



Child & Family Services
Monthly Well-being Report
October 2022

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Staff Wellbeing

Head of Service Overview

The service is able to evidence its continued compliance with statutory duties, despite the ongoing shortage of social workers in the area social work teams and increasing, more complex demand coming in through the front door.

There is more work being passed to the early help teams, which is positive, however there is a waiting list of families to be allocated pending newly appointed staff coming into post. There is oversight on a weekly basis from the early help manager with support from the learning and innovation team, to help prevent escalation into statutory services.

There wasn't the usual dip in contacts to the Single Point of Contact in October, alongside contact to Early Help increasing by 32%. There are 219 families awaiting allocation in early help, with the highest number waiting for the Early Years Early Help team. More wellbeing assessments and family plans were completed during the month.

CMET team continues to be busy with responding to and supporting other Local Authority looked after children who go missing or are pulled into criminal activity.

New this month is the inclusion of data about carers assessments. There were 20 carers requesting an assessment, with this area of work being supported by Newly Qualified Social Workers in The Academy.

More strategy discussions were initiated by the area team (+92%) with a high percentage requiring a section 47 and nearly 50% progressing to an initial child protection conference. Children on the Child Protection Register increased by 16 (now at 200) with no children being removed at first review. There has been a significant improvement in core groups being held on time.

The Local Authority issued care proceedings for four out of the 7 children who were subject to a Public Law Outline assessment; and of the children before the Court, these all concluded with orders that kept the children living at home with their family or on the pathway to adoption.

There has been a slight reduction in the number of children who are looked after (down to 479) and 18 ceased being looked after (with 6 turning 18). One young person is living in a home that is operating without registration (the registration with CIW is well advanced). No young people presented as homeless, although 7 remain living in emergency accommodation (due to lack of supported accommodation).

Vacancy rates in the area social work teams are between 35% and 48%. We are challenging other local authorities who are accepting permanent social workers moving to them on an agency basis. Informal case supervision and support has increased now the teams are spending more time in the office.



Single Point of Contact

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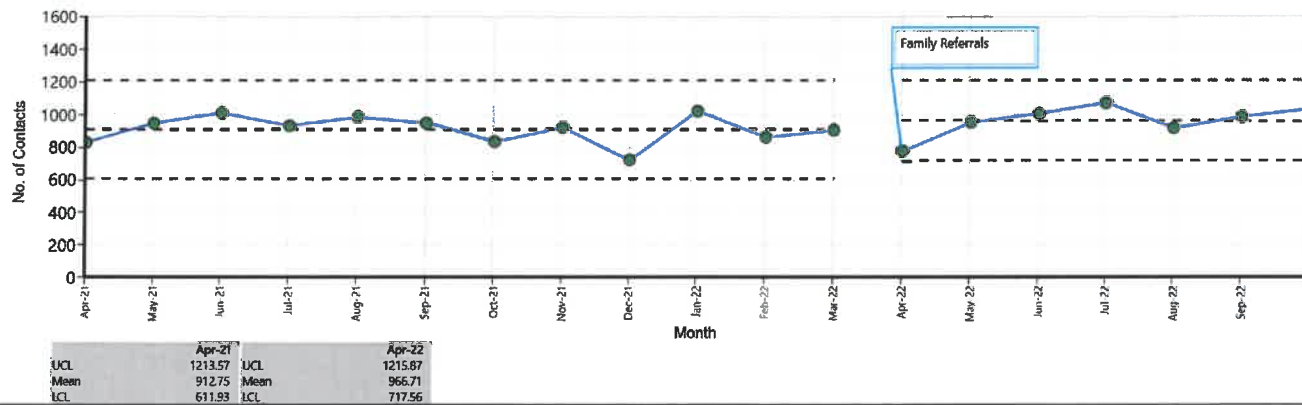
Youth Offending Service

Staff Wellbeing

Single Point of Contact

Contacts	October 2022	September 2022
The total number of contacts received by Child & Family Services during the month:	1037	990
The number of contacts closed Information only during the month:	538	541
The number of contacts closed with Advice or Assistance during the month:	147	117

Contacts Received by SPOC





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Integrated Information, Advice & Assistance Hub

Contacts & Closures	October 2022	September 2022
The number of contacts received by the Integrated Information, Advice and Assistance Hub during the month:	549	524
The number of contacts received during the month where Advice or Assistance has been provided within 12 months:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of contacts closed Information only during the month:	288	274
The number of contacts closed with Advice or Assistance during the month:	104	98
The number of contacts passed to preventative services during the month:	29	21
The number of contacts passed to Contextual, Missing, Exploited and Trafficked (CMET) Team during the month: (includes individuals, contextual areas and peer groups)	10	13
The number of contacts passed to the Integrated Safeguarding Hub during the month:	15	31
The number of contacts passed to Supported Care Planning during the month:	19	19
The number of contacts passed to the Independent Carers Assessment Team	1	1
The number of contacts received during the month, which were being supported by the Integrated Information, Advice and Assistance Hub at the end of the month:	83	67



Single Point of Contact

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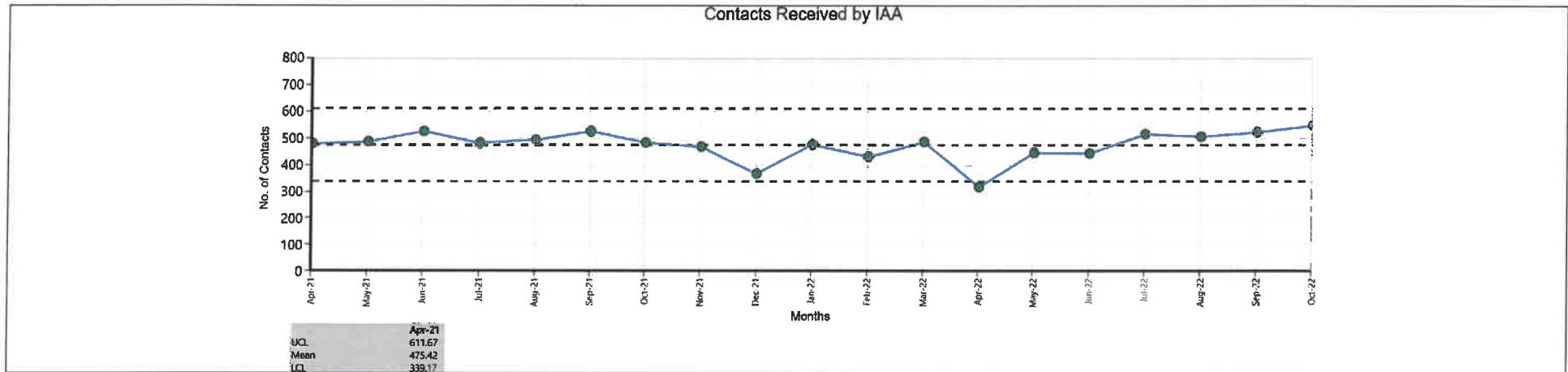
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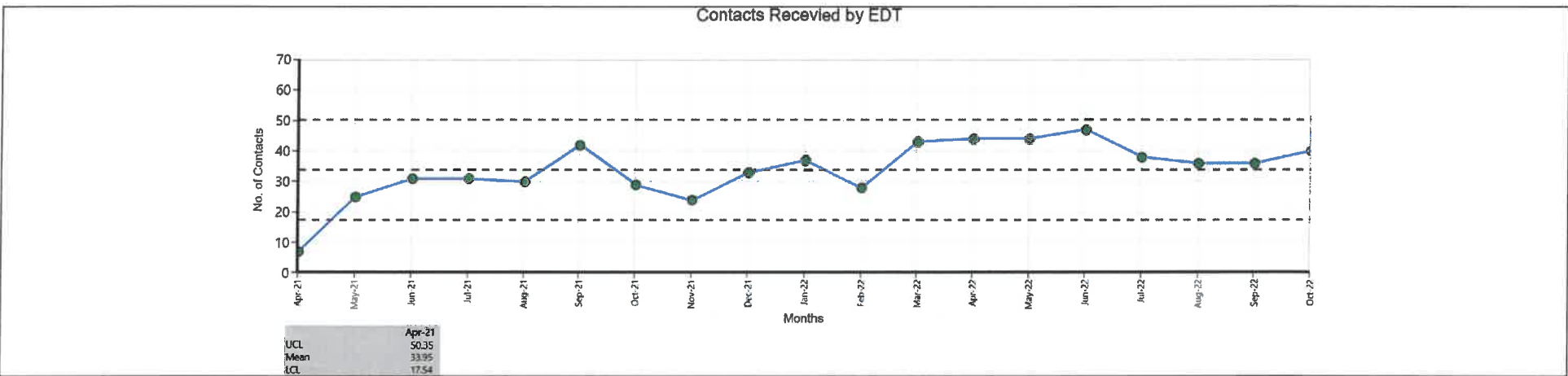
Emergency Duty Team

Contacts & Closures	October 2022	September 2022
The number of contacts received by the Emergency Duty Team during the month:	40	36
The number of contacts closed Information only during the month:	7	5
The number of contacts closed Advice or Assistance during the month:	7	6
The number of contacts closed with another reason during the month:	1	0
The number of contacts passed to preventative services during the month:	4	2
The number of contacts passed to the Integrated Information, Advice & Assistance Hub:	15	13
The number of contacts passed to Contextual, Missing, Exploited and Trafficked (CMET) Team during the month: (includes individuals, contextual areas and peer groups)	1	0
The number of contacts passed to the Integrated Safeguarding Hub during the month:	5	10



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The number of contacts received during the month, which were being supported by the Emergency Duty Team at the end of the month:	0	0
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Child Protection Investigations	October 2022	September 2022
The total number of Strategy Discussions / Meetings recorded during the month:	6	6
The number of Strategy Discussions / Meetings which require a Section 47 enquiry:	4	5
The number of Strategy Discussions / Meetings where no further CP action is required:	0	1
The total number of Section 47 enquires recorded during the month:	4	1
The number of Section 47 enquires which require an Initial Child Protection Conference:	0	0
The number of Section 47 enquires where there is no further CP action required:	4	1



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Domestic Abuse Hub

Contacts & Closures	October 2022	September 2022
The number of contacts received by the Domestic Abuse Hub during the month:	269	294
The number of contacts received during the month where Advice or Assistance has been provided within 12 months:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of contacts closed Information only during the month:	223	239
The number of contacts closed Advice or Assistance during the month:	30	13
The number of contacts closed with another reason during the month:	0	0
The number of contacts passed to preventative services during the month:	1	1
The number of contacts passed to the Integrated Information, Advice & Assistance Hub or the Integrated Safeguarding Hub during the month:	1	2
The number of contacts passed to Supported Care Planning during the month:	0	5
The number of contacts received during the month, which were being supported by the Domestic Abuse Hub at the end of the month:	14	34



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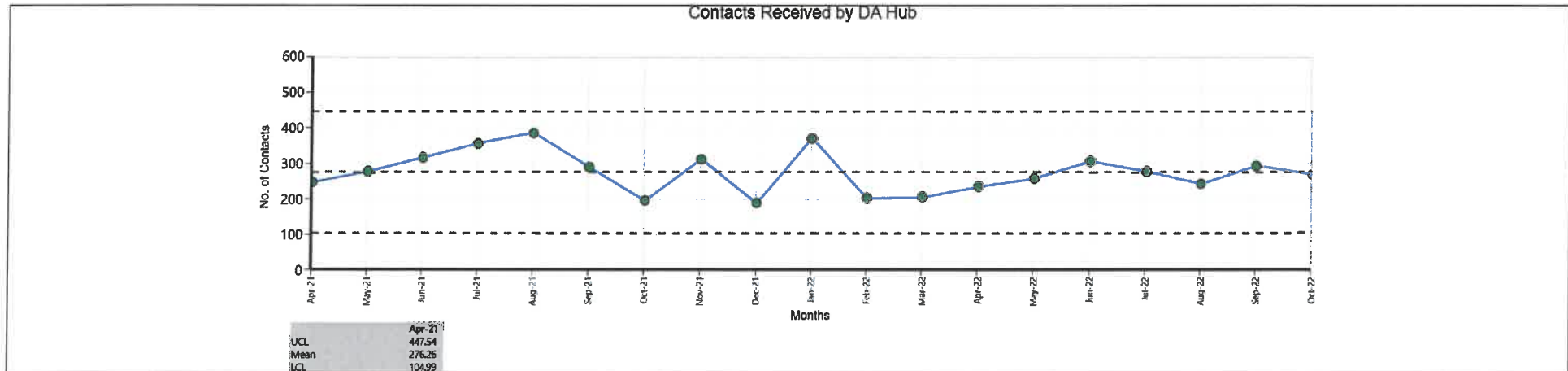
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Early Help Hubs

Contacts & Closures	October 2022	September 2022
The number of contacts for the Early Help Hubs received during the month:	179	136
The number of contacts closed Information, Advice or Assistance during the month:	26	23
The number of contacts agreed for Early Helps Hubs support during the month:	90	80
The number of contacts awaiting allocation at the end of the month:	219	209
The number of contacts received during the month where Advice or Assistance has been provided within 12 months:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of referrals received during the month where support ceased in the last 12 months:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of referrals closed during the month:	153	131
The number of referrals closed with a positive outcome during the month:	90	83



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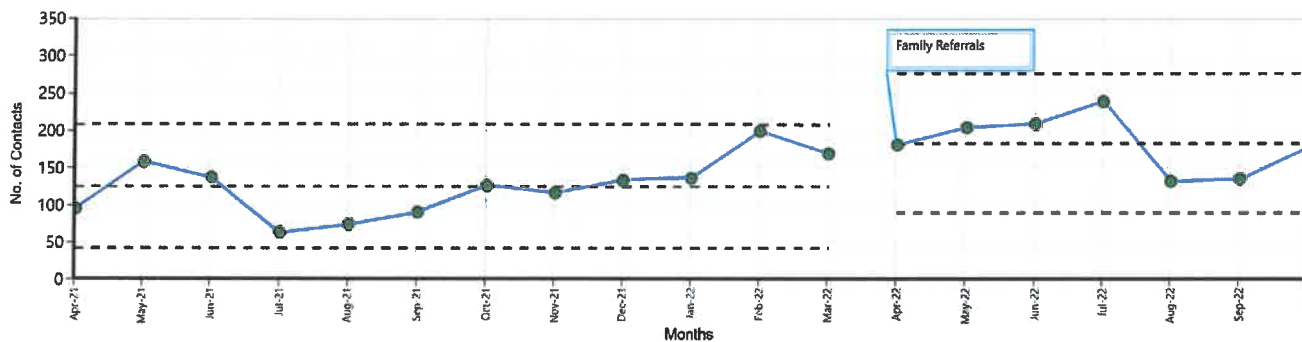
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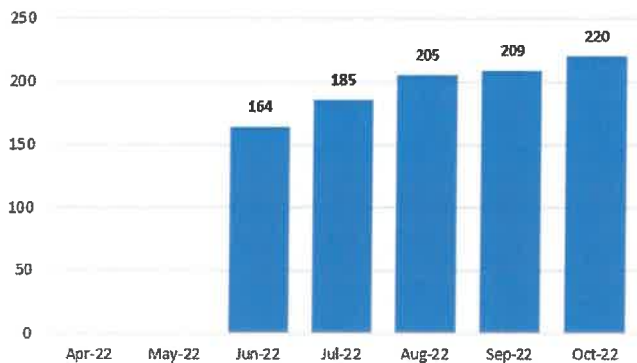
Staff Wellbeing

Contacts Received by Early Help Hubs

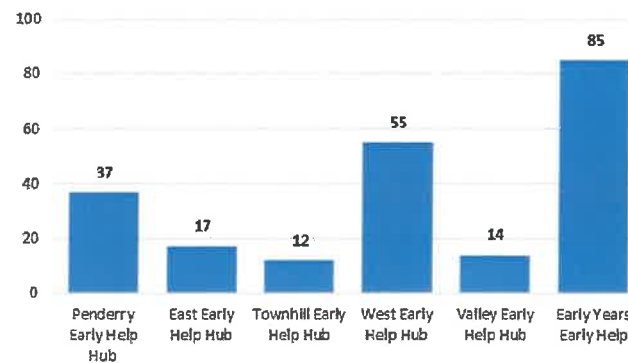


	Apr-21	Apr-22
UCL	208.85	277.12
Mean	125.67	183.57
LCL	42.48	90.03

Cases awaiting allocation - Early Help - Monthly Snapshot



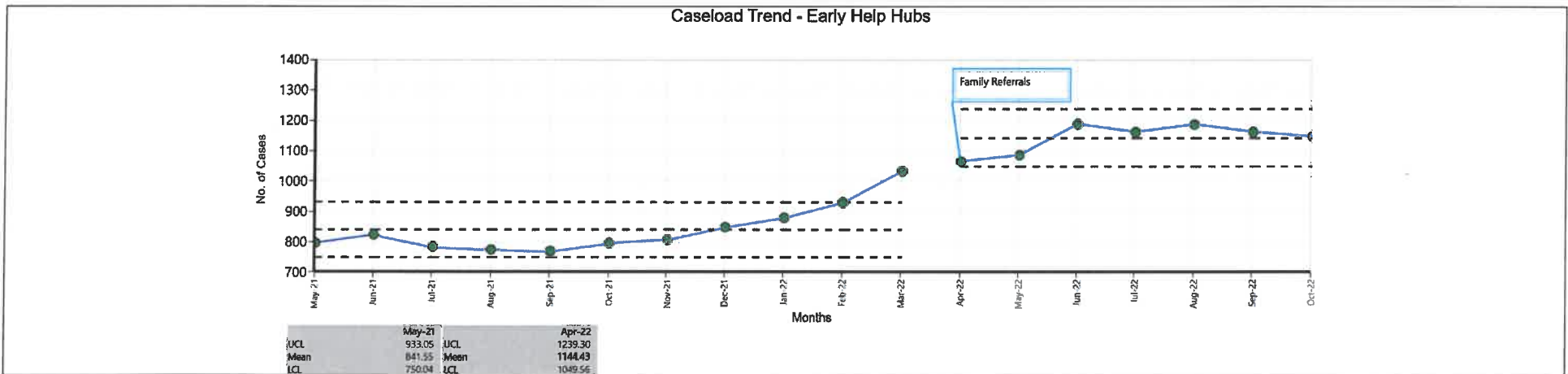
Cases awaiting allocation - Early Help - October 2022





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Caseload	October 2022	September 2022
The number of children and young people supported at the end of the month:	1149	1164
The number of children and young people with a Family Plan / Review at the end of the month:	Report To Be Developed	



Wellbeing Assessments	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Wellbeing Assessments due during the month:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of Wellbeing Assessments completed during the month:	60	34

Family Plans	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Family Plan / Review's completed during the month:	231	136



Family Wellbeing Team

Contacts, Caseloads & Closures	October 2022	September 2022
The number of referrals agreed for Family Wellbeing Support during the month:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of referrals closed to the Family Wellbeing Team during the month:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of children and young people supported by the Family Wellbeing Team at the end of the month:	Report To Be Developed	

Integrated Safeguarding Hub

Contacts & Closures	October 2022	September 2022
The number of contacts that were passed to the Integrated Safeguarding Hub during the month:	21	42
The number of contacts received during the month where Advice or Assistance has been provided within 12 months:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of contacts closed Information only during the month:	0	0
The number of contacts closed Advice or Assistance during the month:	4	0
The number of contacts passed to a preventative service during the month:	1	0
The number of contacts passed to Contextual, Missing, Exploited and Trafficked (CMET) Team during the month: (includes individuals, contextual areas and peer groups)	0	0
The number of contacts passed to Supported Care Planning for a comprehensive assessment during the month:	6	7
The number of contacts received during the month, which were being supported by the Integrated Safeguarding Hub at the end of the month:	10	35



Single Point of Contact

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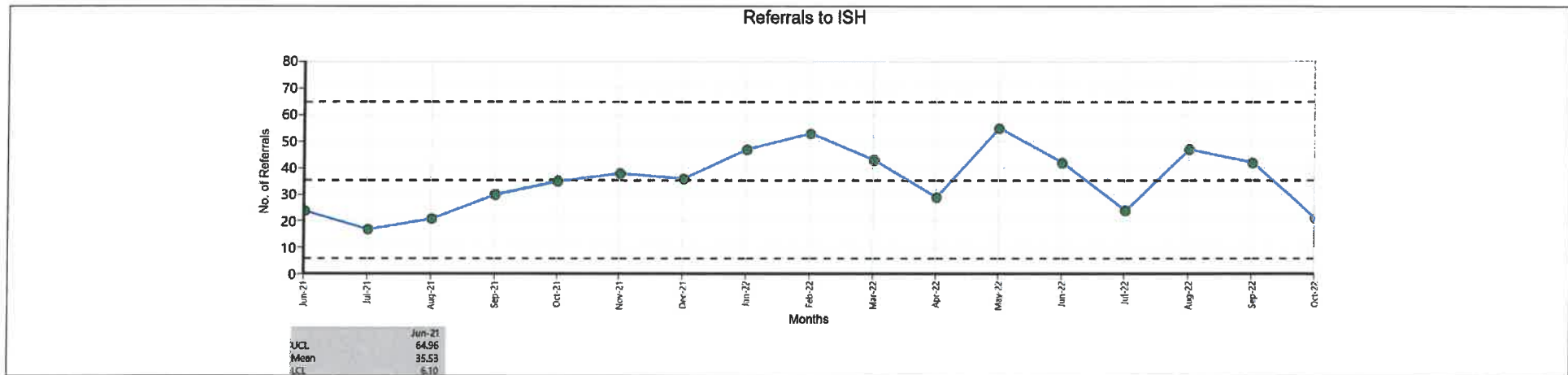
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Staff Wellbeing



Child Protection Investigations	October 2022	September 2022
The total number of Strategy Discussions / Meetings recorded during the month:	27	46
The number of Strategy Discussions / Meetings which require a Section 47 enquiry:	9	10
The number of Strategy Discussions / Meetings where no further CP action is required:	5	15
The total number of Section 47 enquires recorded during the month:	10	11
The number of Section 47 enquires which require an Initial Child Protection Conference:	5	5
The number of Section 47 enquires where there is no further CP action required:	5	1



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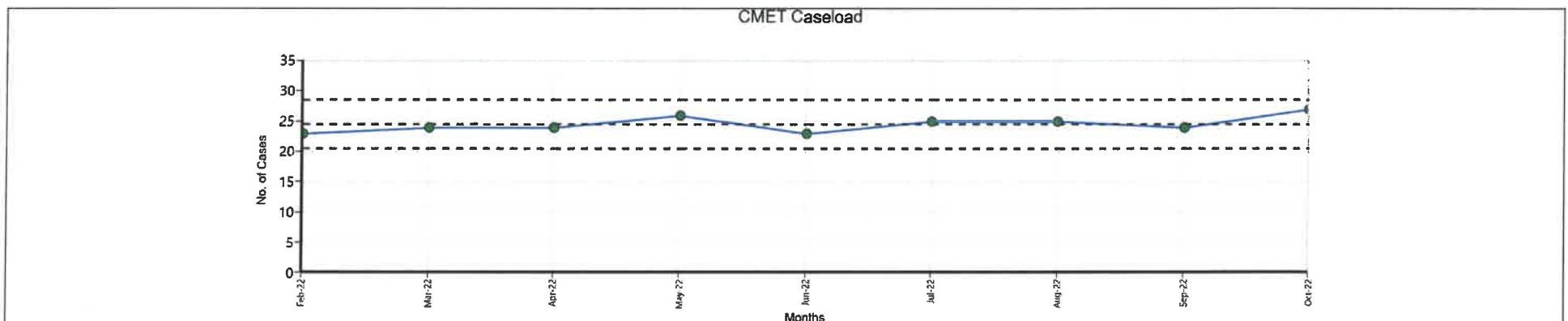
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Staff Wellbeing

CMET

Contacts, Caseload & Closures	October 2022	September 2022
The number of contacts relating to contextual areas and peer groups that were passed to CMET during the month:	3	2
The number of contacts relating to contextual areas and peer groups that were closed by CMET during the month:	0	3
The number of contacts relating to contextual areas and peer groups that were closed by CMET during the month with a positive outcome:		3
The number of contextual areas and peer groups supported by CMET at the end of the month:	27	24



Independent Carers Assessment Team

	October 2022	September 2022
The number of referrals received by the Independent Carers Assessment Team during the month:	9	5
The number of referrals for parent carers awaiting allocation at the end of the month:	20	
The number of parent carers supported by the Independent Carers Assessment Team at the end of the month:	42	



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The number of Independent Carers Assessments due during the month:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of Independent Carers Assessments completed during the month:	2	1
The number of referrals closed by the Independent Carers Assessment Team during the month:	1	2

What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> We have seen an increase in referrals passed from Information Advice and Assistance Team to a prevention service (29) and a reduction in those passed to the Integrated Safeguarding Hub (15) and CMET (10 – 3 contextual areas and 7 young people) compared with September. During October, there was a further increase in contacts to the Early Help Hubs (179) – although the number is lower than those reported between May and July. A high number of referrals were closed (153) during October and over half achieved a positive outcome (58.82%), however the number awaiting allocation (219) continues to exceed the numbers closed. Throughout October, fewer referrals were passed to the Integrated Safeguarding Hub (21 – 15 families, 4 sibling groups and 11 individuals). The Integrated Safeguarding Hub completed 4 proportionate assessments, and passed 6 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Child and Family recorded 1037 contacts during October, with a further increase in those supported with advice or assistance (14.18%) compared with September (11.82%). During October, Integrated Advice and Assistance Team received a higher number of contacts (549) and we can see the number has remained above average since July 2022 and is moving towards the higher end of our predicted range (339-611); however, the number of monthly contacts remains significantly below the numbers recorded by Information, Advice and Assistance team pre-pandemic. Although we are seeing a higher number of families being passed to prevention before coming over to Supported Care Planning there remains challenges around waiting lists in the Early Help hubs. HR processes continue to create a block to filling posts quickly to prevent waiting lists occurring. At the end of October, there was a 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce waiting list in Early Help through pushing forward new starters. Weekly multi-agency reviews will review Child Protection referrals into the Integrated Safeguarding Hub and Supported Care Planning to identify learning and continue to develop a shared threshold across the service. The Learning and Innovation Team will work with Early Help to identify how we can understand if we are achieving what matter to families via a feedback form accessible to all.



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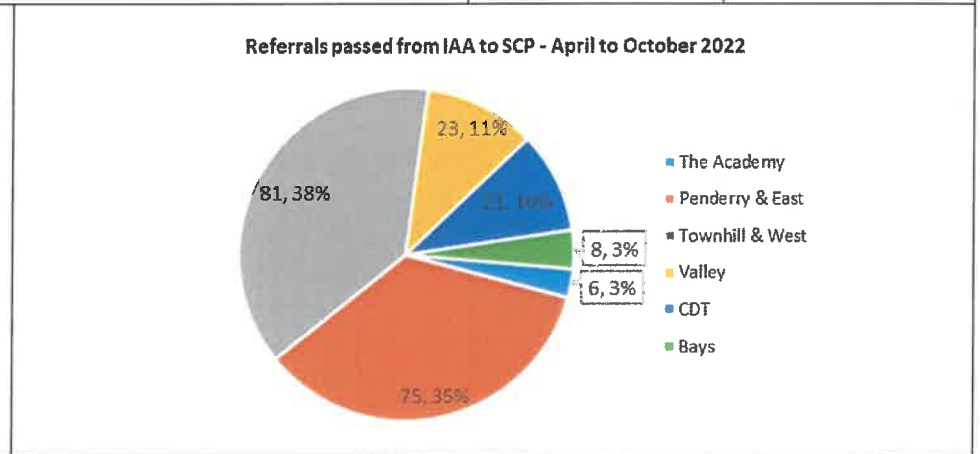
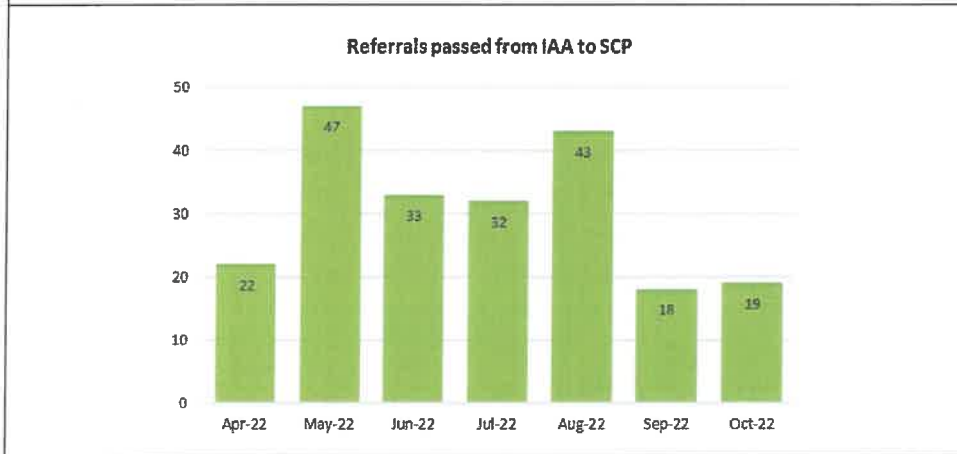
Staff Wellbeing

What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
<p>referrals to Supported Care Planning for further support during the month.</p> <p>5. Unsurprisingly, the reduction in referrals had led to fewer Child Protection enquires – although a greater proportion required a Section 47 (33.33%) compared with September (21.74%), with a comparable percentage proceeding to an Initial Child Protection Conference (50%).</p> <p>6. During October, Children Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Team received 3 referrals for contextual areas and peer groups resulting in an increased caseload (27) as there were no case closures during the month.</p>	<p>further increase in cases awaiting support (219) which is a concern as the children and families need may escalate if they are unable to access the right support.</p> <p>4. At the end of the month, more contacts were awaiting an outcome in Information, Advice and Assistance Team (83) – which could be linked to the increase in contacts received and capacity within the team.</p>	



Supported Care Planning

Contacts, Caseload & Closures	October 2022	September 2022
The number of referrals received for a comprehensive assessment during the month: (referrals passed from the Integrated IAA Hub)	19	19
The number of referrals received during the month where support ceased in the last 12 months:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of referrals closed in Supported Care Planning during the month:	50	50
The number of referrals closed with a positive outcome during the month:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of referrals passed to Family & Friends during the month:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of referrals stepped down to preventative services during the month:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of children and young people supported by Supported Care Planning at the end of the month:	1242	1250
Of these, the percentage that represent complex cases (CP & LAC):	54.19%	53.04%





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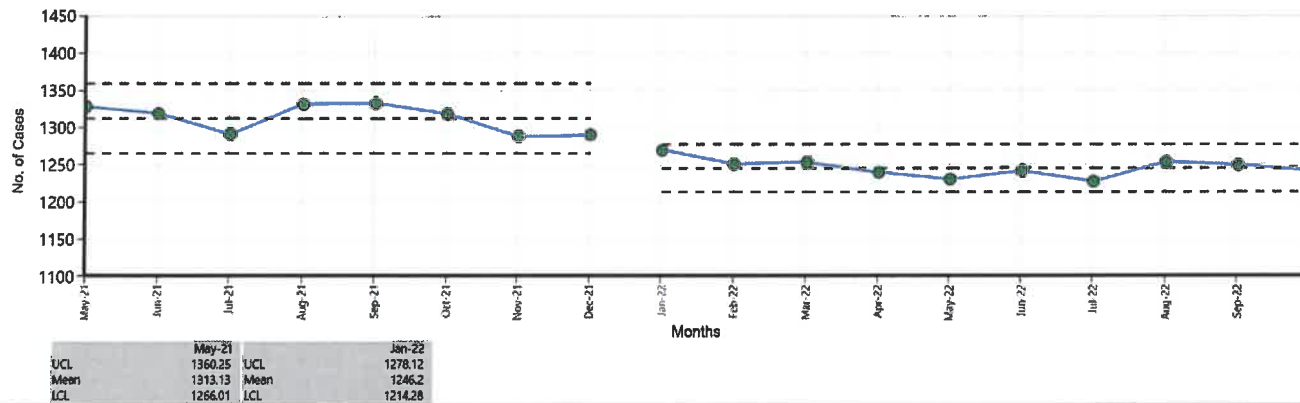
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Staff Wellbeing

Caseload Trend - Supported Care Planning



Case Supervision	October 2022	September 2022
The percentage of Case Supervision sessions which are on time or not overdue at the end of the month: (*Figure excludes the Academy, who are tracking case supervision whilst trialling recording methods)	74.19%	79.62%
Care & Support Plans	October 2022	September 2022
The number of children and young people with a Care and Support Plan at the end of the month:	993	976
Single Assessments	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Single Assessments due at the end of the month: (*Figure includes the Academy hubs)	159*	197
The number of Single Assessments that are overdue at the end of the month:	93	93
The number of Single Assessments completed during the month:	86	41
The number of Single Assessments carried out within timescales during the month:	13, 15.12%	1, 2.44%
The percentage of children seen during the period of assessment, who were born at the time the assessment concluded:	83.33%	75.61%
The average number of days to complete a Single Assessment during the month:	86 Days	70 Days



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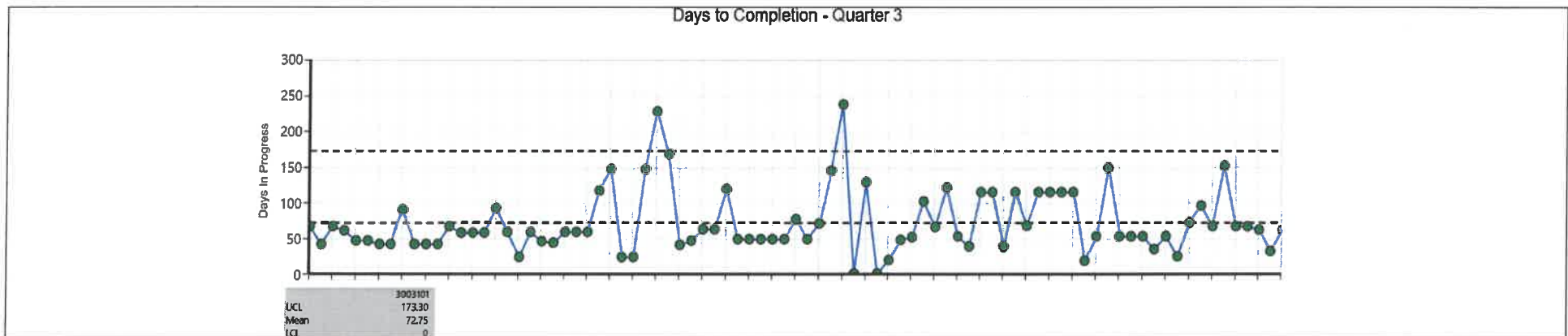
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Staff Wellbeing

Single Assessments	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Single Assessments which indicate direct work has been undertaken (Children aged 5 and over):	54, 84.38%	30, 83.33%



Child Protection Investigations	October 2022	September 2022
The total number of Strategy Discussions / Meetings recorded during the month:	52	27
The number of Strategy Discussions / Meetings which require a Section 47 enquiry:	35	16
The number of Strategy Discussions / Meetings no further CP action is required:	5	3
The total number of Section 47's recorded during the month:	26	20
The number of Section 47 enquires which require an Initial Child Protection Conference:	16	8
The number of Section 47 enquires where no further CP action is required:	5	8



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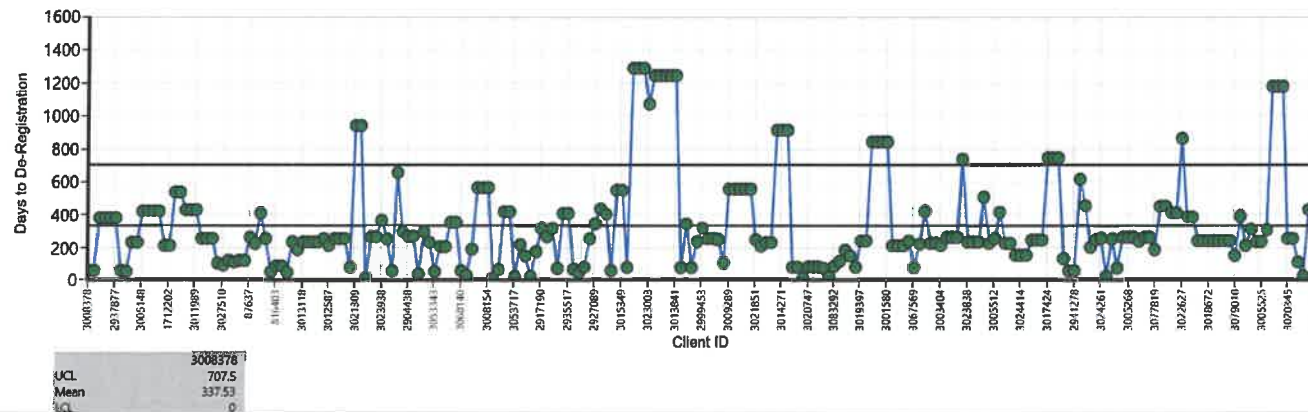
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Child Protection	October 2022	September 2022
The number of children on the Child Protection Register at the end of the month:	200	184
The number of unborns to be added to the Child Protection Register at birth at the end of the month:	17	16
The number of children on the Child Protection Register that have been registered previously:	64	63
The number of children added to the Child Protection Register during the month:	32	22
The number of children added to the Child Protection Register, within 12 months of de-registration:	1	2
The number of children added to the Child Protection Register, within 12 months of de-registrations who've been re-registered under the same category:	Report To Be Developed	
The number of children removed from the Child Protection Register during the month:	16	25
The number of children removed from the Child Protection Register at their first review, who were not Looked After:	0	1, 4.00%

Days to De-Registration - January to October 2022





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Qualitative Auditing – Multi Agency Safeguarding Reviews

De-Registration at First Review

During September, 1 young person's name was removed from the Child Protection Register at the Initial Review Child Protection Conference who was not Looked After by the Authority or transferring in/out of another Authority. Since de-registration, the decision has been reviewed in a multi-agency setting.

The young person has had significant involvement with the Youth Justice Service (YJS), a representative from which was able to attend and support the agencies in understanding the context of recent involvement. Agencies felt encouraged by the psychological assessment providing guidance on how to engage more suitably with the young person and they also felt re-assured that a social worker within YJS is continuing to work with the young person on a voluntary basis. However, significant concerns remained in relation to the young person's safety and professionals agreed with the Chair of the Conference who expressed that the safety plan remained untested and not evidenced as being sustainable. On this basis, professionals disagreed with the decision to de-register at the initial review.

Positively agencies views were well represented and it was evident that professionals had attempted to engage and invite family members and the young person to the conference; however they declined to attend. There was also a list of clear strategies the young person could use as part of a safety plan detailed within the analysis. Professional observations of family relationships were also well documented throughout. The learning from this review will be shared with managers in SCP and YOS.

Exploitation Case Reviews

During October, the multi-agency safeguarding review evaluated three protocol cases. In the cases reviewed, professionals felt threshold had been met to convene a strategy discussions and while strengths, safety, worries and risks were evident, they felt more detail was needed in all areas.

In two of the cases supported by Swansea Children's Services, safety plans were reviewed which addressed the worries around exploitation but professionals felt more detail was needed.

Professionals agreed with the protocol category in all three cases, and felt appropriate language had been used throughout. There was also clear evidence of multi-agency working with the right agencies in place to support the young people at risk.

Both cases managed by Swansea Children's Services were considered good case examples, with professionals highlighting the positive work undertaken by the CMET Team - who engaged the young people to feel able to tell their story. Professionals felt the recordings brought the young person to life using their voice, and created a picture of a victim of exploitation.

In addition, one of the cases reviewed was a looked after young person placed in Swansea by another Local Authority. In discussion, 'gaps' were identified as there is no requirement for Local Authorities to share information regarding exploitation, and consider it best practice. From reviewing the case, several learning opportunities were identified in how we share information with other Local Authorities, how we assess and manage risk, and the importance of placement matching. These themes have been shared with the Principal Officer for Safeguarding.



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Initial Core Groups	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Initial Core Groups due during the month:	21	28
The number of Initial Core Groups held within timescales:	20	14
Statutory Visits	October 2022	September 2022
The percentage of visits to children on the Child Protection Register that were on time or not over due at the end of the month:	87.04%	81.50%
The number of children on the Child Protection Register who have been visited at least twice during the month:	Report To Be Developed	
Dual Status	October 2022	September 2022
The number of children who are on the Child Protection Register and are Looked After:	23	21
Legal Proceedings	October 2022	September 2022
The number of children in PLO at the end of the month:	55	53
<i>During October, Public Law concluded for 7 children; of which the Local Authority concluded pre-legal proceedings for 3 and issued care proceedings for 4.</i>		
The number of children in Public Proceedings at the end of the month:	57	53
<i>During October, Public Proceedings concluded for 4 children; the Local Authority was granted Care and Placement Orders for 1, a Supervision Order for 1 and a Child Arrangement / Special Guardianship Orders were granted for 2.</i>		
Looked After Children	October 2022	September 2022
The number of children who were Looked After at the end of the month:	479	484
The number of children placed in an unregulated placement at the end of the month: <i>*Figure reported by PO in the absence of a report from WCCIS</i>	1*	1*
The number of children becoming Looked After during the month:	13	9
The number of Looked After children, with an unaccompanied asylum status supported at the end of the month:	3	3
The number of children ceasing to be Looked After during the month:	18	9



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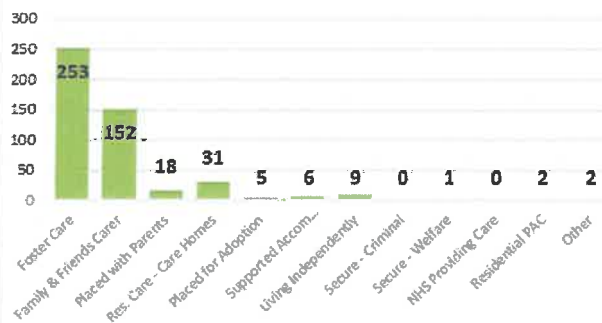
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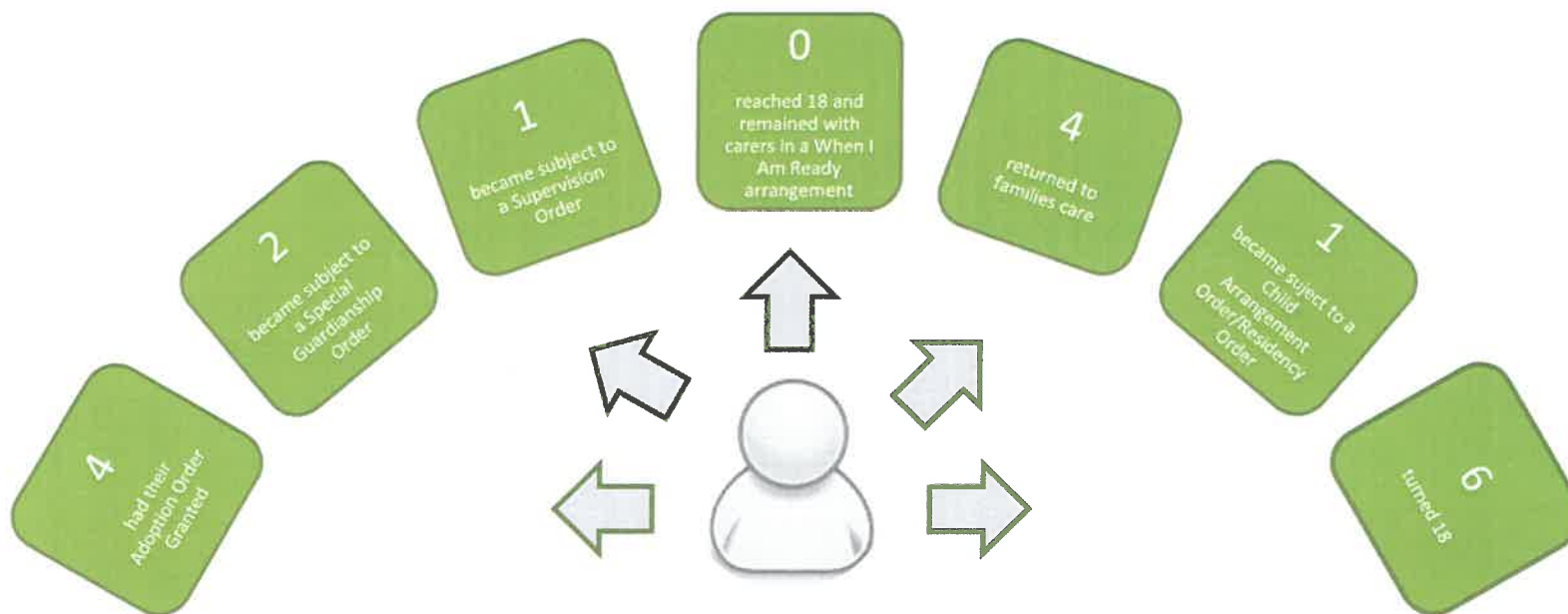
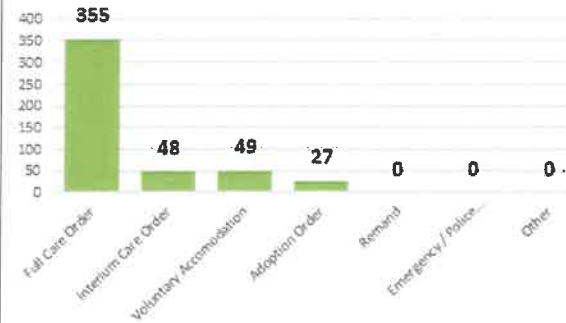
Looked After Children - Placement Type



Looked After Children - Age and Gender



Looked After Children - Legal Status





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Initial Personal Education Plan	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Initial PEPs due within 20 school days of becoming Looked After during the month:	7	7
The number of Initial PEPs received within 20 school days of becoming Looked After:	5	6

Qualitative Auditing

Appreciative Inquiry
 Andy Jones, Practice Lead in the Learning and Innovation Team met with a father of a baby who was subject to care proceedings to ask some questions around what he felt went well, what could have been done better and how we could improve in future:

Context:
 Baby G could not live with his birth mum and lived in foster care, initially, during care proceedings. Contact was made with Baby G's father and Baby G transferred to his care. Baby G is now living with his dad on a care order. The plan is that the care order will end and Baby G will continue living with his birth father and have contact with his birth mum supported by his dad's friends / network.

Strengths:
 Consistent Social Worker; relationship with Foster Carer; Foster Carer support; Social Worker aiding communication; financial support; Jigso; WhatsApp support network; introductory visits; involvement in meetings.

Areas for Development:
 Financial support delays; DBS checks; Jigso/Social Worker communication; staffing changes (Jigso)

Suggestions:
 Shadowing with Foster Carers; timescales for finances and DBS; more directness re worries; prep and de-briefs re meetings

Key Learning:
 The baby's social worker persisted in her curiosity in finding out who the baby's father was including in the context of care proceedings. She acted as a conduit for communication, in the early days, between the foster carer and baby's biological dad which helped him think about what it might mean becoming a dad. The Foster Carer was involved in the planning process for rehabilitation which stood out as good practice. The case network created a WhatsApp group and used this to offer the Dad a 24/7 support service. Dad also appreciated valuable support from Jigso and having access to a parenting group.

"I have rarely heard of this level of commitment to supporting a parent and the father himself and the staff who know him all saw a remarkable journey from a nervous and cautious parent to a man with growing confidence." – Andy.



Bays Plus

	October 2022	September 2022
The number of young people presenting as homeless, placed in a bed & breakfast, during the month (under 18's only): (includes Air B&B and Hotels)	0	2
The total number of young people residing in a bed & breakfast at any time during the month (under 18's only):	0	2
The number of young people presenting as homeless, placed in emergency accommodation, during the month (under 18's only): (includes Jennings, Emergency SLS, SPOT Purchasing Provisions)	3	4
The total number of young people residing in emergency accommodation at any time during the month (under 18's only):	7	5

What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Supported Care Planning continue to close (50) more cases than those passed from IAA (19) for a comprehensive assessment. We envisage the number of closures to be higher than reported, as we're currently unable to reflect the number of cases transferred to other service areas. At the end of October, there was a marginal reduction in the number of children and young people supported by the statutory service (1242), despite a downward trend since August 2022 we continue to be mindful of the pressures the service is under and the ongoing capacity issues. Despite staffing challenges, we continue to see higher numbers of children and young people with an active Care and Support Plan (993). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 86 Single Assessments concluded during October, and of these 13 (15.12%) were completed within statutory timescales. The timeliness of Single Assessments is impacted by ongoing staffing challenges which is unlikely to improve until capacity in the service improves. During October there is a notable increase in Child Protection enquires undertaken by the statutory service, with a high proportion requiring a Section 47 (67.31%) and progressing to an Initial Child Protection Conference (61.54%). At the end of October, 2 young people are placed in accommodation categorised as 'other'. 1 of these young people is placed in an unregulated placement, while the other is considered a hybrid of Independent Living and Family & Friends. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Supported Accommodation Pathway process is currently under review to identify how best we can support young people who are facing challenges in being offered appropriate accommodation. Managers are currently reviewing how we support the teams through December and January given the current staffing difficulties and leave often taken during this time. The Learning and Improvement Team will be working with WCCIS and Bays Plus to determine if we can develop a recording mechanism for different placement scenarios.



Single Point of Contact

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Staff Wellbeing

What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
<p>4. Although there are ongoing challenges with the timeliness of Single Assessments, we continue to see a high proportion of assessments where there is evidence that direct work has been undertaken for children aged 5 and older (84.38%) and continue to see children during the period of assessment (83.33%).</p> <p>5. Of the Child Protection registrations, 1 (3.12%) has been re-registered within 12 months of a previous de-registration. In addition, there were no de-registrations during October at the first review.</p> <p>6. The number of children on the Child Protection Register has increased (+16) since September (184); which is similar to the Child Protection Population at the same period last year (200). Although this is an increase it would be more at a level we would expect to see for our population.</p> <p>7. There has been a reduction in the average number of days on the Child Protection Register (259 days) for those de-registered during the month, compared with August and September (+300 days). During October, only 4 children were de-registered after a registration period in excess of 400 days – with the remaining 14 registered for</p>	<p>4. During October we have seen an increase in the number of young people who are residing in emergency accommodation. 4 young people have been existing young people who have remained in emergency accommodation since September. 3 new young people have presented homeless and have had to access emergency accommodation although one has since returned home. Of the 3 young people, all are receiving support under CINCS with 2 accessing Jennings and 1 via an unregulated arrangement due to refusal of Jennings.</p> <p>5. While there was an improvement in case supervision during September (79.62%), there has since been a reduction in cases with supervision which is on time or not overdue at the end of October (74.19%) which may reduce further given the ongoing staffing challenges.</p> <p>6. At the end of October notably fewer Single Assessments were outstanding (159) compared with previous months, however the proportion overdue has increased (58.49%).</p> <p>7. On 31st October 479 children and young people had a looked after status, of these 184 (38.41%) were placed outside of Swansea (the figure</p>	



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What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
<p>less than 1 year, which reduces the average number to be within our optimal time period.</p> <p>8. There has been a significant improvement in Initial Core Groups held within timescales (20, 95.24%), compared with 50% during September; and a marginal improvement in the compliance with Child Protection Statutory Visits being on time or not overdue at the end of the month (87.04%).</p>	<p>excludes children placed in pre-adoptive placements).</p> <p>8. Of those placed outside of Swansea, 112 were placed in a neighbouring Local Authority (Neath Port Talbot or Carmarthenshire), 52 were placed within another Local Authority in Wales and 20 were placed in England or Scotland (the one in Scotland is living with a kinship carer).</p>	



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Family & Friends

Family & Friends Carers	October 2022	September 2022
The number of referrals requesting Initial Family & Friends Carers assessments (IFFCA's) received during the month:	9	4
The number of IFFCA's allocated during the month:	6	4
The number of Unified Assessments (UA's) allocated during the month:	Report to be developed	
The number of Carers approved at panel during the month:	3	2
The number of approved carer status' terminated at panel during the month:	3	3
The number of approved carer households at the end of the month:	113	115
The number of Carer Review's due during the month:	Report to be developed	
The number of Carer Review's completed within timescales during the month:	Report to be developed	

Family & Friends Placements	October 2022	September 2022
The total number of children placed with a Family & Friends carer at the end of the month:	140	142
The number of children placed with unapproved Family & Friends carers at the end of the month:	11	10
The number of Placement Stability Meetings completed during the month:		1
The number of children who moved from an approved placement during the month, due to placement breakdown:	1	0
The number of children who moved from an emergency (Regulation 26) placement during the month:	2	0



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Children Subject to Special Guardianship & Child Arrangement Orders	October 2022	September 2022
The number of children, subject to a Special Guardianship or Child Arrangement Order, accepted by Family & Friends during the month:	6	7
The number of children, subject to a Special Guardianship or Child Arrangement Order, whose care circumstances changed during the month:	2	3
The number of children, subject to a Special Guardianship or Child Arrangement Order, supported by Family & Friends, at the end of the month:	301	299
The number of SGO Reviews due during the month:	18	31
The number of SGO Reviews completed during the month:	8	11
The number of Family Stability Meetings held and Stability Plans produced during the month:	1	6

**Figures reported by Family & Friends in the absence of reporting from WCCIS*

<p>Number of requests for assessment received per month (IFFCA)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>Number of requests</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Apr-22</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>May-22</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>Jun-22</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>Jul-22</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>Aug-22</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>Sep-22</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Oct-22</td><td>12</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Month	Number of requests	Apr-22	11	May-22	6	Jun-22	12	Jul-22	7	Aug-22	5	Sep-22	4	Oct-22	12	<p>SGO/CAO Transfers Accepted by Family & Friends Team During the Month</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>Number of transfers</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Apr-22</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>May-22</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Jun-22</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>Jul-22</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Aug-22</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Sep-22</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>Oct-22</td><td>6</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Month	Number of transfers	Apr-22	0	May-22	4	Jun-22	8	Jul-22	4	Aug-22	1	Sep-22	7	Oct-22	6	<p><u>Overview of SGO Endings</u></p> <p>During October 2 SGO care circumstance ended. Both children have reached the age of 18.</p> <p><i>*There continues to be data cleansing with regard to SGO so figures are subject to change until such a time as a system-based SGO database is established.</i></p>
Month	Number of requests																																	
Apr-22	11																																	
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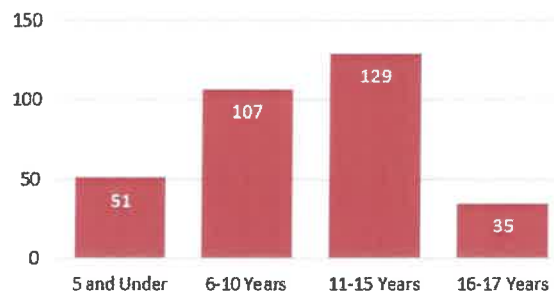
Youth Offending Service

Staff Wellbeing

Children subject to SGO/CAO/RO whereby the Guardians are in receipt of a financial package - Oct-22



Age Demographic of Children Subject to SGO/RO/CAO in receipt of financial package - Oct-22



Children becoming subject to SGO/CAO



What is working well?

1. Two children who were placed in an emergency (Reg 26) placement have returned home.
2. Only 1 Family Stability Meeting was required during October which successfully prevented breakdown.
3. 6 referrals for assessment have been allocated to a Supervising Social Worker during the month.
4. 6 Annual Reviews were completed for Carers.
5. 18 Annual Reviews were completed for Special Guardians.

What are we worried about?

1. One child moved placement from a Friends and Family Carer to a Foster Wales Swansea placement as a result of an unplanned move.
2. 1 referral request for an Independent Family and Friends Carers Assessment (IFFCA) was sent through for an individual not wishing to be assessed; this has since been closed.
3. 1 referral request for an IFFCA was incomplete at the time of creation; this is now a Regulation 26 assessment.

What do we need to do?

1. Continue to develop SGO database.
2. Continue to develop Carer database.



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Foster Wales Swansea

Recruitment	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Registrations of Interest to foster received during the month:	9	14
The number of full assessments allocated during the month:	4	0
The number of carers approved at panel during the month:	1	2
The number of approved carer status' terminated at panel during the month:	2	3
The number of carer reviews during the month:	12	10
The number of carer reviews completed within timescales during the month:	3	0
Placements	October 2022	September 2022
The total number of children placed with a Foster Wales Swansea carer at the end of the month:	168	167
The number of Placement Stability Meetings completed during the month:	1	3
The number of children who changed placement during the month, due to placement breakdown:	2	1
The number of children moving from a Foster Wales Swansea carer to a Residential placement during the month:	0	0
The number of children moving from a Residential placement to a Foster Wales Swansea carer during the month:	0	0



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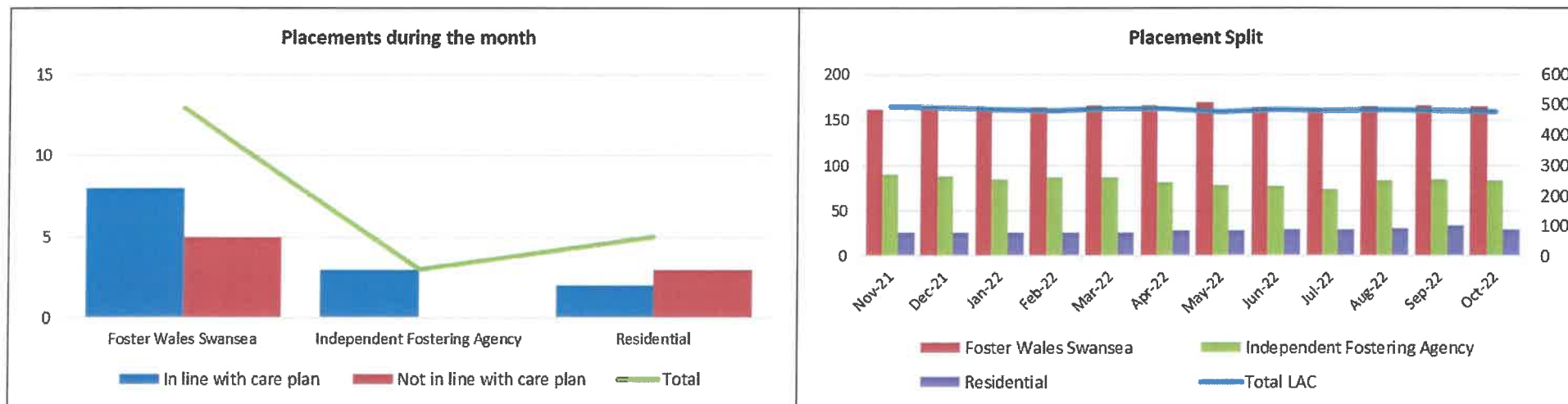
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Staff Wellbeing



What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> We are still generating initial enquiries despite the current cost of living crisis. We approved another fostering household. Our use of IFAs continues to be relatively low. Only three children were placed with an IFA this month – it was a sibling group. 76.5% of the fostering requests for October were placed with Foster Wales Swansea carers. Placement stability continues to improve, with only 1 placement stability meeting taking place in October. We have allocated four households for a Form F assessment. Several of the unavailable vacancies will become available over the next month or two. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The number of enquiries which resulted in a Register of Interest form being completed and then a home visit arranged has decreased. People still appear to be in the information gathering stage and not in a position to proceed any further. The number of available vacancies is extremely low. No children moved from residential care into a fostering placement. The number of Parent and Child referrals has increased significantly. The number of referrals for unborns has also increased. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor and review the unavailable vacancies. Research and explore ideas to improve the 'package' for both new and existing carers. It needs to be more attractive to recruit and retain. Target IFA carers to move to Foster Wales Swansea. Continue to monitor the recruitment process to ensure that applicants are moving through in a timely manner and where relevant, IFA carers are fast tracked. Continue promoting fostering in line with the recruitment and retention strategy and working with Foster Wales nationally to recruit more foster carers and improve the 'offer'.



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What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
		<p>6. Continue to improve the retention offer for existing foster carers in line with the recruitment and retention strategy and working with Foster Wales nationally to retain more foster carers and improve the 'offer'.</p> <p>7. The reasons for the 9 annual reviews not completed in October are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1 x on hold due to house renovations- 3 x awaiting new social worker due to theirs retiring- 3 x booked for November- 2 x cancelled and rebooked for November



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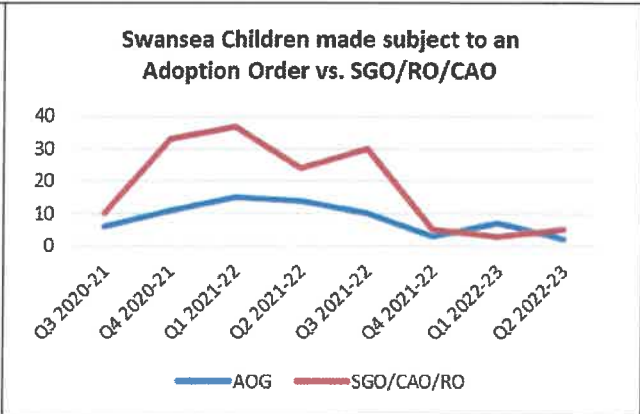
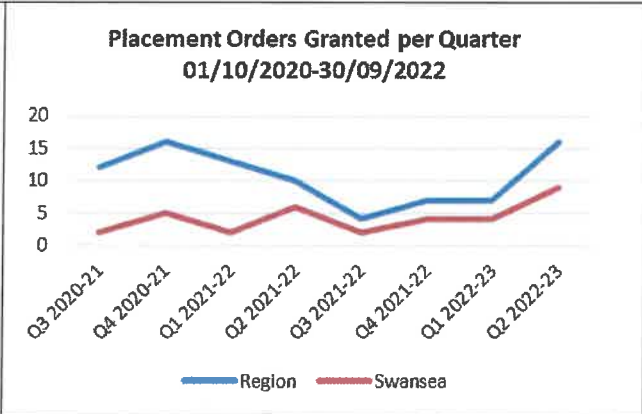
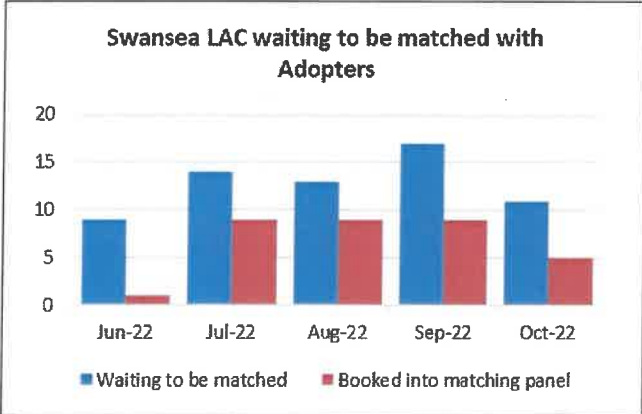
Professional Abuse Enquiries

Youth Offending Service

Staff Wellbeing

Western Bay Adoption Service

Recruitment	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Registrations of Interest to adopt received during the month:	3	1
The number of full assessments allocated during the month:	3	1
The number of adopters approved at panel during the month:	1	3
The number of approved adopters who have withdrawn from Western Bay Adoption Service during the month:	0	0
The number of adopter reviews due during the month:	0	3
The number of adopter reviews completed within timescales during the month:		3
Western Bay Adoption Placements	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Swansea children with a positive Should Be Placed outcome by the Agency Decision Maker during the month	6	2
The number of Swansea children made subject of a Placement Order during the month:	1	2
The number of Swansea Looked After Children placed with Western Bay Adopters during the month:	0	0
The total number of Swansea Looked After Children placed with Western Bay Adopters at the end of the month:	5	8
The total number of Swansea Looked After Children matched with adopters during the month:	5	2
The number of Swansea Looked After Children waiting to be matched with adopters:	11 (5 booked into matching panel, 3 with links being explored, 2 on hold and 1 with no links identified)	17 (9 booked into matching panel, 1 on hold, 2 with strong links and 6 links being explored)
The number of Swansea Looked After Children who have been matched with adopters but not yet placed for adoption:	5	2
The number of Swansea Looked After Children whose plan for adoption has changed:	1	0



What is working well?

1. Pool of waiting adopters is good in terms of placement choice (28 families).
2. Increase in cases achieving a Placement Order, although numbers remain lower than pre pandemic times.
3. Children coming through on a Placement Order have predominately been linked and matched with regional adopters, there has been increased matching activity which will lead to more placements in November and December
4. Although adoption support remains busy, the team are managing the referrals and work with the additional resources in place.

What are we worried about?

1. Enquiries and adopter approvals are down returning to levels pre pandemic. The cost of living crisis will undoubtedly further impact this area.

What do we need to do?

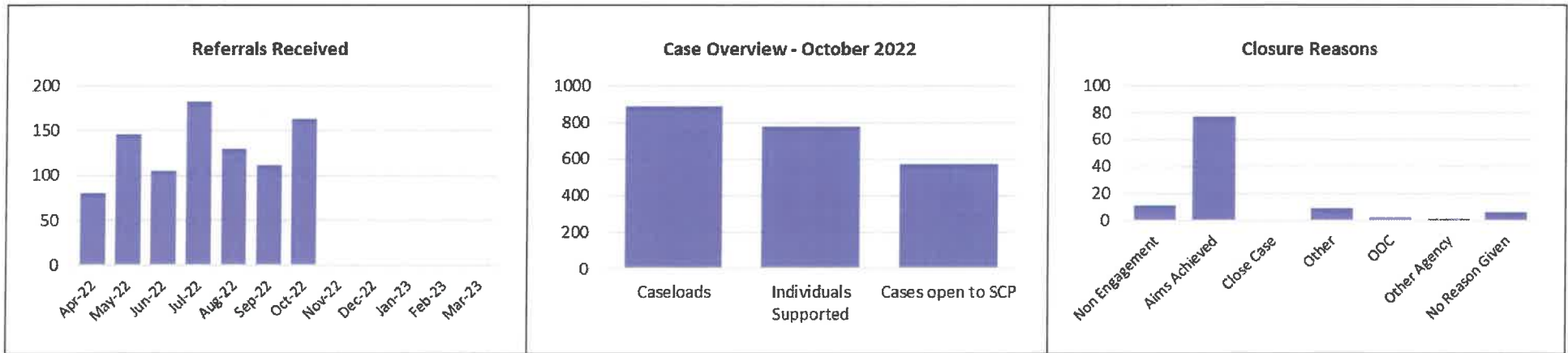
1. Continue to ensure that the service is ready and able to meet the demands of each of the LAs in relation to the number of children referred and those whose eventual plan is adoption.
2. Focus on the early intervention and preventative support to adopted children and their families
3. Consider with the LAs the need for respite support for adopted children
4. Embed the good practice guides in relation to contact, adoption support, birth parent support and transition.



Support Services

Family Support Service

Referrals, Caseload & Closures	October 2022	September 2022
The total number of referrals received by Family Support Services during the month:	163	112
The total number of individuals supported by Family Support Services at the end of the month:	889	824
The total number of individuals closed by Family Supported Services during the month:	106	81
The number of individuals closed with an improved outcome during the month:	77	66



What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
1. Positive closure reasons remain high and consistent following some updated	1. There is no standardised system to 'check' whether we are achieving 'what matters' to children and families.	1. To develop a 'check' system at point of allocation to individuals within teams that captures whether we have achieved 'what matters' or not.



Single Point of Contact

Supported Care Planning

Fostering & Adoption

Support Services

SQU & CPCU

Professional Abuse Enquires

Youth Offending Service

Staff Wellbeing

What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
<p>advice/guidance to managers/seniors with case closure responsibilities.</p> <p>2. The Single Point of Entry test phase is ongoing and shaping access to the services, sequential planning for families and allocation decisions based on understanding enough of 'what matters' to children and families.</p> <p>3. The WCCIS build for a Family Support distance travelled form is underway.</p> <p>4. The Single Point of Entry flows and systems have been reviewed and updated.</p>	<p>2. There is a lack of qualitative data to understand children and families experiences of Family Support.</p> <p>3. Some teams have waiting lists due to staffing pressures and transitions to new structures.</p>	<p>2. Continue with Not in Employment Education or Training WCCIS build.</p> <p>3. Continue with the development of a generic Family Support (but specific to each service area) distance travelled form.</p> <p>4. Continue to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Single Point of Entry with a view to including other test areas.</p>



Single Point of Contact

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Professional Abuse Enquiries

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Staff Wellbeing

Service Quality Unit & Child Protection Conference Unit

Child Protection Conferences	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Initial Conferences held during the month:	34	22
The number of Initial Conferences held within timescales during the month:	33*	22*
The number of Review Conferences held during the month:	58	71
The number of Review Conferences held within timescales during the month:	58*	70*
LAC & Pathway Plan Reviews	October 2022	September 2022
The number of LAC & Pathway Plan Reviews carried out during the month:	120	127
The number of LAC & Pathway Plan Reviews held within timescales during the month:	120*	124*
Adoption Reviews	October 2022	September 2022
The number of Adoption Reviews carried out during the month:	1	1
The number of Adoption Reviews held within timescales during the month:	1*	1*

**Figures reported by SQU and CPCU in the absence of a report from WCCIS*

What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
During October, there is a notable increase in the number of Initial Child Protection Conferences (34), which reflects in the increased Child Protection activity within the service. A high proportion were held within timescales (33, 97.06%). Fewer Review Conferences were held during October (58), although this is to be expected as July and September are often busier due to the school holidays – all of which were held within statutory timescales.		



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	October 2022	September 2022
The number of ongoing investigations at the end of the month:	12	13
The number of enquires received during the month:	29	19
The number of enquires re-directed to Adult Services:	1	2
The number of enquires which met threshold for an investigation:	16	8
The number of enquires closed with no further investigation:	8	9
The number of enquires passed onto a different Local Authority:	2	0
The number of enquires waiting further investigation to determine if threshold is met:	2	0
The number of Professional Abuse Strategy meetings (PASM) held during the month:	26	24
The number of Initial meetings held during the month:	16	11
The number of Review meetings held during the month:	10	13
The number of investigations which concluded during the month:	14	21
9 investigations concluded with a Substantiated outcome; 2 were Unsubstantiated, 2 Unfounded and 1 Malicious.		

What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
PASMs are in the expected range but at the upper limit. PASM activity is often variable and unpredictable but over the next 3 months we will monitor to see if there is an overall upward trend.		



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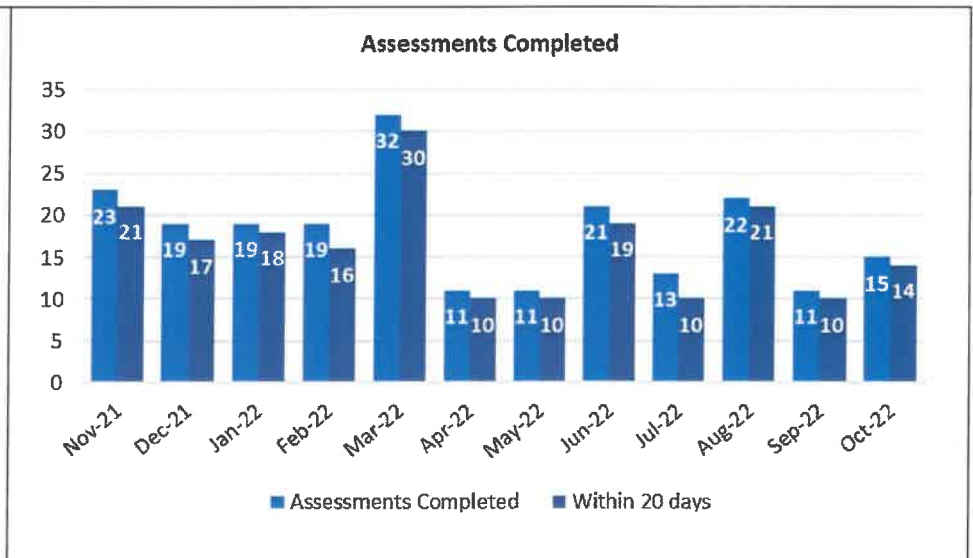
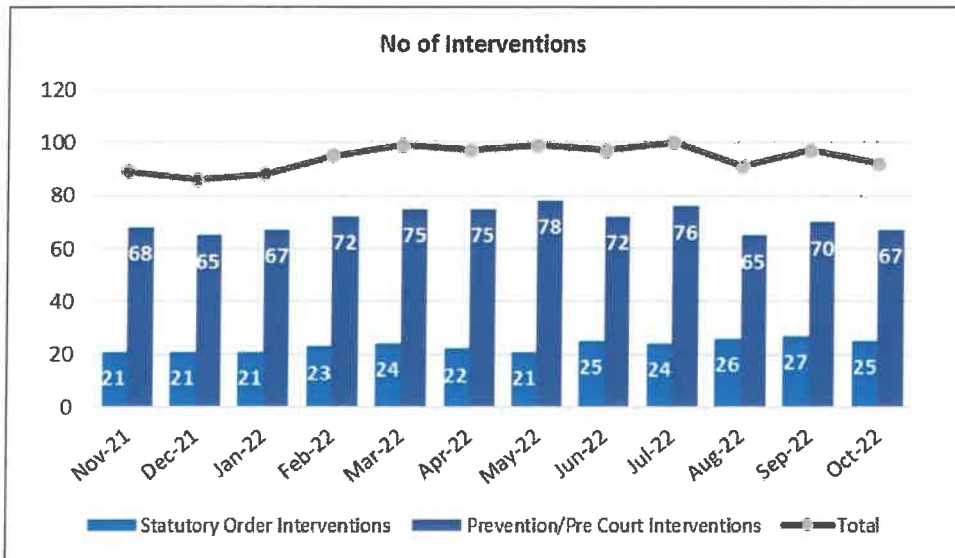
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Staff Wellbeing

Youth Offending Service

	October 2022	September 2022
The total number of young people with an open intervention at the end of the month:	92	97
The number of young people on remand at the end of the month:	0	0
The number of Asset Plus Assessments completed during the month:	15	11
The number of Asset Plus Assessments completed within 20 days:	14	10
The number of supervisions that took place during the month:	19	17





Single Point of Contact

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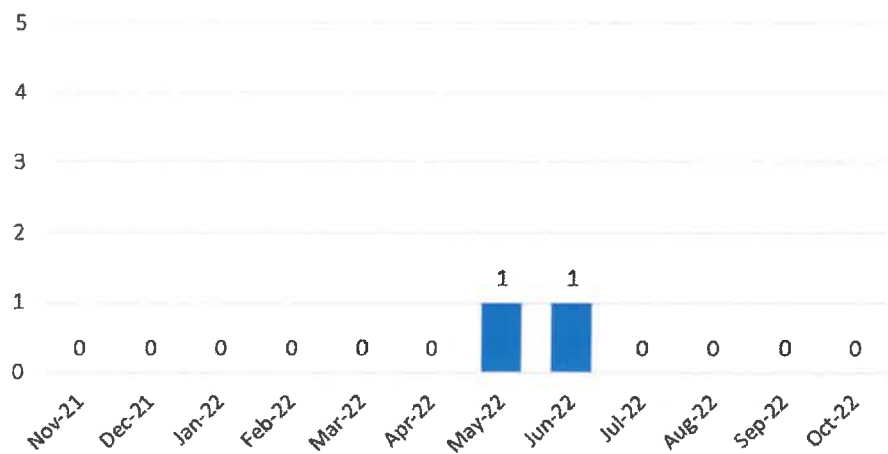
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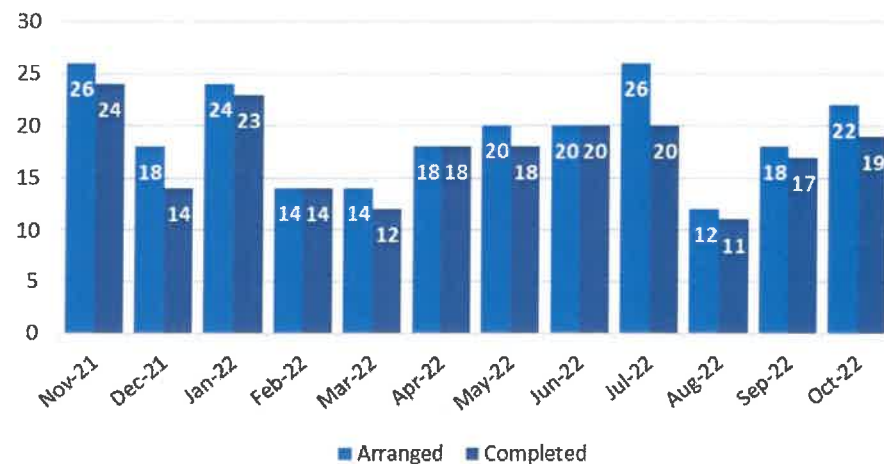
Youth Offending Service

Staff Wellbeing

Remand



Supervision



What is working well?

1. There has been a very slight reduction in young people open on interventions during the month however, the numbers remain consistent with previous months.
2. 15 assessments were completed within the month which is a slight increase from last month. 14 of these assessments were completed within timeframe. The overall numbers remain within the usual expected numbers for the service.
3. There have been no children remanded into custody, this is consistent with the preceding 3 months and in line with the majority of 2022

What are we worried about?

1. Staff sickness has been an issue over the last month and this has particularly had an impact in terms of the allocation of prevention cases. It is anticipated that all prevention cases (9) currently awaiting allocation will be allocated within the next week.
2. The service has continued to be without a practice lead for prevention and early intervention during this period which has meant pressure on the remaining practice leads, particularly in relation to supervision and supporting staff, has continued.

What do we need to do?

1. The service now has an interim team manager who began in post at the start of October. It is hoped that this will provide some stability for the service moving forward. We have also been able to appoint into the vacant practice lead role which will provide some additional stability at management level and will allow for reduced pressure on the two practice leads currently in post.
2. The service began a systems review at the beginning of November. Updates relating to this review will be shared with the wider service as it



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Staff Wellbeing

What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
<p>which has seen only 1 young person remanded. This remand period spanned over two months.</p> <p>4. Supervisions have remained high during this month. Currently the service has a few staff members off work due to sickness, and there has also been a change of Manager and change of line management of some staff due to this. It is positive to see that despite this, supervision numbers remain high.</p>		<p>progresses. It is hoped that this will enable us to consider how we improve performance reporting.</p>



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SQU & CPCU

Professional Abuse Enquires

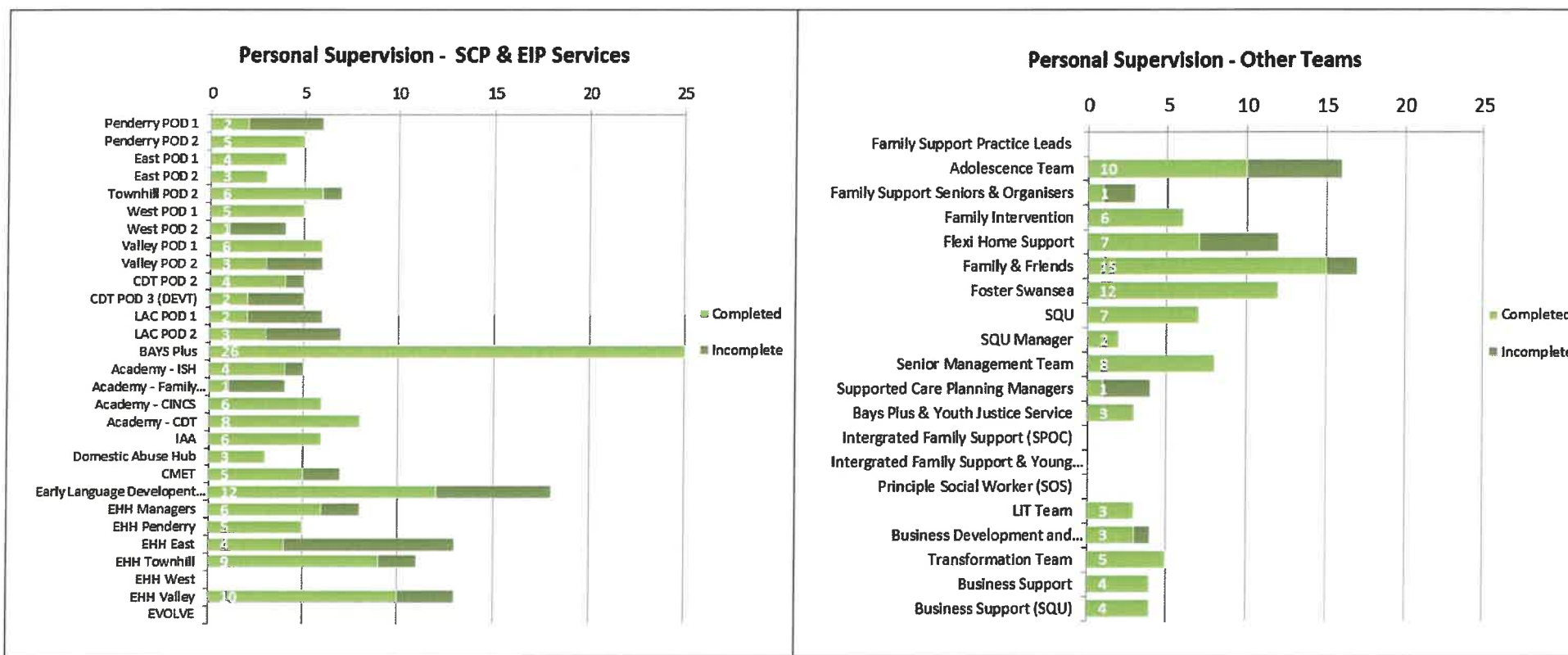
Youth Offending Service

Staff Wellbeing

Staff Wellbeing

Supervision

Personal Supervision	October 2022	September 2022
The percentage of Personal Supervision sessions that took place within timescales:	77.56%	86.46%





Single Point of Contact

Supported Care Planning

Fostering & Adoption

Support Services

SQU & CPCU

Professional Abuse Enquires

Youth Offending Service

Staff Wellbeing

Complaints

Complaints – Stage 1	October 2022	September 2022
The number of complaints received during the month:	25	16
The number of complains closed during the month:	19*	15
<i>During October, 2 complaints were justified, 1 partially justified and 3 not justified; 6 were not pursued, 2 were referred to another agency, 2 matters were in court, 1 was not eligible, 1 concurrent, 1 for information and 6 are ongoing.</i>		
The number of ongoing complaints received during the month:	6	1
<i>The ongoing complaints were received at the end of October, and are still within timescales for investigation.</i>		

*Figure include ongoing complain received in September.

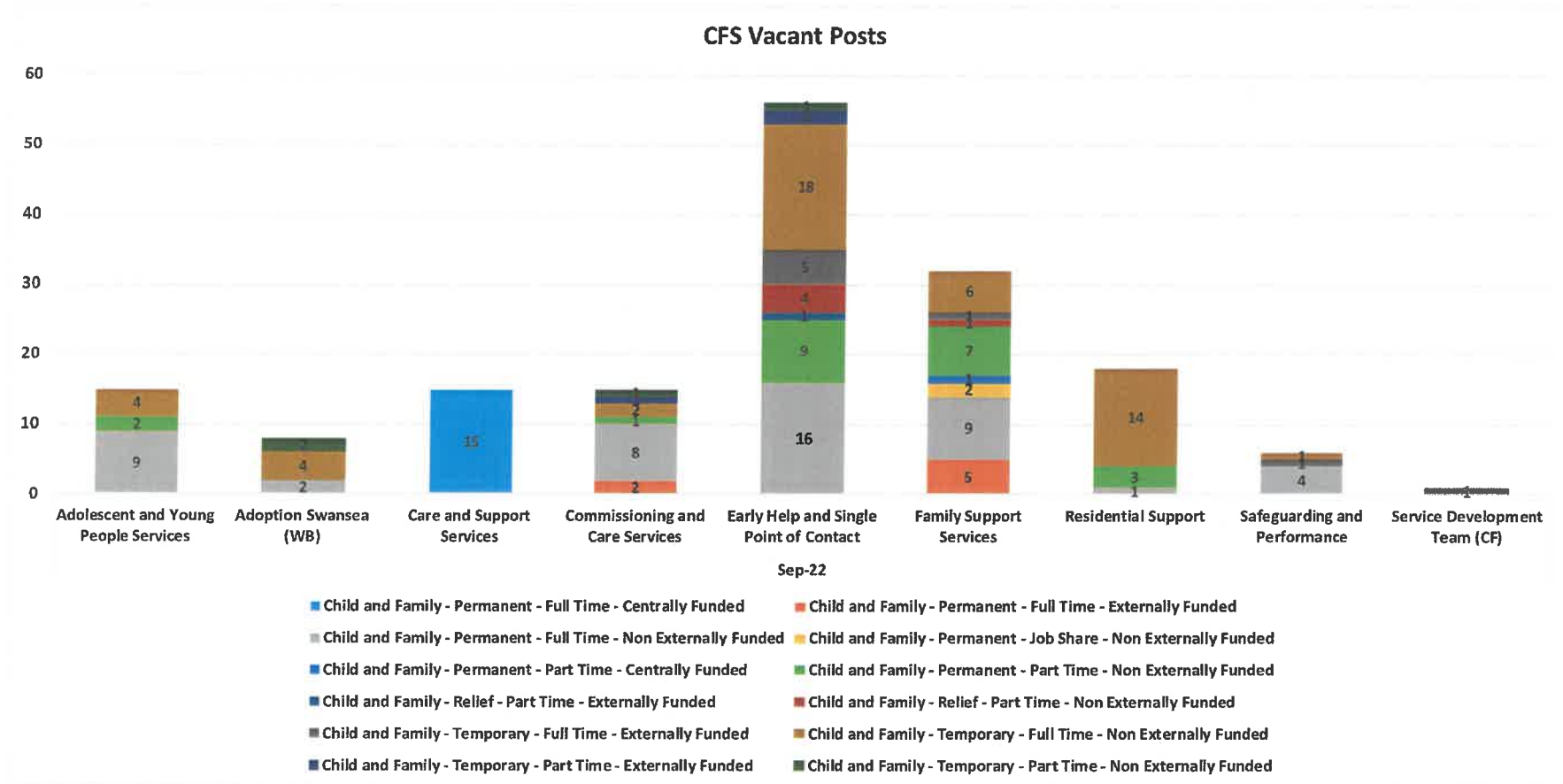
Complaints – Stage 2	October 2022	September 2022
The number of complaints received during the month:	1	0
The number of complaints closed during the month:	2	0
The number of ongoing complaints:	1	2
<i>The ongoing complaint was received during October and currently under investigation.</i>		

Complaints – Ombudsman	October 2022	September 2022
The number of complaints received during the month:	1	0
The number of complaints closed during the month:	1	0

What is working well?	What are we worried about?	What do we need to do?
	During October a higher number of complaints were received by the department.	Learning and Innovation Team will work with the complaints department to identify a process to identify trends or themes around the complaints received – and reflect this in the monthly SMT report.

CFS Vacant Posts

Table below shows number of vacancies that have been identified in each CFS area however all information is being validated and is likely to change



CFS Agency Staff

