

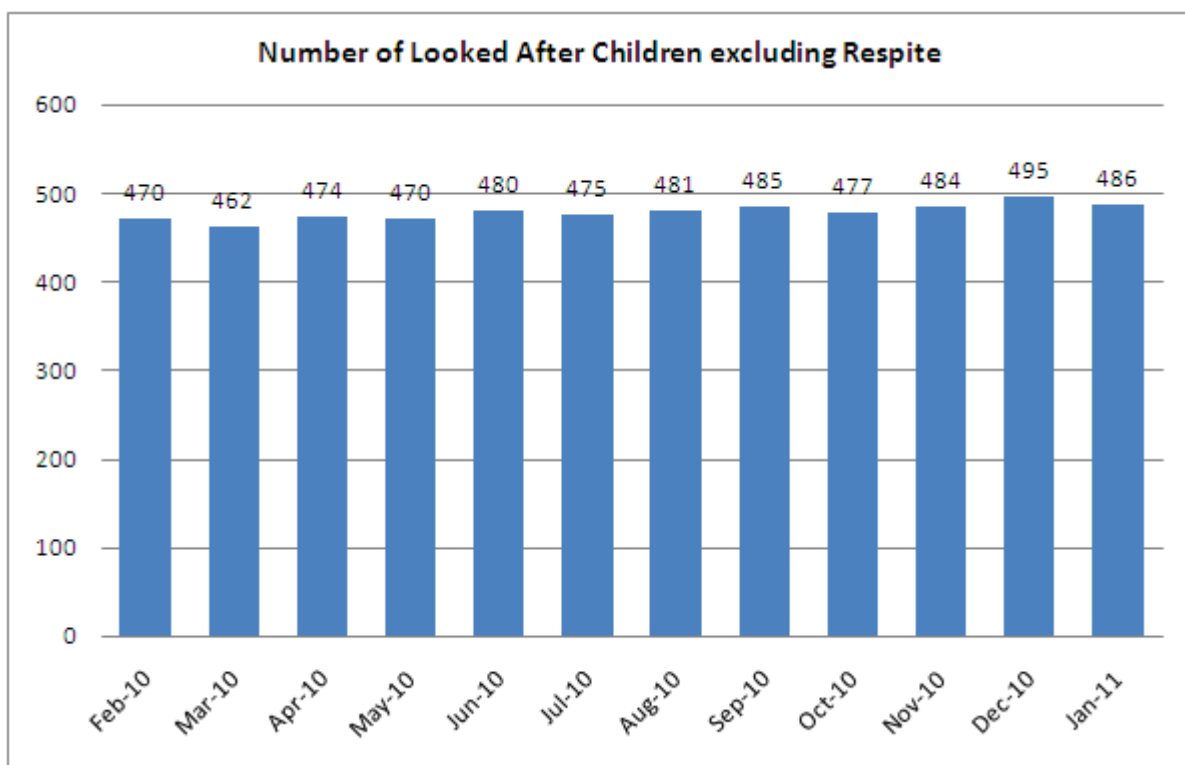
Corporate Parent Summary Report

March 2011 – External Version

Looked After Children (Excluding Respite) as at 31st January 2011

To ensure that no individual can be identified, conventions for the suppression of very small numbers are used. In accordance with DfE rounding and suppression rules, numbers from 1 to 5 inclusive have been suppressed. Please note that some of the commentary from the Improving Educational Outcomes section of this report has been removed from the external version of this report.

Figure 1: Number of Looked After Children (excluding Respite)



Source: Monthly Monitoring Social Care Data January 2011

There were 486 Looked after Children (excluding respite) as at 31st January 2011, a slight fall from 495 as at 31st December 2010. The number of Looked after Children has been relatively stable over the last 12 months, ranging from 462 at the end of March to 495 at the end of December.

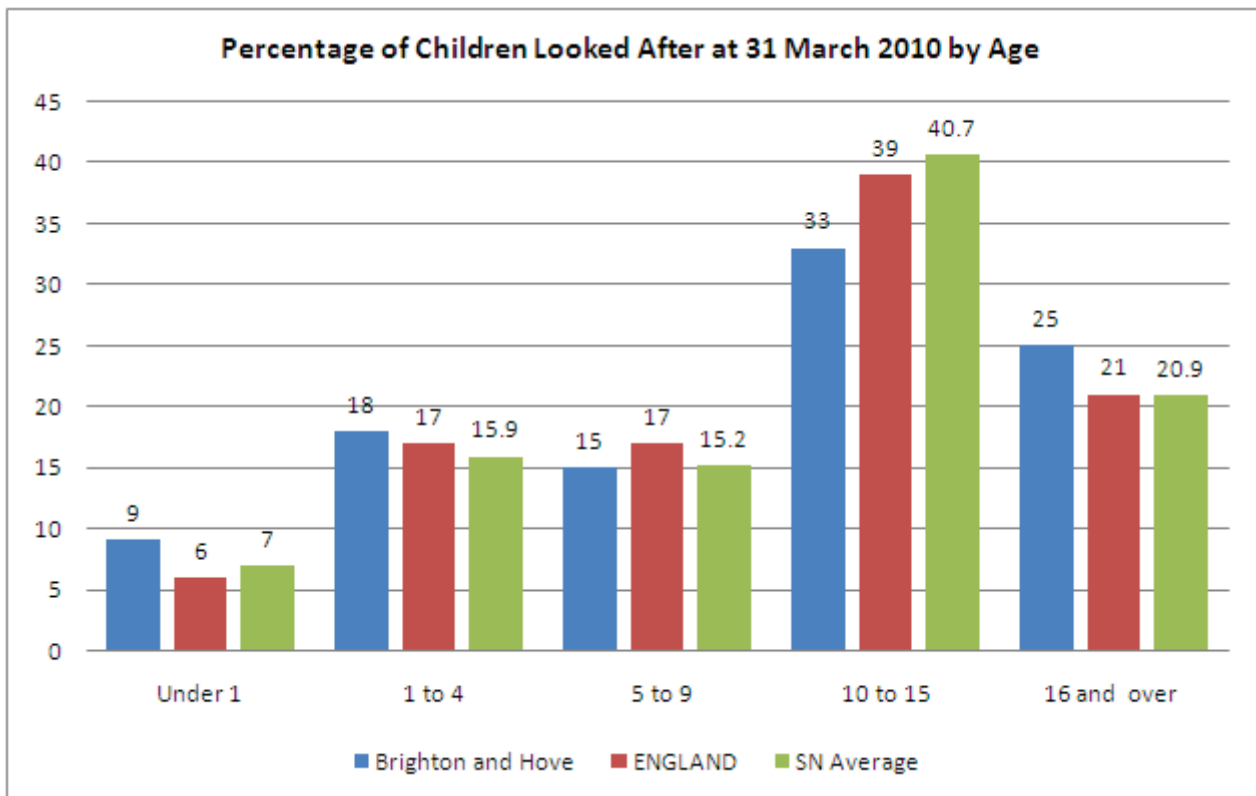
Children Looked After Year Ending 31 March 2010

An analysis of the Children Looked After Statistical First Release (SFR), which provides information about looked after children in England for the year ending 31 March 2010, has been provided in this section of the report to illustrate how the profile of Looked After Children in Brighton and Hove compares with the national average and our statistical neighbours. The figures are based on data from the SSDA903 return collected from all local authorities.

Please note that:

- Numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5
- Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements.
- Historical data may differ from older publications. This is mainly due to the implementation of amendments and corrections sent by some local authorities after the publication date of previous materials.
- The Statistical Neighbour¹ Average (SN Average) has been calculated by averaging the percentages for the 10 local authorities in our statistical neighbour group.

Figure 2: Percentage of Children Looked After at 31 March 2010 by Age

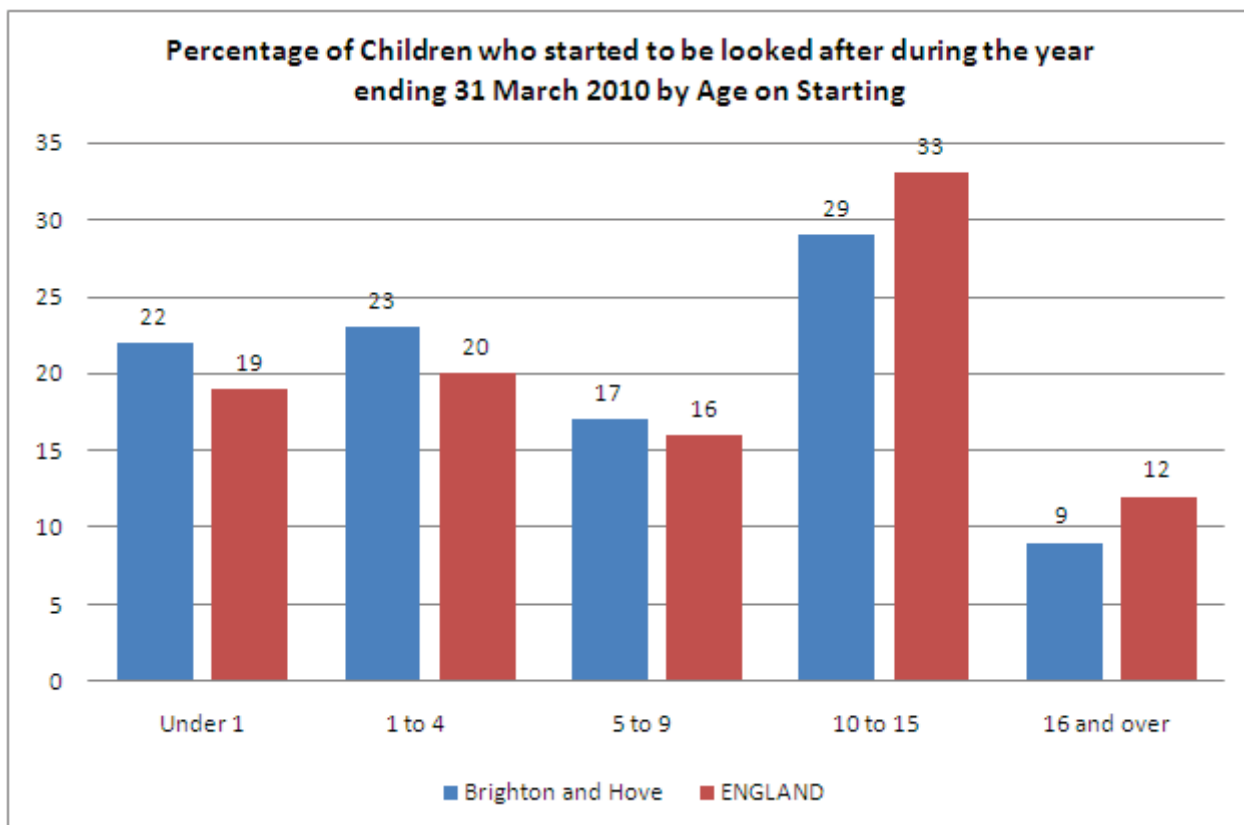


Source: SSDA903

The data in Figure 2 illustrates the percentage of children who were looked after at 31st March 2010 by age band and reveals that Brighton and Hove is above the national and statistical neighbour average in the Under 1 and 1 to 4 age bands. It is interesting to note that the percentage of Children Looked After in the 10 to 15 age band is lower than both the national and statistical neighbour average but is higher in the 16 and over age band.

¹ Statistical Neighbours (SN) are ranked in order of statistical closeness, with the top SN being closest: Bristol, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Reading, Sheffield, Southampton, Bath and North East Somerset, Southend-on-Sea, York and Plymouth
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Figure 3: Percentage of Children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31 March 2010 by Age on Starting



Source: SSDA903

Figure 3 identifies the percentage of children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31st March 2010 by their age on starting². The data illustrates that the percentage of children in the Under 1, 1 to 4 and 5 to 9 categories is higher than the national average and is below the national average in the 10 to 15 and 16 and over categories. It is not possible to calculate a statistical neighbour average as the percentages for some local authorities have been suppressed due to the small numbers involved but a breakdown of our statistical neighbours has been provided in table 2 below.

² Only the first occasion on which a child started to be looked after in the year has been counted.

Table 1: Percentage of Children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31 March 2010 by Age on Starting

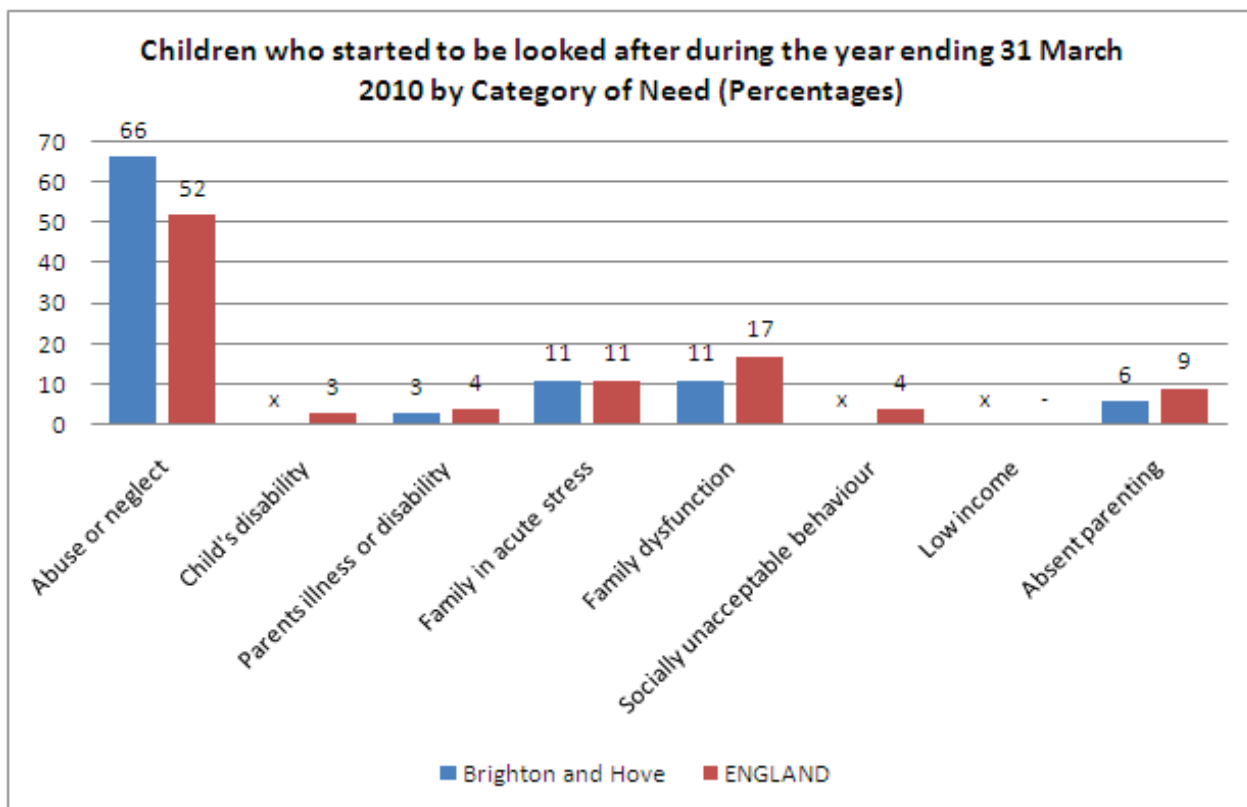
	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 15	16 and over
Brighton and Hove	22	23	17	29	9
Bristol, City of	19	22	16	36	6
Bournemouth	36	13	9	32	10
Reading	26	22	14	26	13
Portsmouth	21	22	12	32	14
Sheffield	24	25	16	29	6
Southampton	20	19	18	36	7
Bath and North East Somerset	x	x	12	59	12
Southend-on-Sea	21	23	x	35	x
York	22	x	21	33	x
Plymouth	19	15	12	25	30
ENGLAND	19	20	16	33	12
SN Average	x	x	x	34.3	x

Source: SSDA903

The percentage of children in the 10 to 15 age band (29%) is below the statistical neighbour average of 34% and is the joint third lowest among our statistical neighbours with Sheffield and behind Plymouth (25%) and Reading (26%).

x Figures not shown in order to protect confidentiality.

Figure 4: Children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31 March 2010 by Category of Need (Percentages)

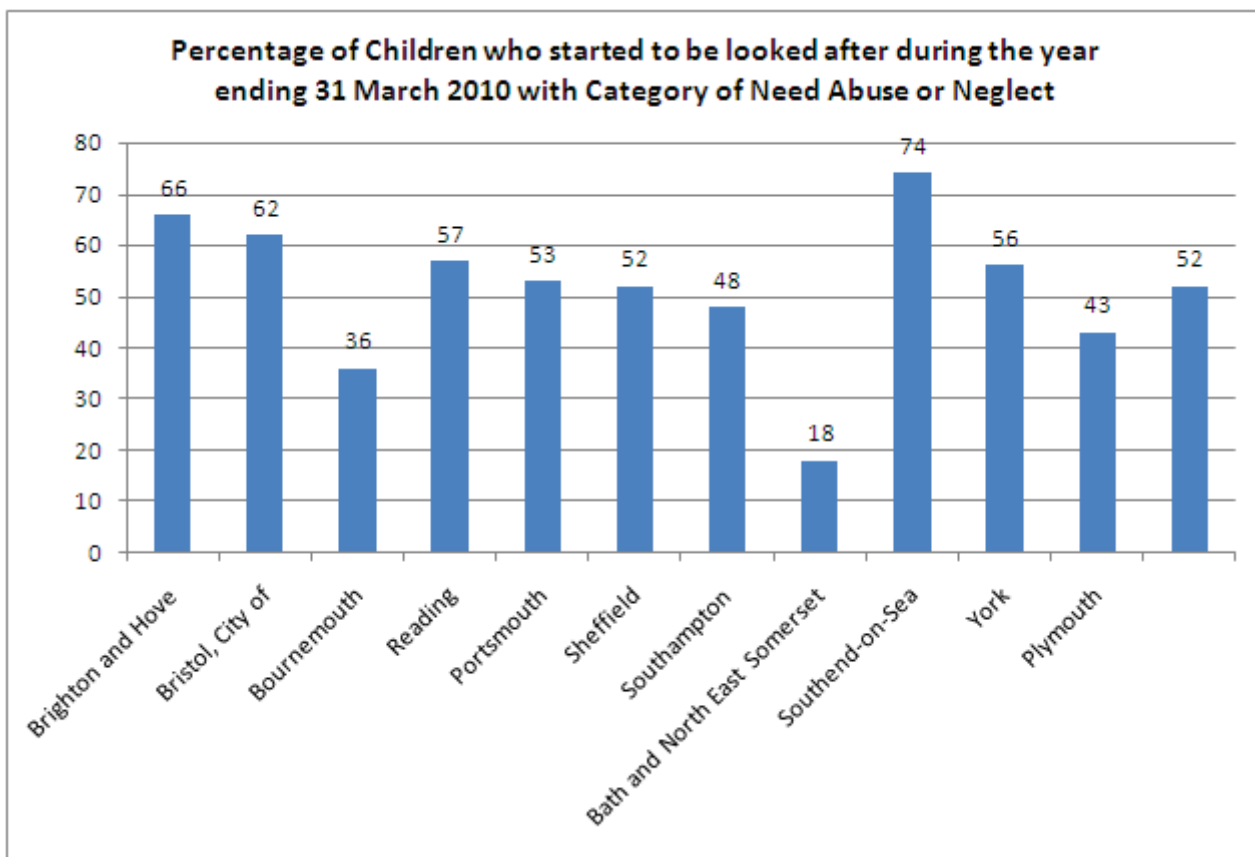


Source: SSDA903

Figure 4 provides an analysis of the Category of Need for children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31st March 2010. Category of Need codes ‘record the main reason why a child is being provided with services’ and ‘provides a further insight as to why a particular child is being looked after’.³ The data shows that 66% of children who started to be looked after in Brighton and Hove had a Category of Need code of Abuse or Neglect, compared to 52% nationally. However, this data should be viewed with caution as there is anecdotal evidence of data quality and reliability of recording issues associated with Category of Need codes.

³ http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/datastats1/guidelines/children/docs/2010-03/SSDA903_GuidanceNotes_2009-10_v1.1.pdf p34
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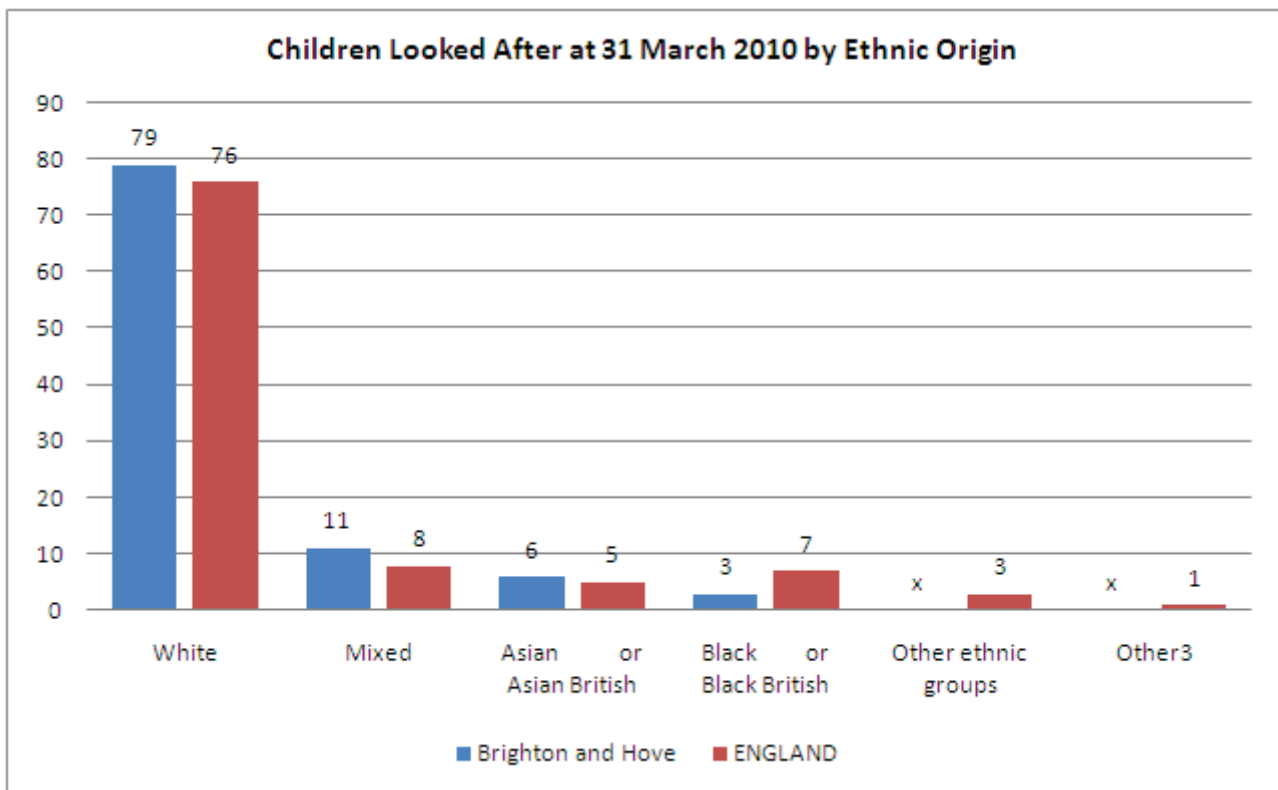
Figure 5: Percentage of Children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31 March 2010 with Category of Need of Abuse or Neglect



Source: SSDA903

Figure 5 provides a breakdown of the percentage of children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31st March 2010 with a Category of Need code of Abuse or Neglect by our statistical neighbours. The data shows that Brighton and Hove has the second highest percentage (66%) behind Southend-on-Sea (74%).

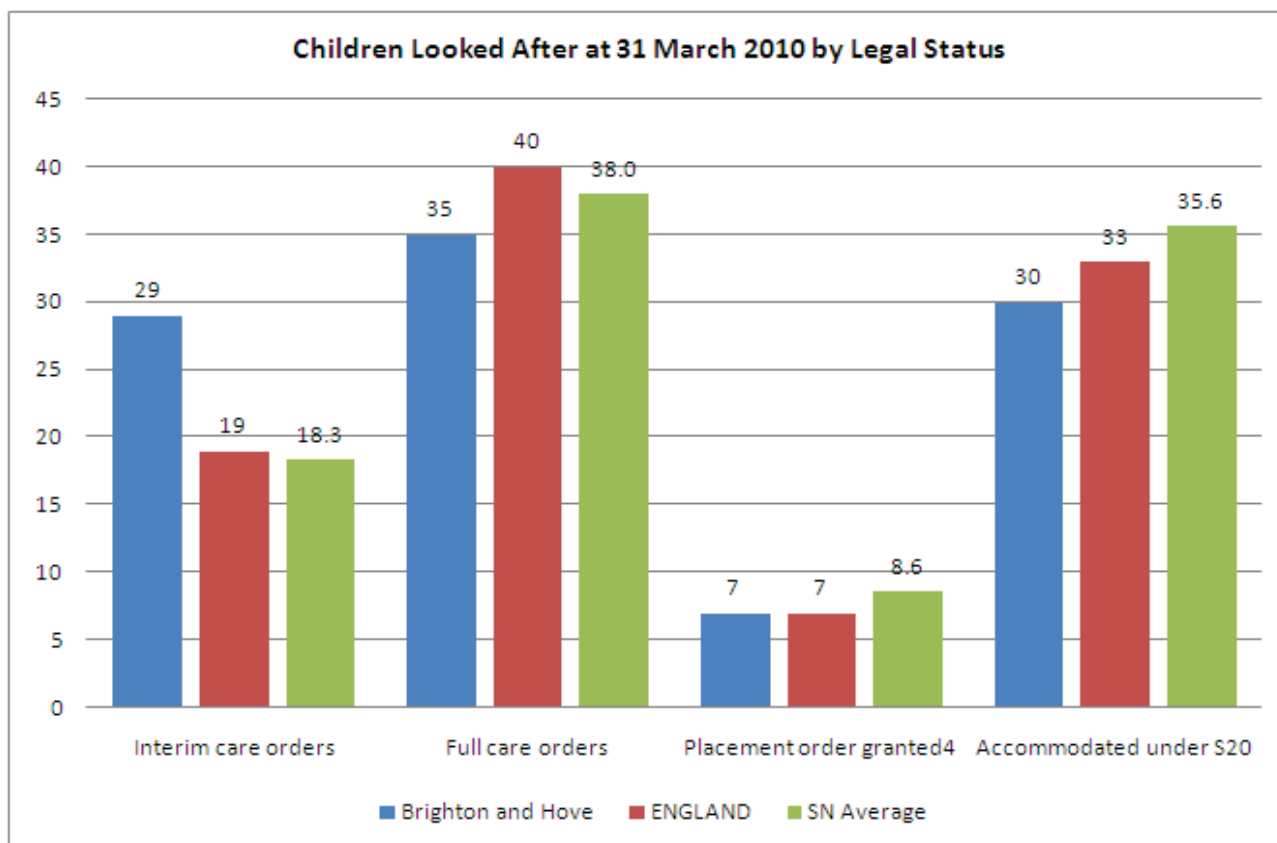
Figure 6: Children Looked After at 31 March 2010 by Ethnic Origin



Source: SSDA903

Figure 6 illustrates that Brighton and Hove is broadly in line with the national average of children looked after at 31st March 2010 by ethnic origin, with a slightly higher proportion of children with an ethnic origin of 'White' and 'Mixed and a lower proportion of children with an ethnic origin of 'Black or Black British.'

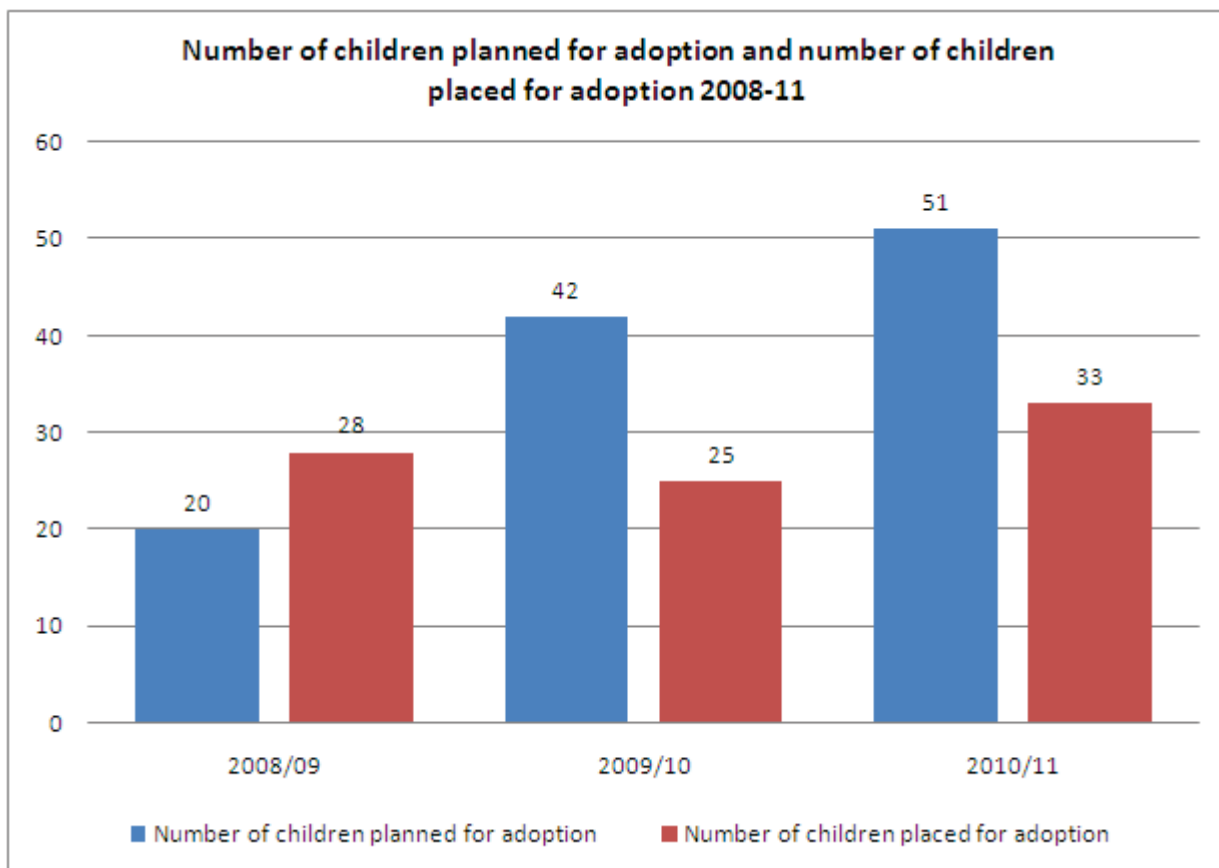
Figure 7: Children Looked After at 31 March 2010 by Legal Status



Source: SSDA903

Figure 7 reveals that Brighton and Hove has a higher percentage of children looked after on interim care orders than the national and statistical neighbour average, and a lower percentage of children accommodated under section 20 and on full care orders. Please note that other legal statuses have not been included in figure 7 as the data has been suppressed for many local authorities due to the low numbers involved.

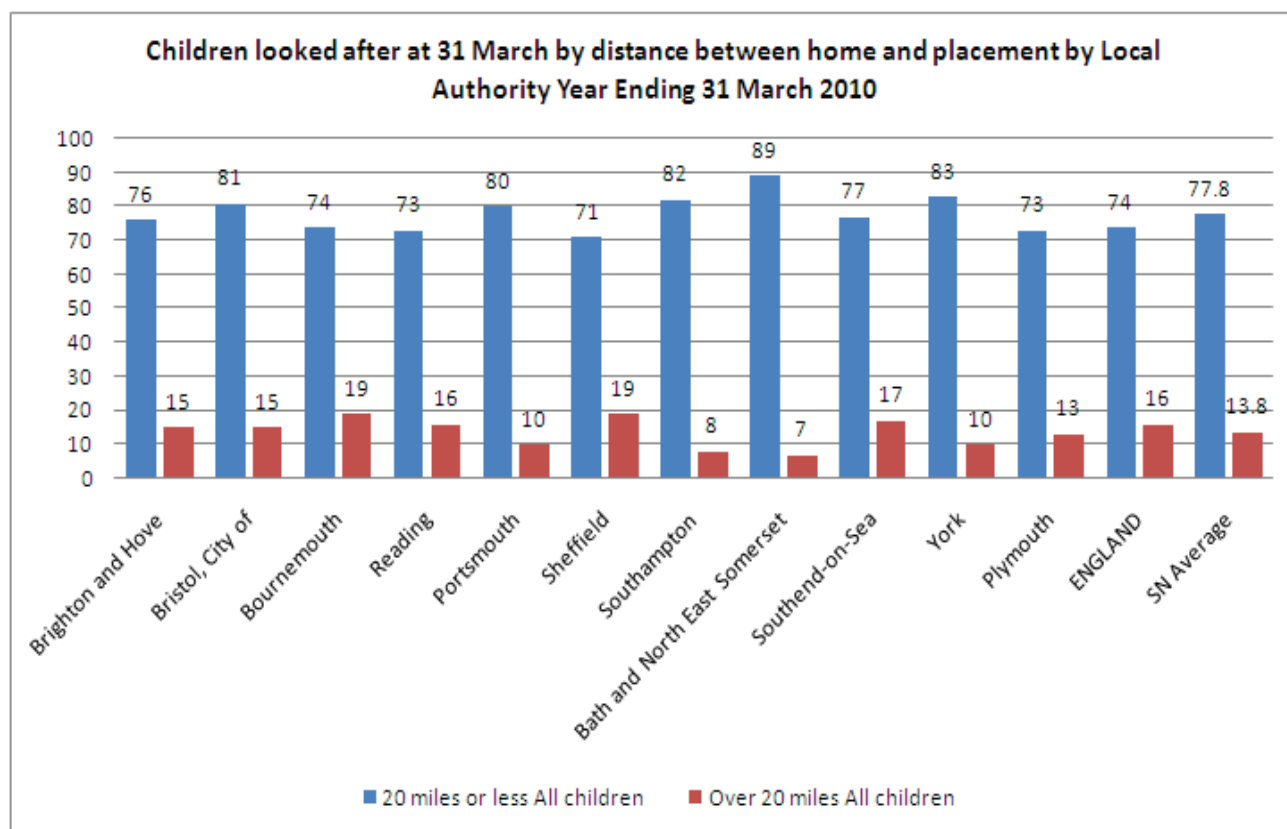
Figure 8: Number of children planned for adoption and number of children placed for adoption 2008-11



Source: Fostering and Adoption Service

Adoption activity has continued to rise in Brighton & Hove in line with the rise in numbers of children in care and reflects the high number of children under 5 in the care system. In Brighton and Hove, the percentage of children who ceased to be looked after during 09/10 who were adopted is 16% compared to the England average of 13%. Figure 8 provides information on the numbers of children with plans for adoption and children that have been matched with adopters in 2010/11.

Figure 9: Children looked after at 31 March by distance between home and placement by Local Authority Year Ending 31 March 2010



Source: SSSA903

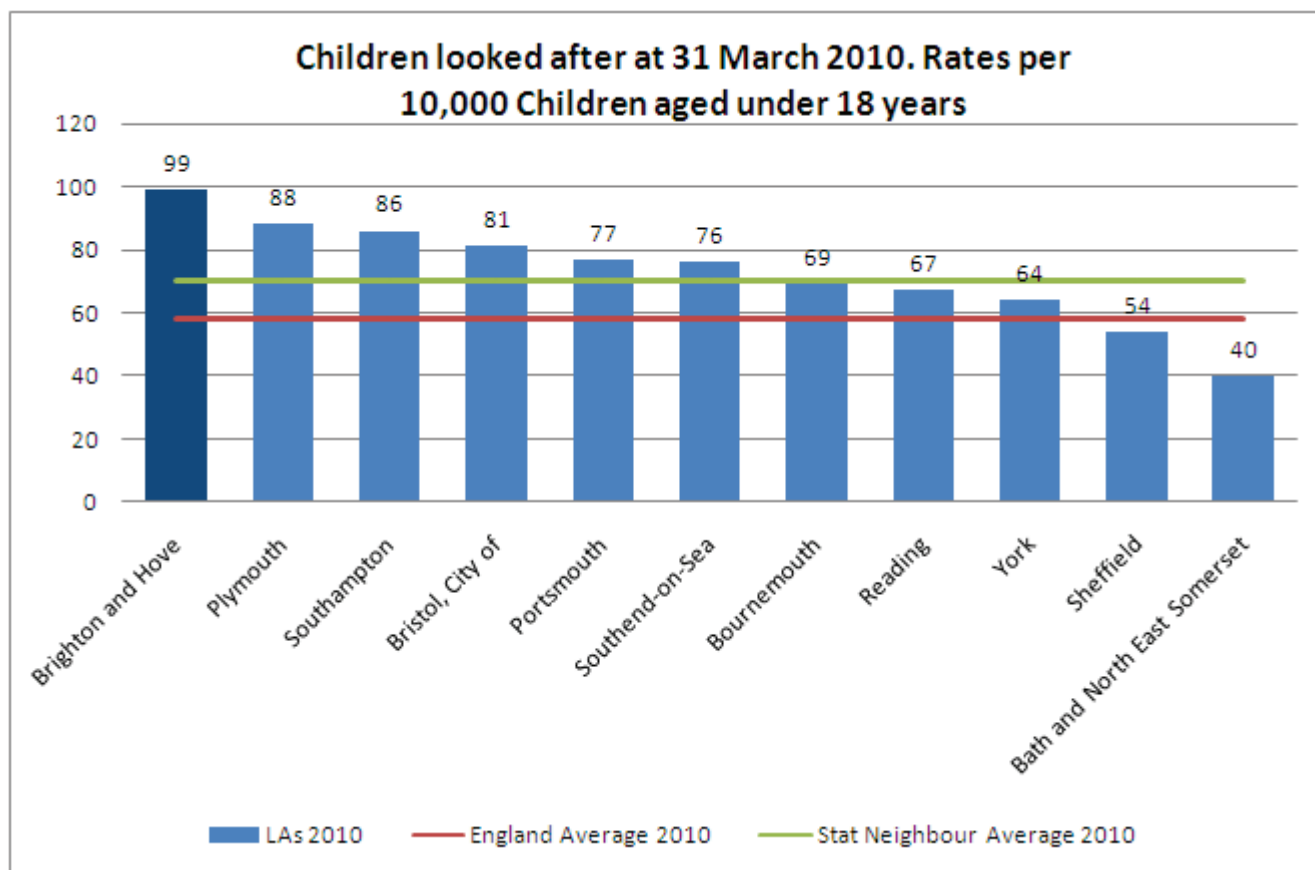
Figure 9 reveals that 76% of children looked after in Brighton and Hove at 31st March 2010 were placed 20 miles or less from their home address, with 15% placed over 20 miles (6% were not known and 3% were not recorded). These figures are in line with both the national and statistical neighbour averages. In Brighton and Hove, 39% of children were placed inside the local authority boundary and 52% were placed outside of the boundary. Nationally, 58% of children were placed inside the local authority boundary and 33% were placed outside with 6% not known and 4% not recorded. The percentages for Brighton and Hove are likely to be skewed given the size of the geographical area.

"Home" address unknown or unavailable may occur with Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children or children missing from main placement.

For reasons of confidentiality distance is not recorded for children who were placed for adoption.

Placement locality denotes whether or not the placement at 31 March is within the geographical boundary of the responsible local authority.

Figure 10: Children looked after at 31st March 2010. Rates per 10,000 Children aged under 18 years⁴



Source: SSDA903

The rate of children looked after per 10,000 children aged under 18 has increased from 86 as at 31 March 2009 to 99 as at March 2010. The rate for 2010 is higher than the national average (58 per 10,000) and the average for our statistical neighbours (70.2 per 10,000). Furthermore, the rate is the highest among our statistical neighbour group, followed by Plymouth (88 per 10,000) and Southampton (86 per 10,000). There were 465 children looked after as at 31 March 2010 in Brighton and Hove, an increase of 17.7% from the number at 31 March 2009 compared to a 6% increase nationally. The number of children looked after at 31 March 2010 has increased by 22.4 % from the number at 31 March 2006 in Brighton and Hove, compared to a 7% increase nationally.

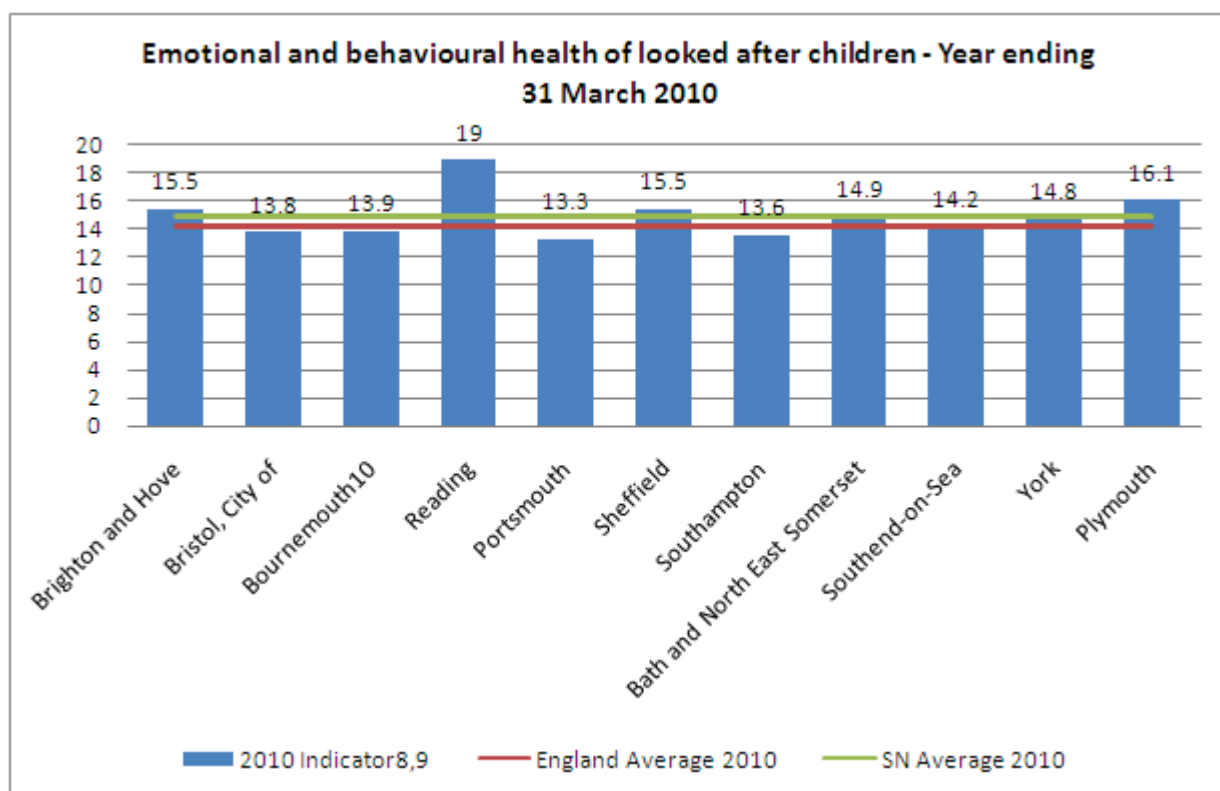
⁴ The rates per 10,000 children under 18 years have been derived using the mid-year population estimates for 2009 provided by the Office for National Statistics.

Health of Children Looked After

NI 058 Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children

Definition: Since 2008, central government have required each local authority to ask carers to complete a 'Strength & Difficulties' Questionnaire for every child looked after at 31st March who has been in care continuously for one year or more and who is aged 4-16 years. The questionnaire produces a score from 10 (no indicators of difficulty or stress) to 40 (extremely high indicators of stress & difficulty) and good performance is indicated by a low number.

Figure 11: Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children – year ending 31st March 2010.



Source: SSDA903

Summary

In Brighton & Hove, the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire is administered by the LAC Health team and an 88% return was achieved for 2009/10, compared to a national average of 68%. Children with Disability can be excluded and so we would not expect to achieve 100% return.

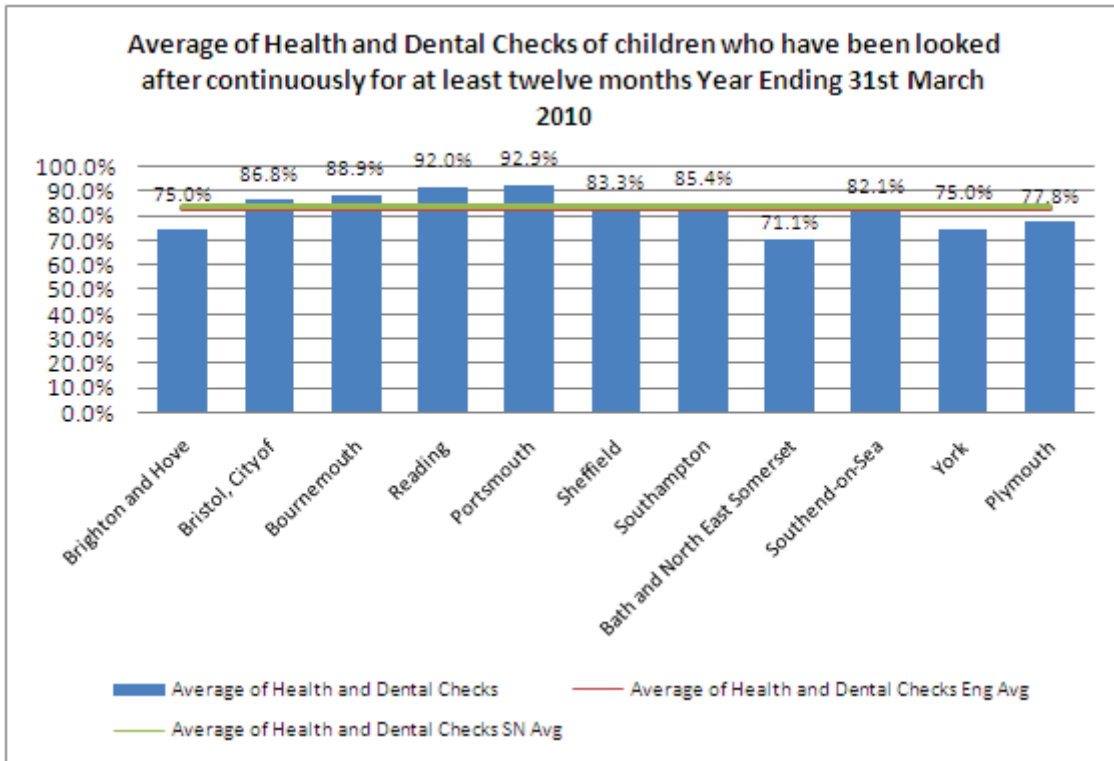
The score for 2009/10 is 15.5 and is the average score gained by Brighton and Hove children and young people in care. This is a slight increase from 15.2 last year and above the target of 14.5 and the national average (14.2), although it should be noted that the difference from last year is minimal and not statistically significant. Furthermore, there are multiple factors involved in the emotional state of children and the cohort of children from year to year is not exactly the same, and these factors should be considered when making year-on-year comparisons. However, the latest Ofsted Performance Profile has rated Brighton and Hove's performance for 2009/10 as Red for this indicator – the lowest banding.

The LAC Health Team follow all high scores up with carers, young people, the Virtual School for Children in Care and Social Workers to ensure that they are receiving the right support. If the child or young person is not receiving the right level of support, the LAC Health would make or suggest a new referral to CAMHS or other agency.

Health and Dental Checks for Children Looked After

Definition: The average of Health and Dental checks recorded for children looked after continuously for at least the previous 12 months

Figure 12: Average of Health and Dental Checks of children who have been looked after continuously for at least twelve months Year Ending 31st March 2010

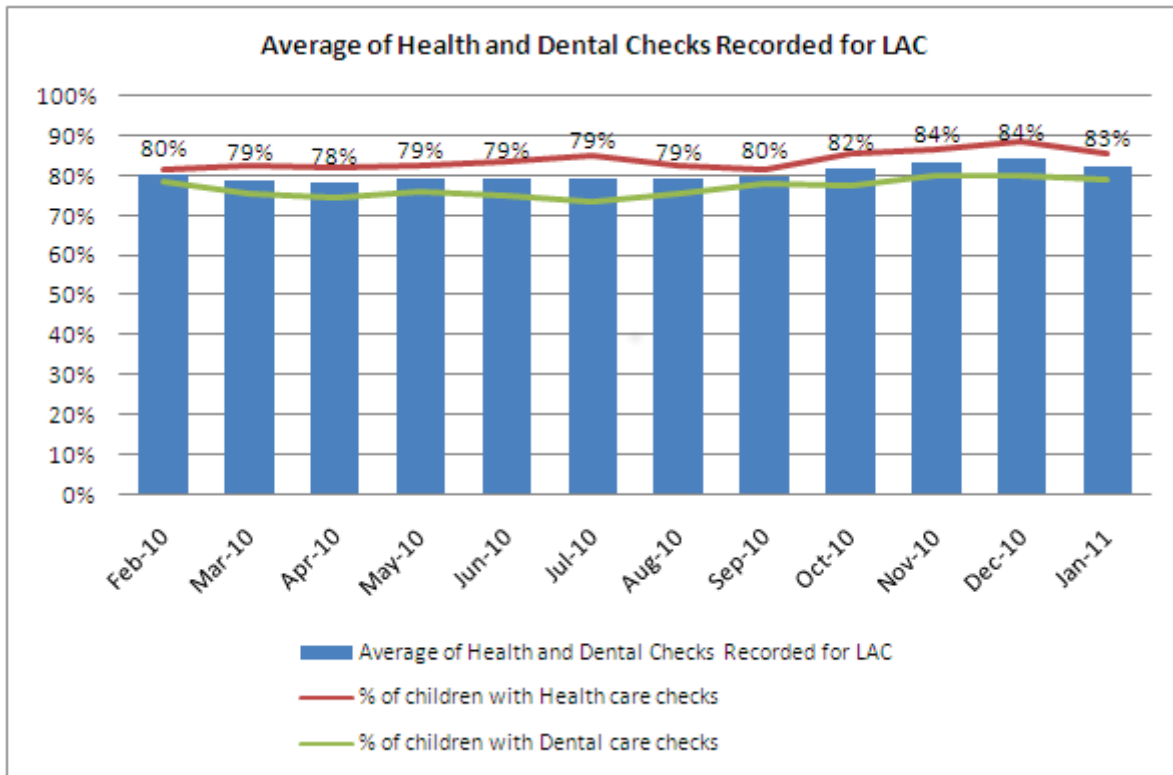


Source: SSDA903 2009/10

Summary

Timely health and dental checks recorded for children who have been looked after continuously for 12 months year ending 31st March 2010 has is 75% for Brighton and Hove, below the national average of 82.9% and statistical neighbour average of 83.5%. Furthermore, Brighton and Hove’s performance is the joint second lowest among our statistical neighbour group, with Bath and North East Somerset at 71.1%.

Figure 13: Average of Health and Dental Checks Recorded for LAC



Source: Monthly Monitoring Social Care Data January 2011

Summary

Timely health and dental checks recorded for LAC is at 83% for January 2011, up from 79% as at August 2010. Performance for dental checks is 79%, with health care checks at 86%.

Performance Issues

The capacity of the health team has been under pressure due to the increase in the number of children looked after. There has been no increase in the team’s resources and it has not been possible to maintain the previous high performance. There is a statutory requirement to assess all children newly looked after which is not reflected in the performance indicator as it is not reported to DfE.

The fieldwork teams have taken on the responsibility to record completed checks on Carefirst and this has caused some difficulties, particularly for the West Area and post 16 Support teams, although both teams have shown improvement over the last few months. The percentage of health and dental checks recorded in the 16 Plus Support and Asylum Teams has also been affected by the number of refusers.

The majority of outstanding assessments are for children placed outside of Brighton & Hove, which requires health colleagues in different health trusts to complete this work. There are very few children who have not had their assessment completed on time by our Brighton & Hove health professionals.

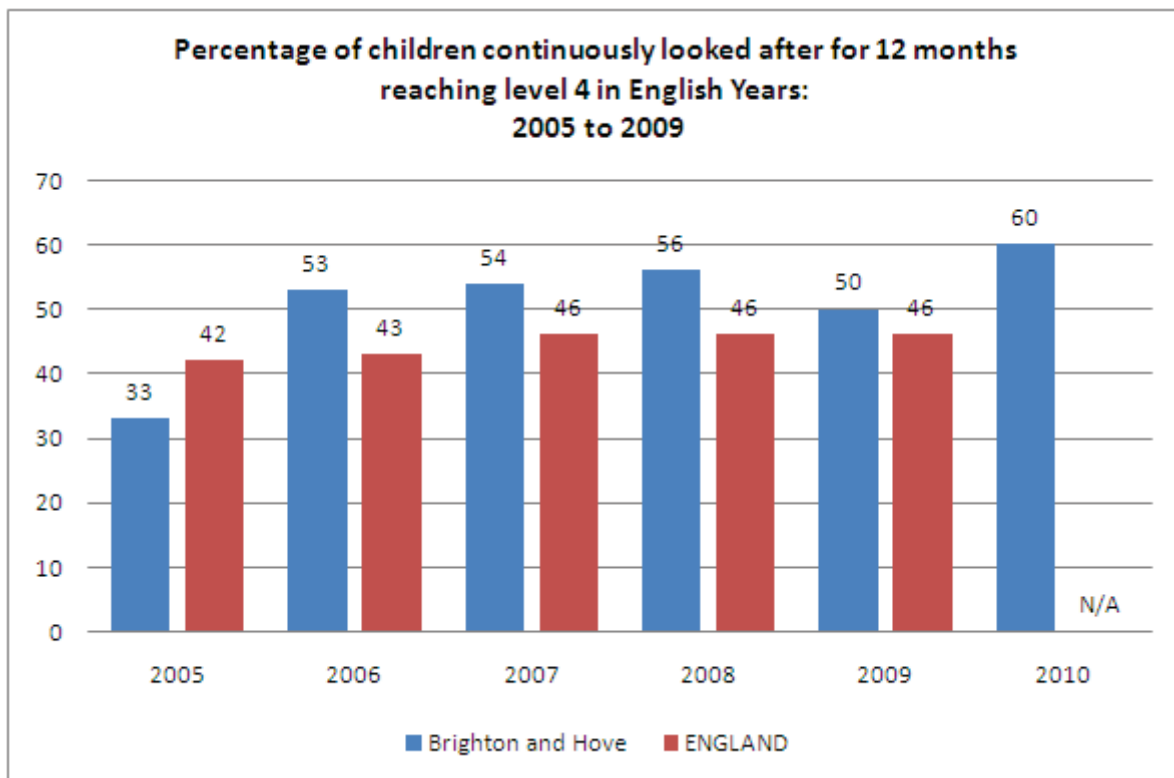
Improving Educational Outcomes

NI 099 Percentage of children in care reaching level 4 English at Key Stage 2

Definition: All children are expected to make two levels of progress between Key stage 1 and 2. The bench mark for pupils at the end of Key Stage two is Level 4 in the SATs and 80% of pupils will achieve this nationally. It must be noted that with a comparatively small cohorts in B & H, individual successes and failures will have a demonstrably bigger impact on outcomes. This is relevant for the following national indicators in the education section of this report.

Summary and Issues

Figure 13: Percentage of children continuously looked after for 12 months reaching level 4 in English



Source: OC2 2009 for 2005-2009 data. 2010 data provided by the Virtual School for Children in Care.

Please note that the KS2 data for 2010 has been provided by the Virtual School for Children in Care and has not been taken from the DfE Statistical First Release (SFR) for 2009/10. This is because pupils known to be in schools which participated in the boycott have been removed from both the numerator and denominator for all calculations in the SFR.

There were 15 pupils in the Y6 cohort. 60%, 9 pupils achieved Level 4 in English. This is an improvement on last year and compares very well against the national figure for Children in Care which was 46% in 2009 (2010 figure not available until December 2010). These achievements were consistent with our expectations for pupils based on the Key Stage 1 data available.

While this figure is below the national figure for all children (80%), it remains a significant achievement in light of the number of children identified as having special needs. Ten pupils were identified as having special educational needs (SEN).

There were 8 boys in the cohort and 7 girls with 9 pupils achieving Level 4. 13 pupils, 86%, attend maintained schools in B & H. This has a positive impact on results as tracking and monitoring arrangements by the Virtual School are more secure

The Virtual School prioritises PEPs to ensure they are up-to-date and relevant; this has had a positive impact on partners having higher aspirations for CiC.

Performance improvement activity

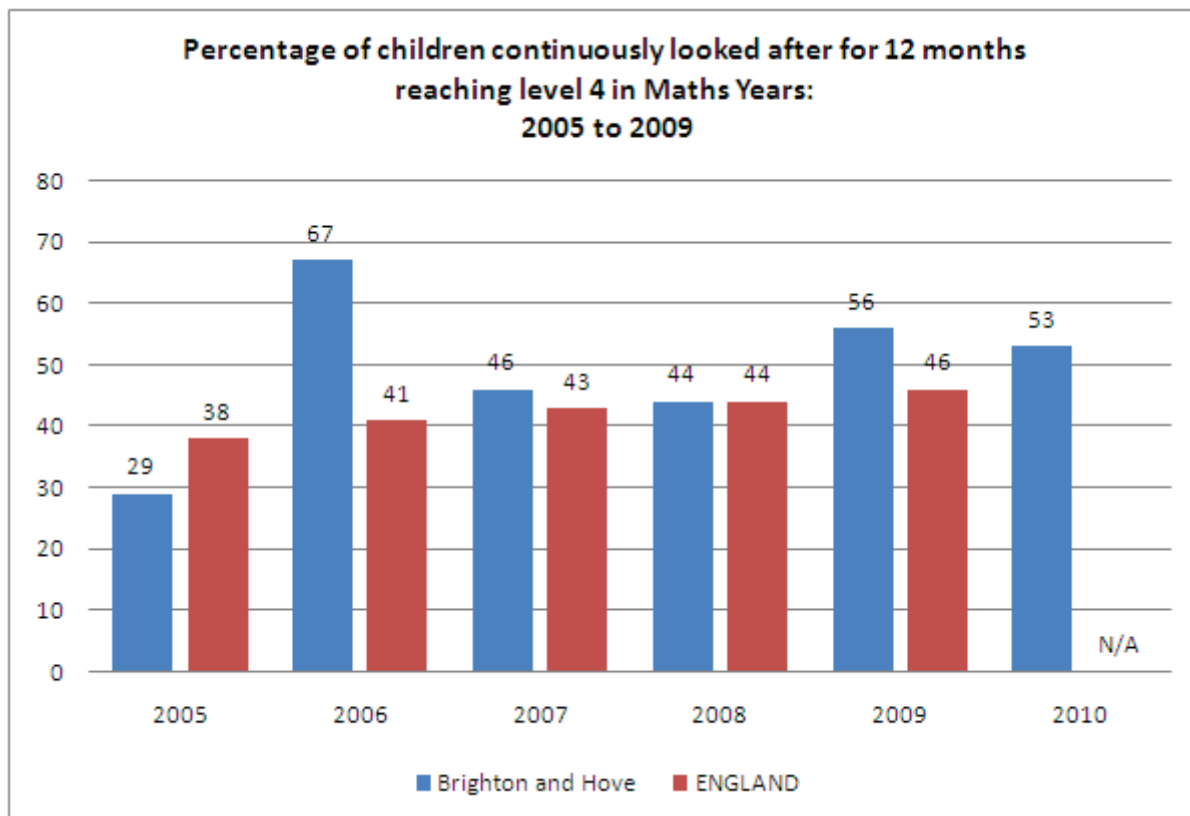
Ensure interventions supported by the Virtual School such as the Personal Education Allowance, 1 – 2 – 1 tuition and the letter box club are tracked to evidence impact on pupil performance. The letter box club is a national scheme arranged the Book Trust which provides monthly packages for children in care in years 3 to 5 between May and October. The packages contain reading material and maths games which are appropriate to the individual child's attainment level with the aim of improving their literacy and numeracy skills.

Training programme for social workers and designated teachers to ensure they set consistently aspirational targets for children in care, which is then monitored through quality assurance protocols for all Personal Education Plans.

NI 100 Percentage of children in care reaching level 4 Maths at Key Stage 2

Definition: All children are expected to make two levels of progress between Key stage 1 and 2. The bench mark for pupils at the end of Key Stage two is Level 4 in the SATs and 80% of pupils will achieve this nationally.

Figure 14: Percentage of children continuously looked after for 12 months reaching level 4 in Maths



Source: OC2 2009 for 2005-2009 data. 2010 data provided by the Virtual School for Children in Care.

Summary and Issues

There were 15 pupils in the Y6 cohort. 53%, 8 pupils achieved Level 4 in Maths. This is in line with last years' achievement and continues to compare very well against the national figure for Children in Care which was 46% in 2010 figure not available until December 2010). These achievements were consistent with our expectations for pupils based on the Key Stage 1 data available.

While this figure is below the national figure for all children (80%), it remains a significant achievement in light of the number of children identified as having special needs.

Ten pupils were identified as having special educational needs (SEN).

There were 8 boys in the cohort and 7 girls, of the 8 pupils achieving Level 4 in Maths.

13 pupils, 86%, attend maintained schools in B & H. This has a positive impact on results as tracking and monitoring arrangements by the Virtual School are more secure

The Virtual School prioritises PEPs to ensure they are up-to-date and relevant; this has had a positive impact on partners having higher aspirations for CiC

Performance improvement activity

Ensure interventions supported by the Virtual School such as the Personal Education Allowance, 1 – 2 – 1 tuition and the letter box club are tracked to evidence impact on pupil performance

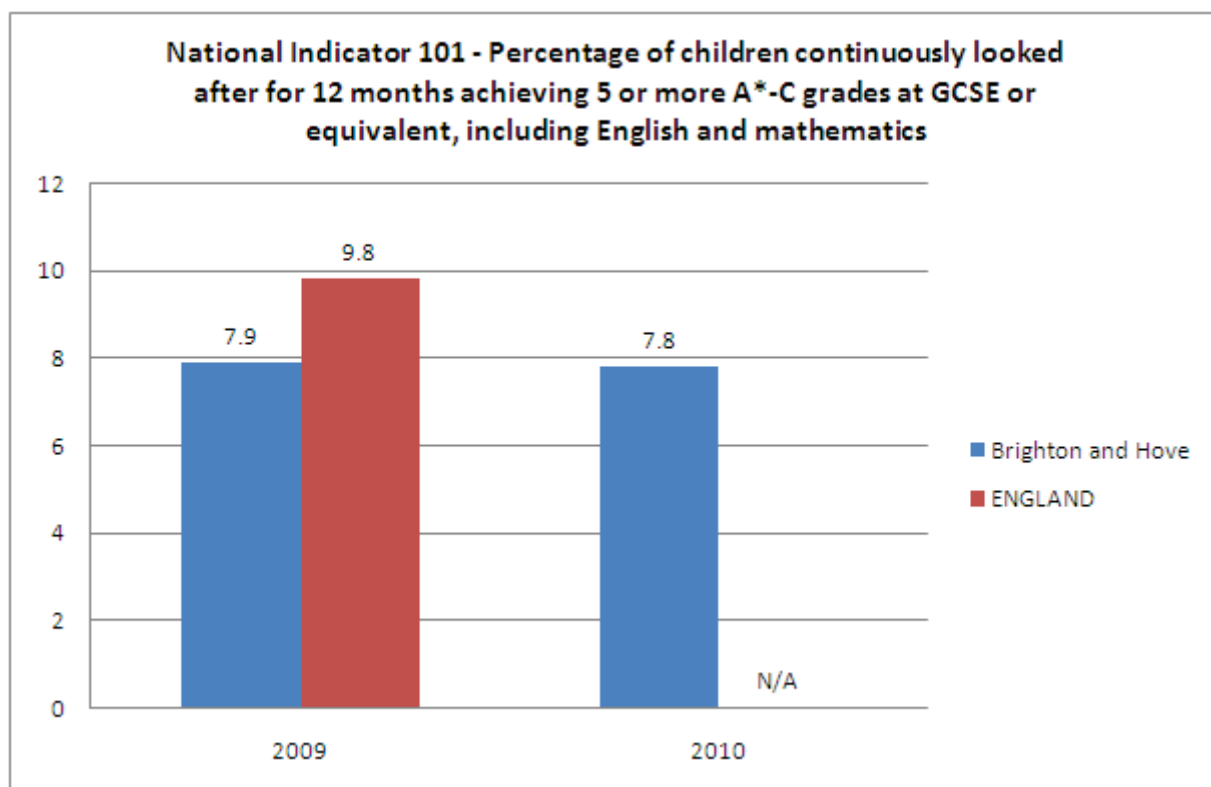
Training programme for social workers and designated teachers to ensure they set consistently aspirational targets for children in care; which is then monitored through quality assurance protocols for all Personal Education Plans.

N101 % of Children in Care achieving 5 A* - C GCSE (or equivalent) at KS4 including English and Maths

Definition: Nationally 53% of children will achieve 5 'good' GCSEs that include English and Maths. This national bench mark has been used since 2009 as a Performance Indicator for Children in Care. Prior to that five plus GCSEs A* - C in any subject and 1 or more GCSE A* - G were used as performance indicators.

Summary and Issues

Figure 15: Percentage of children continuously looked after for 12 months achieving 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent, including English and Mathematics.



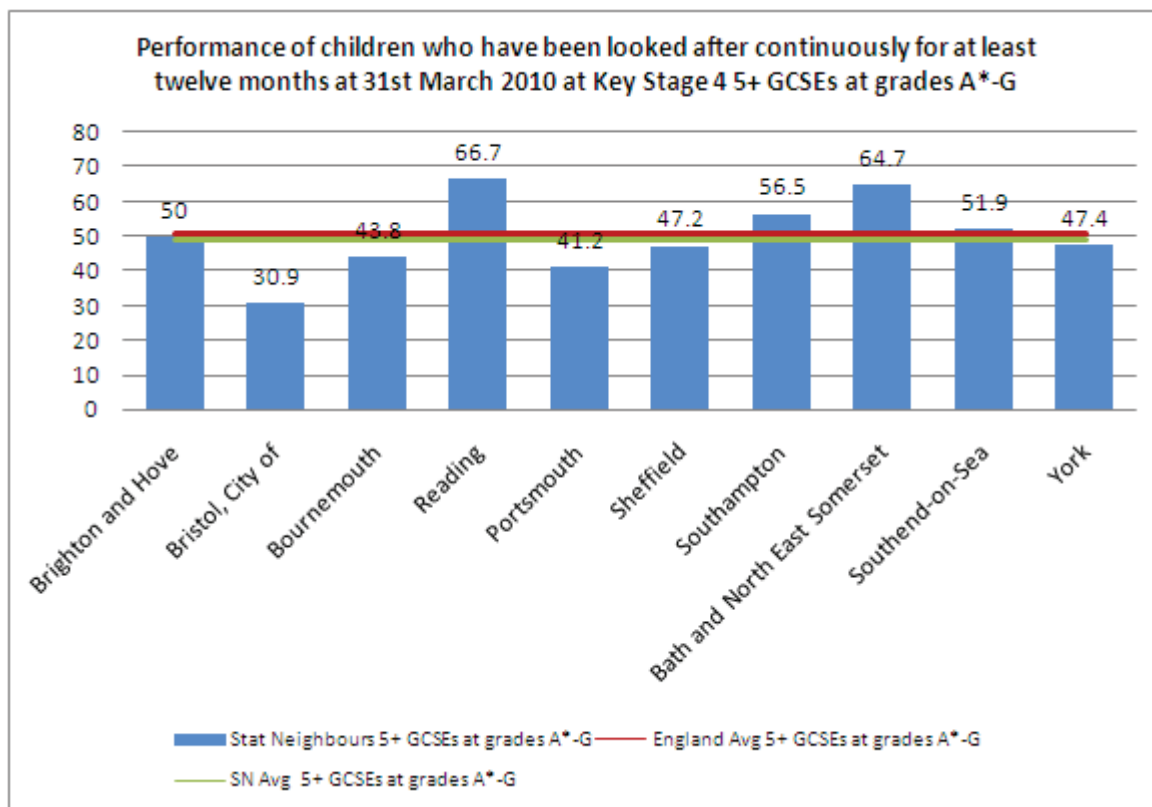
Source: OC2 2009 Data, 2010 data supplied by Virtual School for Children in Care

Please note that the KS2 data for 2010 has been provided by the Virtual School for Children in Care and has not been taken from the DfE Statistical First Release (SFR) for 2009/10. This is because much of the data in the publication has been suppressed due to the small numbers involved.

It was predicted that five pupils would achieve the target of 5 plus A* - C (including English and Maths). If this target had been met it would have brought B & H figures close to the National Average of 14% (2009 average)

8% of the Year 11 cohort achieved this target. The results are stable when compared to last year's figures; they do not demonstrate an increase.

Figure 16: Performance of children who have been looked after continuously for at least twelve months at 31st March 2010 at Key Stage 4 5+ GCSEs at grades A*-G⁵



Source: CLA-NPD matched data

The new publication on outcomes for children who have been continuously looked after by a Local Authority for at least 12 months as at 31 March 2010 in England includes information on the attainment, absence and exclusions of this cohort of children. This is taken from the matched administrative data taken from the Children Looked After database and the National Pupil Database (CLA-NPD).

Of the children who were eligible to sit GCSEs, 88.9% sat at least one GCSE or equivalent in Brighton and Hove, compared to 77.6% nationally. 50% of eligible children were entered for at least five GCSEs or equivalent, compared to 58.9% nationally. 50% of children who were eligible to sit GCSEs achieved 5+ GCSEs at grades A*-G, which is in-line with the national average (50.6%) and the statistical neighbour average of 49.3%. Nationally, 12 per cent achieved 5 or more GCSEs or the equivalent including English and mathematics at grades A* to C and 26.1% achieved 5+ GCSEs at grades A*-C.

Performance improvement activity

- Improved targeting of home tuition to support learning outcomes
- Support for pupils narrowly missing exam targets to enable resits to be taken
- Educational Psychologist support for KS4 Personal Education Plans
- Improved monitoring arrangements for 'agency placements' to ensure provision is meeting need and to educate within B & H when ever appropriate

⁵ 1. Children looked after continuously for at least twelve months as at 31 March excluding those children in respite care.

2. Number of eligible children based on those aged 15 at the start of the academic year i.e. 31 August.

3. Includes equivalent qualifications.

Local – Percentage of Children in Care with an up-to date Personal Education Plan (PEP)

Definition: Personal Education Plans (PEPs) are a statutory requirement for all school age children in care. A PEP a personalised plan for each child that records their learning needs and identifies strategies and support to enable them to make progress in line with their peers. They are reviewed every six months. There are no national indicators for this target; however other LAs do use this indicator, including some of our statistical neighbours.

Summary and Issues

94% of children on the register of the Virtual school have an up to date PEP in place. This demonstrates a significant improvement on the figures from 2008 when approximately 62% of children in care had an up to date PEP in place

Where PEP data from one of our statistical neighbours was available, the figures for B & H compared well; 94% compared to 70%

Ensuring an up-to-date PEPs is in place is a priority for the Virtual School Team who undertake a audit three times a year. The team prioritises attendance at PEP meetings where a child is new into care, has had a change of placement or has been allocated a new social worker

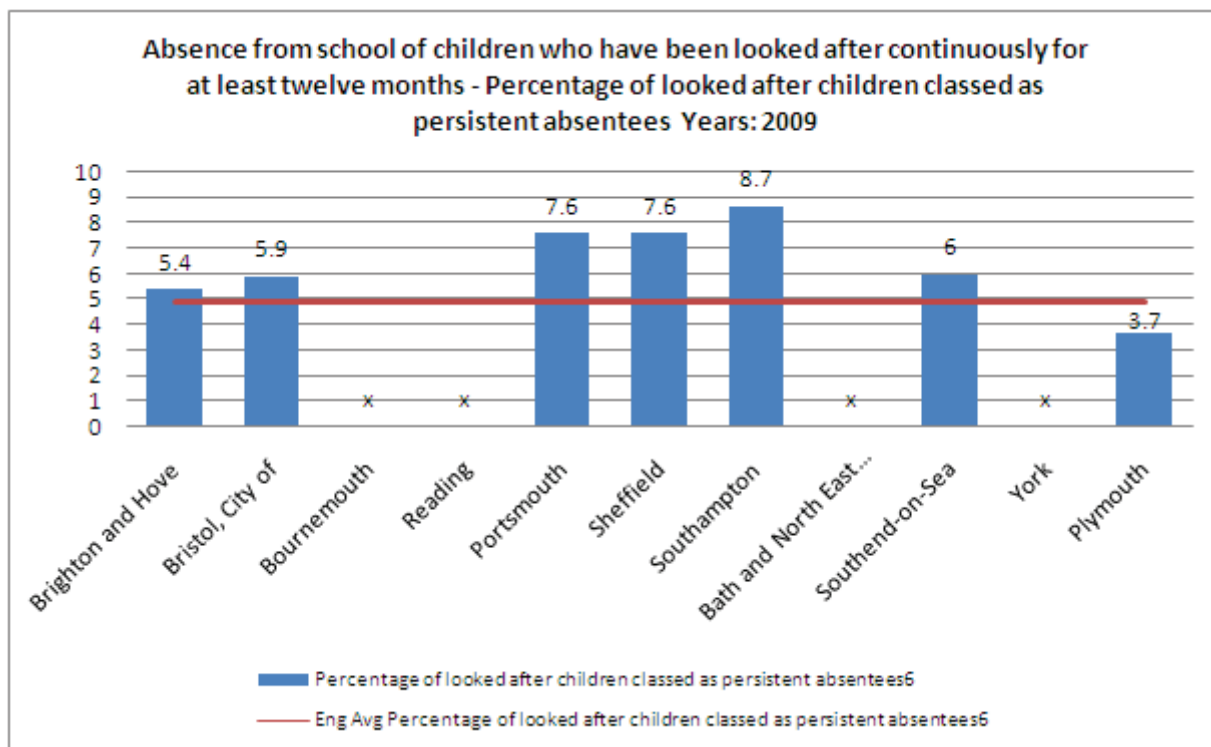
While the virtual team will endeavour to improve on this figure for the next period, the transient nature of our cohort will ensure that achieving 100% for this indicator remains a real challenge.

Performance improvement activity

Further develop the quality assurance of PEPs through a moderation process that involves the Virtual School, Designated teachers and Social Workers

Provide additional and on-going training and support to develop the knowledge and skills of social workers to enable them to coordinate/manage PEPs that are of high quality.

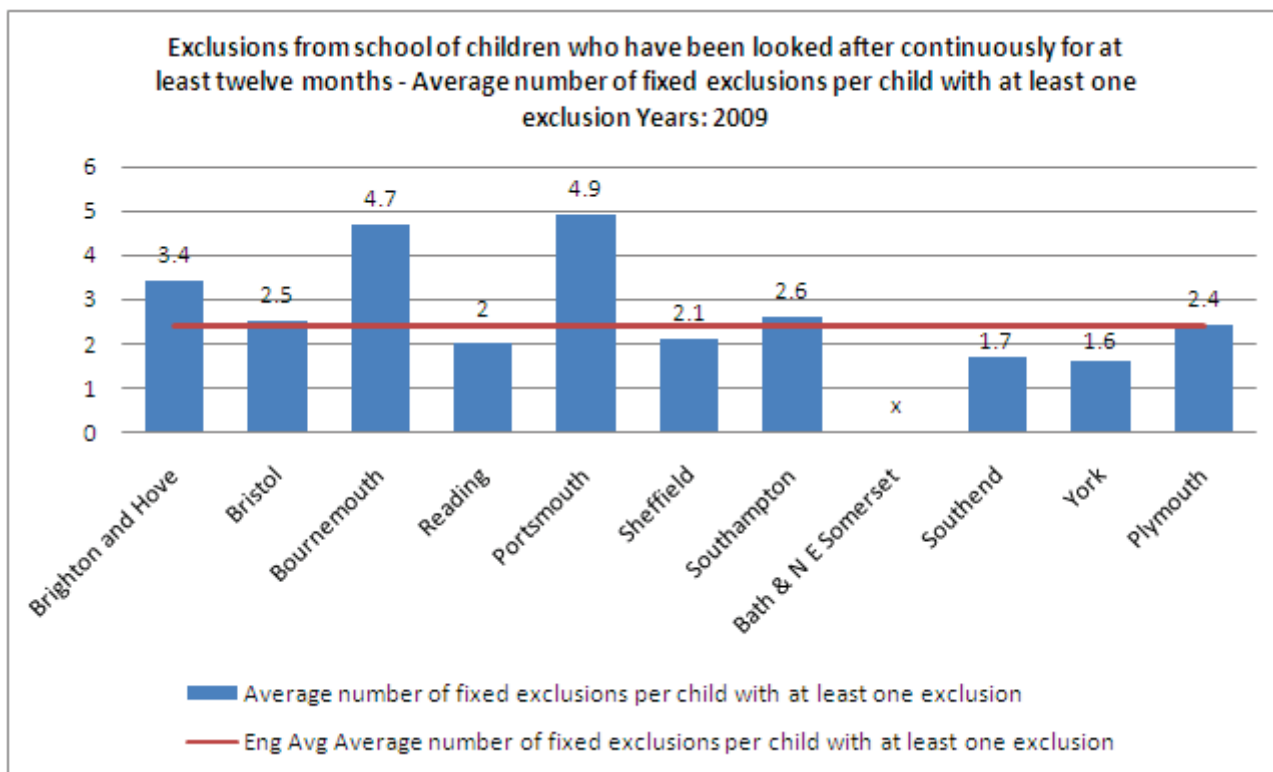
Figure 17: Absence from school of children who have been looked after continuously for at least twelve months - Percentage of looked after children classed as persistent absentees Years: 2009



Source: CLA-NPD matched data

According to the publication, the overall absence rate for Brighton and Hove is 6.4% (4.7% authorised and 1.7% unauthorised), slightly above the national and statistical neighbour average of 6.2%. The percentage of looked after children classed as persistent absentees is 5.4% - above the national average of 4.9%. It is not possible to calculate a statistical neighbour average as the figures have been suppressed for some authorities; however figure 17 illustrates that Brighton and Hove’s percentage is below six of our statistical neighbours with published results for this indicator.

Figure 18: Exclusions from school of children who have been looked after continuously for at least twelve months - Average number of fixed exclusions per child with at least one exclusion Years: 2009



Source: CLA-NPD matched data

There were no children permanently excluded in Brighton and Hove in the 2008/09 school year. According to the publication, 17.1% of the children looked after continuously for at least twelve months as at 31 March 2009, received at least one fixed exclusion in the school year compared to 12.2% nationally, Furthermore, 10% received multiple fixed period exclusions compared to 6.4% nationally. The average number of fixed exclusions per child with at least one exclusion was 3.4% in Brighton and Hove which is above the national average of 2.4%. Again, suppression rules mean that it is not possible to calculate a statistical neighbour average, although figure 18 illustrates this is the third highest percentage among our statistical neighbours with published figures.

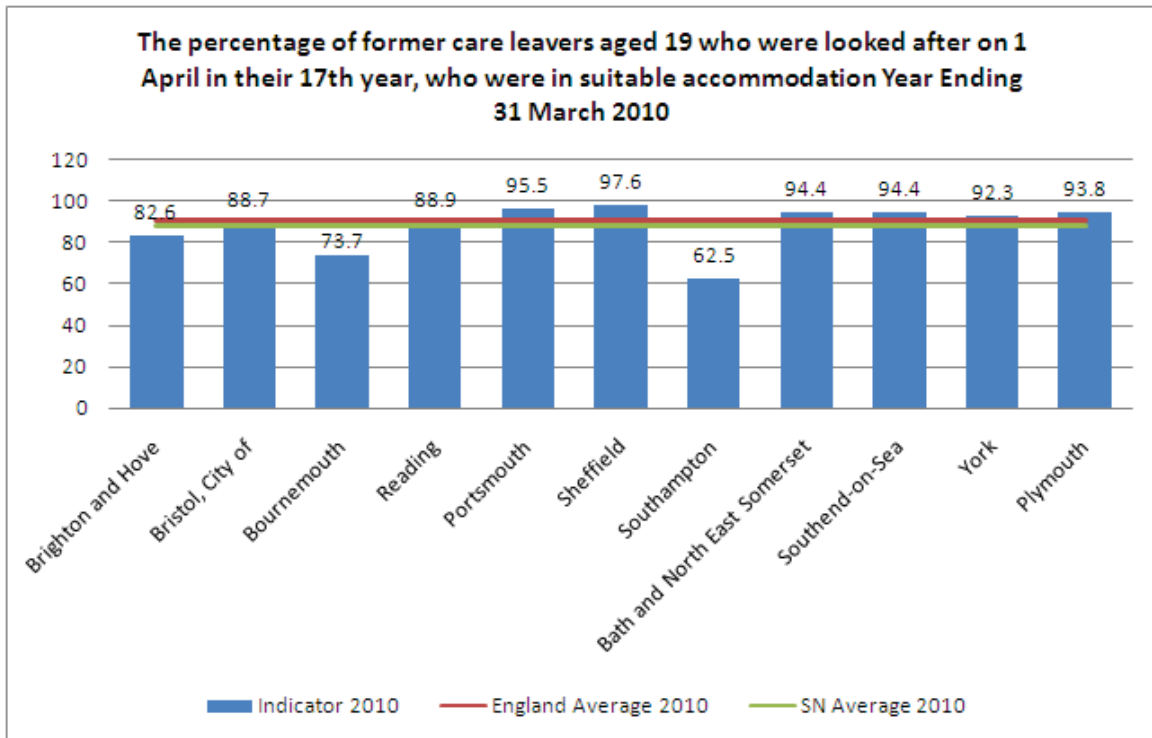
Increasing the number of care leavers in ‘settled, safe accommodation’

NI 147 Care leavers at 19 - Suitable accommodation

Definition: The percentage of former care leavers aged 19 who were looked after under any legal status on 1 April in their 17th year (other than V3 or V4), who were in education, employment or training.

Summary

Figure 19: The percentage of former care leavers aged 19 who were looked after on 1 April in their 17th year, who were in suitable Accommodation.



Source: SSDA903

The outturn figure for 2009/10 is 82.6% (Denominator: 46 Numerator: 38) which is a drop from 97.3% last year and below the target set for 2009/10 (95%) It should be noted that there is a discrepancy with the figure that was submitted to GOSE for this indicator.

GOSE	SSDA903
Numerator: 40	Numerator: 38
Denominator: 43	Denominator: 46
NI 148: 93.02%	NI 148: 82.6%

Three care leavers included in the SSDA903 cohort were excluded from the cohort submitted to GOSE as it was felt that they did not meet the criteria set out in the guidance. However, it has been confirmed that the three care leavers should be included in the cohort for this indicator.

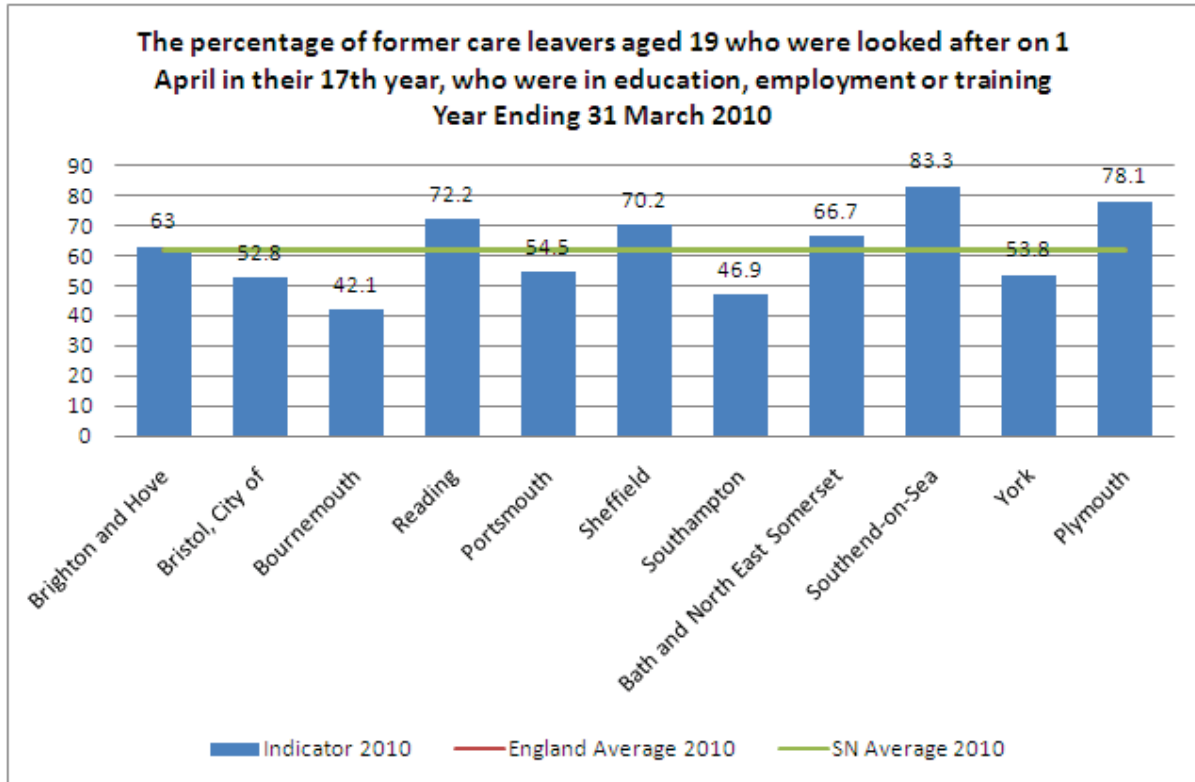
Due to entry errors on CareFirst that were only identified retrospectively and not at the time of reporting, a further two care leavers were classified as being in ‘unsuitable’ accommodation. If the two CareFirst entry errors are corrected, then the outturn for 2009/10 would be 87% (numerator: 40/ denominator: 46).

NI 148 Care leavers at 19 - in education, employment and training

Definition: The percentage of former care leavers aged 19 who were looked after under any legal status (other than V3 or V4) on 1 April in their 17th year, who were in suitable accommodation.

Summary

Figure 20: The percentage of former care leavers aged 19 who were looked after on 1 April in their 17th year, who were in education employment or training.



Source: SSDA903

The 2009/10 outturn figure is 63% which is above the national and statistical neighbour average of 62.1%. The 2009/10 figure is below last year's outturn of 67.6% and below the target of 66%. However, there is a discrepancy with the figure that was submitted to GOSE for this indicator.

GOSE	SSDA903
Numerator: 30	Numerator: 29
Denominator: 43	Denominator: 46
NI148: 69.8%	NI148: 63%

Three care leavers included in the SSDA903 cohort were excluded from the cohort submitted to GOSE as it was felt that they did not meet the criteria set out in the guidance. However, it has been confirmed that the three care leavers should be included in the cohort for this indicator.

There was also a duplicate care leaver record on Carefirst and the record submitted for the SSDA903 Return did not contain the relevant care leaver information and so was not included in the numerator. This would change the outturn figure from 63% to 65% for this indicator but the DfE has confirmed that the outturn figure cannot be changed.

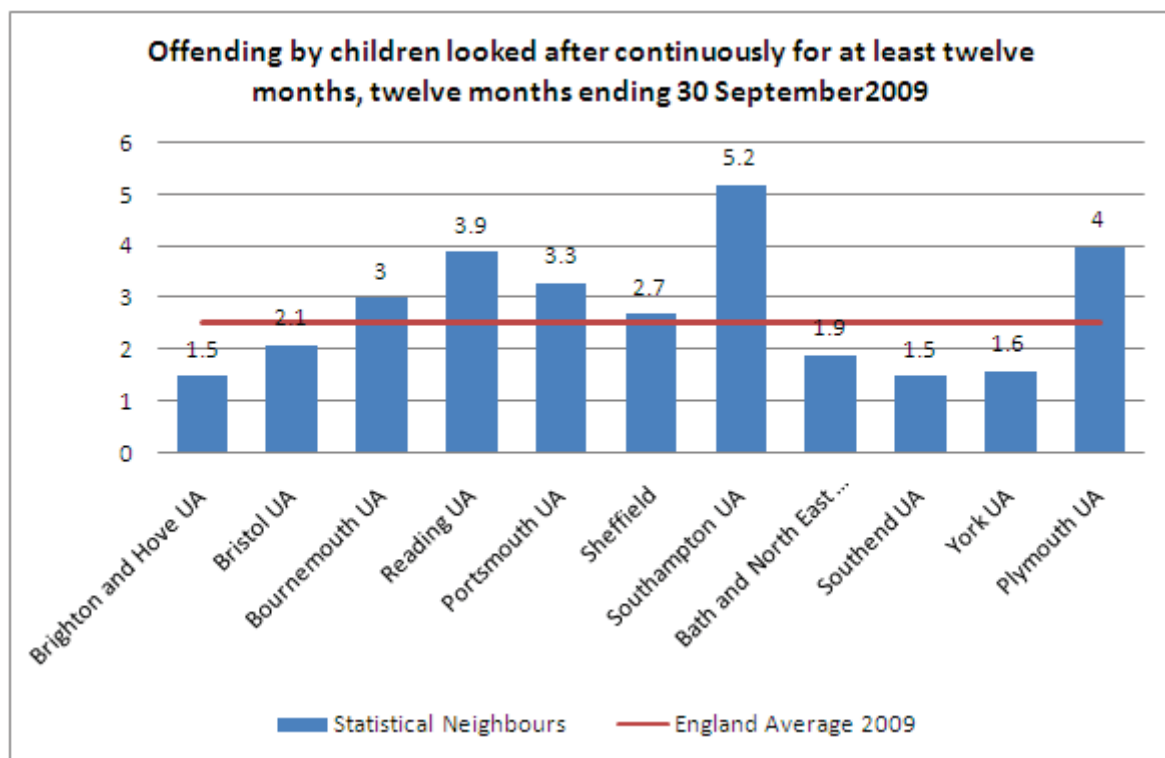
Young Offenders who are LAC

Offending by children looked after continuously for at least twelve months, twelve months ending 30 September

Definition: The proportion of children (aged 10 or over) who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months, who were cautioned or convicted during the year for an offence committed whilst they were looked after, expressed as a ratio of the proportion of all children and young people convicted of or cautioned for an offence in the police force area.

Summary

Figure 21: Offending by children looked after continuously for at least twelve months, twelve months ending 30 September 2009



Source: OC2

Brighton and Hove LAC are one and half times as likely to receive a final warning, reprimand or conviction compared to all children. However, the ratio of Brighton and Hove LAC who have received a final warning, reprimand or conviction is lower than the national average of 2.5 and is lower than or equal to all of our statistical neighbours. However, the Youth Offending Team has provided a caveat with this indicator as the offending history for children who are placed out of area is not recorded on the local system. As a result, the data provided to DfE will only include young people who have been LAC for 12 months or more who have offended whilst living in Brighton & Hove. The Youth Offending Team is now looking to record data on LAC offenders who are placed out of area on Carefirst.

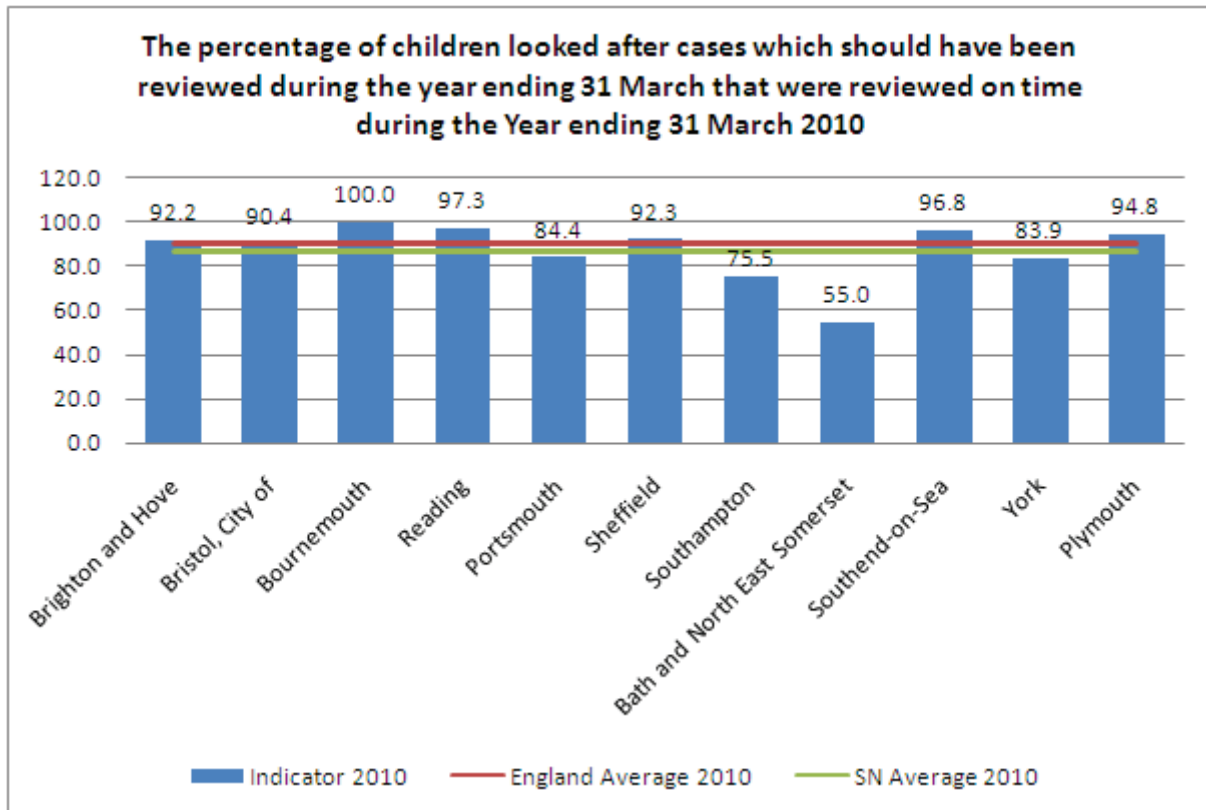
Corporate Parenting Processes

NI 066 Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales (%)

Definition: The percentage of children looked after cases which should have been reviewed during the year ending 31 March that were reviewed on time during the year.

Summary

Figure 22: The percentage of children looked after cases which should have been reviewed during the year ending 31 March that were reviewed on time during the Year ending 31 March 2010



Source: SSDA903

The outturn figure for 2009/10 is 92.2% and is above the national average of 90.5% and the average of 87% for our statistical neighbours. This 2009/10 figure remains almost unchanged from the outturn figure for 2008/09 (92.1%), which was rated amber by Ofsted, and is in-line with the target of 92%.

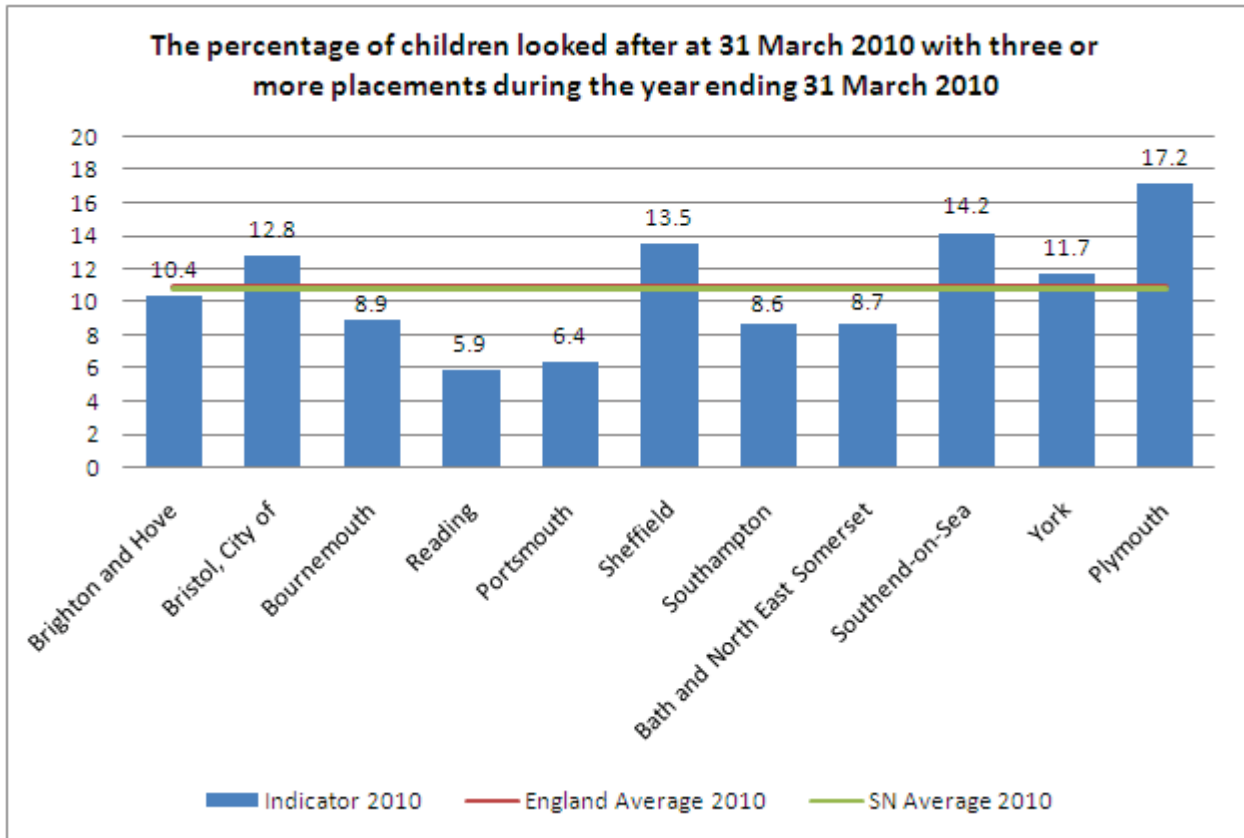
The percentage of Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales has been consistently good over the last 12 months and has remained above 91%. Current performance (92% as at 31st January 2011) is slightly below the target of 94% for 2010/11.

NI 62 Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements

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

Summary

Figure 23: The percentage of children looked after at 31 March 2010 with three or more placements during the year ending 31 March 2010



Source: SSDA903

The outturn figure for 2009/10 is 10.4%, which exceeds the target of 12% and represents an improvement from 13.7% last year. This figure is below the England Average of 10.9% and 10.8% for our statistical neighbours. Performance has improved recently from 13% as at September 2010 to 10% as at January, which is exceeding the target of 11% for 2011. However, there are data quality issues with this indicator, with concerns being raised that not all missing placements are being recorded.