

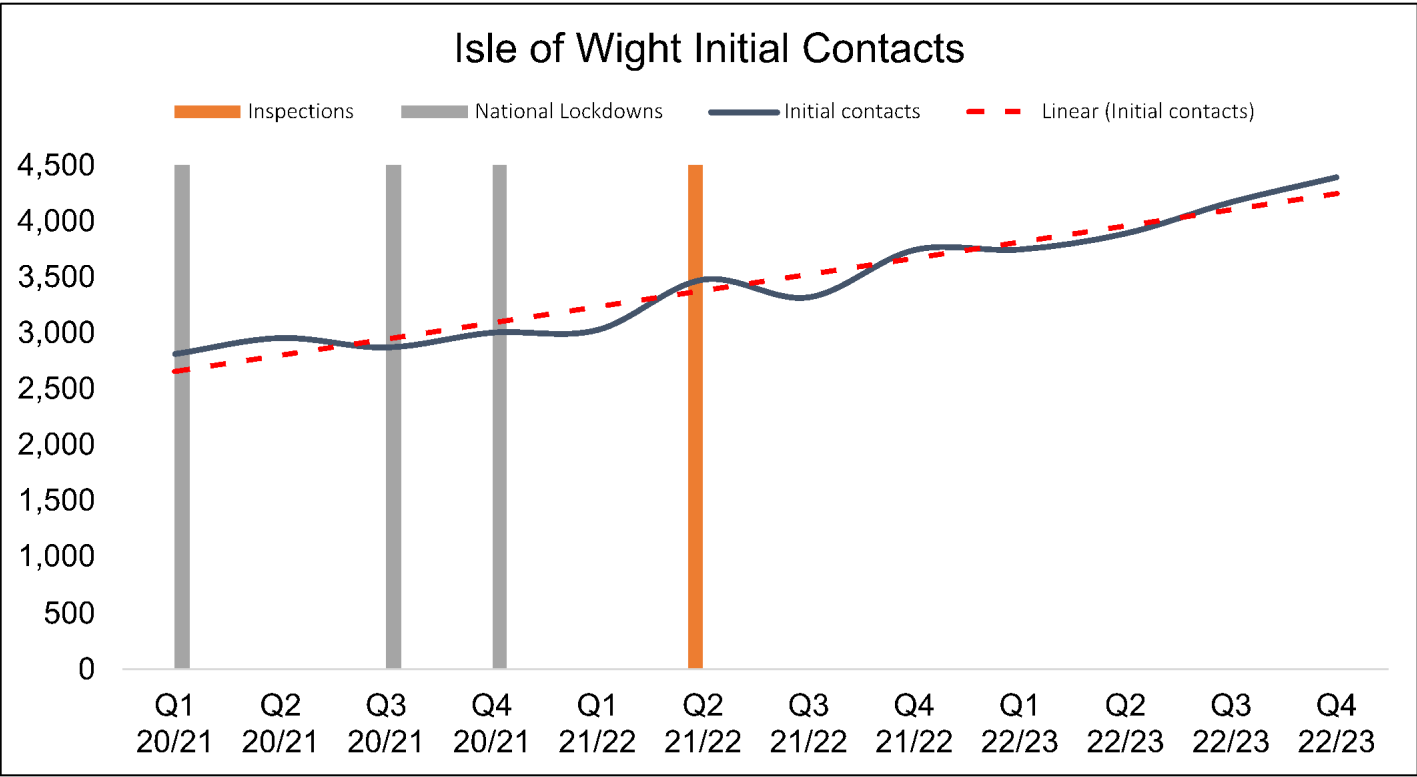
Children's Services Performance Quarter Four 2022/2023

Stuart Ashley, Director Children's Services

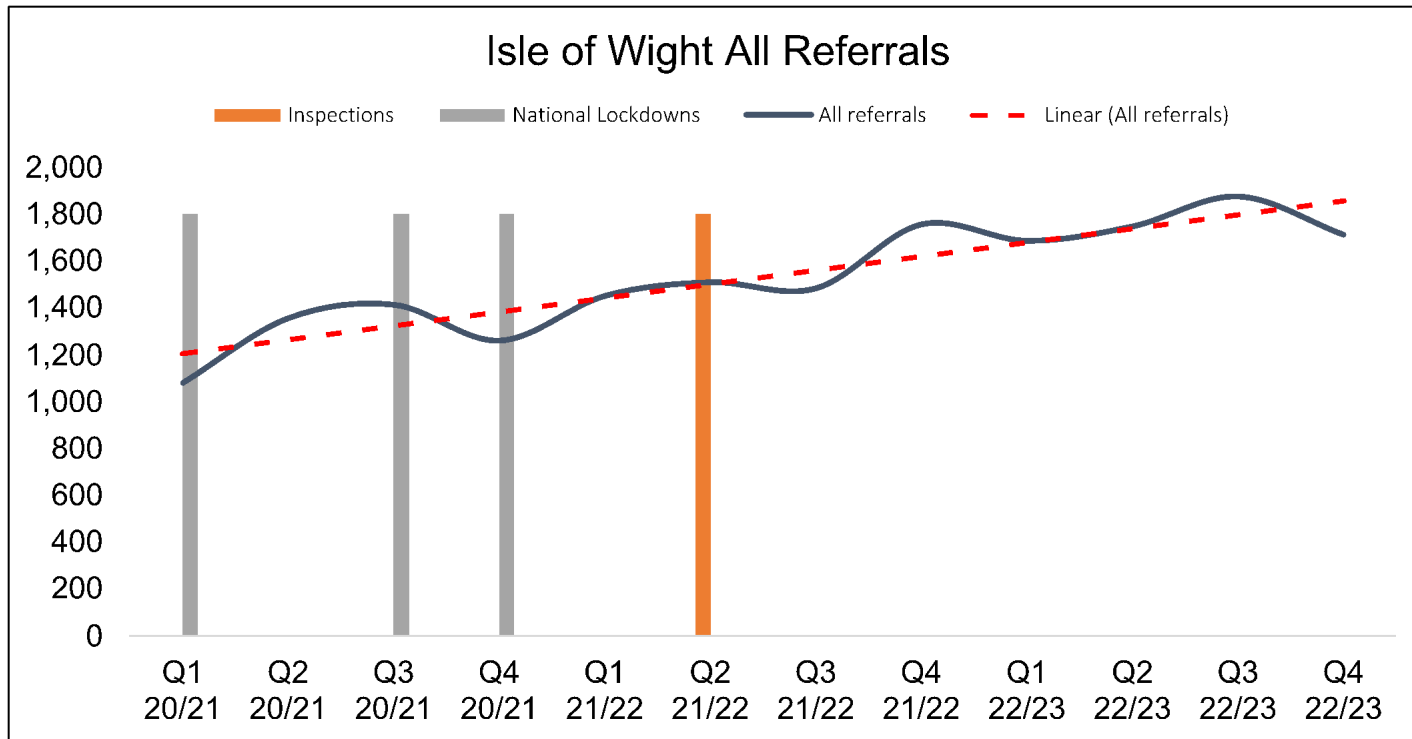
C&F Headlines

- Demand continues to rise across social care and early help.
- There has been an improvement in recruitment and retention following an increase in the market supplement to the hardest to recruit to posts and development of senior social workers in Children Assessment and Support Teams (CAST).
- We have begun to implement the Care Review starting with the recruitment of Family Practitioners. These new members of our team have now started to case hold in CAST.

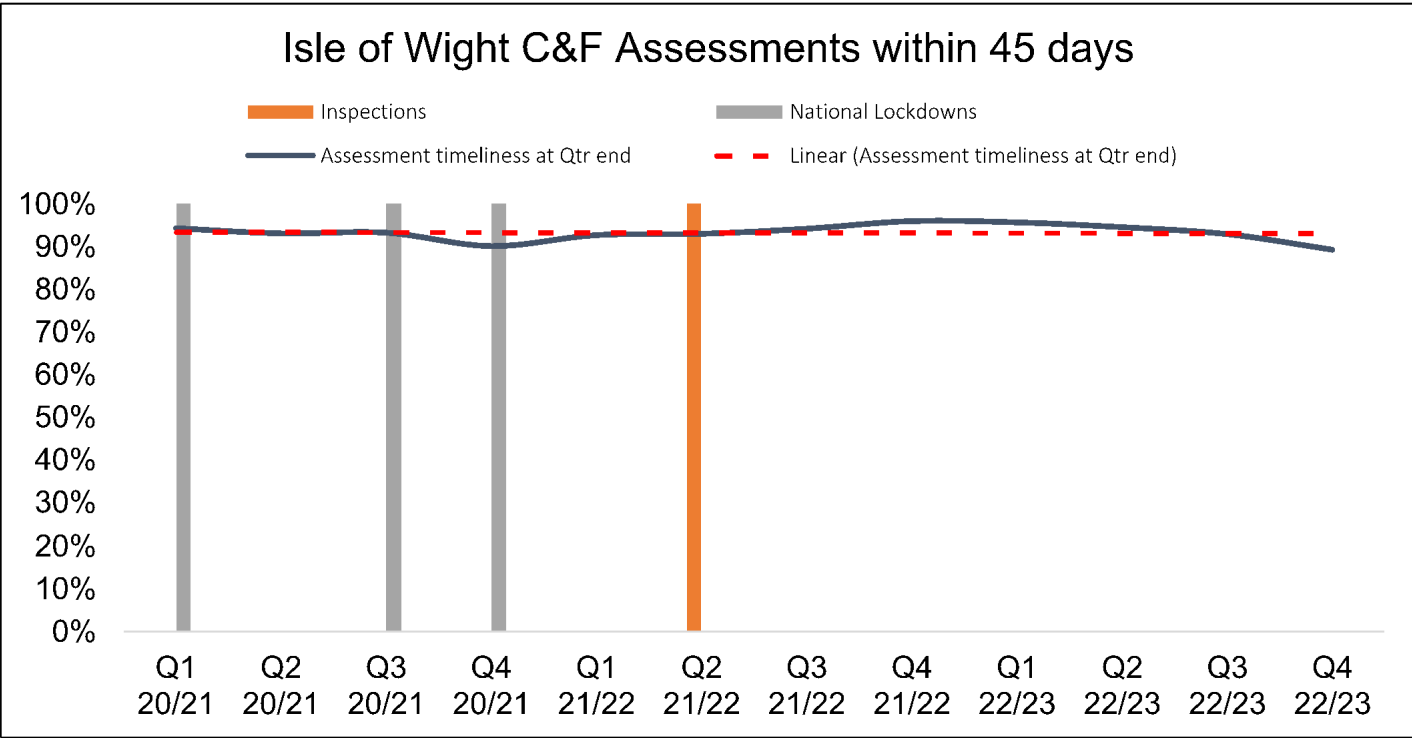
Performance – Contacts



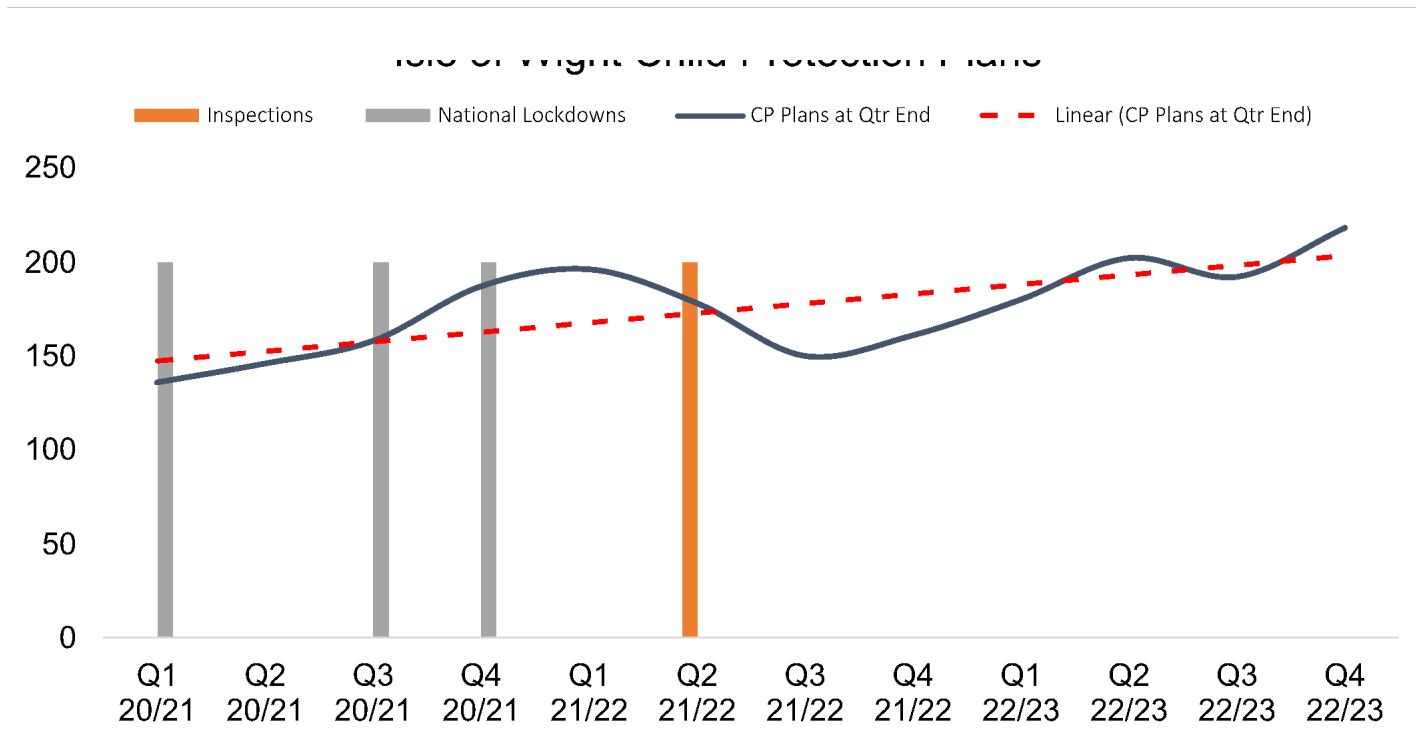
Performance - Referrals



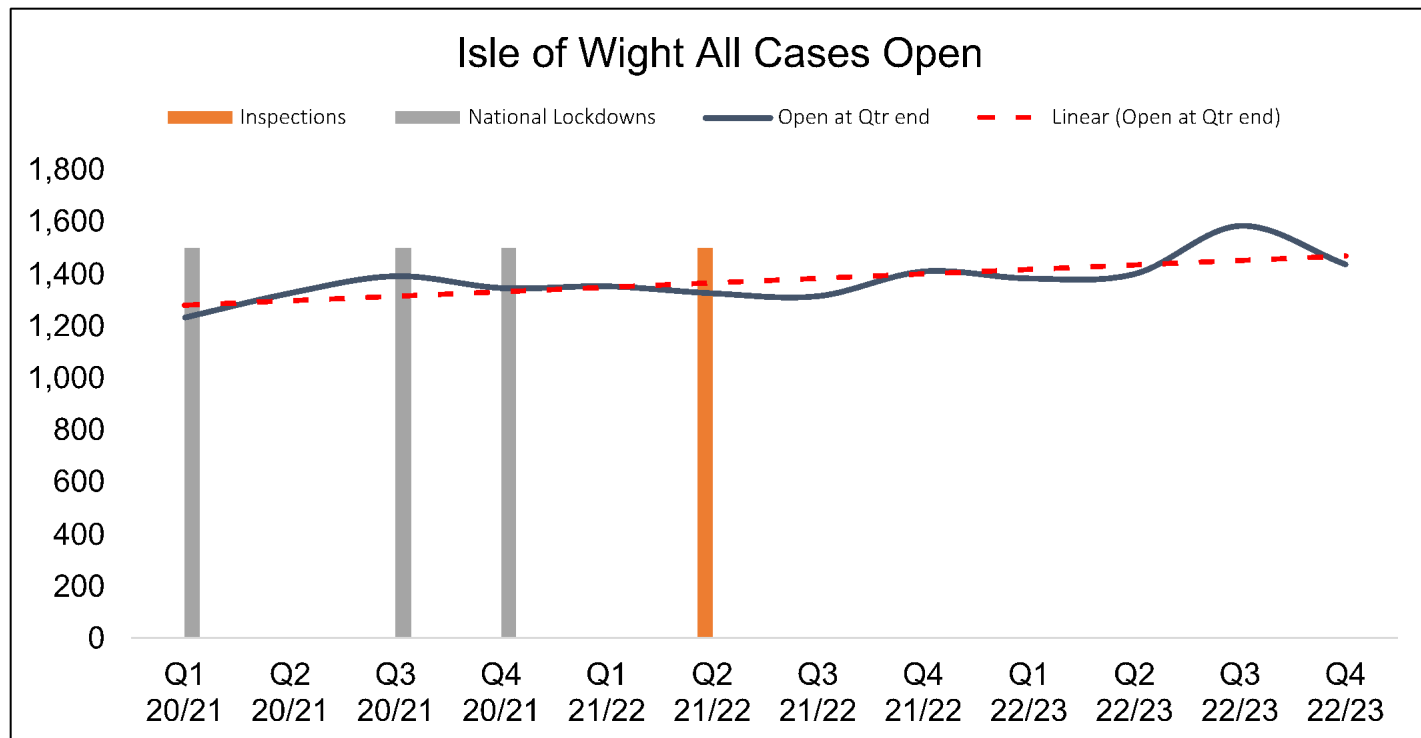
Performance- timely response



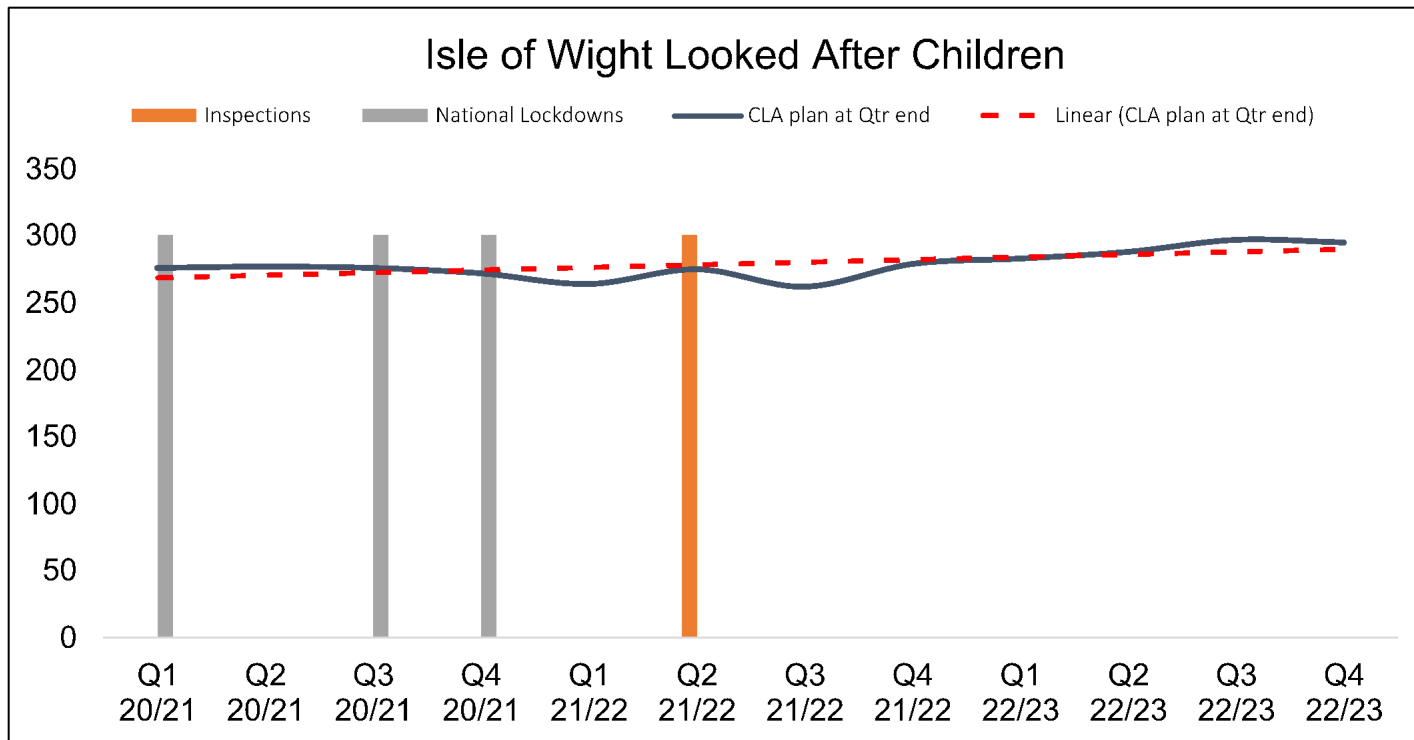
Children subject to child protection planning



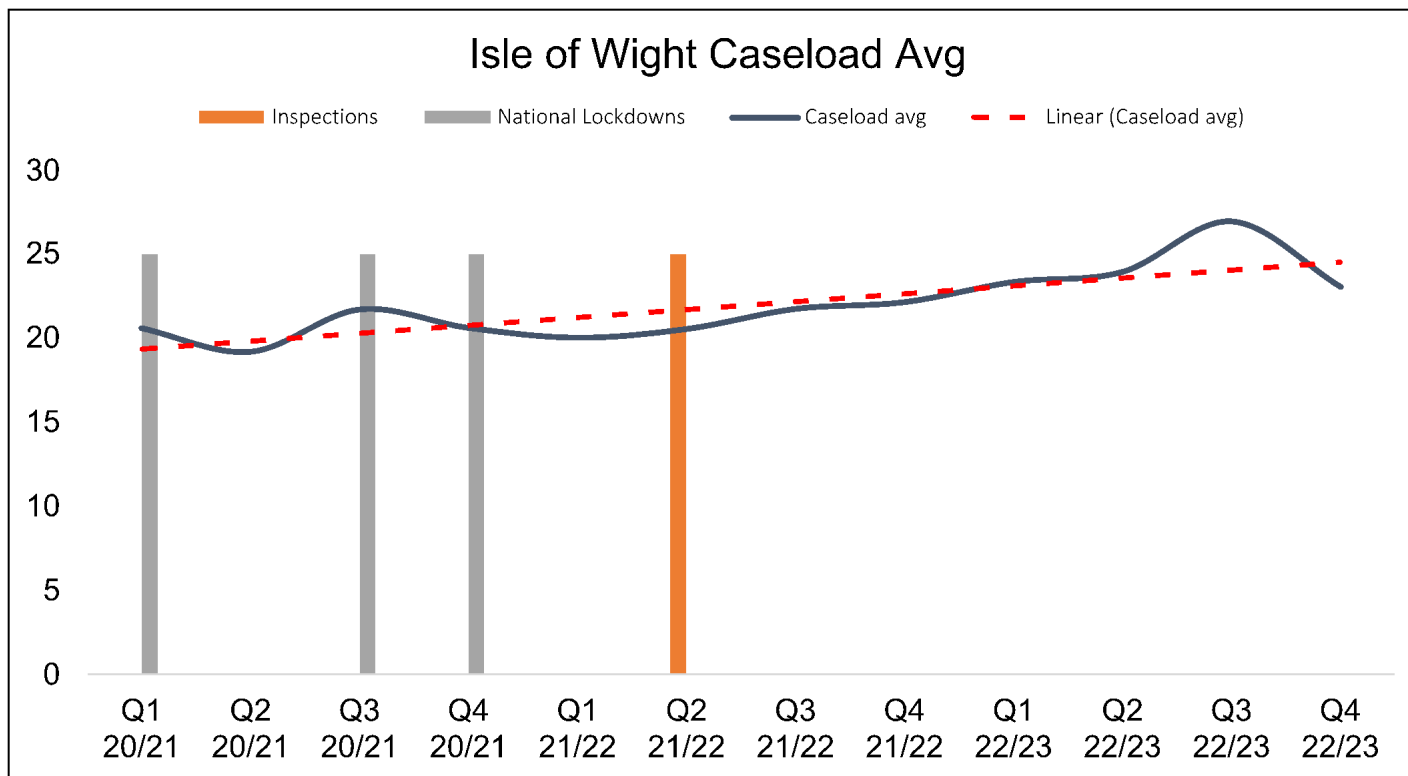
Children in need



Looked After Children (LAC)



Performance - Caseloads



Performance and Caseloads

- Whilst demand has increased and less staff have been available we have continued to work hard to maintain performance despite having higher than usual caseloads at times.
- Caseloads have decreased again since recruitment and retention of staff has improved and we have recruited Family Practitioners.

Quality Assurance

- Case file auditing undertaken every month by ATMs and TMs.
- In quarter four, 38 case audits undertaken.
- Evidence of practitioner analysis which influences decision making in 97% of cases.
- Evidence that the assessment has informed the intervention/plan in 95% and evidence of positive outcomes as a result of this for the child/young person in 95% of cases.
- Evidence of multi-agency engagement in planning in 100% of cases, with evidence that this has improved outcomes for the child in 100% of cases.
- Case summaries reflect progress and positive changes for the child/young person in line with the assessment and plan in 92% of cases.
- There is evidence of management decisions in 92% of cases, with decisions evidencing appropriate direction in the case to protect and improve outcomes for the child/young person 92%.
- Evidence of supervision as per policy in 84% of cases.

Children in Care

- There were 295 children in the care of the Isle of Wight local authority at end of Q4, a reduction from 297 at the end of Q3.
- With improved practice, the introduction of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Approach, RAFT delivering multi-agency support to priority cohorts it had been anticipated that there would be a gradual reduction of children on a child protection plan and then CIC, but due the increase of work following covid this has had less of a reduction so far.
- There is a shortage of skilled foster carers available on the island and residential and school provision on the island is limited. There is work being undertaken to try to improve the foster care and residential care provision to children on the island.
- Despite the challenges in finding placements for children the number of children with three or more moves has decreased. Work continues to identify placement needs that are emerging. Good understanding of placement movements and the needs of children and skills of carers and providers means that good matches can be made which reduces the need for placement moves. There is good work between the placement team, fostering and children's teams to enable matches to be strong.
- The percentage of children being placed on the island is 61.4% and we are working with local providers to increase their capacity so more island children can remain living here.

Challenges around placements and supported accommodation due to increased demand

The Isle of Wight have a commissioning framework for supported accommodation for young people in care aged 16/17 years and for care experienced young people.

This is called Pathways to Independent Adulthood and was developed with young people as an action from the Corporate Parenting Board.

Current challenge is the providers are meeting the needs of young people to be ready to move on to independent living. However, due to the lack of available and affordable accommodation, young people can remain in supported accommodation longer than they need to and this results in other young people being unable to move from residential or foster care into supported accommodation.

Challenges around placements and supported accommodation due to increased demand

Financial cost is significant.

Residential and Secure Placement Forecast Outturn = £6.7M

Purchased Fostering (IFA) = £2.1M

Supported Accommodation = £1.6M

Total = £10.4M

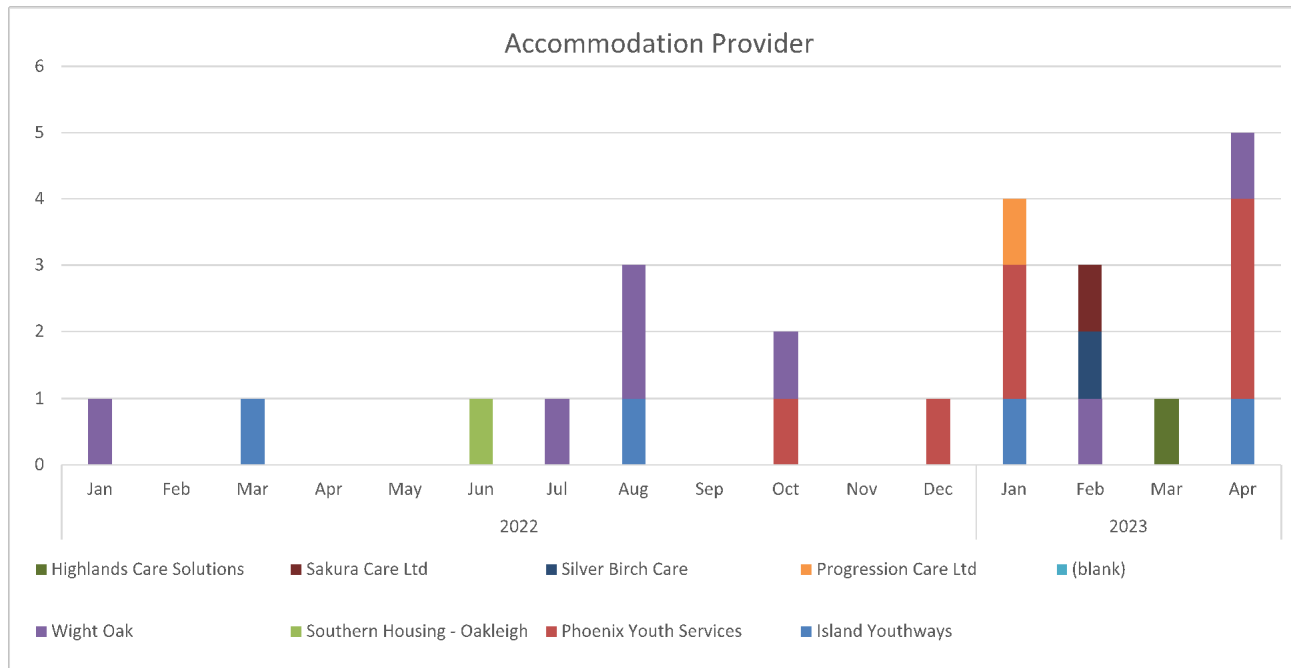
The Pathways Framework has 25 units spread over 5 providers.

At the end of the period IOW have 17 children aged 16/17 years old in supported accommodation.

The 16 of these are on the Isle of Wight and with contracted providers who have provided evidence of their eligibility as part of the tender process.

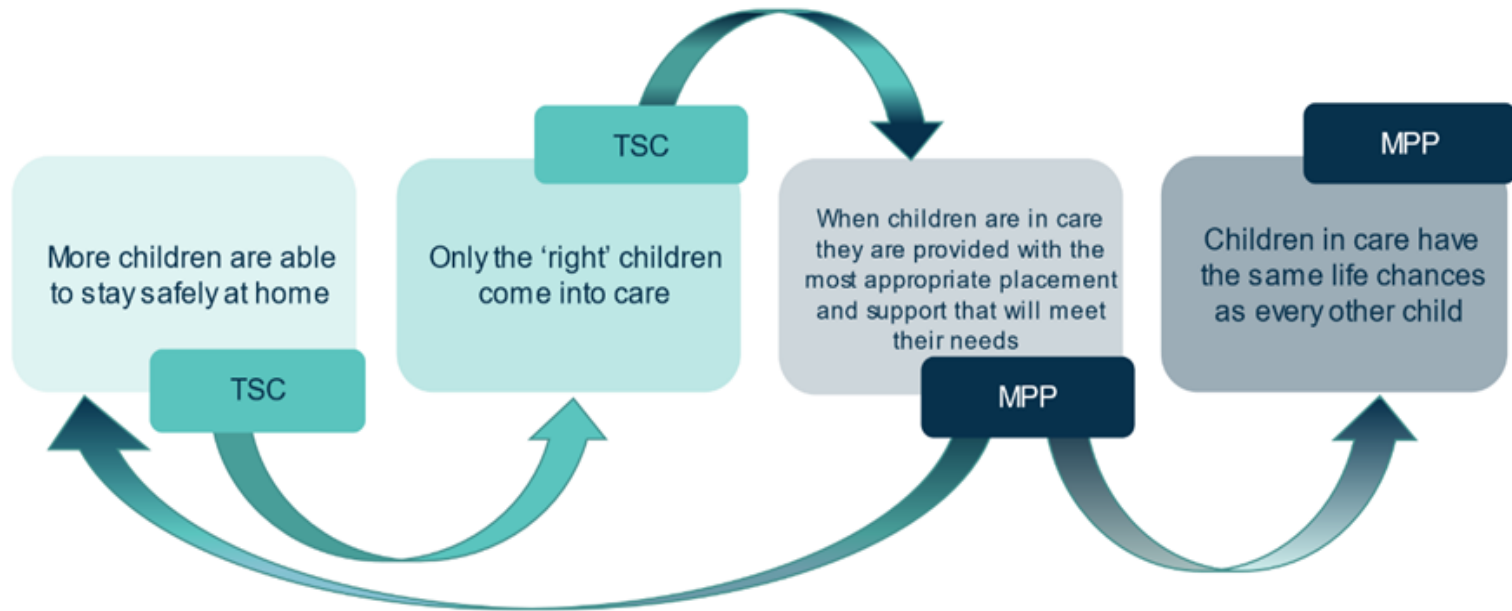
Due diligence checks and risk assessments are carried out for all unregulated placements.

Challenges around placements and supported accommodation due to increased demand



Modernising Placements Programme

MPP is a transformational programme within Children's Services, part of which is to increase the number, choice and quality of homes for children in care to live, though we continue to face many challenges. The Isle of Wight is benefiting from the experience of Hampshire who are delivering MPP for the Isle of Wight.



Education and Inclusion Headlines

- The September guarantee (2022) was 98.3% compared to national average of 94.5%. This is the proportion of 16 and 17 year olds given an offer of education, employment and training.
- 62% of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) were produced within 20 weeks for the last quarter. National average is just under 60%.

Education and Inclusion Headlines

- Proportion of schools graded good or better by Ofsted is 76%.
- Total number of children being electively home educated is 591 compared to 556 at the same point last year.
- Proportion of families that electively home educate that have engaged with the Local Authority during 2022/23, to date, is 95% compared to 90% at the same point last year.

Education and Inclusion Headlines

- Attendance statistics have been produced by the DfE for the 2022/23 Autumn Term. These show that the attendance rate on the Isle of Wight was 90.9% compared to a national average of 92.5%.
- In the Autumn Term 2022/23 Persistent Absence rates (below 90%) on the Isle of Wight were 32.8% compared to a national average of 24.2%
- In the Autumn Term 2022/23 Severe Absence rates (below 50%) on the Isle of Wight were 2.1% compared to a national average of 1.7%

Education and Inclusion Headlines

- Number of permanent exclusions in 2021/22 Autumn and Spring Term combined is 5 (10 in total in 2020/21).
- Number of suspensions in 2021/22 Autumn and Spring Term combined is 867 (1092 in total in 2020/21 academic year, but lower due to lockdown periods).
- Final attainment data for 2022 was published in January 2023 and brought to Policy and Scrutiny Committee in a full attainment report. The final attainment data for 2023 will be published in January 2024



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