There were two least well implemented components. For the extent to which there was a full range of services for children and young people with learning disabilities had been commissioned, 31% of councils rated themselves 1 or 2. For whether protocols were in place for partnership working between agencies for children and young people with complex, persistent and severe behavioural and mental health needs, 32% of councils rated themselves 1 or 2.

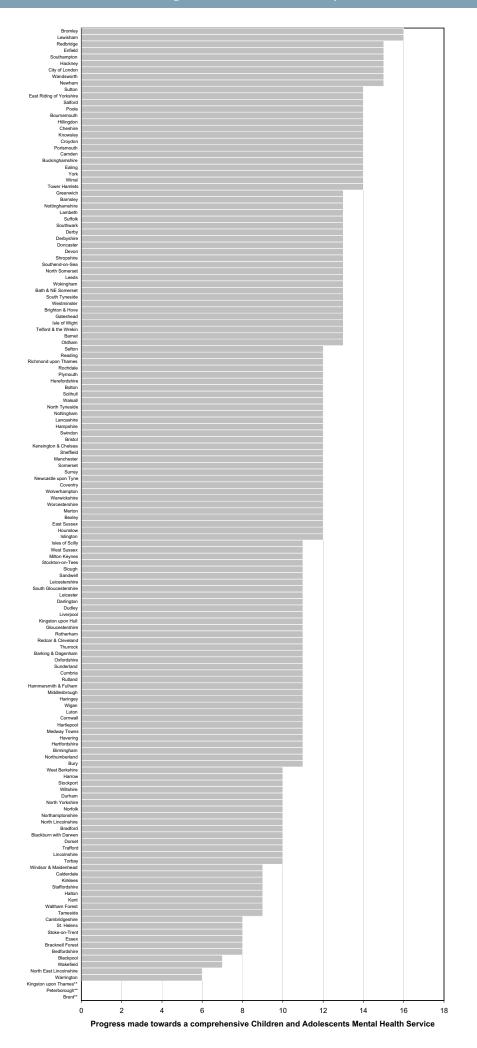
Full definition:

The new PI reflects development in local authority areas of key services for children and adolescents. It has four components, the first three of which relate to a PSA target on CAMHS services. The scoring used is broadly in line with the Self Assessment matrix for 2005-06 – each of the components features in this matrix¹. The plans and protocols for each component must be part of the overall strategy for the CAMHS service developed for each CAMHS partnership in line with the NSF.

The components are: by February 2006

- Was a full range of CAMH services for children and young people with learning disabilities commissioned for your council area?
- 2. Did 16 and 17 year olds from your council area who require mental health services have access to services appropriate to their age and level of maturity?
- 3. Were arrangements in place for your council area to ensure that 24 hour cover is available to meet urgent mental health needs of children and young people and for a specialist mental health assessment to be undertaken within 24 hours or the next working day where indicated?
- 4. Were protocols in place for your council area for partnership working between agencies for children and young people with complex, persistent and severe behavioural and mental health needs?

¹ For which see CAMHS Partnership self assessment matrix 2005-06 [at http://www.hascas.org.uk/camhs/partnership.htm]



Councils have rated their performance against each of the components on a scale of 1 to 4, and the final outturn is an aggregate of these four component scores, ie a whole number between four and sixteen.

For the complete detail of the definition, including the detail of the council responses, please see: www.camhsmapping.org.uk/2005/help/camhs_la_pi.pdf

Source: Durham University annual CAMHS mapping exercise.

CF/B7

Children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption

Of children looked after at 31 March (excluding those placed with parents) the percentage who were in foster placements or placed for adoption.

Rationale for indicator

Most children's needs are such that they will make better developmental progress in family settings rather than in residential care, although for a minority of children residential care will continue to offer the best solution. In most cases, caring for children in family settings also costs less than residential care. Therefore a higher value indicates both a better outcome and a more efficient one, subject to placing children with parents (under care orders) where appropriate and providing residential care for the minority of children for whom this is best.

Good performance

Generally high

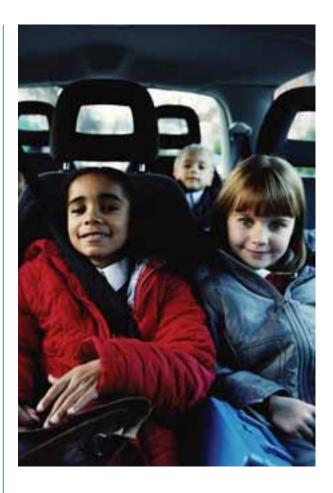
A very high figure, however, raises questions because it is likely that there will always be some children needing some form of residential care.

Bands

	low						high	
•	••	•••	••••	••••	••••	•••	••	•
0<55	55<70	70<80	80<85	85<90	90<95		95<=100	

Changes to definition

2001-02: Children placed with parents were excluded from the denominator; data for that year are also provided on the basis of the old definition.



Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Staying Safe".

Related indicators

CF/B8 (costs for children looked after); CF/C23 (adoptions of children looked after), CF/D35 (long term stability of children looked after), and CF/C68 (reviews on time).

Other related information to consider

The number of children looked after per head of population (KIGS CH39), the age of children looked after (KIGS CH40-43), numbers of children placed with parents (KIGS CH46) and deprivation and socio-economic status levels. The unit costs of fostering (KIGS PAF B10).

TABLE 6

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ●●● or more (Eng)
1998-99	70.8%	67%	72%	73%	72%	72%	83%
1999-00	70.7%	68%	72%	74%	71%	69%	81%
2000-01	70.9%	68%	73%	74%	70%	69%	83%
2001-02	71.7%	70%	73%	74%	72%	70%	90%
New defn. 2001-02	80.8%	81%	82%	84%	76%	75%	91%
2002-03	81.7%	82%	83%	85%	77%	77%	96%
2003-04	81.3%	82%	83%	85%	75%	75%	95%
2004-05	81.3%	82%	83%	84%	75%	76%	94%
2005-06	81.5%	81%	83%	85%	76%	77%	95%

Data

See Table 6.

Commentary on performance

Performance on this indicator has remained static for the past five years. The England average is 81.5%. As in 2004-05, average values by council group range from unitary authorities, at 85%, to Inner and Outer London, at 76% and 77% respectively. No council group, though, has changed by more than one percentage point in the last few years.

The percentage of councils in band 3 or better has increased, again, to 95% from 94% in 2004-05. No councils were in band 2H with an indicator value of 95% or more and eight were in band 4H with a value of between 90% and 95%. Six councils were in band 2L due to indicator values between 55% and 70%, and one authority was in band 1L with an indicator value of less than 55%.

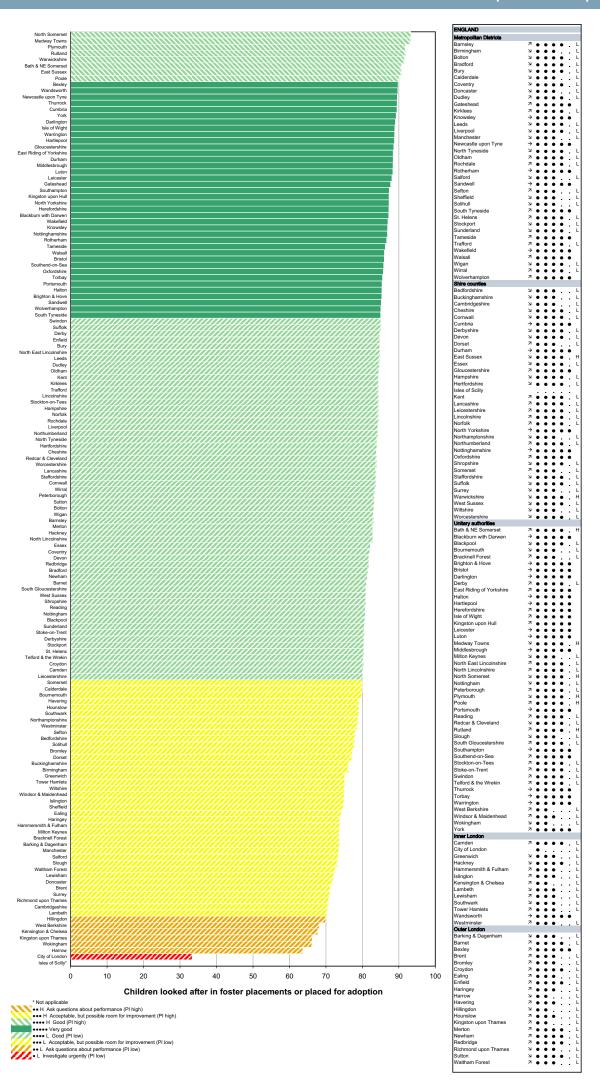
Full definition:

The numerator: Of the children looked after looked after in the denominator, the number who were in foster placements or placed for adoption.

Source: SSDA903

The denominator: The total number of children who were looked after at 31 March, excluding any children placed with parents or children who were looked after on that date under an agreed series of short term placements (under the provisions of Reg. 13 of the Arrangement for Placement of Children (General) Regulations, 1991).

Source: SSDA903





CF/B8

Cost of services for children looked after

Average gross weekly expenditure per looked after child in foster care or in a children's home.

Rationale for indicator

The cost of services is an important aspect of efficient delivery of services. Other things (such as quality) being equal, a lower unit cost is more efficient. With this indicator the overall unit cost of looking after children, in residential or foster care, can be assessed, allowing for potential changes in costs of particular forms of care such as fostering, arising from changes to quality and supply.

Performance against all of the measures in the cost and efficiency performance area will be taken as evidence of progress against the improvement in Social Services efficiency target of at least 2.5% year-on-year required at a national level by the Government.

Good performance

Average to low

Very low costs may suggest that quality of care (or data quality) is poor, and are banded accordingly.

Bands

New bandings were calculated for 2002-03 for the four Area Cost Adjustment groups using the adjusted cost indicator data for 2001-02, and uprated for inflation (the PSS inflation index published by PSSRU) of 4.6% and by a further 5.3% to give the bandings for 2003-04. For 2004-05 the bandings were uprated by a factor of 4.6% for children's services (using data from the Department of Health). For 2005-06 bandings for the four Area Cost Adjustment groups were calculated by applying revised inflation factors for children's services provided by the Department of Health (5.0% for 2002-03, 4.2% for 2003-04, 4.3% for 2004-05 and 3.8% for 2005-06) to the adjusted cost indicator data for 2001-02.

	low				high
	••	•••	••••	•••	••
Group 1	£0<£394	£394<£423	£423<£564	£564<£630	>=£630
Group 2	£0<£387	£387<£415	£415<£553	£553<£636	>=£636
Group 3	£0<£482	£482<£516	£516<£688	£688<£792	>=£792
Group 4	£0<£484	£484<£519	£519<£692	£692<£750	>=£750

Changes to definition

2000-01: The source and definition for this indicator changed to include expenditure on capital charges and a full share of Social Services Management and Support Services (SSMSS) costs for all councils. Furthermore, categories of service provision were aligned with sub-divisions in the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Service Expenditure Analysis for Social Services which forms part of their Best Value Accounting Code of Practice. This particularly increased indicator CF/B8 through the inclusion of Social Services expenditure on boarding schools.

2002-03: Definition changed to that of the former adjusted cost indicator which includes nights spent in boarding schools, placed for adoption and respite nights in the denominator (the corresponding expenditure is included in the numerator). The 2001-02 data shown overleaf are on this basis.

Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework does not group this indicator under one of the five main outcome headings, but performance is assessed under the general heading of "Service Management", which relates to a council's capacity to deliver across all outcome areas.

Related indicators

CF/B7 (children looked after who were in foster placements or placed for adoption) which shows the balance of care. AO/B12 (cost of intensive social care for adults and older people) is the equivalent for adult services.

Other related information to consider

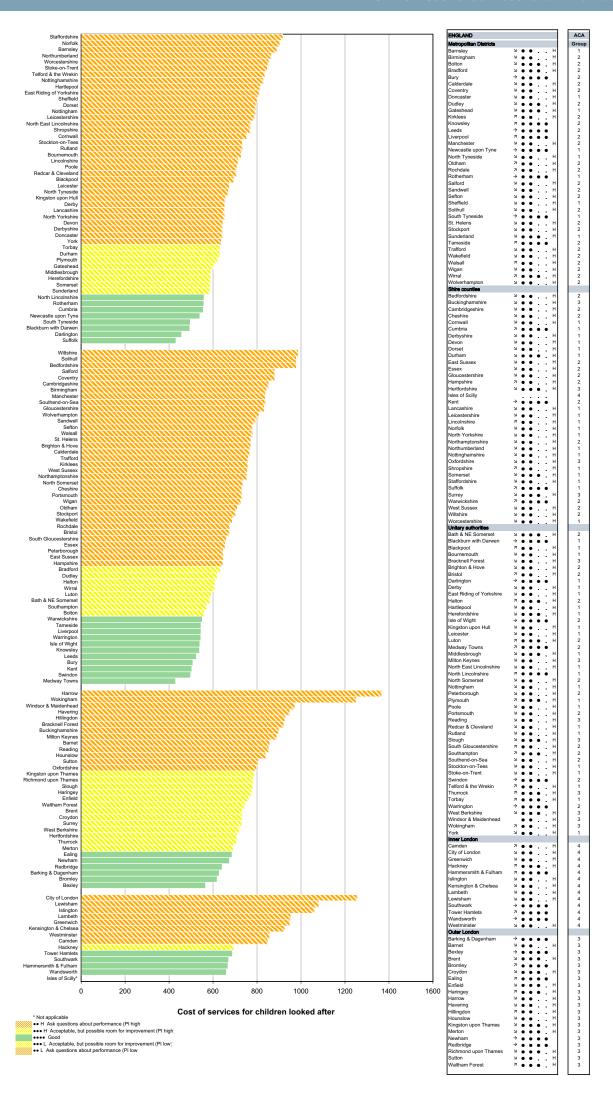
The time series for CF/B8. Separate unit costs for children's homes and foster care and associated KIGS data on more detailed unit costs (KIGS PAF_B9 and PAF_B10, so called as they were formerly PAF indicators). Unit costs for councils' own provision and for provision by others.

Notes on interpretation

This indicator can be improved by commissioning foster care and residential care at lower unit cost and, more importantly, by shifting the pattern of care away from residential to foster care. Moving children from residential to foster care may increase the unit costs of both as more dependent children are cared for in both settings, but still decrease CF/B8.

TABLE 7

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ••• or more (Eng)
2000-01	£502	£490	£506	£426	£613	£593	
2001-02	£487	£465	£479	£435	£596	£586	
2002-03	£560	£523	£557	£501	£684	£699	
2003-04	£618	£596	£612	£566	£707	£744	
2004-05	£676	£661	£665	£640	£793	£729	
2005-06	£716	£700	£709	£683	£835	£759	
	England	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4		
2001-02	£487	£486	£456	£565	£596		69%
2002-03	£560	£529	£523	£666	£684		56%
2003-04	£618	£575	£598	£726	£707		54%
2004-05	£676	£644	£657	£731	£793		47%
2005-06	£716	£693	£694	£768	£835		40%



In 2004-05 the placement codes included in the denominator were expanded to include the new code A2 (placed for adoption with current foster carers). Such placements were previously all coded along with other A1 placements and the addition of this code represents no actual change to the types of placement activity used in the calculation.

The 2005-06 data for this indicator should be treated as provisional (see Annex D). Explanations of Area Cost Adjustment (ACA) groups can be found in Annex A.

Data

See Table 7 on page 38.

Commentary on performance

Between 2004-05 and 2005-06 the England average increased by 6%, or 2% allowing for inflation to £716. Between 2003-04 and 2004-05 this increased by 9%, or 4% allowing for inflation, and between 2002-03 and 2003-04 it increased by 10%, or 5% allowing for inflation. There was an increase of 15%, or 10% allowing for inflation, between 2001-02 and 2002-03. Thus the rate of increase has fallen in each of the last three years.

In 2005-06 40% of councils were in band 3 or 4, down from 47% in 2004-05, 54% in 2003-04, 56% in 2002-03, and 69% in 2001-02. Of the ninety councils (60%) in band 2 and the thirty (20%) in band 3, all were in bands 2H and 3H, with higher costs.

All council and Area Cost Adjustment groups showed increases in the average cost between 2004-05 and 2005-06 of between 4% and 8%, or 0% and 4% allowing for inflation. As expected, costs were higher in London and in ACA groups 3 and 4.

Full definition:

The numerator: Gross total cost for children looked after in foster care and children's homes during the year.

Source: PSS EX1 sheet Incl. SSMSS column I (Gross total cost (Current expenditure including capital charges): Total (including joint arrangements))

lines BB1 (Children's homes) + BB3 (Fostering services)

The denominator: The total number of weeks children (other than asylum seeking children) spent in foster care, children's homes, residential schools and placed for adoption (placement codes A1, A2, F1 to F6, H3 to H5 and S1 as defined by the SSDA903 collection) during the year. Children's homes include community homes, voluntary homes and hostels and private registered children's homes. Any placements that formed part of an agreed series of short termplacements (under the provisions of Reg. 13 of the Arrangement for Placement of Children (General) Regulations, 1991) and any time spent in respect of respite care are included. Calculation based on the total number of days of care divided by 7.

Source: PSS EX1

Final warnings/reprimands and convictions of children looked after

The percentage of children aged 10 or over who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months, who were given a final warning/reprimand or convicted during the year for an offence committed whilst they were looked after, expressed as a ratio of the percentage of all children aged 10 or over given a final warning/reprimand or convicted for an offence in the police force area.

Rationale for indicator

Offending is both a factor in the past history of a significant number of children who become looked after and a measure of the quality of care and support children receive once in care. We would wish to see the rate of final warnings/reprimands or convictions for looked after children fall to match those for all children in the local population.

Good performance

Generally not much higher than one

A figure of one shows that children looked after are given final warnings/reprimands or convicted at the same rate as all children in the area; less than one would show children looked after are given final warnings/reprimands or convicted less than all children (such a value would be unlikely and may be due to poor data quality).

Bands

low high								
•	••	•••	••••	••••	••••	•••	••	•
	0<1	1<3					3+	

Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Making a Positive Contribution".

Related indicators

CF/A2 (educational qualifications of children looked after), CF/C24 (children looked after absent from school) and CF/C68 (reviews on time).

Other related information to consider

Final warnings and convictions for all young people in the area. Changes over time in the numbers and proportions of young people looked after for more than a year aged 10 and over with warnings or convictions in the area, collected in the OC2 return and published in *Outcome Indicators for Looked after Children*.

Notes on interpretation

Caution should be exercised in the interpretation of this indicator as it compares final warnings/ reprimands or convictions for children looked after by each council with the rate for all children in the police force area, which may cover several adjoining councils.

Nearly one in three councils had relatively small numbers of looked after children, that is fewer than 10, that fell into the required category for inclusion in CF/C18. Small changes in numbers can have large consequences to the end result. It is important to look separately at the numerator and denominator for this indicator. The trends data is also key, because a council may be successfully reducing its looked after numerator ratio while the denominator ratio for the police force area is reducing at a faster rate.

Data

See Table 8, overleaf.

TABLE 8

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ●●● or more (Eng)
2000-01	3.0	2.8	3.0	3.4	2.3	2.6	46%
2001-02	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.3	1.9	2.1	54%
2002-03	2.7	2.6	3.0	3.5	1.8	2.1	59%
2003-04	2.9	2.6	2.9	3.6	2.0	2.4	54%
2004-05	2.8	2.4	3.0	3.5	2.3	1.8	55%
2005-06	2.6	2.3	2.9	3.2	1.7	1.8	65%

Commentary on performance

Performance on this indicator has continued to improve very gradually since 2003-04. The England average for the percentage of looked after children that received a final warning/reprimand or conviction was 2.6 times the corresponding percentage for all children aged 10 and over in 2005-06, falling from 2.8 in 2004-05.

The performance of all council groups improved, but particularly in unitary councils and Inner London boroughs, where the increase was by 0.3 and 0.5 of a percentage point respectively.

Sixty-five per cent of councils recorded a value between 1 and 3 in 2005-06, putting them into band 3. This was an increase of ten percentage points on the 2004-05 figure, the highest percentage since 2000-01. Thirty-five per cent were in band 2 as a result of recording a value of 3 and over, compared to 46% the previous year. One council recorded a value of less than 1.

In 2005-06 the percentage of looked after children that received a final warning/reprimand or conviction (the numerator) remained at 9.3%. This is still above the previous Public Service Agreement target level of 7.2% by 2004. Although the looked after offending rate has been falling in the past few years, the rate of offending in the 10 to 17 year old population as a whole has fallen more sharply.

Full definition:

The numerator: This is a ratio consisting of

The number of children looked after at 30 September aged 10 or over, who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months and who had, during these 12 months, been given a final warning/reprimand for or convicted of an offence that had been committed while they were looked after.

Source: 0C2, Question 7b

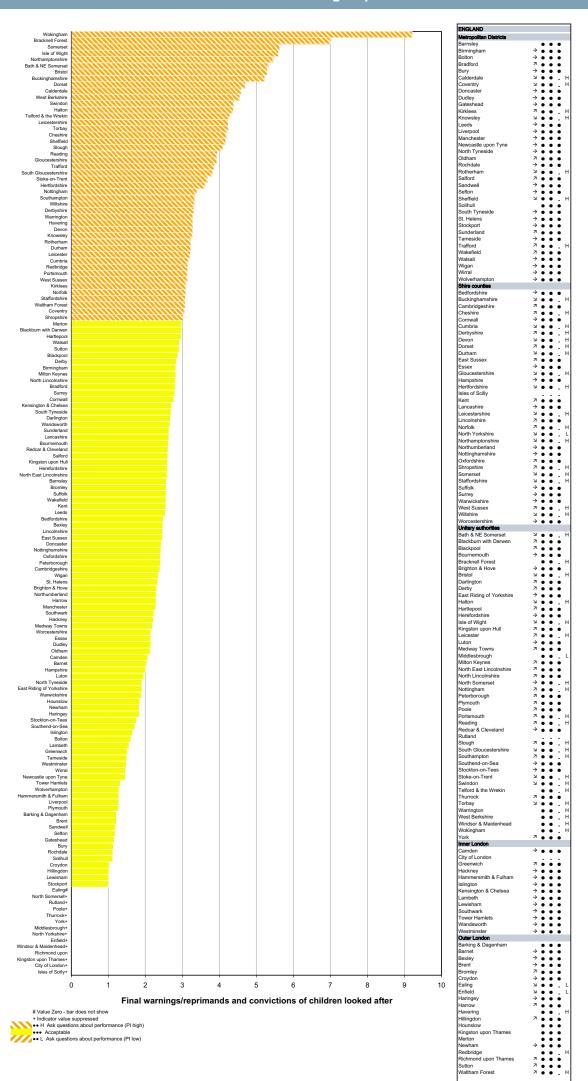
Divided by

The total number of children looked after at 30 September aged 10 or over, who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months.

Source: 0C2, Question 7a

The denominator: The proportion of all children (aged 10-17) living in the local police force area who had been given a final warning/reprimand or convicted for an offence during the previous calendar year.

(Figures on this basis are supplied by the Home Office to the Department for Education and Skills.)



Health of children looked after

The average of the percentages of children looked after at 30 September who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months, and who had their teeth checked by a dentist during the previous 12 months, and had an annual health assessment during the previous 12 months.

Rationale for indicator

These are basic health requirements for all children which should not be overlooked for children looked after. This indicator should have an association with good parenting, notwithstanding the fact that older children looked after might exercise their right to refuse medical examinations and treatments. We would expect to see high proportions of children looked after receiving this basic health care.

There is an associated National Priorities Guidance objective to enable looked after children to gain maximum life chance benefit from educational opportunities, health care, social care and other services.

Good performance

High

Bands

low	high			
•	••	•••	••••	••••
0<50	50<60	60<70	70<80	80<=100

Changes to definition

2002-03: Third component on immunisations was dropped as the information was sometimes not available (for example, for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children). The data for earlier years shown below are on this basis.

Outcomes framework

The *Every Child Matters* outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Being Healthy".

Related indicators

CF/C63 (participation in reviews), CF/C68 (reviews on time) and CF/C69 (distance placed from home) may also have an impact on how well the child's health needs are met.

Other related information to consider

This indicator is an amalgam of two components dealing with visits to the dentist and health assessments. It may be useful to look at each of these individually; poor performance on one component may be masked by good performance on the other. Age of looked after children (KIGS CH 40-43) is also important because young people, particularly those aged 16 and older, are more likely to refuse to attend an appointment for a dental check or health assessment.

Notes on interpretation

These figures should be interpreted with caution. Children have a right to refuse a health assessment or dental check. Although councils should encourage children looked after to have a health assessment, refusals may impact on a council's indicator value.

Data

See Table 9, overleaf.

TABLE 9

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ••• or more (Eng)
2000-01	64.3%	60%	68%	68%	62%	65%	70%
2001-02	68.2%	65%	70%	73%	61%	67%	80%
2002-03	71.6%	68%	73%	75%	64%	77%	86%
2003-04	75.1%	75%	74%	79%	71%	76%	91%
2004-05	78.1%	78%	77%	80%	79%	77%	97%
2005-06	81.3%	78%	81%	84%	85%	84%	97%

Commentary on performance

Performance continues to improve on this indicator. The England average in 2005-06 of the percentages of children looked after continuously for at least 12 months who had their teeth checked by a dentist during the previous 12 months or had an annual health assessment during the previous 12 months was 81%. This was a rise of three percentage points from the previous year. The percentages for the two separate components also both rose by 3%, to 82% and 80% respectively.

All council groups except metropolitan districts showed an improvement between 2004-05 and 2005-06. There were increases of 4 percentage points for shires and unitaries, 6 for Inner London and 7 for Outer London.

Ninety-seven per cent of councils recorded a value of 60% or over, putting them into band 3 or above, unchanged from the previous year. Seventy-four per cent of councils recorded 80% or over, putting them into band 5; a substantial increase on the 2004-05 figure of 58% of councils.

Full definition:

This is the average of two indicators which are calculated separately.

The numerators:

The number of the children in the denominator who had their teeth checked by a dentist during the year ending 30 September.

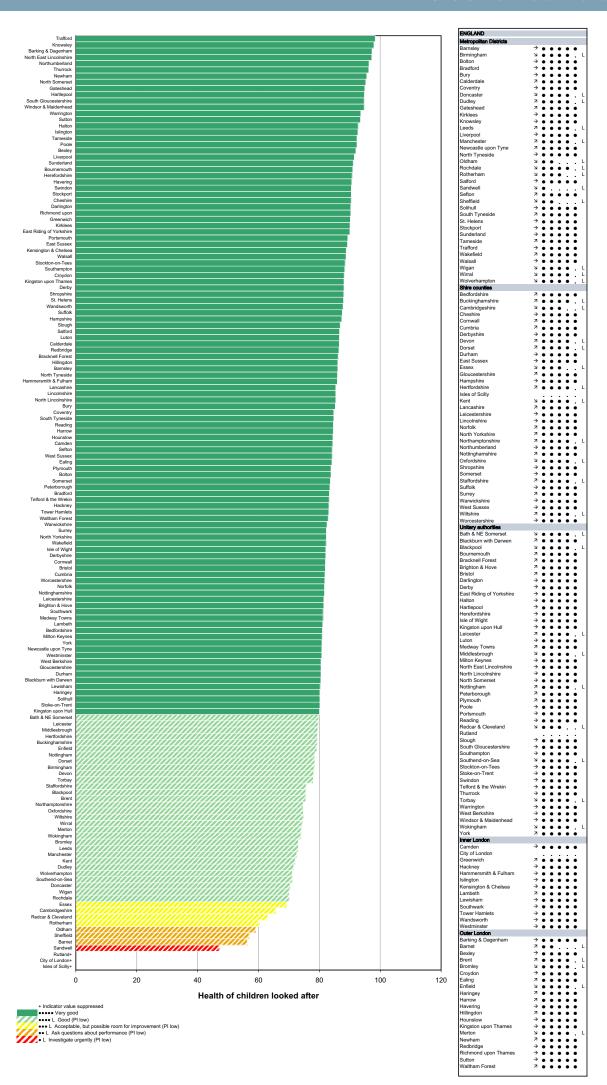
Source: 0C2 Question 10

The number of the children in the denominator who had had an annual health assessment during the year ending 30 September.

Source: 0C2 Question 11

The denominator: The total number of children looked after at 30 September, who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months.

Source: 0C2 Question 1



Reviews of child protection cases (BVPI 162)

The percentage of child protection cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed.

Rationale for indicator

This indicator tries to use reviews as a proxy for the measurement of the effectiveness of the interventions provided to children on the Child Protection Register. Guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children, which came into effect from December 1999, requires that the first child protection review is held within three months of the initial child protection conference and thereafter at intervals of no more than six months. Reviews are a key element in delivering Child Protection Plans and effective reviews should ensure the provision of good quality interventions.

Good performance

Generally 100%

Bands

low	low								
•	••	•••	••••	•••••					
0<92.5	92.5<95	95<97.5	97.5<100	100					

Changes to definition

2003-04: The definition of this indicator changed to include children who had been on the Register for at least 3 months but less than 6 months and to count in the numerator only children whose first review of the year was within 6 months of their previous review or, if this was their first review, within 3 months of being placed on the Register.

Outcomes Framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Staying Safe".

Related indicators

CF/A3 (re-registrations on the Child Protection Register) and CF/C21 (duration on the Child Protection Register) – a high figure for CF/C20 would be expected to be linked with reasonably low figures for CF/C21, otherwise the efficacy of the reviews may be questionable.

Other related information to consider

Percentage of children and young people on the child protection register who are not allocated to a social worker (APA 2024C). Difficulties in recruiting and retaining key social work staff (APA 6011SC-6014SC). The proportion of children on the CPR who are seen by their social worker each month. Percentage of children in year whose protection plan objectives have been achieved.

Data

See Table 10, overleaf.

TABLE 10

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ••• or more (Eng)
1998-99	87%	87%	89%	82%	87%	87%	41%
1999-00	81%	77%	87%	81%	76%	76%	29%
2000-01	87%	88%	88%	91%	83%	79%	45%
2001-02	93%	91%	91%	96%	94%	93%	66%
2002-03	97%	98%	96%	98%	96%	97%	79%
New defn. 2003-04	95%	96%	95%	94%	98%	98%	79%
2004-05	99%	99%	99%	98%	100%	98%	94%
2005-06	99%	99%	100%	99%	100%	99%	98%

Commentary on performance

Performance on this indicator continued to be good. The England average for 2005-06 was 99%, unchanged from the previous year. The variation between council groups was minimal. Most increased by one percentage point, with the shire councils reaching 100% for the first time, joining Inner London which maintained that figure for the second year running.

Ninety-eight percent of councils were in band 3 or above (95% and above), compared to 94% in 2004-05. Seventy-four per cent of councils reviewed all child protection cases on time, placing them in band 5, compared to 64% the previous year. The proportion of those in band 1 (less than 92.5%) has reduced from 11% of councils in 2003-04 to 1% in 2005-06.

Full definition:

The numerator: Of the children in the denominator, the number of children whose cases had been reviewed so that:

- i) the first review of the year was held within 6 months of the last review in the previous year (or within 3 months of the child being placed on the Register, if there was no review in the previous year);
- ii) the maximum gap between reviews during the year was 6 months; and
- iii) a review was held within 6 months of the end of the year (ie on or after 1 October).

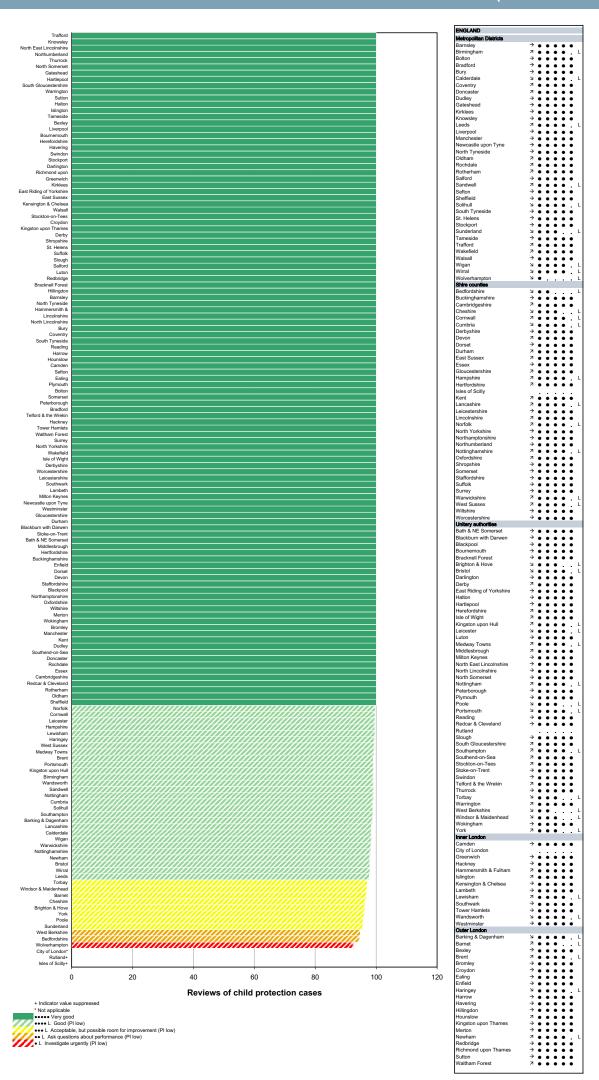
(Note that the only account taken of reviews in previous years is set out at i).

A review should be recorded in writing and should consider the child's safety, health and development against the intended outcomes set out in the child protection plan.

Source: CPR3 Table 9

The denominator: The number of children on the Child Protection Register at 31 March who at that date had been on the Register continuously for at least the previous 3 months.

Source: CPR3 Table 9



Duration on the Child Protection Register

The percentage of children de-registered from the Child Protection Register during the year who had been on the Register continuously for two years or more.

Rationale for indicator

Registration should ensure that children who are likely to suffer significant harm are protected and that they and their families are receiving the services necessary to bring about the required changes in the family situation. Professionals, the child and the family should be working towards specified outcomes which should lead to the child's name being taken off the Register within two years.

Good performance

Generally low

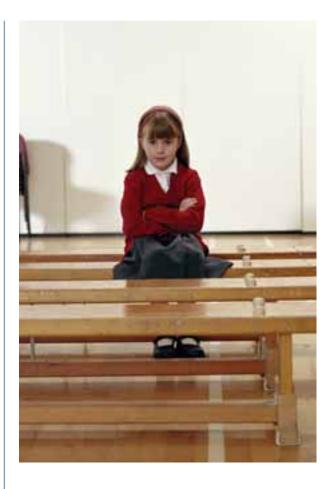
It is not always clear what an extremely low figure for this indicator means: in such cases, performance should be looked at carefully.

Bands

	low							
•••••	••••	•••	••	•				
	0<10	10<15	15<20	20<=100				

Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Staying Safe".



Related indicators

CF/A3 (re-registrations on the CPR). A good (ie low) figure for CF/C21 may be explained by a poor (ie high) figure for CF/A3. CF/C20 (reviews of child protection cases). If CF/C21 is poor (high), then this may be explained by a poor (low) figure for CF/C20.

Other related information to consider

The number of children on the Register per 10,000 under 18 (KIGS CH01), the levels of registrations and de-registrations (KIGS CH03 and CH10), data for earlier years on the percentage of children who have been on the Register for two years or more (KIGS AC_L11b), the category of abuse (KIGS CH05-08) and the types of intervention and support. Difficulties in recruiting and retaining key social work staff may have an impact on this indicator (APA 6011-6014SC).

Data

See Table 11.

Commentary on performance

Performance on this indicator has remained fairly static since 2002-03. The England average in 2005-06 remained at the previous year's figure of 6%. There were only small changes in the values for the council groups.

The proportion of councils in band 3 or above, which has increased in the previous five years, remained at 97% in 2005-06. The proportion in band 4 (there is no band 5), which is an indicator value of less than 10%, rose slightly from 83% to 84%. Only one council was in band 1 (20% or above).

Full definition:

The numerator: Of the children in the denominator, the number who had been on the Register continuously for two years or longer (ie for more than 729 days including day of de-registration).

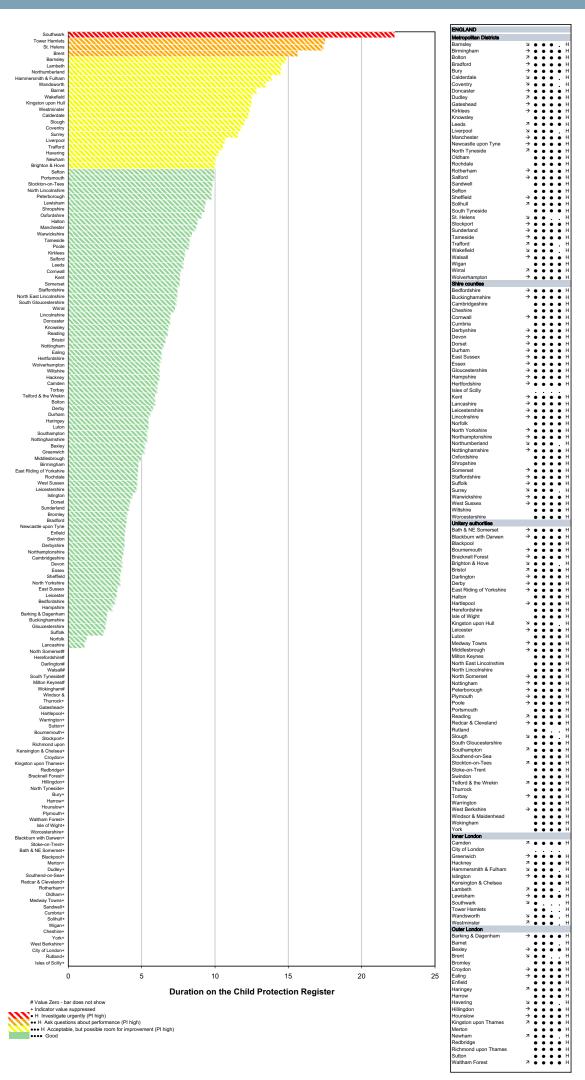
Source: CPR3 Table 8 lines 5 and 6 and Table 9

The denominator: The number of children deregistered from the Child Protection Register during the year. This may count a child more than once if they were deregistered more than once during the year.

Source: CPR3 Table 8 line 7 and Table 9

TABLE 11

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner	Outer	% Councils ●●●
					London	London	or more (Eng)
1998-99	13%	17%	8%	10%	19%	18%	71%
1999-00	12%	15%	9%	10%	19%	15%	71%
2000-01	11%	13%	9%	10%	16%	16%	74%
2001-02	10%	11%	7%	8%	16%	17%	79%
2002-03	8%	9%	7%	7%	13%	11%	91%
2003-04	7%	7%	5%	6%	12%	9%	93%
2004-05	6%	7%	4%	5%	10%	6%	97%
2005-06	6%	6%	5%	5%	11%	6%	97%





Adoptions of children looked after (BVPI 163) CHANGE TO DEFINITION

The number of looked after children adopted during the year as a percentage of the number of children looked after at 31 March (excluding unaccompanied asylum seekers) who had been looked after for 6 months or more on that day.

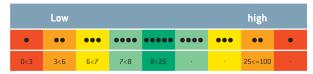
Rationale for indicator

For most children the best place to grow up is with their birth parents. Where this is not possible, society has a clear responsibility to provide children with stability and permanence in their lives. The Government believes that more can and should be done to promote the wider use of adoption which offers the only legally secure placement for children unable to return to their birth families. This indicator seeks to encourage the use of adoption.

Good performance

Generally high

Bands



Changes to definition

2001-02: Children looked after for less than 6 months were excluded from the denominator; data for that year are also provided on the basis of the old definition.

2003-04: The definition of the indicator was amended to exclude Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children.

2005-06: From September 2005, children ceasing to be looked after as a result of the granting of special guardianship orders were also included in the numerator.

Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Staying Safe".

Related indicators

CF/B7 (children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption) – a poor (ie low) figure for CF/C23 may be explained by a good (ie high) figure for CF/B7— although this would indicate scope for improvement in CF/C23. CF/D35 (long term stability of children looked after)

Other related information to consider

Age at adoption; numbers of children placed for adoption; proportion of placements for adoption ending in adoption; numbers of children looked after for more than 6 months; numbers of children returning to own families; children looked after for short periods; number of adoption breakdowns and the percentage of looked after children adopted during the year who were placed for adoption within 12 months of their best interest decision being made (KIGS CH56-57, CH69-70 CH72, APA 2058SC). Numbers of special guardianship orders.

Notes on interpretation

The Government set targets to increase the number of adoptions, without reducing the quality and stability of the placement. The targets for 2006 were a 50% increase from 2,700 (1999-2000) and all councils to bring their practice up to the current level of the best performers (band 4 or 5).

Consideration should be given to the actual trend in numbers of adoptions in each council, as improvement in these numbers is not always evident in the final indicator value. The small numbers for this indicator can also lead to some variability in the annual data and means that this indicator can be quite volatile.

Data

See Table 12.

Commentary on performance

Performance on this indicator is fairly static. The England average in 2005-06 increased slightly to 7.6%. There were small or no changes for most of the council groups. There was, though, a substantial increase in Inner London, from 6.2% in 2004-05 to 7.6% in 2005-06.

Some 3,700 children who had been looked after by councils were adopted in 2005-06. The target for a 50% increase in adoptions between 1999-2000 and 2005-06 was not met. The actual increase was 37%.

Sixty-seven per cent of councils were in band 3 or above (6% to 25%) in 2005-06, compared to 75% in the previous year. The percentage of councils in band 5 (8% to 25%), however, rose from 43% in 2004-05 to 46% in 2005-06. The Government set a target of 100% of councils to be in band 4 or 5 by 2006; in 2005-06, 55% of councils were in band 4 or 5.

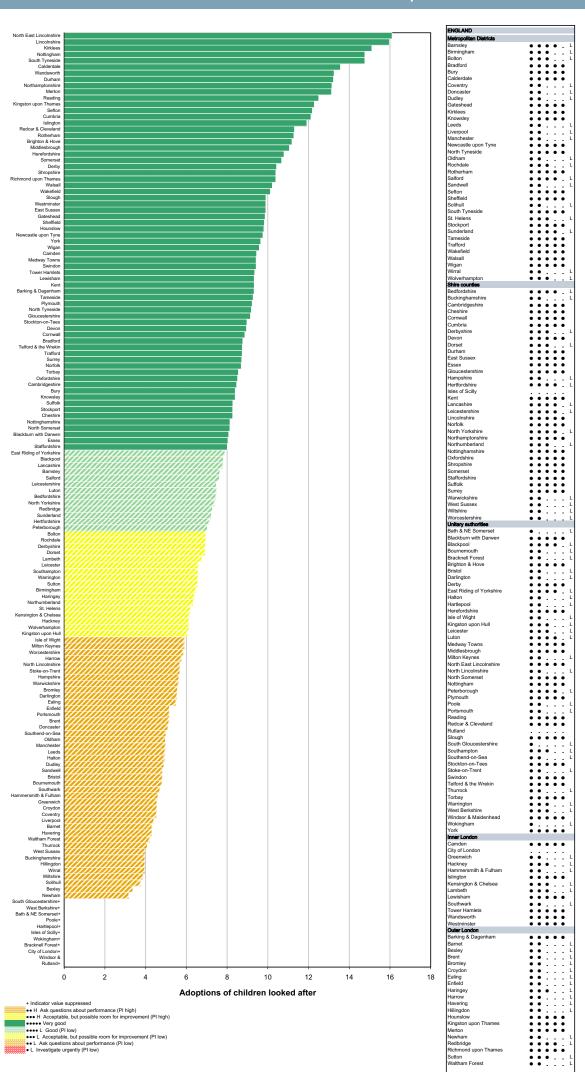
Full definition:

The numerator: The number of children who ceased to be looked after during the year as a result of the granting of an adoption order excluding any unaccompanied asylum seeking children (counting only those children who were adopted after having been looked after by the council immediately prior to adoption). From September 2005, children ceasing to be looked after as a result of the granting of a special guardianship order should also be included. Children placed for adoption or freed for adoption remain looked after until the adoption order is granted.

Source: SSDA903

TABLE 12

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ••• or more (Eng)
1998-99	4.0%	4.1%	4.1%	4.7%	2.9%	2.9%	49%
1999-00	4.7%	4.7%	5.1%	5.4%	3.4%	3.2%	62%
2000-01	5.2%	5.4%	5.5%	6.3%	3.2%	3.4%	65%
2001-02	5.7%	6.2%	5.9%	6.6%	4.4%	3.5%	78%
New defn. 2001-02	6.8%	7.2%	7.0%	7.8%	5.2%	4.4%	63%
2002-03	6.9%	7.1%	7.4%	7.7%	5.5%	4.4%	61%
New defn. 2003-04	7.5%	7.3%	7.8%	7.9%	7.3%	5.9%	75%
2004-05	7.5%	7.5%	8.2%	7.7%	6.2%	5.7%	75%
New defn 2005-06	7.6%	7.2%	8.3%	7.7%	7.6%	5.7%	67%



The denominator: The total number of children who were looked after at 31 March and who at that date had been looked after for 6 months or more (ie 183 or more days inclusive of 31 March), excluding any unaccompanied asylum seeking children and children who were looked after on that date under an agreed series of short term placements (under the provisions of Reg. 13 of the Arrangement for Placement of Children (General) Regulations, 1991).

Source: SSDA903

Children looked after absent from school [joint working]

The percentage of children who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months and were of school age, who missed a total of at least 25 days of schooling for any reason during the previous school year.

Rationale for indicator

It is the duty of the local authority as the corporate parent for the children it looks after to ensure that they are given the maximum opportunity to benefit from education. Access to school is a key factor in improving the stability of their lives. Continuous attendance will lead to improving education achievement. Local authorities, schools and other partners with an interest need to work together to ensure that when children become looked after they continue to access school, or that if a change of school is unavoidable, appropriate school provision is arranged before the care placement is finalised. Procedures should be in place to ensure that the absence of looked after children for any reason is closely monitored and dealt with appropriately.

Good performance

Generally low

Bands

low	high			
•••••	••••	•••	••	•
0<5	5<10	10<15	15<20	20+

Outcomes framework

The *Every Child Matters* outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Enjoying and Achieving".



Related indicators

CF/A2 (educational qualifications of children looked after) – a poor (high) figure for CF/C24 may also result in a poor (low) figure for CF/A2. CF/C63 (participation in reviews) where school non-attendance should be addressed. CF/A1 (placement stability) – there is evidence that children may not have a school place for some time following a placement move, particularly where this was not anticipated.

Other related information to consider

School absences and exclusions among all children. The age distribution of children looked after (KIGS CH39-43). The proportion of children in the cohort educated out-of-authority. The absence record for children looked after for less than a year.

Notes on interpretation

The rates of looked after children missing 25 days or more of school are not directly comparable to data for all children in a council area. The data collected by the DfES from schools on absence differentiate between authorised and unauthorised absence, whereas C24 does not, while the data from schools do not allow the calculation of rates of children missing 25 days of school. Also, consideration should be given to the attendance data of that proportion of the children, in the indicator's cohort, that have been educated out-of-authority.

Data

See Table 13.

Commentary on performance

Performance has remained fairly static for this indicator. The England average for the percentage of children looked after continuously for at least 12 months who missed at least 25 days school, during the year ending 30 September 2005, was 13%. This was an increase of one percentage point on a figure that had remained same for the previous four years. There were some small changes for the council groups of unitary authorities and Inner London authorities: a one percentage point increase and decrease respectively. The most significant fall was a two percentage point decrease for the Outer London authorities.

There are further indications of slightly worsening performance when looking at the band scores. Seventy-one per cent of councils recorded less than 15% of pupils missing at least 25 days school, putting them into band 3 or above. This was a fall of 2 percentage points from the previous year and represents the second lowest figure for the indicator in the past five years. Five per cent of councils recorded fewer than 5% of pupils missing at least 25 days school, putting them into band 5. This compares to 7% in the previous year and is the lowest ever figure for this indicator.

The figures are a useful context to the very slow improvement in educational attainment (CF/A2) and may also have an impact on the numbers of care leavers in employment, education and training (CF/A4) in the longer term.

Full definition:

The numerator: Of the children in the denominator, the number who missed a total of at least 25 days of education of any kind for any reason during the previous school year.

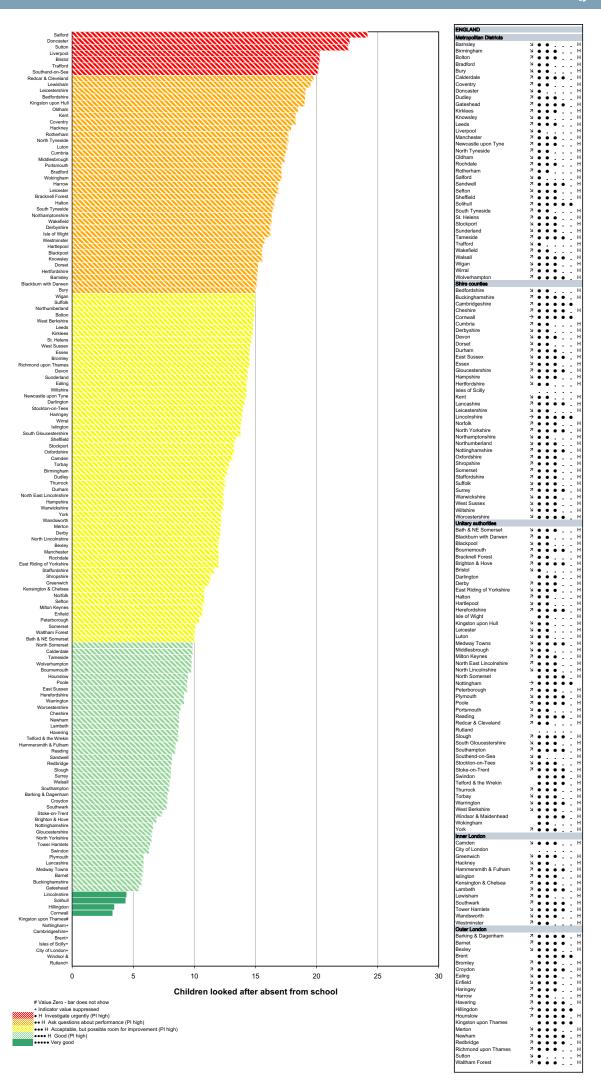
Source: 0C2 Question 2d

The denominator: The number of children looked after at 30 September who had been looked after continuously at that date for at least 12 months and were old enough to receive full time schooling during the school year that ended in the previous July.

Source: 0C2 Question 2a

TABLE 13

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ••• or more (Eng)
2000-01	12%	14%	11%	12%	12%	8%	75%
2001-02	12%	15%	10%	12%	10%	10%	73%
2002-03	12%	13%	11%	13%	13%	8%	76%
2003-04	12%	15%	12%	12%	11%	10%	69%
2004-05	12%	14%	12%	11%	13%	12%	73%
2005-06	13%	14%	12%	12%	12%	10%	71%





Participation of looked after children in reviews CHANGE TO DEFINITION

The number of children and young people who communicated their views specifically for each of their statutory reviews as a percentage of the number of children and young people who had been looked after at 31 March for more than four weeks.

Rationale

The active participation of looked after children in planning their care should contribute to improved outcomes. To ensure that the views of looked after children and young people are listened to, good practice dictates that they should either attend and participate in the review meeting, or should at least be able to express their views by some other appropriate method. The indicator measures the percentage of looked after children who did so at all their statutory reviews. The definition of the indicator allows for a wide range of ways in which this might happen. Only if the child or young person does not attend or express their views by any other means are they considered not to have participated in the review.

Good performance

High

Bands

low	High			
•	••	•••	••••	•••••
0<65	65<75	75<85	85<95	95<=100

Changes to definition

2004-05: The original definition of this new PI issued in November 2004 was formally amended before the end of March 2005 to restrict the numerator and denominator to only those who had been reviewed in the year, not those who should have been reviewed.

2005-06: The numerator has been changed to count those who participated in all their reviews during the relevant period rather than those who participated in their last review in the year.

Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Making a Positive Contribution".

Related indicators

CF/A1 (Placement stability), CF/B7 (children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption), CF/C23 (adoptions of children looked after), CF/D35 (long term stability of children looked after) and CF/C68 (reviews on time).

Other related information to consider

The age of the children looked after (KIGS CH40-43). Difficulties in recruiting and retaining key social work staff (6011-6014SC).

Notes on interpretation

The PI measures participation in the review process. There is a statutory obligation to review the cases of looked after children, first within 28 days of their becoming looked after, then within a further three months, and subsequently at intervals of no more than six months until they cease to be looked after. Councils need to ensure that the views expressed by children and young people are given due consideration and action taken where appropriate to achieve agreed outcomes for the young person.

TABLE 14

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ••• or more (Eng)
2004-05	81%	76%	82%	84%	88%	84%	84%
New defn 2005-06	79%	75%	79%	83%	81%	85%	74%

Where children have not participated, consideration should be given to: the age of these children; whether the children were placed out-of-authority; the extent to which children had a severe disability; and the extent to which the children did not want to participate in their review.

Data

See Table 14.

Commentary on performance

The change in the definition – from the inclusion of only the latest review to the inclusion of all reviews – had the overall effect of lowering the value of this indicator. The England average for 2005-06 was 79%, in contrast to a figure of 81% on the old definition in the previous year. The range of performance across council groupings was again quite wide, varying from 75% for metropolitan districts to 85% for Outer London boroughs.

Only 74% of councils were in band 3 or above (75% and over), compared to 84% in 2004-05 on the old definition. Twenty-eight per cent of councils were in band 4 (85% to 95%), compared to 37% the previous year on the old definition, though 20% were in band 5 (between 95% and 100%), compared to 15% the previous year.

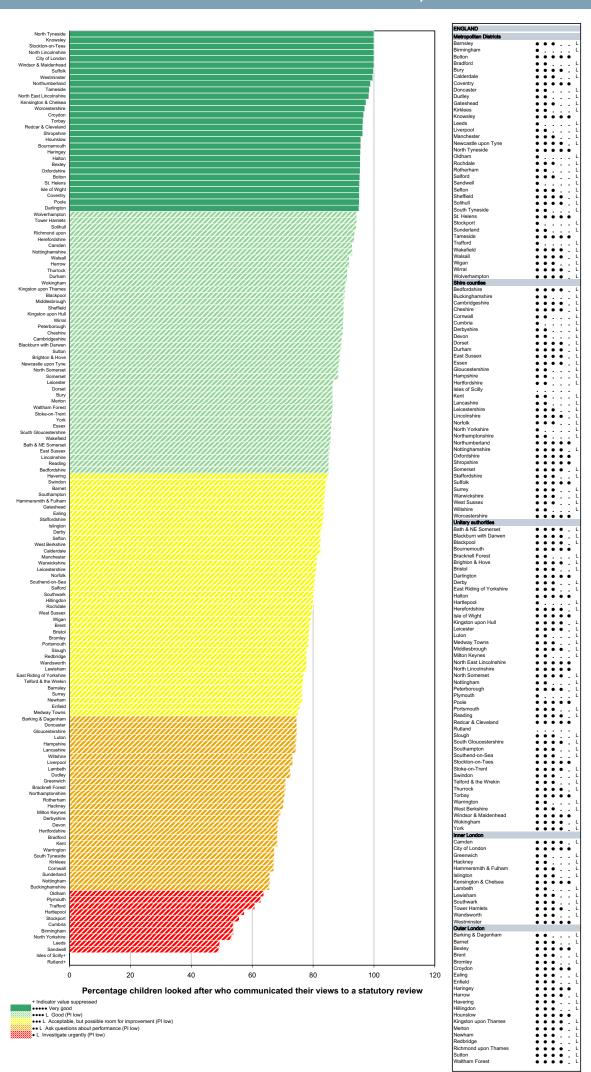
Full definition

Numerator: Of the children in the denominator, the number of children who communicated their views specifically for each of their statutory reviews in the year using a range of mechanisms including personal participation, written or electronic communication or independent representation.

Source: SSDA903 codes PN1,2,3,5,6

Denominator: All children looked after at 31 March who had been reviewed during the year to 31 March. Excludes those who started to be looked after on or after 4 March in the latest year. It excludes children looked after under a series of short term breaks. Children under the age of four [code PNO] should be excluded.

Source: SSDA903



CF/C64

Timing of core assessments

The percentage of core assessments that were completed within 35 working days of their commencement.

Rationale

The indicator measures the percentage of core assessments which were completed within 35 working days. Core assessments are in-depth assessments of a child, or children, and their family, as defined in the Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families. They are also the means by which section 47 (child protection) enquiries are undertaken following a strategy discussion. The Assessment Framework specifies that core assessments should be completed within 35 working days. It is important that councils should investigate and address concerns in a timely and efficient way, and that those in receipt of an assessment have a clear idea of how quickly this should be completed. Successful meeting of the time-scales can also indicate effective joint working where multiagency assessment is required.

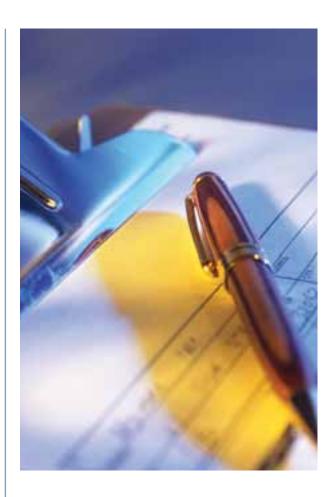
Good performance

High

Bands

low				high
•	••	•••	••••	•••••
0<45	45<60	60<70	70<80	80<=100

The values for the upper threshold of band 2, both thresholds of bands 3 and 4, and the lower threshold of band 5, have been increased by five percentage points for 2005-06. This reflects the focus on achieving the target of more core assessments being completed within 35 weeks.



Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Staying Safe".

Other related information to consider

The number of referrals of children per 10,000 population (KIGS CH141). The percentage of referrals that are repeat referrals within 12 months (KIGS CH142). The percentage of referrals of children in need that led to initial assessments (KIGS CH143). The percentage of initial assessments within 7 working days of referral (APA 2020SC). The number of initial assessments leading to core assessment. The number of core assessments of children in need per 10,000 population aged under 18 (KIGS CH145). Numbers of new registrations on the Child Protection Register (KIGS CH04). Difficulties in recruiting and retaining key social work staff (APA 6011-6014SC). Expenditure on staffing spent on training the council's directly employed staff working with children and families (APA 6015SC).

Notes on interpretation

It is not always possible to complete core assessments appropriately within 35 days. This is the case in only a minority of instances, however, and the bands have been changed in 2005-06 to both reflect this and to encourage better performance.

Examination of the number of core assessments of children in need per 10,000 population and the percentage of core assessments that were completed within 35 working days indicates that councils may not be recording data consistently.

Data

See Table 15.

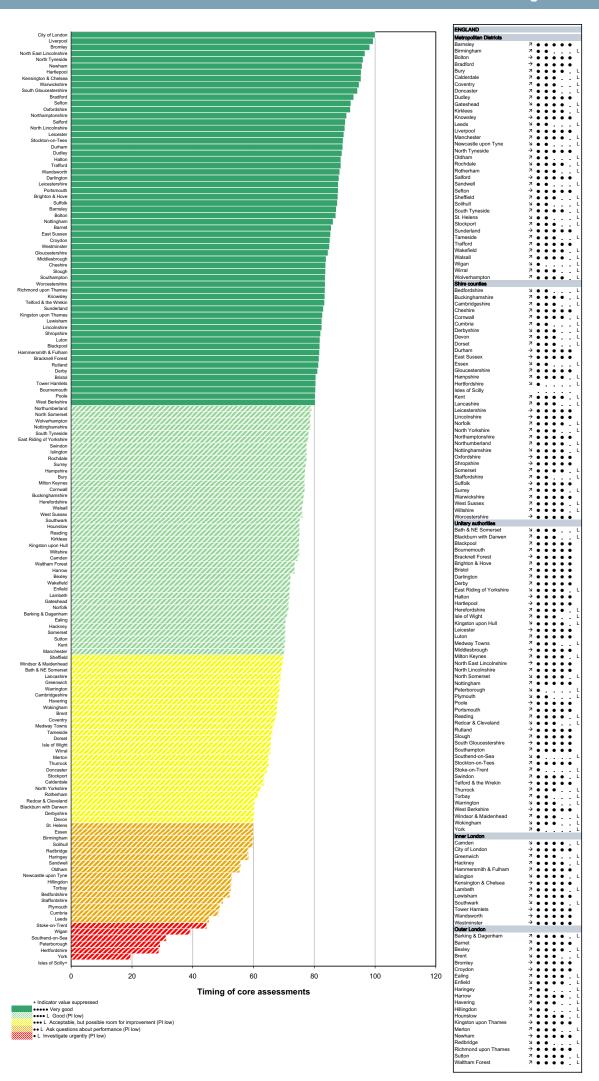
Commentary on performance

Performance on the indicator has improved since 2004-05. The average percentage of core assessments completed within 35 working days for England was 74%, compared to 67% in 2004-05. The performance of all the groups of councils improved, with the largest increases for the metropolitan districts and unitary authorities, whose figures both rose by 9 percentage points.

Although the parameters for band 3 were increased by 5 percentage points in 2005-06, 85% of councils achieved the new level of at least 60% of their core assessments on time, compared to 76% in the previous year, with values of 55% or more. Band 5, which had also risen by 5 percentage points (starting now at 80%, up to 100%) was achieved by 40% of councils in 2005-06, an increase from 32% in 2004-05, when the band threshold started at 75%.

TABLE 15

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ●●● or more (Eng)
2004-05	67%	64%	67%	68%	75%	66%	76%
2005-06	74%	73%	73%	77%	80%	72%	85%



Full definition:

Numerator: Of the core assessments in the denominator, the number that had been completed within 35 working days of their commencement. A core assessment is deemed to have commenced at the point at which:

- the initial assessment ended; or
- a strategy discussion decided to initiate enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989; or
- new information obtained on an open case indicates that a core assessment should be undertaken:
- core assessments are the means by which S47 enquiries are carried out (following a strategy discussion).

Source: CPR3 Item 3 (Completed within 35 days of initial assessment)

Denominator: The total number of core assessments of children receiving core assessments in the year. If a child undergoes a core assessment more than once in the year, count each core assessment that finished during the year separately.

Source: CPR3 Item 3 (Completed within 35 days of initial assessment plus other)

CF/C68

Timeliness of reviews of children looked after NEW INDICATOR

The percentage of children looked after cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed on time during the year.

Rationale for indicator

This indicator seeks to measure the effectiveness of the monitoring of the care of looked after children. Reviews are a key element in delivering a successful care plan. The review looks at the child's progress to date and plans for the future. Effective and timely reviews should ensure that the care plan remains appropriate for the child and that the needs of the child are well met.

Good performance

High

Bands

Not banded for 2005-06.

Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Staying Safe".

Related indicators

CF/A1 (stability of placements); CF/B7 (children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption); CF/C23 (adoptions of children looked after); CF/D35 (long term stability of children looked after); CF/C63 (participation of children in reviews).

Other related information to consider

Difficulties in recruiting and retaining key social work staff may have an impact on this indicator.

Notes on interpretation

There is a statutory obligation to review the cases of looked after children, first within 28 days of their becoming looked after, then within a further three months, and subsequently at intervals of no more than six months until they cease to be looked after. The timeliness of the reviews, then, relates not just to the gap between reviews, but also to the start of the period of care itself.

In 2004-05 data was collected on the timeliness of *the latest* review of those children looked after at 31 March. In 2005-06 the indicator was defined to look at all the relevant reviews for a child looked after at 31 March, including ones in the previous year which establish the time frame for when reviews should occur.

The denominator consists of the number of looked after children who qualify and who were looked after at March 31. It does not consist of the number of reviews of those children in the preceding year. If a child looked after at 31 March 2006 had more than one review in 2005-06 which meet the criteria for inclusion, the child is counted once in the denominator. The numerator counts only those children, from the denominator, all of whose reviews in the year were carried out within the specified time limit. If a child had two reviews within the timescale and one review outside of the timescale, the child would be excluded from the numerator.

With councils that did not score highly, consideration should be given to whether there is any pattern to the reviews that are out of time, which indicates systemic difficulties in the way that reviews are resourced and managed. Managers need to ensure that the recommendations reached at reviews are actioned so that the best possible outcome is achieved for the young person.

Data

See Table 16, overleaf.

Commentary on performance

The England average for this indicator was 79%. There was a range of values from 74% for unitary councils to 84% for Inner London boroughs.

At council level, there was a wide range of indicator values, from 17% to 100%. Thirty-six per cent of authorities achieved 79% or less. Forty-nine per cent achieved 85% or more. Twenty per cent of authorities achieved 95% or more.

Full definition:

The numerator: Of the children in the denominator, the number of children whose cases had been reviewed (in accordance with the Review of Children's Cases Regulations 1991) so that:

- the first review of the year was held within 183
 days of the last review in the previous year (or
 within 91 days if the previous review was the
 child's initial review, or within four weeks of
 the child becoming looked after if there was no
 review in the previous year);
- the maximum gap between reviews during the year was 183 days;
- a review was held within 183 days of the year end (ie on or after 1 October).

The areas for consideration in children looked after reviews are set out in the schedules attached to the Review Regulations; these include general considerations as well as education and health.

Source: SSDA903

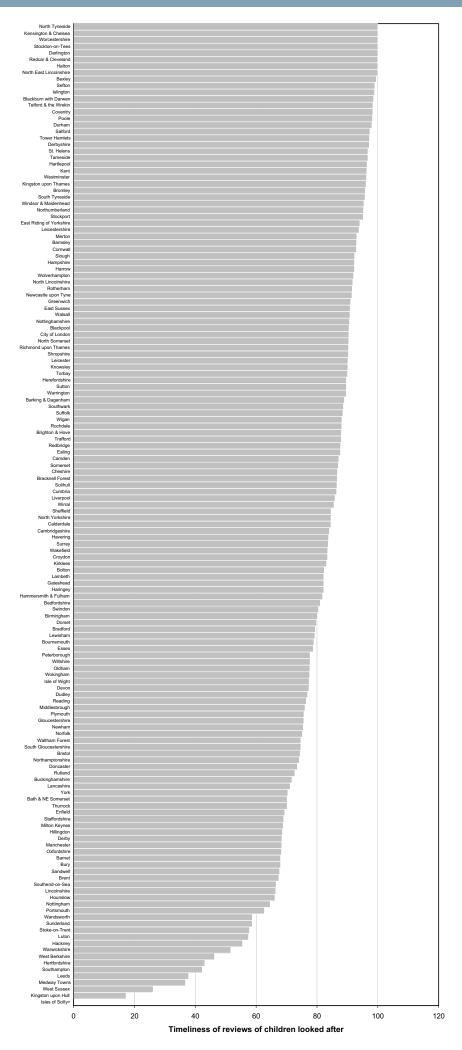
The denominator: The number of children looked after at 31 March who at that date had been looked after continuously for at least the previous four weeks. Children looked after under a series of short term breaks and children placed for adoption should be excluded.

Source: SSDA903

For a more detailed discussion of the counting rules for this of this indicator, see http://www.csci.org.uk/pdf/children Pls update 0106.pdf

TABLE 16

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London		% Councils ••• or more (Eng)
2005-06	79%	80%	78%	74%	84%	80%	



CF/C69

Distance children newly looked after are placed from home NEW INDICATOR

The percentage of children newly looked after in the year, and still looked after at 31 March, who were placed at 31 March more than 20 miles from their home address from which first placed.

Rationale for indicator

While in some cases a distant or out-of-authority placement may be the right decision for a child, for many children such placements are not in their best interests. Children placed at a distance from home (especially out-of-authority) are likely to achieve poorer educational and other outcomes than those placed within their home area. Local authorities will find it harder to act as an attentive corporate parent where children are living far away. This indicator addresses the capacity of councils to have sufficient suitable placements near to home to allow contact with natural parent(s), siblings, other relatives, friends and local communities to be facilitated.

Good performance

Low

Bands

Not banded for 2005-06.

Outcomes framework

The *Every Child Matters* outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Enjoying and Achieving".

Related indicators

CF/A1 (stability of placements); CF/A2 (educational qualifications of children looked after); CF/B7 (children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption); CF/C23 (adoptions of children looked after); CF/D35 (long term stability of children looked after). A key issue with this indicator is the reasoning behind why a child would be placed far from home and involves elements of both placement choice and placement availability. Educational performance is also an important element to be considered.

Other related information to consider

Numbers of children starting to be looked after. Children looked after by category of need (KIGS CH101-108, particularly with reference to disability and socially unacceptable behaviour). Age of children starting to be looked after (KIGS CH58-62). Children looked after out-of-authority. OC2 data on educational performance at all key stages published in *Outcome Indicators for Looked after Children*.

Notes on interpretation

Data were first collected on distance between address at time of placement and address of placement at 31 March in 2004-05. There were some issues about data quality but data were collected for over 90% of all children.

The results for this indicator need to be treated with caution; 37% of authorities have suppressed results for this indicator, because they had figures of between 1 and 5 in their numerator, and results should be interpreted carefully for all authorities where numbers of children newly placed are small.

Just over three quarters of shire counties have reported proportions of children placed more than 20 miles from home above the England average. Many of these children, however, were still placed within their authority. The banding for 2006-07 will need to take this element into account.

Data

See Table 17.

Commentary on performance

The England average for this indicator was 12%. One council group scored well above this average: the shire authorities with 19%. The London and unitary councils were at about the England figure, whereas the metropolitan districts, at 5%, were well below it.

The relatively small average numbers involved in this indicator may be significant. The group that performed least well – the shire authorities – had by far both the highest average numerator and denominator figures and this, coupled with their larger geographical areas, where children were placed within authority, but further than 20 miles from home, influenced their performance.

Full definition:

The numerator: Of all children in the denominator, the number who at March 31 were placed more than 20 miles from their home address from which first placed.

Source: SSDA903.

The denominator: All children newly accommodated in the year prior to March 31 2006 and still accommodated at March 31 2006, excluding:

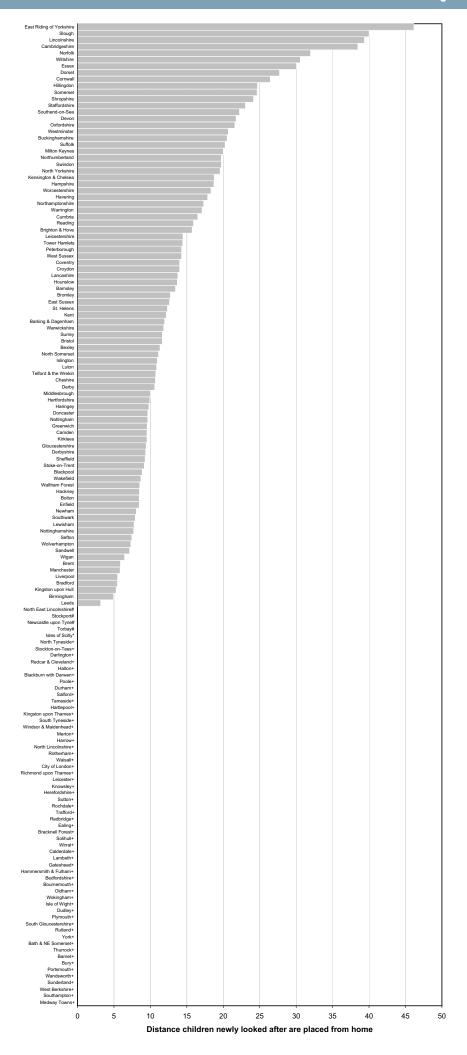
- looked after children subject to an agreed pattern of short term placements;
- unaccompanied Asylum Seeker children;
- children missing from care at 31 March 2006;
- · children placed for adoption;
- children placed at home with parent(s);
- children where the council cannot provide the distance data (eg because the parent(s) refused to divulge their address or were of no fixed abode or where the child is currently abroad).

All such cases are excluded on the grounds that the distance from home may exceed the stated limit, but may be unavoidable and/or in the child's best interests.

Source: SSDA903

TABLE 17

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London		% Councils ●●● or more (Eng)
2005-06	12%	5%	19%	11%	9%	11%	



[#] Value Zero - bar does not show + Indicator value suppressed * Not applicable

CF/D35

Long term stability of children looked after

The percentage of children who had been looked after continuously for at least 4 years, who were currently in a foster placement where they had spent at least 2 years.

Rationale for indicator

This indicator is designed to illustrate the relative effectiveness of councils in achieving longer term stability. For children looked after for as long as four years, it is reasonable to expect that a substantial amount of that time is spent with the same foster carers or that an adoptive placement would be made. Stability and the opportunity to develop and sustain strong attachments are fundamental in terms of improving outcomes for looked after children, particularly those who spend a considerable period of time in care.

Good performance

Generally high

It is not always clear what an extremely high figure for this indicator means: in such cases, performance should be looked at carefully.

Bands



Changes to definition

2004-05: definition changed so that placing a child for adoption with their existing foster carers is no longer counted as a change of placement for the purposes of this Pl.

Outcomes framework

The *Every Child Matters* outcomes framework groups this indicator under the outcome "Staying Safe".

Related indicators

CF/A1 (stability of placements), CF/B7 (children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption), CF/C23 (adoptions of children looked after) and CF/C68 (reviews on time).

Other related information to consider

The length of time children were looked after before they were placed in a long-term placement and whether changes of placement entailed the child remaining with the same family and the family simply moving to another council area. The percentage of children looked after for two and a half years or more who have been in the same placement for two years or more. (APA 2065SC).

Notes on interpretation

Performance against this indicator is related to achievement of the Government's national Public Service Agreement target for looked after children:

To narrow the gap in educational achievement between looked after children and their peers, and improve their educational support and the stability of their lives, so that by 2008 80% of children under 16 who have been looked after for two and a half years or more will have been living in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption.

The latter will form the basis of a new PAF PI indicator, CF/D78, which will replace CF/D35 in 2006-07.

There are issues of data quality and potential volatility for this indicator as there are a number of councils with relatively small numbers of children looked after for more than 4 years. Eighteen councils had 50 or fewer such children in their denominator at 31 March 2006.

Data

See Table 18.

Commentary on performance

Performance for this indicator continues to be fairly static, but there has been some improvement since 2004-05. The England average was 51% in 2005-06, an increase of one percentage point on 2004-05. Since 1998-99 there has been very little variation in this figure (between 49% and 51%). There was very little change in the averages for all council groupings, with slight increases for most groups, the highest of which was four percentage points in Outer London.

Although the England average increased by only one percentage point, the movement within the bandings evidenced improvement for a number of councils. The percentage of councils in band 3 or above (50% or higher) increased to 59% in 2005-06 from 50% in 2004-05. Ten per cent of councils were in band 4 (60%-70%) an increase from 7% in 2004-05. No council was in band 5 (70-80%), however, compared to one council in 2004-05.

Full definition:

The numerator: Of the children looked after in the denominator, the number who were in a foster placement, and who had at 31 March been with the same foster carer continuously for at least 2 years (ie for more than 729 days inclusive of 31 March)

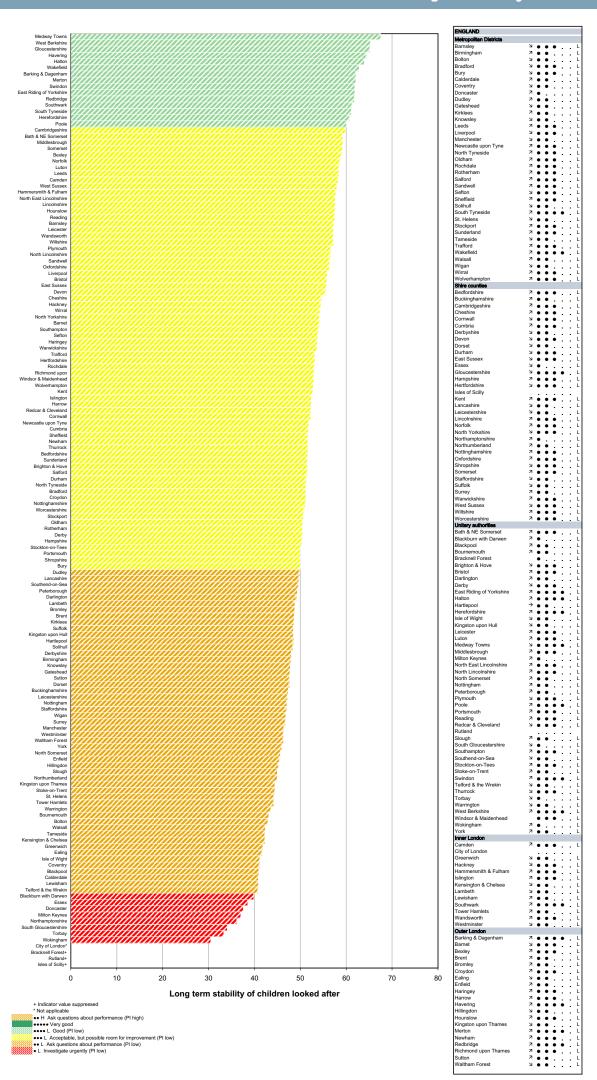
Source: SSDA903

The denominator: The number of children looked after at 31 March who had been looked after continuously for at least four years (ie for more than 1,460 days inclusive of 31 March), excluding children looked after at any time during that period under an agreed series of short term placements.

Source: SSDA903

TABLE 18

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ●●● or above (Eng)
1998-99	50%	46%	53%	49%	51%	50%	48%
1999-00	51%	48%	49%	58%	54%	53%	45%
2000-01	50%	46%	52%	53%	53%	51%	43%
2001-02	51%	49%	51%	51%	54%	53%	50%
2002-03	51%	49%	51%	52%	54%	51%	46%
2003-04	49%	50%	50%	49%	48%	46%	49%
New defn. 2004-05	50%	50%	51%	50%	49%	48%	50%
2005-06	51%	51%	51%	51%	51%	52%	59%



From 1 April 2004, a child being placed for adoption with their existing foster carers was no longer counted as a change of placement for the purposes of this Pl.

CF/E44

Relative spend on family support

Gross expenditure on children in need but not looked after, as a percentage of gross expenditure on all children's services.

Rationale for indicator

This indicator acts as a proxy for access to preventative services. Adequate provision of such services can prevent children being looked after later. A low figure would indicate that a council was providing a relatively small amount of preventative services.

Good performance

Generally around average or higher

Bands



Changes to definition

2000-01: The source and definition for this indicator changed to include expenditure on capital charges and a full share of Social Services Management and Support Services costs for all councils. Also, categories of service provision were aligned with sub-divisions in the CIPFA Service Expenditure Analysis for Social Services which forms part of their Best Value Accounting Code of Practice. Furthermore, a share of commissioning and social work was omitted from this indicator.

2002-03: Definition changed to that of the former adjusted cost indicator which includes a share of commissioning and social work. The 2000-01 and 2001-02 data shown below are on this basis.

Outcomes framework

The Every Child Matters outcomes framework does not group this indicator under one of the five main outcome headings, but performance is assessed under the general heading of "Service Management", which relates to a council's capacity to deliver across all outcome areas.

Other related information to consider

The numbers of children in need but not looked after from the biennial Children in Need census (KIGS CH161) and the age profile of children looked after (KIGS CH39-43).

Notes on interpretation

As for the unit cost indicator CF/B8, the 2005-06 data for this indicator should be treated as provisional (see Annex D).

Data

See Table 19, overleaf.

Commentary on performance

Performance on this indicator remained static. The average percentage of children's services expenditure by Social Services targeted on children in need but not looked after in 2005-06 for England was 39%, the same as the previous year and slightly higher than for 2002-03 and 2003-04 (38%). Group averages were either static or varied by one percentage point.

Eighty-seven per cent of councils were in band 3 or better in 2005-06, a fall of two percentage points from 2004-05. Sixty-six per cent of councils achieved band 4 (the highest band possible at 32%-43%), compared to 58% in 2004-05.

TABLE 19

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ●●● or more (Eng)
2000-01	32%	34%	30%	32%	34%	32%	
2001-02	37%	38%	35%	37%	37%	36%	85%
2002-03	38%	38%	36%	38%	38%	37%	86%
2003-04	38%	39%	37%	38%	39%	37%	85%
2004-05	39%	39%	39%	38%	41%	39%	89%
2005-06	39%	38%	39%	39%	41%	40%	87%

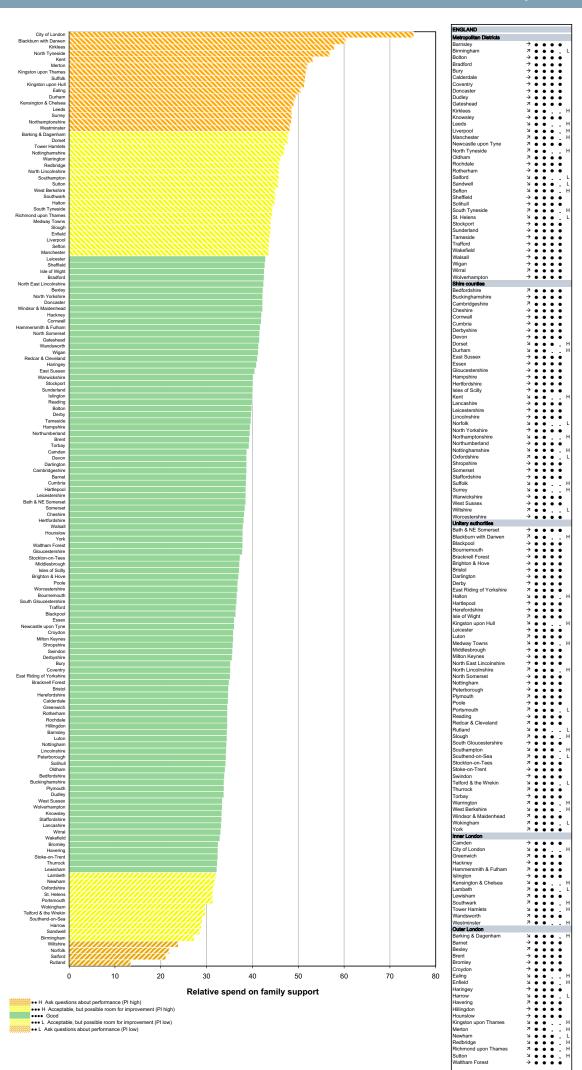
Full definition:

The numerator: That part of the denominator that represents expenditure on children in need but not looked after.

Source: PSS EX1 sheet Incl SSMSS column I (Gross total cost (Current expenditure including capital charges): Total (including joint arrangements))
lines (BC7 (Total family support services) + BD2
(Youth offender teams) + BD3 (Other youth justice services) + BE1 (Adoption services) + BE3 (Other other children's and families services) + 50% of BE2 (Leaving care services) + a proportionate share of BA1 (Commissioning and social work))

The denominator: Gross total cost for all children's services during the year.

Source: PSS EX1 sheet Incl SSMSS column I (Gross total cost (Current expenditure including capital charges): Total (including joint arrangements))
line B1 (Total children's and families services)



MR/D59

Practice learning CHANGE OF DEFINITION

Number of assessed social work practice learning days per whole time equivalent social worker.

Rationale for indicator

Development of sufficient quality, quantity and diversity of practice learning opportunities for social work students is critical for the successful delivery of the new social work degree. The focus on this information is part of the wider aim to encourage councils to make the link between effective service delivery, robust human resource strategies and a strong learning culture.

Good performance

Generally high

Bands

	low			
•	••	•••	••••	•••••
0	(>0)<5	5<11	11<17	17+

Changes to definition

2005-06: Inclusion in part (ii) of the PI of practice placements developed by a Learning Resource Network (LRN) where there is match-funding by the council, either in terms of payment or hosting of staff.

Outcomes framework

This performance indicator is related to the commissioning function of CSCI's assessment of outcomes.

Other related information to consider

Number of placement days per whole time equivalent social worker for different types of placement (these are available at http://www.csci. org.uk/care_professional/councils/paf/paf_reports_ and_data.aspx), experience and qualifications of social workers, vacancy rates and use made of agency staff.

Graphs below showing the growth from 2003-04 to 2005-06 in different components of this composite PI which reveal the increases in different components and the impact of the inclusion of practice placements developed by a Learning Resource Network (LRN) where there is match-funding by the council in 2005-06.

FIGURE 1: Practice placements in children's services, 2003-04 – 2005-06

Per wte council child care social worker

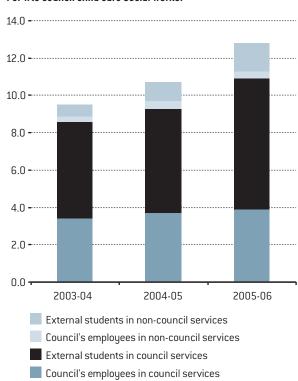
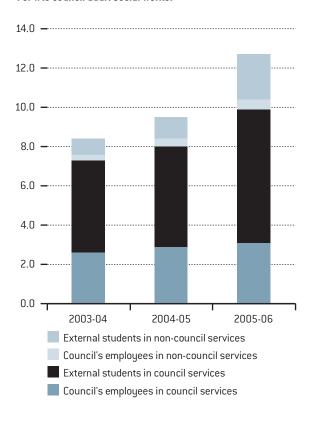


TABLE 20

	England	Met dists	Shires	Unitaries	Inner London	Outer London	% Councils ● ● ● or more (Eng)
2003-04	9.0	9.3	9.0	10.5	7.1	6.4	85%
2004-05	10.1	10.0	10.1	11.8	7.7	9.3	95%
2005-06	12.8	14.2	11.3	15.1	11.0	12.1	98%

FIGURE 2: Practice placements in adults' services, 2003-04 – 2005-06

Per wte council adult social worker



Data

See Table 20.

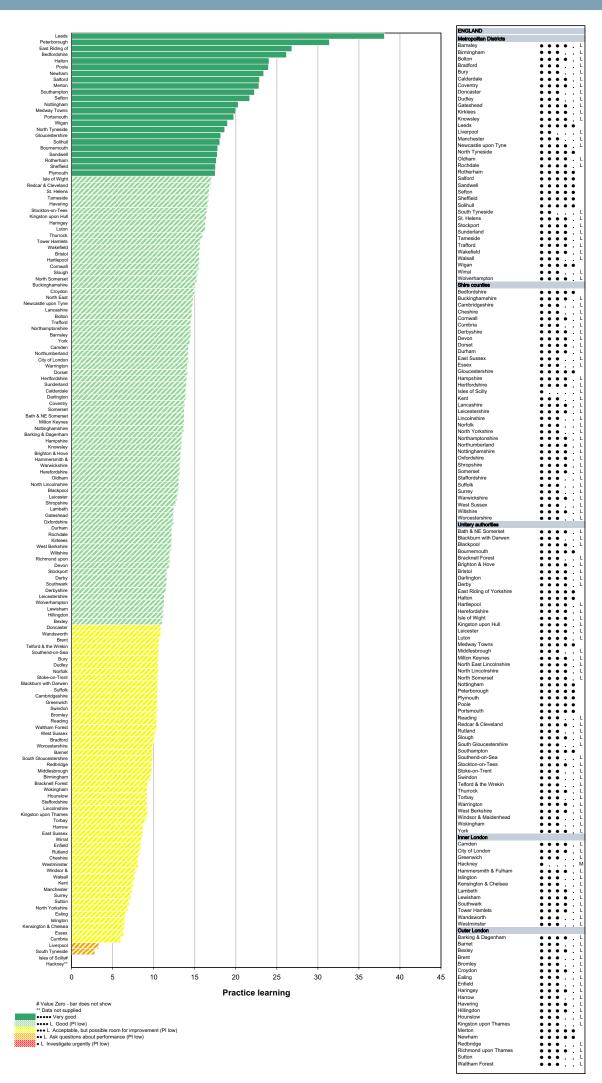
Commentary on performance

Overall 12.8 assessed practice learning days were provided in 2005-06 per whole-time equivalent social worker employed at 30 September 2005. The total number of practice learning days provided was 539,000.

In September 2005 there were 21,700 whole-time equivalent children's social work staff employed by councils and 20,500 adults' social work staff who were counted as part of this PI's denominator.

The indicator averages for metropolitan districts and unitary councils were higher than for other types of council.

Twenty-three councils (15%) reported a value of 17 or over and so were awarded band 5 whilst 98% of councils reported a value of 5 or over and so were awarded band 3 or above. In 2005-06 as in previous years, directly provided placements were higher in children's services (10.9, of which 3.9 were for own employees and 7.0 were for external students) than in adults' services (9.8, of which 3.1 were for own employees and 6.8 were for external students). Placements directly supported by the council in the voluntary, private and other sectors were higher in adults' services (2.9, of which 0.5 were for own employees and 2.3 were for external students) than in children's services [2.0, of which 0.4 were for own employees and 1.5 were for external students).



Full definition:

The numerator: (i) Number of assessed social work practice learning days *directly provided by the council*

Days are normal working days for the setting in which practice learning is taking place.

Assessed days mean those that are part of students' assessment for their social work degree or the Diploma in Social Work. This does not include time spent in preparation for practice nor observation of practice.

Plus

(ii) Number of assessed social work practice learning days *directly supported by the council* in the voluntary, private sectors or in other sectors such as health, education.

Practice placements developed by a Learning Resource Centre Network (LRCN) where there is match-funding by the council, either in terms of payment or hosting of staff may be included in part (ii).

The number of practice learning days is the total number of days this support directly enables to happen in these sectors.

'Support' includes the provision of a practice assessor or financial support given specifically for practice learning by the local authority. (It does not include days spent observing practice for example).

If a Local Authority provides training for Practice Assessors from voluntary or private organisations, the number of days training provided by the Local Authority should be included in this figure.

Source: KS1

The denominator: The number of whole time equivalent field social workers (excluding agency staff) employed by the local authority and in post on 30 September.

Source: SSDS001, Whole time equivalent figures for staff coded to lines 2.30-2.33, 2.35, 2.40-2.43, 2.50-2.52, 2.54, 2.55, 2.60-2.63, 2.70-2.73 and 2.80-2.83 (collected on KS1).

Additional guidance is available at Question 9 of the Key Statistics Frequently Asked Questions document available from

http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pss/returns/2006/sub6/ KS1 Frequently-Asked-Questions.doc/file

Annex A: An explanation of banding

Why we use bands

Banding allows quicker and easier comparisons to be made for an individual indicator across councils, and groups of councils, and over time. Bands are intended to be a guide rather than a definitive judgement. This first step means that more time can be taken on the next steps in understanding performance — looking at related information against a particular PI, and considering what needs to be done to make any necessary improvement.

'Traffic lights' are effectively a banding system of three categories. A five band system was chosen, which is more discriminating and makes the steps between bands smaller. Ranked bar charts can be difficult to interpret where best performance is somewhere in the middle rather than at one extreme or the other, as is usually the case with the PAF indicators. Therefore ranked bar charts colour coded by band are presented.

The banding system

For most PIs performance is divided up into five bands. In general, a very high or very low value for an indicator suggests poor performance, with best performance somewhere in between. The bandings reflect this, with each of the lower bands in two parts, low and high. Therefore the five bands can also be considered as nine bands, ranging from \bullet L (low) through \bullet \bullet \bullet to \bullet H (high). Therefore \bullet L and \bullet H are both cause for "urgent investigation", but for different reasons.

Councils which failed to supply data are allocated the lowest band with the letter M. Note that no banding is given if a council has no performance on which to report (eg CF/A2 where a council has no care leavers aged 16 or over); this is most likely to apply to small councils such as the Isles of Scilly, Rutland or City of London. Also no banding is given in some instances when data are suppressed (see Suppression of small values in Annex D).

The bandings are intended to promote investigation and are just the first step towards understanding performance. Given this, the meanings given to the bands are:

Annexes

- Investigate urgently: Very urgent need for council to investigate the practices that
 have led to this performance and to consider complementary indicators, contextual
 information and other performance evidence. Will be followed up in the context of
 performance monitoring.
- Ask questions about performance: Serious need for council to investigate practices that have led to this performance and to consider complementary indicators, contextual information and other performance evidence.
- ••• Acceptable, but possible room for improvement: Worth probing this, related indicators, contextual information and other performance evidence; reason to believe that, in comparison to other councils, there is scope to shift performance.
- •••• Good: Performance appears to conform reasonably well with commonly accepted good practice, subject to receiving high bands against related indicators and considering contextual information and other performance evidence.
- Very good: Performance at a level that is very good given our current knowledge and understanding. Subject to achieving high bands for complementary indicators, and considering contextual information and other performance evidence good practice should be shared.

Note that for many indicators a value that is either too high or too low can indicate poor performance, so "H" or "L" is used to show whether the PI value is higher or lower than the range with the highest banding [normally ••••] and "M" is used to indicate that data were not supplied.

The band thresholds for each indicator are shown in Annex B and in the text of the double or triple page spread for the indicator. Here you can see what banding a particular value for a PI is given.

Not all bands are used for all indicators. Decisions on the number of bands to be used have been based on available evidence and data quality. For example the unit cost indicators only use bands 2-4 reflecting concerns with data quality, and final warnings/reprimands and convictions of children looked after (CF/C18) only uses bands 2 and 3.

Unit cost indicators are different in another respect. As costs vary across the country, different bands are set for each group of councils rather than a single set of bands being set for England as a whole. How thresholds for cost indicators were set is covered below.

A small arrow indicates whether performance has improved $\[\]$, declined $\[\]$ or stayed the same $\[\]$ since the previous year. An improved performance is one where the value of the indicator has moved nearer to the range with the highest banding this year, normally $\]$ $\]$. This shows change of any amount, so an improvement that does not change the banding will still show up as an up arrow, with the exception that if performance remains within the highest band it is shown as not changing, even if it has in fact moved up or down within the band. This is because either a higher or lower value may attract a lower banding and, where this is so, it is not possible to say whether movements within the highest band represent better or worse performance. Where data were missing for either 2004-05 or 2005-06, or where the indicator definition changed between the years, or where the data were not banded in one or both years, no arrow is shown. In the graphs for 2005-06, arrows are shown for the first time for indicators where the PI value is suppressed, but

banded; these show whether there has been a change of band from the previous year. This is to give some indication, in the case of councils with suppressed and banded data, of their direction of travel.

Bands for England and types of council have been calculated by taking the band of the median performing council in that group, calculated after amalgamating the higher and lower parts of each band. For example, for CF/A3 14 unitary authorities were banded band 5, 6 were banded 4H and 4 were banded 4L, 11 were banded 3H and 7 were banded 3L, 1 was banded 2H, and 1 was banded 1H and 2 were banded 1L, so the median value lies in band 4. Arrows showing changes in performance for England are based on the indicator values for England rather than the median performing council.

We intend to keep the bandings broadly fixed over time. This provides a more constant environment in which to consider performance improvement. It means that the bandings a council receives mostly reflect where performance might be improved in the future, rather than being a definitive statement of current performance. However there are some circumstances in which it is appropriate to change the bandings, such as:

- (i) policy changes;
- (ii) a target approaches or arrives for example, in 2000-01 the target date for stability of placements (CF/A1) arrived. Before then it was acceptable for a council not to have met the target; from that time it was not, so the bands were adjusted to reflect this;
- (iii) cases where our understanding of an indicator has improved, where we believe that the bandings were not previously set in the best place;
- (iv) when the definition of the indicator changes;
- (v) when there is an improvement in the data quality of the indicator.

In some cases, where bandings change we re-apply the new bandings to previous years' data. If our understanding of an indicator has improved, (iii), it makes sense to change the bandings that applied to previous years. However in the case of approaching a target date—(ii) above—previous years' bandings will not be changed. Similarly, when the definition of an indicator has changed the bandings for the previous year will not be changed. The changes to bandings made for 2005-06 are described in the section *Changes and additions to the bandings of indicators* below.

How the bands were set

Bandings were not for the most part set using strict distributions of councils. During the initial PAF consultation, many commented that banding (traffic lights) was acceptable provided they were not awarded based on distributions. In other words, it should be possible for every council to get into the highest band. Given this, in general the bandings are fixed so that over time all councils have the chance to move to the highest band.

Bandings were originally set using judgement, involving inspectors from CSCI and policy leads from the Department for Education and Skills and the Department of Health. The Local Government Association, Association of Directors of Social Services and the Social Services Research Group were also involved in discussions. These discussions are held annually to consider any new Pls and any proposals to alter any banding.

Judgements have taken into account available evidence from research and inspection on what level good/ poor performance is, whether performance against an indicator is perceived to be good or not, the distribution of performance, data quality and other factors. Where an indicator has a target to be met this is reflected in the banding, with usually the top band linked to the target value.

Given that we expect in most cases to keep band thresholds the same over time, this means that bandings best reflect where performance should be improved in the future rather than being a judgement of current performance.

Differences for cost indicators

The children's unit cost indicator CF/B8 has been banded in essentially the same way, although there are a number of detailed differences.

- only bands 2-4 are used, reflecting concerns with data quality particularly for very high and very low values;
- since costs vary in different parts of the country, rather than having a single set of bands for England there are separate sets of bands for different groups of councils;
- band thresholds were set using rules based on 2001-02 distributions rather using judgement for each indicator individually. This is because there were 144 cost thresholds to set (9 Pls x 4 groups x 4 thresholds = 144);
- band thresholds are uprated to allow for inflation for each year;
- since the bands are fixed in real terms once set using 2001-02 distributions, there is the
 potential for all councils to move towards the higher bands.

It is not necessary to understand the methodology by which the cost band thresholds were set to be able to use the bandings for costs. The only two points you need to bear in mind when using the cost bandings are that bands • and • • • • are not used and that in the base year the bandings make no judgement as to which council group is performing better. In the base year bandings can only be used for comparisons within each group of councils, not between them.

Two types of cost indicator

There are two distinct types of cost indicators in the set – broad based cost indicators and traditional unit cost indicators (although the traditional unit cost indicators have now been removed from the set of children's indicators). These two groups of indicators measure different things. The influences on them are different, and government policies will affect them in different ways. Overall improvements in the cost effectiveness of service delivery will not necessarily move all the cost indicators in the same way.

Broad based cost indicators

CF/B8 (cost of services for children looked after) is a combination of other unit cost indicators (which have now been removed from the indicator set). It is a former Best Value cost indicator for Social Services, against which there were 'top quartile' targets, although the targets were removed for 2002-03.

Given the broad based nature of the indicator, there are a number of ways in which councils can make performance improvements against it. Progress can be made against the overall cost of services for children looked after either by:

- purchasing services from lower cost providers for example using the council's own foster carers at a lower cost than agency foster carers; or
- caring for more children in foster care rather than in residential care which can often cost less (as well as usually being a better outcome for the child).

Banding cost indicators

From 2002-03 bands for the cost indicators were set differently from the way that they were set in earlier years. Details of these differences are described in the 2002-03 publication.

Council groups

There are four groups based on the Area Cost Adjustment (ACA) of the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) calculation. The ACA's role is to allow for regional variation in costs within the RSG, so it seems appropriate to use it for that purpose in this context.

Using the ACA factors, the four groups defined in ascending order of costs are:

- **Group 1** Mixture of Metropolitan districts, Unitary councils and Shire counties (50 councils)
- Group 2 Mixture of Metropolitan districts, Unitary councils and Shire counties (54 councils)
- **Group 3** Outer London plus others facing similar costs (ie Bracknell Forest, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Milton Keynes, Oxfordshire, Reading, Slough, Surrey, Thurrock, West Berkshire, Windsor and Maidenhead and Wokingham) (32 councils)
- Group 4 Inner London and the Isles of Scilly (14 councils)

Annex B (pages 102-3) shows which councils belong to which group and explains the relationship between these groups and current ACA calculations.

How the bands are set using the distribution

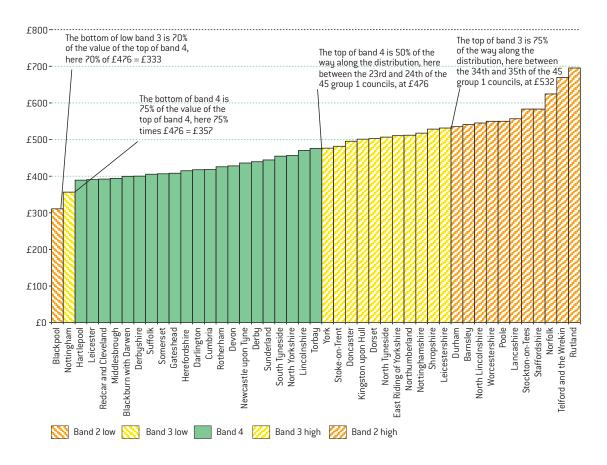
The table below summarises how the bands are set using distributions.

	Outline of banding system for all cost indicators
Basis for geographical grouping of councils	Four groups defined using Area Cost Adjustment figures.
Top of band 3H (above which results in band 2H)	75% of the way up the distribution
Top of band 4 (above which results in band 3H or 2H)	50% of the way up the distribution (the median, or middle value)
Bottom of band 4 (below which results in band 3L or 2L)	75% of the value of the top of band 4
Bottom of band 3L (below which results in band 2L)	70% of the value of the top of band 4
How bands are set after the base year	Uprated by measure of inflation related to PSS

The bands for cost indicator CF/B8 have been calculated using 2001-02 base year data which have been uprated.

Illustration of how the bands are set using the distribution

The chart below shows 2001-02 data for CF/B8 (cost of services for children looked after) for the 45 Group 1 councils for which data were available. The councils are ranked with lowest on the left and highest on the right. The chart illustrates how the bandings were set for Group 1 for 2001-02.



Firstly, the boundaries between band 4 and band 3 High and between band 3 High and band 2 High are set by reference to the distribution of councils. The top of band 4 is defined to be at the median of the distribution, that is 50% of the way up the distribution. This corresponds for CF/B8 for the Group 1 councils with a value of the 23^{rd} council which is then rounded to the nearest pound. This value (£476) is highlighted, between Torbay and York. Similarly, the top of band 3 is set at the upper quartile which is 75% of the way up the distribution. This is the value of the 34^{th} council from the left which is then rounded to the nearest pound, that is, £532.

Very low costs are also given lower bandings, shown on the left of the chart. This is because low costs may give rise to concerns that quality is poor (or indeed that data quality is poor). The thresholds for the low bands are set as fractions of the value of the top of band 4. So the bottom of band 4 is defined to be 75% of the value of the top of band 4, and the bottom of low band 3 is defined to be 70% of the value of the top of band 4. In the above example these are £357 and £333 respectively.

These principles are applied to each of the indicators for each of the council groups to arrive at the thresholds. Once set, they are uprated by inflation each year. That is, they are not redefined each year based on that year's distribution. This means that every council can potentially get into the highest performance band.

Changes and additions to the bandings of indicators

Changes to last year's bandings set out in *Social Services Performance Assessment Framework Indicators, 2004-2005* are given in the table below, which includes reasoning behind the changes. This table includes banding of new indicators.

PAF Indicators		•	••	•••	••••	••••	••••	•••	••	•	COMMENT
CF/C64 Timing of core assessments	old	0<45	45<55	55<65	65<75	75+		-		-	
	new	0<45	45<60	60<70	70<80	80+					When the indicator was added for 2004-05 it was announced that the bandings would be tightened for 2005-06. The rationale for uplifting the banding values is that core assessments should, in most cases, be completed within 35 working days.

Annex B:

What indicator values translate into what bands for 2005-06

The following tables set out what bandings are given for each value of a PI for 2005-06.

Band thresholds for non-cost indicators

The thresholds as set out below mean, for example, that for CF/A2 a value of 50% or more and less than 70% will be in band ●●●. Only bands that are used are shown.

			Lo)W				Hi	gh	
		•	••	•••	••••	•••••	••••	•••	••	•
	Children									
CF/A1	Stability of placements of CLA					0<16.01			16.01<20	20<=100
CF/A2	Educational qualifications of CLA	0<25	25<45	45<50	50<70	70<=100				
CF/A3	Re-registrations on the CPR	0<3	3<6	6<8	8<10	10<15	15<17.21	17.21<20	20<24	24<=100
CF/A4	Employment, education and training for care leavers	0<0.4	0.4<0.5	0.5<0.6		0.6+		·		
CF/B7	CLA – foster/placed for adoption	0<55	55<70	70<80	80<85	85<90	90<95		95<=100	
CF/C18	Final warnings/reprimands and convictions of CLA		0<1	1<3				·	3+	·
CF/C19	Health of children looked after	0<50	50<60	60<70	70<80	80<=100				
CF/C20	Reviews of child protection cases	0<92.5	92.5<95	95<97.5	97.5<100	100		·		
CF/C21	Duration on the CPR						0<10	10<15	15<20	20<=100
CF/C23	Adoptions of children looked after	0<3	3<6	6<7	7<8	8<25		·	25<=100	
CF/C24	Children looked after absent from school					0<5	5<10	10<15	15<20	20+
CF/C63	Participation in reviews	0<65	65<75	75<85	85<95	95<=100				
CF/C64	Timing of core assessments	0<45	45<60	60<70	70<80	80<=100				
CF/D35	Long term stability of CLA	0<40	40<50	50<60	60<70	70<80			80<=100	
CF/E44	Relative spend on family support		0<27	27<32	32<43			43<48	48<=100	
	Management and Resources									
MR/ D59	Practice learning	0	(>0)<5	5<11	11<17	17+				·

Annexes

Unit Cost bandings 2005-06

	low								
			••	•••	••••	•••	•		
CF/B8	Cost of services for children looked after	Group 1	£0<£394	£394<£423	£423<£564	£564<£630	>=£630		
		Group 2	£0<£387	£387<£415	£415<£553	£553<£636	>=£636		
		Group 3	£0<£482	£482<£516	£516<£688	£688<£792	>=£792		
		Group 4	£0<£484	£484<£519	£519<£692	£692<£750	>=£750		

Band thresholds for cost indicators

Bands for CF/B8 were determined using 2001-02 distributions, and uprated by inflation (revised estimates provided by DH this year) of 5.0% for 2002-03, 4.2% for 2003-04, 4.3% for 2004-05 and 3.8% for 2005-06.

There are different bandings for each council group, to reflect different costs across the country. Bands \bullet and $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$ are not used for data quality reasons. For example, for CF/B8 for Group 1, a cost of £423 or more and less than £564 will be banded as $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$. Note that the band thresholds have been rounded to the nearest pound.

Council groups for banding cost indicators based on Area Cost Adjustment (ACA) factors

The four groups were introduced into the PAF unit costs analysis in 2002-03 and for consistency have remained unchanged since that year. The Local Government Finance Report for England 2006-07 (Appendix H) gives details of current ACA arrangements and cost factor analysis for Personal Social Services for Younger Adults and Older People. Analysis of the weightings by council confirms that the ACA groupings used in this report still hold good, though 5 Merseyside councils included in Group 2 below no longer receive any ACA adjustment. Within Groups 2 and 3 there are councils where the ACA formulae produce a higher or lower value, and some parts of large counties such as Kent, Essex and West Sussex attract different weights.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Barnsley	Bath and North East Somerset	Barking and Dagenham	Camden
Blackburn with Darwen	Bedfordshire	Barnet	City of London
Blackpool	Birmingham	Bexley	Greenwich
Bournemouth	Bolton	Bracknell Forest	Hackney
Cornwall	Bradford	Brent	Hammersmith and Fulham
Cumbria	Brighton & Hove	Bromley	Isles of Scilly
Darlington	Bristol	Buckinghamshire	Islington
Derby	Bury	Croydon	Kensington and Chelsea
Derbyshire	Calderdale	Ealing	Lambeth
Devon	Cambridgeshire	Enfield	Lewisham
Doncaster	Cheshire	Haringey	Southwark
Dorset	Coventry	Harrow	Tower Hamlets
Durham	Dudley	Havering	Wandsworth
East Riding of Yorkshire	East Sussex	Hertfordshire	Westminster
Gateshead	Essex	Hillingdon	
Hartlepool	Gloucestershire	Hounslow	
Herefordshire	Halton	Kingston upon Thames	

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3 Group 4
Kingston upon Hull	Hampshire	Merton
Lancashire	Isle of Wight	Milton Keynes
Leicester	Kent	Newham
Leicestershire	Kirklees	Oxfordshire
Lincolnshire	Knowsley	Reading
Middlesbrough	Leeds	Redbridge
Newcastle upon Tyne	Liverpool	Richmond upon Thames
Norfolk	Luton	Slough
North East Lincolnshire	Manchester	Surrey
North Lincolnshire	Medway	Sutton
North Tyneside	North Somerset	Thurrock
North Yorkshire	Northamptonshire	Waltham Forest
Northumberland	Oldham	West Berkshire
Nottingham	Peterborough	Windsor and Maidenhead
Nottinghamshire	Portsmouth	Wokingham
Plymouth	Rochdale	
Poole	Salford	
Redcar and Cleveland	Sandwell	
Rotherham	Sefton	
Rutland	Solihull	
Sheffield	South Gloucestershire	
Shropshire	Southampton	
Somerset	Southend-on-Sea	
South Tyneside	St Helens	
Staffordshire	Stockport	
Stockton-on-Tees	Swindon	
Stoke-on-Trent	Tameside	
Suffolk	Trafford	
Sunderland	Wakefield	
Telford and the Wrekin	Walsall	
Torbay	Warrington	
Worcestershire	Warwickshire	
York	West Sussex	
	Wigan	
	Wiltshire	
	Wirral	
	Wolverhampton	

Annex B:

Annex C: Outcomes for Children's Social Services

Previous PAF volumes have included a list of objectives for children's social care (see 2004-05 volume, pages 213-215).

These objectives still apply but have been updated by the White Paper Every Child Matters, 2004. The Department for Education and Skills has set out five outcomes for all children in England which reflect the views of children and young people and their families and are based on the concept of well-being. The current children's Pls have been related to these outcomes and new Pls will be developed which better address the outcomes.

The outcomes are as follows:

- Being healthy
- Staying safe
- Enjoying and achieving
- Making a positive contribution
- Achieving economic well-being

A sixth performance element has also been introduced, namely:

Service management

See: Every Child Matters: Change for Children at:

 $http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/_files/F9E3F941DC8D4580539EE4C743E9371D.pdf$

and the Every Child Matters website:

http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/

Annex D: Data notes

The following sets out technical notes relating to some of the indicators.

The 2005-06 data used for this publication were collected on a number of different statistical returns as set out in the table below.

Which returns were 2005-06 data for each PSS PAF indicator collected on?

	Indicator	CAMHS	CPR3	KS1	0C2	PSS EX1	SSDA 903
	CHILDREN						
CF/A1	Stability of placements of children looked after						Х
CF/A2	Educational qualifications of children looked after [joint working]						X
CF/A3	Re-registrations on the Child Protection Register		Х				
CF/A4	Employment, education and training for care leavers [joint working]						X
CF/A70	Progress made towards a comprehensive Children and Adolescent mental Health Service (CAMHS)	X					
CF/B7	Children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption						X
CF/B8	Cost of services for children looked after					Χ	
CF/C18	Final warnings/reprimands and convictions of children looked after				Х		
CF/C19	Health of children looked after				Χ		
CF/C20	Reviews of child protection cases		Χ				
CF/C21	Duration on the Child Protection Register		Х				
CF/C23	Adoptions of children looked after						Χ
CF/C24	Children looked after absent from school [joint working]				Х		
CF/C63	Participation of looked after children in reviews						X
CF/C64	Timing of core assessments		Х				
CF/C68	Timeliness of LAC reviews						X
CF/C69	Distance children newly looked after are placed from home						Х
CF/D35	Long term stability of children looked after						X
CF/E44	Relative spend on family support					Х	

	Indicator	CAMHS	CPR3	KS1	0C2	PSS EX1	SSDA 903
	MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES						
MR/D59	Practice learning			Χ			
	Total number of indicators collected on each return	1	4	0	3	2	9

CAMHS - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service.

CPR - Child Protection Register.

KS - Key Statistics.

OC – Outcomes for Children Looked After.

PSS EX – Personal Social Services Expenditure.

SSDA - Social Services Department Activity.

The OC2 returns used in the 2005-06 PAF set were requested by 30 November 2005. The CPR3, KS1 and SSDA903 returns were requested by 31 May 2006. PSS EX1 returns were requested by 14 July 2006. Although the timeliness of the supply of data generally improved for 2005-06, a number of councils still did not meet these dates. PAF indicator values for 2005-06 were calculated using data received by around 28 July and sent to councils in the week commencing 14 August for checking. Amendments/further data received by 25 August have been included here. Data received after 25 August have not been included here or in the associated data sets but will be included in revised 2005-06 data to be published in 2007.

Revisions to data for 2004-05 and earlier years

Only data received by 26 August 2005 were included in the 2004-2005 publication and the associated data sets. Data (including amendments) received after that are included in this publication and the associated datasets. These include incorporating revised unit costs data from the full set of final expenditure and unit cost data that were published early in 2006. There are no revisions to data for years prior to 2004-05 this year. For information on previous revisions to data for these years see *Social Services Performance Assessment Framework Indicators 2004-2005*.

Revisions to data for 2005-06

Only data received by 25 August 2006 were included in this publication and the associated data sets. Data (including amendments) received after that will be included in the 2006-07 publication and associated datasets. A full set of final expenditure and unit cost data will be published early in 2007: unit cost indicator data in this volume for 2005-06 are provisional and will be superseded by data in that set.

Suppression of small values

Indicators based on small numbers are potentially unreliable and may lead to the disclosure of information about individuals. Indicators CF/A1-3, CF/A4 (numerator), CF/B7, CF/C18 (numerator), CF/C19-21, CF/C23-24, CF/C63-64, CF/C68-69 and CF/D35 relate to individuals. Where the denominators for these indicators for any council are 10 or less, the indicator values and bandings would be unreliable and the numerator, denominator and indicator values have been suppressed

in the associated datasets and omitted from the bar charts in this publication and no bandings have been calculated. Where the denominator exceeds 10, but the numerator is between 1 and 5, the numerator and indicator value have been suppressed in the associated data sets to preserve confidentiality and omitted from the bar charts in this publication; bandings, however have still been calculated and are shown in the tables alongside the bar charts. In the associated data sets suppressed values are indicated by '-'; 0 values are still shown. No change arrows are shown where data have been suppressed.

Stability of placements of children looked after (CF/A1, CF/D35)

The tendency for CLA 100/Key Statistics figures to be lower than those from the SSDA 903 one-third sample cannot be explained by the latter being a one third sample; this would result in some variation, but it would be equally likely to be in either direction. This suggests that whilst some councils were following the definition of CF/A1 correctly, others were excluding from their placement counts for CLA 100/Key statistics placements that were being included on SSDA903. From 2003-04 onwards there is a single data source — SSDA903 on a 100% basis.

The definitions of CF/A1 and CF/D35 changed for 2004-05 so that placing a child for adoption with their existing foster carers is no longer counted as a change of placement. It has not been possible to provide data for 2004-05 on the old basis, or for 2003-04 on the new basis for these indicators; however, the resultant changes will affect only small numbers of children and are not expected to have a significant impact on the data at a national or council group level. Effects may be more marked, though still small, at an individual council level. Where any impact is felt from the change, this should be in the direction of improved performance.

Children looked after and Child Protection Register data (CF/A2, CF/B7, CF/C20, CF/C23)

The definitions of indicators CF/B7, CF/C22 and CF/C23 changed for 2001-02. CF/B7 and CF/C22 were changed to exclude children placed with parents from the denominator and CF/C23 was changed to exclude children looked after for less than six months from the denominator. Data for 2001-02 were also provided on the old definition to assist in making comparisons with earlier years.

The definitions of CF/A2, CF/C20 and CF/C23 changed for 2003-04. However, we have not provided data for 2003-04 on the old basis, or for 2002-03 on the new basis, as this was not possible for all these indicators.

Indicator CF/C22 was deleted from 2005-06.

The definition of CF/C23 changed again for 2005-06 as children ceasing to be looked after as a result of the granting of a special guardianship order are included in the numerator from September 2005. It is not possible to provide data for 2005-06 on the old basis or for 2004-05 on the new basis, but the likely effect of this change is limited to a very small increase for 2005-06.

Care Leavers (CF/A4)

The definition for CF/A4 changed for 2004-05 to apply a denominator of the percentage of local young people in education, employment and training to the percentage of care leavers in education, employment and training, and to produce a ratio of one to the other. This information had previously been used to determine banding but now forms an integral part of the indicator.

Cost indicators and Expenditure data (CF/B8-10, CF/E44)

Indicators CF/B9 (unit cost of children's residential care) and CF/B10 (unit cost of foster care) were deleted from 2004-05. References to these indicators and to past publications in which they appear are retained below for the sake of completeness.

The source for these indicators changed for 2000-01 from the ODPM finance return R03 to the new DH PSS EX1 return. There are two major differences that affect all these indicators. Firstly, expenditure now includes capital charges. Secondly, expenditure includes Social Services Management and Support Services costs, attributed between service provision lines on a prorata basis where this could not be done more accurately. In earlier years on R03, although such attribution was recommended, there was space to record such costs separately and practice varied between councils and this affected the unit costs recorded. In addition to these two major differences, categories of service provision were aligned with sub-divisions in the CIPFA Service Expenditure Analysis for Social Services which forms part of their Best Value Accounting Code of Practice; this particularly increased indicators CF/B8 and CF/B9 through the inclusion of Social Services expenditure on boarding schools. Furthermore a share of commissioning and social work was omitted from indicator CF/E44 thereby reducing it. Further details of the 2000-01 changes are given in Annex D of Social Services Performance Assessment Framework Indicators 2002-2003.

Adjusted versions of these indicators, in which the activity in the denominator is adjusted to more closely match expenditure in the numerator, were also provided in *Social Services Performance Assessment Framework Indicators, 2001-02* and in the associated data sets. For CF/E44, the adjusted version includes a proportionate share of commissioning and social work costs. For children's services, the adjusted versions include respite care for children looked after (CF/B8-10), residential schools (CF/B8-9) and placed for adoption (CF/B8 and CF/B10 from 2001-02 onwards). Not all councils were able to supply the adjusted activity data. For 2001-02, averages for England and council types exclude councils that could not provide the adjusted data. For 2000-01 it was not always possible to distinguish those that could not provide the data from those for whom the size of the adjustment was 0 and so, in some cases, a zero adjustment was wrongly assumed. As a result, the averages for the adjusted cost indicators that are shown may be too high, thereby reducing the size of the true increase (or increasing the size of the true fall) between 2000-01 and 2001-02. From 2002-03 the adjusted indicators for CF/B8-10 and CF/E44 replaced the main indicators. The data shown in this publication for 2000-01 and for 2001-02 are the former adjusted data which are therefore consistent with the 2002-03 data shown.

From 1 April 2003 councils should have started showing pension costs for in house staff on a real cost (FRS 17) basis. Not all councils have done this but, for those that have, the effect is likely to have been to inflate some in-house costs, which may therefore have increased CF/B8-10 and affected CF/E44.

The Best Value Accounting Code of Practice (BVACOP) was amended for 2003-04 so that expenditure on children in children's homes who are not looked after (perhaps disabled children) is recorded under "Other family support services" (row BC6 on PSS EX1) rather than under the "Children's homes" sub-division (row BB1). Any children going into children's homes are likely to become looked after for the time that they are there, even if this is only for a very short period of respite care; such expenditure therefore continued to be included under children's homes and the associated nights of respite care continued to be included in the denominators of PAF indicators CF/B8 and CF/B9. The children's homes sub-division of BVACOP, however, includes boarding schools and councils may be supporting boarding school placements from their Social Services budgets. These children may not be looked after and, if this is so, the associated expenditure will then be recorded on row BC6 rather than row BB1. There is no associated activity for these children in the denominators of CF/B8 and CF/B9 and so the change improved the accuracy of these indicators. It also improved the accuracy of CF/E44 by counting this expenditure as expenditure on children in need, but not looked after rather than expenditure on children looked after.

All expenditure data should be treated as provisional until the full PSS EX1 data are finalised and published; this is expected to be in early 2007.

Although the guidance states that expenditure should be measured gross, some councils did not do this for some types of expenditure. As a result, relevant cost indicators may show a cost lower than the true gross cost.

For some indicators the expenditure does not exactly correspond to the associated activity. For 2001-02 onwards guidance was given that activity for CF/B8-10 should exclude Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children in order to achieve a better match between activity and expenditure; no such guidance was given for 2000-01, but some councils did this anyway. Furthermore, the statistical returns do not provide guidance on all aspects and so practice may vary between councils. The match between expenditure and activity, however, and the guidance provided both improved with the introduction of the PSS EX1 return for 2000-01 and so the problem should not be as great as in earlier years.

From 2004-05 the activity codes used in the denominator of CF/B8 (unit cost of services for children looked after) should include A1, F1 to F6, H3 to H5 and S1 as previously, along with the new code A2. A2 and A1 are now used to distinguish between adoptive placements with current foster carers or with other carers respectively. Before 1 April 2004 no distinction was made between these different types of adoptive placement and all were recorded using code A1; the sum of A1 and A2 therefore represents the same totality of activity as was previously described by A1.

OC2 data (CF/C18-19, CF/C24)

The data for these indicators are collected for those looked after for more than one year on 30 September. The indicators are for school years. Thus, for example, data shown for 2005-6 refer to the school year that ended in July 2005, ie the 2004-5 school year. The definition of CF/C19 changed for 2002-03 to exclude one of the three component indicators (immunisations); this was dropped as the information was sometimes not available (eg for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children). Data for earlier years are available on the new basis and those for 2002-03 are also available on the old basis, though the data shown in this publication are based on the new definition throughout.

Inspections of children's homes (CF/C25)

Responsibility for inspection passed to the National Care Standards Commission from 1 April 2002 and this indicator was dropped from 2002-03.

Participation of looked after children in reviews (CF/C63)

For 2005-06 the numerator of this indicator refers to children who communicated their views for each of their statutory reviews in the year; for 2004-05 it referred to those who communicated their views for the last review in the year. It is not possible to provide data for 2005-06 on the old basis or for 2004-05 on the new basis, but the likely effect of this change is limited to a small overall decrease for 2005-06.

Children in Need data (CF/E45, CF/E67)

Data for 2004-05 are based on the Children in Need Census carried out in February 2005. CF/E67 was collected for the first time in 2004-05. These were not collected for 2003-04 or 2005-06 as no Children in Need Census was held.

Census of Population data on ethnicity (CF/E45)

This indicator previously used ethnicity data from the 1991 Census of Population, but was reworked for all years using 2001 Census data in the November 2003 publication. The percentage of the population that were from ethnic minorities was generally much higher in 2001 than in 1991, increasing the denominators of this indicator and thereby decreasing the indicator values, although the differences vary between council areas. The bandings for this indicator did not change and so many councils moved from one band to another.

Annex E: Related publications and further information

Data for local councils

These were released at the same time as this document and can be found at the first web address below.

Social services performance on the internet

This document is available on the CSCI internet site, together with two spreadsheets, one for adults and one for children, which contain council level data for those who wish to analyse the data at a local level further. Relevant addresses are:

PSS PAF data http://www.csci.gov.uk/care professional/information for

councils/paf.aspx

PSS star ratings http://www.csci.gov.uk/care professionals/councils/star

ratings.aspx

Links to statistical data

DfES statistics on the web http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/contents.shtml

Social care material can be found at http://www.dfes.gov.uk/cgi-bin/rsgateway/search.

pl?cat=3&subcat=3 1&q1=Search

Information Centre for health and

social care statistics on the web

http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/ICpubfolder_view

DH PSS Performance website http://www.dh.gov.uk/PolicyAndGuidance/

OrganisationPolicy/SocialServicesPerformanceAssessment/

fs/en

Links to main websites

CSCI website http://www.csci.org.uk/

DH home page http://www.dh.gov.uk/Home/fs/en

DfES home page http://www.dfes.gov.uk/index.shtml

IC home page http://www.ic.nhs.uk

The Key Indicators Graphical System (KIGS) is a software package containing the PAF data, together with a wider range of Social Services indicators. It produces charts of indicators, allowing you for example to compare all councils within a particular group (suggested groups are at Annex G), or two different indicators together. It is now available only on the Internet. Anyone who does not currently have access to it but would like this should contact Jeff.Palmer@drfoster.co.uk, telephone 020 7330 0479 to obtain a 'User id' and password.

Publications

CSCI publications

The Commission for Social Care Inspection's website publication list contains details of CSCI publications – http://www.csci.org.uk/about_csci/publications.aspx.

DfES PSS publications

To obtain copies of children's Social Services statistical bulletins, please contact TSO by telephone, fax or E-mail as follows:

Phone: 0870 600 5522 Fax: 0870 600 5533

E-mail: customer.services@tso.co.uk

Copies are also available from the DfES website http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/contents.shtml.

IC PSS publications

Please contact:

Information Centre for health and social care

1 Trevelyan Square

Boar Lane

Leeds

LS16AE

Phone: 0845 300 6016

E-mail: enquiries@ic.nhs.uk

Copies are also available from the IC website http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/ICpubfolder_view.

Statistics on services for children

Statistical Volumes

- Children looked after by Local Authorities year ending 31 March 2005, http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/V0L/v000646/index.shtml.
- Referrals, Assessments and Children and Young People on Child Protection Registers year ending 31 March 2005, http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/V0L/v000632/index.shtml.

- Outcome Indicators for Looked after Children Twelve months to 30 September 2005, http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/V0L/v000655/index.shtml.
- Children in Need in England: Results of a survey of activity and expenditure as reported by Local Authority Social Services' Children and Families Teams for a survey week in February 2005, http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/V0L/v000647/index.shtml.

Statistical First Releases

- Referrals, Assessments, and Children and Young People on Child Protection Registers, England
 Year ending 31 March 2006 http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000692/index.shtml
- Children looked after in England (including adoption and care leavers): 2005-2006 http://www. dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000691/index.shtml
- Private Fostering Arrangements in England, year ending 31 March 2006 http://www.dfes.gov. uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000690/index.shtml

Other

The Children Act Report, 2004-05. A report under section 83(6) of the Children Act 1989,
 presented to Parliament October 2006. Describes main changes and implications since previous report, tracks progress, http://www.dfes.gov.uk/publications/childrenactreport/.

Other statistics - Key Indicators, staff and expenditure

Statistical Bulletins

- Personal Social Services staff of Social Services Departments at 30 September 2005 [Bulletin 2006/03/HSCIC] ISBN 1 84636 044 7
 http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/persocservstaff300905eng
- Personal Social Services expenditure and unit costs: England: 2004-05 [Bulletin 2006/01/HSCIC] ISBN 1846360366
 http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/persocservexp2005

Non-statistical publications

CSCI:

Reports since April 2004:

http://www.csci.org.uk/about csci/publications.aspx

including links to:

Supporting parents, safeguarding children, February 2006

Placements, decisions and reviews, September 2006

SSI reports and publications prior to April 2004:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/PolicyAndGuidance/SocialServicesInspectorate/SSIPublications/fs/en

Making ends meet (a website for managing the money in Social Services) (January 2004). This summarises lessons learnt from the Joint Review process. Find it at http://www.joint-reviews.gov. uk/money/homepage.html

Audit Commission:

Website with BVPI data and definitions and Value for Money graphical system http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/performance/

Department for Education and Skills:

Every Child Matters — http://www.dfes.gov.uk/everychildmatters/

Durham University Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services:

CAMHS mapping process and reports:

http://www.camhsmapping.org.uk/2005/

Contacts

For queries relating to	please contact
PSS performance and performance policy, CSCI assessments, PAF development and bandings	CSCI's Quality Performance and Methodology Team APA. mailbox@csci.gsi.gov.uk
PAF data (Children) and PSS children statistics	lsabella.Craig@dfes.gsi.gov.uk 020 7925 3802
KIGS	Jeff.Palmer@drfoster.co.uk 020 7330 0479

Annex F: Glossary of terms

AC Audit Commission

ADSS Association of Directors of Social Services

A0 Adults and Older People

APA Annual Performance Assessment

BVPI Best Value Performance Indicator

CAMHS Children and Adolescents Mental Health Services

CF Children and Families

CiN Children In Need

CIPFA Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy

CLA Children Looked After

CPA Comprehensive Performance Assessment

CPR Child Protection Register

CSCI Commission for Social Care Inspection

DCLG Department for Communities and Local Government (formerly ODPM, DTLR and DETR)

DETR Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions (now DCLG)

DfES Department for Education and Skills

DH Department of Health

DSS Department for Social Security (Now DWP)

DTLR Department for Transport, London and the Regions (now DCLG, formerly DETR)

DWP Department for Work and Pensions (formerly DSS)

ECM Every Child Matters

FSS Formula Spending Share (replaced SSA)

GCSE General Certificate of Secondary Education

GNVQ General National Vocational Qualification

HSCIC Health and Social Care Information Centre (now IC)

IC Information Centre for health and social care (formerly HSCIC)

ISBN International Standard Book Number

JAR Joint Area Review

JR SSI / Audit Commission Joint Reviews
KIGS Key Indicators Graphical System

LA Local Authority, in this context meaning council with Social Services responsibilities,

effectively equivalent to Social Services Department

LAC Looked After Child(ren)

LEA Local Education Authority

LGA Local Government Association

LPSA Local Public Service Agreement

MR Management and Resources
 NPG National Priorities Guidance
 NVQ National Vocational Qualification
 OC Outcomes for Children Looked After

ODPM Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (now DCLG, formerly DTLR and DETR)

Office for Standards in Education
ONS Office for National Statistics

PADI Performance Assessment Data & Information system

PAF Performance Assessment Framework

PSA Performance Indicator
PSA Public Service Agreement
PSS Personal Social Services

PSS EX Personal Social Services Expenditure

RO Revenue Outturn

SCR Social Care Regions (now part of CSCI)

SSA Standard Spending Assessment (replaced by FSS)

SSD Social Services Department

SSDA Social Services Department Activity

Social Services Inspectorate (now part of CSCI)

SSMSS Social Services Management and Support Services

SSRG Social Services Research Group

UNASC Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Child(ren)

Annex G:

Comparator groups of councils

The SSI and Joint Review team agreed a single set of comparator councils for use in all inspections and reviews. These were developed by the Institute of Public Finance. The comparator councils were selected by matching councils that are closest in terms of deprivation levels and demography. A list of comparator groups for each council (other than City of London and Isles of Scilly) is given below. These comparator groups are built into KIGS and used both by CSCI and many councils.

The Institute of Public Finance intend to work with other stakeholders to review the methodology and underlying data for comparator groups for local government services. DfES has commissioned separate research to establish appropriate comparators for the new Children's Departments / Trusts.

Remember to use comparator groups with care. Often it is more appropriate to make comparisons with good performance — people expect to receive a good quality of service no matter where they live. Comparator groups are perhaps most useful when either benchmarking detailed information underlying performance indicators, or when looking to find examples of good practice that could readily be applied to your council. In some instances where dealing with expenditure information it is more appropriate to use Area Cost Adjustment groups (see Annex B).

Council	Comparators
Barking & Dagenham	Greenwich, Waltham Forest, Bexley, Hounslow, Redbridge, Lewisham, Merton, Enfield, Havering, Sutton, Hillingdon, Kingston upon Thames, Harrow, Croydon, Ealing
Barnet	Enfield, Harrow, Redbridge, Croydon, Hillingdon, Merton, Richmond upon Thames, Bromley, Ealing, Bexley, Hounslow, Sutton, Kingston upon Thames, Wandsworth, Havering
Barnsley	Doncaster, St Helens, Rotherham, Wigan, Wakefield, Stoke on Trent, Bolton, Tameside, Stockton on Tees, Darlington, Walsall, Gateshead, Redcar & Cleveland, Rochdale, Halton
Bath & North East Somerset	York, Poole, North Somerset, Stockport, Trafford, Herefordshire, Calderdale, Solihull, East Riding of Yorkshire, Darlington, Dudley, Warrington, Sefton, Bury, Kirklees
Bedfordshire	Oxfordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, Hampshire, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Leicestershire, Buckinghamshire, Staffordshire, Essex, Cheshire, Hertfordshire, Nottinghamshire
Bexley	Hillingdon, Redbridge, Havering, Enfield, Sutton, Merton, Hounslow, Harrow, Kingston upon Thames, Croydon, Barnet, Bromley, Richmond upon Thames, Barking & Dagenham, Waltham Forest
Birmingham	Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, Sandwell, Coventry, Wolverhampton, Bristol, Nottingham, Leicester, Liverpool, Kirklees, Walsall, Newcastle upon Tyne, Derby, Kingston upon Hull
Blackburn with Darwen	Oldham, Rochdale, Bolton, Coventry, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Tameside, Bradford, Derby, Sandwell, Middlesbrough, Luton, Stockton on Tees, Halton, Stoke on Trent
Blackpool	Southend on Sea, Sefton, North Tyneside, Portsmouth, Bournemouth, Wirral, North East Lincolnshire, Bristol, Darlington, Gateshead, Plymouth, South Tyneside, Calderdale, Brighton & Hove, Torbay

Council	Comparators
Bolton	Tameside, Oldham, Walsall, Rochdale, Derby, Wakefield, Bury, Wigan, Darlington, Coventry, Dudley, Kirklees, St Helens, Stoke on Trent, Rotherham
Bournemouth	Torbay, Southend on Sea, Blackpool, Isle of Wight, Brighton & Hove, Poole, Bath & North East Somerset, Sefton, York, North Somerset, North Tyneside, Portsmouth, Bristol, Wirral, Calderdale
Bracknell Forest	West Berkshire, Milton Keynes, Solihull, Windsor & Maidenhead, Thurrock, Wokingham, South Gloucestershire, Swindon, Warrington, Reading, Trafford, Medway, Stockport, Telford & the Wrekin, Bury
Bradford	Coventry, Kirklees, Rochdale, Oldham, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Bolton, Derby, Sandwell, Leeds, Blackburn with Darwen, Luton, Tameside, Bristol, Peterborough
Brent	Haringey, Ealing, Hounslow, Lambeth, Waltham Forest, Lewisham, Croydon, Wandsworth, Newham, Redbridge, Enfield, Southwark, Merton, Greenwich, Islington
Brighton & Hove	Southend on Sea, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Blackpool, Torbay, Southampton, Bristol, North Tyneside, Isle of Wight, Plymouth, Sefton, Newcastle upon Tyne, Calderdale, York, Bath & North East Somerset
Bristol	Sheffield, Newcastle upon Tyne, Leeds, Plymouth, Coventry, Derby, Sandwell, Nottingham, Trafford, Wolverhampton, Darlington, Gateshead, Calderdale, Salford, Bradford
Bromley	Havering, Richmond upon Thames, Barnet, Enfield, Hillingdon, Bexley, Harrow, Redbridge, Kingston upon Thames, Sutton, Merton, Croydon, Hounslow, Wandsworth, Ealing
Buckinghamshire	Oxfordshire, Surrey, Bedfordshire, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Leicestershire. Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Essex, Cheshire, West Sussex, Northamptonshire
Bury	Dudley, Stockport, Tameside, Bolton, Wigan, Wakefield, Darlington, St Helens, Walsall, Warrington, Kirklees, Oldham, Calderdale, Rochdale, Rotherham
Calderdale	Kirklees, Darlington, Tameside, Bolton, Plymouth, York, Dudley, Bury, Rochdale, Wakefield, Derby, Walsall, Oldham, Stockport, Trafford
Cambridgeshire	Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire, Leicestershire, Bedfordshire, Cheshire, Suffolk, Northamptonshire, Hampshire, Somerset, Staffordshire, Shropshire, Derbyshire
Camden	Hammersmith & Fulham, Islington, Kensington & Chelsea, Wandsworth, Southwark, Lambeth, Haringey, Lewisham, Hounslow, Brent, Waltham Forest, Merton, Ealing, Hackney, Greenwich
Cheshire	Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Staffordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Oxfordshire, Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Hampshire, Nottinghamshire, Wiltshire, Somerset, Cumbria
Cornwall	Devon, Lincolnshire, Somerset, North Yorkshire, Norfolk, Cumbria, Shropshire, Dorset, Suffolk, Northumberland, East Sussex, Gloucestershire, Derbyshire, Kent, Lancashire
Coventry	Derby, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Sandwell, Oldham, Bolton, Bradford, Rochdale, Plymouth, Peterborough, Darlington, Stockton on Tees, Tameside, Kirklees, Bristol
Croydon	Ealing, Enfield, Redbridge, Hounslow, Hillingdon, Barnet, Bexley, Merton, Harrow, Wandsworth, Waltham Forest, Brent, Sutton, Lewisham, Greenwich

Council	Comparators
Cumbria	Lincolnshire, Suffolk, Somerset, Norfolk, North Yorkshire, Shropshire, Northumberland, Devon, Gloucestershire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Warwickshire, Cornwall, Lancashire, Worcestershire
Darlington	Bolton, Derby, Tameside, St Helens, Walsall, Calderdale, Wakefield, Dudley, Stockton on Tees, Stoke on Trent, Rochdale, Oldham, Plymouth, Rotherham, Bury
Derby	Coventry, Walsall, Bolton, Darlington, Plymouth, Wolverhampton, Oldham, Rochdale, Dudley, Stockton on Tees, Wakefield, Tameside, Peterborough, Stoke on Trent, Sandwell
Derbyshire	Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Northumberland, Lincolnshire, Warwickshire, Cheshire, Leicestershire, Gloucestershire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Shropshire, Somerset, Wiltshire, Lancashire
Devon	Dorset, North Yorkshire, Somerset, Norfolk, Cornwall, Lincolnshire, Suffolk, Shropshire, Gloucestershire, East Sussex, Cumbria, Wiltshire, West Sussex, Kent, Northumberland
Doncaster	Rotherham, Barnsley, St Helens, Wakefield, Wigan, Stockton on Tees, Stoke on Trent, Bolton, Walsall, Darlington, Derby, Tameside, Redcar & Cleveland, Halton, Telford & the Wrekin
Dorset	Devon, Somerset, North Yorkshire, East Sussex, Shropshire, Gloucestershire, West Sussex, Norfolk, Suffolk, Wiltshire, Lincolnshire, Worcestershire, Cornwall, Cambridgeshire, Cumbria
Dudley	Bury, Stockport, Walsall, Bolton, Tameside, Wakefield, Wigan, Darlington, Kirklees, Warrington, Derby, St Helens, Rotherham, Trafford, Calderdale
Durham	Northumberland, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Staffordshire, Cumbria, Suffolk, Worcestershire, Norfolk, Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, Somerset, Cheshire, Shropshire
Ealing	Croydon, Brent, Hounslow, Redbridge, Wandsworth, Enfield, Waltham Forest, Haringey, Merton, Barnet, Lewisham, Lambeth, Hillingdon, Harrow, Bexley
East Riding of Yorkshire	North Somerset, Herefordshire, North Lincolnshire, Bath & North East Somerset, Sefton, York, South Gloucestershire, Stockport, Poole, Bury, Dudley, Wirral, Warrington, Kirklees, Wakefield
East Sussex	Dorset, Devon, West Sussex, Kent, Somerset, Gloucestershire, Norfolk, North Yorkshire, Cornwall, Suffolk, Essex, Northumberland, Worcestershire, Lincolnshire, Cumbria
Enfield	Redbridge, Harrow, Merton, Bexley, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Barnet, Sutton, Croydon, Waltham Forest, Ealing, Kingston upon Thames, Havering, Bromley, Wandsworth
Essex	Kent, Hampshire, Worcestershire, Hertfordshire, Staffordshire, Bedfordshire, Warwickshire, West Sussex, Gloucestershire, Nottinghamshire, Cheshire, Oxfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire, Suffolk
Gateshead	Salford, Plymouth, Kingston upon Hull, Darlington, Rochdale, Walsall, Rotherham, Tameside, Sandwell, Derby, North Tyneside, St Helens, Wakefield, South Tyneside, Sunderland
Gloucestershire	Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Cheshire, Somerset, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire, Norfolk, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire, Hampshire, North Yorkshire, Shropshire
Greenwich	Lewisham, Waltham Forest, Barking & Dagenham, Hounslow, Lambeth, Southwark, Redbridge, Wandsworth, Enfield, Bexley, Merton, Ealing, Haringey, Croydon, Hillingdon
Hackney	Tower Hamlets, Southwark, Lambeth, Islington, Newham, Haringey, Lewisham, Greenwich, Brent, Waltham Forest, Hammersmith & Fulham, Wandsworth, Camden, Ealing, Hounslow

Council	Comparators
Halton	Stockton on Tees, Middlesbrough, Telford & the Wrekin, Knowsley, Rotherham, Rochdale, St Helens, Doncaster, Hartlepool, Walsall, Peterborough, Wakefield, Redcar & Cleveland, Kingston upon Hull, Gateshead
Hammersmith & Fulham	Camden, Islington, Wandsworth, Kensington & Chelsea, Lambeth, Haringey, Southwark, Lewisham, Brent, Hounslow, Ealing, Merton, Greenwich, Waltham Forest, Hackney
Hampshire	Essex, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire, Bedfordshire, Warwickshire, Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Leicestershire, Gloucestershire, Hertfordshire, Staffordshire, Kent, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Wiltshire
Haringey	Brent, Lambeth, Waltham Forest, Ealing, Lewisham, Newham, Hounslow, Southwark, Islington, Hackney, Wandsworth, Greenwich, Hammersmith & Fulham, Croydon, Redbridge
Harrow	Redbridge, Merton, Enfield, Barnet, Sutton, Kingston upon Thames, Bexley, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Richmond upon Thames, Croydon, Ealing, Bromley, Havering, Waltham Forest
Hartlepool	Sunderland, South Tyneside, Redcar & Cleveland, North East Lincolnshire, Middlesbrough, Kingston upon Hull, Halton, Stockton on Tees, Gateshead, North Tyneside, St Helens, Wirral, Rotherham, Doncaster, Darlington
Havering	Bexley, Hillingdon, Bromley, Enfield, Redbridge, Sutton, Merton, Kingston upon Thames, Hounslow, Harrow, Barking & Dagenham, Richmond upon Thames, Croydon, Barnet, Greenwich
Herefordshire	Rutland, East Riding of Yorkshire, Bath & North East Somerset, North Lincolnshire, North Somerset, West Berkshire, York, South Gloucestershire, Poole, Stockport, Calderdale, Solihull, Isle of Wight, Warrington, Darlington
Hertfordshire	Surrey, Hampshire, Essex, Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire, Kent, West Sussex, Buckinghamshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Gloucestershire, Cheshire, Cambridgeshire, Staffordshire
Hillingdon	Bexley, Enfield, Redbridge, Hounslow, Merton, Havering, Harrow, Sutton, Croydon, Kingston upon Thames, Barnet, Bromley, Richmond upon Thames, Ealing, Waltham Forest
Hounslow	Merton, Redbridge, Enfield, Ealing, Waltham Forest, Hillingdon, Bexley, Harrow, Croydon, Sutton, Brent, Greenwich, Wandsworth, Kingston upon Thames, Lewisham
Isle of Wight	Torbay, Southend on Sea, Bournemouth, Bath & North East Somerset, Poole, North Somerset, Sefton, York, East Riding of Yorkshire, Herefordshire, Wirral, Blackpool, Calderdale, North Tyneside, Darlington
Islington	Southwark, Hammersmith & Fulham, Lambeth, Hackney, Camden, Tower Hamlets, Haringey, Lewisham, Wandsworth, Greenwich, Brent, Waltham Forest, Hounslow, Newham, Ealing
Kensington & Chelsea	Hammersmith & Fulham, Camden, Wandsworth, Islington, Kingston upon Thames, Richmond upon Thames, Merton, Haringey, Hounslow, Ealing, Barnet, Brent, Lambeth, Westminster, Harrow
Kent	Essex, Gloucestershire, Lancashire, Hampshire, Suffolk, West Sussex, Worcestershire, Somerset, Warwickshire, Cheshire, Norfolk, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, East Sussex
Kingston upon Hull	Middlesbrough, Gateshead, Nottingham, Liverpool, Plymouth, Coventry, Sandwell, Hartlepool, Salford, Derby, Sunderland, Newcastle upon Tyne, Halton, Wolverhampton, South Tyneside
Kingston upon Thames	Sutton, Richmond upon Thames, Merton, Harrow, Bexley, Redbridge, Hillingdon, Enfield, Hounslow, Barnet, Havering, Bromley, Croydon, Wandsworth, Waltham Forest

Council	Comparators
Kirklees	Calderdale, Bolton, Dudley, Wakefield, Tameside, Bradford, Rochdale, Derby, Bury, Walsall, Oldham, Coventry, Darlington, Stockport, Plymouth
Knowsley	Halton, Middlesbrough, Sunderland, Hartlepool, Stockton on Tees, Kingston upon Hull, Rotherham, Rochdale, Gateshead, South Tyneside, Oldham, Salford, Walsall, Sandwell, Wolverhampton
Lambeth	Southwark, Lewisham, Haringey, Islington, Hackney, Brent, Wandsworth, Greenwich, Ealing, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest, Newham, Hammersmith & Fulham, Hounslow, Croydon
Lancashire	Nottinghamshire, Kent, Suffolk, Derbyshire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Gloucestershire, Northumberland, Northamptonshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Cumbria, Lincolnshire, Somerset, Essex
Leeds	Sheffield, Bristol, Bradford, Kirklees, Coventry, Plymouth, Dudley, Derby, Walsall, Wakefield, Bolton, Birmingham, Sandwell, Calderdale, Wolverhampton
Leicester	Wolverhampton, Nottingham, Bradford, Coventry, Blackburn with Darwen, Sandwell, Luton, Derby, Oldham, Bristol, Newcastle upon Tyne, Kingston upon Hull, Rochdale, Bolton, Middlesbrough
Leicestershire	Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Cambridgeshire, Worcestershire, Wiltshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Hampshire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Nottinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Suffolk, Shropshire
Lewisham	Greenwich, Waltham Forest, Lambeth, Southwark, Wandsworth , Haringey, Hounslow, Ealing, Brent, Islington, Barking & Dagenham, Redbridge, Croydon, Hackney, Enfield
Lincolnshire	Cumbria, Somerset, Suffolk, Shropshire, Norfolk, North Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Northumberland, Devon, Gloucestershire, Cornwall, Nottinghamshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Wiltshire
Liverpool	Kingston upon Hull, Nottingham, Newcastle upon Tyne, Middlesbrough, Salford, Gateshead, Sandwell, Manchester, Plymouth, Sheffield, Bristol, Wolverhampton, Sunderland, Coventry, Hartlepool
Luton	Coventry, Bradford, Oldham, Peterborough, Blackburn with Darwen, Rochdale, Derby, Milton Keynes, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Bolton, Stockton on Tees, Telford & the Wrekin, Medway, Sandwell
Manchester	Nottingham, Liverpool, Newcastle upon Tyne, Kingston upon Hull, Sandwell, Leicester, Salford, Wolverhampton, Bristol, Middlesbrough, Birmingham, Coventry, Bradford, Sheffield, Southampton
Medway	North East Lincolnshire, Dudley, Bury, Wirral, Stockton on Tees, Bolton, Sefton, Redcar & Cleveland, Warrington, Walsall, Telford & the Wrekin, Stockport, Derby, Tameside, Darlington
Merton	Redbridge, Sutton, Hounslow, Harrow, Enfield, Kingston upon Thames, Bexley, Hillingdon, Waltham Forest, Croydon, Richmond upon Thames, Barnet, Ealing, Wandsworth, Havering
Middlesbrough	Kingston upon Hull, Halton, Stockton on Tees, Hartlepool, Knowsley, Blackburn with Darwen, Doncaster, Sunderland, Rochdale, Gateshead, Derby, Coventry, Wolverhampton, Oldham, Plymouth
Milton Keynes	Swindon, Peterborough, Telford & the Wrekin, Warrington, Luton, Bracknell Forest, Thurrock, Stockton on Tees, Trafford, Reading, Medway, South Gloucestershire, Rochdale, Solihull, West Berkshire
Newcastle upon Tyne	Nottingham, Salford, Bristol, Sandwell, Sheffield, Kingston upon Hull, Plymouth, Gateshead, Wolverhampton, Southampton, Liverpool, Coventry, Derby, Portsmouth, Middlesbrough

Council	Comparators
Newham	Haringey, Hackney, Lambeth, Brent, Tower Hamlets, Southwark, Lewisham, Waltham Forest, Greenwich, Ealing, Islington, Hounslow, Barking & Dagenham, Croydon, Wandsworth
Norfolk	Lincolnshire, Suffolk, Somerset, Gloucestershire, Cumbria, Devon, Derbyshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Shropshire, North Yorkshire, Northumberland, Cheshire, Cambridgeshire, Dorset
North East Lincolnshire	Redcar & Cleveland, Hartlepool, Darlington, Wirral, Sefton, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, Derby, Stockton on Tees, Walsall, Bolton, Coventry, Doncaster, Sunderland, Wakefield
North Lincolnshire	Telford & the Wrekin, Darlington, Warrington, Wakefield, Peterborough, York, Swindon, Calderdale, Dudley, Doncaster, Rotherham, St Helens, Stockton on Tees, Trafford, Walsall
North Somerset	Poole, Bath & North East Somerset, East Riding of Yorkshire, Stockport, Sefton, Solihull, York, South Gloucestershire, Bury, Wirral, Herefordshire, Trafford, Isle of Wight, Dudley, Warrington
North Tyneside	South Tyneside, Sefton, Wirral, Plymouth, Gateshead, Sunderland, North East Lincolnshire, Darlington, Tameside, Hartlepool, Calderdale, Salford, Derby, Bolton, Walsall
North Yorkshire	Somerset, Shropshire, Devon, Lincolnshire, Dorset, Suffolk, Cumbria, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Norfolk, Cornwall, Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire
Northamptonshire	Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Bedfordshire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Cambridgeshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire, Suffolk, Nottinghamshire, Hampshire, Lancashire, Wiltshire, Derbyshire
Northumberland	Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Worcestershire, Somerset, Suffolk, Cumbria, Gloucestershire, Staffordshire, Durham, Norfolk, Lancashire, Warwickshire, Shropshire, Cheshire
Nottingham	Newcastle upon Tyne, Kingston upon Hull, Sandwell, Wolverhampton, Liverpool, Bristol, Coventry, Middlesbrough, Salford, Plymouth, Derby, Manchester, Gateshead, Sheffield, Leicester
Nottinghamshire	Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Northumberland, Warwickshire, Cheshire, Leicestershire, Lancashire, Northamptonshire, Gloucestershire, Lincolnshire, Suffolk, Norfolk, Durham, Essex
Oldham	Rochdale, Bolton, Tameside, Walsall, Blackburn with Darwen, Coventry, Derby, Wolverhampton, Sandwell, Darlington, Rotherham, Bradford, Stockton on Tees, Wakefield, Bury
Oxfordshire	Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Cheshire, Worcestershire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire, Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Somerset, West Sussex
Peterborough	Telford & the Wrekin, Swindon, Coventry, Derby, Stockton on Tees, Warrington, Walsall, Milton Keynes, Rochdale, Darlington, Halton, Wolverhampton, Trafford, Bolton, Wakefield
Plymouth	Derby, Gateshead, Coventry, Darlington, Kingston upon Hull, North Tyneside, Walsall, Calderdale, Bristol, Sheffield, Bolton, Wolverhampton, Sandwell, Salford, Oldham
Poole	North Somerset, Bath & North East Somerset, York, Sefton, Stockport, Trafford, Solihull, East Riding of Yorkshire, Warrington, Isle of Wight, Wirral, Southend on Sea, Darlington, Bury, Dudley
Portsmouth	Southampton, Southend on Sea, Bristol, Plymouth, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Blackpool, North East Lincolnshire, Salford, Sefton, Kingston upon Hull, Gateshead, Sheffield, Sandwell, Coventry

Council	Comparators
Reading	Trafford, Swindon, Bristol, Peterborough, Milton Keynes, Warrington, Derby, York, Coventry, Thurrock, Calderdale, Darlington, Plymouth, Luton, Southampton
Redbridge	Enfield, Merton, Harrow, Bexley, Sutton, Hounslow, Hillingdon, Croydon, Barnet, Waltham Forest, Kingston upon Thames, Ealing, Wandsworth, Greenwich, Havering
Redcar & Cleveland	North East Lincolnshire, Hartlepool, Stockton on Tees, Sunderland, Doncaster, St Helens, Rotherham, Halton, South Tyneside, Darlington, Wakefield, Barnsley, Wirral, North Tyneside, Walsall
Richmond upon Thames	Kingston upon Thames, Harrow, Sutton, Bromley, Merton, Barnet, Bexley, Enfield, Hillingdon, Redbridge, Havering, Hounslow, Croydon, Wandsworth, Ealing
Rochdale	Oldham, Walsall, Tameside, Bolton, Blackburn with Darwen, Coventry, Stockton on Tees, Wolverhampton, Wakefield, Derby, Rotherham, Darlington, Bradford, Sandwell, Kirklees
Rotherham	St Helens, Doncaster, Wakefield, Barnsley, Wigan, Stockton on Tees, Walsall, Tameside, Bolton, Rochdale, Darlington, Oldham, Stoke on Trent, Dudley, Derby
Rutland	Herefordshire, West Berkshire, East Riding of Yorkshire, South Gloucestershire, Bath & North East Somerset, North Lincolnshire, Solihull, North Somerset, Wokingham, York, Warrington, Stockport, Telford & the Wrekin, Bury, Bracknell Forest
Salford	Gateshead, Sandwell, Newcastle upon Tyne, Sheffield, Wolverhampton, Rochdale, Plymouth, Oldham, Kingston upon Hull, Walsall, Coventry, Tameside, Bristol, Darlington, North Tyneside
Sandwell	Wolverhampton, Coventry, Salford, Walsall, Oldham, Rochdale, Derby, Sheffield, Gateshead, Newcastle upon Tyne, Nottingham, Bradford, Plymouth, Kingston upon Hull, Bristol
Sefton	Wirral, North Tyneside, North East Lincolnshire, Darlington, Dudley, South Tyneside, Stockport, Bury, Bolton, Tameside, Calderdale, Poole, Derby, Plymouth, North Somerset
Sheffield	Leeds, Bristol, Sandwell, Salford, Plymouth, Gateshead, Coventry, Newcastle upon Tyne, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Derby, Dudley, Bolton, Bradford, Oldham
Shropshire	North Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Somerset, Wiltshire, Devon, Gloucestershire, Suffolk, Derbyshire, Cumbria, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Dorset, Warwickshire, Cheshire, Worcestershire
Slough	Reading, Luton, Thurrock, Milton Keynes, Peterborough, Bracknell Forest, Swindon, Southampton, Leicester, Coventry, Wolverhampton, Bradford, Trafford, Bristol, Sandwell
Solihull	South Gloucestershire, Stockport, Warrington, Trafford, West Berkshire, Swindon, Dudley, Bury, Bath & North East Somerset, North Somerset, Poole, Telford & the Wrekin, Milton Keynes, Bracknell Forest, York
Somerset	Suffolk, North Yorkshire, Devon, Lincolnshire, Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Dorset, Wiltshire, Norfolk, Cumbria, Worcestershire, Cambridgeshire, Northumberland, Warwickshire, Derbyshire
South Gloucestershire	Solihull, Warrington, Stockport, Bury, Dudley, Swindon, Telford & the Wrekin, West Berkshire, Trafford, Milton Keynes, North Lincolnshire, East Riding of Yorkshire, Wakefield, St Helens, Wigan
South Tyneside	North Tyneside, Sunderland, Hartlepool, Wirral, Gateshead, North East Lincolnshire, Redcar & Cleveland, Plymouth, Kingston upon Hull, Sefton, Rotherham, Tameside, Rochdale, Oldham, Darlington

Council	Comparators
Southampton	Portsmouth, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Salford, Bristol, Plymouth, Sandwell, Gateshead, Sheffield, Wolverhampton, South Tyneside, Coventry, Nottingham, Calderdale, Derby
Southend on Sea	Brighton & Hove, Blackpool, Sefton, Torbay, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight, North Tyneside, Poole, York, Bath & North East Somerset, Calderdale, Wirral, Plymouth, North Somerset
Southwark	Lambeth, Islington, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Lewisham, Greenwich, Haringey, Newham, Waltham Forest, Wandsworth, Brent, Hammersmith & Fulham, Ealing, Hounslow, Camden
St Helens	Rotherham, Wigan, Barnsley, Doncaster, Wakefield, Stockton on Tees, Bolton, Tameside, Darlington, Stoke on Trent, Walsall, Dudley, Bury, Rochdale, Telford & the Wrekin
Staffordshire	Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Worcestershire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Cheshire, Northamptonshire, Hampshire, Cambridgeshire, Gloucestershire, Bedfordshire, Essex, Northumberland, Wiltshire, Lancashire
Stockport	Bury, Dudley, Trafford, Warrington, Solihull, York, South Gloucestershire, Bolton, Kirklees, Darlington, Tameside, Calderdale, Bath & North East Somerset, Wakefield, Walsall
Stockton on Tees	Halton, Rotherham, St Helens, Walsall, Doncaster, Telford & the Wrekin, Wakefield, Rochdale, Darlington, Bolton, Derby, Oldham, Peterborough, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland
Stoke on Trent	Wakefield, Bolton, St Helens, Doncaster, Wigan, Barnsley, Darlington, Derby, Rotherham, Walsall, Gateshead, Tameside, Stockton on Tees, Coventry, Oldham
Suffolk	Somerset, Gloucestershire, Lincolnshire, Cumbria, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Warwickshire, North Yorkshire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire, Cheshire, Devon, Derbyshire, Northamptonshire, Shropshire
Sunderland	South Tyneside, Hartlepool, Gateshead, North Tyneside, Redcar & Cleveland, Rotherham, Kingston upon Hull, Stockton on Tees, Rochdale, Halton, Middlesbrough, North East Lincolnshire, Doncaster, St Helens, Wakefield
Surrey	Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, West Sussex, Oxfordshire, Essex, Bedfordshire, Kent, Warwickshire, Cambridgeshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Cheshire, Wiltshire, Leicestershire
Sutton	Merton, Kingston upon Thames, Redbridge, Bexley, Harrow, Enfield, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Richmond upon Thames, Barnet, Havering, Waltham Forest, Croydon, Barking & Dagenham, Bromley
Swindon	Warrington, Peterborough, Trafford, Telford & the Wrekin, Milton Keynes, Dudley, South Gloucestershire, Reading, Stockton on Tees, Solihull, North Lincolnshire, Derby, Darlington, Walsall, Stockport
Tameside	Bolton, Oldham, Rochdale, Walsall, Bury, Wigan, Wakefield, Dudley, Rotherham, St Helens, Darlington, Kirklees, Derby, Calderdale, Gateshead
Telford & the Wrekin	Warrington, Peterborough, Stockton on Tees, Wakefield, Swindon, Walsall, Halton, St Helens, Rotherham, Rochdale, Bolton, Milton Keynes, North Lincolnshire, Darlington, Doncaster
Thurrock	Milton Keynes, Swindon, Medway, Warrington, Peterborough, Telford & the Wrekin, Reading, Trafford, Bracknell Forest, Stockton on Tees, Luton, Darlington, Dudley, Walsall, Rochdale
Torbay	Bournemouth, Isle of Wight, Southend on Sea, Blackpool, Brighton & Hove, Sefton, Poole, Bath & North East Somerset, York, North Somerset, Wirral, North Tyneside, Portsmouth, Calderdale, North East Lincolnshire

Council	Comparators	
Tower Hamlets	Hackney, Southwark, Islington, Lambeth, Newham, Lewisham, Haringey, Greenwich, Brent, Waltham Forest, Hammersmith & Fulham, Camden, Wandsworth, Hounslow, Barking & Dagenham	
Trafford	Warrington, Stockport, Swindon, York, Dudley, Darlington, Bury, Reading, Peterborough, Solihull, Derby, Bolton, Calderdale, Bristol, Walsall	
Wakefield	Wigan, Rotherham, St Helens, Doncaster, Bolton, Walsall, Tameside, Barnsley, Dudley, Stolon Trent, Stockton on Tees, Darlington, Rochdale, Kirklees, Telford & the Wrekin	
Walsall	Oldham, Rochdale, Bolton, Derby, Tameside, Coventry, Wakefield, Rotherham, Stockton on Tees, Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell, Darlington, St Helens, Wigan	
Waltham Forest	Lewisham, Hounslow, Greenwich, Redbridge, Enfield, Barking & Dagenham, Merton, Ealing, Haringey, Croydon, Brent, Bexley, Wandsworth, Sutton, Lambeth	
Wandsworth	Hammersmith & Fulham, Ealing, Lewisham, Lambeth, Hounslow, Croydon, Merton, Redbridge, Enfield, Greenwich, Waltham Forest, Haringey, Brent, Islington, Barnet	
Warrington	Swindon, Telford & the Wrekin, Trafford, Dudley, South Gloucestershire, Stockport, Bury, Peterborough, Wakefield, Darlington, Stockton on Tees, St Helens, Bolton, Solihull, North Lincolnshire	
Warwickshire	Worcestershire, Cheshire, Cambridgeshire, Gloucestershire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Staffordshire, Leicestershire, Bedfordshire, Suffolk, Wiltshire, Hampshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Somerset	
West Berkshire	Bracknell Forest, Solihull, South Gloucestershire, Wokingham, Rutland, Windsor & Maidenhead, Milton Keynes, Warrington, Swindon, Herefordshire, Bath & North East Somerset, Stockport, Trafford, North Somerset, East Riding of Yorkshire	
West Sussex	Gloucestershire, Kent, East Sussex, Dorset, Essex, Hampshire, Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire, Hertfordshire, Somerset, Devon, Cheshire, Surrey, Cambridgeshire	
Westminster	Camden, Kensington & Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham, Islington, Wandsworth, Southwark, Richmond upon Thames, Kingston upon Thames, Haringey, Lambeth, Hounslow, Merton, Brent, Barnet, Ealing	
Wigan	St Helens, Wakefield, Rotherham, Barnsley, Doncaster, Tameside, Bolton, Bury, Dudley, Stoke on Trent, Walsall, Stockton on Tees, Rochdale, Oldham, Darlington	
Wiltshire	Cambridgeshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Somerset, Shropshire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, Suffolk, Leicestershire, Bedfordshire, North Yorkshire, Cheshire, Hampshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire	
Windsor & Maidenhead	West Berkshire, Bracknell Forest, Wokingham, Solihull, Bath & North East Somerset, Poole, Trafford, Stockport, North Somerset, Reading, Milton Keynes, South Gloucestershire, Thurrock, York, Rutland	
Wirral	Sefton, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, North East Lincolnshire, Darlington, Bolton, Tameside, Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland, St Helens, Dudley, Sunderland, Rotherham, Wakefield, Walsall	
Wokingham	West Berkshire, Windsor & Maidenhead, Bracknell Forest, Solihull, South Gloucestershire, Rutland, Milton Keynes, Stockport, North Somerset, Warrington, Bath & North East Somerset, Swindon, Poole, Trafford, Bury	
Wolverhampton	Sandwell, Coventry, Walsall, Derby, Oldham, Rochdale, Bradford, Salford, Bolton, Plymouth, Blackburn with Darwen, Nottingham, Gateshead, Peterborough, Tameside	

Council	Comparators
Worcestershire	Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, Staffordshire, Cheshire, Cambridgeshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Wiltshire, Hampshire, Leicestershire, Suffolk, Oxfordshire, Essex
York	Trafford, Bath & North East Somerset, Calderdale, Darlington, Stockport, Warrington, Dudley, Bury, North Lincolnshire, Kirklees, Poole, Wakefield, Sefton, Bristol, Bolton

Outcome from	Indicator	BVPI	New (indicator)
Every Child Matters	mulator	number	or (definition) Amended
Being healthy	CF/A70 Progress made towards a comprehensive Children and Adolescents Mental Health Service		New
	CF/C19 Health of children looked after		
	CF/A1 Stability of placements of children looked after	BV49	
Staying safe	CF/A3 Re-registrations on the Child Protection Register		
	CF/B7 Children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption		
	CF/C20 Reviews of child protection cases	BV162	
	CF/C21 Duration on the Child Protection Register		
	CF/C23 Adoptions of children looked after	BV163	Amended
	CF/C64 Timing of core assessments		
	CF/D35 Long term stability of children looked after		
	CF/C68 Timeliness of reviews of looked after children		New
	CF/A2 Educational qualifications of children looked after [joint working]	BV50	
Enjoying and achieving	CF/C24 Children looked after absent from school [joint working]		
	CF/C69 Distance children newly looked after are placed from home		New
Making a	CF/C18 Final warnings/reprimands and convictions of children looked after		
	CF/C63 Participation of looked after children in reviews		Amended
chieving conomic well- eing	CF/A4 Employment, education and training for care leavers [joint working]	BV161	
Sarvica	CF/B8 Cost of services for children looked after		
	CF/E44 Relative spend on family support		
0	MR/D59 Practice learning		Amended