



SOUTH EASTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST

STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

Interim Corporate Parenting Report 1st April – 30th
September 2025

DRAFT
Awaiting approval from Trust Board

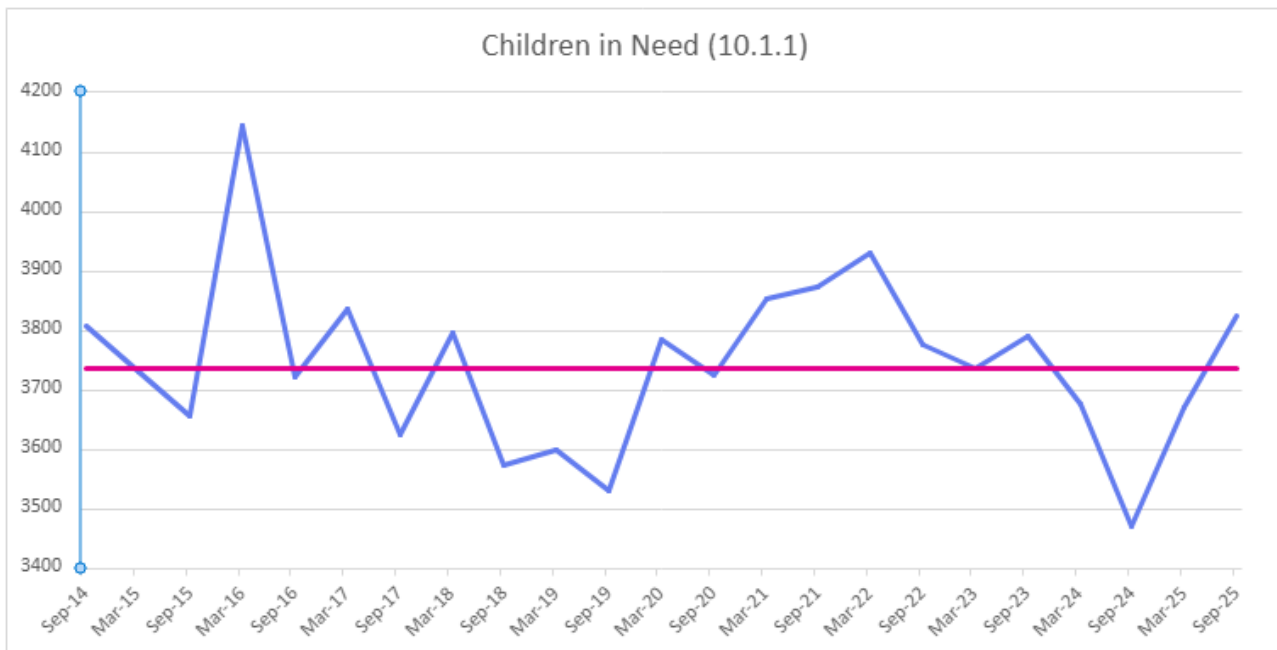
**Children (NI) Order 1995
10.1 CHILDREN IN NEED**

10.1.1 How many Children in Need are there in your area as at 30th September (exclude children on the caseloads of statutory mental health services)

	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Children	52	55	280	274	935	771	514	455	284	205	2065	1760
TOTAL	52	55	280	274	935	771	514	455	284	205	2065	1760

Trend analysis and commentary (Trusts must clarify how they arrive at this total figure, and reference any likelihood of double or under representation)

There are **3825** children in need known to the Trust; this has increased by **153** from the last reporting period. The chart below shows that this change remains within the normal range and can be attributed to common cause variation.



10.1.2 Ethnicity of Children in Need

Ethnicity	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
White	34	36	168	155	550	463	338	295	191	141	1281	1090	2371
Chinese	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	4
Irish Traveller	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	2	6	8
Roma Traveller	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	2	4
Indian	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	4	4	8
Pakistani	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	4	6
Bangladeshi	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	1	4	3	7
Black Caribbean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black African	1	0	0	0	2	1	4	0	22	10	29	11	40
Black Other	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	2
Mixed Ethnic Group	1	1	1	5	14	13	8	6	6	1	30	26	56
Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0	0	2	4	9	2	4	3	2	9	17	26
Not Stated	16	15	107	106	358	279	159	147	61	45	701	592	1293
TOTAL	52	55	280	274	935	771	514	455	284	205	2065	1760	3825

10.1.3 Religion of Children in Need

Religion	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Roman Catholic	14	15	61	52	190	155	126	98	73	59	464	379	843
Presbyterian	3	2	11	15	59	66	38	43	26	20	137	146	283
Church of Ireland	0	0	10	4	20	15	28	20	13	17	71	56	127
Church of England	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	2	2	6	6	12
Methodist	0	0	0	0	5	5	2	6	3	0	10	11	21
Other Christian	2	5	27	25	70	71	50	42	37	18	186	161	347
Jewish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Muslim	0	0	0	2	6	7	2	1	25	11	33	21	54
Other	2	2	6	4	9	15	12	6	3	5	32	32	64
Not Known	23	23	138	137	488	361	222	196	83	57	954	774	1728
Not Completed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
None	8	7	27	35	84	76	33	37	19	16	171	171	342
Refused	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	3	4
TOTAL	52	55	280	274	935	771	514	455	284	205	2065	1760	3825

10.1.4 (a) How many children have been referred for an Assessment of Need during the reporting period i.e. 1st April – 30 September

	<1	1 - 4	5 - 11	12 - 15	16+	Total
Referrals closed and awaiting input						1538
Referrals allocated and recorded on SOSKARE	106	461	1000	608	262	2437
Number of children referred						4020

In this reporting period, the Trust received 4020 referrals.

2437 children have been opened to a social worker for assessment/ allocation, while 1538 cases have been opened then closed and are awaiting input onto the SOSKARE system. Additional admin staff have been utilised and are working through a corrective plan detailed in the Statutory Functions action plan and Support And Interventions Framework to address the backlog of referrals.

(b) What was the source of referral for children referred for assessment of need during the reporting period i.e. 1st October – 30th September

Referral Source/Agent	No of Children
Police	1396
Social Worker	260
Out of Hrs Co-ord	0
Relative	118
Teacher	194
Anonymous	58
Hospital Social Worker	0
GP	90
Hospital Nurse	320
Health Visitor	72
Court	7
Probation Officer	226
Vol. Organisation	2
Self	42
Community Psych. Nurse	64
N.S.P.C.C	11
NIHE	4
Comm. Mental H/C Nurse	0
Educ Welfare Officer	5
Others	1151
Total	4020

10.1.6 How many of these Children in Need are Disabled and known to Trust Social Workers (by major category) at 30th September?

Major Disability	<1		0 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Physical (Ex. Sensory)	1	0	5	7	18	15	11	6	12	4	47	32	79
Sensory	0	0	7	5	13	15	7	7	5	1	32	28	60
Learning	0	1	7	8	199	90	127	61	72	21	405	181	586
Chronic illness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Autism(ASD)/ADHD/Asperger	0	0	0	0	29	16	46	16	20	9	95	41	136
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (With Disability)	1	1	19	20	259	136	191	90	109	35	579	282	861
No Disability	51	54	261	254	676	635	323	365	175	170	1486	1478	2964
Grand Total	52	55	280	274	935	771	514	455	284	205	2065	1760	3825

10.1.7 Disabled children known to the Trust who left school during the reporting period and the transition plans that are in place.

Age at leaving school	>16 <17		>17 <18		18+		Total		No. with Transitions in place	
Disability Type	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Physical disability	2	2	0	0	4	1	6	3	6	3
Sensory Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Learning disability	14	2	12	4	11	5	37	11	29	11
Chronic illness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Autism/ADHD/Aspergers	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	18	4	12	4	15	6	45	14	37	14

10.1.10 How many of the Children in Need are Young Carers

54 Children in Need are young Carers.

	Period 1 April – 30 September
Total Number of Service Users	69
Level 1	0
Level 2	0
Level 3	67
Level 4	2
Assessment Stage	3 to be assessed

10.1.11 How many young people aged 16 and 17 years presented to the Trust as homeless?

Age	Presented to the Trust as Homeless
16	0
17	4
total	4

10.1.12 (a) How many Trust sponsored Day Care Places provided through any means including Article 18, Fostering or others are there for Children in Need at period end
(b) How many of these children have a disability

Daycare	Number of Purchased Places by Age	
	0 – 4	5-12
Day Nursery	50	7
Playgroup	0	0
Childminder	14	3
Out of School hours club	0	9
Total	64	19
How many of these children have a disability?	3	7

10.1.13 Trust usage of Family Centre Places for interventions

Name of Centre	Stat/Vol	Number of Referrals by Primary Reason for Intervention		Completed During Period		On Waiting List at Period End
		Primary Reason	Number of Referrals	Average Wait from Referral to Start of Intervention (Weeks)	Average Length of Intervention (Weeks)	
SET Connects	Stat	Family Support	0	0	0	0
		Child Protection	0	0	0	0
		Looked After	35	4-6 weeks	75-80 weeks	1
Colin Family Centre	Stat	Family Support	0	0	0	0
		Child Protection	10	8	0	2
		Looked After	14	7 weeks	0	8
Knocknashinna	Stat	Family Support	3	0	0	3
		Child Protection	13	11	0	9
		Looked After	10	15	0	4
Simpson Family Centre	Vol	Family Support	5	2-4 weeks	16 weeks	0
		Child Protection	22	2-4 weeks	16 weeks	1
		Looked After	20	2-4 weeks	16 weeks	0

10.1.15 Please provide the number of children (if any) subject to a Supervision / Interim Supervision Order at period end

Supervision Orders	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Art. 50 (1) (b) Supervision Order	0	0	3	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	6	3	9
Art. 57 (1) Interim Supervision Order	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Total	0	0	4	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	7	4	11

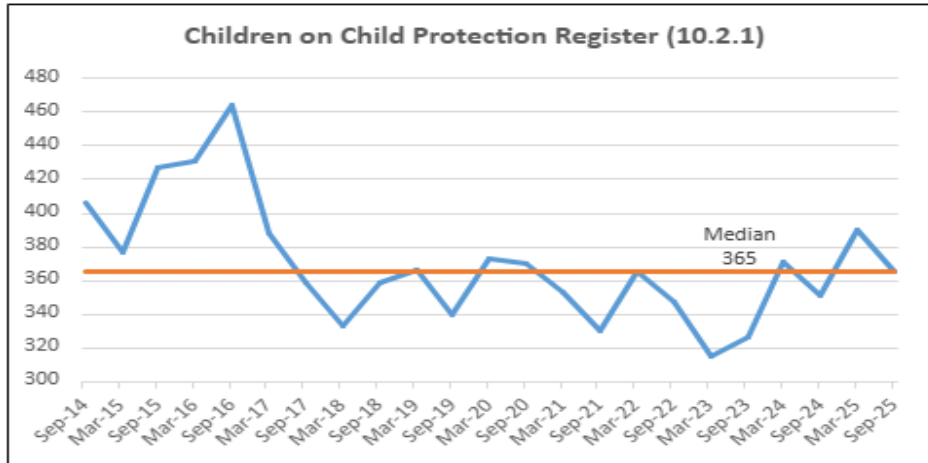
10.1.16 During the period, please provide the number of children (if any) that became subject of a Supervision / Interim Supervision Order

Supervision Orders	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Art. 50 (1) (b) Supervision Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Art. 57 (1) Interim Supervision Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**10.2 Children (NI) Order 1995
CHILD PROTECTION**

10.2.1 How many children are on the Child Protection Register as 30th September?

365 children were on the Children Protection Register as at 30th September 2025. This is a decrease of 25 from the last reporting period.



10.2.2 How many of these children have a learning disability?

15 children have a learning disability.

10.2.3 How many of these children have a physical disability?

1 child has a physical disability.

10.2.6 How many registrations have there been during the period?

There were **148** registrations during this period.

10.2.7 How many de-registrations have there been during the period?

There were **174** de-registrations during this period.

10.2.8 What percentage of registrations are re-registrations?

20% (29) of registrations were re-registrations during this reporting period.

10.2.10

For children on the register, how long have they spent on the Register (as at 10.2.1)?

Duration		Age Groups					
		Under one year	1-4	5-11	12-15	16+	TOTAL
1	less than 3 months	11	15	33	16	2	77
2	3 months < 6 months	14	10	28	8	3	63
3	6 months < 1 year	18	19	49	16	12	114
4	1 year < 2 years	0	17	29	17	5	68
5	2 years < 3 years		4	12	5	6	27
6	3 years or more		4	9	2	1	16
	TOTAL	43	69	160	64	29	365

69% of children have been registered on the child protection register for less than 1 year. 4% of children have been registered for 3 years or more.

**10.3 Children (NI) Order 1995
Looked After Children**

10.3.1 Provide the current legal status for all Looked After Children at 31st March? (excluding any who are LAC on that day only by virtue of a short break arrangement)

Legal status	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Art 21(1) Accommodated <16	2	5	13	14	30	27	16	19			61	65	126
Art. 21(3) Accommodated 16+									36	20	36	20	56
Art. 21(4) Accommodated	0	3	8	5	8	13	8	9	0	0	24	30	54
Art. 21(5) Accommodated 16+ <21									5	6	5	6	11
Art. 44 (5) Secure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Art. 44 (6) Interim Secure	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	2
Art. 50 (1) (a) Care Order	0	0	18	13	90	64	68	47	36	44	212	168	380
Art. 57 (1) Interim CO	4	6	19	19	21	22	4	7	3	4	51	58	109
Deemed Care Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emergency Protection Order Art. 63	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	3	5
Art. 23(2) Accommodated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	1	10	7	7	5	2	2	3	3	23	18	41
TOTAL	8	15	69	59	156	132	99	85	84	77	416	368	784

Most young people looked after by the Trust in the 'Other' category are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

10.3.2

Religion and Ethnic origin of Looked After Children (please provide by new list of ethnic minorities)

Religion	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Roman Catholic	8	14	65	56	150	124	91	82	52	60	366	336	702
Presbyterian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Church of Ireland	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	4
Church of England	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	2	4
Methodist	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Christian	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Jewish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Muslim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	22	10	24	10	34
Not Known	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
Not Completed	0	0	0	2	4	4	1	1	2	1	7	8	15
None	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	1	4	2	6
Refused	0	0	3	0	1	3	3	0	4	2	11	5	16
TOTAL	8	15	69	59	156	132	99	85	84	77	416	368	784

Ethnicity	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
White	5	7	26	17	52	40	32	28	20	26	135	118	253
Chinese	1	1	8	4	22	32	17	21	15	12	63	70	133
Irish Traveller	0	0	3	2	10	6	17	8	4	10	34	26	60
Roma Traveller	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	4	1	5
Indian	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	3	2	5
Pakistani	0	3	19	20	21	25	15	15	12	9	67	72	139
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Caribbean	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	23	10	26	11	37
Black African	0	0	1	3	5	3	2	0	1	2	9	8	17
Black Other	0	2	3	3	2	4	4	3	5	2	14	14	28
Mixed Ethnic Group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Any Other Ethnic Group	2	1	9	10	35	20	11	8	3	5	60	44	104
Not Stated	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	3
TOTAL	8	15	69	59	156	132	99	85	84	77	416	368	784

10.3.3 Number of Looked After Children (as at 10.3.1) by type of placement at 31st March?

All Looked After Children		<1		1-4		5-11		12-15		16+		Total		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Residential	Statutory*	0	0	0	0	2	0	7	9	8	8	17	17	34
	Voluntary	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	3	2	2	7	5	12
	Private	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	2	1	7	1	8
	ECR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Secure	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	2
	Residential Total	0	0	0	0	7	0	14	12	12	11	33	23	56
Fostering	Foster Carers excluding relatives [Stranger]	4	6	19	9	21	12	14	17	9	9	67	53	120
Kinship Care	Kinship Care In Kinship Placement less than 12 weeks	0	2	2	6	5	4	4	2	4	4	15	18	33
	Kinship Care (Friends/relatives)	1	0	13	9	52	43	20	21	6	9	92	82	174
	Unregulated (In Placement >12 weeks and not yet approved)	0	3	17	17	30	35	26	13	11	7	84	75	159
	Independent Providers	1	2	11	13	31	25	13	17	5	9	61	66	127
	Fostering Total	6	13	62	54	139	119	77	70	35	38	319	294	613
Placed at Home with Parents		1	2	2	1	2	8	10	7	3	9	12	27	29
Placed for Adoption (<i>LAC Children, with a Care Order, placed with Adoptive Parents</i>)		0	0	0	6	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	7	6
Other Placements	Jointly Supported Accommodation Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Juvenile Justice Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Supported Lodgings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	5	3	8
	Tenancy Arrangement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Unregulated Be-Spoke Arrangement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other		0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	23	13	25	13	38
Overall TOTAL		8	15	69	59	156	132	99	85	84	77	416	368	784

10.3.4

Age bands and length of time looked after for all Looked After Children at period end

Length of time Looked After at period end	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 – 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
< 3 months	2	5	3	2	4	4	2	3	10	7	21	21	42
3 months to <1 year	6	10	9	15	24	23	12	14	18	13	69	75	144
1 year <3 years	0	0	50	32	46	44	20	18	14	12	130	106	236
3 years <5 years	0	0	7	10	39	34	19	9	6	11	71	64	135
5 years <10 years	0	0	0	0	42	23	25	31	21	23	88	77	165
10+ years	0	0	0	0	1	4	21	10	15	11	37	25	62
Total	8	15	69	59	156	132	99	85	84	77	416	368	784

10.3.5 Number of children provided with a short break during the period who become Looked After by virtue of the short break arrangement

Name of Unit	Children/Young People																	
	<1			1 - 4			5 - 11			12 - 15			16+			Total		
	N	E	T	N	E	T	N	E	T	N	E	T	N	E	T	N	E	T
Foster Carers	0	0	0	1	6	34	0	0	0	3	19	38	1	5	8	5	30	80
Forest Lodge	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	14	3	31	44	5	37	56	9	78	114
Greenhill	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	17	82	99	4	32	32	22	115	132
TOTAL	0	0	0	1	6	34	2	11	15	23	132	181	10	74	96	36	223	326

The provision of short breaks has shown a slight improvement; during this reporting period providing 326 overnight stays for 36 young people. Reduced provision is due to staffing issues and beds being utilised to support short and long term care. The Trust plans to open another facility for children with disabilities in the next reporting period, and this will increase short break provision. Monitoring is being undertaken through Support and Intervention Framework.

10.3.6

Number of children accommodated for 3 months or more in a hospital

Facility Name	Age at Placement		Total	Number Resident at Period End
	Under 16	16+		
Beechcroft	2	0	2	0
Iveagh	0	1	1	1
Total	2	1	3	1

10.3.7

Number of children accommodated for 3 months or more in an adult facility. For example Residential Care Home, Nursing Home, Private Hospital

Facility Name	Age at Placement		Total	Number Resident at Period End
	Under 16	16+		
	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0

10.3.8

(a) What facilities – statutory, voluntary and private are available to care for these Looked After Children i.e. how many places in residential homes, foster care placements

Name of Residential Unit	Statutory	Voluntary	Private	No of Beds	No of Beds available to Trust	Trust % occupancy 1.4.25-30.9.25	No of Respite beds	Respite % occupancy
Ardmore	x			2	2	69%	0	0%
Ashgrove	x			6	6	99%	0	0%
Cuan Court	x			8	8	67%	0	0%
Flaxfield	x			8	8	62%	0	0%
Marmion	x			8	8	44%	0	0%
Oaklands	x			6	6	94%	0	0%
William Street	x			8	8	53%	0	0%
MACS Lisburn		x		4	4	82%	0	0%
MACS Downpatrick		x		4	4	89%	0	0%
MACS Belfast		x		2	2	100%	0	0%
BCM Riverside		x		2	5	93%	0	0%
BCM Grampian		x		6	1	100%	0	0%
Barnardos Annadale		x		1	1	100%	0	0%
Barnardos Haywood		x		2	1	90%	0	0%
Ardcomm House			x	3	1	100%	0	0%
Ashdale ROI			x	2	2	100%	0	0%
Lifestyles Meadow View			x	2	1	100%	0	0%
Lifestyles Oakdale			x	2	2	100%	0	0%
Safeplaces Loughlin Island			x	2	1	100%	0	0%
Beechfield	x			4	4	125%	0	0
Lindsay House	x			2	2	100%	0	0
Glenmore Cottage	x			4	4	100%	0	0
Facilities providing Short Breaks for Children with a Disability								
Greenhill	x			2	2	90%	2	90

(b) Provide your number of foster carers (should agree with 10.5.1) Provide the number of approved places offered (should agree with 10.5.2)

Number of Foster Carers

325

Number of Approved Places offered

364

10.3.9

How many Looked After Children have had placement moves throughout the period?

Trust must provide an explanation of actions taken to reduce placement moves during the period.

Placement changes	0 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Number who moved once	11	4	2	6	8	5	8	5	29	20
Number who moved twice	1	3	1	2	0	2	2	0	4	7
Number who moved 3 times	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Number who moved 4 times or more	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
Total	13	7	4	8	9	8	10	5	36	28

64 children experienced placement moves during this reporting period.

The Trust continues to monitor all placement moves to ensure the safe and effective care of children and young people during crisis. Support and intervention has been offered to fragile placements to scaffold and stabilise these in order to prevent placement moves. The Trust continue to develop edge of care provision to further bolster fragile placements and in turn reduce placement moves.

10.3.10

(a) How many Looked After Children are awaiting assessment or treatment with child and adolescent mental health services at 31st March?

3 young people are awaiting assessment or treatment with CAMHS at report end.

(b) How many Looked After Children have been referred for therapeutic services and their waiting time.

Referrals	Foster Care (non kin/traditional)	Kinship Foster Care	Residential Care	Young People Exiting Care	Post Adoption Support	TOTAL
Total Number of Referrals received this period	17	8	6	0	4	35
Source of these referrals received from						
Child's Social Worker	17	8	6	0	4	35
Carer's Social Worker	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adoptive parents	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAMHS	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
FACTSNI	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Referrals Accepted	15	5	6	0	4	30
Number of Referrals deemed inappropriate	1	3	0	0	0	4
Number of referrals signposted to another service						
CAMHS	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Psychiatry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Psychology Service	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Post Adoption Service	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	0	0	0	0	1
Children engaged with the Service by substantive placement						
Number of children engaged with the Service at period start date	77	30	30	0	22	159
Number of children seen on a once off basis during the period	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of children discharged from Service during the period	24	6	0	0	6	36
Number of children transferred to another Service during the period:						
<input type="checkbox"/> CAMHS	0	0	0	0	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> DAMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Psychiatry	0	0	0	0	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Psychology Services	0	0	0	0	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Post Adoption Service	0	0	0	0	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of children engaged with the Service at period end date	68	29	36	0	20	153

Service delivery during the period	
Number of Reviews undertaken	792
Average waiting time for service (weeks)	2-4 weeks
Number on waiting list at end of period	1
Numbers of DNAs during the period	27
Number of individual sessions cancelled by the Service during the period	16
For those children discharged from the Service during the period what was the average length of involvement (weeks)	75-89 weeks
TOTAL	836

Consultations provided by the Service during the period		
	Number	Number which were repeat
Social worker	424	397
CAMHS	9	0
DAMS	0	0
Teacher	7	0
Psychiatry	0	0
G.P.	0	0
Carers/adoptive parents	284	103
One off'	0	0
Children/ Young People	87	41

(c) Please provide actions taken to reduce waiting time.

Referrals and Waiting Times

The total number of referrals to the service from Fostering (previously) Intensive Support Fostering and Kinship Fostering includes referrals to Permanence for children in Fostering where a best interest decision has been made. This also includes referrals for narrative consultations for children and young people, those referred for therapeutic parenting and for young people living in residential homes within the Trust who are automatically opened to the service.

Except for Residential referrals that follow a separate pathway of automatic allocation to a clinician, all other referrals are triaged to allocate effectively and reduce delay. The service may also signpost to other services where appropriate and offer consultation on occasion for non-referred children.

The number of referrals to the service was slightly lower than in the previous reporting period. This reduction correlates with staff shortages in the community teams. Post Adoption referrals increased slightly. The service has expanded to offer a consultation service to unopened post adoption cases. These are not currently included in the referral figures. Residential referrals were slightly lower, which could be attributed to the Edge of Care service supporting families to maintain children at home.

The average waiting time for an appointment during this period is 2-4 weeks and there have been no breaches to the waiting times (PFA target is 13 weeks for Psychological Therapies). The service aims to offer a consultation within 6 weeks. All referrals on the waiting list as of 30th September 2025 have been offered an appointment.

10.3.12 How many Looked After Children are Disabled by major category at period end?

Major Disability	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Physical (Ex. Sensory)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	3	1	4
Sensory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Learning	0	0	0	0	10	2	9	9	4	6	23	17	40
Chronic illness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Autism/ Asperger's/ADHD	0	0	0	0	12	8	19	10	13	7	44	25	69
Other (undefined)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TOTAL Children With Disability	0	0	0	0	23	10	28	20	19	13	70	43	113
No Disability known	8	15	69	59	133	122	71	65	65	64	346	325	671
Total Looked After Children	8	15	69	59	156	132	99	85	84	77	416	368	784

10.3.13	How many Looked After Children have a Statement of Educational Needs (SEN) by school status at period end?																				
<table border="1" data-bbox="268 353 1460 622"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="276 360 1074 412">Statement of Educational Needs</th> <th data-bbox="1074 360 1201 412">M</th> <th data-bbox="1201 360 1329 412">F</th> <th data-bbox="1329 360 1452 412">Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="276 412 1074 463">Primary school</td> <td data-bbox="1074 412 1201 463">11</td> <td data-bbox="1201 412 1329 463">8</td> <td data-bbox="1329 412 1452 463">19</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="276 463 1074 515">Secondary school</td> <td data-bbox="1074 463 1201 515">7</td> <td data-bbox="1201 463 1329 515">12</td> <td data-bbox="1329 463 1452 515">19</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="276 515 1074 566">Special School</td> <td data-bbox="1074 515 1201 566">19</td> <td data-bbox="1201 515 1329 566">18</td> <td data-bbox="1329 515 1452 566">37</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="276 566 1074 618">Total</td> <td data-bbox="1074 566 1201 618">37</td> <td data-bbox="1201 566 1329 618">38</td> <td data-bbox="1329 566 1452 618">75</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Statement of Educational Needs	M	F	Total	Primary school	11	8	19	Secondary school	7	12	19	Special School	19	18	37	Total	37	38	75
Statement of Educational Needs	M	F	Total																		
Primary school	11	8	19																		
Secondary school	7	12	19																		
Special School	19	18	37																		
Total	37	38	75																		
10.3.14	(a) Has each child looked after an allocated a named social worker at period end?																				
<p data-bbox="288 887 1353 920">No, each child looked after by the Trust does not have an allocated social worker.</p>																					
	(b) If no, give number of children and provide an update in the service summary on current position and actions taken.																				
<p data-bbox="280 1115 1461 1189">12 young people looked after by the Trust do not have an allocated social worker at this time.</p> <p data-bbox="280 1245 1334 1279">Social work support is being provided by senior, principal or bank social workers.</p> <p data-bbox="280 1335 1461 1408">The Trust has robust assurance systems, through the Collaborative Unallocated Progress meeting, ensuring monitoring and review of these cases on a monthly basis.</p>																					
10.3.15	(a) Did each Looked After Child receive a statutory visit by their allocated and named social worker at least once a month during the period?																				
<p data-bbox="280 1653 1433 1727">This data is not available during this reporting period due to action short of strike within children's services across the Trust and resultant non-completion of statistical returns.</p>																					

	(b) If no, give number of children and provide an update in the service summary on current position and actions taken.
This data is not available during this reporting period due to action short of strike within children's services across the Trust and resultant non-completion of statistical returns.	
10.3.16	No. of Looked After Children Reviews held during the period
This data is not available during this reporting period due to action short of strike within children's services across the Trust and resultant non-completion of statistical returns.	
10.3.17	Was the case of each Looked After Child reviewed in line with Statutory requirements?
This data is not available during this reporting period due to action short of strike within children's services across the Trust and resultant non-completion of statistical returns.	
10.3.20	Is there an adequate supply of placements for children to enable placement choice?
<p>No, an inadequate supply of placements within the Trust necessitates the continued use of independent providers (86 households) to support 127 children who are cared for by the Trust, placing considerable fiscal challenges on the Trust.</p> <p>The Trust continues to review, track and monitor placement availability through fortnightly referral meetings which seek to address demand and capacity issues. Potential placements are identified through tracking of foster carers due to be approved at panel, considered alongside open referrals for those children requiring foster placements. Additional capacity is considered and generated where safe and appropriate via over-approval requests.</p>	
10.3.21	How many exceptions to the normal fostering limit were made to foster care approvals in order for a child to be placed in an emergency in the reporting period?
<p>4 exceptions were granted in this reporting period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 to allow for emergency short break placements; • 1 to allow for a 28 day emergency bridging placement which ensured two young siblings were kept together 	

10.3.23	How many children are deemed to be in an inappropriate placement given their assessed needs? <i>(Please explain)</i>
<p>15 children were deemed to be in an inappropriate placement given their assessed needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 children in short term/bridging placements require an alternative placement;• 3 children with parents/family require foster placements;• 2 children accommodated in an unregulated kinship placement require an alternative foster placement.	

10.3.24 Please provide the number of restraints carried out by staff on young people within each Home during the period.

ARDMORE								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	0
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	0

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
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ASHGROVE								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
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BEECHFIELD								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1

How many individual children does this return refer to	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
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CUAN COURT								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
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FLAXFIELD								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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GLENMORE COTTAGE								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	2	7	5	0	7	7
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	2	7	5	0	7	7

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	1
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GREENHILL YMCA								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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LINDSAY HOUSE								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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MARMION								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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WILLIAM STREET								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
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LAKEWOOD SECURE								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	12	0	8	15	0	1	20	16
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total no. of restraints	12	0	8	15	0	1	20	16

How many individual children does this return refer to	1	0	3	3	0	1	4	4
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OAKLANDS								
	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
Reason for Use of Restraint	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
To prevent injury (to self/staff/other young person)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent serious criminal damage to property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To prevent young person from leaving Home(due to risk of significant harm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Total no. of restraints	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0

How many individual children does this return refer to	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
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10.3.25	Do all looked after children have a concurrent plan by the time of their first 3 month statutory LAC Review? No																																																																																														
No, however, all children have a twin-track care plan by 6 months if rehabilitation to birth parents has not been ruled out.																																																																																															
10.3.26	Permanency Planning for Looked After Children at period end																																																																																														
This data is not available during this reporting period due to action short of strike within children's services across the Trust and resultant non-completion of statistical returns.																																																																																															
10.3.26	(b) Looked After Children Care Plan Change from Adoption to Long-Term Fostering.																																																																																														
i) How Many Looked After Children who previously had a care plan of adoption agreed at a Looked After Child Review, had this care plan changed to long term fostering via a Looked After Child review?																																																																																															
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th colspan="2"><1</th> <th colspan="2">1-4</th> <th colspan="2">5-11</th> <th colspan="2">16+</th> <th colspan="2">Total</th> <th rowspan="2">Total</th> </tr> <tr> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of children</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<1		1-4		5-11		16+		Total		Total	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Number of children	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0																																																												
	<1		1-4		5-11		16+		Total		Total																																																																																				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F																																																																																					
Number of children	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0																																																																																				
ii) Of this number at 10.3.26 (b), how many care plans were changed to Long term fostering due to no suitable adoptive placement being identified.																																																																																															
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	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F																																																																																					
Number where plan has been in place for 12 months or more	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	2																																																																																				
10.3.29	(a) How many Looked After Children are involved in offending behaviour (are formally cautioned or convicted)																																																																																														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Age</th> <th colspan="2"><1</th> <th colspan="2">1-4</th> <th colspan="2">5-11</th> <th colspan="2">12-15</th> <th colspan="2">16</th> <th colspan="2">17</th> <th colspan="2">TOTAL</th> <th rowspan="2">Total</th> </tr> <tr> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> <th>M</th> <th>F</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cautioned</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Remanded</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Convicted</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>5</td> <td>1</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age	<1		1-4		5-11		12-15		16		17		TOTAL		Total	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Cautioned					0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	3	1	4	Remanded					0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	Convicted					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	1	5	1	6
Age	<1		1-4		5-11		12-15		16		17		TOTAL		Total																																																																																
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F																																																																																	
Cautioned					0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	3	1	4																																																																																
Remanded					0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2																																																																																
Convicted					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0																																																																																
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	1	5	1	6																																																																																

10.3.34

(b) How many Looked After Children have been reported to the Police for reasons *other* than having gone missing for 24 hours or more during the period?

ARDMORE

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breach of Bail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child At Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault within Placement	0	0	1	4	1	1	2	5
Other	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	2
Total	0	0	2	5	2	2	4	7

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		1		1		2	
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ASHGROVE

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	1	2	2	12	3	14
Breach of Bail	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	3
Child At Risk	0	0	1	1	2	10	3	11
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	1	2	2	5	3	7
Assault within Placement	0	0	2	21	2	12	4	33
Other	0	0	2	7	3	14	5	21
Total	0	0	8	36	11	53	19	89

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		2		3		5	
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BEECHFIELD

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Childre	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Childre	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breach of Bail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child At Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		0		0		0	
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CUAN COURT

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Childre	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Childre	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breach of Bail	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Child At Risk	0	0	2	3	0	0	2	3
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Assault within Placement	0	0	3	33	0	0	3	33
Other	0	0	2	35	0	0	2	35
Total	0	0	8	72	1	1	9	73

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		3		1		4	
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FLAXFIELD

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Childre	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Childre	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	2	5	3	9	5	14
Breach of Bail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child At Risk	0	0	3	3	2	6	5	9
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Assault within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	2	3	4	13	6	16
Total	0	0	7	11	10	29	17	40

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		3		4		7	
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GLENMORE

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Childre	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Childre	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breach of Bail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child At Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault within Placement	0	0	2	4	1	3	3	7
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	2	4	1	3	3	7

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		2		1		3	
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GREENHILL

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breach of Bail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child At Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		0		0		0	
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LINDSAY HOUSE

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Childre	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Childre	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breach of Bail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child At Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		0		0		0	
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MARMION

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Childre	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Childre	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	4	39	0	0	4	39
Breach of Bail	0	0	1	4	0	0	1	4
Child At Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	2	3	0	0	2	3
Assault within Placement	0	0	2	7	0	0	2	7
Other	0	0	4	32	0	0	4	32
Total	0	0	13	85	0	0	13	85

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		4		0		4	
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OAKLANDS

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Childre	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Childre	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	1	5	1	25	2	30
Breach of Bail	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2
Child At Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault within Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1	5	2	27	3	32

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		1		1		2	
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WILLIAM STREET

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Childre	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Childre	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	3	33	0	0	3	33
Breach of Bail	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	5
Child At Risk	0	0	3	19	2	2	5	21
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	1	5	1	2	2	7
Assault within Placement	0	0	4	7	0	0	4	7
Other	0	0	3	17	1	1	4	18
Total	0	0	15	86	4	5	19	91

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		4		4		8	
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LAKEWOOD SECURE

Reason	Primary		Secondary		16+		Total	
	No of Childre	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Children	No. of Events	No of Childre	No. of Events
Unauthorised Absence	0	0	2	3	2	2	4	5
Breach of Bail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child At Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Damage within Placement	0	0	4	10	0	0	4	10
Assault within Placement	0	0	6	24	0	0	6	24
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	12	37	2	2	14	39

Total no of individual children this relates to:	0		7		2		9	
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10.3.35 Number of children accommodated by ELB for 3 months or more by category

0 children who are looked after have been accommodated by ELB for 3 months or more.

10.3.36

(a) Number of Sibling groups accommodated:

- Together
- Not accommodation together at period end

34 sibling groups (77 children) became looked after by the Trust during this reporting period. 19 sibling groups (40 children) were placed in kinship care and 15 sibling groups (37 children) were placed in non-kinship placements.

Kinship placements (placed together)

- 17 sibling groups of 2 children accommodated together
- 1 sibling group of 3 children accommodated together

Non-kinship placements (placed together)

8 sets of siblings (18 children) have been placed together in non-kinship placements as follows:

- 6 sets of 2 siblings (12 children) have been accommodated together.
- 2 sets of 3 siblings (6 children) have been accommodated together.

Kinship placements (placed separately)

- 1 sibling group of 3 children were accommodated apart – separated as 2 siblings (together) and 1 child separately across two kinship placements

Non-kinship placements (placed separately)

7 sets of siblings (19 children) have been separated across non-kinship placements as follows:

- 5 sets of 2 siblings – individual placements
- 1 set of 3 siblings – separated as 2 together and 1 individual placement
- 1 set of 6 siblings – separated as 4 together and 2 together

10.3.39

During the period how many children or young people became a Looked After Child by age, gender and first placement

Placement of new admissions to LAC		<1		1-4		5-11		12-15		16+		Total		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Residential	Statutory	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	1	5	2	7
	Voluntary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
	Private inc ECR's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
	Secure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Residential Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	5	1	7	2	9
Fostering	Foster Carers excluding relatives [Stranger]	3	4	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	6	9	15
	Kinship care	2	2	2	6	8	11	5	4	3	3	20	26	46
	Independent Providers	0	0	1	2	1	7	0	1	1	0	3	10	13
	Fostering Total	5	6	4	9	10	20	6	6	4	4	29	45	74
Placed at Home with Parents		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Placed for Adoption		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other		0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	9	4	10	5	15
Overall TOTAL		5	6	5	9	10	20	8	8	18	9	46	52	98

To your knowledge have any of the children admitted during the period been subject to a full Adoption Order

Children Subject to a full Adoption Order	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
No of Children	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Of those children at 10.3.39(a) admitted to care during the period how many have previously been on the Child Protection Register in the last 2 years from the period end date

Children Previously on the Child Protection Register	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
No of Children	3	5	3	4	7	7	2	0	1	0	16	16	32

Number of Children and Young People who became Looked After during the period had a CLA1 form completed and forwarded to School?

CLA1 Form completed and forwarded to school	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
No of Children	0	0	0	0	13	15	7	8	4	1	24	24	48

Can you confirm that all the above admissions to care are properly recorded and do not include what should rightly be reported as a placement move (e.g. a fostering breakdown where the RESWS moves the child to a children's home) **Yes**

Yes, all admissions to care were properly recorded.

10.3.40

(a) During the period how many children or young people became a Looked After Child by age, gender and legal status on admission;

Legal status	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Art. 21(1) Accommodated <16	3	4	4	3	7	16	6	5	0	0	20	28	48
Art. 21(3) Accommodated 16+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	4	16	4	20
Art. 21(4) Accommodated	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	8	8
Art. 21(5) Accommodated 16+ <21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	5	6
Art. 44 (5) Secure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Art. 44 (6) Interim Secure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Art. 50 (1) (a) Care Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Art. 57 (1) Interim CO	1	0	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	5	3	8
Emergency Protection Order Art. 63	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Art. 23(2) Accommodated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	4	1	5
TOTAL	5	6	5	9	10	20	8	8	18	9	46	52	98

(b) (i) Were these admissions planned, unplanned or emergency

For each of the above totals how many of these were:-	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12-15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Planned	3	5	1	2	1	3	2	1	7	3	14	14	28
Unplanned	1	0	0	5	5	14	4	4	3	0	13	23	36
Emergency	1	1	4	2	4	3	2	3	8	6	19	15	34
Total	5	6	5	9	10	20	8	8	18	9	46	52	98

(b) (ii) Of those that were unplanned or emergency how many were admitted to kinship foster care?

34 children were admitted to kinship foster care through an unplanned or emergency admission.

(b) (iii) Of those unplanned or emergency admissions how many were admitted by RESWS?

There were 0 unplanned or emergency admission was admitted by RESWS.

10.3.41 During the period how many children or young people ceased to be Looked After by age, gender and length of time looked after at discharge

Length of time Looked After prior to discharge	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Under 2 weeks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 weeks < 6 weeks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 weeks < 3 Months	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	3
3 Months < 6 months	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	2	4
6 Months < 1 Year	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	2	5	4	9
1 yr < 2 yrs	0	0	1	1	4	0	1	0	11	2	17	3	20
2 yrs < 3 yrs	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	6	1	7
3yrs < 5 yrs	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	4	5
5 yrs < 10 yrs	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	4	4	8	5	13
10+ yrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3	6
Total	2	1	4	2	8	4	4	0	27	15	45	22	67

10.3.42 Of all the children and young people reported at 10.3.41 what was their destination at discharge by age and gender

Destination	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16+		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Returned to Parents/Siblings	2	1	0	1	4	2	1	0	2	3	9	7	16
Returned to Relatives/friends	0	0	0	0	3	1	3	0	3	2	9	3	12
Adopted	0	0	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	2	7
Independent living/Tenancy (NIHE/H Assoc./Private etc)									7	3	7	3	10
Foster Carers (GEM)									5	4	5	4	9
Jointly Commissioned Supported Accommodation Projects									6	2	6	2	8
Bed + Breakfast									0	0	0	0	0
Hostel, Foyer									0	0	0	0	0
Supported Board and Lodgings									4	1	4	1	5
Prison, Hospital									0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	1	4	2	8	4	4	0	27	15	45	22	67

Of those 16+ year olds who ceased to be Looked After during the period what was their entitlement to Leaving Care Services by age and gender

Category	16		17		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Number entitled to access Leaving Care Services	1	27	0	14	1	41	42
Number not entitled to access Leaving Care Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	27	0	14	1	41	42

10.3.44 (a) Please provide the total number of children that became subject of a Residence Order during the period.
For (a) above please give the number of children that were formerly placed with **Stranger (Foster Carers), Kinship (Foster Carers), Residential Care or other placement.**

8 children became subject of a Residence Order during this reporting period.

Placement	No. of Children
Stranger (Foster Carers)	0
Kinship (Foster Carers)	8
Residential Care	0
Other placement	0
Total	0

(b) How many Residence Orders are in place at period end?

174 Residence Orders are in place at period end.

10.3.45 Number of Children or Young People who died during the current reporting period and were Looked After by the Trust by cause/age

Cause	<1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16 - 17		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Natural Causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accident	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

10.4 CHILDREN (LEAVING CARE) ACT (NI) 2002

10.4.1 Number of young people subject to Leaving Care Act by category, age and gender

Category	Male						Total	Female						Total	Total
	16	17	18	19	20	21 +	M	16	17	18	19	20	21 +	F	
Eligible	34	50	0	0	0	0	84	35	42	0	0	0	0	77	161
Relevant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Former Relevant	0	0	40	34	25	11	110	0	0	29	20	30	10	89	199
Qualifying	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	4
Total	34	51	40	34	25	11	195	35	43	31	20	30	10	169	364

10.4.2 Of those eligible young people reported at 10.4.1 give the Children Order Legal Status at period end.

Legal Status	16	17	Total
Accommodated (Article 21)	17	50	67
Care order (Art 50 or 59)	42	38	80
Interim Care Order (Art 57)	5	2	7
Deemed Care Order	0	0	0
Other	5	2	7
Total	69	92	161

10.4.6 Of the young people reported at 10.4.1
a. What are the social worker and personal adviser arrangements in place for each category of young people?

Category	Number of Young People with				
	Named Social Worker only	Named Personal Adviser only	Named Social Worker and Personal Adviser	Awaiting allocation of a social worker	Awaiting allocation of a personal adviser
Eligible	31	0	130	0	31
Relevant	0	0	0	0	0
Former Relevant	25	115	59	0	0
Qualifying	0	2	2	0	0
Total	56	117	191	0	31

b. Of the young people with a named personal adviser, how many have a Person Specific Personal Adviser?

Category	Of the young people with a named Personal Adviser - how many have a person Specific Personal Adviser
Eligible	0
Relevant	0
Former Relevant	0
Qualifying	0

(c) How many do not have an up to date Pathway Plan at period end?

Category	No. without an Up to Date Pathway Plan
Eligible	15
Relevant	0
Former Relevant	12
Qualifying	0
Total	27

10.4.7 Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 how many do not have a completed needs assessment and how long have they been waiting at period end?

Category	No. Without a completed Needs Assessment	Time Waiting		
		<3 Months	3 - 6 Months	<1 Year
Eligible	15	15	0	0
Relevant	0	0	0	0
Former Relevant	12	12	0	0
Qualifying	0	0	0	0
Total	27	27	0	0

10.4.8 Summary of failure to comply as detailed in 10.4.6, 10.4.7 at period end.

10.4.6(a): 15 young people are awaiting allocation of a personal advisor, some of these young people have not yet transferred to the team and other delays are due to staff shortages, these young people continue to have an allocated social worker.

10.4.7: There are 12 pathway needs assessments that require review for former relevant young people, all are outstanding less than 3 months due to ongoing staffing issues within the service because of vacancies and sickness within the teams. Young people continue to be visited and supported. The reviews will be prioritised in line with staffing capacity.

10.4.9 Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 what are their living arrangements at period end? Please complete for
(a) Eligible;

Placement Type	16	17	Total
Foster Placement (Stranger)	15	15	30
Foster Placement (Kinship)	23	18	41
At Home In Care	12	10	22
Residential Children's Home	13	10	23
Secure Care	0	0	0
Specialist Residential Placement (NI/UK)	1	1	2
Supported Lodgings/STAY	0	1	1
Hospital	0	0	0
Jointly Commissioned Supported Accommodation Projects	1	9	10
Unregulated Placement	4	28	32
Other	0	0	0
Total	69	92	161

(b) Relevant;

Living Arrangements	16	17	Total
Tenancy (NIHE/Housing Association/Private)	0	0	0
At Home with Parents/Siblings	0	0	0
Jointly Commissioned Supported Accommodation Projects	0	0	0
Relatives/friends	0	0	0
Hostel, B+B, Foyer	0	0	0
Supported Board and Lodgings	0	0	0
Halls of residence/Student Accommodation	0	0	0
Prison	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

(c) Former Relevant; and

Living Arrangements	18	19	20	21+	Total
Former Foster Carers (GEM)	15	23	13	5	56
Tenancy (NIHE/H Assoc/Private)	19	12	18	9	58
At Home with Parents/Siblings	7	6	7	1	21
Jointly Commissioned Supported Accommodation Projects	10	3	2	0	15
Relatives/friends	11	5	9	2	27
Hostel, B+B, Foyer	4	1	1	0	6
Supported Board and Lodgings	1	1	0	0	2
Halls of residence/Student Accommodation	0	2	0	4	6
Prison	1	0	0	0	1
Other	1	1	5	0	7
Total	69	54	55	21	199

(d) Qualifying young people

Living Arrangements	16	17	18	19	20	21+	Total
Former Foster Carers (GEM)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tenancy (NIHE/H Assoc/Private)	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
At Home with Parents/Siblings	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Jointly Commissioned Supported Accommodation Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Relatives/friends	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hostel, B+B, Foyer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Supported Board and Lodgings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Halls of residence/Student Accommodation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prison	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	2	2	0	0	0	4

10.4.10 Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 what is their current education, training and employment status, and how many are being supported financially at period end?
(a) Eligible;

ETE Status	16	17	Total receiving financial support
Secondary Level Education	27	29	56
Further Education	23	34	57
Training (Govt. sponsored training)	10	13	23
Pre-Vocational	4	7	11
Employment	0	0	0
ETE Inactive	5	9	14
Training (Non Govt. sponsored training)	0	0	0
Other(Sick/Disabled, Parent, Carer)	0	0	0
Total	69	92	161

(b) Relevant;

ETE Status	16	17	Total receiving financial support
Secondary Level Education	0	0	0
Further Education	0	0	0
Training (Govt. sponsored training)	0	0	0
Pre-Vocational	0	0	0
Employment	0	0	0
ETE Inactive	0	0	0
Training (Non Govt. sponsored training)	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

(c) Former Relevant; and

ETE Status	18	19	20	21+	Total receiving financial support
Secondary Level Education	5	0	0	0	5
Further Education	27	20	20	18	85
Higher Education	3	3	1	3	10
Training (Govt. sponsored training)	14	12	13	0	39
Pre-Vocational	9	8	9	0	26
Employment	5	6	10	0	21
ETE Inactive	5	5	2	0	12
Training (Non Govt. sponsored training)	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	0	0	0	1
Total	69	54	55	21	199

	(d) Qualifying young people
--	-----------------------------

ETE Status	16	17	18	19	20	21+	Total Receiving Financial support
Secondary Level Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Further Education	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Higher Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Training (Govt. sponsored training)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-Vocational	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Employment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ETE Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Training (Non Govt. sponsored training)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	2	2	0	0	0	4

10.4.11 Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 how many were convicted during this reporting period?

Category	Number of Care Leavers			
	Convictions within last 12 months	Formally cautioned	Formally remanded	Formally convicted
Eligible	Not Required	3	1	0
Relevant		0	0	0
Qualifying		0	0	0
Former Relevant		7	1	4
Total		0	10	2

10.4.12 Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 how many have a disability by major disability – physical, sensory, learning, chronic illness, Autism (see definition) and other, type and gender at period end?’

Type of Disability	Male	Female	Total
Physical (Ex. Sensory)	2	0	2
Sensory	0	0	0
Learning	4	6	10
Chronic illness	0	0	0
Autism(ASD)/Aspergers/ADHD	30	12	42
Other (undefined)	0	0	0
No Disability	159	151	310
Total	195	169	364

10.4.13 Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 what is their parental status at period end?’

Parental Status	No of Young People
Parent	10
Lone Parent	4

10.4.14 ‘Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 how many are receiving treatment for mental health issues at period end? Of these, how many were new referrals to mental health services during the period?’

Mental Health Concerns	No. of Young People waiting for or receiving Mental Health interventions/services	Number of new referrals to mental health intervention/services during period (1.4.24 – 30.9.24).
Mental Health Concerns	58	20
Self Harm	38	21

10.4.15 Number of Young People who are no longer Looked After but who died during the current reporting period and were in receipt of aftercare services by cause/age.

Cause	16 - 17		18+		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Natural Causes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accident	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

10.5 FOSTERING

10.5.1 How many foster carers are registered with the Trust at period end? How many of the carers above also provide a GEM placement? Of the carers above how many are Prospective adopters dually approved as foster carers? Of the Prospective Adopters/Dually Approved carers above how many are Concurrent Foster/Adoptive Carers?

Type of approval	No. of Carers	Non-Kinship (Respite only)	Non Kinship Short-term Only	Non-Kinship (Medium-Long term only)	Non-Kinship (Multi-approved)	Total
Foster Care (kinship) < 12 weeks not yet approved by panel	13					13
Foster Care (kinship) >12 wks but not panel approved by 16 wks	110	27 are in the fostering assessment process, 83 are known to Safeguarding and deemed unregulated.				110
Kinship Foster Carers not approved within 12 weeks, but within 16 weeks during the period	3					3
Panel Approved kinship carer	128					128
Panel Approved Foster Carer (Non-kinship)		39	38	5	9	91
Specialist Foster Carers (Fee Paid carers) NOTE Amended definition below		8	14	27	14	63
Total		47	52	32	23	325
How many of the Carers above also provide a GEM Placement*	21					21
Of the carers above how many are Prospective Adopters dually approved as foster carers	15					15
Of the Prospective Adopters/Dually Approved carers above how many are Concurrent Foster/Adoptive Carers	4					4

b. Please give the number of other foster carers;

Other Foster carers	No. of Carers
Independent Provider Foster Carers	87
Carers providing care only to children with a disability and who are not available to provide care for Looked After Children	0
Total	87

c. Please give a breakdown of the number of foster carers de-registered during the period and the reason;

No. of Foster Carers de-registered during the period*, by reason.	Kinship Carers	Non Kinship Carers	No. of Carers De-registered	Total no of places de-registered
Carer has adopted or been granted a residence order	2	4	6	7
No longer wishing to foster	0	8	8	8
Retired/phased out	2	2	4	4
Deregistered following concerns re: care of child/ren	0	0	0	0
De-registered by Trust following complaints/allegations	0	0	0	0
Opted to be GEM Carer Only	3	2	5	6
Total	7	16	23	25

d. Please advise of the recruitment process activity during the period;

Recruitment Process Activity during the period*		No. of Carers
Number of Initial Home Visits	Kinship	60
	Non-Kinship	26
Numbers of Households attending Skills to Foster course / kinship pre approval training course	Kinship	12
	Non-Kinship	9
Number of Completed Assessments during the period	Kinship	25
	Non-Kinship	0
Of the number of completed assessments (above) how many were approved at Fostering Panel?	Kinship	14
	Non-Kinship	9
Number of these assessments that were already approved as Adopters.	Kinship	0
	Non-Kinship	4

e.	Please give the number of regional enquirers received by the Trust								
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Enquiries forwarded from RAFS</th> <th>No of Carers</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total No. of Regional Enquirers referred from the Regional Team(RAFS)</td> <td>66*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of RAFS enquirers Approved as foster carers within the reporting period?</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No. of enquiries progressed to assessment but have not yet to Panel within the reporting period?</td> <td>4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Enquiries forwarded from RAFS	No of Carers	Total No. of Regional Enquirers referred from the Regional Team(RAFS)	66*	Number of RAFS enquirers Approved as foster carers within the reporting period?	4	No. of enquiries progressed to assessment but have not yet to Panel within the reporting period?	4
Enquiries forwarded from RAFS	No of Carers								
Total No. of Regional Enquirers referred from the Regional Team(RAFS)	66*								
Number of RAFS enquirers Approved as foster carers within the reporting period?	4								
No. of enquiries progressed to assessment but have not yet to Panel within the reporting period?	4								
*34 enquiries mid Sept due to media story 3 yr old being processed by R&A									

10.5.2 For the foster carers return at 10.5.1 how many **places** are they registered for and the number of vacant places at period end. Please also provide the number of fostering households that have no child placed with them at period end.

Type of approval	Total places	Vacant at period end	Fostering Households with no child placed at the period end
Foster Care (kinship) < 12 weeks not yet approved by panel	16	0	0
Foster Care (kinship) >12 wks but not panel approved by 16 wks	36	0	0
Kinship Foster Carers not approved within 12 weeks, but within 16 weeks during the period	4	0	0
Panel Approved kinship carer'	175*	1	1
Panel Approved Foster Carer (Non-kinship)	51**	13	13
Specialist Foster Carers (Fee Paid carers)	82	0	0
Total	364	14	14

*34 of these Kinship places are fee paid and 1 to be de-registered

Non-kinship-*2 foster carers on a break due to health & 2 to be de-registered at next panel.

Dual Approved- 3 households vacant, 2 de-reg and 4 with plans to place

Prospective Adopters dually approved as foster carers	15	3
Total	15	3

*2 possible de-registrations, 4 with plans to place a child and 6 with children placed

10.5.3	How many foster carers have annual reviews outstanding? Please provide the number of viability visits undertaken during the reporting period. (moved from 10.5.1f)
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There are 22 foster carer annual reviews outstanding; a reduction of 27 since the last reporting period.

62 Viability visits completed within the reporting period.

Viability Visits	Joint Visits	Visits completed by Child's Social Worker	Visits Completed by Supervising Social Worker
Number of Visits	59	0	3

10.5.4	Please provide specific actions being taken by the Trust to ensure outstanding reviews are completed
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22 annual reviews were out of timescale for the following reasons:

- 6 awaiting medical and/or Access NI checks
- 5 foster carer reviews are booked into panel for October and November
- 3 foster carers are on a break (no child in placement)
- 2 fostering households are undergoing top up assessment
- 2 delayed due to an allegation/ongoing investigation, no child in placement
- 2 foster carers are reviewing their future with adoption services (dual-approved)
- 1 foster carer is transferring to GEM Scheme in November
- 1 de-registration required (to be scheduled for Fostering Panel)

Delayed annual reviews continue to be prioritised across the service.

Different methods of tracking annual reviews are being implemented, including forecasting and arranging annual reviews 12 months in advance, and a centralised tracking system for statutory checks to prevent delay. Additional Fostering Panels will be considered to help reduce the backlog where required.

10.5.5	What action is being taken to maintain and increase the range, diversity and supply of foster care places
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The Trust's three Recruitment and Assessment Fostering Teams continue to play an active role in the Regional Recruitment Working Group and contribute to the overall recruitment strategy aimed at maintaining and expanding the range, diversity, and supply of foster care placements.

Alongside social work staff from the Recruitment and Assessment and Support and Development Teams, a dedicated group of Foster Carers are directly involved in recruitment activities. This co-production approach is highly valued, offering insights from those already changing the lives of foster children and young people. Members of the public often highlight the impact of hearing first-hand experiences from current foster carers at recruitment events.

The service also holds monthly recruitment meetings involving representatives from STAY/Supported Lodgings, Step Up Step Down, Disability Fostering, the three Recruitment and Assessment Teams, and foster carers themselves. These meetings focus on sharing ideas, developing new initiatives, and ensuring the ongoing engagement of diverse communities to meet the needs of children and young people.

During the reporting period, the Trust Fostering Service implemented a variety of targeted strategies to attract new foster carers. The service maintained a visible presence at a wide range of community events, reflecting its commitment to inclusivity and ensuring that potential carers from all backgrounds are reached.

Recruitment activities included:

- Pop-up information stands in local community spaces such as Trust hospital sites, leisure centres, shopping centres, and libraries.
- Participation in family events across multiple venues, including Castle Espie Wildlife Centre, Holywood May Day, Lisburn Mayor's Family Fun Day, Montalto Summer Sunset Market, Ards Peninsula Kite Festival, Trust's Diversity Celebration Family Fun Day and the Cedar School Car Rally.
- Representation at annual public events such as the Balmoral Show, Sea Bangor Festival, Castlewellan Agricultural Show, Lisburn Feile and Holywood Arches Job Fair
- Family Fun Day at Crawfordsburn Country Park for Foster Carers and children during Foster Care Fortnight, attended by the Ards and North Down Mayor and covered by the local press

At all events, staff and foster carers consistently communicate clear messages to challenge common misconceptions about fostering. "Myth-busting" materials are distributed to encourage enquiries from a broad range of individuals, including same-sex couples, people with disabilities or health issues, individuals from varied socio-economic backgrounds, renters and homeowners, single people and couples, and both employed and unemployed

applicants. This inclusive approach underscores the Trust’s commitment to recruiting carers from all walks of life.

In addition to community-based activities, the Fostering Service has made significant efforts to raise awareness of fostering opportunities among Trust employees. As a result, several staff members have become approved foster carers during this period. Awareness initiatives have included Trust-wide emails, computer desktop advertisements, virtual information sessions, and a targeted internal appeal for a specific child in need of a long-term foster placement. The same child specific profile was also shared with the public through the Trust social media channels, resulting in a significant uplift in enquiries during September.

The service has also strengthened partnerships with private and public sector organisations, charities, and community groups to promote fostering opportunities among their staff, volunteers, and service users. This partnership approach has enabled wider information sharing through social media, virtual sessions, and in-person drop-in events.

Key partnerships include:

- **NI Childminders Association (NICMA):** Virtual information sessions, attendance at the annual conference, and promotion of a childminder/foster carer profile in local media and the NICMA e-newsletter.
- **Lisburn Feile:** Information stand at the 2025 event in Wallace Park.
- **SPAR/Henderson Group –** Could you Foster and Myth-busting article shared with 4000+ staff during Foster Care Fortnight.
- **Reserve Forces and Cadets Association (RFCA) –** leaflets and posters shared with army reserve and cadets units across NI – more partnership work to follow.
- **Kilcooley Women’s Centre (Bangor):** Drop-in session for staff and members
- **Here NI (LGBTQ+ organisation):** Virtual session during LGBTQ+ Awareness Week
- **Women’s Aid:** Participation in the Ward Park Fun Run with staff and carers promoting fostering.
- **Down GAA Club:** Inclusion of fostering information in match programmes and on social media. Plans to attend end of season awards/convention later in the year.
- **Tesco and ASDA:** Staff drop-in sessions.
- **Trust Volunteer Service:** Distribution of fostering flyers to all 370 Trust volunteers.
- **Bryson Pathways/Resurgam:** Presence at the Connecting Communities Hub Launch Event.

Through these combined efforts, the service continues to strive to increase foster carer diversity and ensure that every child and young person has access to the right placement to meet their individual needs.

Please provide the number of Allegations made against Foster carers.	2
Please provide the number of Complaints made against Foster carers	0

10.5 PRIVATE FOSTERING The Children Order (NI) 1995 - Part X	
What steps has the Trust taken to encourage notifications?	
There is an ongoing regional need to promote and raise awareness of private fostering as there is a lack of notifications received. This is an issue for all Trusts despite leaflets being distributed.	
How many Private Fostering Arrangements under Article 106 are in place within the Trust as at the 30th September?	0
How many Private Fostering notifications under Article 106 has the Trust received during the period?	0
Please provide DOB and Date notification was received in respect of each child/young person reported at 10.5.8	Not applicable
Of the notifications received (10.5.8) how many has the Trust accepted?	Not applicable
Of those notifications not accepted please summarise reasons and action taken by the Trust	Not applicable
Number of appeals made during the year under Article 113	0
Are supervisory visits undertaken in accordance with Regulation 3(1)(a) and (b) as a minimum to children privately fostered? Please provide details of any circumstances where the Regulation has not been adhered to.	Not applicable
Notifications under Regulation 4 of the Children (Private Arrangements for Fostering) Regulations (NI) 1996	
How many notifications has the Trust received in respect of children being adopted from abroad i.e. Intercountry Adoption within the period.	0
Please specify the child's DOB and the date the Trust received each notification	Not applicable

**10.6 ADOPTION (NI) ORDER 1987
ADOPTION (INTERCOUNTRY ASPECTS) ACT (NI) 2001**

10.6.1 Number of enquiries, by type, received by the Trust and what prompted their initial approach?

Source of Enquiries	Domestic	Inter-Country
Central Regional Team (e.g. Website)	24	0
Newspaper advertisement	0	0
Radio advertisement	0	0
Word of mouth	9	0
Trust Website	2	0
Specific local campaign	1	0
Total	36	0

b. Please provide the waiting time from initial inquiry to commencement of training

Time waiting	Domestic	Inter-Country
Less than 1 month	0	0
More than 1 month less than 3 months	0	0
More than 3 months less than 6 months	3	0
More than 6 months less than 12 months	4	0
1 year or more	0	0
Total	7	0

10.6.2 Number of domestic applications for assessment received by the Trust by civil status of applicant

Household type	No.
Single carer	0
Cohabiting heterosexual couple (where this is a joint application)	1
Cohabiting same sex couple (where this is a joint application)	0
Married	6
Total	7

10.6.3	Number of Prospective Domestic Adopters awaiting assessment at period end, length of time waiting, and reason waiting
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Time waiting	Reason waiting				
	No Social Worker Available to commence assessment	Unlikely that child waiting at this time fits their criteria	Applicant not ready to proceed	Other (please specify below)	Total
Less than 1 month	1	0	0	0	1
More than 1 month less than 3 months	0	0	0	0	0
More than 3 months less than 6 months	0	0	0	0	0
More than 6 months less than 12 months	0	0	0	0	0
1 year or more	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0	0	1

10.6.6	Of all adoption assessments (both domestic and inter country) completed during the period please give details of the outcomes
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Outcome of assessment	No. of Domestic Assessments
Counselled out in Assessment Process	5
Went to Panel and Refused	0
Households approved as Adoptive carers	0
Households approved as Dual carers/Concurrent Carers	3
Households where previous Foster Carers have been approved as Adoptive carers for their LAC	1
Total	4

10.6.7	Number of looked after children freed for adoption and not yet placed with their prospective adopters as at 30th September; and duration of wait since freeing order as granted
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Length of time awaiting placement form the granting of the Freeing Order	<1		1 - 4		5 - 9		10 -15		16+ years		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Less than 1 month	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
More than 1 month less than 3 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
More than 3 months less than 6 months	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
More than 6 month less than 12 months	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
1 year or more	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2

10.6.8	(a) Activity under the Adoption (NI) Order 1987 during the period; Of the number above please give the number who were adopted in a Hague designated country and therefore not through the Courts in NI and have had their Article 23 reports completed in the time period; Please provide the number of Freeing Orders made during the reporting period;
---------------	---

Type of Order	<1		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 15		16+ years		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Adoption Orders Article 12 (1)														
Previously Looked After*	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	2
Step Parent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inter-country	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	2

Inter-country Adoptions in a (Hague Designated Country)	<1		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10-15		16+ years		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Of the number above how many <u>were adopted</u> in a Hague designated country and therefore not through the courts in NI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Freeing Orders Art 17 and Art 18	<1		1 - 2		1 - 4		5 - 9		10-15		16+ years		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Freeing Order - Art 17 with agreement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Freeing Orders - Art 18 (1) without agreement	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
Court Applications for Freeing Orders not granted during the period	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

b. Of those children who were adopted this period please give the length of time from becoming looked after (last episode) to going to live with the family who went on to adopt them.

Length of Time	0-<6 Months	6 months - <1 year	1-<2 years	2-<3 years	3-<5 years	5+ years	Total
No. of Children	0	0	0	2	4	0	6

10.6.9 Please provide the number of children who, at period end, had received a best interest decision for adoption and had not been placed with approved adopters (either adopters, dual approved carers including concurrent carers) and the duration of that wait

Children who have received a best interest decision and have not been placed with approved adopter.	<1		1 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 15		16+ years		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Less than 1 month	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
More than 1 month less than 3 months	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
More than 3 months less than 6 months	0	0	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	5
More than 6 month less than 12 months	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
1 year or more	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	4
Total	0	0	5	10	2	3	0	0	0	0	7	13

10.6.10 How many children are in receipt of an Adoption Allowance at 30th September and how many households is this?

Adoption Allowances	<1		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 15		16+ years		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
No. of Adoption Allowances paid in respect of children	0	0	0	0	1	2	14	8	10	15	7	3	32	28

50 households are in receipt of adoption allowance at 30th September 2025.

10.6.11 Of the number at 10.6.10 how many commenced during the period and how many households is this?

	<1		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 15		16+ years		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
No. of Adoption allowances reported above, that commenced during the period?	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	2

4 household commenced receipt of adoption allowance in this reporting period.

10.6.12 Details of recruitment, assessment, training, support for prospective adopters

Recruitment: a steady rate of enquiry to adopt has continued in this reporting period. On average 20 sets of applicants remain within the preliminary phase each month for checks and training in this period.

The Adoption team hosted an online information session in May 2025 in conjunction with the launch of the regional recruitment animation highlighting adoption of older, more complex children or those in siblings' groups.

A Preparation to Adopt course was held over 3 days in June 2025. This was facilitated by social workers from the Adoption team and had guest speakers including, clinical child psychologist and adoptive parents. This was attended by 8 households, all of whom progressed to applying to a full adoption assessment (1 attended from another adoption agency).

In this reporting period, several people in the assessment phase have decided to withdraw. The timing of these decisions has varied resulting from careful reflection with their assessing social worker. The time and effort inputted into these cases, have unfortunately not

translated into approved adopters but have required a significant amount of social work time.

15 assessments were being undertaken by the team of adoption social workers at period end. 5 of these are child specific assessments. There are a further 3 stepparent adoption cases being assessed for the courts.

Staff from across Adoption services, met monthly throughout this period to create new training for the post approval and preplacement phase. It is intended that this will be delivered to a cohort of 3-4 households in preparation for placement.

The monthly clinic with the Psychologist within the Adoption service remains available to assessing social workers to discuss resilience and mental health of applicants.

The Trust's Prelinking Panel is held monthly and has considered the matching needs of 30 children in this reporting period. This included 6 sets of siblings.

3 children have been placed with concurrent carers in this period following identification of suitable cases where the care planning has reached the point of rehabilitation or adoption. This is an increase in the use of concurrent carers within the Trust.

In this period, 7 children have been placed with Trust approved adopters on a dually approved or adoptive basis.

Prospective adopters have been in receipt of social work support in this period as they navigate meeting the complex needs of the children placed in their care through the delivery of therapeutic parenting. Placement support is delivered in conjunction with Permanence team staff and clinical psychology.

At period end there are currently 18 children in 15 adoptive placements receiving support. 2 further children are about to commence transitions to their new dually approved Trust carers.

The Adoption team operate within the Access to Records guidance for adult adopted people. The number of individuals requesting their files has continued to increase and the waiting list has grown. No additional resource was received to undertake this highly sensitive and time-consuming work.

The Trust's Adoption panel meets twice a month to consider best interests recommendations, matching proposals and adoptive applicants for approval. In this period, 4 new approvals were recommended for adoption.

10.6.13	Details of Post Adoption Support - this section should include data in respect of the number of, and action taken in respect of placement breakdowns both pre (i.e. where adoption is the Care Plan) and post Adoption Order
<p>During the reporting period the Trust offered direct support to 99 adoptive families via the Post Adoption Team. The Post Adoption Team also facilitated 49 post adoption direct contacts and 22 indirect contacts with birth families. An Adoption Newsletter was also circulated in June 2025 to adoptive families living within the Trust advising of local supports, events and training.</p> <p>3 young people experienced a potential adoptive disruption, but these were averted through the provision of extra support for the family including Edge of care services, CAMHS, Family Meeting Service and clinical psychology. There were therefore no breakdowns of those in either their adoptive placement or pre-adoption order placements.</p> <p>The Trust organised several events during this period including paddle boarding, a Summer Fun Day and an Attachment Swimming course for young children and their parents.</p> <p>Feedback from the teenage paddle boarding included; ‘a great opportunity to socialize with other families and be with our child...we have made friends with other parents and swapped numbers.’</p> <p>The Trust have continued to be creative in its response to the Adoptive families during this time: Families have continued to be supported by the social workers who have carried out joint pieces of work accompanied when required by the Lead clinical psychologist for the service.</p> <p>Psychology services and Post Adoption Services have also piloted the Foundations for Attachment course over 4 weeks for a cohort of new adoptive parents.</p> <p>The Trust also funded TESSA to provide Love and Rage Training over the spring months of April and May 2025 for a group of adoptive parents. There was very positive feedback from this training so much so that following a request from several adoptive parents the Trust provided funding for an extra session of training.</p> <p>Counselling sessions with a freelance counsellor who specialises in adoption related issues has been offered to 9 adoptive parents during this period.</p> <p>The Post Adoption Services team have training in Theraplay and Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy which has meant they could provide hands on assistance in the home with the children within their adoptive placements. 2 staff members are about to undertake DDP Level two. 1 staff member has complementary therapy qualifications to enable the team to respond holistically to the adoptive families within the Trust area. Post Adoption staff are also currently undertaking direct life story/therapeutic narrative work with individual children of varying ages.</p> <p>Play therapy and other therapies such as Filial therapy, Art therapy and Family Therapy were also funded where assessed as required.</p>	

EARLY YEARS

10.7.1 Please provide the current early years provision / places, registrations and de-registrations

Sector	Current Provision		Registrations/Deregistrations/Voluntary Ceased		
	Total Number of Services	Number of Places	New Registrations During period	Deregistrations	
				Deregistered by the Trust during period	Voluntary Ceased during the period
Day Nursery	64	3123	1	0	1
Out of School within Day Nursery	47	1462			
<i>Total Day Nursery Places</i>		<i>4585</i>			
Crèche	2	47	0	0	0
Playgroup	62	2315	0	0	4
Stand-Alone Out of School	41	1452	2	0	1
Childminder	366	2185	6	0	20
Approved Home Child Carers	24	0	2	0	2
Holiday Scheme	2	96	0	0	0
Two year old Programme.	10	120	0	0	0
Total	618	10800	11	0	28

10.7.2 Registration issues and commentary as at period end
(If any challenges or issues please provide a brief analysis)

10.7.1

The figures demonstrate the ongoing trend that the number of childminders continues to steadily decline, with more leaving the role than applying. This is significantly reducing the childcare services available to families and suggests a potential negative picture for children in need. The Trust experiences challenges at times to source childcare for children in need as a result, and with childcare being an increasing part of a family support/child protection plan, it is significant that the figures for childminders continue to drop. It is not known if a rise in unregistered childminding is a factor as the Trust continues to receive minimal reports of this compared to other Trusts.

10.7.3

Day Nurseries: of the 3 inspections due within the period but not completed, 1 had a remote part of inspection completed with a visit arranged for early October and the 2 other inspections are already completed.

Playgroups: from the 2 that became overdue by 0-3mths and pending an inspection, 1 has already been completed, and the other will be completed early October.

Out of Schools: 2 became overdue, the delay relating to staffing issues. One, however, has already been completed, and the other will be completed in early October with a remote part to inspection having already been completed.

Childminders: Out of the 7 overdue, 2 have already been completed; 1 is arranged for early October and 4 delayed due to staff sick leave with plans in place to complete.

Overdue inspections are largely caused by staff sick leave/staffing issues as well as Providers circumstances. A small number of delays are a result of personal circumstances. For example, family bereavement and ensuring children are present for observations. The Trust continues to ensure that overdue inspections are prioritized.

The number of overdue inspections is relatively low, and this may continue to have been helped by the implementation of the inspection pilot across the service providing a more streamlined process and increased capacity in the teams.

Pressures in the Early Years sector continue to create challenges with regard to the staffing of childcare settings and much of the work of the teams is taken up with exploring ways to support settings to adhere to registration requirements, considering and approving easements within the regulations and assessing an increasing amount of complex vetting issues. The high turnover of staff generally across the Early Years sector has increased the team's workload in this regard in addition to safeguarding issues.

10.7.4

Delays experienced regarding the 10 new applications are due to issues at the prospective Providers end, including outstanding vetting paperwork, delay in AccessNI applications, change in personal circumstances, awaiting evidence/documentation and training required for registration.

10.7.5

Of the 7 applications being assessed, 3 childminding assessments are currently unallocated due to staff sickness within the team. 3 assessments are within the target window for registration.

The day nursery assessment is on track to meet required timescales and will be considered at the earliest Panel date.

10.7.3 Total number of annual Inspections required, number carried out, number outstanding and time outstanding as at 30th September?

Sector	Number Requiring Inspection during the period (1.10.24 – 31.3.25)	Number of Inspections carried out during the period (1.10.24 – 31.3.25)	Number of the inspections carried out remotely only (subset of the number of inspections carried out) (1.10.24 – 31.3.25)	Total Inspections still to be completed this year (as at 31.3.25)
Day Nursery	46	42	0	3
Crèche	0	0	0	0
Playgroup	23	19	0	2
Out of School	15	13	0	2
Childminder	164	151	0	7
Holiday Scheme	0	0	0	0
Two year old Programme	3	3	0	0
Total	251	228	0	14

Time Outstanding

No. of Overdue Inspections i.e. have not been inspected at 30.9.25	Time Outstanding								
	0 - 3 months	4 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 12 months	13 - 18 months	19 - 24 months	2 - 3 years	3 - 4 years	5 yrs +
3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

10.7.4	Number of outstanding applications for each of the above categories as at 30 th September?					
		Length of Time Unallocated from receipt of Application				
Sector	No. of Applications not Allocated	0 - 3 months	4 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 12 months	12+ months
Day Nursery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crèche	0	0	0	0	0	0
Playgroup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Out of School	1	0	1	0	0	0
Childminder	9	4	1	4	0	0
Holiday Scheme	0	0	0	0	0	0
Two year old Programme	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	10	4	2	4	0	0
10.7.5	Number of current applications being assessed at period end and duration of assessment.					
		Length of Time that applications have been in progress				
Sector	Number in Progress	0 - 3 months	4 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 12 months	12+ months
Day Nursery	1	1	0	0	0	0
Crèche	0	0	0	0	0	0
Playgroup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Out of School	0	0	0	0	0	0
Childminder	6	6	0	0	0	0
Holiday Scheme	0	0	0	0	0	0
Two year old Programme	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7	7	0	0	0	0

10.8 Complaints & Representation

10.8.1	Does the Trust have an appropriately authorised and experienced children’s complaints officer?	YES
<p>The Trust has a complaints manager who undertakes the role of the designated complaints officer under the Children’s Order complaints procedure, with expert advice from a sector manager (social work lead) for safeguarding children.</p>		
10.8.2	Does the Trust have an independent advocacy service for children and their families?	YES
<p>The Trust has a contract with Voice of Young People in Care (VOYPIC) to provide an independent advocacy service to children who are looked after by the Trust. Other independent advocacy services are provided by the Law Centre, the Children’s Law Centre and the NI Commission for Children and Young People.</p> <p>Within the Regional Secure Care Centre, NIACRO provide an independent representation service directly to the young people.</p>		
10.8.3	Please confirm arrangements are in place to ensure that all complaints – both formal and informal – from children and their families are recorded and dealt with?	
<p>The Trust has a comprehensive complaints procedure, which is available and accessible for children and their families. Information leaflets on how to make a complaint or representation under the Children’s Order requirements is provided for children and families.</p> <p>Children and families receive information on how to make complaints about the services they receive. All complaints are referred to the Trust’s Complaints department who record and monitor themes, trends, issues and timescales of responsibilities to complaints.</p> <p>The Children’s Lessons Learned group reviews the themes and learning emerging from complaints and identifies improvement plans as necessary. This is a subgroup of the Children’s Safeguarding Committee. It is constituted from senior managers, principal practitioners, social care governance and learning, development and research staff.</p>		
10.8.4	Please confirm whistle-blowing arrangements are in place to ensure that concerns raised by staff working in children’s services are recorded and dealt with?	
<p>The Trust has a whistle blowing policy, which outlines how staff can raise concerns.</p>		