



Summons to and
Agenda for a
Meeting on
**Thursday, 11th July,
2019**
at **10.00 am**



DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
SESSIONS HOUSE
MAIDSTONE

Wednesday, 3 July 2019

To: All Members of the County Council

Please attend the meeting of the County Council in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Thursday, 11 July 2019 at **10.00 am** to deal with the following business. **The meeting is scheduled to end by 4.30pm.**

Webcasting Notice

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for the live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by any member of the public or press present.

By entering into this room you are consenting to being filmed. If you do not wish to have your image captured please let the Clerk know immediately.

Voting at County Council Meetings

Before a vote is taken the Chairman will announce that a vote is to be taken and the division bell shall be rung for 60 seconds unless the Chairman is satisfied that all Members are present in the Chamber.

20 seconds are allowed for electronic voting to take place and the Chairman will announce that the vote has closed and the result.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Significant Interests in items on the agenda
3. Minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2019 and, if in order, to be approved as a correct record **(Pages 5 - 16)**
4. Chairman's Announcements
5. Questions
6. Report by Leader of the Council (Oral)
7. Kent Youth County Council - Annual report **(Pages 17 - 32)**

8. Kent's Plan Bee - Kent County Council Pollinator Action Plan (Pages 33 - 58)
9. End of Year Performance Report 2018/19 (Pages 59 - 106)
10. Motion for Time Limited Debate

Removal of peak time restrictions to the Disabled Person's Bus Pass

Proposer: Ian Chittenden

Seconder: Ida Linfield

Background information

At present, holders of the Disabled Person's Bus Pass in Kent are restricted to being able to travel between 9:30am and 11:00pm on weekdays (off-peak). However, in Wales, Scotland and some parts of England, such restrictions do not apply. Research by the charity Scope shows that those living with a disability face additional costs of £583 per month on average, and that disabled people are more than twice as likely to be unemployed.¹ By removing the current peak time restrictions within Kent, it would make it more affordable for people with disabilities to travel for work or medical appointments, while promoting use of public transport.

Motion

"The council commits to including an amendment to the terms and conditions of the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) for Kent due to be published in November 2019, which will remove the peak time restrictions applicable to both the Disabled Person's Bus Pass **and** Disabled Person + Companion Pass, effective from April 2020."

Footnote: Disability Price Tag policy report 2019:
<https://www.scope.org.uk/campaigns/extra-costs/disability-price-tag/>

FOR INFORMATION ONLY - NOT FOR DEBATE

11. Corporate Parenting Panel - minutes for noting Minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2019. (Pages 107 - 118)



Benjamin Watts
General Counsel
03000 416814

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Kent County Council held in the Council Chamber - Sessions House on Thursday, 23 May 2019.

PRESENT:

Mr M J Angell (Chairman)
Mrs A D Allen, MBE (Vice-Chairman)

Mr M A C Balfour, Mrs C Bell, Mrs P M Beresford, Mrs R Binks, Mr R H Bird, Mr T Bond, Mr A Booth, Mr A H T Bowles, Mr D L Brazier, Mr J Burden, Mr D Butler, Miss S J Carey, Mr P B Carter, CBE, Mrs S Chandler, Mr N J D Chard, Mr I S Chittenden, Mr J Clinch, Mrs P T Cole, Mr N J Collor, Ms K Constantine, Mr A Cook, Mr G Cooke, Mr P C Cooper, Mrs M E Crabtree, Mr D S Daley, Mr M C Dance, Miss E Dawson, Mrs T Dean, MBE, Mr D Farrell, Mrs L Game, Mr G K Gibbens, Mr R W Gough, Ms S Hamilton, Mr P M Harman, Mr P M Hill, OBE, Mr A R Hills, Mrs S V Hohler, Mr S Holden, Mr P J Homewood, Mr M J Horwood, Mr E E C Hotson, Mrs L Hurst, Mr J A Kite, MBE, Mr P W A Lake, Mr B H Lewis, Ida Linfield, Mr R L H Long, TD, Mr R C Love, OBE, Mr G Lymer, Mr S C Manion, Mr R A Marsh, Ms D Marsh, Mr J P McInroy, Mr P J Messenger, Mr D D Monk, Mr D Murphy, Mr M J Northey, Mr P J Oakford, Mr J M Ozog, Mr R A Pascoe, Mr M D Payne, Mrs S Prendergast, Mr K Pugh, Miss C Rankin, Mr H Rayner, Mr A M Ridgers, Mr C Simkins, Mrs P A V Stockell, Dr L Sullivan, Mr B J Sweetland, Mr I Thomas, Mr R J Thomas, Mr M Whiting, Mr M E Whybrow and Mr J Wright

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs A Beer (Corporate Director of People and Communications), Mr D Cockburn (Corporate Director Strategic & Corporate Services), Mrs B Cooper (Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport), Ms L McCann (Head of Legal), Mr A Scott-Clark (Director of Public Health), Mr D Shipton (Head of Finance - Planning, Policy & Strategy - and Acting Section 151 Officer), Ms P Southern (Corporate Director, Adult Social Care and Health) and Mr B Watts (General Counsel)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

133. Election of Chairman

(Mr M Angell the present Chairman presided for this item)

(1) Mr Kite moved, and Mr Carter seconded that Mrs Allen be appointed Chairman of the County Council.

Agreed unanimously

(2) Thereupon Mrs Allen took the chair, made her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and returned thanks for her election.

(3) Mrs Allen, Mr Dance, Mr Bird and Mr Farrell paid tribute to Mr Angell and thanked him for the manner in which he had carried out his duties as Chairman of the County Council from May 2018 until the present day.

(4) Mr Angell suitably replied.

134. Election of Vice-Chairman

(1) Mr Northey moved, and Mr Bird seconded that Mr Gibbens be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council.

Agreed unanimously

(2) Mr Gibbens thereupon made his Acceptance of Office and returned thanks for his appointment.

135. Apologies for Absence

The General Counsel reported apologies from Mr Barrington-King, Mr Bartlett, Mr Hook and Mr Koowaree.

136. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Significant Interests in items on the agenda

(1) Mr Lewis declared an interest as his wife was employed by the County Council.

(2) Dr Sullivan declared an interest, as her husband was employed by the County Council in the Early Help and Prevention Team.

137. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2019 and, if in order, to be approved as a correct record

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2019 be approved as a correct record.

138. Chairman's Announcements

Mr Peter Rodberg

(1) The Chairman stated that it was with regret that she had to inform Members of the death of Mr Peter Rodberg, former Conservative Member for Rochester Number 4 Division from 1977 to 1981. Mr Rodberg's service of thanksgiving had taken place on Wednesday 17th April 2019.

(2) All Members stood in silence in memory of Mr Rodberg.

(3) After the one-minute silence the Chairman moved, the Vice-Chairman seconded, and it was resolved unanimously that:

“This Council records the sense of loss it feels on the sad passing of Mr Rodberg and extends to his family and friends its heartfelt sympathy to them in their sad bereavement.”

Johanna Rohan

(4) The Chairman announced that Johanna Rohan, Portage Home Visitor at Kent County Council had been presented with her British Empire Medal for voluntary service to Young People in Kent, after being named in the Queen's New Year's Honours list.

(5) The Chairman congratulated Johanna on behalf of the County Council and thanked her for her support to the young people of Canterbury.

Queen's Awards for Enterprise

(6) The Chairman announced that Kent had three winners of The Queen's Awards for Enterprise this year. They were Atom Brands (Tonbridge), Brigade Electronics Group PLC (South Darenth) and Trinity Fencing CIC (Sittingbourne).

(7) The Chairman congratulated these companies on this great achievement.

D-Day 75

(8) The Chairman reminded Members of the Royal British Legion and Arena Travel chartered ship, carrying 300 veterans from Dover to Normandy and taking part in the 75th Anniversary of D-Day.

(9) The Chairman stated that she was delighted to announce that an additional five of Kent's veterans, William Adams, Donald Hunter, John Life, John Long and Ernest Salter, had successfully secured places on the chartered ship.

(10) The Chairman announced that Jock Hutton, a former member of 13th Battalion the Parachute Regiment, part of the British 6th Airborne Division, would repeat the tandem parachute jump he first performed in 2014 for the 70th Anniversary of D-Day.

(11) Mr Messenger drew the County Council's attention to the P22 gunboat moored at Sandwich which was also taking part in the D-Day celebrations and Members could register their interest in joining the voyage.

(12) Mr Holden referred to another related anniversary, the first clinical use of penicillin on D-Day.

139. Questions

In accordance with Procedure Rule 1.17(4), 10 questions were asked and replies given. A record of all questions put and answers given at the meeting are available [online](#) with the papers for this meeting.

140. Report by Leader of the Council (Oral)

(1) The Leader updated the Council on events since the previous meeting. Mr Carter referred to the significant progress that had been made in addressing issues which related to unmet asylum-seeking costs in Kent. He announced that Kent County Council had received an additional £1m from The Home Office within the new

funding formula which would contribute towards unmet asylum-seeking costs, reducing the current figure from £1.5m to £0.5m. Mr Carter expressed his views in relation to the new funding formula and acknowledged the need for Kent County Council to continue lobbying the Home Office and Home Secretary for the post 18 grant to be modified to cover significant increased costs relating to asylum.

(2) Mr Carter referred to the national issue regarding high needs funding and to the lobbying activity which had taken place through the County Councils Network and Local Government Association (LGA) to acquire additional funding to incorporate into Kent schools' budgets to fund high needs. He added that Kent County Council's budget was overdrawn by approximately £10m through supporting Kent schools in relation to high needs.

(3) Mr Carter commended the positive announcement by Liz Truss, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, at a recent LGA debate on the 2019 Spending Review where she recognised that additional funding was desperately needed within special educational needs and children's services. He expressed concern about the uncertainty around when the review would take place.

(4) Mr Carter referred to a recent PricewaterhouseCoopers report which stated that in England, County Council's had experienced the severest financial challenge of all tiers of local government. He emphasised the importance of addressing the financial crisis within local government in the 2019 Spending Review and the new evidence-based fair funding formula. Mr Carter added that Kent County Council would continue to work with the LGA and lobby with government for a settlement in relation to the 2019 Spending Review, which fully funded the cost pressures in inflation on local government services.

(5) Mr Carter referred to the charging for non-household waste at Kent County Council's household waste recycling centres. He confirmed that Kent County Council had reached a reciprocal one-year agreement with Medway Council in relation to the use of household waste and recycling centres. In addition, a new household waste and recycling centre would open in the Tonbridge and Malling area within the next 12 to 15 months.

(6) Mr Carter referred to the new non-household waste charge and confirmed that the estimated income from the charge would be between £1m to £1.4m per year. Mr Carter announced that Kent County Council would be establishing a one-year pilot and providing an additional £250,000 to renew the campaign against fly tipping in Kent, working closely with Kent Police, the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency, the National Farmers' Union and district councils in Kent.

(7) Mr Bird, the Leader of the Opposition, started by expressing his concerns in relation to the threats of climate change and how climate change would affect every resident in Kent. Mr Bird reminded Members of the importance of preserving the planet for future generations.

(8) Mr Bird supported the comments made by Mr Carter in relation to the severe financial pressures faced by local government in England. He expressed his concerns in relation to the lack of special educational needs (SEN) funding in Kent and Kent County Council's recent Ofsted and Care Quality Commission (CQC) report for children with SEN.

(9) Mr Bird welcomed comments made by Mr Carter in relation to the additional funding that had been secured for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, and congratulated Mr. Carter, Mr Gough, the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education and officers on obtaining the settlement. Mr Bird added that the most vulnerable children in Kent's care system must also be protected against exploitation and be continuously supported to receive the best start in life.

(10) Mr Bird referred to comments made by Mr Carter in relation to the agreement between Kent County Council and Medway Council regarding household waste and recycling centres and welcomed the proposed new household waste and recycling centre in the Tonbridge and Malling area.

(11) Mr Farrell, Leader of the Labour Group, reiterated comments made by Mr Bird in relation to the lack of special educational needs (SEN) funding in Kent and the issues raised in the recently published report on the joint local area SEN inspection. He emphasised the crucial need for additional funding for children in Kent with SEN.

(12) Mr Whybrow, Leader of the Independents Group, welcomed the new Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council and wished them both a successful year, and paid tribute to Mr Angell. Mr Whybrow reminded Members of the importance of the discussion later in the meeting on the Climate Emergency

(13) Mr Whybrow expressed his views on the severe financial pressures that local government in England had been faced with, including the 2019 Spending Review and the new fair funding formula.

(14) Mr Whybrow welcomed the proposed new household waste and recycling centre in the Tonbridge and Malling area and commended the positive approach to tackling fly-tipping in Kent by contributing additional funds to the anti-fly-tipping pilot.

(15) In replying to the other Leaders' comments, Mr Carter expressed the hope that the government would be able to move forward with addressing social issues as soon as possible and in particular referred to the social care green paper.

(16) In relation to addressing unmet asylum-seeking costs and the 2019 Spending Review, Mr Carter acknowledged that much could be done to support local government in the country to allow significant progress to be made on tackling wider social issues.

(17) Mr Carter referred to Kent County Council's recent Ofsted report for children with SEN and said that although there was much to be done, Kent County Council was proud of the continuous investment into the delivery of special schools in Kent for special young people.

(18) Mr Carter referred to the importance of the proposed new household waste and recycling centre in the Tonbridge and Malling area and emphasised the need to continue to work closely with partners in addressing fly-tipping issues across Kent.

141. Kent and Medway Integrated Care System update

(1) Mr Carter moved and Mrs Bell seconded the following motion:

“ The County Council is asked to agree that:

- (a) KCC describes its relationship with the emerging Integrated Care System as being *partners to the ICS* supporting the vision and direction of travel and not *partners in the ICS*.
- (b) KCC is not bound to any system wide decisions made through STP/ICS Governance but continues to influence, support and align to the vision for the ICS where it makes sense for the County Council to do so.
- (c) Consequently, the County Council agrees to delegate the signing of the proposed ICS Memorandum of Understanding to the Leader in his role as Cabinet Member for Health Reform.”

(2) Following the debate, the motion was agreed without a formal vote.

(3) RESOLVED that:

- (a) KCC describes its relationship with the emerging Integrated Care System as being *partners to the ICS* supporting the vision and direction of travel and not *partners in the ICS*;
- (b) KCC is not bound to any system wide decisions made through STP/ICS Governance but continues to influence, support and align to the vision for the ICS where it makes sense for the County Council to do so; and
- (c) Consequently, the County Council agrees to delegate the signing of the proposed ICS Memorandum of Understanding to the Leader in his role as Cabinet Member for Health Reform,

142. Select Committee Monitoring Process and Topic Review Update - May 2015 - March 2019

(1) Mr Hotson moved and Mr Booth seconded the following motion:

“County Council is asked to note the report and the progress outlined in the appendices.”

(2) The motion was agreed without a formal vote.

(3) RESOLVED that the report and progress outlined in the appendices be noted.

143. Members' Allowances Scheme - 2019/20

(1) Mrs Allen moved and Mr Gibbens seconded the following motion:

“The County Council approve the Members’ Allowances Scheme for 2019/20 as set out in the Appendix to this report.”

(2) Following the debate, the Chairman put the motion as set out above to the vote and the voting was as follows:

For (58)

Mrs A Allen, Mr M Balfour, Mrs C Bell, Mrs P Beresford, Mr T Bond, Mr A Booth, Mr A Bowles, Mr D Brazier, Mr D Butler, Miss S Carey, Mr P Carter, Mrs S Chandler, Mrs P Cole, Mr N Collor, Mr A Cook, Mr G Cooke, Mrs M Crabtree, Mr M Dance, Miss E Dawson, Mr G Gibbens, Mr R Gough, Ms S Hamilton, Mr M Hill, Mr T Hills, Mrs S Hohler, Mr S Holden, Mr P Homewood, Mr M Horwood, Mr E Hotson, Mrs L Hurst, Mr J Kite, Mr P Lake, Mr R Long, Mr R Love, Mr G Lymer, Mr S Manion, Mr A Marsh, Ms D Marsh, Mr J McInroy, Mr P Messenger, Mr D Monk, Mr D Murphy, Mr M Northey, Mr J Ozog, Mr D Pascoe, Mr M Payne, Mrs S Prendergast, Mr K Pugh, Miss C Rankin, Mr H Rayner, Mr A Ridgers, Mr C Simkins, Mrs P Stockell, Mr B Sweetland, Mr I Thomas, Mr R Thomas, Mr M Whiting, Mr J Wright.

Against (8)

Mr R Bird, Mr I Chittenden, Mr J Clinch, Mr D Daley, Mrs T Dean, Mr P Harman, Ida Linfield, Mr M Whybrow.

Abstain (6)

Mrs R Binks, Mr J Burden, Ms K Constantine, Mr D Farrell, Mr B Lewis, Dr L Sullivan.

Motion carried

(3) RESOLVED that the County Council approve the Members’ Allowances Scheme for 2019/20 as set out in the Appendix to the report.

144. Proportionality and Appointments to committees and other bodies

(1) Mrs Allen moved and Mr Gibbens seconded the following motion:

(a) “The County Council is asked to allocate 3 committee places to Mr Clinch and Mr Messenger.

(b) Give delegated powers to the General Counsel to make the necessary adjustments following discussions between the political groups.”

(2) The motion was agreed without a formal vote.

(3) RESOLVED that:

(a) 3 committee places be allocated to Mr Clinch and Mr Messenger; and

(b) delegated powers be given to the General Counsel to make the necessary adjustments following discussions between the political groups.

145. Motions for Time Limited Debate

(a) Climate Emergency

(1) Mr Whybrow moved and Mr Bird seconded the following motion:

1.1 *“In terms of achievements to date, the significant reduction in carbon emissions from the roll-out of LED streetlights across the county was an excellent step forward by KCC and there is also important work within the Kent Environment Strategy and other initiatives such as the Active Travel Strategy and emerging Energy and Low Emissions Strategy.*

1.2 *Building on this:*

(i) KCC recognises the Climate Emergency and will commit resources and will align its policies to address this.

(ii) KCC will set a target of carbon neutrality from its activities and those of its trading companies by 2030 using the Carbon Trust framework, with an Action Plan for achieving this.

(iii) KCC will report annually at full council on its progress towards the target.

(iv) KCC will work with partners and contract providers and will investigate all possible sources of external funding and match funding to support this commitment as well as writing to central government with respect to the emergency to request funding to implement swift appropriate actions in response.”

(2) Mr Payne proposed and Mr Whiting seconded the following amendment:

1.1 *“In terms of achievements to date, **data shows that Co2 emissions have already been reduced by 36% when compared to the 2005 baseline target set in the existing Kent Environment Strategy of 34% by 2020.** A ~~the~~ significant reduction in carbon emissions from the roll-out of LED streetlights across the county was an excellent step forward by KCC and there is also important work within the Kent Environment Strategy and other initiatives such as the Active Travel Strategy and emerging Energy and Low Emissions Strategy.*

1.2 *Building on this:*

*(i) KCC recognises the **UK Environment and Climate Emergency** and will **continue to** commit resources and ~~will~~ align its policies to address this.*

- (ii) **Through the framework of the Energy and Low Emissions Strategy KCC will facilitate the setting and agreement of a target of Net Zero emissions by 2050 for Kent and Medway.**
- (iii) **KCC will by May 2020 set an accelerated target with associated action plan for its own estate and activities including those of its traded companies using appropriate methodologies.**
- (iv) **KCC will in addition deliver a Kent and Medway Climate Change Risk and Impact Report, and develop and facilitate adoption of a subsequent Kent and Medway Climate Change Adaptation Implementation Plan by the end of March 2020.**
- ~~(ii) KCC will set a target of carbon neutrality from its activities and those of its trading companies by 2030 using the Carbon Trust framework, with an Action Plan for achieving this.~~
- (v) **KCC will report annually at full council on its progress towards the target as part of a KES report.**
- (vi) **KCC will continue to work with partners and contract providers and will investigate all possible sources of external funding and match funding to support this commitment as well as continuing to work with writing to central government with respect to the emergency to request funding to implement swift appropriate actions in response.”**

(3) Following the debate, the Chairman put the amendment set out in paragraph (2) above to the vote and the voting was as follows:

For (54)

Mr M Angell, Mr M Balfour, Mrs C Bell, Mrs R Binks, Mr T Bond, Mr A Booth, Mr A Bowles, Mr D Brazier, Mr D Butler, Miss S Carey, Mr P Carter, Mrs S Chandler, Mrs P Cole, Mr A Cook, Mr G Cooke, Mr P Cooper, Mrs M Crabtree, Mr M Dance, Miss E Dawson, Mrs L Game, Mr R Gough, Ms S Hamilton, Mr M Hill, Mr T Hills, Mrs S Hohler, Mr S Holden, Mr P Homewood, Mr M Horwood, Mr E Hotson, Mrs L Hurst, Mr R Long, Mr R Love, Mr G Lymer, Mr S Manion, Mr A Marsh, Ms D Marsh, Mr J McInroy, Mr P Messenger, Mr D Murphy, Mr M Northey, Mr P Oakford, Mr J Ozog, Mr M Payne, Mrs S Prendergast, Mr K Pugh, Miss C Rankin, Mr H Rayner, Mr C Simkins, Mrs P Stockell, Mr B Sweetland, Mr I Thomas, Mr R Thomas, Mr M Whiting, Mr J Wright.

Against (13)

Mr R Bird, Mr J Burden, Mr I Chittenden, Mr J Clinch, Mr D Daley, Mrs T Dean, Mr D Farrell, Mr P Harman, Mr B Lewis, Ida Linfield, Mr A Ridgers, Dr L Sullivan, Mr M Whybrow.

Abstain (0)

Amendment Carried

(4) The Chairman put the substantive motion as set out in paragraph (2) above to the vote and the voting was as follows:

For (57)

Mrs A Allen, Mr M Angell, Mrs C Bell, Mrs R Binks, Mr T Bond, Mr A Booth, Mr A Bowles, Mr D Brazier, Mr J Burden, Mr D Butler, Miss S Carey, Mr P Carter, Mrs S Chandler, Mrs P Cole, Mr A Cook, Mr G Cooke, Mr P Cooper, Mrs M Crabtree, Mr M Dance, Miss E Dawson, Mr D Farrell, Mrs L Game, Mr R Gough, Ms S Hamilton, Mr P Harman, Mr M Hill, Mr T Hills, Mrs S Hohler, Mr S Holden, Mr P Homewood, Mr M Horwood, Mr E Hotson, Mrs L Hurst, Mr J Kite, Mr B Lewis, Mr R Long, Mr R Love, Mr G Lymer, Mr S Manion, Mr J McInroy, Mr P Messenger, Mr D Murphy, Mr M Northey, Mr P Oakford, Mr J Ozog, Mr M Payne, Mrs S Prendergast, Mr K Pugh, Miss C Rankin, Mr H Rayner, Mr C Simkins, Dr L Sullivan, Mr B Sweetland, Mr I Thomas, Mr R Thomas, Mr M Whiting, Mr J Wright.

Against (8)

Mr M Balfour, Mr R Bird, Mr I Chittenden, Mr J Clinch, Mr D Daley, Mrs T Dean, Ida Linfield, Mr M Whybrow.

Abstain (0)

Substantive motion Carried

(5) RESOLVED that:

- a) in terms of achievements to date, data shows that CO2 emissions have already been reduced by 36% when compared to the 2005 baseline target set in the existing Kent Environment Strategy of 34% by 2020. A significant reduction in carbon emissions from the roll-out of LED streetlights across the county was an excellent step forward by KCC and there is also important work within the Kent Environment Strategy and other initiatives such as the Active Travel Strategy and emerging Energy and Low Emissions Strategy;
- b) KCC recognises the UK Environment and Climate Emergency and will continue to commit resources and align its policies to address this;
- c) through the framework of the Energy and Low Emissions Strategy, KCC will facilitate the setting and agreement of a target of Net Zero emissions by 2050 for Kent and Medway;
- d) KCC will by May 2020 set an accelerated target with associated action plan for its own estate and activities including those of its traded companies using appropriate methodologies;
- e) KCC will in addition deliver a Kent and Medway Climate Change Risk and Impact Report, and develop and facilitate adoption of a subsequent Kent and Medway Climate Change Adaptation Implementation Plan by the end of March 2020;

- f) a report will be submitted annually to full Council on progress towards the target, as part of a KES report; and
- g) KCC will continue to work with partners and contract providers and will investigate all possible sources of external funding and match funding to support this commitment as well as continuing to work with central government to implement swift appropriate actions in response.

(b) Council tax exemption for young care leavers

(6) Ida Linfield moved and Mrs Dean seconded the following motion:

“The council notes the disadvantage that care leavers have when transitioning into adult life and therefore resolves to engage with each of Kent’s twelve district councils ask for their relevant committees to consider and agree to provide a 100% council tax discount to care leavers who meet the following criteria:

- *Have been in the care of Kent County Council (as Corporate Parent) for a period of at least 13 weeks since the age of 14*
- *Are under the age of 25*
- *Reside within Kent*

(7) Mr Gough proposed and Mrs Prendergast seconded the following amendment:

1.1 *The council notes the disadvantage that care leavers have when transitioning into adult life and therefore ~~resolves to engage with each of Kent’s twelve district councils ask for their relevant committees to consider and agree to provide a 100% council tax discount to care leavers who meet the following criteria:~~*

- ~~Have been in the care of Kent County Council (as Corporate Parent) for a period of at least 13 weeks since the age of 14~~
- ~~Are under the age of 25~~
- ~~Reside within Kent~~

welcomes the initiative by the young people’s council in proposing the full exemption of Kent Care Leavers living in Kent from council tax until the age of 25, and in raising this as a Challenge Card at the Corporate Parenting Panel. The Council welcomes the commitment by officers and Members to pursue this with Kent’s 12 District Councils, and notes the discussions that have already taken place with District Council Finance Officers. The Council asks that the Chairman, in her continuing role as Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel, reports back on progress and ultimate delivery of this policy through her Chairman’s announcements.

(8) Ida Linfield, as proposer of the original motion, with the support of her seconder agreed to accept the amendment.

(9) Following the debate, the amendment set out in paragraph (2) became the substantive motion and was agreed without a formal vote.

(10) RESOLVED that the Council notes the disadvantage that care leavers have when transitioning into adult life and therefore welcomes the initiative by the young people's council in proposing the full exemption of Kent Care Leavers living in Kent from council tax until the age of 25, and in raising this as a Challenge Card at the Corporate Parenting Panel. The Council welcomes the commitment by officers and Members to pursue this with Kent's 12 District Councils, and notes the discussions that have already taken place with District Council Finance Officers. The Council asks that the Chairman, in her continuing role as Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel, reports back on progress and ultimate delivery of this policy through her Chairman's announcements.

From Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Children, Young people and Education.

To: County Council – 11 July 2019

Subject: Kent Youth County Council Annual Report - 2019

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This is the first annual report for Kent Youth County Council.

Recommendation: Members are asked to **NOTE** the annual report.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Kent Youth County Council Annual Report presents its work over the past year and current priorities.
- 1.2 The report sets out the progress on key campaigns selected by the young people of Kent from its election in November 2018 and includes the following:
- Mental Health Campaign
 - Curriculum for life Campaign
 - Anti-Bullying Campaign
 - KYCC Manifesto 2019
 - Youth Parliament
 - Key moments over the last year

Recommendations

County Council is asked to:

- (a) COMMENT on and NOTE the Kent Youth County Council Annual Report 2019

2. Background documents

None.

3. Contact details

Lead Officer

Nicola Bowden
 Youth Participation Coordinator
 03000 417026
Nicola.Bowden@kent.gov.uk

Lead Director

Stuart Collins
 Director of Integrated Children's Services - West
 03000 410519
Stuart.Collins@kent.gov.uk

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Kent Youth County Council

Annual Report 2018/19



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Page 10: UK Youth Parliament in Kent

Page 11: Key moments over the last year

Welcome from the Chair:

Welcome to the first Annual Report of the Kent Youth County Council (KYCC). We have created this report with the intent of demonstrating the hard work and dedication which our members put into campaigning on the issues selected by the young people of Kent in our most recent election in November 2018. Additionally, we hope this report gives you a better understanding of the work we do as a youth council and how you can assist us in making a difference to the lives of over 150,000 young people within our county.



Eleanor Burnaby-Rouse Chair, Kent Youth County Council

Introduction:

The Kent Youth County Council (KYCC) is a group of young people aged between 11 and 18 who are elected to represent either their district or community on campaigns which are voted on by the young people in Kent. The main goal of KYCC is to voice the views and opinions of Kent's young people and in turn creating change within the county which can benefit all young people. Furthermore, KYCC helps young people to understand the importance of engaging in the democratic process and learn how their vote can make a difference.

Annually in November, KYCC hold elections for new members and to determine which 3 campaigns they will be working on for the year. Four young people are elected to represent each district in Kent- these young people are known as "members" and hold a position on the youth council for 2 years. Four deputy members for each area are also elected- these young people hold a position on the youth council for 1 year. Along with the election of district seats, twelve young people are also elected to community seats which represent specific groups within Kent, including: young carers, home schooled young people, LGBTQ+ groups and young people with disabilities.

Each year the new members campaign on the top 3 issues which were voted on during the elections. In 2018, over 20,000 young people voted on what campaigns they wanted to see the youth council work on. The top 3 issues which we have been campaigning on in 2019 are **Mental Health, Curriculum for Life and Anti-Bullying** as these were the issues with received the highest number of votes by young people.



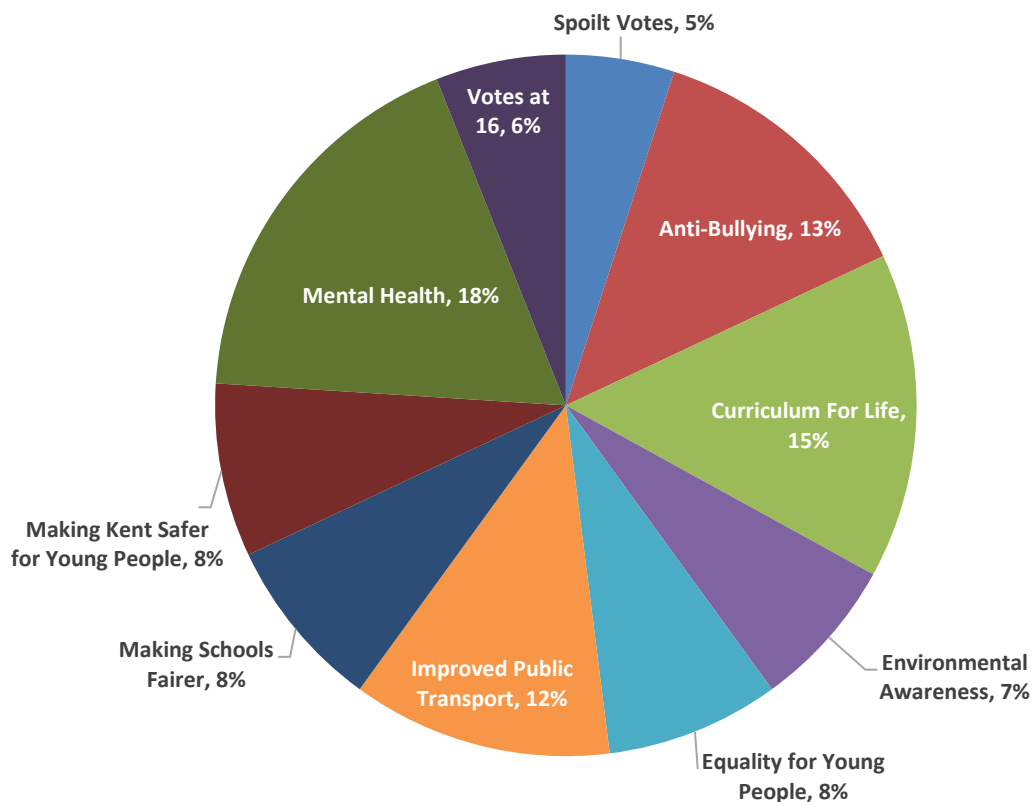
KYCC Elections Overview November 2018

The annual KYCC elections were held in November 2018, 85 candidates stood for election across the 12 districts of Kent and we received 20,976 votes from the young people of Kent. Voting was held within schools and youth organisations across the county as a mix of both as online and paper ballots.

Key Stats:

- 72 young people were elected as KYCC Members or Deputy Members to represent young people across Kent
- 75 secondary schools, youth hubs & community organisations took part in the youth elections
- 20,976 young people voted in the elections either online or by paper ballot
- Nine youth related issues were also voted for as possible campaigns and the top three highest voted ones have become our campaign topics for 2019, these campaigns are Anti-bullying, Curriculum for life and Mental health.

Breakdown of Campaign Votes:



Mental Health Campaign

Key Stats:

- Mental Health received 18% of the votes in the 2018 election, making it the biggest issue amongst young people in Kent.
- Mental Health also received 181,691 votes in the UK Youth Parliament's Make Your Mark ballot, making it the 2nd most important issue to young people nationally.

This Year's Actions:

We have had a highly productive year in the mental health campaign group. We have been working on a 'z-card' detailing mental health conditions and the many misconceptions surrounding mental health.

We have also helped raise awareness about key mental health days in the year, including Mental Health Week from the 13th – 19th May and World Mental Health Day.

We have also been working on sharing resources and promoting useful links and websites and have been feeding into the local transformation plan for mental health schools team trailblazer to ensure sustainability of our work.

Recommendations:

We recommend that KCC assists us in raising awareness for mental health issues and help us show that much of the stigma surrounding mental health is false, and anyone can be suffering even if symptoms may be hidden.

We also want help with creating a calendar of mental health awareness/ support days. We would also very much appreciate your support in making a Mental Health Directory of what help is available to specific illnesses and general issue helplines.

Chair: NAME Charlotte Swaine

Vice – Chair: NAME Josh Moemken



Curriculum for Life Campaign

We believe schools should cover topics including finance, first aid, sex and relationships and politics.

Curriculum for life is a national campaign to implement and improve the standard and delivery of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE). This was elected as a priority in both the KYCC and UK Youth Parliament elections with support from the UK Government. KYCC would like all head teachers to sign our pledge to implement a curriculum for life in their schools based on both national and local issues relating the young peoples learning needs.

Key Stats:

- Curriculum for Life received 15% of young people's vote in the 2018 election, making it the second highest concern for young people in Kent.
- In 2018, over 130,000 young people prioritised Curriculum for Life as the most important issue for them across the whole of the UK in the Make Your Mark Ballot.
- When surveying 321 young people within schools only 5% said their PSHE lessons were extremely useful.
- 72% of young people surveyed would like to learn more on budgeting & finance and investments & first aid.

This Year's Actions:

We are using the results from previous surveys completed by over 300 young people within schools to determine what young people want from PSHE lessons.

We are in the process of creating a toolkit for an outline survey for schools to determine what their students want from PSHE lessons. We then aim to provide tailored content for schools.

Recommendations:

We recommend that KCC set up a select committee aimed at improving curriculum for life in Kent schools, which would consult young people and schools to determine how PSHE lessons should be taught in schools.

Chair: Kyle Siwek MYP

Vice – Chair: Poppy Mansfield Jones MYP

#thisneedstostop

Anti – Bullying Campaign

Key Stats:

- Anti-Bullying received 13 % of the votes in the 2018 election, making Anti-Bullying the third area of interest for young people in Kent.
- Bullying is behaviour that hurts someone else. It includes name calling, hitting, pushing, spreading rumours, threatening or undermining someone.
- It can happen anywhere – at school, at home or online. It's usually repeated over a long period of time and can hurt a child both physically and emotionally.

This Year's Actions:

The antibullying campaign group have outlined their plans for the rest of this year. This included a blog with 6 sections looking at definitions of bullying and what we can do to help prevent bullying, reviews on books and websites that address bullying, cyber bullying, mental and physical bullying. The group are also creating 3 videos to go hand in hand with the creation of a hashtag #thisneedstostop. The group also got some feedback on the Anti-bullying Detox booklet that was recently produced and sent out to schools. Judd school in Tonbridge feedback that it is a great resource and the Assistant head teacher is looking forward to sharing it with her students.

Recommendations:

We want more support to be provided to tackle bullying behaviour online and offline and to improve education for young people on internet safety.

We'd like our blogs and videos to be shared on the school newsletter and for us to possibly present our blogs and videos at the Headteachers conference ourselves. We would like Roger Gough to take a bigger stand and voice on anti-bullying.

Chair: NAME Finley Boustead

Vice – Chair: NAME Shannon Birch

KYCC Manifesto 2019

Introduction:

Kent County Council's Manifesto tackles a wide range of topics affecting young people, from public transport to equality for all. It was created by young people, locally elected to represent the views of their peers.

Period Poverty:

KYCC supports the cancellation of the tampon tax and wants to support the ideal of red boxes to be made available in schools / organisations & public places.

Transport:

KYCC supports the proposed idea that bus fares should rise gradually for young people between child and adult rates so there is not a big jump in rates between child and adult fare at 16.

Equality:

KYCC would like to see no minority to be treated as such by working with organisations to help youths know why there shouldn't be any discrimination. More Education is needed for people on discrimination.

UKYP:

KYCC would like to support more work to combat Knife crime / gangs in Kent. KYCC would like to support the motion of votes at 16 with Kent.



Each year 7 KYCC members are elected from within KYCC to represent Kent nationally at UK Youth Parliament events.

This year's members are:

- Lawrence Coomber – Canterbury
- Holly Leggett – Dover
- Poppy Mansfield Jones – Canterbury
- Alex McGovern – Ashford
- Kyle Siwek – Maidstone
- Alice Breiber – Swale
- Lydia Nottingham – Thanet



Activities with UKYP include:

- Attending three London based conventions
- One annual training weekend
- One weekend annual conference
- One House of Commons Sitting

Key moments over the last year

Debating in the House of Commons



On 9th November 2018, Kent's 7 MYPs travelled up to London to take part in the annual Youth Parliament Sitting in the House of Commons to debate the top 5 issues from the Make Your Mark Ballot.

Kent MYP Eleanor Burnaby-Rouse was extremely lucky to be voted to represent the South East of England as Debate Lead. In this role, she got to close the Mental Health Debate from the Dispatch Box in front of key figures in UK Politics, including John Bercow, Jeremy Corbyn and Dianne Abbott.

When asked about the experience, Eleanor said:

"This was an amazing experience and to receive a standing ovation in the House of Commons and get the voices of young people in Kent heard is truly an experience I will never forget."



Parliament Week 2019 - Votes at 16 Debate

KYCC and UKYP Member Elena Ewence coordinated and chaired a debate on Votes at 16 as part of activities for Parliament Week 2018, with support from Shellina Prendergast, KCC Deputy Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education.

Helen Grant MP joined us for the debate at Maidstone Town Hall and over 30 young people attended to debate whether Votes at 16 should be implemented for future elections.



National Award Winner- Jess Griffiths

KYCC Member Jess Griffiths won the National British Youth Council Youth Star Award recognising her personal development through her involvement in youth voice activities- including KYCC.

When asked about how she felt winning, Jess said:

"I never thought I was going to get shortlisted let alone win overall. I just want to say a MASSIVE Thank You to the whole Participation Team in Kent without you guys I would of gave up a long time ago, you all gave the time, resources and the safe space to get to the place I am now. Also, a massive thank you to all the amazing young people I have worked with that are so dedicated and inspirational. You all deserve gold for the work you do! I can't wait to meet many more in my new job role."

KYCC Annual Awards 2018

The annual KYCC awards took place in our December meeting and 9 awards were voted for by the members and given out including Member of the year that was awarded to Eleanor Burnaby-Rouse and Best Newcomer awarded to Josh Matheson. Big congratulations to all those who achieved awards and thanks also to Jenn Power and Kyle Siwek for their work as Chair and Vice Chair over the past year.

The December meeting was also the first introduction to new members and the outgoing members helped to introduce the new members to the role of KYCC and its work so far.

KYCC Elections 2019

Whilst our current elected members are working hard on their campaigns for the year, we will also start preparation for this year's elections that will run from 11 - 24th November in schools and youth clubs across the county.

Developing resilience in young people campaign

This is a new campaign group this year supporting mental health of young people. The group have been looking at different aspects of resilience and the impacts it could have on young people. A list of topics have been delegated to members of the group to research further. A PowerPoint presentation is being planned by the members of the group along with resources for schools to use in assemblies to raise awareness and support for developing resilience.

Chair: NAME Nikita Williams

Vice – Chair: NAME Pippa Stickells

For more information on Kent Youth County Council:

contact us at:

Web: www.kent.gov.uk/kycc

Email: kycc@kent.gov.uk

Or follow us on Facebook [@kentyouthcountycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/kentyouthcountycouncil) or Twitter [@kycc](https://twitter.com/kycc)

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From: Mike Whiting, Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste and Barbara Cooper, Corporate Director for Growth, Environment and Transport

To: Kent County Council

Subject: Kent's Plan Bee – Kent County Council Pollinator Action Plan

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee

Future Pathway of Paper: n/a

Electoral Division: All – Action Plan is County-wide

Summary: To provide an overview of the Kent County Council Pollinator Action Plan “Kent’s Plan Bee” and seek adoption.

Recommendation(s):

Kent County Council are asked to agree adoption of Kent’s Plan Bee – the Kent County Council Pollinator Action Plan.

1. Introduction

1.1 In May 2018 Mr Martin Whybrow, seconded by Mr Sean Holden, tabled a motion at Full Council calling for the establishment of a cross-party working group to produce a Pollinator Action Plan. The motion was unanimously carried and resolved that the County Council agreed:

- To produce a Pollinator Action Plan would be produced and submitted to County Council for approval.
- To recognise the vital importance to Kent’s rural economy of pollinators and the fact that local authorities are well placed to make a significant contribution to reversing their decline, including through land and verge management, development control, and leadership and education across local communities; and
- To use the planning system to protect and increase pollinator-friendly habitat; managing council-owned and council-managed land to benefit bees and other pollinators including more pollinator-friendly cutting cycles; reduced use of bee-harming pesticides; and planting more wildflowers and other bee-friendly plants in our country parks and community spaces.

1.2 This motion built on the previous work undertaken by the Member-led Kent’s Plan Bee, and thus the Pollinator Action Plan has adopted this title.

1.3 Over the past 12 months a draft Action Plan has been developed by the following Members:

- Sean Holden (Chair)
- Andrew Bowles
- Sue Chandler
- Ian Chittenden
- Tony Hills
- Derek Murphy
- Lauren Sullivan
- Martyn Whybrow

1.4 In May 2019 the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee recommended that the Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste approve the draft Pollinator Action Plan and take it to Full Council for adoption.

1.5 This report provides an overview of the Action Plan “Kent’s Plan Bee”. A copy of the draft Action Plan is appended to this report.

2. Scope Kent’s Plan Bee and the need for action

2.1 Kent’s Plan Bee is an action plan that sets out how the County Council can make a greater contribution to slowing and reversing the decline of pollinators in Kent.

2.2 The Plan’s development responds to the National Pollinator Strategy for England and the call to local authorities to use their regulatory powers and other functions to deliver, inform and engage others to participate in work that will benefit pollinators. The Plan recognises that KCC, with its wide ranging responsibilities, services and land holdings, is well placed to make a significant contribution directly through, for example, land management, but also provide leadership on this issue within the county in order to safeguard our native pollinators.

2.3 Pollinators are essential but are in serious decline. Many plants rely on insects to pollinate their flowers and so complete their reproductive cycle – most plants cannot set seed without being pollinated (receiving the pollen, usually from another flower). It has been calculated that one out of every three mouthfuls of the food we eat depends on pollination and the annual benefits of insect pollinators to the British economy have been valued at £691 million (Living with Environmental Change, 2014).

2.4 Habitat loss, pesticides and climate change have all contributed to the decline in pollinators:

- Half of the UK’s 27 bumblebee species are in decline.
- Three of the UK’s bumblebee species have already gone extinct.
- Across Europe, 38% of bee and hoverfly species are in decline.

- Two-thirds of the UK's moths are in long term decline.
- 71% of the UK's butterflies are also in decline.

3. Kent's Plan Bee – action for pollinators

3.1 The purpose of Kent's Plan Bee is to:

- Make the county council a community leader in action for pollinators, showing the way in its own operations and property and by supporting others
- Ensure that pollinators' needs are always considered throughout Kent County Council's work and services
- Put the conservation of pollinators and their habitats at the heart of the council's land management and planning
- Make Kent County Council a significant contributor to the recovery of pollinator populations which will support biodiversity and the need of the county's agriculture.

3.2 The Plan will deliver these outcomes by taking action under the following objectives:

1. For Kent County Council to manage the land it owns or controls or can influence in a way which can benefit pollinators' forage and habitat.
2. For Kent County Council to use the planning system to protect pollinators and improve the habitats on which they rely.
3. For Kent County Council to deliver a campaign to encourage others to take action themselves, raising awareness of the importance of pollinators in our lives and everybody's potential role in protecting them.

3.3 High level actions that will deliver these objectives are identified within the plan, which is attached. These actions have been developed in discussion with the relevant services, including highways, Public Rights of Way, Country Parks, estates management and Countryside Management Partnerships.

3.4 It should be noted that changes to the way in which the County Council delivers our various functions cannot happen instantly. Kent's Plan Bee sets out an intention to incrementally make changes for the benefit of pollinators as service delivery and associated contracts allow. There is already good practice in place in areas of our estate – in particular the approach to land management in our Country Parks – from which we can learn and that we can build on.

4. Policy Framework

4.1 The Plan supports the Council's second Strategic Outcome of "Kent communities feel the benefits of economic growth by being in-work, healthy and enjoying a good quality of life" by helping to support:

- Kent business growth (much of Kent's agriculture, fruit farming especially, relies on pollinators).

- A physical and natural environment that is protected, enhanced and can be enjoyed.
- A good quality of life.

5. Financial implications

- 5.1 As noted above, Kent's Plan Bee sets out the County Council's intentions for how services and functions can be delivered for the benefit of pollinators. It is recognised that any changes must not place undue or new financial burdens on the authority.
- 5.2 Although a number of elements of this Action Plan can be absorbed by existing staff, opportunities for some of the work to be taken forward by undergraduate trainees to be hosted by the Heritage Lottery Funded project Old Chalks New Down are being explored. In the long term, there is the potential for other externally funded projects to provide additional resource for the County Council to maximise delivery against this Action Plan.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been completed (see appendix 2).
- 6.2 There will be limited negative impact from the Pollinator Action Plan and these impacts can be reduced or avoided all together with appropriate management.
- 6.3 The main potential impact will be where new land management practices could cause access issues for those with a disability or age protected characteristic. Changes (irrespective of protected characteristic) will need to be considered within the auspices of the Public Sector Equality Duty and appropriately managed. It is anticipated that land management changes will first be introduced at locations where impacts on any users are minimal.
- 6.4 The other potential impact will be where public facing/engagement material is developed. For all public facing work, design and accessibility standards will be followed to ensure these materials are appropriately accessible.
- 6.5 There are also opportunities to have a positive impact by considering how land management practices for pollinators may also deliver enhanced visitor/resident experiences for people within the age and disability protected groups – for example by designing pollinator friendly habitat to also provide sensory experiences.

7. General Data Protection Regulation Considerations

- 7.1 A DPIA is not required as this Plan does not require the processing of personal data. The only exception to this is the schools competition for which a DPIA will be undertaken.

8. Recommendations

Recommendation(s):

Kent County Council are asked to agree adoption of Kent's Plan Bee – the Kent County Council Pollinator Action Plan.

9. Background documents

National pollinator strategy: for bees and other pollinators in England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pollinator-strategy-for-bees-and-other-pollinators-in-england>

Helping pollinators locally: developing a local pollinator action plan or strategy (Buglife and FoE guide)

<https://www.buglife.org.uk/sites/default/files/Helping%20Pollinators%20Locally.pdf>

Living with Environment Change

<https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/ourportfolio/themes/livingwithenvironmentalchange/>

10. Contact details

Report Author

Elizabeth Milne, Natural Environment & Coast Manager
03000 413950 / elizabeth.milne@kent.gov.uk

Relevant Director

Stephanie Holt-Castle, Interim Director for Environment, Planning and Enforcement
03000 412064 / stephanie.Holt-Castle@kent.gov.uk

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KENT'S PLAN BEE – KENT COUNTY COUNCIL'S POLLINATOR ACTION PLAN

JULY 2019

Kent's Plan Bee – An Introduction to the County Council's Pollinator Action Plan

Kent's Plan Bee is a pollinator action plan developed after a unanimous vote of the county council. It is designed to take a lead in mobilising the people, the businesses, the schools, the gardeners, the farmers, the old and the young - everybody who lives here - to act to improve the habitat and the food sources of these insects and to reverse their rapid decline. Pollinators are vital to our food, economy and environment. This action plan sets out what Kent County Council is doing. It began, in a small way, after a third of all Britain's honey bees died because of bad weather through the autumn, winter and spring of 2012-13.

What is its purpose?

The purposes of Kent's Plan Bee are to:

- make the county council a community leader in action for pollinators, showing the way in its own operations and property and by supporting others
- ensure that pollinators' needs are always considered throughout Kent County Council's work and services
- put the conservation of pollinators and their habitats at the heart of the council's land management and planning
- make Kent County Council a significant contributor to the recovery of pollinator populations which will support biodiversity and the need of the county's agriculture.

What is the plan doing?

1. It is consolidating positive land management in favour of pollinators within Kent County Council's estate, which includes roadside verges and parks and any other land the council owns, manages or can influence.
2. It is establishing that the county council will work with local planning authorities to seek to use the planning system to benefit pollinator populations and their habitats and food sources.
3. It is giving a lead to the people of Kent generally, to take their own action, however big or small, in their communities, workplaces, schools and homes.
4. It is working continually to make people aware of the importance of safeguarding pollinators in their communities and how they as an individual can play their role.

What's the problem?

Pollinators are insects which are essential to our environment, and even to our lives and they are declining fast. They are so-called because they carry the reproductive dust, pollen, from flower to

flower to grow the new generations of plants. Without them a significant number of plants, from trees to strawberries, could not reproduce. The environmental group Buglife says every third mouthful of our food depends on insect pollinators.

These creatures have been in serious decline for many years and a loud and clear message is coming from scientists, wildlife organisations and the government that they need help and quickly otherwise all of us, plants, pollinators and people, face serious problems.

They are central to Kent's fruit farms – 40% of the county's agriculture. They serve crops like oil seed rape, clovers and other nitrogen fixing plants, important for livestock grazing and wild flowers. They add to the diversity of plant species, habitats and wildlife in Kent as well as its natural beauty - which also has an economic value. This provides food and makes Kent a better place to live, to enjoy and to visit. Losing our pollinators would be a major ecological and economic disaster.

What are pollinators?

The best loved of them are bees, among which are honey bees, the only pollinators kept by humans. Wild pollinators include bumblebees and solitary bees but also parasitic wasps, hoverflies, butterflies, moths, mosquitos, some beetles and even ants in small way. Many plants have evolved to offer nectar to attract insects to use them as part of their reproductive cycle. While they are at the flower, pollen inside it sticks to their bodies and transfers to the reproductive organs of the next one they visit.

Bees and wasps visit flowers to collect pollen and nectar to feed themselves and their young. Honey bees are the main managed pollinators of crops. Hives may be moved from crop to crop and harvested for honey and other products. Crops which benefit include orchards and soft fruits, (rose family), oilseed rape and other seed brassicas (cabbage family), peas and beans (legumes).

Bumblebees and solitary bees are essential to wild plant populations and to commercial crops in orchards, soft fruits and tomatoes.

Wasps often feed on nectar while they wait to ambush insect prey, many of which are crop pests.

Butterflies and moths feed on nectar. They are pollinators of many wild flowers though they are less significant among British food crops.

Hoverflies are abundant on flowers for much of the year and adults feed on nectar and pollen. They're particularly important to carrots and apples. Their larvae's diet includes other insects, so some predatory hoverflies are used as biological control agents.

Mosquitos do not all bite. Females suck blood to develop eggs while males feed on nectar and so pollinate plants.

What's being done?

Kent's Plan Bee is part of a much wider movement. There are action plans around the country, which have helped inform Kent's Plan Bee. The government brought out the National Pollinator Strategy for England in 2014 which is a ten-year plan to rescue these insects and to help them to thrive. Other organisations, environmental groups such as Buglife and Friends of the Earth, and business have developed plans too.

What can local government do?

The National Pollinator Strategy lays great emphasis on local action and it does look to local authorities to take a leading role. Kent County Council (KCC) unanimously agreed in May 2018 to produce its own Pollinator Action Plan. Local authorities, from parish to district, borough and to county are well placed to make a significant contribution. They can do it directly through land management and development control and by giving leadership in local communities and, of course among their thousands of council staff. Kent County Council is responsible for verges on 5,000 miles of road, it has numerous other sites, parks and buildings where it can and does take a lead in action.

What difference can an action plan make?

The environmental groups Buglife and Friends of the Earth say that a pollinator action plan like Kent's Plan Bee can:

- ensure pollinators' needs are taken into account across a local authority's work;
- raise the awareness of pollinators' needs across all of a local authority's staff, contracts and networks;
- do the same in local communities through its staff and elected members who represent those communities;
- help to identify previously unrecognised ways to help pollinators;
- ensure the wellbeing of pollinators is a principal consideration in land management;
- help pollinator populations to recover to the benefit of farming and food production;
- identify chances to set up local initiatives within communities.

What do pollinators need?

Like all animals, pollinators need food which for them is nectar and pollen foraged from a variety of flowering plants.

Shelter

They also need to be able to shelter, nest and overwinter in diverse habitats such as hedgerows, scrub and tall grass, burrows and holes in tree trunks. Many have different needs again in their larval (young) stages. Honey bees have their shelter (hives) provided but they still have problems in common with other pollinators.

Forage

Their foraging grounds have been steadily eroded. All pollinators need flowering, semi-natural habitats like wildflower meadows, hedgerows and woodland edges. They need agricultural landscapes which have unimproved grassland, hay meadows, clover-rich grassland, orchards and arable crops. In Kent many of these are declining and are in short supply. Large fields of wind pollinated crops like barley do not support insect pollinators.

Beyond the countryside

It's not only the countryside where pollinators' needs can be better met. They can find food and shelter in gardens, parks, roadside verges and any other open area. It's quite easy to provide for pollinators by making sure they have the right plants. They include common knapweed in wildflower meadows, red clover in pasture, hawthorn and bramble in hedgerows and woodland, and cosmos in bedding areas.

What are the threats?

The main threat to pollinators are: the intensive use of farmland which often destroys or fragments their habitats; disease; pesticides; invasive species like Asian hornets; and climate change. The threats are complex, involving interactions between different pollinators, and the environmental pressures, pests and disease that affect them.

The loss of pollinators is a direct threat to our ability to feed ourselves as numbers on Earth grow towards nine billion by 2050. Without bees, hoverflies and other insects visiting flowers there would be no strawberries, apples, avocados, chocolate, cherries, olives, blueberries, carrots, grapes, pumpkins, pears, cotton, plums or peanuts. And that's just the first course. There would also be few flowers in our gardens or countryside.

Decline

Half our 27 bumblebee species are in decline; three of them are already extinct. Across Europe 38% of bee and hoverfly species are declining along with two-thirds of our moths and nearly three-quarters of our butterflies. There are three main reasons for this which have already been touched upon and which are habitat loss, pesticides, and climate change.

Habitat loss

The most significant cause of pollinator decline, and the one which Kent's Plan Bee can most immediately address, is the loss and degradation of habitats. The loss of wildflower-rich grasslands is one of the most important issues, with over three million hectares lost in England since the 1930s, through modern farming and urban or industrial development. Many wildflower-rich habitats are now small areas separated by hostile (to pollinators) land uses, making it difficult for insects to move around our landscapes.

Pesticides

Increased use of pesticides has had a major impact on pollinators and the plants on which they depend. The majority of neonicotinoid pesticides, which are scientifically proven to be much more toxic to pollinators, have been banned in the EU. Restrictions on the use of pesticides in consideration of these impacts is a government level matter, albeit one that the county council may choose to engage in through consultation.

Climate Change

By disrupting seasonal patterns and flowering periods of plants, climate change can take away pollinators' food, especially if they depend on one, or very few, species of plant. Extreme weather bringing floods or droughts is a threat as are any changes in microclimates in which some insects thrive. Again, this is a subject of direct concern to Kent's Plan Bee and the Kent Environment Strategy must take account of pollinators.

What's being done in Kent now?

Kent is an important county for bees. Six of the seven rarest species of bumblebee live here. Most, like the shrill carder bee, are now found only in coastal areas.

There is already a lot of good work in the county.

Kent's Plan Bee

Kent County Council, through **Kent's Plan Bee**, has run two school competitions and held an introductory summit and two further summits for parks and owners of linear features such as railways, canals and rivers. The new strategy revisits those and will follow on with others.

Making a Buzz for the Coast

A project to safeguard rare bees has been run by the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, of which Kent County Council is a partner. **Making a Buzz for the Coast** has created and restored habitats and linked isolated populations by creating flower-rich 'stepping stones' along 135 miles of the coast. It's doing surveys of habitat and populations to build a better knowledge of the bees from Dartford to Deal. Apart from KCC, partners include the Kent Wildlife Trust, Natural England, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Swale Borough Council, Thanet District Council and Thames Water.

Roadside Nature Reserves

Within **Buzz** Kent Wildlife Trust is setting up more **Roadside Nature Reserves**. These are 'bee roads' which aim to connect the rare bumblebee populations. The **Kent and Medway Road Verge Project** has been going since 1994, protecting threatened wildlife and habitats in roadside verges. It's run by a team of voluntary road verge wardens and is a partnership between KCC and Kent Wildlife Trust.

Short-Haired Bumblebee Reintroduction

These bees went extinct in 2000 having been formerly widespread across England. They depended on the species-rich grassland which since the 1960s had become patchy and isolated. A partnership of the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, Natural England, Hymettus and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds was set up in 2009 to bring them back to Dungeness and Romney Marsh in Kent, the place where they were last seen. The successful project brought in short-haired bumblebees from Sweden and is working with farmers, landowners and conservation groups to create flower-rich habitats to support the new bees.

Landscape scale projects

Some projects bring benefits to bees because they are working in a wider environmental context – two Heritage Lottery Fund projects working in the distinctive Kent landscapes of chalk grassland and marshland respectively are examples of this. The **Old Chalk New Downs** project looks to restore and connect remaining fragments of precious chalk downland for the benefit of both species and people. The **Fifth Continent Landscape Partnership Scheme** is bringing several projects to Romney Marsh, on the themes of restore, rediscover and reclaim.

Kent Environment Strategy

Kent's Plan Bee has an important place in Kent's Environment Strategy which is designed to protect our natural and historic environments while supporting economic growth within them. There is much emphasis on bees, but the importance of the others, the hoverflies, beetles and butterflies, is not forgotten – they are equally essential to success.

The county council's particular strength is in its connections and Kent's Plan Bee uses those to bring people together from all directions, who may previously not have known of each other's work or of opportunities to combine their efforts.

Working with facts

It's important to measure how things have changed and the pollinator strategy will use research already in place to look at the numbers behind the stories. The nationwide **Pollinator Monitoring and Research Partnership** is using improved analysis of long-term records and new systematic surveys to find out how insect pollinator populations are changing. This gives us much needed data on pollinators, especially wild bees and hoverflies, and how they support farming and other wildlife.

<https://bit.ly/2eN7LKZ>

Also, at national level, the UK biodiversity indicator D1C7 reports on the status of pollinating insects and there are volunteer groups such as **The British Wasps, Bees and Ants Recording Society**.

<http://www.bwars.com/> which works under the UK Biological Records Centre <http://www.brc.ac.uk/>

All the Kent projects mentioned above also carry out important data collection and analysis.

KENT'S PLAN BEE – the pollinator action plan

Kent's Plan Bee is an action plan. It sets out things which will actually be done to better the lot of pollinators. It is intended to mobilise the people of Kent in their homes, at work, at leisure and through organisations like local government, social groups and businesses to play their part in setting the right environment for these vital insects.

Objective 1

For Kent County Council to manage the land it owns or controls or can influence in a way which can benefit pollinators' forage and habitat.

The Council is:

- putting in place, where it can, revised grass-cutting and pollinator-friendly planting regimes. It is reviewing how it reinstates land and manages it generally on road verges, in maintained schools and parks and all other parts of its estate.
- reviewing the use of pesticides in its estate and seeking to end the use of the controversial neonicotinoid¹ sprays.
- finding ways to create corridors for wildlife throughout the landscape within and adjacent to its estate.
- identifying, promoting and arranging where possible, appropriate training for staff involved in land management (including parks, highways, estate management and grounds maintenance) to better their understanding of the needs of pollinators and how they can help them in the course of their work (where they are not already doing that).
- looking at how it might develop a pollinator impact assessment tool for its land management.
- looking for opportunities to 'green' its buildings and assets with pollinator friendly planting and such things as bee hotels (space people can make for solitary bees to nest).

Objective 2

For Kent County Council to use the planning system to protect pollinators and improve the habitats on which they rely.

The Council is:

- looking to support the connection of landscapes to each other.
- looking to develop approaches within KCC's planning services that will help to protect pollinator habitats.
- using the Kent Design Guide, Kent Planning Officers Group and other appropriate means to work with Kent's district planning authorities to encourage developments that improve pollinator habitats.
- working with community groups, district and borough councils and through the Kent Association of Local Councils to map pollinator features at a community level in order to help people to take action.
- looking to understand and better articulate the economic value of pollinators to Kent.
- looking at how it might develop a pollinator impact assessment tool to inform planning decisions.

¹ a systemic agricultural insecticide resembling nicotine; studies have found a link between neonicotinoids and declining bee populations

Objective 3

To mobilise the people of Kent, to take action themselves. Kent's Plan Bee aims to help them to greater awareness of the importance of pollinators in all our lives and everybody's need and ability to act to protect them.

The garden is where most of us can help Kent's pollinators quickly and effectively. That could be through planned planting of pollinator friendly flowers at any scale from window box to grand gardens. In a different style it could also be through letting wild flowers run free, even in lawns. The Bumblebee Conservation Trust is among many places with advice on the right garden plants².

A communications plan is essential because it is about telling the people (of Kent) the story of the dangers pollinators now face and how they can help to make their prospects much better. The communications plan will include:

- Signage explaining some aspects of land management such as why verges have not been cut
- on site and digital.
- encouragement for pollinator friendly gardening
- a Kent wildflower seed packet to be developed with an external sponsor
- a Kent Pollinators' Charter.

The school education plan includes more competitions for bee/pollinator projects including a competition to design the Kent's Plan Bee logo.

The plan is building an expert network of advisors and mentors to help to guide it and to come up with new ideas for taking it forward.

Kent's Plan Bee is always looking for sponsors to support this important work, for instance by helping to fund the Kent Wild Flower Seeds packet

The Council is:

- as part of the Kent Year of Green Action, staging a general bee summit to launch the campaign
- staging a rolling campaign to inform and influence other stakeholders including, but not limited to, local planning authorities, education establishments, developers and community organisations.

The Long-term Plan

Kent's Plan Bee is a continuing plan which is intended to be long term. The many actions set out and the raising of understanding and determination to act among the county's one and a half million people will necessarily take time.

It will come in phases. Clearly, for instance, not all the summits we hope to do can be done in a year, or even two. Some of the work, like changing grass cutting regimes, is dependent on contract renewals which are not yet due.

² <https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/gardeningadvice/>

The need for action for pollinators, Kent's Plan Bee, was agreed unanimously by Kent's County Council in May 2018, underlining the importance the elected members attach to the programme on behalf of the people they represent.

It is being overseen by a cross-party member group which reports to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste... and ultimately by millions, even billions, of tiny Kent residents on whom we depend, even as they depend on us.

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KCC - Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate (GET).

Equality Analysis / Impact Assessment (EqIA) template

Name of decision, policy, procedure, project or service:

Ken's Plan Bee, Kent County Council Pollinator Action Plan

Brief description of policy, procedure, project or service

Currently KCC's services are undertaken with only some minimal consideration of how they may affect pollinators; and whilst there are some positive measures in place to conserve and enhance pollinators and the habitats that support them more could be done. Kent's Plan Bee, KCC's Pollinator Action Plan, sets the County Council's direction, and supporting actions, to further build on efforts to date and to assist in slowing/reversing the decline of pollinator numbers in Kent.

Aims and Objectives

The purpose of Kent's Plan Bee is to look to ensure that:

- Make the county council a community leader in action for pollinators, showing the way in its own operations and property and by supporting others.
- Ensure that pollinators' needs are always considered throughout Kent County Council's work and services.
- Put the conservation of pollinators and their habitats at the heart of the council's land management and planning.
- Make Kent County Council a significant contributor to the recovery of pollinator populations which will support biodiversity and the need of the county's agriculture.

This will be achieved by:

Date Document Updated 24/06/2019

1

This document is available in other formats. Please contact diversityinfo@Kent.gov.uk or telephone on 03000 415 762

1. For Kent County Council to manage the land it owns or controls or can influence in a way which can benefit pollinators' forage and habitat.
2. For Kent County Council to use the planning system to protect pollinators and improve the habitats on which they rely.
3. For Kent County Council to deliver a campaign to encourage others to take action themselves, raising awareness of the importance of pollinators in our lives and everybody's potential role in protecting them.

JUDGEMENT

There will be limited negative impact from the Pollinator Action Plan and these impacts can be reduced or avoided all together with appropriate management.

The main potential impact will be where new land management practices could cause access issues for those with a disability or age protected characteristic. Changes (irrespective of protected characteristic) will need to be considered within the auspices of the Public Sector Equality Duty and appropriately managed. It is anticipated that land management changes will first be introduced at locations where impacts on any users are minimal.

The other potential impact will be where public facing/engagement material is developed. For all public facing work, design and accessibility standards will be followed to ensure these materials are appropriately accessible.

There are also opportunities to have a positive impact by considering how land management practices for pollinators may also deliver enhanced visitor/resident experiences for people within the age and disability protected groups – for example by designing pollinator friendly habitat to also provide sensory experiences.

Based on this assessment it is considered that the plan should go forward on the basis of **Adjust and continue**; that being to **adjust to remove barriers and better promote equality**.

I have found the Adverse Equality Impact Rating to be **Low**

GET Document Control

Revision History

Version	Date	Authors	Comment
V0.1	26.03.19	Liz Milne	First draft
V1 (this should be assigned to the version the Director signs off)	02.05.19	Liz Milne	Agreed

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Document Sign-Off (this must be both the relevant Head of Service and the relevant Director)

Attestation

I have read and paid due regard to the Equality Analysis/Impact Assessment. I agree with the actions to mitigate any adverse impact(s) that has /have been identified.

Name	Signature	Title	Date of Issue
		Head of Service	
Stephanie Holt-Castle		Director	02.05.19

Date Document Updated 24/06/2019

3

This document is available in other formats. Please contact diversityinfo@Kent.gov.uk or telephone on 03000 415 762

Part 1 - Screening

Regarding the decision, policy, procedure, project or service under consideration,

Could this policy, procedure, project or service, or any proposed changes to it, affect any Protected Group (listed below) less favourably (negatively) than others in Kent?

Could this policy, procedure, project or service promote equal opportunities for this group?

Please note that there is no justification for direct discrimination; and indirect discrimination will need to be justified according to the legal requirements

Protected Group	You MUST provide a brief commentary as to your findings, or this EqlA will be returned to you unsigned			
	High Negative Impact	Medium Negative Impact	Low Negative Impact	High/Medium/Low Favourable Impact
Age			Land management practices for the benefit of pollinators (such as reduced cutting) may have an impact on the accessibility of sites which could have the potential to affect people within this protected group. There may be some	Some land management practices for the benefit of pollinators (such as increasing wildflowers) could be developed to also provide opportunities for enhancing the experience of people within this protected group, such as the development of

			limited impact in terms of accessibility to public facing/engagement material.	sensory gardens. The Pollinator Action Plan could also be used to make facilities for those in this protected group (such as schools and elderly residential facilities) more engaging and pleasurable through a more interesting and vibrant estate.
Disability			Land management practices for the benefit of pollinators (such as reduced cutting) may have an impact on the accessibility of sites which could have the potential to affect people within this protected group. There may also be some impact in terms of accessibility to public facing/engagement material.	Some land management practices for the benefit of pollinators (such as increasing wildflowers) could be developed to also provide opportunities for enhancing the experience of people within this protected group, such as the development of sensory gardens.

Sex	n/a			
Gender identity/ Transgender	n/a			
Race			Where public facing/engagement material is developed there is a potential impact of this not being accessible to those for who English is not their first language	
Religion and Belief	n/a			
Sexual Orientation	n/a			
Pregnancy and Maternity			Land management practices for the benefit of pollinators (such as reduced cutting) may have an impact on the accessibility of sites which could have the potential to affect people within this protected group.	
Marriage and Civil Partnerships	n/a			

Carer's Responsibilities			<p>Land management practices for the benefit of pollinators (such as reduced cutting) may have an impact on the accessibility of sites which could have the potential to affect people within this protected group.</p>	<p>Some land management practices for the benefit of pollinators (such as increasing wildflowers) could be developed to also provide opportunities for enhancing the experience of people within this protected group, such as the development of sensory gardens. The Pollinator Action Plan could also be used to make facilities for those in this protected group more engaging and pleasurable through a more interesting and vibrant estate.</p>
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Part 3 - Action Plan

Document the range of options and identify the effects of each. Identify the option(s) chosen and document the reasons for this.

Protected Characteristic	Issues identified	Action to be taken	Expected outcomes	Owner	Timescale	Resource implications
Age, Maternity, Carers	Land management practices for the benefit of pollinators (such as reduced cutting) may have an impact on the accessibility of sites which could have the potential to affect people within this protected group.	Conduct an EqIA screening grid before any land management change	Equality of opportunity of accessing land	Land owner	Ongoing	To be absorbed by land owner
Age	There may be some limited impact in terms of accessibility to public facing/engagement material.	Conduct an EqIA screening grid and follow design and accessibility standards to ensure these materials are accessible.	Equality of opportunity of accessing public facing/engagement material	Service developing material	Ongoing	To be absorbed by service
Disability	Land management practices for the benefit of	Conduct an EqIA screening grid before any land	Equality of opportunity of accessing land	Land owner	Ongoing	To be absorbed by land owner

	pollinators (such as reduced cutting) may have an impact on the accessibility of sites which could have the potential to affect people within this protected group.	management change				
Disability	There may also be some impact in terms of accessibility to public facing/engagement material.	Conduct an EqIA screening grid and follow design and accessibility standards to ensure these materials are accessible.	Equality of opportunity of accessing public facing/engagement material	Service developing material	Ongoing	To be absorbed by service
Race	Where public facing/engagement material is developed there is a potential impact of this not being accessible to those for who English is not their first language	Conduct an EqIA screening grid and follow design and accessibility standards to ensure these materials are accessible.	Equality of opportunity of accessing public facing/engagement material	Service developing material	Ongoing	To be absorbed by service

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From: Susan Carey – Cabinet Member for Customers, Communications and Performance
David Cockburn – Corporate Director, Strategic and Corporate Services

To: County Council 11 July 2019

Subject: **End of Year Performance Report 2018/19**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This is the Performance Report for Kent County Council covering the financial year ending 31 March 2019. The report presents information for Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and activity measures across the Council Directorates, and a summary of the Corporate Risk Register.

KCC has continued to perform well across the services against a background of financial challenges.

Of the 35 KPIs presented in the Quarterly Performance Report, in the final quarter of 2018/19, 22 were rated Green against target, and 10 rated Amber, these measures reached and exceeded the level of performance expected however not at the stretch targets set in order to be RAG Green. 3 KPIs were rated Red as not achieving the floor standard required. All 3 Red KPIs are under scrutiny from the relevant Directorates and Teams.

Recommendation

The County Council is asked to NOTE the Performance Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This is the end of year 2018/19 KCC Performance Report using the Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) which is reported to Cabinet on a quarterly basis and is published on the KCC website under “Council performance”. The QPR is a key mechanism within the Performance Management Framework for the Council and has been delivered on a consistent basis for the last six years.
- 1.2. This report presents the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and their associated targets which were set out in Directorate Business Plans at the start of the year. The report includes trend data for activity levels relating to service demand, updates on programme delivery, and a summary of the Corporate Risk Register.
- 1.3. The selection of KPIs have remained consistent over time, ensuring that long trends are being tracked in relation to priority areas for the council. The report is supported by more detailed reporting and monitoring of Performance and Activity indicators provided to and discussed at Cabinet Committees.
- 1.4. The overall council Performance Management and KPI Reporting arrangements are subject to an annual internal audit process with arrangements receiving

audit assurance of “substantial” with “good” prospects for improvements at the last audit (2018).

2. Performance Report

- 2.1. An updated QPR reported to Cabinet on 24 June 2019 is attached as Appendix 1. The report contains results for the final quarter of 2018/19, ending 31 March 2019.
- 2.2. Using a Red/Amber/Green (RAG) status against the 35 KPIs in the report, the RAG status are as follows:
 - 22 KPIs are rated Green – the target was achieved or exceeded.
 - 10 KPIs are rated Amber – performance achieved or exceeded the expected floor standard but did not meet the target for Green.
 - 3 KPIs are rated Red – performance did not meet the expected floor standard.
- 2.3. All KPIs are assessed for Direction of Travel, in the report 19 indicators improved, 6 had no change and 10 showed a fall in performance compared to the previous quarter.
- 2.4. Of the 3 KPIs rated as Red, only 1 showed a fall in the direction of travel. All Red KPIs are under scrutiny from the relevant Directorates and Teams and includes implementing action plans and conducting analysis into components of the indicator.
- 2.5. The report shows that KCC has continued to perform well across the services against a background of financial challenges.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1. The County Council is asked to NOTE the Performance Report.

4. Contact details

Steph Smith
Head of Performance and Analytics
Strategic Commissioning
Telephone: 03000 415501
Steph.Smith@kent.gov.uk

Vincent Godfrey
Strategic Commissioner
Telephone: 03000 419045
Vincent.Godfrey@kent.gov.uk

Kent County Council

Performance Report

Year Ending

31 March 2019

Produced by: KCC Strategic Commissioning - Performance and Analytics
E-mail: performance@kent.gov.uk
Phone: 03000 415501



Key to KPI Ratings used

This report includes 35 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), where progress is assessed against Targets which are set at the start of the financial year through the Council's Directorate Business Plans. Progress against Target is assessed by RAG (Red/Amber/Green) ratings. Progress is also assessed in terms of Direction of Travel (DoT) through use of arrows.

GREEN	Target has been achieved
AMBER	Floor Standard* achieved but Target has not been met
RED	Floor Standard* has not been achieved
↑	Performance has improved
↓	Performance has worsened
↔	Performance has remained the same

*Floor Standards are set in Directorate Business Plans and if not achieved must result in management action.

Key to Activity Indicator Graphs

Alongside the Key Performance Indicators this report includes a number of Activity Indicators which present demand levels for services or other contextual information.

Graphs for activity indicators are shown either with national benchmarks or in many cases with Upper and Lower Thresholds which represent the range we expect activity to fall within. Thresholds are based on past trends and other benchmark information.

If activity falls outside of the Thresholds, this is an indication that demand has risen above or below expectations and this may have consequences for the council in terms of additional or reduced costs.

Activity is closely monitored as part of the overall management information to ensure the council reacts appropriately to changing levels of demand.

Data quality note

All data included in this report for the current financial year is provisional unaudited data and is categorised as management information. All current in-year results may therefore be subject to later revision.

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Executive Summary

The majority of indicators at year-end were rated as Green, on or ahead of target. 19 indicators were improving, with 10 showing a decline in performance.

	G	A	R	↑	↔	↓
Customer Services	2	1		1	1	1
Economic Development & Communities	1	1		2		
Environment and Transport	6			4		2
Children, Young People and Education	5	7	2	4	4	6
Adult Social Care	4		1	5		
Public Health	4	1		3	1	1
TOTAL	22	10	3	19	6	10

Customer Services - Satisfaction with Contact Point advisors, and the percentage of phone calls answered were both above target. The percentage of complaints responded to within timescale improved and was close to target, following a fall in performance in the previous quarter. Phone call volumes continue to reduce, with more contacts and transactions completed on-line.

Economic Development & Communities – A total of 4,398 jobs have been created and safeguarded from Regional Growth Fund loan schemes since 2012. The No Use Empty programme, which returns long term empty domestic properties into active use, continues to deliver ahead of target. Library visits were within expectations for the year, and issues exceeded expectations with increased use of the e-catalogue. Housing delivery in the county now exceeds 7,000 new dwellings a year.

Environment and Transport – All indicators are above target at the year-end. Highway maintenance enquiries were below expected levels for the time of year, due to mild weather, and the backlog of works has also reduced below normal expected levels for the time of year. The percentage of municipal waste diverted from landfill at 98% continues to exceed target. The council continues to reduce its Greenhouse gas emissions ahead of target and remains on track to deliver the 5-year target of a 32% reduction by 2021.

Education – Pupil attainment for 2018 was above national average for primary and secondary schools. The percentage of state funded schools which are good or outstanding remained at 90% and met target, with Early Years settings at 97% good or outstanding. The percentage of 16-17 year olds not in education, employment and training increased slightly to 3.1%. Provisional data for apprenticeship starts for 16 to 18 years olds so far this academic year is similar to last year's level but improvement is expected with the increased availability of providers offering training for the new apprenticeship standards. Completion of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) in timescale remains below floor standard reflecting the significant increased demand for assessments which is also a national issue.

Children's Integrated Services - Outcomes achieved for Early Help cases was below target in the final quarter, but overall for the year achieved 80%, ahead of previous year. Pupil exclusions, first-time entrants to the Youth Justice System all continued to meet target. The percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent social workers continued to meet target as did timeliness of adoptions. Repeat referrals to children's social care, the number of children in care with 3 or more placements, and the percentage of Care Leavers in education or employment all improved and are close to target. Foster care placements with in-house fostering or relatives and friends at 82% was behind target. Contacts proceeding to Early Help continued to increase with referrals for children's social care remaining close to national average. In the quarter caseloads increasing for the first time in nearly two years, but with no increase in children on child protection plans. The number of children in care continues to reduce, with this downward trend now sustained for 5 consecutive years.

Adult Social Care – Contacts resolved at first point of contact remained ahead of target. The number of clients referred to enablement continues to exceed target and past numbers with additional provision commissioned from the external market to support this. The number of clients who remain independent after an enablement service continues to exceed target. The number of admissions to residential and nursing care reduced slightly but remains high with supporting people following a hospital episode continuing to be a priority. The proportion of people experiencing a delay in transfer of care from hospital where the council is responsible was better than target.

Public Health – The number of Health Checks completed over the last 12 months increased but remains below target, despite sufficient invites having been issued. Clients offered appointments to GUM services to be seen within 48 hours remained at 100%. The number of universal checks delivered by the Health Visiting service and the percentage of Live Well clients who would recommend the service continue to exceed target. Successful completions of drug and alcohol treatment improved and met target.

Customer Services	
Cabinet Member	Susan Carey
Corporate Director	Amanda Beer

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED	↑	↔	↓
	2	1		1	1	1

Customer contact through Contact Point (KCC's call centre) and digital channels is provided by our strategic partnership with Agilisys.

Satisfaction with Contact Point advisors remained high in the quarter and continues to exceed the target. Performance for the percentage of calls answered by Contact Point remained above target.

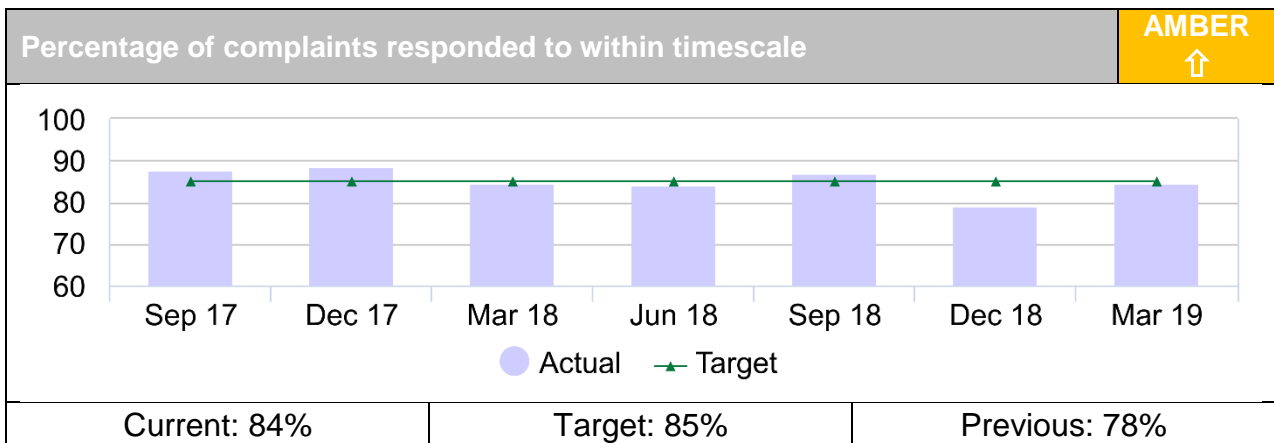
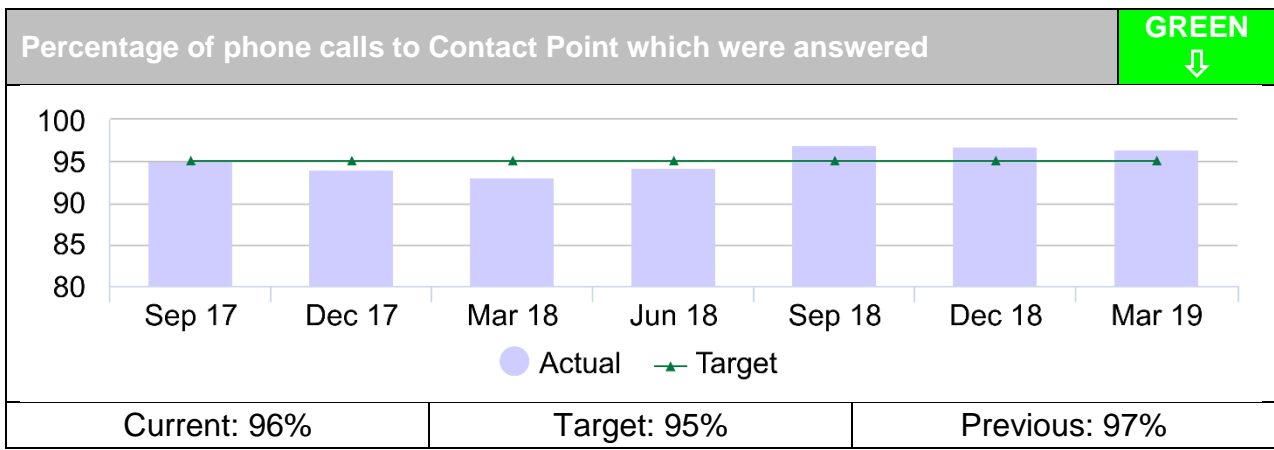
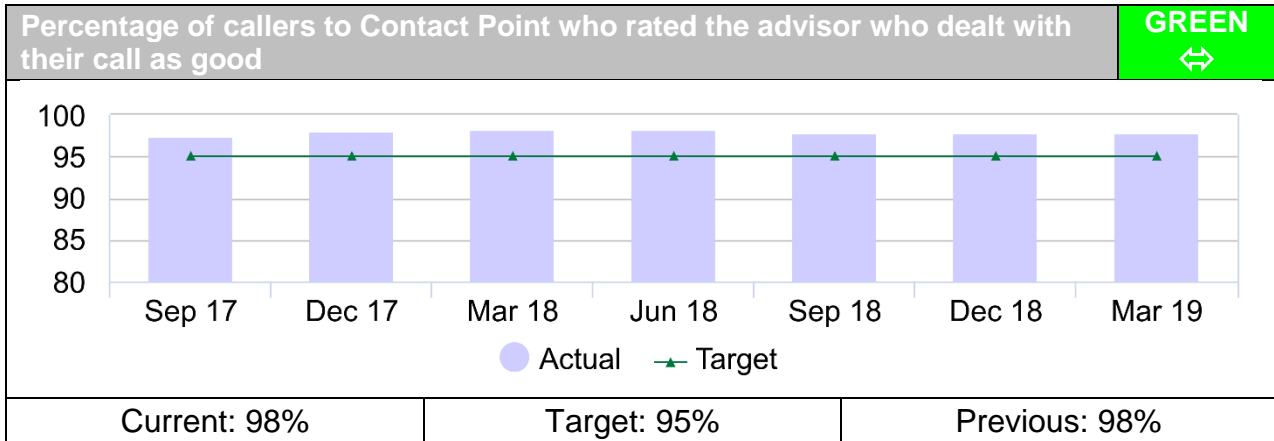
Complaints responded to in timescale saw an improvement on the previous quarter following management action to address performance, with 84% of complaints responded to in time. The top reason for delays were due to the complexity of the cases received. Further improvement to achieve target is expected next quarter.

Overall call volumes handled by Contact Point were 11% lower than the same period last year, with 4.9% fewer calls handled in the last 12 months compared to the previous year. Average call time decreased to 4 minutes 28 seconds.

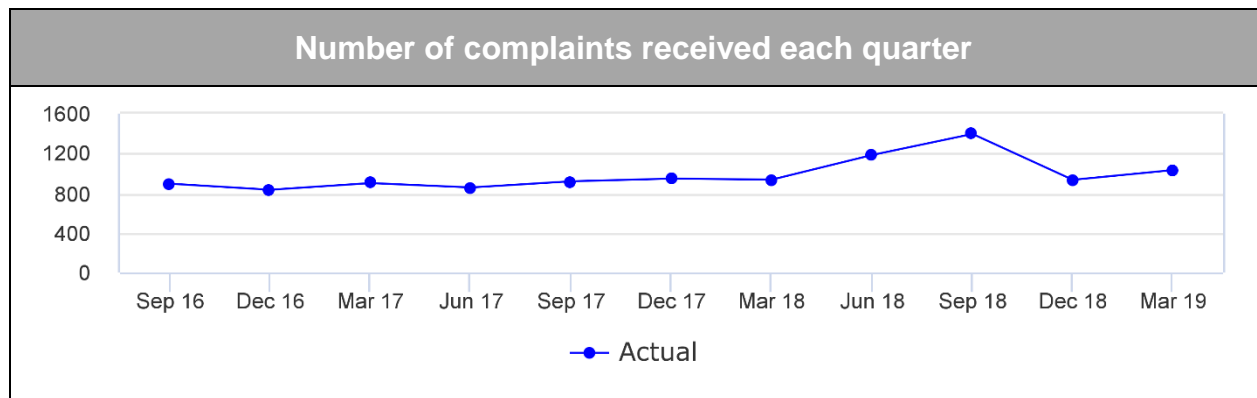
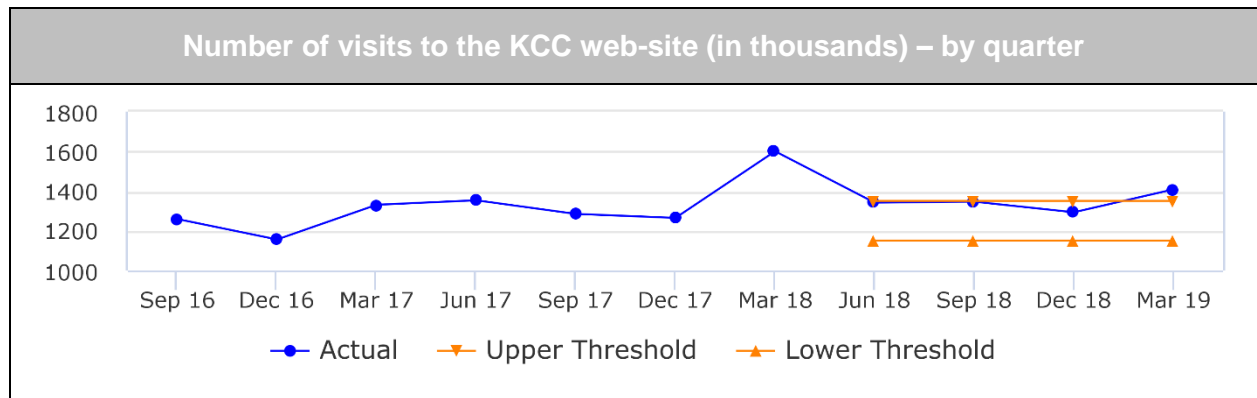
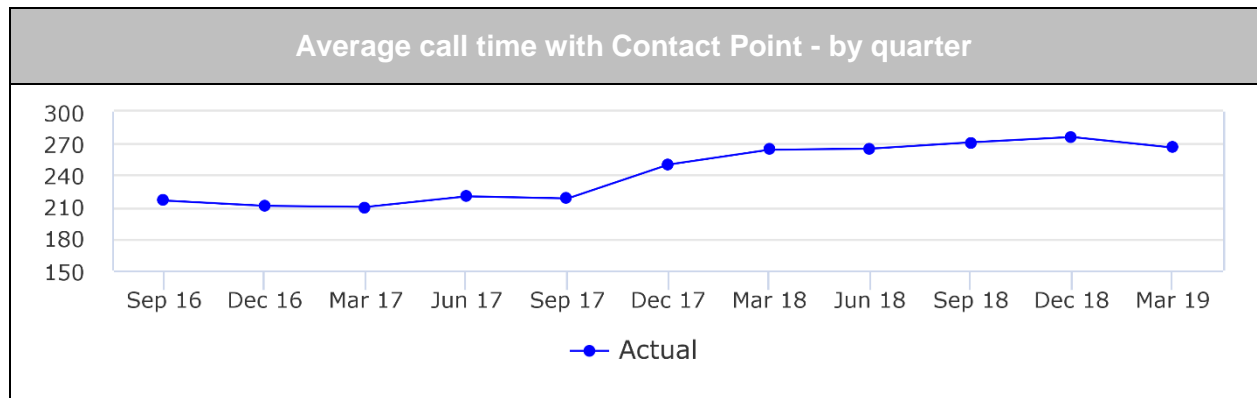
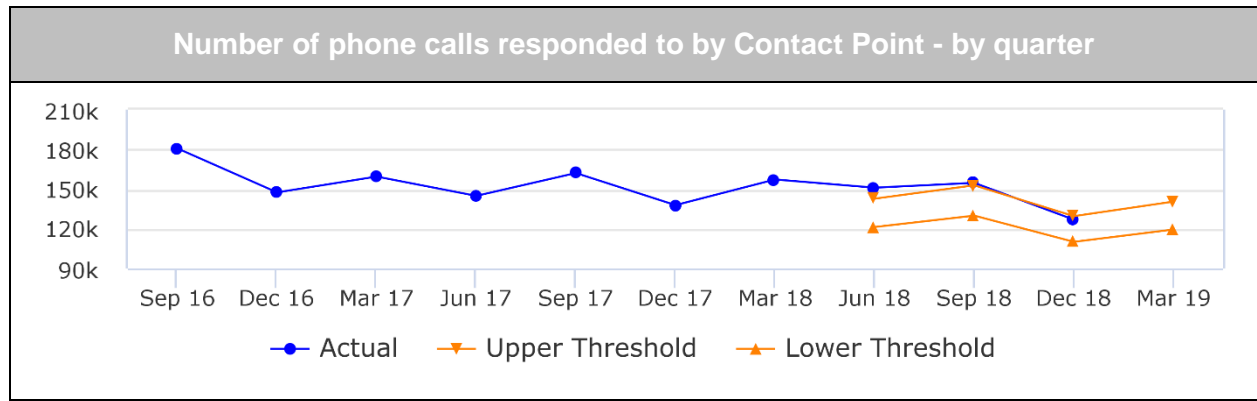
Visits to the KCC website were 4% above expectations with increased volumes seen on all sections of the website, with a significant increase on pages related to roadworks. This is likely due to the high public profile of improvement works on the M20, including preparing for Operation Brock.

Complaints received increased in comparison with the previous quarter, and numbers remain higher over the last 12 months compared to the 12 months before that. The increase may reflect how all services are now using the central feedback system, which more accurately captures complaints. Training has been rolled out to help staff identify feedback appropriately, to ensure this is accurately recorded and logged across all KCC's services. It is also now easier for people to offer us their feedback online.

Key Performance Indicators



Activity indicators



Customer Services – Contact Activity

Number of phone calls, e-mails and post responded to by Contact Point

Contact Point dealt with 9.5% more contacts than the previous quarter, but 11.4% fewer than for the same period last year. The 12 months to March 2019 saw 3.9% fewer contacts responded to than in the 12 months to March 2018.

Service area	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Yr to Mar 19	Yr to Mar 18
Adult Social Care	32	31	26	28	117	131
Specialist Children's Services	23	24	21	22	90	89
Highways	23	21	16	19	80	83
Blue Badges	13	13	12	16	54	43
Schools and Early Years	11	12	9	9	41	46
Registrations	8	8	8	8	33	35
Transport Services	10	11	7	8	36	36
Libraries and Archives	9	9	8	8	34	44
Speed Awareness	5	6	5	5	21	24
Adult Education	5	7	5	5	22	23
General	3	4	3	3	13	14
Waste and Recycling	4	4	3	3	13	13
Other Services	4	3	2	3	12	13
KSAS*	2	2	2	2	7	8
Total Calls (thousands)	151	155	127	140	572	602
e-mails handled	9	8	7	7	32	31
Postal applications	9	9	9	9	35	32
Total Contacts (thousands)	169	172	143	156	640	665

* Kent Support and Assistance Service

Numbers are shown in the 1,000's and will not add exactly due to rounding. Calculations in commentary are based on unrounded numbers so will not precisely match changes in table.

Out of hours calls are allocated 75% to Specialist Children Services, 15% for Highways and 10% Other.

Postal volumes mainly relate to Blue Badges and Concessionary Fares correspondence.

Customer Services – Complaints monitoring

The number of complaints received in the quarter were 11% higher than the previous quarter and 8.6% higher than the corresponding quarter last year. Over the last 12 months there has been a 23% increase compared to the previous year

The increase may reflect that all services are now using the central feedback system. Training has been rolled out to help staff identify feedback appropriately, to ensure that all it is accurately recorded and logged across all of KCC's services.

We have also made it easier for people to offer us their feedback online.

The increase in Libraries, Registrations and Archives complaints largely relates to the proposals to change opening hours.

Service	12 mths to Mar 18	12 mths to Mar 19		Quarter to Dec 18	Quarter to Mar 19
Highways, Transportation and Waste Management	1,705	2,059		416	481
Adult Social Services	625	777		190	219
Specialist Children's Services	368	491		97	111
Education & Young People's Services	218	277		58	59
Libraries, Registrations and Archives	269	517		106	89
Strategic and Corporate Services	283	154		28	40
Environment, Planning and Enforcement & Economic Development	80	82		15	15
Adult Education	80	95		21	18
Total Complaints	3,628	4,452		933	1,032

Customer Services – Digital Take-up

The table below shows the digital/online or automated transaction completions for Key Service Areas.

Transaction type	Online Apr 18 - Jun 18	Online Jul 18 - Sep 18	Online Oct 18 - Dec 18	Online Jan 19 - Mar 19	Total Transactions Last 12 Months
Renew a library book*	76%	77%	76%	70%	1,317,746
Report a Highways Fault	45%	42%	49%	55%	94,120
Apply for a Young Person's Travel Pass	76%	77%	83%	92%	35,431
Book a Speed Awareness Course	78%	78%	79%	79%	34,544
Apply for or renew a Blue Badge	63%	62%	61%	55%	32,872
Book a Birth Registration appointment	72%	73%	76%	77%	18,569
Apply for a Concessionary Bus Pass	25%	27%	29%	30%	9,542
Report a Public Right of Way Fault	89%	63%	66%	67%	5,600
Highways Licence applications	79%	81%	78%	81%	5,171
Apply for a HWRC recycling voucher	98%	97%	96%	98%	4,995

* Library issue renewals transaction data is based on individual loan items and not count of borrowers.

Economic Development & Communities	
Cabinet Members	Mark Dance, Mike Hill
Corporate Director	Barbara Cooper

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED	↑	↔	↓
	1	1		2		

Support for business

In the period 2012-16, Kent's Regional Growth Fund (RGF) programmes committed £56.3 million of loans and other funding for Kent businesses. As a result, over 240 businesses in Kent and Medway have so far created 3,042 jobs and safeguarded a further 1,356, making a total of 4,398 jobs to the end of March 2019.

Following repayment of the original loans, the Kent and Medway Business Fund (KMBF) was launched in January 2017. This fund has so far committed £5.7 million to 48 businesses in Kent and Medway, to create 70 jobs and safeguarded a further 30 jobs, making a total of 100 jobs to the end of March 2019. Plans are in place for a further funding round in June 2019.

The South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) funded Innovation Investment Loan scheme, managed by KCC over the period 2015-2018, has so far committed £6.4 million to 20 businesses in Kent and Medway, creating 76 jobs and safeguarding a further 38 jobs, making a total of 114 jobs to the end of March 2019.

Converting derelict buildings for new housing

In the final quarter, 96 long term empty properties were made fit for occupation through the No Use Empty (NUE) Programme, with 5,911 modernised since the Programme began in 2005. Total NUE investment currently stands at £56.4 million (£27.4 million from KCC recycled loans and £29 million from public/private sector leverage).

NUE was awarded an additional £1 million from the Government's Growing Place Fund to bring empty commercial space back into use as mixed commercial and residential accommodation. The £500k available in this financial year has been allocated to co-fund 6 projects which will yield 8 commercial units and create 16 new residential units within coastal towns.

Infrastructure

Since 2015/16 a total of £145.9 million grant funding has been allocated to Kent infrastructure projects by SELEP, of which £121.1 million is intended for transport schemes. In addition, £14.4 million of Growing Places Funding has been allocated for projects that will deliver new jobs and unlock homes including Live Margate and Discovery Park.

In this last quarter, Growth Deal Funding (LGF) has been removed for the Fort Halsted project (worth £1.53m) as the site will not be available within the Local Growth Funding timing requirements.

However, a further £4m (in addition to the existing £10m of LGF) has been agreed to be allocated to the Thanet Parkway Scheme, subject to suitable business case being delivered by September.

Broadband

Kent's Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) programme has now brought superfast broadband to over 138,250 properties which would otherwise have had no or slow broadband connectivity. Superfast broadband services of at least 24mbps are now available to 95.9% of homes and businesses in Kent. An additional £4.5 million has been made available to connect more homes and businesses with faster broadband services, with work expected to commence later in the year.

Funding Infrastructure

KCC obtains financial contributions from developers of new housing sites for capital investment in KCC services. In the fourth quarter ending March 2019, 15 Section 106 agreements were completed and a total of £2.2 million was secured, as outline in the table below.

s.106 contributions secured £000s	Apr to Jun 2018	Jul to Sep 2018	Oct to Dec 2018	Jan to Mar 2019
Primary Education	8,176	3,376	4,545	1,380
Secondary Education	4,544	3,496	3,928	682
Adult Social Care	100	9	80	53
Libraries	201	188	156	94
Community Learning	74	14	44	18
Youth & Community	27	13	18	11
Total	13,122	7,097	8,772	2,237
Secured as % of Amount Sought	94%	99%	99%	99%

Kent Film Office

In the fourth quarter of 2018/19, the film office handled 163 filming requests and 177 related enquiries, with 150 filming days logged, bringing an estimated £435k direct spend into Kent. Production highlights included drama series such as World on Fire, factual programmes like Blue Planet UK, Grand Designs, and The One Show plus ads for Renault and House of Fraser. Other highlights include the Bollywood film Pagalpanti and the feature film Ammonite.

Libraries, Registration and Archives (LRA)

Following the extensive public consultation which received over 5,500 responses, the 3 year LRA Strategy has been approved. Proposals for revised opening hours for each library are being developed and customers are able to express their preference on the options through local engagement activity.

Following a short 3-week closure over the Christmas period, Bockhanger library re-opened in the Sure Steps Children's Centre and initial feedback from customers on the change has been positive.

Across the county's libraries, issues were up by almost 7% compared to the same quarter last year, and visits were down by 5%, but this was within the forecast thresholds and reflects a move towards increased digital access. The online offer continues to expand with consistent growth in e-book and e-audio issues, with a 28% increase compared to the same period a year ago, with 87,146 e-newspaper copies also issued.

The annual email satisfaction survey of Libraries and Archives customers was sent out in March and over 4,000 responses were received. The satisfaction rate for libraries decreased from 97% last year to 92%, with changes in fees and charges last year and current proposals for reductions in library opening hours causing the reduction. Archives satisfaction rates improved from 91% to 95% and satisfaction rates with registration services continue to be high.

Satisfaction results to the year-end are as follows:

- Libraries 92% (target 95%)
- Archives 95% (target 90%)
- Birth and death registration 95% (target 95%)
- Wedding ceremonies 96% (target 95%)
- Citizenship 98% (target 95%)

Community Safety

The Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) coordinated and delivered a number of events during the last quarter including four Cybercrime Awareness Train the Trainer sessions, two Gangs Awareness Training and one Community Safety Information Session covering topics such as Brexit and Modern Slavery.

Resilience and Emergency Planning Service

A total of 73 incident alerts were logged during the quarter by the 24/7 Duty Emergency Planning Officer, which compares with 137 for the same period in 2018. This significant variance was due to the relative mild and dry weather conditions, which contrasted starkly with the significant local impact from the 'Beast from the East' in 2018.

Other activities in the quarter focussed on Brexit preparations for the county, including the delivery of 38 training and exercise events. All service departments in the council have reviewed and updated their Business Continuity Plans and an updated corporate Business Impact Analysis has been completed to ensure corporate oversight of risks to key services. An innovative Multi Agency Centre was mobilised at the County Emergency Centre to enable effective co-ordination of community impact, welfare, media and recovery contingency planning in preparation for the EU exit and has since stood down.

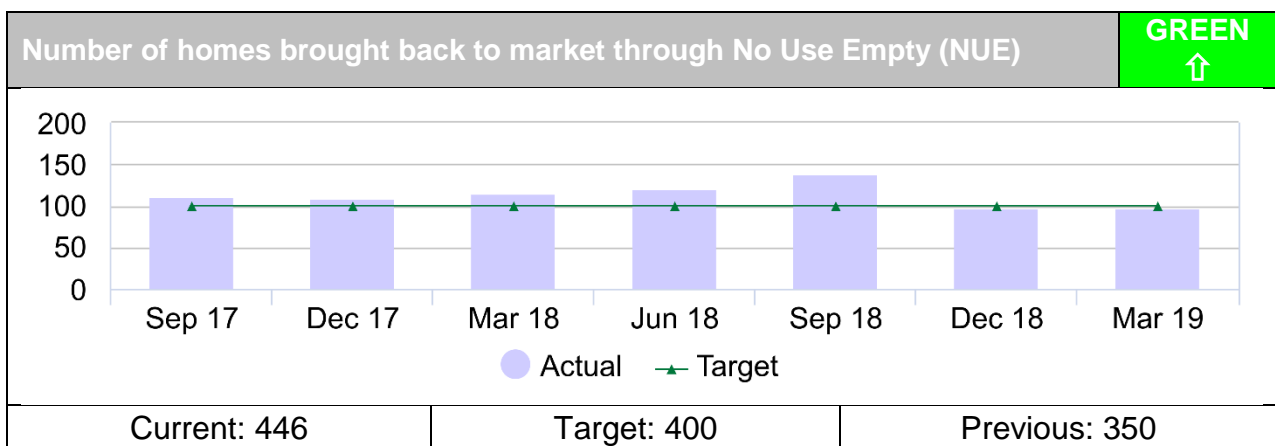
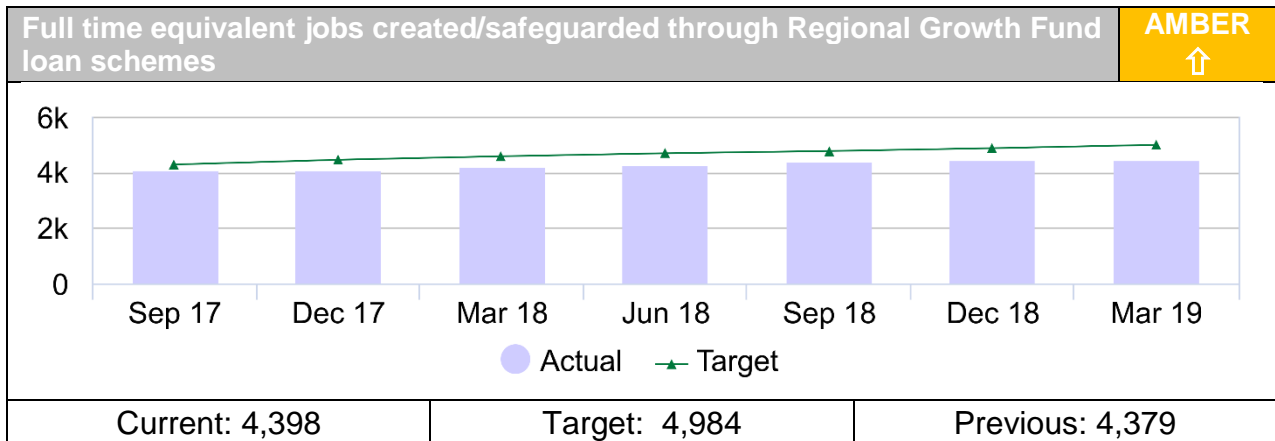
Kent Sport and Physical Activity

The Kent School Games winter finals have taken place with 4,342 pupils from 117 schools engaged, including 250 participants with disability or special educational need.

In January staff from 157 schools attended the annual Kent & Medway Primary PE Conference with leading experts presenting on new teaching methods and demonstrating new products and services, all with the purpose of improving children's lives through sport and physical activity.

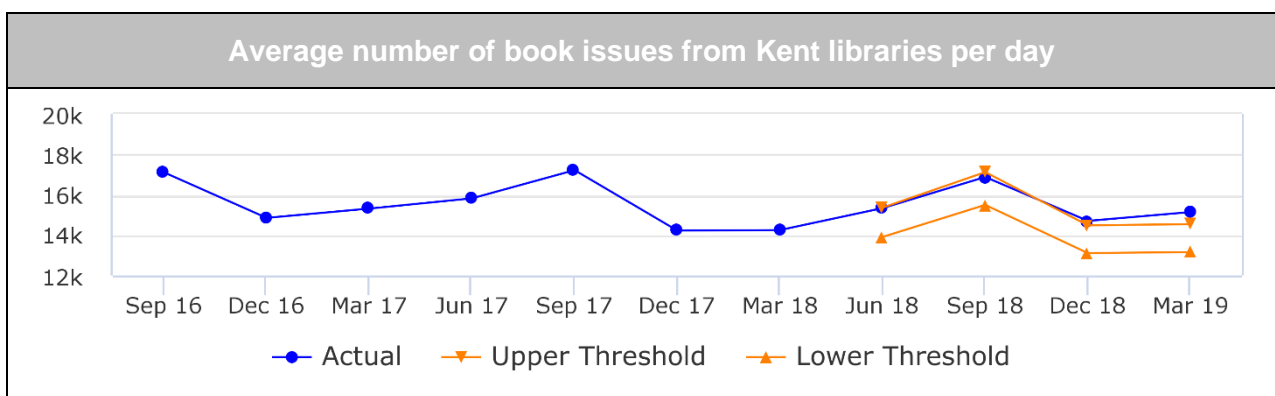
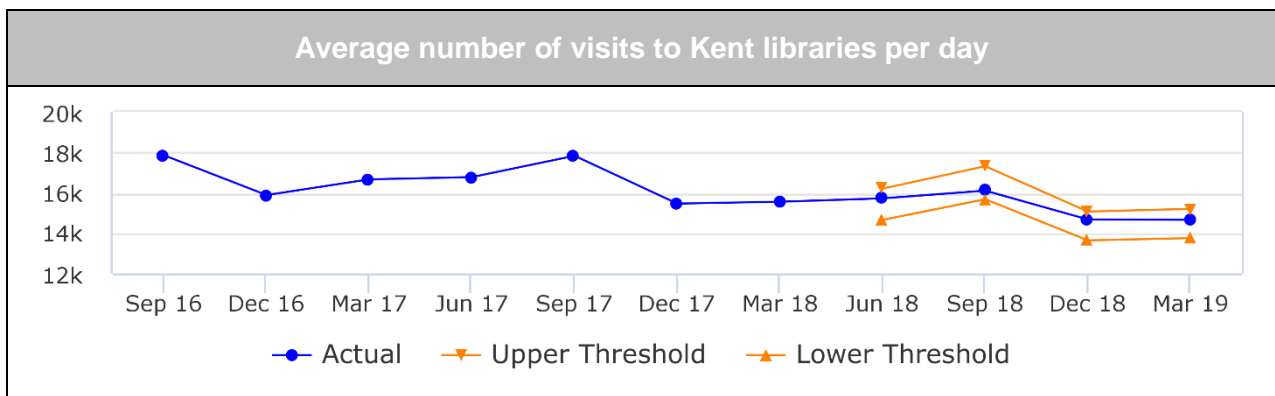
A successful application to Sport England resulted in a grant of £78,898 being awarded over two years to deliver the Kent & Medway Workforce Framework. The aim is to ensure those working in the sport and physical activity sector, professionally and as volunteers, are appropriately skilled and motivated to help increase levels of physical activity across the county.

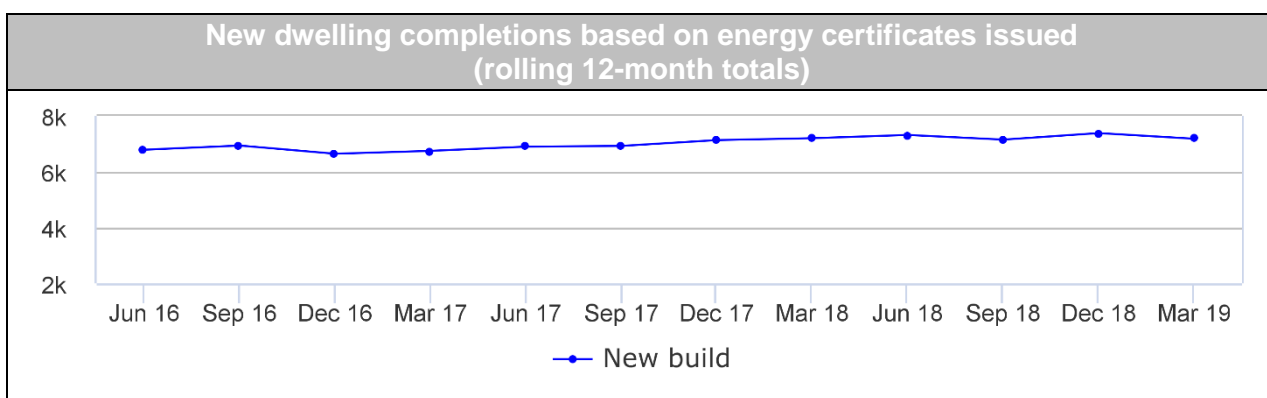
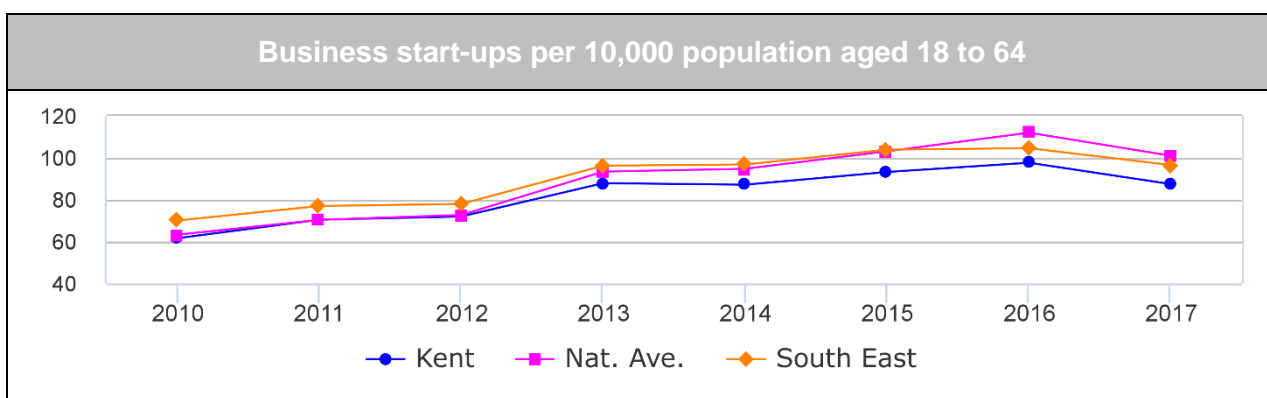
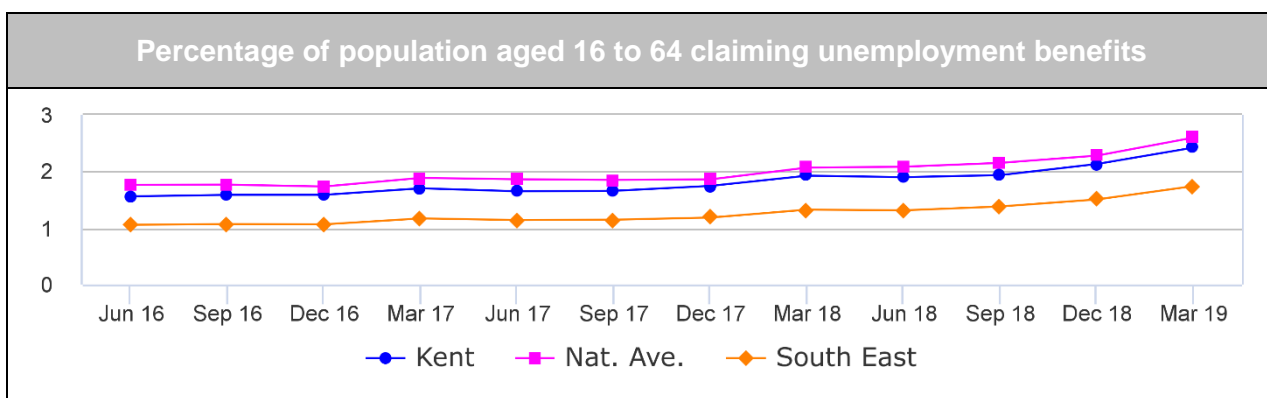
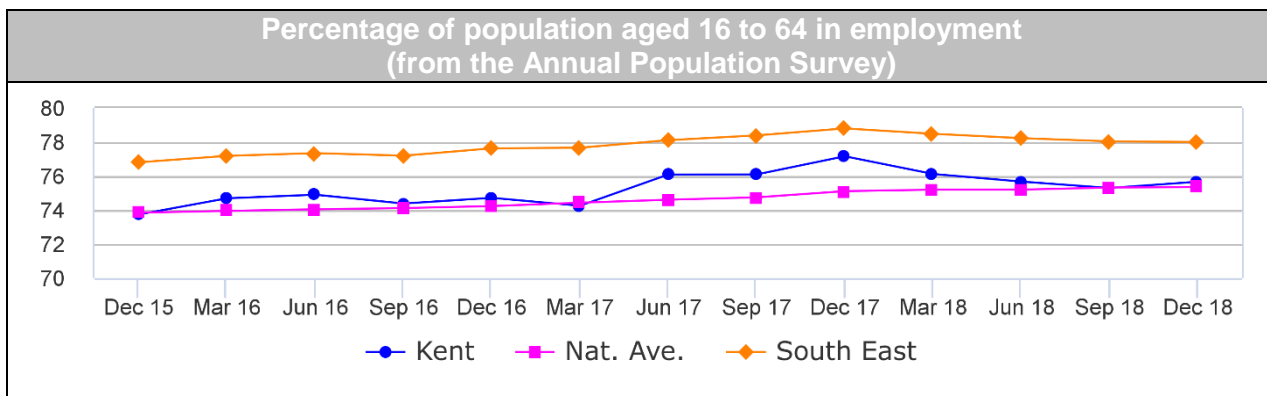
Key Performance Indicators



Note: RAG rating based on Year to Date position

Activity indicators





Environment and Transport	
Cabinet Member	Mike Whiting
Corporate Director	Barbara Cooper

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED	↑	↔	↓
	6			4		2

Highways

Performance for the quarter was above target for the four Highways key performance indicators. New enquiries and faults raised for action by residents were at the lower end of expected seasonal demand at 24,209 jobs compared to 34,899 for the same time last year. The backlog of outstanding works has reduced from last quarter to below seasonal expectations at 6,579, compared to 9,333 at the same time last year.

The Pothole Blitz contract and related controls have been updated this year to ensure the effective management of the contract which has delivered a substantial number of repairs, including 54,000 individual potholes and over 267,000 square metres of larger patchwork repairs. At the end of March a total of 114,942 streetlights had been converted to LED with completion of 118,000 conversions planned by the end of May 2019.

The Department of Transport has provided a Section 31 Grant Award of £33.48 million to the county council to enable implementation of plans to manage HGVs and passenger traffic in Kent in response to Brexit, to be delivered through close working with the Department for Transport (DfT), Kent Police and Highways England. Works being delivered include carriageway resurfacing and strengthening, traffic technology systems, drainage repairs, vegetation removal and updating facilities at Manston Airport.

Crash Remedial Measures & Local Transport Plan Scheme

Delivery of the 2018/19 Crash Remedial Measures (CRM) and Local Transport Plan (LTP) programmes have been completed with 60 CRM schemes and over 30 new transport improvements delivered within budget, ranging from improved footpaths and crossing points, to new 20mph zones and limits.

The plans for the 2019/20 schemes aim to further reduce the number of injuries on Kent's roads with over 30 new engineering schemes identified in past crash locations. The 2019/20 programme features these crash remedial schemes in addition to a range of other improvements such as new cycle paths, puffin crossings and 20mph zones.

Provisional crash data for 2018 shows a reduction in casualties compared to the most recent past three year average across all casualties categories. In addition to our own KCC programmes of safety education and engineering measures, we continue to plan and deliver joint interventions following the National Police Chief's Council calendar with the focus on Young Drivers, motorcyclists, mobile phones and drink driving.

Journey time reliability/Congestion Strategy

We continue to deliver a programme of schemes to improve the reliability of localised journey times. Areas of less reliable journey times are identified and then assessed to determine if we can engineer improvements. Several projects are currently being

progressed and we continue to engage with various stakeholders to collaboratively review longer-term impacts, such as the effect of the strategic network on the local road network and how we can co-ordinate roadside infrastructure.

Engagement with Highways England is key to congestion management in the short-term, given the significant volume of works and changes that Highways England are making to their network and the preparatory Brexit works

Public Transport

The 2019/20 Young Persons Travel Pass (YPTP) discretionary scheme has been published and this aims to support sustainable travel to school and educational choice for 24,000 students.

The Big Conversation programme, to explore innovative and sustainable ways of providing transport to rural communities in Kent continues to progress. The results from the public consultation on proposed changes to bus services in Maidstone and Tonbridge & Malling have been published, costs for each of the 5 proposed pilots have been confirmed and implementation of the first pilot will commence in early June 2019.

Local Growth Fund Transport Capital Projects

Kent has been awarded £123 million of Government Local Growth Fund (LGF) money through the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) which has been allocated across 28 Transport projects within the county. The LGF money makes a contribution to the projects with the total capital expenditure being £322 million.

The table below shows the overall position for 27 transport projects in the programme managed by the council, with the other project managed by Highways England. Six projects are now complete, with 12 schemes substantially under construction, and the A2500 Lower Road capacity improvement phase 1 and the A226 London Road/B255 St Clements Way project in Greenhithe are both nearing completion.

There are three schemes currently at risk, including the A28 Chart Road scheme which can not progress until a security bond is provided by the developer, the A28 Sturry integrated transport scheme remains under review, and Thanet Parkway continues to have a funding gap, although a further £4m of LGF has recently been allocated to this project.

LFG Projects and start year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total
Total Value (£m)	49.6	110.6	52.2	3.9	217.2
LGF funds (£m)	32.8	44.4	24.4	1.9	103.6
Total projects	12	8	6	1	27
Completed projects	4	2	0	0	6
Green (on track)	3	1	2	1	7
Amber (some delays)	5	3	3	0	11
Red (at risk)	0	2	1	0	3

Waste Management

The percentage of waste sent to landfill continues to exceed target at less than 2%, which is ahead of the EU Landfill Directive target that less than 5% of waste goes to landfill by 2020. Just under 49% of the county's waste is converted to energy, either at the Allington plant or through conversion to refuse derived fuel. The Allington Waste to Energy plant remains stable, although it was closed for part of March for a major overhaul and infrastructure replacement. Waste currently sent for processing in Holland to be converted to Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) will in the future be treated at the new waste to energy plant at Kemsley, due to be commissioned in the summer.

Overall for the county the recycling rate was 49.5%. Recycling levels at Household Waste Recycling Centres at 68.7% have improved this year following a decline last year when recycling was at 67.8%. District councils achieved a 44.2% recycling rate for the year, which was slightly down on 44.5% achieved last year. Ten of the twelve district councils in Kent have adopted alternate weekly collected residual waste, with a weekly food collection and recycling service, which promotes higher levels of recycling.

Total municipal waste tonnage disposed of for the year was 710,000 tonnes, similar to last year and down from the 728,000 tonnes for the year to March 2017.

The decision has been made to introduce disposal charges for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard at the KCC Household Waste Recycling Centres.

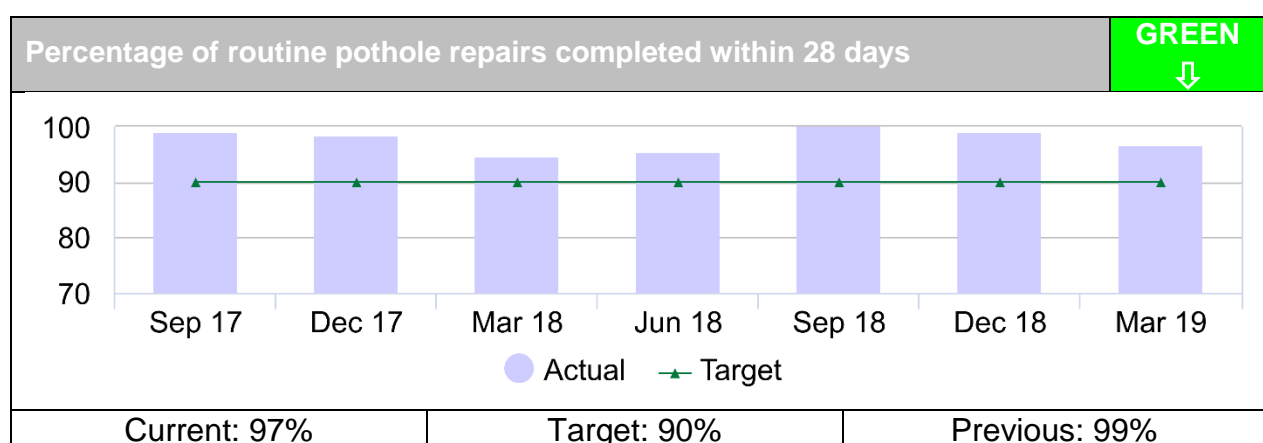
Environment

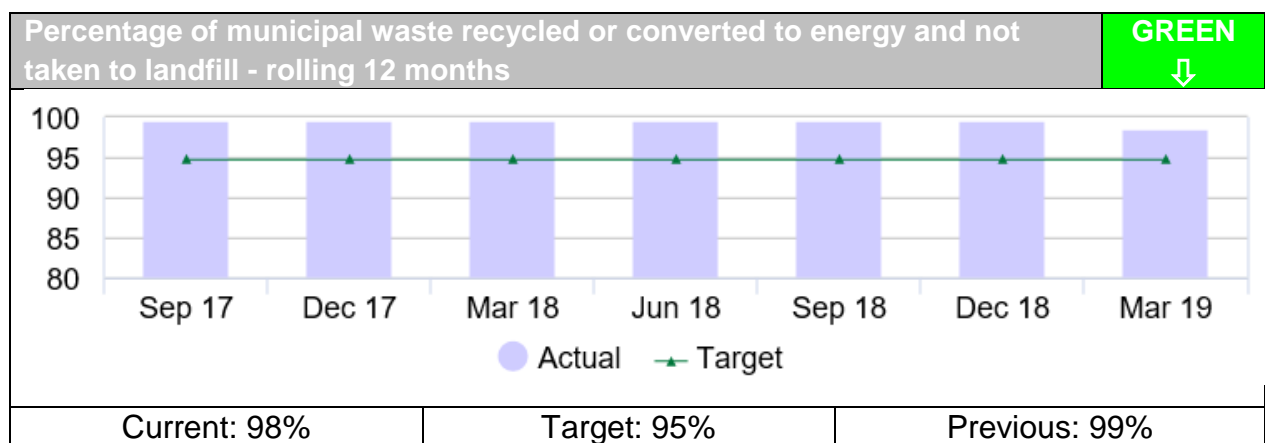
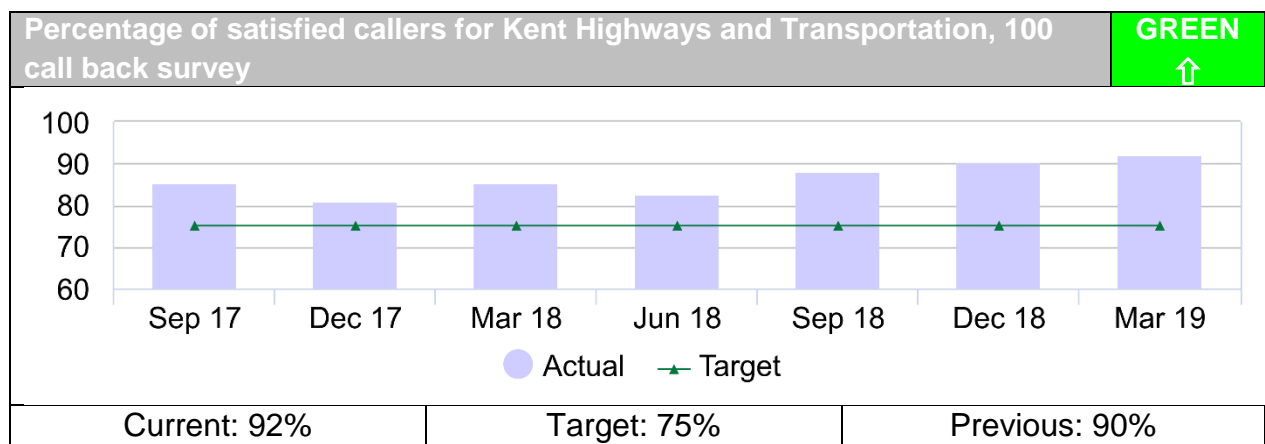
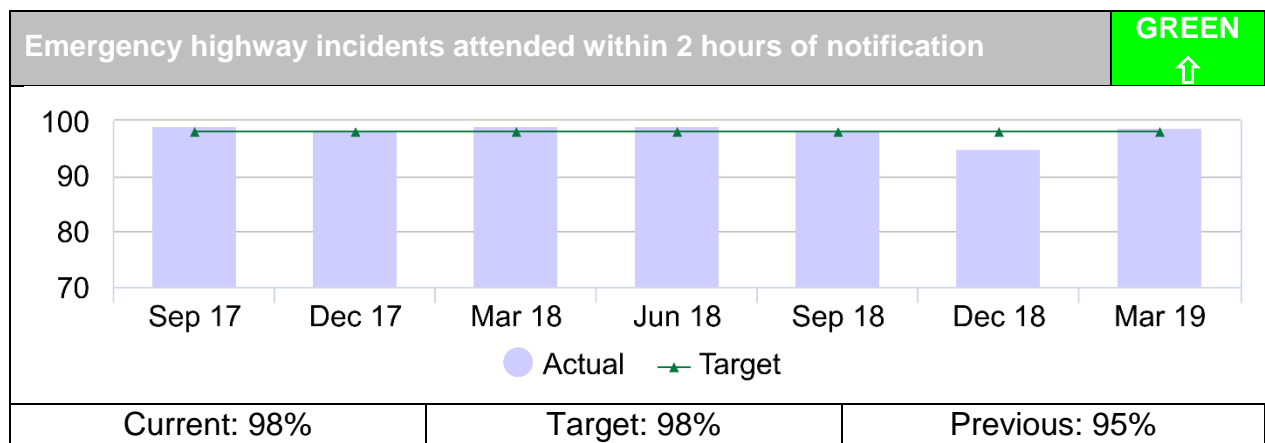
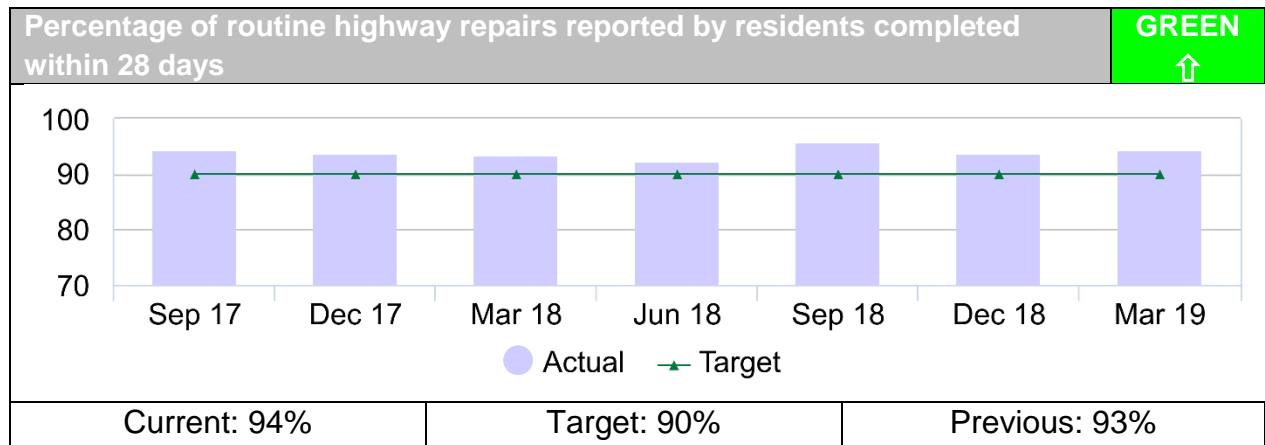
Estate Greenhouse Gas emissions from KCC continue to reduce ahead of target, with the LED street lighting programme almost complete and continued reductions across corporate buildings and business travel.

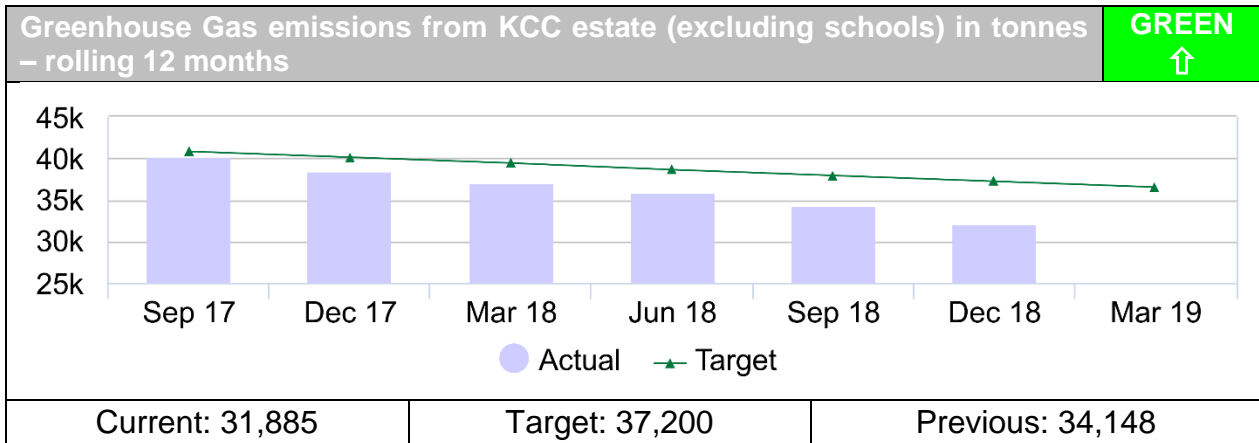
The Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy has gone to the Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee and Kent Leaders, and will then be out for public consultation.

In the last year 379 Kent SMEs have received funding totalling £3.7m from The Low Carbon Across the South East (LoCASE) project, an pan-SELEP initiative which delivers business support across Kent, Essex and East Sussex. Projects funded include purchase of equipment and machinery, research and development costs, marketing and website development, business development consultancy, energy efficiency measures and electric vehicle purchase.

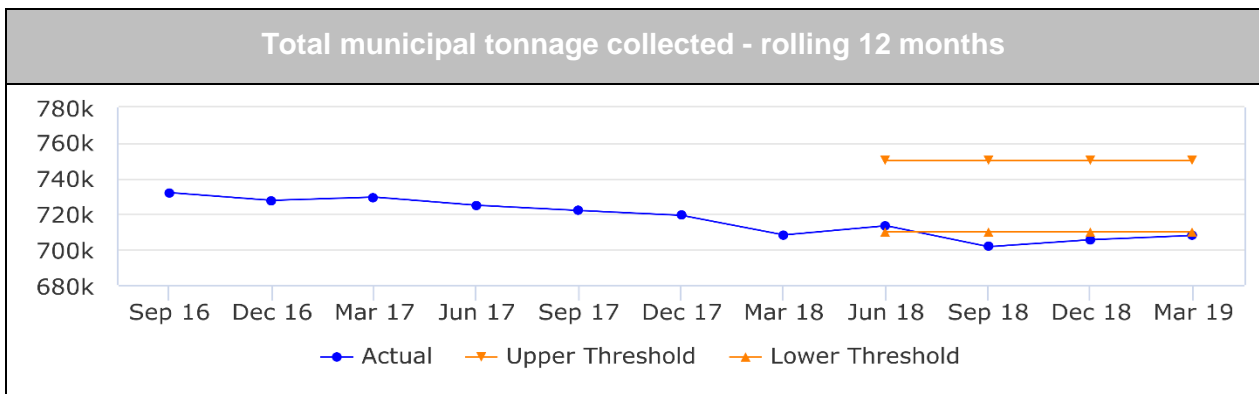
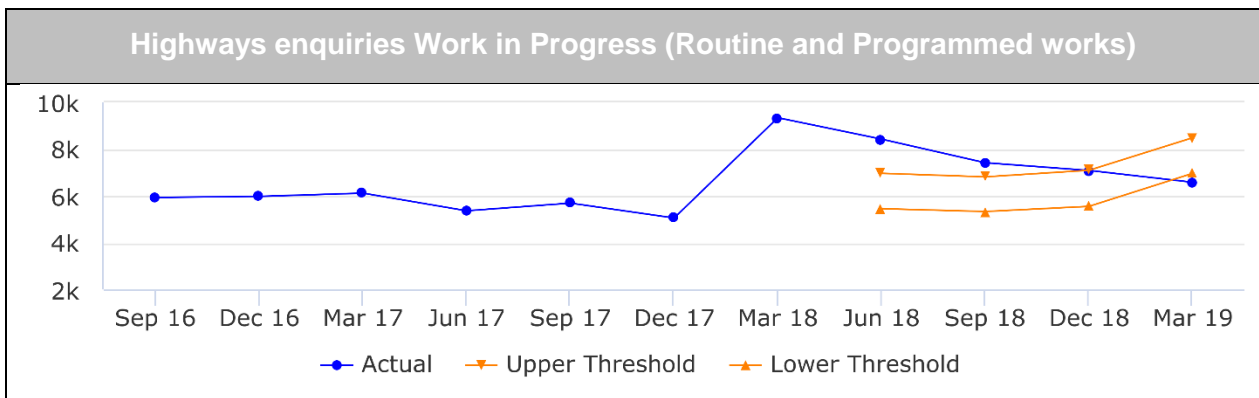
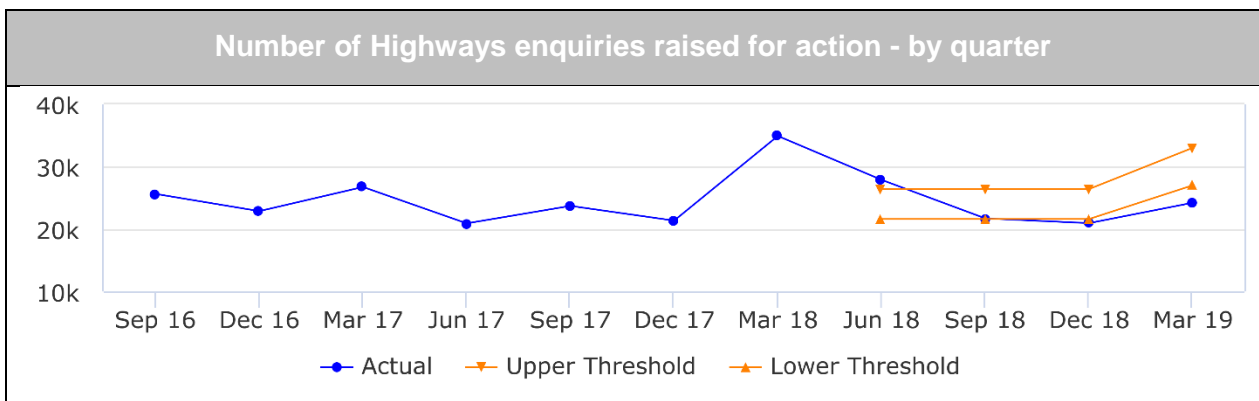
Key Performance Indicators







Activity indicators



Children, Young People and Education	
Cabinet Member	Roger Gough
Corporate Director	Matt Dunkley

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED	↑	↔	↓
	5	7	2	4	4	6

Schools

The results for Primary school attainment outcomes in summer 2018 were above the national average at all key stages. In the Early Years Foundation Stage 75.1% of children attending a school in Kent achieved a good level of development compared to the national figure of 71.5%, and second highest compared to statistical neighbour local authority areas. At Key Stage 2, 67% of pupils achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to the national figure of 65%, which was joint highest within our statistical neighbour group.

At Key Stage 4, the Attainment 8 Score for Kent was 47.1, which just above the national figure of 46.6 (for all state funded schools), and third highest compared to our statistical neighbours. The Progress 8 Score for Kent was -0.08 compared to the national score of -0.02 and ranked 7th when compared to our statistical neighbours (out of 10 other Local Authorities).

At the end of March, 522 of the 578 schools in Kent were Good or Outstanding based on most recent inspection, with 92% of pupils attending good or outstanding schools. The percentage of Primary schools judged as good or outstanding was 92%, with 87% of Secondary schools and 92% of Special schools being good or outstanding.

The Education People are continuing to work closely with all maintained schools and, through commissioned support from academy trusts, to secure ongoing improvements. Ensuring schools are well-prepared for the new Ofsted inspection framework in September 2019 is a key priority as well as improving outcomes and narrowing performance gaps for vulnerable pupils at all phases of their education. We are committed to maintaining the proportion of schools with a judgement of good or better, increasing the number of schools graded as outstanding and ensuring those who require improvement secure a good judgement as quickly as possible.

Early Years

The percentage of Early Years settings which were rated Good or Outstanding was 97%, one percentage point below the target. Sustaining this standard whilst also increasing the amount of outstanding provision remains a key priority for the Early Years and Childcare Service.

Other priorities include the ongoing delivery of 30 Hours of Free Childcare, working in partnership with Children's Centres to continue to increase the take up of Free Early Education places by eligible two-year-olds, increasing the number of children achieving a Good Level of Development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage, narrowing achievement gaps, and increasing the number of Early Years settings working within a collaboration.

The take-up for the free childcare entitlement for eligible two years olds at the end of March was at 65%.

Skills and Employability

The March 2019 outturn for the percentage of 16 and 17 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) was 3.1% however the three month rolled average for December, January and February, which the DfE uses as its performance measure, shows Kent to be 2.8%. Comparative data is not yet available for the current year but the previous year the national figure was 2.7% compared to Kent's 2.6%.

The numbers of 16 to 18-year olds starting an apprenticeship has so far been higher this year than last year. The figures last year were low due to delays in introducing the new required standards following the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy. The Apprenticeship Levy has raised the quality of the standards and expectations for apprenticeship schemes, and with many new standards now in place it is anticipated that the number of apprentice starts will continue to increase in the current academic year.

Through our Apprenticeship Action Plan, we are promoting apprenticeships throughout Kent to raise awareness and increase the number of opportunities available. We continue to develop the offer available on the Apprenticeship Kent website and we are developing a supported Apprenticeship programme route for vulnerable learners, including those with disabilities. We have introduced a core offer of Apprenticeship support to all schools and are working collaboratively with schools, Further Education Colleges and Work Based Training providers to develop locally co-ordinated approaches to support apprenticeship take-up.

SEND (Special Educational Need and Disability)

The percentage of new Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within the statutory 20 weeks based on the rolling 12-month average was 35% (673 out of 1,917) against a target of 90%. This is down from last quarter and also below the national average. There continues to be a significant increase in demand for assessments for EHCPs which also require an Educational Psychology (EP) assessment, with numbers up 39% compared to the previous year. This has led to a backlog which is affecting the EP service's ability to meet demand. Performance is in a large part attributable to the NHS rather than KCC. Work is in progress so that the apportionment of causation between KCC and the NHS is reported in future.

During the quarter, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) conducted a joint inspection of the county's services for children and young people with a disability or special educational needs. The inspection identified areas of weakness and the council and local Clinical Commissioning Groups are jointly working on an improvement plan to address these. The action plan will address a number of issues, including actions to get assessments completed in a more timely manner, with some actions already underway including recruitment of additional staff and four new parent/carer forums are expected to up a running within a few months, to ensure they have greater input in shaping the service

School Places and Admissions

For admissions in September 2019, 89% of parents secured their first preference primary school and 79% of families secured their first preference for secondary school places. The net change to the number of places being offered for September 2019 entry was an increase of 51 Year R places (one new school, 11 schools increasing and 9 schools reducing) and an increase of 218 Year 7 places (one new school, 14 schools increasing and 10 schools reducing).

Children's Integrated Services

The new integrated Front Door model for Kent's Children's services went live on 1st October 2018. The new 'Request for Services' form which partners complete to gain a service at both Tier 3 and Tier 4 ensures that the destination of all referrals is decided at the Front Door. It also means that all cases are initially progressed through the Early Help Module. As a result, there have been significant changes to both activity and the way it is reported.

Early Help

There were 2,134 cases open to Early Help units, which equates to support for 4,630 children and young people aged 0 to 18.

The percentage of Early Help cases closed with outcomes reduced from 81% to 78% which is 4 percentage points lower than the target. The issue appears to be a higher than normal number of closures through Consent Withdrawn. For Early Help unit cases initiated via a Request for Support form 79% of cases are closed with outcomes achieved, which is just below the 80% service standard.

There were 47 permanent school exclusions in the last 12 months, a reduction from 55 for the previous year to March. Of these 20 were from primary schools and 27 from secondary schools. At 0.02% of the school population this is in with target of 0.02% and better than the last published national average of 0.10%.

The number of first-time entrants to the Youth Justice system at 208 in the last 12 months was better than the target of 290, with numbers continuing to reduce each year.

Children's Social Work - Staffing and Caseloads

Overall caseloads for children's social work per 10,000 child population have seen an increase in the last quarter bringing numbers closer to the latest nationally published result from March 2018.

Referrals to children's social care have seen an increase this quarter largely down to a high number of referrals in March 2019. The rate of re-referrals within 12 months has shown a decrease this quarter to 26.1% close to the target of 25%.

The number of children with child protection plans per 10,000 of the child population was stable over the last quarter and remains below the average for England.

The percentage of case holding social worker posts held by permanent qualified social workers has decreased slightly, from 87.2% in December 2018 to 85.7% in March 2019 ahead of the 85% target. The percentage of social work posts filled by agency staff decreased slightly in the quarter, from 12% to 11%.

At 22.5 cases the average caseload for Social Workers remains above the target level of 18 cases. It has increased from 19.6 at the end of the previous quarter. The reduction of caseloads continues to remain a key priority for the service.

Children in Care

The number of citizen children in care has continued to reduce over the last 12 months and was 1,336 at the end of March 2019. The number of unaccompanied asylum seeker children (UASC) who are children in care decreased by 13 in the quarter, although there were 50 new UASC starts in the quarter. The number of children in care placed in Kent by other local authorities increased in the quarter from 1,336 to 1,363.

The percentage of Kent children placed in KCC in-house foster care or with family/friends has fallen slightly and remains just below target. Performance against the placement stability measure of 3 or more placements in a 12-month period has continued to improve and is close to target.

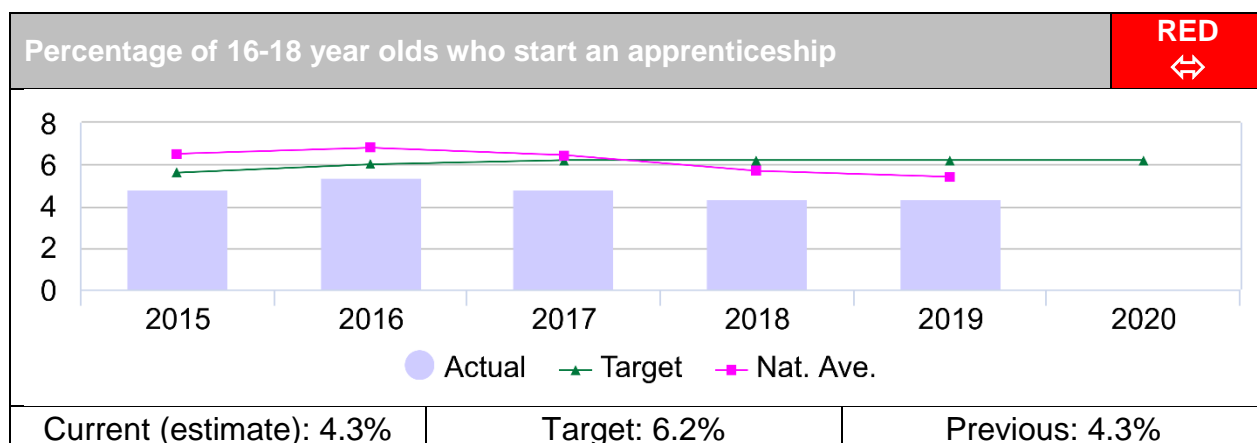
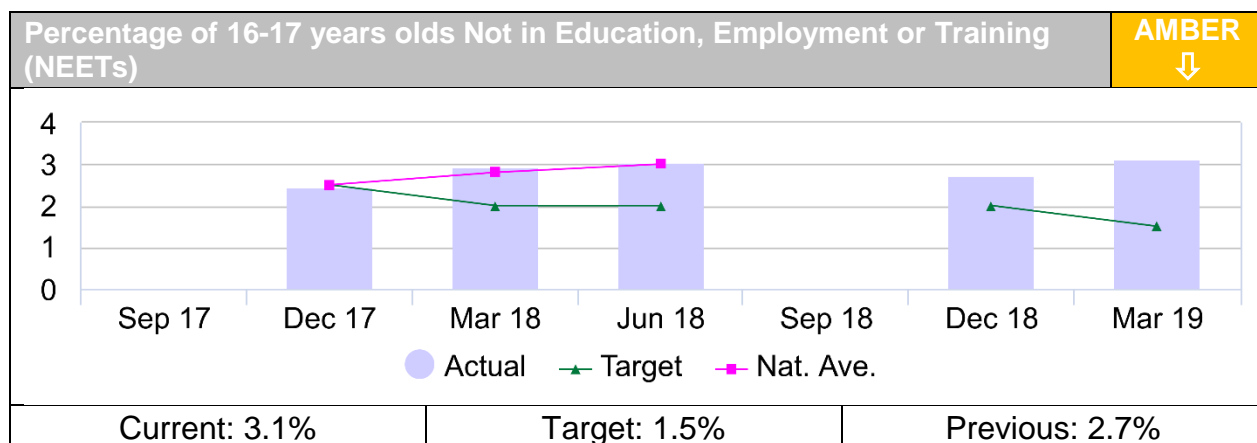
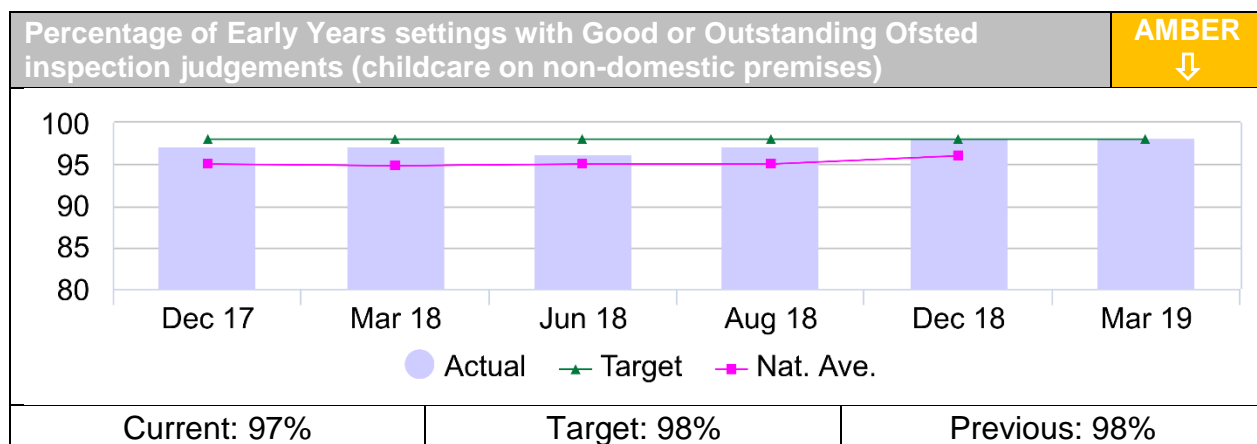
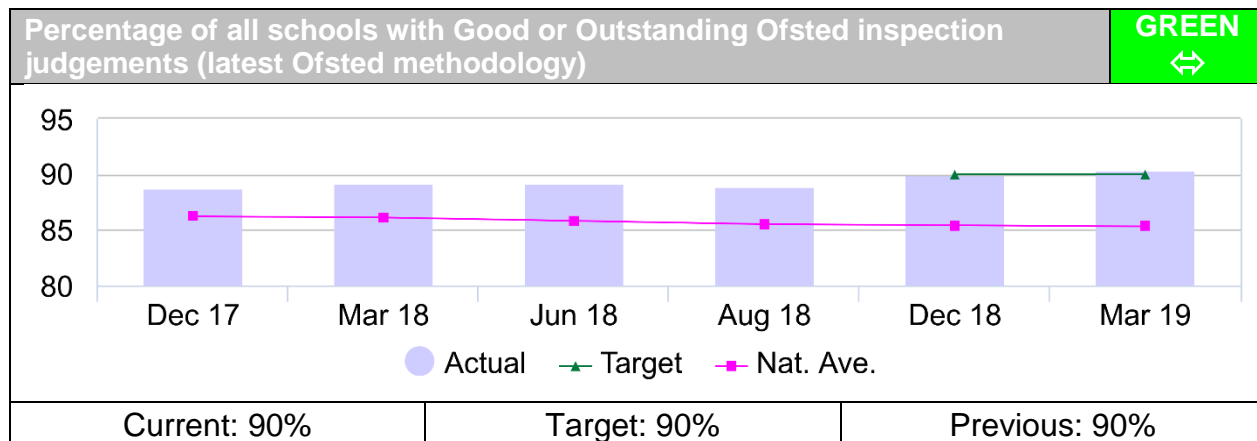
For children who were adopted in the last 12 months the average number of days between coming into care and moving in with their adoptive family continues to outperform the nationally set target of 426 days.

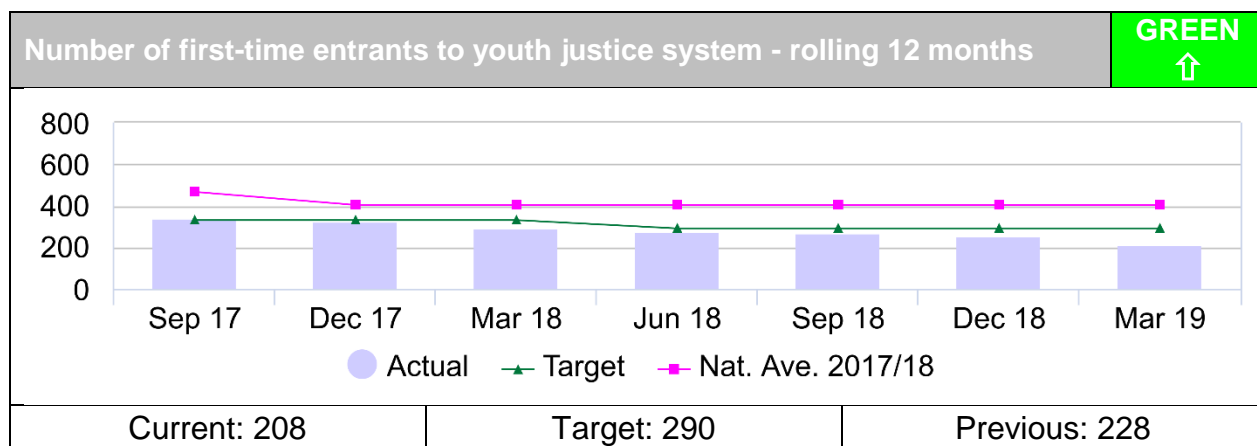
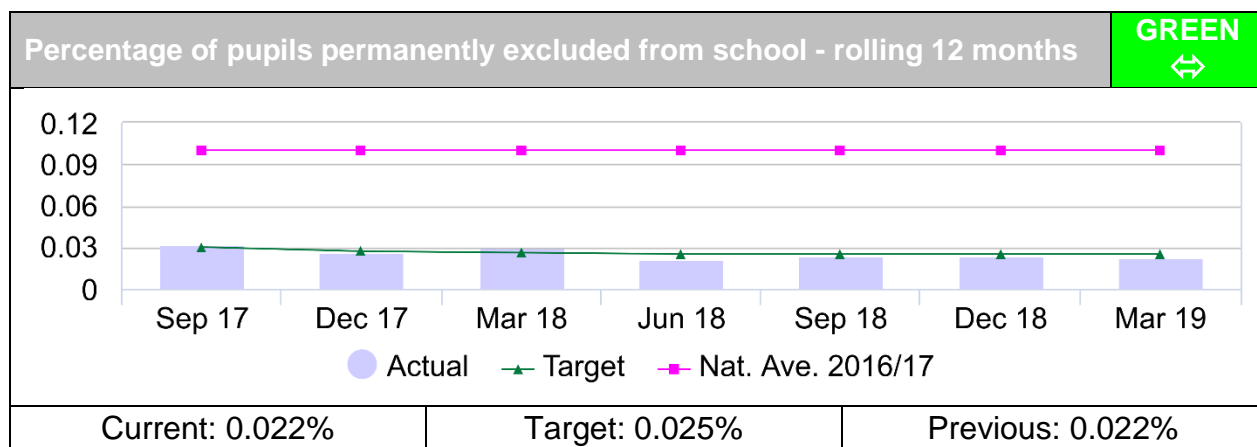
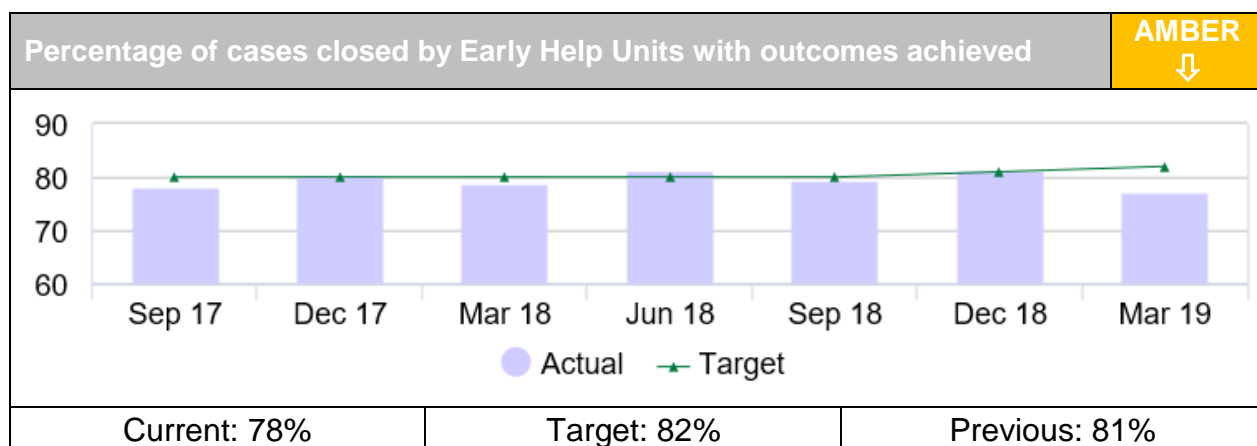
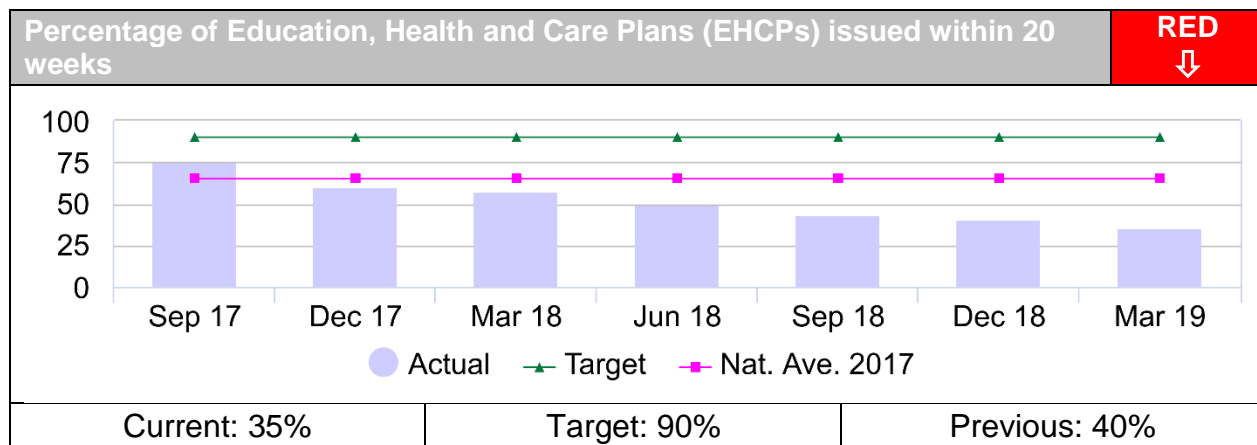
The number of Care Leavers increased in the quarter by 11 to 1,699 (786 Citizen and 913 UASC). The percentage of Care Leavers who the Authority is in touch with, who are in Education, Employment or Training remains close to target.

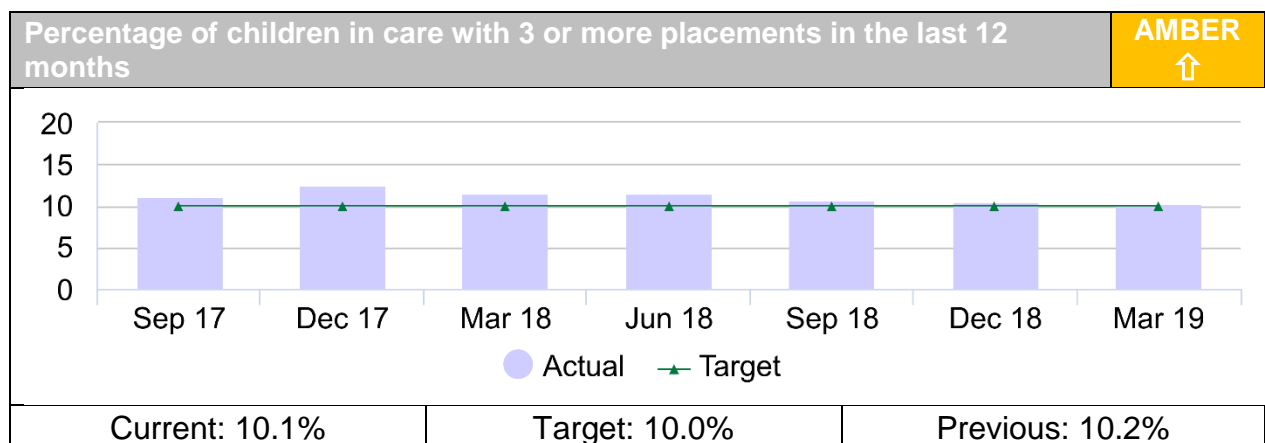
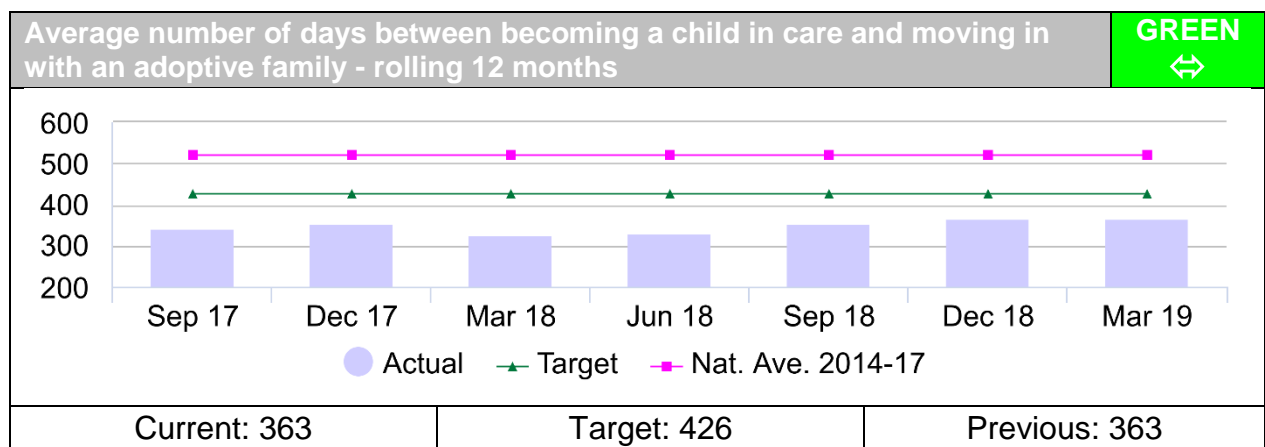
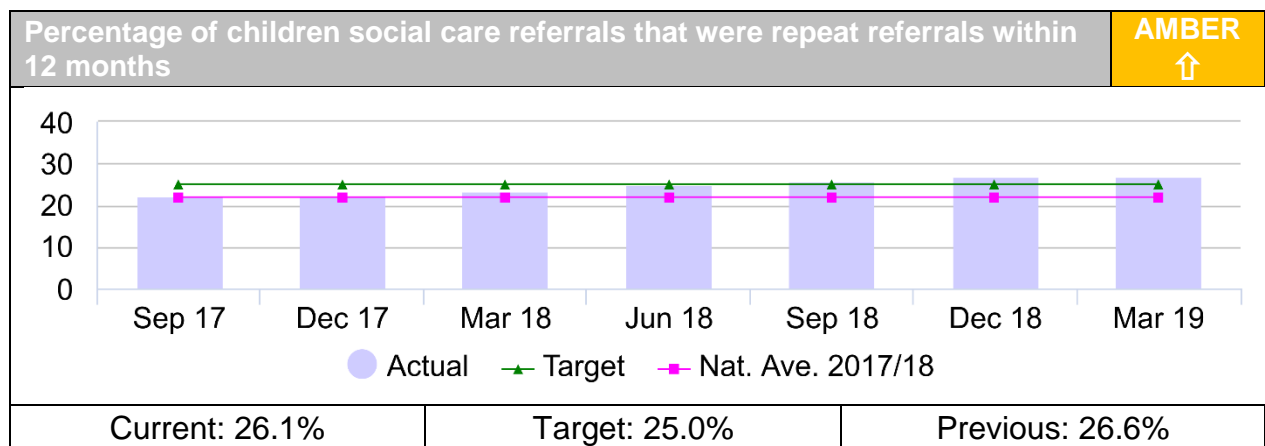
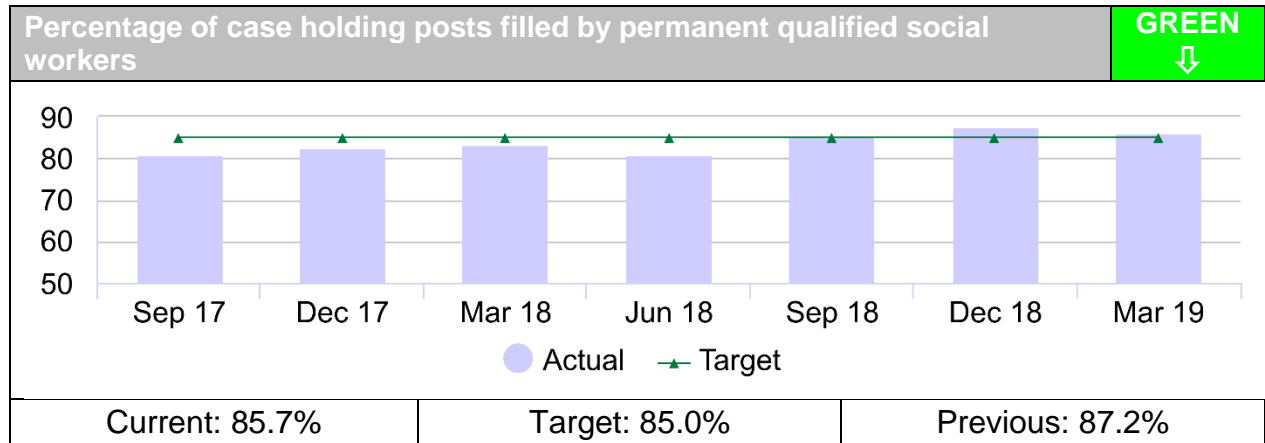
Status	Jun 18	Sep 18	Dec 18	Mar 19
Citizen	1,389	1,358	1,337	1,336
UASC	216	237	267	254
Total	1,605	1,595	1,604	1,590

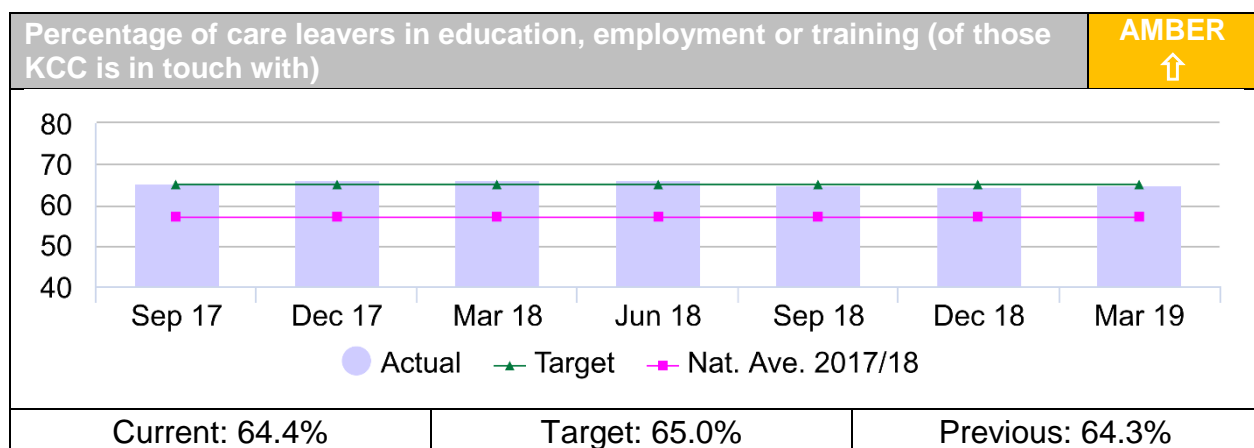
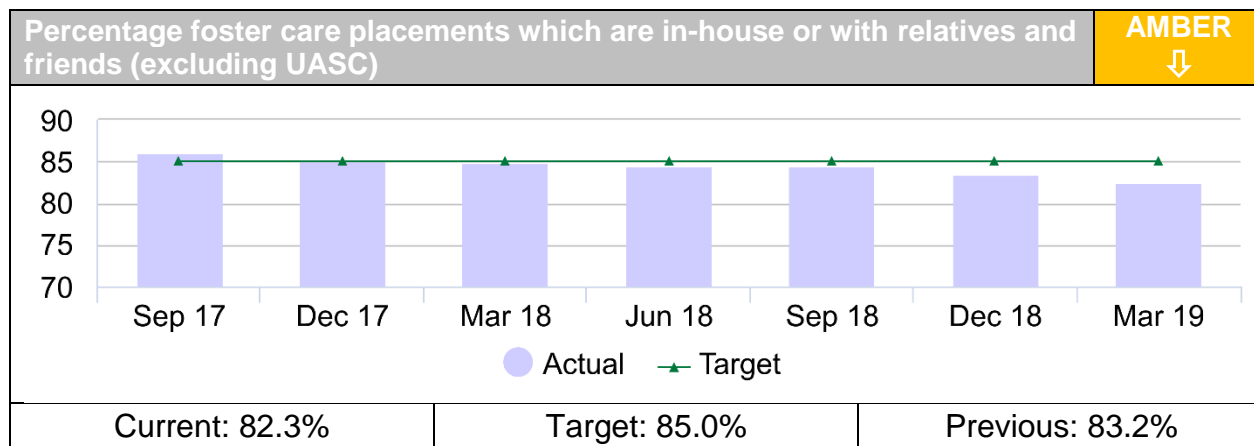
	Jun 18	Sep 18	Dec 18	Mar 19
Male	974	969	992	975
Female	631	626	612	615
Age Group				
0 to 4	167	151	143	149
5 to 9	235	220	214	200
10 to 15	698	707	697	692
16 to 17	505	517	550	549
Ethnicity				
White	1,268	1,247	1,220	1,215
Mixed	85	82	87	87
Asian	35	37	52	55
Black	88	100	97	94
Other	129	129	148	139

Key Performance Indicators

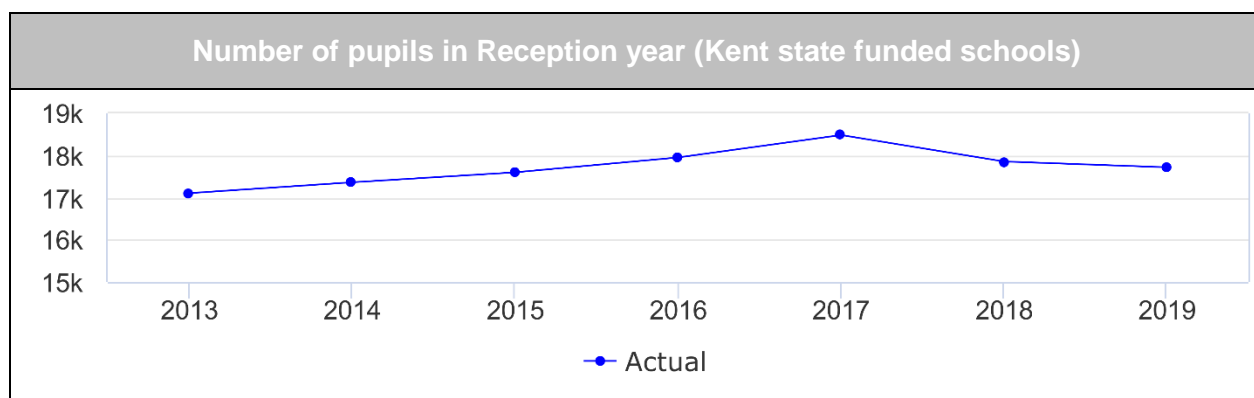
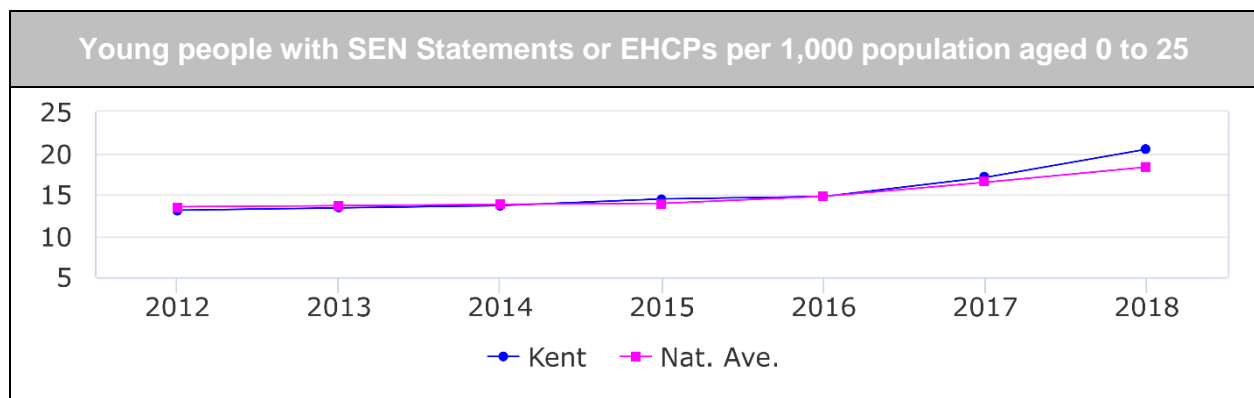


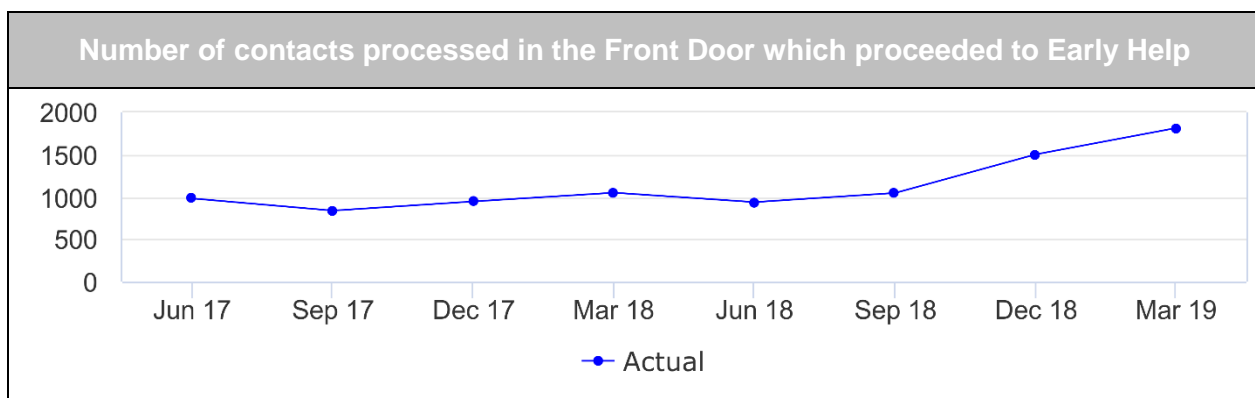
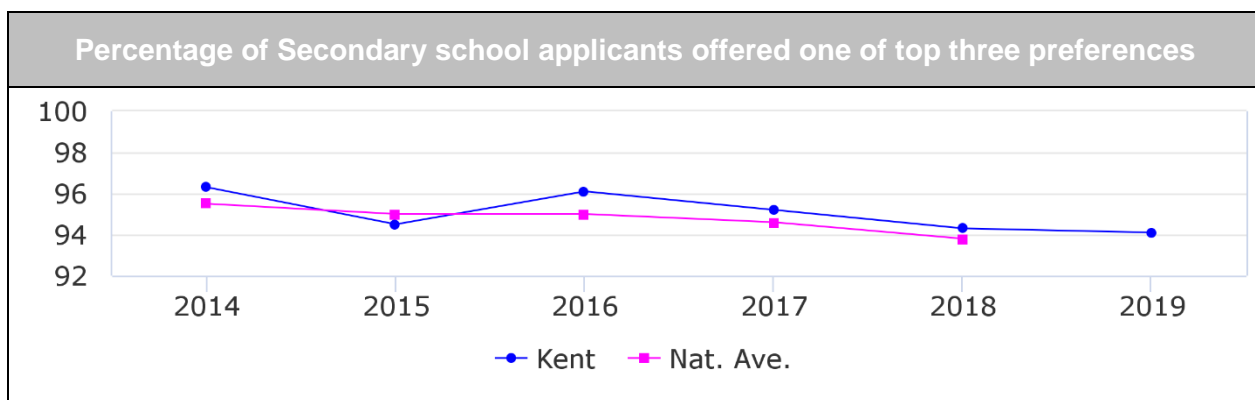
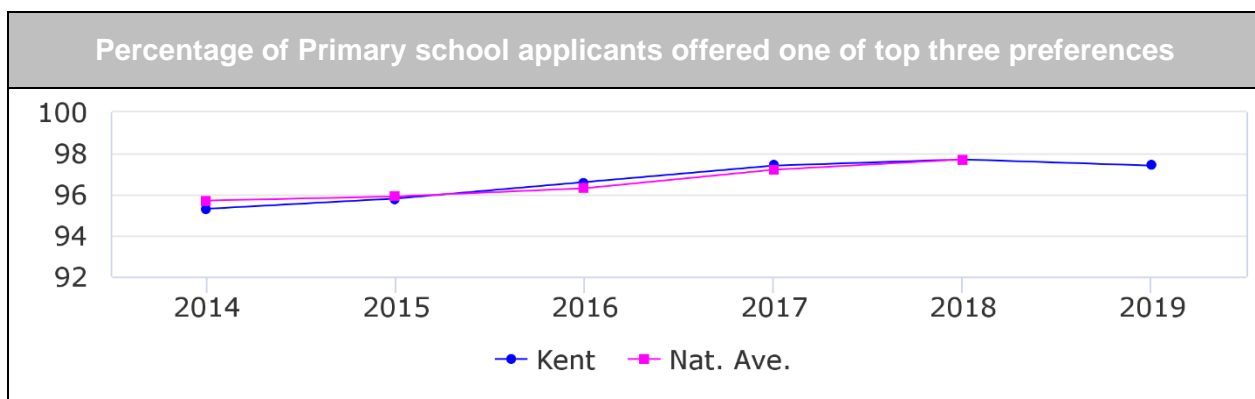
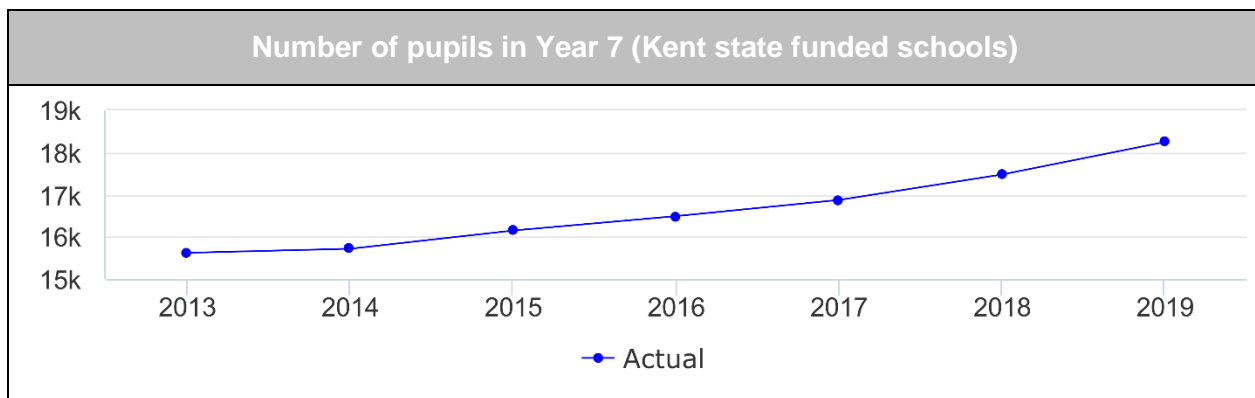


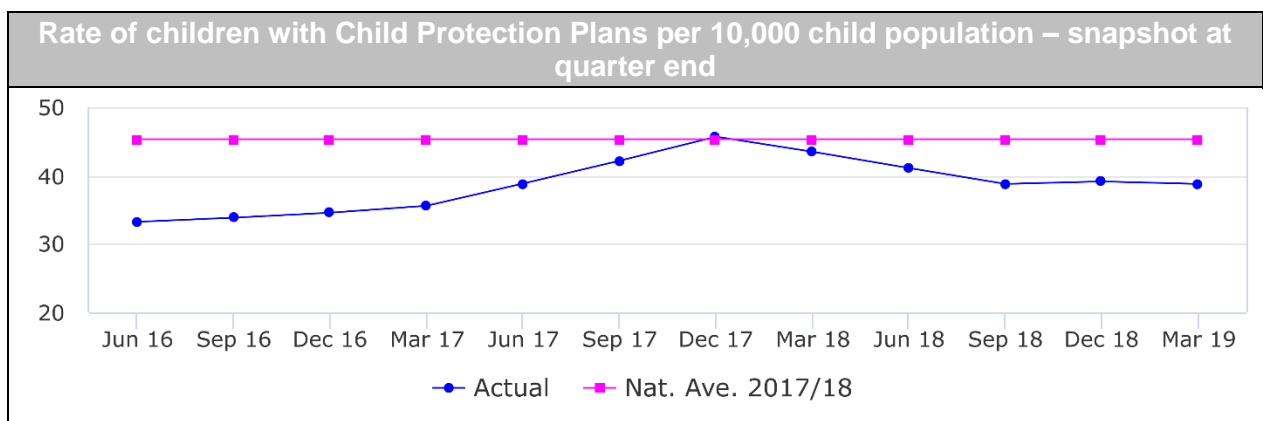
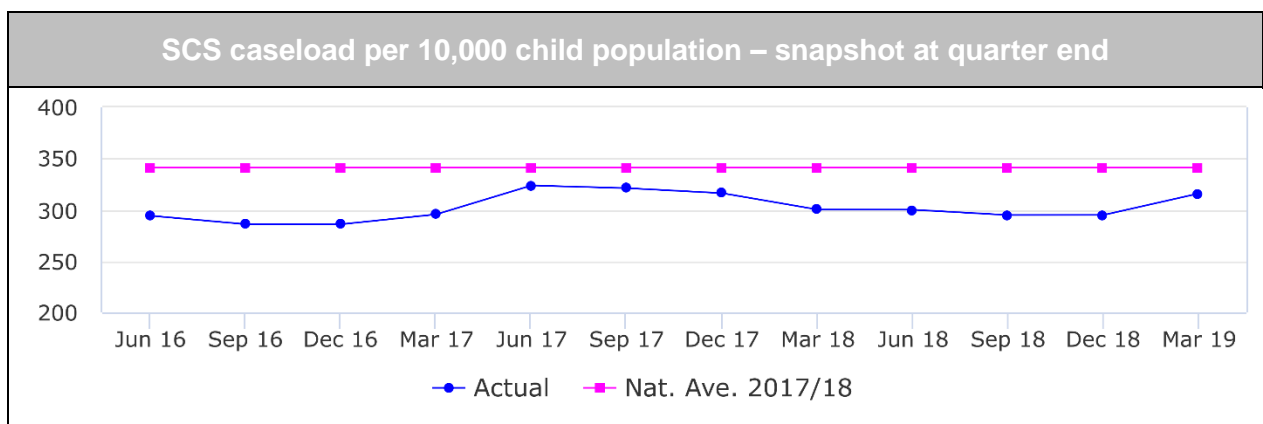
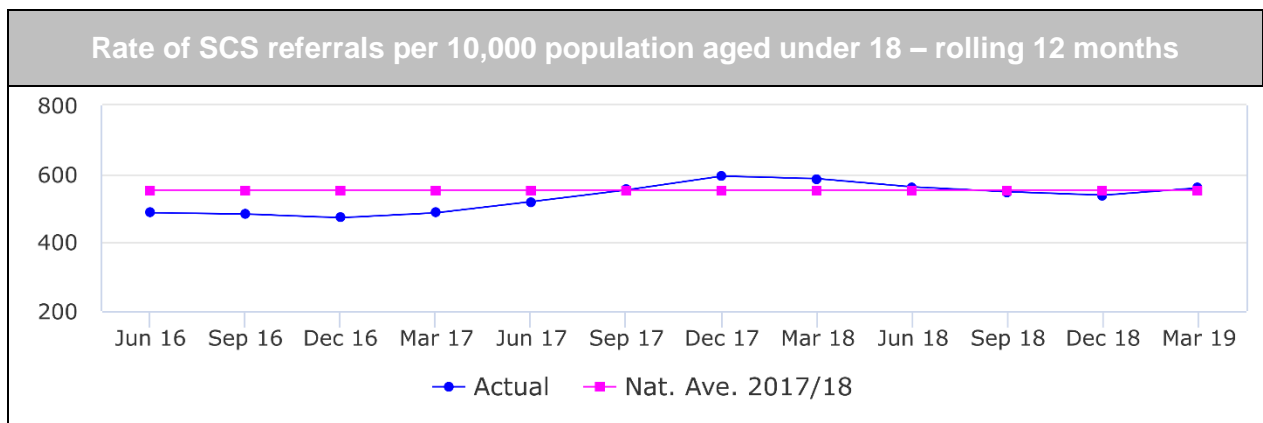
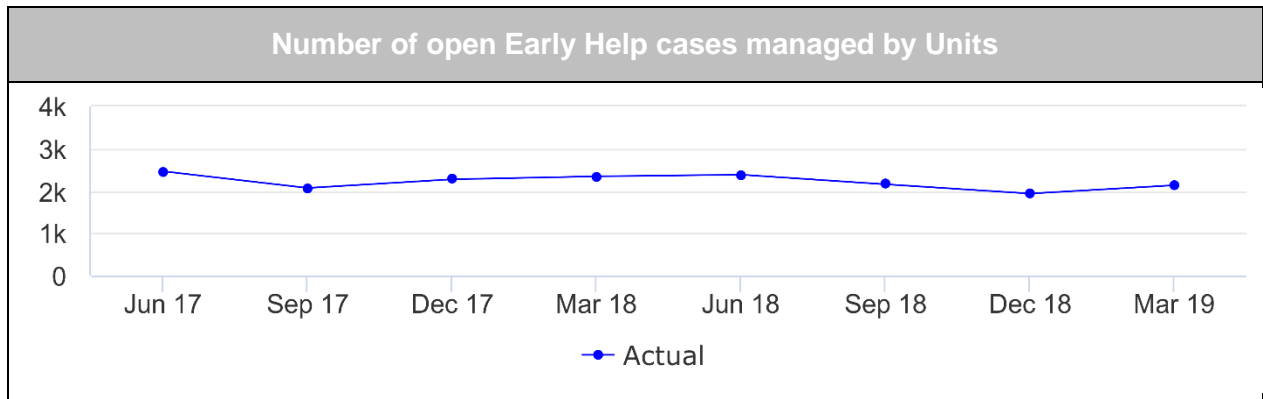


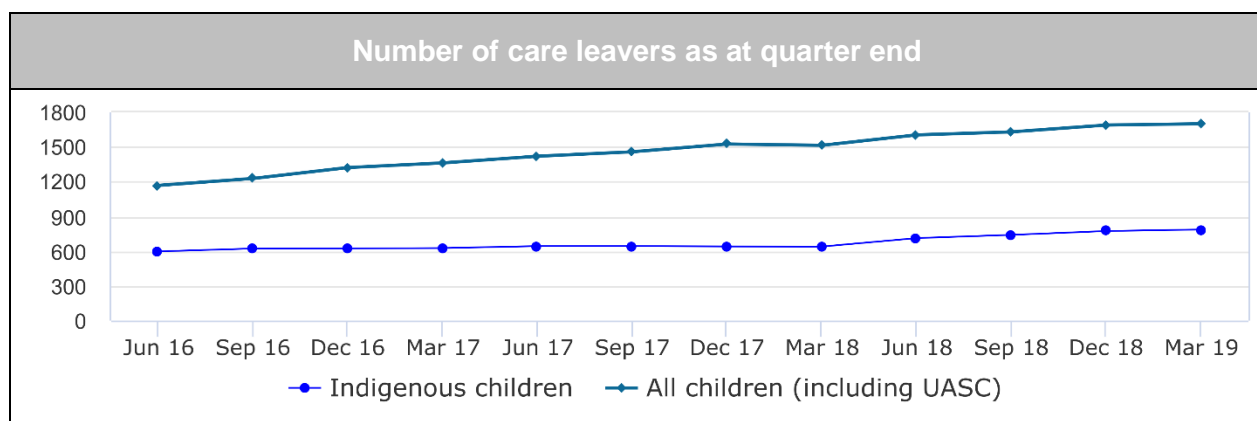
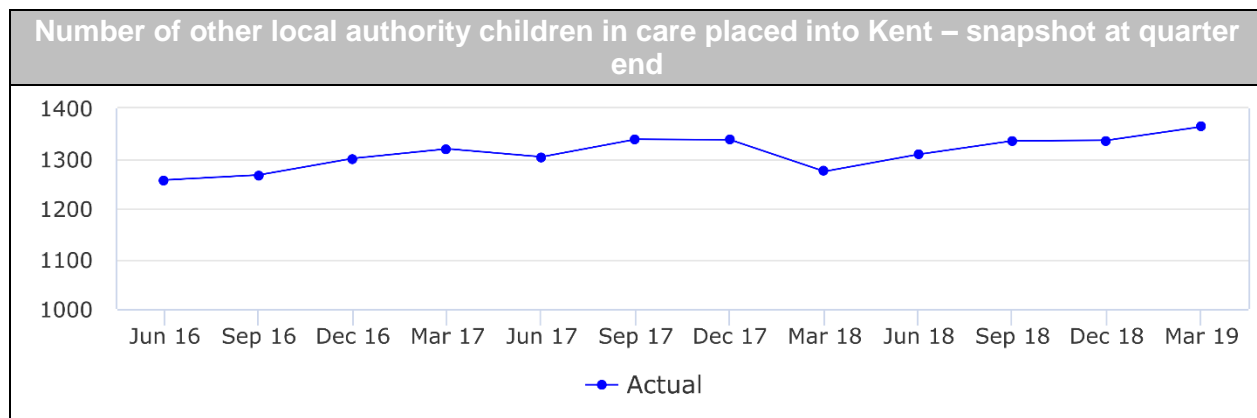
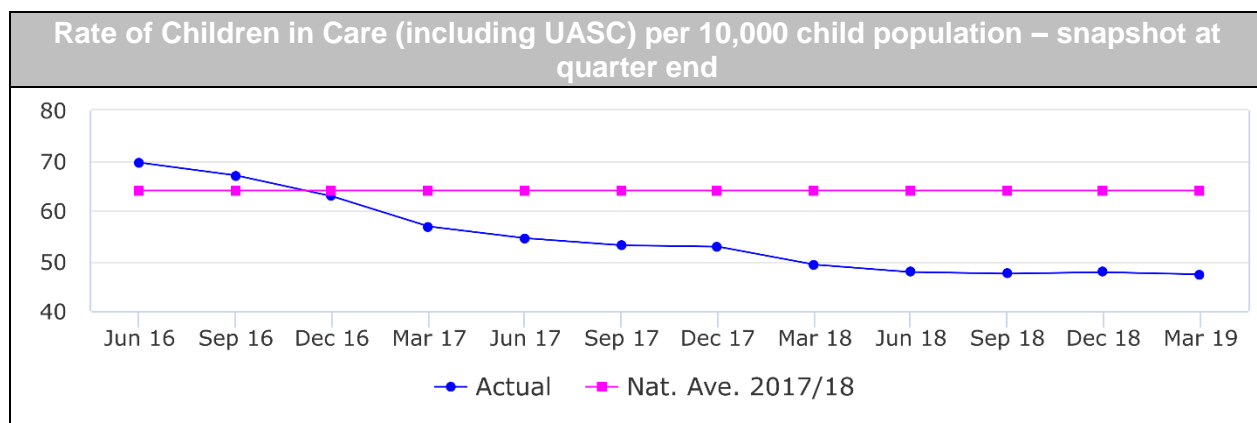
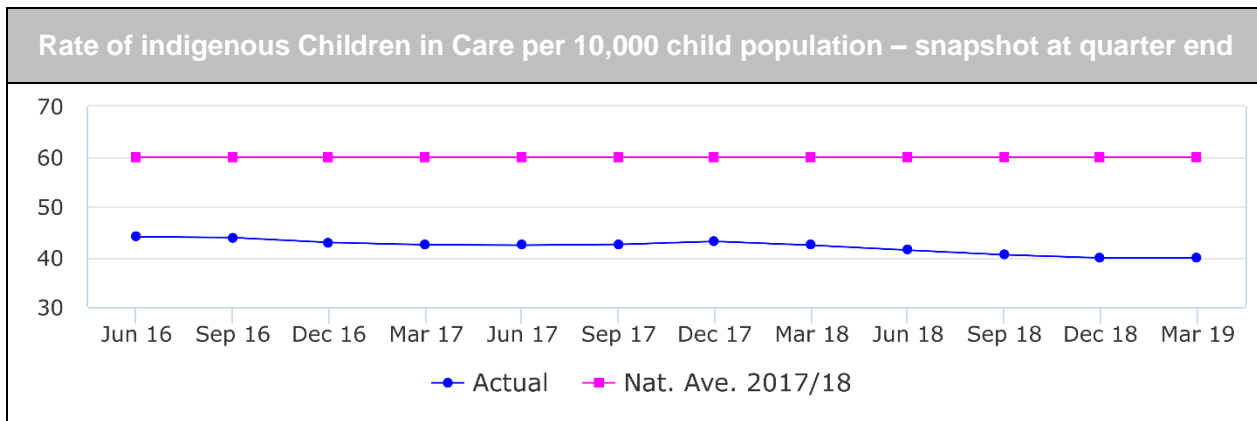


Activity indicators









Adult Social Care	
Cabinet Member	Clair Bell
Corporate Director	Penny Southern

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED	↑	↔	↓
	4	0	1	5	0	0

Your Life, your well-being

'Your Life, your wellbeing' details Kent County Council's Vision for the future of adult social care over the next 5 years. At its heart is the ambition to help people improve or maintain their wellbeing and to live as independently as possible.

The support and services we commission or provide are consistent with the following principles:

- Promoting Wellbeing - Services which aim to prevent, delay or avoid people's need for social care or health support.
- Promoting Independence - Providing short-term support that aims to make the most of what people are able to do for themselves to reduce or delay their need for care.
- Supporting Independence – Services for people who need ongoing support and which aims to maintain wellbeing and self-sufficiency. The intention is to meet people's needs, keep them safe and help them to live in their own homes, stay connected to their communities and avoid unnecessary stays in hospitals or care homes.

Adult Social Care and Health Redesign

We continue to modernise our approach to the delivery of adult social care services. New operating models have been introduced in our Lifespan Pathway, Autism and Sensory, Older People and Physical Disability, and Mental Health services. A key drive for these new operating models is to ensure that services are integrated, aligned to Local Care, and designed to deliver outcome focused care to individuals.

As the final element of this transformation process, a new Directorate structure has been agreed following a detailed organisational design process. This process identified four key functions: Operations, Partnerships, Business Delivery, and Service Provision. A new senior management structure has been introduced to ensure integrated working across these functions, to strengthen strategic leadership and management capacity, and to deliver integration with health through the Sustainable Transformation Programme.

Work is underway in the development of the new Business Delivery Unit, which will be integral to delivering the overall Adult Social Care vision and strategic direction. The Head of the Business Delivery Unit has been appointed with recruitment to other roles to be concluded by the end of May.

Performance Indicators

Of the five indicators measured for Adult Social Care, four remained green and the target for the number of admissions to permanent residential and nursing care for older people remained at red.

The percentage of contacts resolved at first point of contact increased in the quarter and was ahead of target at 79%.

The number of referrals to enablement increased in the quarter. With an average of 277 starts per week during the quarter, activity is now 28.9% ahead of target. A total of 1,419 referrals were made to the externally commissioned provider Hilton equating to 39.5% of all referrals to enablement over the quarter.

The overall picture of people being supported through enablement and intermediate care services remains very positive. These services, which include those commissioned by KCC and the NHS such as Home First, Hilton's Discharge to Assess, and Virgin Care, have introduced additional capacity on top of the KCC in-house Kent Enablement at Home (KEaH) service.

The percentage of clients still independent after enablement remains ahead of target at 72.2%. The introduction of Occupational Therapists within KEaH has resulted in more people needing either a smaller package of care or no care, following their completion of enablement.

The number of admissions of older people aged 65 and over into residential and nursing home decreased slightly this quarter but remains higher than target by 25.9%. There are a number of factors affecting this, including assisting people out of hospital, with the number of people experiencing a delayed transfer of care from hospital continuing to be a significant pressure. There was a significant increase in admissions during Summer 2018 which has impacted admissions the last 12 months in addition to the expected Winter pressures period.

The proportion of delayed discharges from hospital where KCC was responsible in the last quarter was within the 30% target at 21.3%. There were 14,544 bed day delays of delayed transfer from hospital in the quarter, equivalent to 13.3 per 100,000 of the population per day.

Safeguarding

In October 2015 the "Making Safeguarding Personal" approach was changed. This included changing Safeguarding Alerts to Safeguarding Enquiries. As a result of the changes we have seen a significant increase in the number of safeguarding concerns received with more activity now being captured. We expect to see the number of concerns raised level off as the new approach becomes embedded in practice.

Safeguarding improvement plans have been put in place to manage the increased case activity and new cases are being dealt with more efficiently. Tighter controls of historic safeguarding cases open over 6 months have been put in place.

Although the Safeguarding concerns have increased in the quarter, the Safeguarding enquiries remain stable. Therefore, the conversion rate from concerns to enquires is in decline. This was a feature of the OPPD realignment to deal with concerns quicker, to stop them progressing further if possible.

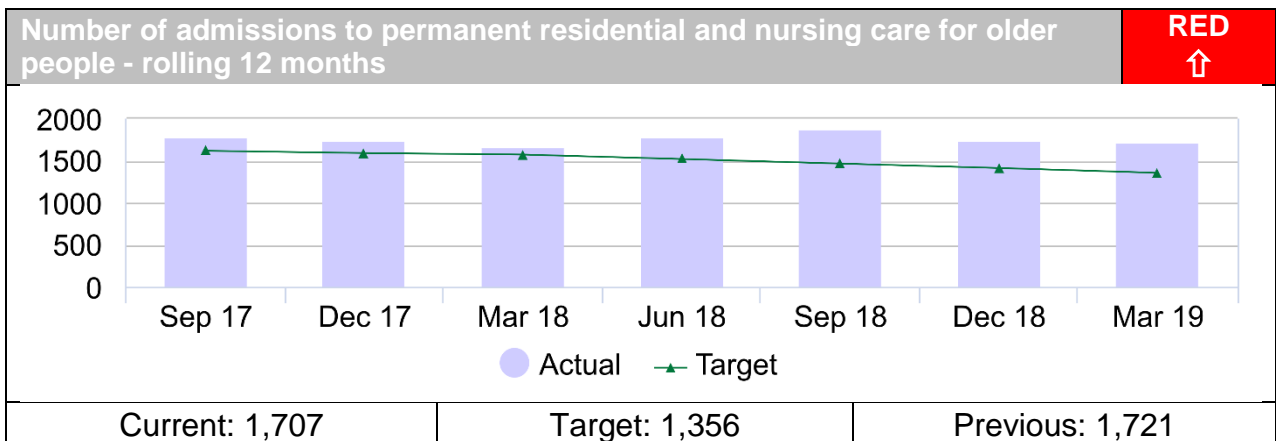
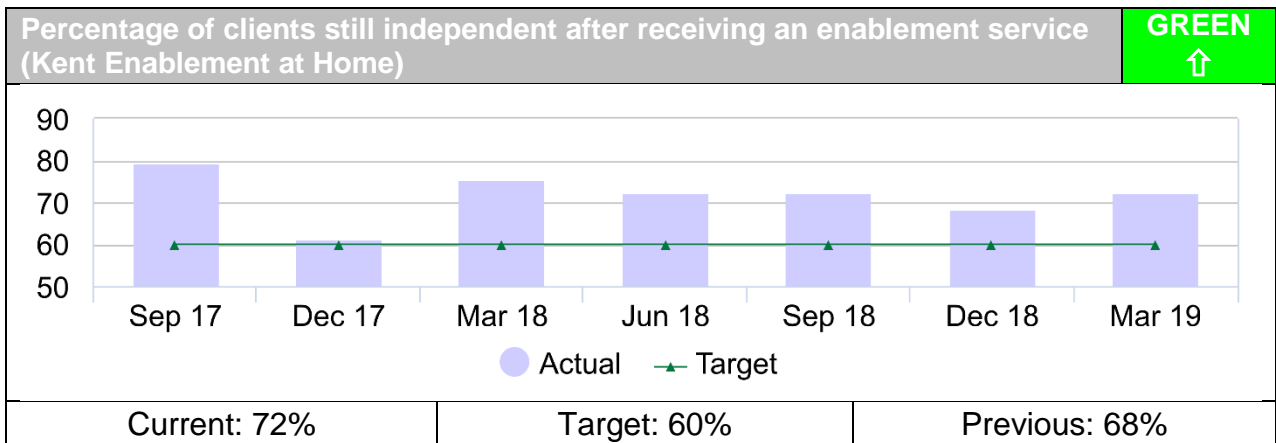
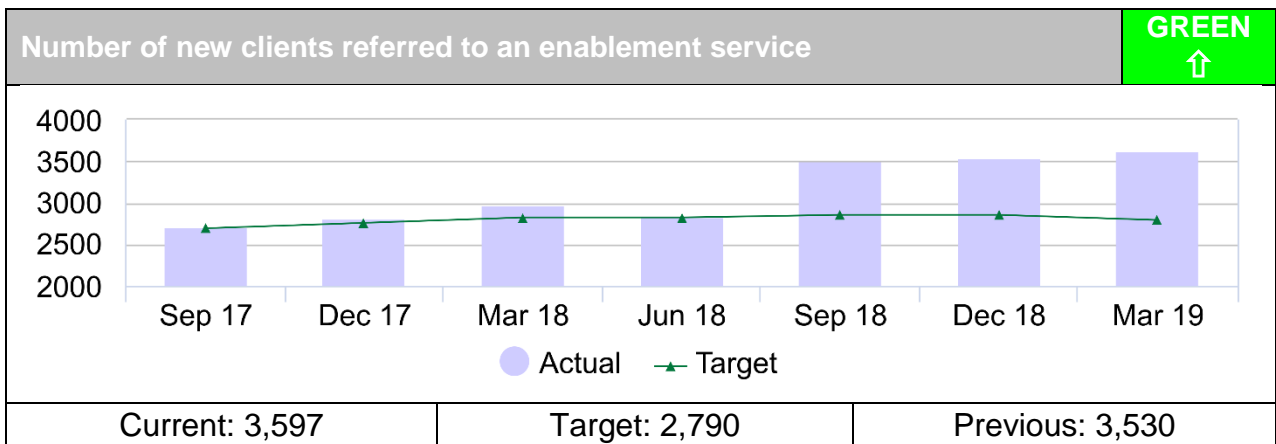
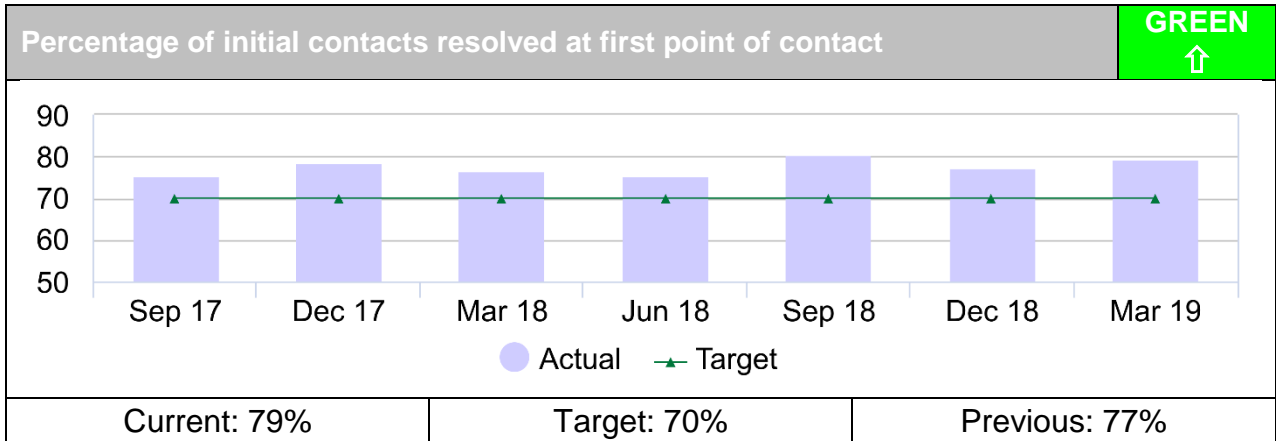
Service User Feedback

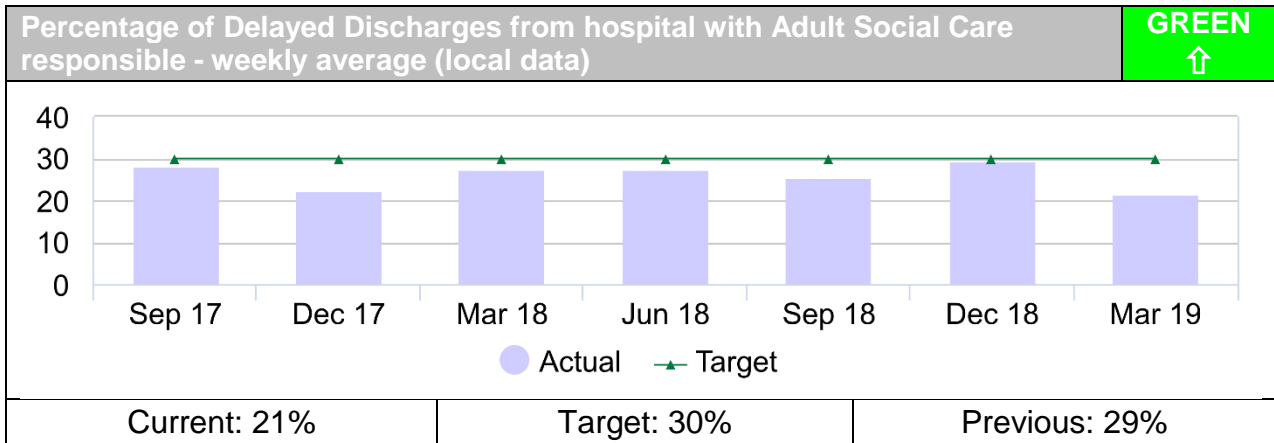
All local authorities carry out surveys of adult social care service users on an annual basis, as set out by Department of Health guidance. The survey results are used, along with other feedback gathered, to understand how we can make improvements to services. Results of some of the key survey questions areas are shown below, with national averages shown in brackets (where available).

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Service users who are extremely or very satisfied with their care and support	70% (62%)	66% (64%)	66% (65%)	63.8% (65%)
Carers who are extremely or very satisfied with their care and support	41% (41%)	N/A*	35% (39%)	N/A*
Service users who have adequate or better control over their daily life	84% (77%)	80% (77%)	82% (78%)	79.6% (77.7%)
Service users who find it easy to find information about services	78% (74%)	75% (74%)	75% (74%)	73.7% (73.2%)
The proportion of carers who find it easy to find information about support	62% (66%)	N/A*	66% (64%)	N/A*
Service users who say they feel safe as they want	73% (69%)	71% (69%)	74% (70%)	68.8% (69.9%)
Service users who say that the services they receive help them feel safe and secure	84% (85%)	85% (85%)	82% (86%)	79.5% (86.3%)

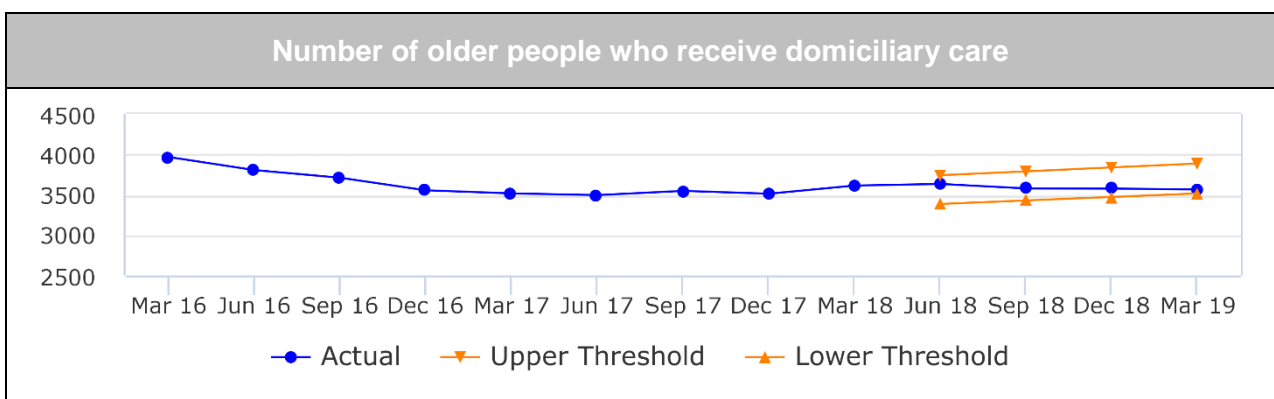
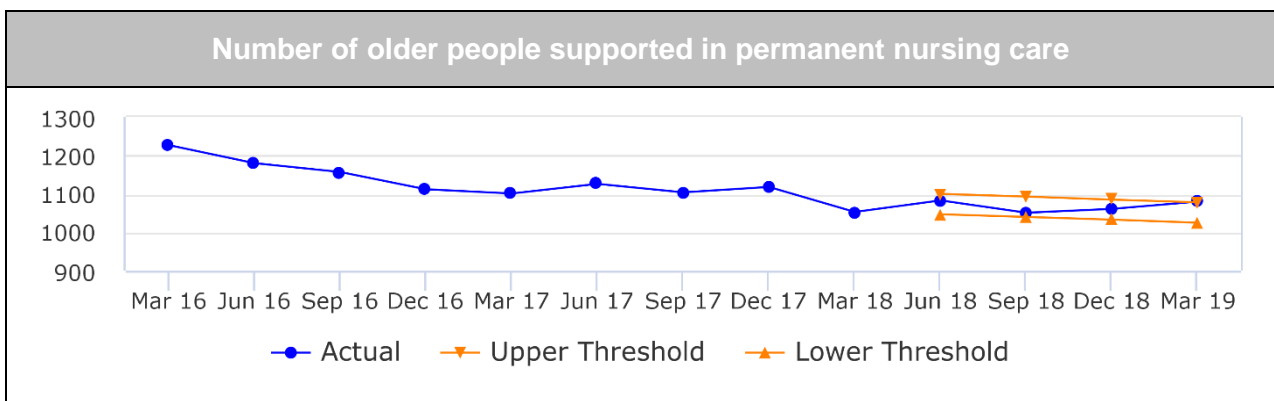
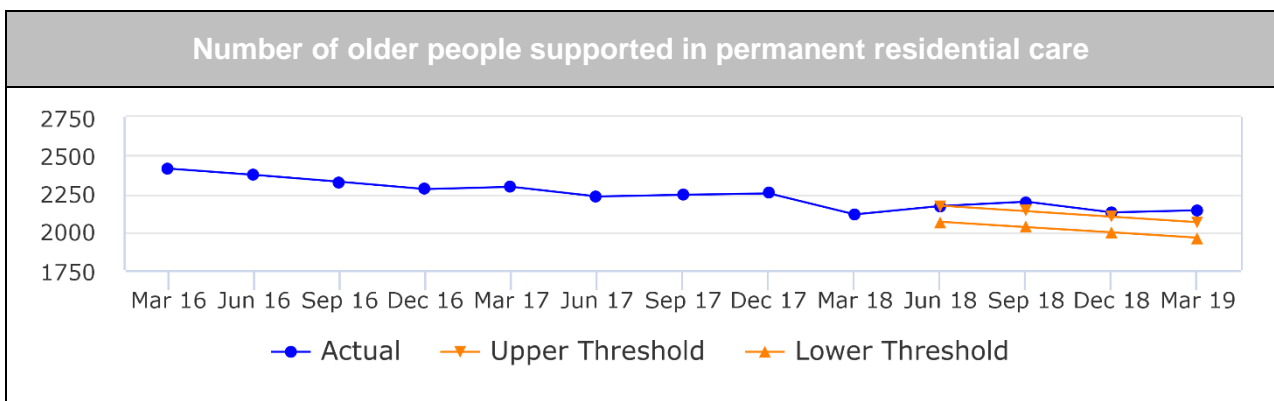
* The Carers survey is undertaken every other year

Key Performance Indicators

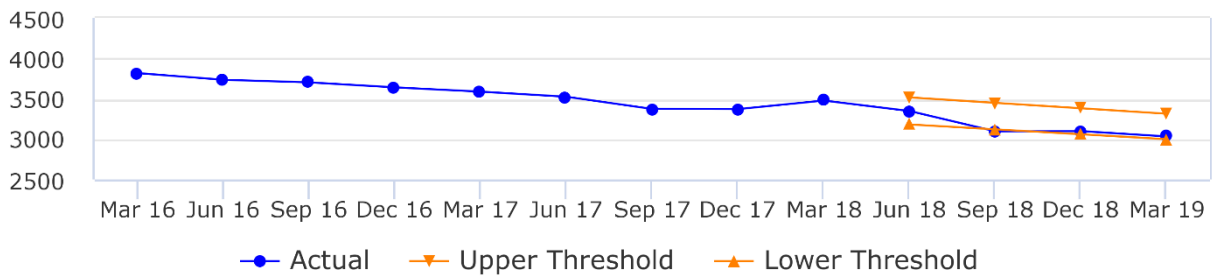




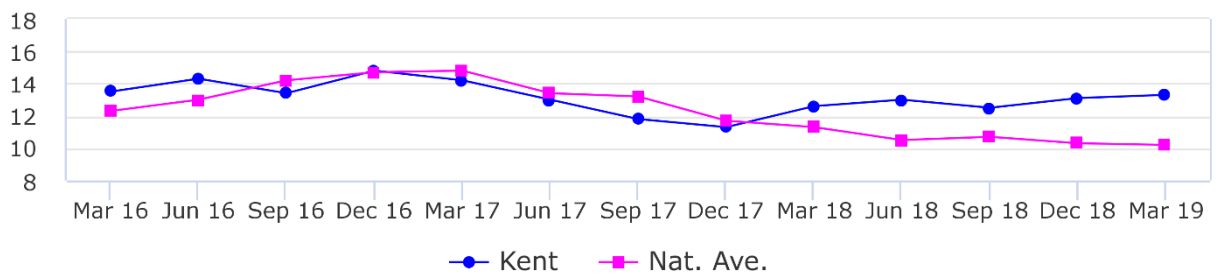
Activity indicators



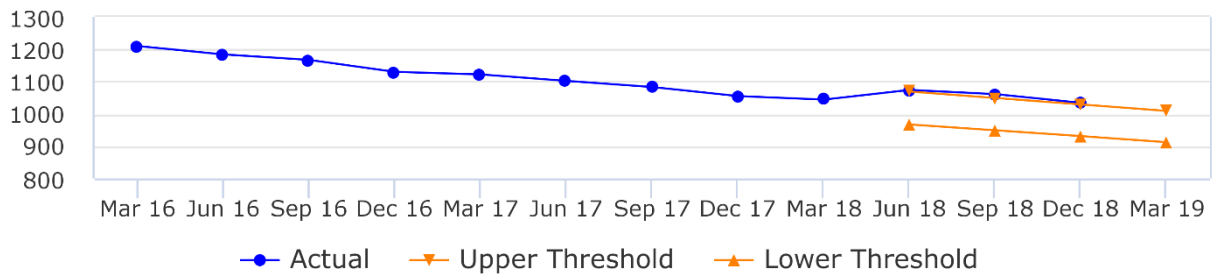
Number of social care clients receiving a direct payment



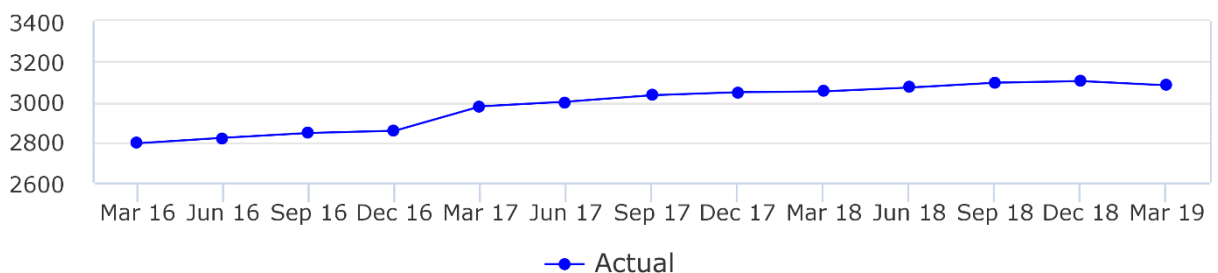
Number of delayed transfers of care per 100,000 population age 18+, average per day (national data)



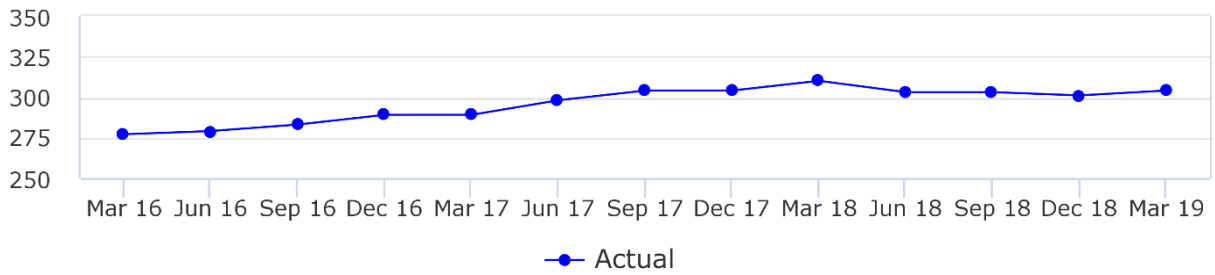
Number of learning disability clients in residential care



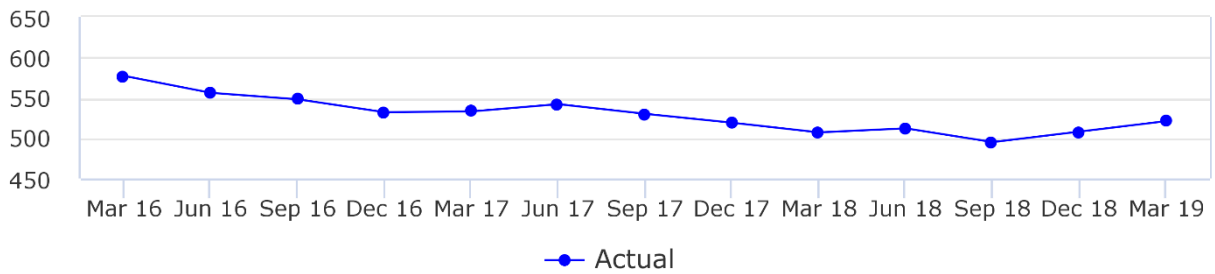
Number of people with a learning disability receiving a community service



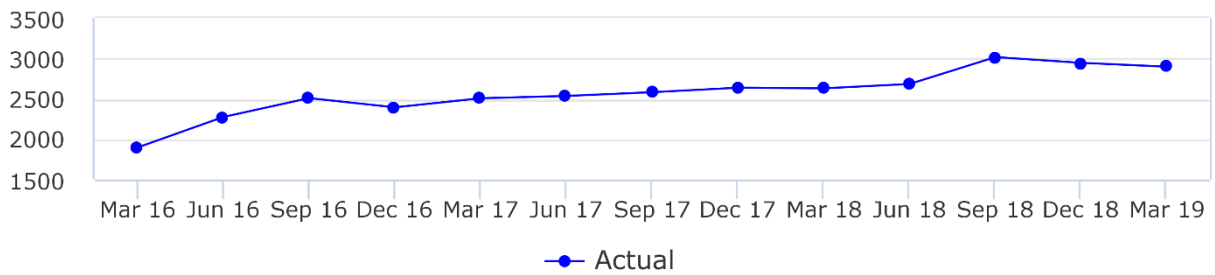
Number of people with mental health needs in residential care



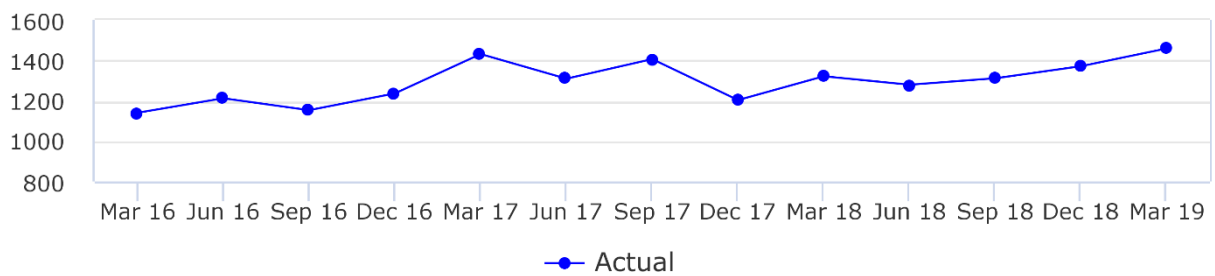
Number of people with mental health needs receiving a community service



Number of Safeguarding concerns (initial contacts)



Number of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards applications



Public Health	
Cabinet Member	Clair Bell
Director	Andrew Scott-Clark

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED	↑	↔	↓
	4	1		3	1	1

In the 12 months to the end of March 2019, the NHS Health Check programme invited 91,723 Kent residents to receive a Health Check, 101% of the 2018/19 estimated eligible population. The target for those to receive a Health Check in 2018/19 was 41,600, the provider delivered 87% of this, 36,093 in total.

The Health Check delivery target was not reached due to the introduction of a separately commissioned new IT system in April 2018 with initial implementation issues in some GP practices, all of which adversely impacted the first 3 months of 2018/19. The Health Check provider mitigated these initial losses and delivered a strong final 6 months, October to March, using a mix of traditional delivery in GP practices and community outreach work to target those highlighted by the Health Equity Audit (2017) as being harder to reach. This community outreach work consisted of delivering Health Checks in workplaces, pubs and in lower decile areas in East Kent.

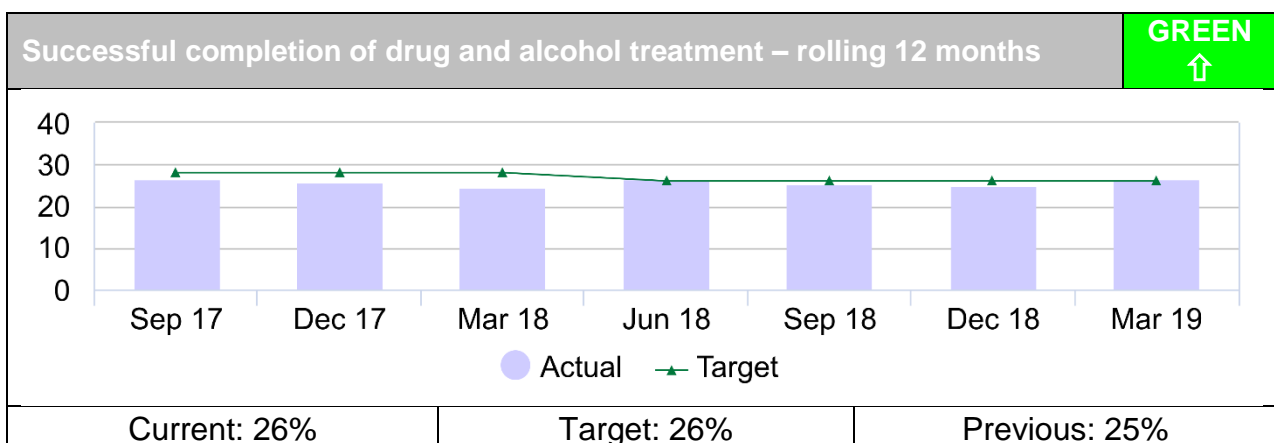
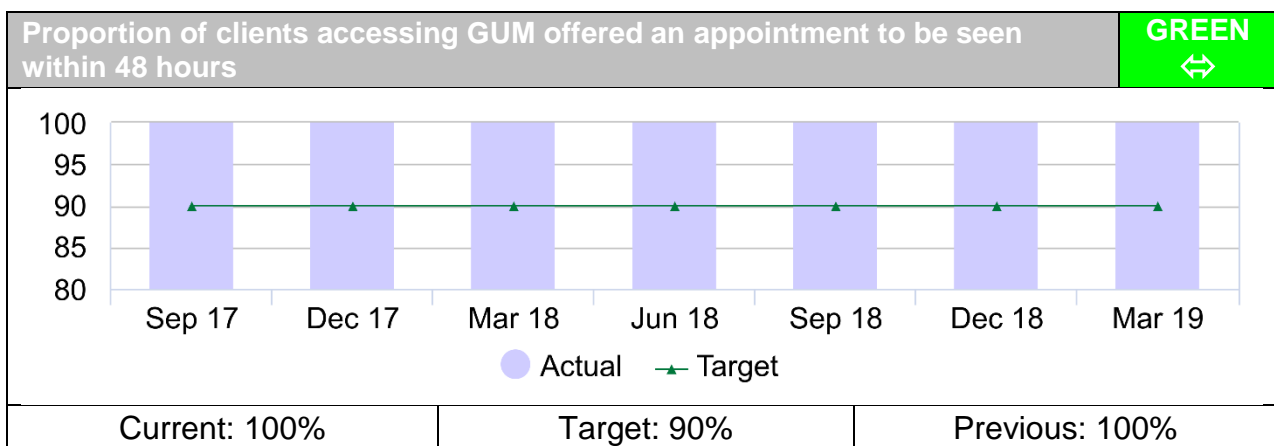
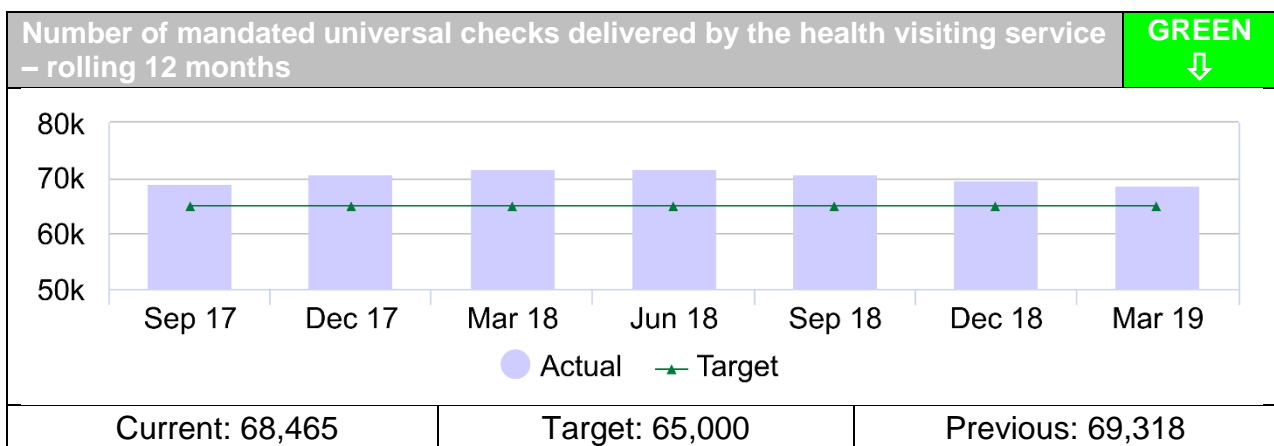
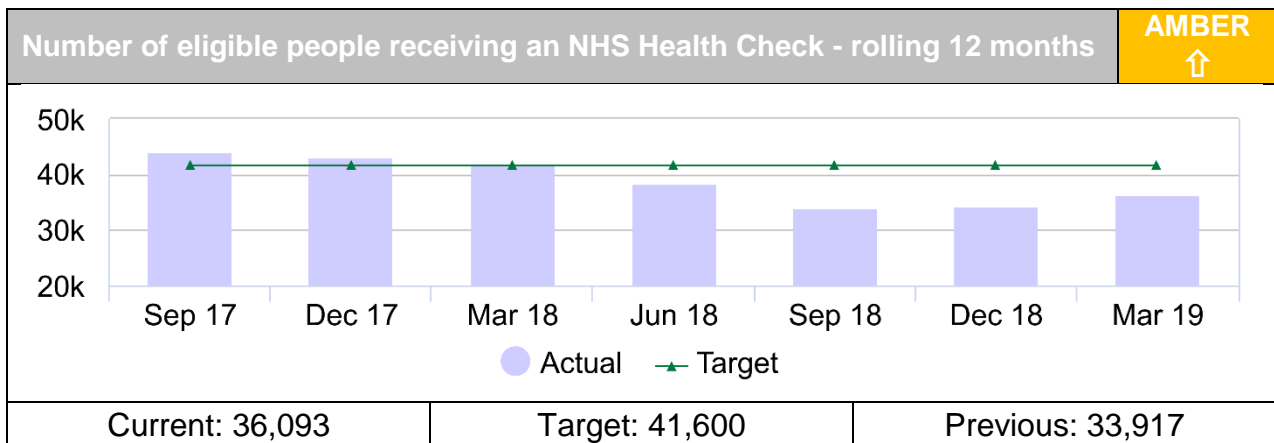
The Health Visiting Service completed over 68,000 universal developmental reviews in the 12 months to March 2019, which was above target of 65,000. The decline in the numbers of universal developmental reviews experienced over the last 12 months has mainly been due to a decrease in antenatal visits; the revised service business plan has prioritised delivery of this visit to first time mothers and vulnerable families in light of ongoing recruitment challenges. All families with a pregnancy receive an introductory letter providing contact details of the local district team where visits can be requested, or details of Health Visitor drop-in sessions at local Children's Centres.

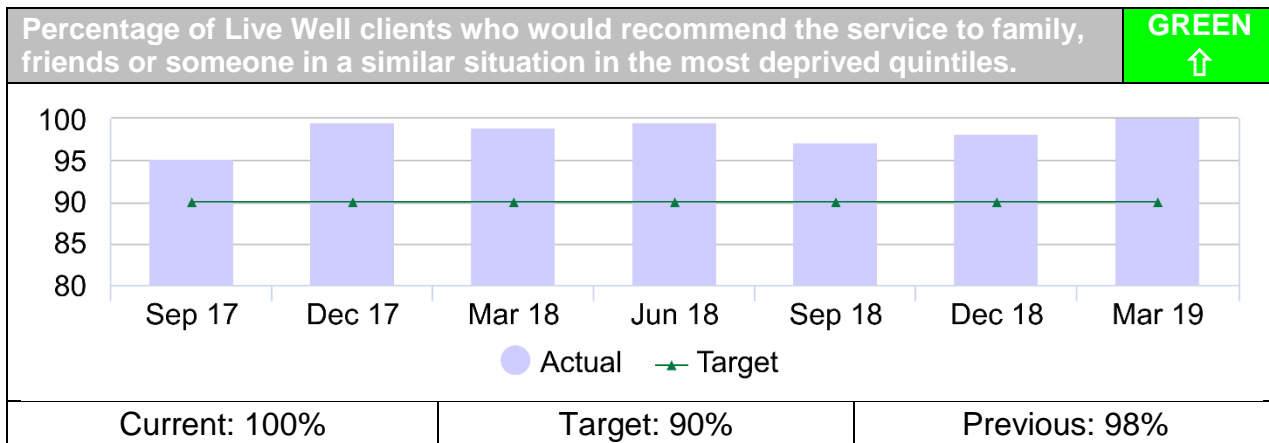
All clients requiring an urgent Genito-urinary medicine (GUM) appointment in Kent were offered one within 48 hours.

There were 1,272 successful completions in the twelve months to March 2019 for drug and alcohol treatment, this met the target of 26%. The numbers accessing structured substance misuse treatment have continued to increase and KCC Commissioners are ensuring providers are managing this increasing intake whilst ensuring a good quality service. Commissioners have undertaken service spot visits and interviewed service users about their experience, in order to provide some assurance that their needs are being met and that they are receiving effective treatment.

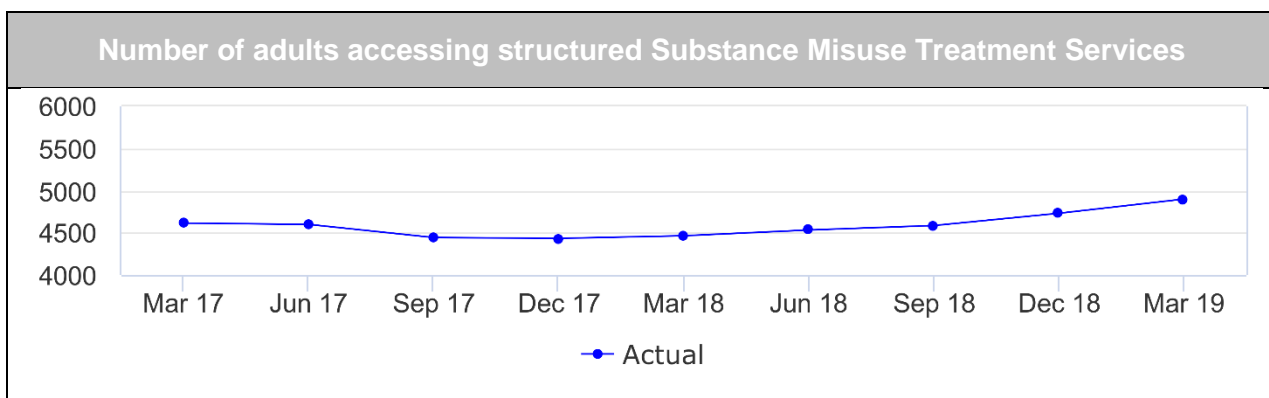
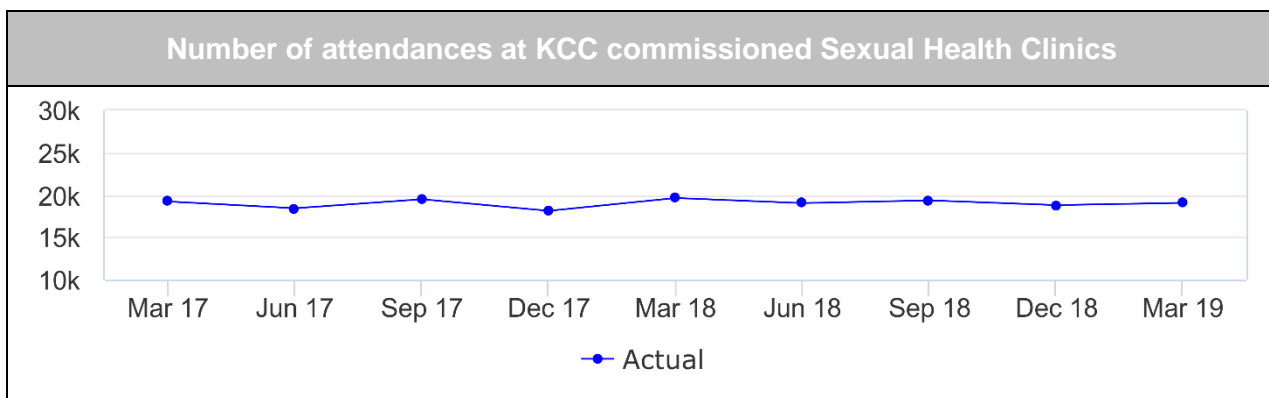
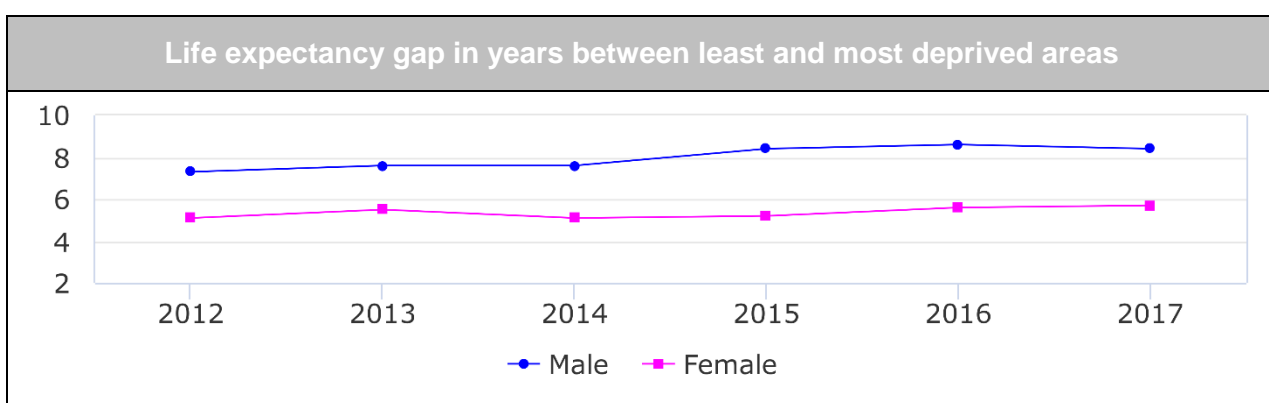
The Live Well Kent services continue to perform above target against the key metric on levels of satisfaction.

Key Performance Indicators





Activity indicators



Corporate Risk Register – Overview

The Corporate Risk Register currently contains 19 risks that have the potential to impact on the achievement of the council's objectives. The register is formally reviewed annually each autumn but is a living document that is reviewed and updated in-year to reflect any significant new risks or changes in risk exposure that may arise due to internal or external events; and to track progress against mitigating actions.

Corporate risks of relevance to each Cabinet Committee are reported to them in detail annually (latest presentation in March 2019), along with directorate risks, allowing for discussion and scrutiny of these risks with the relevant Risk Owners and responsible Cabinet Members present.

KCC's corporate risks are regularly compared against strategic risks from other local authorities to give assurance that key risks are captured and prompt discussion on any potential new risks not previously considered.

RISK LEVEL SUMMARY

The table below shows the number of Corporate Risks in each risk level (based on the risk score). The Target risk level is the expected risk level following further management action.

	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk
Current risk level	0	8	11
Target risk level	4	14	1

CHANGED RISK SCORE

CRR0007 – Resource implications arising from children's services demand. The risk level has reduced from high to medium to reflect the progression of integration work in children's services, although there is still a separate corporate risk rated 'high' covering High Needs Funding for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

MITIGATING ACTIONS

Updates have been provided for 13 actions to mitigate elements of corporate risks that were due for completion or review up to the end of March 2019, together with updates for 15 actions due for completion or review beyond April 2019. These are summarised below

Due Date for Completion	Actions Completed/ Closed	Actions Outstanding or Partially complete	Regular Review
March 2019	8	2	3
April 2019 and beyond	5	7	3

Mitigating actions during this period are summarised below:

Safeguarding – Protecting vulnerable children – Transition plans are being developed for new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in response to the Children & Social Work Act requirements. Member decision has been taken following the May Cabinet Committee meeting.

Civil Contingencies and Resilience and post-Brexit border systems and infrastructure arrangements – KCC has been preparing intensively for the potential impacts of a no-deal Brexit on the county, which have been reported to County Council. KCC now has a broader rota of Duty and Recovery Directors and resilience is being built into multi-agency recovery structures. The recent Brexit operational phase allowed KCC to test its information gathering and situation reporting. All KCC service business continuity plans have been reviewed, which also enabled the corporate Business Impact Analysis to be updated. The Operation Fennel strategic plan to manage potential congestion around Kent's ports was submitted and has the full support of the Secretary of State for Transport. KCC has contributed to the multi-agency communications in the 'response' phase, and leadership of communications in the 'planning' and 'recovery' phases. The Council is making a case for further funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for direct impact costs of Brexit in the County.

High needs funding and adequacy of support for children with SEND – The backlog of Educational Psychology assessments has been triaged leading to a reduction in the backlog of cases. Mitigating actions relating to the SEND action plan are being reviewed in light of the OFSTED inspection findings and the Council's Written Statement of Action, which is being developed.

Implementation of Local Care and Prevention with Health Partners in Kent – Delivery is progressing, managed by the Local Care Board who meet regularly to ensure progress. Monthly meetings take place between Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area local leads. Assessment of the implications of the NHS 10-year plan has been undertaken. In relation to the delivery of the Kent and Medway Sustainability Transformation Plan (STP) Prevention agenda, the STP workstream has been convened and meets monthly, and successful bids have been made to the STP Programme Board to support delivery of the prevention plan. The Senior Responsible Officer role is held jointly by the Directors of Public Health in Kent County Council and Medway Council.

Increasing Adult Social Care Need – Embedding the new operating model for Adult Social Care and Health continues. A skills analysis has been undertaken and a development programme for new roles, new systems and tools is in place.

Resourcing implications arising from Children's Services demand – Phase 2 of the implementation of the Change for Children in Kent programme is in progress. Agreement has been given to a transformation bid which will support the next phase of the programme.

Cyber-attack threats – Changes and additions to security controls remains an on-going theme as the authority updates and embraces new technology. An independent Cyber security review has been completed and an action plan being developed via the Corporate Information Governance Group.

Managing and working with the social care market – Phase 1 of the Care and Support in the Home project is now complete with the new contract commencing in April 2019. The procurement of multiple service types under one contract gives the opportunity to reduce fragmentation in the market for community-based services, thereby enabling greater control to manage fluctuation in demand for services. Phase 2 is expected to commence in the Autumn and be completed by summer 2020.

Information Governance – The Corporate Information Governance Group is reviewing several tools to aid data management, with a project plan to be developed.

Opportunities and risks associated with KCC's Local Authority Trading Companies (LATCOs) - Several key appointments have been made by the HoldCo Board based on their commercial judgement and in meeting the Council's needs. The Board continues its programme of integration and is also working towards a Group business plan. The refresh of Council constitution will help improve Member scrutiny and support effective oversight and input by Members. Relating to Cantium Business Solutions, the Company Board have considered proposals for a number of property solutions that will be discussed at the forthcoming Stakeholder Board.

Maintaining a healthy and effective workforce – working through management teams, Corporate Directors are making sure that everyone has the opportunity to fully explore Learning and Development options and be supported to develop their role and career with KCC. The Corporate Management Team is exploring any development barriers and opportunities for particular groups of staff.

Effectiveness of Governance within a Member-led Authority - A single Strategic Delivery Plan has been developed for KCC along with a monitoring process. A review of the process has taken place with findings to be taken into consideration for the next iteration. Work has been undertaken to refresh the KCC constitution and is expected to be taken to County Council in July 2019.

Safeguarding – Protecting vulnerable adults – A programme of independent audits was planned. However, a new approach is being considered relating to the commissioning of independent safeguarding audits of case files across all client categories.

Access to resources to aid economic growth and enabling infrastructure - The mitigating action to assess implications and respond to the Government consultation on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) has not been completed yet, as the consultation has been delayed until further notice.

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FOR INFORMATION ONLY

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held in Darent Room - Sessions House on Wednesday, 27 March 2019.

PRESENT: Mrs A D Allen, MBE (Chairman), Ida Linfield (Vice-Chairman), Ms J Bayford, Mr G Cooke, Mr J Dumigan, Ms S Dunstan, Mrs L Game, Mr R Graves, Mr S Gray, Ms S Hamilton, Mr S C Manion (Substitute for Mrs S Prendergast), Mr M J Northey, Ms N Sayer, Ms C Smith and Ms S Vaux

ALSO PRESENT: Mr R W Gough

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr M Dunkley CBE (Corporate Director for Children Young People and Education), Ms J Carpenter (Participation and Engagement Manager, Virtual School Kent) and Miss T A Grayell (Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

132. Motion to exclude the press and public for exempt business

It was RESOLVED that, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

EXEMPT ITEMS (open access to minutes)

133. Update from Our Children and Young People's Council (OCYPC)

(Item 1)

1. At the start of the meeting, the Panel was shown a film of children and young people in care at various participation and engagement activities which had been organised by the Virtual School Kent (VSK) participation team in the February half-term holiday. The film was introduced by Sophia Dunstan, Participation Support Assistant, and Reece Graves, Apprentice Participation Worker, Virtual School Kent (VSK), who had made the film with Rob Barton and Chelsea Goodwin, Apprentice Participation Workers, VSK.

2. The Panel welcomed this opportunity to see young people in care enjoying group activities which gave them the opportunity to meet other children in care and make new friends.

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS (meeting open to public)

134. Membership

(Item 2)

1. The Panel noted the resignation from the County Council of Mrs Sue Gent and the vacancy this had left in the Panel's membership, making a total of two.
2. The Chairman placed on record her thanks to Mrs Gent for her work as a corporate parent and a Panel member.

135. Apologies and substitutes

(Item 3)

1. Apologies for absence had been received from Tony Doran, Louise Fisher, Stuart Griffiths, Sarah Hammond, Andrew Heather, Geoff Lymer and Shellina Prendergast.
2. Steve Manion was present as a substitute for Shellina Prendergast.

136. Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 29 January 2019

(Item 4)

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2019 are correctly recorded and they be signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

137. Chairman's Announcements

(Item 5)

1. The Chairman praised the quality and presentation of the information and newsletters produced by Our Children and Young People's Council (OCYPC) and the Kent Youth County Council (KYCC) to keep corporate parents up to date with their work.
2. An invitation had recently been sent by the Kent Foster Care Association (KFCA) to all County Council Members to attend training being staged in early April for foster carers and staff on 'County Lines' gang activity and the exploitation of vulnerable young people. County Council Members had signed up to attend a session in their area. It would be good for them and foster carers to have the opportunity to meet each other.
3. Work would start shortly on a Select Committee on knife crime.
4. The Chairman added that, having taking advice from the Monitoring Officer, and with the support of the Leader, Paul Carter, and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education, Roger Gough, she would continue as the Chairman of the Panel during her year as the Chairman of the County Council. Celebrating young people would be the focus of her Chairmanship year and the work of the Panel was an important part of that commitment.

5. This news was welcomed by Panel members and the view expressed that the young people of Kent were privileged to have such a dedicated Chairman working on their behalf. It was suggested that the list of engagements which a County Council Chairman would usually attend during the year could have added to it the list of events being organised by the Kent Foster Care Association, the OCYPC, the KYCC, etc, so the latter could form part of the Chairman's work for the year.

138. Verbal Update from Our Children and Young People's Council (OCYPC)

1. Ms Dunstan and Mr Graves gave a verbal update on the work of the OCYPC, the Super Council and the Young Adult Council and forthcoming participation events. *The text of this update will be appended to these minutes.*

2. Mr Graves read out a list of questions posed to corporate parents by the young people attending the recent activity days, as follows:-

- 1) How do you make sure we are safe at school?
- 2) What's your favourite part of job?
- 3) Who started Virtual School Kent and why?
- 4) If you did any activity what would it be and Why?
- 5) How do you make sure the right foster carers are found for young people?
- 6) Can you come to more of our meetings/activity days and are you excited or nervous about us taking over on the Corporate Parenting Panel Takeover Day?

3. Jo Carpenter advised Panel Members that they would be emailed a copy of these questions so they could email back their responses to her for collation.

4. Matt Dunkley advised the Panel that the Takeover Day would be the Panel's next scheduled meeting, 29 May 2019. It was envisaged that young people would take on the key roles in the meeting: Chairman, Cabinet Member, Directors, Clerk, etc. Panel members confirmed that they were happy with this arrangement.

5. There followed a discussion of the arrangements for the Takeover Day and how this could be organised. The following points were noted:

- a) some young people who wished to could be given the opportunity to stay on for the afternoon and shadow the Chairman, Cabinet Member, Directors, etc.;
- b) Panel members should prepare to stay for the whole day, if necessary;
- c) older children might be happier to shadow; younger ones might find the morning meeting enough for them;
- d) the day could link in to research work being undertaken by the University of Cambridge on the views of foster carers' children on the care process;
- e) at other takeover events, young people had been paired up with the members of the group at the start and sat next to them throughout the proceedings;
- f) refreshments would be needed and a sandwich lunch could be served at the end of the meeting part of the day; and
- g) the meeting could be broken into short sessions (of perhaps one hour) to make the meeting easier for younger children;

6. It was RESOLVED that the verbal updates be noted, with thanks, and plans be continued for the Takeover day on 29 May.

139. Challenge Card Update

(Item 6)

1. Ms Carpenter introduced the report and, with Caroline Smith, Assistant Director, Corporate Parenting, Integrated Children's Services, and Mr Dunkley, responded to comments and questions from the Panel about the council tax exemption challenge, including the following:-

- a) it was suggested that all Panel members check with their local councils to find out the current practice around exemptions from, or reductions to, council tax payments for young people, and the eligibility criteria they applied in terms of age and educational/training/employment status. Once a full picture became available, it would hopefully be possible to identify a model of best practice and encourage other councils to adopt this. Ms Smith advised that initial discussions with district councils had identified the figures involved. Some councils had only a very small cohort of young people who were likely to be eligible. Once district councils were on board, a proposal would be brought to the Panel for its support. Ms Smith *undertook to provide Members with a summary of negotiations with each district council around the county;*
- b) it was pointed out that to exempt young people from paying council tax could be cost-effective in the long-run as young people getting into arrears would then need help to sort out their debts, and this could take up more cost and staff time later;
- c) it was important that district councils publicise any exemption scheme they ran so young people knew they might be eligible and could make an application. Leaving care and starting out on your own was difficult enough and any financial help available would make a valuable difference;
- d) hopefully, all district councils would be willing to join a county-wide exemption scheme, but if any were not able to, it might be possible for the County Council to fill in the gap. Mr Dunkley undertook to liaise with the Director of Finance to check what the County Council was able to do to support young people who may find themselves without a local exemption scheme;
- e) personal advisors for care leavers would have a role to play in letting young people know about such a scheme and could help them apply to it. However, the Care Leavers Survey had highlighted that some young people had little contact with their personal advisor and hence might miss the information and not be able to apply. The paperwork for such schemes could be complicated and young people would need help and support with the process. Personal advisors would also need to be trained in accessing any exemption scheme so they could support young people in the most effective way. Ms Smith advised that there was now a designated member of staff to advise care leavers on issues relating to benefits. Ms Carpenter added that feedback from young people had shown that the publication of

the 18+ offer had made it easier for young people and foster carers to identify and understand young people's entitlements to benefits; and

- f) Mr Dunkley sought the Panel's support for the council tax exemption challenge before he was to approach district councils and finance colleagues. The Panel confirmed its support.

2. It was RESOLVED that:-

- a) the challenge card progress to date be noted; and
- b) the new challenge card - that all Kent Care Leavers living in Kent be exempt from paying Council Tax (until the age of 25, if they are still engaging with the 18+ Service) – be accepted, and all options be investigated to take this forward.

140. Verbal Update by Cabinet Member

(Item 7)

1. The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education, Roger Gough, gave a verbal update on the following issues:-

Kent Adoption Conference 22 March – this had been an excellent event, which had focused on identity and belonging and hence linked into the Lifelong Links project.

Housing-Related Support update – this service worked with young people in care, care leavers and young homeless people. The updated housing-related support policy would provide better support, aiming to move away from regular support and increase floating support. Recent media coverage of the closure of the Trinity Foyer project in Maidstone had led to concern that the vulnerable young people living there would be made homeless, but Mr Gough assured the Panel that he would ensure that all eligible care leavers would have access to appropriate housing support before the project was allowed to close so that none was left at risk of being homeless.

Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) update – there were currently 252 UASC under 18s and 906 over-18 care leavers, making a total of 1,158. There had been 43 new arrivals so far in 2019, more than for the same period in 2018.

2. It was RESOLVED that the verbal updates be noted, with thanks.

141. Performance Scorecard for Children in Care

(Item 8)

Mrs M Robinson, Management Information Service Manager, was in attendance for this item.

1. Mrs Robinson introduced the report and scorecard and advised the Panel that there had been no significant change in performance since last reporting and that performance was generally good. She responded to comments and questions from the Panel, including the following:-

- a) it sometimes proved impossible to achieve an interview with a young person returning from a missing episode within 72 hours of their return, and the view was expressed that 72 hours was too soon for some young

people to be able to sit down and talk objectively to a professional about their troubles; and

- b) the Virtual School had been set up with the specific aim of narrowing the gap in educational attainment between children in care and their peers, but educational attainment was not included in the scorecard, so progress could not easily be identified and measured. Mrs Robinson advised that, although this was covered in the VSK Head Teacher's annual report, some information could be *included in future in the regular scorecard for the Panel*.

2. It was RESOLVED that the performance data in the children in care scorecard be noted, with thanks.

142. Statutory Health Assessment Data Overview - Work to Improve Outcomes (Item 9)

1. Nancy Sayer, Designated Consultant Nurse for Looked After Children (LAC), introduced the report and responded to comments and questions from the Panel, including the following:-

- a) asked how young people felt about having health assessments, Mr Graves and Ms Sayer explained that the LAC nurses had attended a meeting of the OCYPC to talk about the health assessment and review process for children and young people in care. This conversation had been very helpful and from this had been gained valuable feedback which was being addressed. Health reviews were less medical than the initial health assessment which was undertaken when a young person first came into care. The take up of appointments was generally good;
- b) although a child in care might move between several placements and may not be able to go to the same GP, LAC nurses sought to ensure that they could continue to see the same nurse each time, as far as possible, and have the opportunity to build up a trusting relationship. This would be difficult, however, if a child moved a long way across the county. The Clinical Commissioning Groups had recently provided further funding for the LAC nursing team which had provided for an additional three full-time nurses to be employed, thereby increasing the capacity of the service and enabling further support and 1:1 work to be built into the service to support improved outcomes;
- c) asked about the take-up of vaccinations among children in care, Ms Sayer advised that the County Council's public health team was looking at this as the take-up rate had dropped recently. Many UASC arrived in the county without any information about their vaccination history so had to start from scratch and could take a long time to catch up with all the vaccinations they should have had for their age. The way in which performance monitoring for vaccinations was recorded for the 903 return made it difficult to show the differences in population need. This issue had been raised at the national LAC Clinical Reference Group and with NHS England, who were asking for the question in the 903 return to be amended to reflect the

differences in the population need and status of vaccination history, but the support of the County Council was also being sought;

- d) asked what issues around the health assessment had been raised by young people, Mr Graves and Ms Dunstan said that being called out of class to attend a health review appointment marked a child out as being in care (although this did not happen so much now) and that if a child did not know the LAC nurse, talking to them about personal issues could be uncomfortable. These issues made health appointments more difficult than they needed to be; and
 - e) asked how the LAC nursing service dealt with the issue of consent, Ms Sayer explained that a LAC nurse would always explain the purpose of the appointment at the start and ask if the young person was happy to participate. Ms Carpenter added that young people tended to have a more positive view of the process once they understood the reasons for it.
2. It was RESOLVED that the information set out in the report be noted, with thanks, and that lobbying to change the standard monitoring questions to make them more appropriate be supported.

143. Youth Justice Service - Performance Scorecard Data

(Item 10)

- 1 Ms Smith introduced the report and responded to comments and questions from the Panel, including the following:-
- a) the improvements which had been made to the management and reporting of data were welcomed;
 - b) asked about joint working arrangements between services in the case of children in care, and if these differed from arrangements for other cases, Ms Smith *undertook to provide more detail and some case studies of this at a future meeting*. Case studies would help to illustrate how the process worked; and
 - c) asked about the reduction in the Youth Offending Team caseload since 2017/18, Mr Dunkley explained that restorative justice was been used in more cases to avoid relatively minor cases being escalated, and to seek to reduce repeat offending.
2. It was RESOLVED that the youth justice performance data for children in care be noted, with thanks, and a more detailed report with case studies be presented to a future meeting of the Panel.

144. Lifelong Links

(Item 11)

Clare Barton, Family Group Conferencing Team Manager and Lifelong Links Project Manager, was in attendance for this item.

1. Ms Barton introduced the report and tabled, as an anonymous case study, pages from a 10-year-old boy's workbook completed as part of the Lifelong Links project. She advised the Panel that Kent and Hertfordshire were ahead in the UK in the way and the extent to which they had introduced the Lifelong Links project, and Kent was particularly innovative in the way in which it evaluated the work undertaken. Work was currently going on to assess how best to sustain the project in the future, and Kent was seeking accreditation for its work from the Family Rights Group. The project was currently open to young people up to the age of 15 but the aim was to extend this to 16- and 17-year-olds. A presentation would be made to Parliament on 26 June 2019 to raise understanding of the project around the UK and Kent staff would play a key part in this. Ms Carpenter added that the project had received endorsement from the Children in Care Council as part of a previous challenge card.

2. It was RESOLVED that the progress of the Lifelong Links project be noted, with thanks, and a further report be submitted to the Panel later in the year.

145. Care Leavers Survey 2018

(Item 12)

Nimesh Patel, Team Manager, Care Leavers Service, was in attendance for this item.

1. Ms Smith introduced the report and advised that the feedback from the 2018 survey had been largely positive, particularly about young people's relationships with professionals. An action plan had been prepared, to address issues raised, and some work on these had already started. Young people were aware that the rent guarantor scheme was currently a pilot. Ms Smith and Mr Patel responded to comments and questions from the Panel, including the following:-

- a) asked how young people's awareness of the Young Adult Council could be improved, Ms Dunstan said that a video blog could be used to publicise it, and to seek more time to prepare and brief young people coming into care about the groups they could join. When the rent guarantor scheme pilot project came to an end, and assuming a permanent scheme was set up, this would be publicised so young people who were eligible and could benefit from it were made aware of it;
- b) negative comments made about the personal advisor service were based on young people's view of them being difficult to contact or not meeting with them as often as they would like, and it might be that some expectations were unrealistic. Personal advisors would visit a young person every six weeks but would seek to increase this frequency and make more contact, particularly at key times in a young person's time in care. It was also hoped that a mentor scheme could be developed which could underpin the personal advisor service by providing an alternative contact for young people between personal advisor visits. Mr Patel added that the method of communication between personal advisors and young people was being reviewed, especially relating to the out-of-hours service. Mr Dunkley added that care leavers staff had asked for smart phones to make contact with young people easier. Ms Smith added that young people could facetime their personal advisor to seek their support if they were not able to meet in person; and

- c) asked about scope to translate literature into different languages for UASC, Mr Patel advised that literature was available in the main languages spoken by the majority of the current UASC population.
2. It was RESOLVED that the results of the care leavers survey 2018 and the related action plan be noted, with thanks, and a further report be submitted to the Panel later in the year.

146. The role and work of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children Champions

(Item 13)

Nick Crick, UASC Strategic Lead and Operational Manager, Karen Yusuf, Community Engagement Worker (North), and a party of young male UASC champions, Behnam, Eglis, Mohammed, Murad, Reza and Taman, were present for this item at the invitation of the Panel.

1. The Chairman welcomed the UASC Champions to the meeting and thanked them for attending.
2. Mr Crick advised the Panel that the UASC Champions programme had been set up using Government funding which had been made available as a result of a bid made in 2017. The aim of the programme was to provide better support for newly-arrived UASC as they settled into their new life in Kent. An engagement worker, Karen Yusuf, had been appointed. The aim was that every town in Kent would have a minimum of two champions, who would give feedback on behalf of UASC about their experiences. The programme included a number of projects, which were set out in the report.
3. The UASC Peer Champions, Behnam, Eglis, Mohammed, Murad, Reza and Taman introduced themselves and said where they had come from to Kent, how long they had been in Kent and why they had become Champions. All had arrived in Kent relatively recently, most being in their late teens. They told the Panel about the training they were undertaking, which included English, safeguarding, health and safety and household management, and that, with these skills, they would train other UASC to settle into the community, live safely and develop their English skills. They also enjoyed a number of sports and amateur drama, including football, basketball, swimming, table tennis, volleyball, running and chess and used these as a way of bonding with other UASC and forming friendships.
4. Mr Crick and the Champions responded to comments and questions from the Panel, including the following:-
 - a) UASC had no choice of location when they were being allocated independent accommodation and had to move to wherever suitable accommodation was available. This meant they might find themselves in an unfamiliar town where they would have to find new connections and settle themselves in;
 - b) it was suggested that sports could be used as a way of joining in to the local community, either by forming a new team or joining an existing one, and playing against other teams locally and across the county. Mr Crick

said he aimed to establish under-16s and over-18s football teams, which would include other children in care;

- c) asked if there were any female UASC Champions, Mr Crick explained that there were indeed young women, two in East Kent and one in West Kent. He said he aimed to produce a map of the county featuring the Champions shown in the towns in which they worked, so UASC and professionals could get to know who they were. It was acknowledged that elected County Councillors should know who the UASC Champions were in their local area. The Chairman advised that the Champions would also be helped to find out the name of their local elected County Councillor so they could seek help and support from them if they needed to. *The Democratic Services Officer subsequently sent Mr Crick a link to the webpage on which local Members could be identified using a postcode search facility;*
- d) Mr Crick said he hoped that the planned exhibition of artwork by UASC could be hosted by the Turner Contemporary gallery in Margate;
- e) asked how soon after arriving in Kent they had become Champions, some said they had taken on this role almost immediately, while they were at the Millbank Centre. They had been attracted to the role by the opportunity to take on leadership and develop a role for themselves in their new community;
- f) it was suggested that the police cadet scheme championed by the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, Matthew Scott, might be an interesting project for some UASC, and Mr Crick undertook to look into this. Any help that the Panel could give in suggesting ways of supporting the UASC Champions or establishing new projects would be gratefully received. Ms Smith *undertook to contact all local authority-owned leisure facilities to ask about free or discounted membership for children in care and care leavers;* and
- g) the use of sports and drama groups as a way of integrating UASC with their communities was welcomed as both were good 'levellers' which transcended racial and cultural differences.

5. The Chairman thanked Mr Crick, Ms Yusuf, Behnam, Eglis, Mohammed, Murad, Reza and Taman for taking the time to attend the meeting to talk to the Panel about their work and asked that they visit the Panel again in the future.

6. It was RESOLVED that the information set out in the report and given in response to comments and questions about the new programme and its commitment to support migration and peer support positively, helping new arrivals to get established and settle in communities across Kent, be noted, with thanks.

147. Change for Kent Children programme

(Item 14)

1. Mr Dunkley introduced the report and advised that Sarah Hammond and Caroline Smith were now in new permanent appointments, as Director of Integrated

Children's Services, East, and Assistant Director, Corporate Parenting, respectively. Structure charts for the new Directorate would be drawn up shortly.

2. It was RESOLVED that the information set out in the report be noted, with thanks.

148. Ofsted focused visit on the front door

(Item 15)

Penny Ademuyiwa, Assistant Director, Front Door, was in attendance for this item.

1. Ms Ademuyiwa introduced the report and explained that the recent visit by Ofsted had been brief as Kent was rated 'good'. The visit was the first to the new Integrated Children's Services team since its launch in October 2018. The Ofsted team had attended meetings and listened to calls, some of which included some difficult conversations, and their feedback had been good. The visit team had recognised the high number of calls dealt with on a daily basis and the way in which teams worked together to deal with these and avoid unnecessary escalation. Ms Ademuyiwa responded to comments and questions from the Panel, including the following:-

- a) asked about the reasons for the large number of calls received on the day, and the visit team's reaction to this, Mr Dunkley advised that it was unusual for an Ofsted visit to be made on a Monday as this was traditionally the busiest day of the week for referrals. 160 calls from the public were received on the inspection day, plus referrals by email, and this volume was an eye-opener for the visit team;
- b) Kent had not had any areas flagged for priority action, which was good, as the majority of authorities having front door visits had had some. There were also no areas for concern; and
- c) asked about the action plan which would address areas for service improvements, Ms Ademuyiwa explained that an action plan was in place and that practice development and training were ongoing due to the turnover of staff.

2. It was RESOLVED that:-

- a) the content of the narrative letter from Ofsted, following the focussed visit in January 2019, be noted; and
- b) the staff involved in the visit be thanked for their contribution to the success of the visit.

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