

# Knowsley Placements – Trends, Gaps, Needs

Knowsley Provider Forum

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019

# Introduction

- Sufficiency Position Statement 2018-21 published
- Includes ongoing Action Plan
- Looks back over past few years at trends and profiles
- Projects forward over next few years, and sets priority action areas
- Hopefully helpful to providers – Knowsley want to work with you to continually improve local sufficiency

# Exec Summary

- Previous Sufficiency Strategy 2015-17 (linked to Edge of Care strategy) has successfully reduced demand for CLA placements
- Over last 3 years, while overall numbers of CLA have remained stable, fewer children are coming into and out of care
- However, market conditions and increasing numbers of children who present with complex needs (often in relation to emotional and mental health and exploitation) continues to place pressure on sufficiency in Knowsley
- From analysis of changes in placement trends and profile of Knowsley CLA, emerges key lines of enquiry for new sufficiency strategy to address. This includes:
  - how Knowsley Council works with the external market;
  - what the long-term strategy for internal residential homes should be;
  - meeting demand through foster carers; and
  - how best as Corporate Parents to support the needs of Children Looked After

# **QUICK SNAPSHOT**

# Current Knowsley CLA Snapshot

- 305 Children Looked After (w/c 28 May 2019):
  - 91 (30%) with external provision
  - 108 (35%) with inhouse provision (102 foster, 6 resi)
  - 106 (35%) with family/friends/parents/other
- Of the 91 in external provision:

CATEGORY	# of Placements	% of Total
Semi-Independent /16+	16	18%
IFA	46	51%
Short Breaks IFA	1	1%
Other Local Authority Foster Care	1	1%
Parent and Child Residential	0	N/A
Secure	1	1%
Residential Home	16	18%
Residential School	1	1%
Residential Home with Education	9	10%
Crisis Intervention	0	N/A
<b>TOTAL EXTERNAL PLACEMENTS</b>	<b>91</b>	

# Snapshot of current searches (w/c 28 May)

- 4 x IFA searches ongoing
- 2 x Residential searches ongoing
- 2 x SAIL searches ongoing
- 1 x Secure search ongoing

# **PLACEMENT ACTIVITY: TRENDS**

# 2018/19 Placement Activity

- Over the last financial year, we made 82 external placements:

Placements Made	Number	Gender	Average Age
IFA	24 (for 20 YP; includes 2 parent & child, 4 sibling groups)	11 x F 9 x M	9.5
Residential	20 (for 17 YP)	8 x F 9 x M	14
16+ SAIL	30 (for 21 YP)	7 x F 14 x M	17
Secure	5 (for 4 YP)	4 x M	15.5
Parent & Child Assessment Unit	2	N/A	N/A
Resi School	1	N/A	N/A



# Last 3 Years: Placement Activity

Type	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
IFA	32	23	24
Residential	15	23	20
SAIL	20	15	30
Secure	0	6	5
Parent & Child Assessment	1	3	2
Resi School	1	0	1
TOTAL	69	70	82

# Conclusions & Projected Needs

- Stable overall numbers, slight increase in overall CLA and placement activity in 2018/19
- Small movements: Resi up; IFA down; SAIL up
- Challenging market conditions and complexity of CLA cohort
- Knowsley's needs (for local fostering & resi):
  - more complex adolescents (inc. challenging behaviour, CE, LD, autism, MH)
  - step down from Secure/MH/Resi
  - specialist provision that is resilient, skilled, solo/small

# Priority Areas for Action

- Sufficiency Action Plan:
  - Market Development
  - Residential
  - Fostering
  - Emotional Health & Wellbeing
- Aims being to:
  - Positive outcomes for our Children Looked After
  - Keep children closer to home
  - Improve placement stability
  - Stabilise financial pressures

# Any Comments or Questions?

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