



Croydon Safeguarding And Looked After Children Needs Assessment June 14 (V2.0)



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1. Introduction

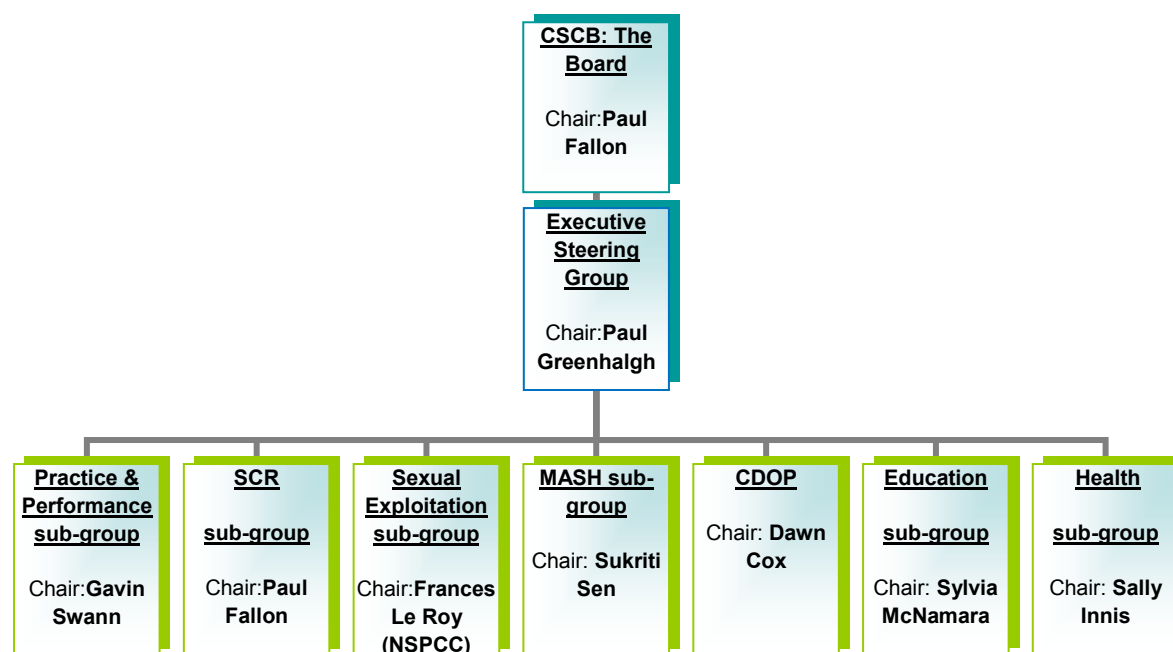
This is the second version of Croydon's Safeguarding and Looked After Children needs assessment 2014 produced for the Croydon Safeguarding Children's Board.

The purpose of this needs assessment is to bring together datasets to build a profile of Children in Need and Looked After Children in Croydon. The aim is to inform the Croydon Safeguarding Children's Board members, key service leads and partners (most specifically from the Children and Families Partnership) on the changing characteristics and needs of this client group. The findings from these analyses have been used to produce some preliminary projections for this cohort which will support the commissioning of relevant services and future service development. This needs assessment is structured across five broad areas.

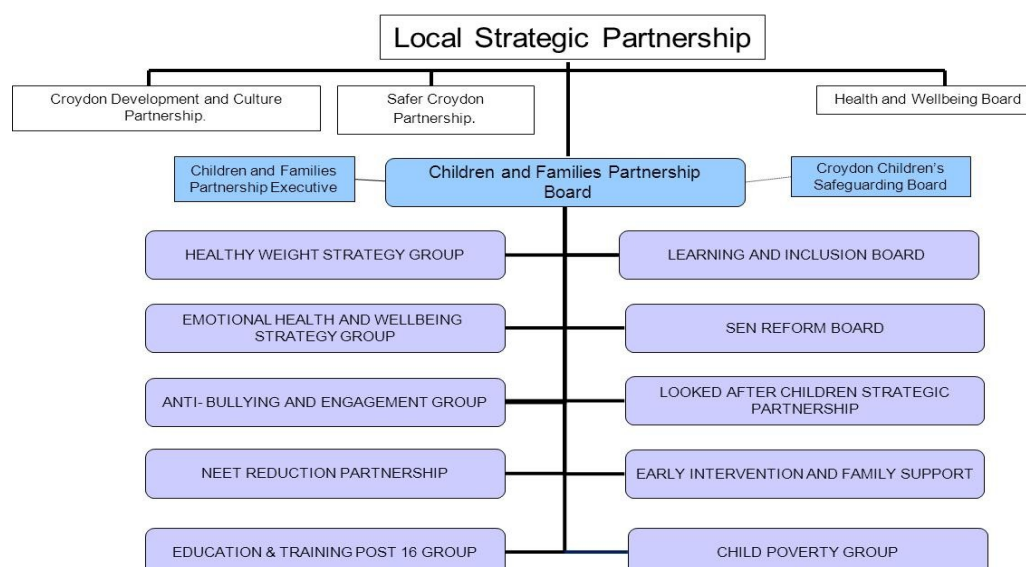
- **Demographics and Context:** Analysis of a range of contextual information that aims to provide background and insight into external factors impacting on the changing characteristics and profile of Children in Need and Looked After Children in Croydon. This includes the demographic profile of the 0-19yrs olds in Croydon and data on employment, benefits, housing, crime, substance misuse and a range of other factors that may impact on the size and needs of this cohort.
- **Early Intervention** – Analysis of data drawn from Early Intervention services, structured in alignment to Croydon's Model of Staged Intervention. Data in this section is limited due to the limited length of time some of the services have been established.
- **Children in Need and Looked After Children Profiles:** Analysis of Children in Need and Looked After Children data sets covering a three year period – aiming to creating specific profiles, focussing on key characteristics and outcomes, which will be used to inform preliminary projections.
- **Sample Caseload Analysis:** In depth analysis of service data focussing on 200 cases, mapping the client journey and subsequent outcomes.
- **Looked After Children Projection Models:** Projection models focus on the indigenous LAC population, using population projections and previous trends as the basis for projecting growth for this cohort. There are four separate scenarios which show low, medium and high projections.

2. Governance

Croydon Children's Safeguarding Board will oversee the production of this needs analysis. The Croydon Safeguarding Children Board (CSCB) is responsible for scrutinising safeguarding arrangements across the borough. The CSCB is an independent body and challenges and holds to account the organisations working with children and young people in Croydon.



Children and Families Partnership Structure – the CSCB has a dotted line to the CFL Partnership Board, but is an independent body which can hold partners to account on safeguarding issues. The Looked After Children Strategic Partnership sub group within the CFL Partnership structure is focussed on improving outcomes for Looked After Children through partnership work. (Relevance to other partnerships and boards to be confirmed including Youth Crime Board the Safer Croydon Partnership)



3. Data sources and limitations

Demographic data will be drawn from the ONS 2011 Census and subsequent GLA population projections incorporating birth rates and migration.

Data for contextual and external factors will be drawn from relevant published data sets and specified in the source.

Annual statutory returns for Children in Need CiN903 and Looked After Children SDDA903 are the primary source of data for this cohort. Data covering the period 2010-2013 has been published and therefore validated and in the public domain. **To note: Data included for the financial year 2013/2014 is currently provisional, subject to data quality checks and sign off by the Executive Director (CFL). Data for 2013/14 is also incomplete and a full set of data for Children in Need and Looked After Children will not be available until the statutory returns are submitted. The final version of the needs assessment will include a full set of validated data for 2013/14.**

- Looked After Children SDDA903 submission date – 30th June 2014
- CiN903 submission date – July 2014
- Outcome data available – October 2014

4. Methodology

This section relates to projections for Looked After Children, and the methodology used to produce population projections and how that has been applied to subsequent projections for this cohort

5. Legislative framework

- Children Act 2004 – provisions for a Children’s Commissioner and for Local Authorities to have a local children’s safeguarding board (Summary Appendix 1).
- Children and Families Act 2014 – (Summary Appendix 2).
- Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 – aims to reduce the use of secure remand for children and young people and places responsibility on the LA to remand the child to LA accommodation (section 93) (Summary Appendix 3).

6. Executive Summary

Demographic profile 0-19years

Population: Population growth is a factor that impacts on potential demand for safeguarding services. Data from the 2011 Census shows that Croydon has the highest number of residents aged 0-19 years compared to all the other London boroughs, at 97,800 residents within this age group (26.9% of Croydon's total population). Data for single year of age shows that the 0-19 population peaks at the pre-school ages between 0-4 years and residents aged 14-17 years, secondary school ages. At ward level Fieldway has the highest percentage of residents within this age group at 38.1%.

The methodology and assumptions associated with population projections will contribute to development of projection models for Looked After Children. The GLA SHLAA Household Size Capped model 2013 estimates that the number of residents aged 0-19 years will increase from a baseline of 98,265 in 2011 to 105,637 by 2021 (7.5% increase compared to the baseline) and 107,232 by 2031 (just over 9% increase compared to the baseline).

In May 2014 the GLA revised their trend-based "Central" projection model to include new ONS 2012-based National Population Projections fertility assumptions. This projection model forecasts a higher population for 0-19 year olds than the GLA SHLAA Capped Model. By 2021 the 0-19yr population is estimated at 107,838 and by 2031 the estimate increases to 114,261.

Families: Understanding the family profile in Croydon is vital to the development of local services, for example ensuring universal services designed to deliver within catchment areas are responding to the needs of families within that particular geography. According to the 2011 Census there are 98,856 families in Croydon and just over a half 51.5% (50,958) have one or more dependent children. Wards in the south of the borough have a higher proportion of families with no dependent children. Fieldway has the highest percentage of families with dependent children at 62.3%, followed closely by Broad Green at 62.2% and Thornton Heath 61.0%, both wards are in the north of Croydon.

Diversity: Understanding the ethnic profile of the 0-19 year old population in the borough supports service development and the commissioning of services that need to respond to the growing diversity and complexity of the local population. Croydon has one of the largest BME populations, making up 44.9% of the total resident population. Croydon's younger population is more diverse than the older population, locally there is a higher proportion of residents aged 0-19 years from BME communities compared to residents classified as 'white'.

Ethnicity projections published by the GLA show that Croydon will become more ethnically diverse over time, by 2015 the overall percentage of residents from BME communities is projected to increase to 49.5% and by 2021 this will increase to 54.3%. Projections show that for the 0-19yr age group the overall percentage of residents from BME communities will increase to over 60% by 2021. It is reasonable to assume that this overall change in the demographic profile of the 0-19yr age group will result in an increase in the number of Children in Need and Looked After Children (indigenous) from BME communities, which will add to the complexity of needs for this cohort.

Immigration: Migration patterns are key factors in population growth and changes in the demographic profile of specific areas. Data contained within the “Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2012/2013 – An overview of mental health and well-being in Croydon” reports that around 6,000-7,000 new immigrants come to Croydon from outside the UK each year and 3,000 residents emigrate. In recent years immigration from South Asia, Eastern Europe and certain African countries has increased. ONS statistics for 2007-2010 showed that on average every year around 18,000 people move into Croydon and 20,000 people move out of Croydon to elsewhere within the UK. Croydon’s population is subject to a north to south flow of migrants from Inner South London to Outer South London and from Outer South London to Surrey.

This means that there is a net inflow of people from more deprived areas than Croydon and a net outflow of people to more affluent areas. Over time, these migration flows are likely to result in Croydon’s population becoming more deprived.

While data in this area is limited, improved understanding and closer monitoring of international and internal migration patterns will help support services anticipate and respond to the changing needs of the population.

External factors and parental factors

Poverty and poor housing are factors which add stresses to families and can adversely affect parenting. Domestic violence, parental mental ill-health and parental substance misuse are all factors frequently present in cases where there are safeguarding concerns.

Deprivation and poverty: It has been well documented that children living in poverty are more likely to come into contact with safeguarding services. The Office for the Children’s Commissioner submission to the independent review on poverty and life chances 2010 states that ‘although safeguarding is not just a concern for poor families, there is a much higher correlation between living in poverty and abuse, neglect and maltreatment. Abuse, maltreatment and neglect can be seen as a secondary affect of living in poor families’.

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010 shows that Croydon has become more deprived between 2004 and 2010, the north of borough is generally more deprived than the south, sharing more of the characteristics of inner London. The low-income families local measure (HMRC) shows that in Croydon 25.2% of children under 16 years live in low income families. At ward level there is a wide variation across the borough in the percentage of children living in low income families, the highest levels are in Fieldway (35.8%), New Addington (30.7%) and Selhurst (30.4%), compared to the lowest levels in the south of the borough, for example Sanderstead (7.3%) and Selsdon and Ballards (7.4%) . This variation correlates with the variation in deprivation at ward level.

The number of local residents claiming key out of work benefits has been on a downward trend over the last two years, with the latest rate (August 2013) now at 11% (26,690 claimants). The claimant rate for residents with 2,3,4 or more dependents has remained relatively unchanged, showing that parents in families with larger numbers of children are less likely to access employment opportunities, reducing their potential for social mobility.

Latest snapshot data for March 2014 shows that the current housing benefit caseload in Croydon is 36,491 residents, 46% of claimant had one dependant, 32% had two dependants and 22% had three or more dependants.

Housing: The negative impact that homelessness can have on people's lives is well documented, the Coalition Government recognises the particular impacts of homelessness and periods in poor quality temporary accommodation on children's lives. This is particularly relevant to homeless young people aged 16-17 year olds and care leavers. Latest data for the quarter ending 31st December 2013 shows that the number of homeless applications for assistance was 586. This is a reduction compared to the previous 12 months when the number was 810. In Croydon, at any one time, there are in excess of 2,000 households placed in some form of temporary accommodation. Latest data for the end of March 2014 shows that there was a total of 2,415 households living in temporary accommodation, comprising of 3,583 children. This represents an increase of 3.1% and 13.4% respectively on the previous year.

Youth crime: Crime, youth crime and domestic violence are key factors in the safeguarding of children. Children who experience poor parenting or violence within their families have both a higher risk of offending or becoming looked after to remove them from the risk of harm. Gang membership in Croydon remains very low and activity is limited to a small number of areas in the borough. Locally there are two types of gangs, several groups of mainly young people – aged 11-25yrs – that are generally territory based, quite chaotic in structure and often in conflict with each other. There is also one adult group (Jaffna Boys, Tamil) who are engaged in more organised serious activities such as protection and class A drugs in and around the West Croydon, London road area.

During 2012/13 there was a total of 305 reported serious youth violent crimes committed by children and young people aged 10-19yrs, with robbery being the highest crime type. Most youth crimes of this type were committed by 18 and 17 year olds.

Over the same period there were 889 offences committed by YOT clients, the top four offences were theft and handling 21%, violence against the person 21%, drugs 16%, robbery 12 %. In terms of the profile of offenders, 85% were males, 71% were males aged 15-19 years.

Domestic violence: Children and young people can experience domestic violence when they are exposed to it within their own families and their own relationships.

Met Police data shows that for this financial year monthly levels of domestic violence offences were on an upward trend between April – July 2013, taking this year's levels to above levels for the previous two financial years.

Data in the Safer Croydon Strategic Assessment 2013, shows there were 2,046 victims of domestic violence (April 12 – March 13). The profile of victims shows that 82% were female, 43% were white females, 28% were black females and the peak age range was 21-30years.

The primary hotspot for incidents of domestic violence was Selhurst, followed by Fieldway and Woodside.

Health: Children and young people often enter the care system with a worse level of health than their peers. This is due in part, to the impact of family breakdown, abuse or neglect that led to their being placed into care.

National research suggests that children and young people with a history of being looked after by local authorities are more likely to become teenage parents. Croydon's teenage conception rate (15-17years) has reduced from an average of 55.4 per 1,000 in 2008 to 28.6 per 1,000 in 2012. The gap between the local rate and regional and national rates has been steadily closing over this period. Local data for looked after children who are mothers shows there were 23 out of a total cohort of 755 (3%) in 2011/12 reducing to 12 out of a total cohort of 736 (1.6%) in 2012/13. Provisional data for the 2013/14 shows there were 15 out of total of 797 (1.8%) (To note: this includes mothers who had their children after leaving care or after the 01/04/14).

It is estimated that 1.3 million children under 16 are affected by a parent whose drinking is classified as either harmful or dependent. In Croydon, 45% of the alcohol treatment population (502 adults) had children living with them in 2012/13. The national proportion is around 28%.

In 2012/13 there were 140 young people in treatment (for substance misuse) locally, 71% male, 29% female and 39% from a 'White' background followed by 24% from a 'Black' background. The number of young people in treatment was higher for older children and young people, with 59% aged 16 and 17 years and 12% of those in treatment were Looked After Children in 2012/13 compared to 7% in 2011/12.

Parental mental illness does not necessarily have an adverse impact on a child's care and developmental needs, however where a parent has an enduring and/or severe mental ill-health, children in the household are more likely to be at risk of harm. It is not possible to obtain accurate figures of the number of parents in Croydon with mental health but based on the national prevalence rate it's reasonable to assume that many children in Croydon are living with at least one parent with a mental health problem. Some of these will be serious mental problems.

The data gap relating to parental factors present in safeguarding cases has been highlighted as an issue as currently this data is not collected on a consistent or compulsory basis. Work has been undertaken to better understand these factors through reviewing a 5% random sample of new referrals and new child protection plans. The results of the analysis showed that there was a high level of domestic violence in both referrals and CPPs.

Early intervention

Analysis of this data relates to early intervention services. These services cover stages 1, 2 and 3 of Croydon's staged intervention model. Data in this section is drawn from Croydon Council local systems and services (some of which have just been established) and not from statutory returns. As a result data for some of the services is limited, however work is being undertaken to address this and improve the quality of data going forward.

Universal services: Croydon's children's centres deliver universal services to families with children aged under five years from a range of access points and outreach centres. In 2013/14 there were 11,195 families and 10,843 children seen at Croydon's children's centres, and there has been an increase in all types of families, children and carers seen at the centres compared to 2011/12. The number of teenage parents accessing children centre services has nearly doubled over this period, from 107 to 199, with the number of pregnant teenagers also significantly increasing 16 to 57.

A range of services are delivered through the centres, the service with the highest level of users in all years was contact with families which covers universal stay & play sessions, outreach sessions/support, and community events.

Stage 2 services: CAF data shows that 456 early help assessments were undertaken in the last financial year. The age profile of children and young people receiving early help assessments shows the highest percentage of assessments were for children and young people aged 16-18 years between 2011 and 2014 and in terms of ethnicity the highest percentage was classified as 'white'.

Data on the reason and source of referral and outcomes is not available since these data sets are not currently collected on a consistent basis. Development work is currently being undertaken to improve the quality of CAF data which includes the number of cases being stepped up and stepped down from social care.

Family Engagement Partnerships (FEPs) went live in September 2012. A total of 963 families with children aged from conception to under five years were referred through the FEP process from April 2013 to March 2014. In 2013/14, most families had more than one presenting need and the most common were: parenting support, support with child development, support with child's behaviour and domestic violence support. Most referrals to FEPs came from health visitors (23%) and children's centres (22%).

Stage 3 services: In 2013/14 there were 543 families referred to the Troubled Families programme, of which 267 met the criteria to enter into this programme. 192 families met the crime/anti-social behaviour criteria, 177 met the education criteria, 208 met the out of work criteria and 166 met the local discretionary high cost criteria.

The majority of referrals (83%) were from the YOS court disposals (35%), Education (25%) and Out of Court Disposals (22%),

Data on the profile of families for 2013/14, shows that 44.6% of families who met the criteria were white and 55.4% were from BME communities, there were 697 children in the families who met the criteria, of which 43% were aged between 12 and 16yrs.

Out of those families that met the criteria as of the 31st July 2013, the highest percentage of turnaround was for families who met the ASB criteria (55.4%), followed by crime (44.4%).

The Family Justice Centre (FJC) in Croydon is one a range of agencies providing front line services for victims of domestic violence including multi-agency risk assessments, counselling, legal and housing advice. During the financial year 2013/14, 10.66 new referrals were seen at the FJC; 22% of the new referrals were high risk victims referred to MARAC by staff at the FJC. Some of the MARAC referrals made by staff at the FJC were to other boroughs where the victims were resident. Most of the service users seen during the last financial year were referred by the police (234) and by the individuals themselves (231), with the lowest from MARAC (5).

Data relating to the client profile for the FJC shows that over the last year 92% of service users were female and in the 21-30yrs and 31-40yrs age brackets. In terms of ethnicity, latest data for 2013/14 shows that 58% of the service users were from BME communities. Many FJC clients access more than one service, the service accessed by the highest number of service users over the last financial year, was general advice (597) which constitutes safety planning, emotional support and signposting to other agencies.

Children in Need

Profile: The number of Children in Need in Croydon has fallen over the past three years, by an overall 20%, from 4,616 in 2011 children to 3,710 children in 2013. Locally there has been a year on year decrease, in contrast to both London and England where the rates decreased in 2012 and then increased in 2013. However the local rate of Children in Need remains 11% higher than London and 19% higher than England in 2013. The majority of Children in Need in Croydon are aged 10 or over, with the highest proportion aged 16 years and over. The ethnic profile of Children in Need shows that over two thirds of children come from BME communities, which is higher than the overall ethnic profile for all children (0-19years) resident in the borough.

Referrals and assessments: Local data for referrals shows that the number of Children in Need referrals completed in Croydon in 2011 was 4,030 which increased in 2012 to 4,177 (3.6%) and then decreased in 2013 to 4,135 (-1%). Croydon has seen a year on year decrease in-line with London and England.

The number of initial assessments completed for Children in Need in 2011 was 2,288; this increased by 49.2% in 2012 to 3,414 and decreased by 8.9% in 2013 to 3,110. Although Croydon has seen an overall increase, both London and England have both seen falls. In 2011 56.8% of referrals lead to an initial assessment compared to London at 72.9% and England at 71.5%. Locally this increased to 81.7% in 2012 and then fell to 75.2% in 2013.

Repeat referrals represent a proxy measure for 'churn' – children who go back through the system without having their needs adequately addressed. However there will always be some children who have repeat referrals due to unforeseeable changes in circumstance which is why it's not a true measure. In Croydon there was a fall from 2011 (25.7%) to 2012 (15.7%) followed by an increase in 2013 (20.7%).

The number of core assessments completed in Croydon in 2011 was 1,001; this increased by 72.3% in 2012 to 1,725 and then decreased by 3.9% in 2013 to 1,658 assessments.

The number of children who were subject to Section 47 enquiries in Croydon in 2011 was 533; this increased by 41.3% in 2012 to 753 and then decreased by 3.1% in 2013.

Child Protection Conference and Child Protection Plan: Year on year the number of children who had an Initial Child Protection Conference in Croydon has increased, in 2011 the number was 301, this increased by 15% to 346 children in 2012 and then increased again by 22.5% to 424 children in 2013.

Between 2011 and 2013 there has been an overall fall in the number of children who were the subject of a Child Protection Plan. Data for children who were the subject of a Plan by initial category of abuse shows that during 2011 and 2012 Croydon had a higher percentage of children whose initial category of abuse was 'neglect' compared to London and England which was 'emotional abuse'. By 2013 the number of children who were subject of a Plan in Croydon due to 'neglect' had fallen in line with London and England. The number of children categorised as experiencing 'physical abuse' increased dramatically from 25.5% in 2011 to 45.1% in 2013.

Looked After Children

Profile: Local unpublished data as at March 14 shows there are currently 797 Looked After Children in Croydon. This cohort is made up of 437 indigenous children and 360 unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC). Published data as at March 2013 shows that Croydon has the highest number of Looked After Children compared to all other London boroughs and consistently has a higher number of UASC than any other local authority.

The two groups of Looked After Children in Croydon, indigenous and UASC have very different compositions. In terms of the breakdown by age and sex of indigenous Looked After Children, trends have remained fairly constant over the past few years with slightly more boys than girls; in 2014 56% of the indigenous Looked After Children were male. There are also more secondary school aged children than primary school aged children.

The age and sex profile of UASC has also remained fairly constant over the past few years although there has been a drop in the number of older UASC since 2011. There are far more boys than girls amongst UASC; in 2014 86% of UASC were male. 68% of UASC were aged 16 and over, with the remaining 32% aged between 10 and 15years.

The proportion of the children who started to be looked after who were aged under 1 was 7% in 2010/11 increasing to 10% for the following two years. Proportions of children who started to be looked after aged between 1-4 years and 5-9 years have followed similar trends. The largest proportion of children for the three year period started to be looked after between the ages of 10-15years old – 46% in 2012/13, which is due to the high numbers of UASC locally.

The figures for London and England for 2012/13 show a much lower proportion of children and young people aged over 10. This is because of the lower proportion of UASC in other local authorities.

The ethnic profiles of indigenous children and UASC are also very different. The ethnic profile of indigenous Looked After Children has remained fairly constant over the past few years with largest proportions recorded as 'White or White British' and 'Mixed or Dual Background'. In contrast the ethnic profile of UASC has changed over the past few years; the large proportion of UASC from an Asian background in 2011 is linked to the high numbers of UASC from Afghanistan. Similarly the increase in UASC recorded as White or Any Other Ethnic Group in 2014 is linked to the increase in UASC from Albania.

Most of the countries of birth recorded for UASC are deemed countries of concern by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO, 2014). The main exception to this is Albania. The main countries of birth for UASC differs from the most common nationalities recorded for all asylum seekers nationally. The four most common nationalities for all asylum seekers were Pakistan, Iran, Sri Lanka and Syria in 2013. Eritrea came 5th, Albania 6th and Afghanistan 8th (Home Office, 2014).

The religion of indigenous Looked After Children is not well recorded. In 2014 this information was not provided for 45% of all indigenous children. Of those who did have a religion recorded the majority were classified as Christian (46% of the total indigenous Looked After Children). Recording of religion is better for the UASC with only 16% of records missing this information. Only 17% of UASC are recorded as Christian, whilst 65% are recorded as Muslim. The large proportion of UASC recorded as Muslim is linked to the high numbers of UASC from Afghanistan and Albania. There are only very small numbers of indigenous and UASC who were recorded as Hindu, Buddhist or Sikh.

The most commonly recorded languages for UASC reflects the decrease in the number of UASC from Afghanistan and the increase in UASC from Albania. Pashto and Dari are both spoken in Afghanistan whilst Tigrinya is spoken in Eritrea.

Disabilities: Children become looked after for a range of reasons. Some children and young people receive support from social services because of their disability. These children are often looked after in short term placements to provide respite care. 5.9% of Looked After Children are recorded as having a disability. This includes children and young people who are looked after as a result of their disability. The highest proportion of these had a learning disability (40%) following by physical disability (26.7%).

Category of need: For longer term care the highest categories of need for all three years (2011-2013) are 'Abuse of neglect' and 'Absent parenting'. There has been some variation in the proportion of children and young people who became looked after because of abuse or neglect or due to absent parenting over the past few years. The majority of Looked After Children affected by absent parenting are UASC so it is reasonable to assume the variation is linked to the variation in the total number of UASC over the last three years.

The provisional data for 2013/14 shows that almost all of the children who started to be looked after because of absent parenting were UASC. Data on category of need shows that 60% of children indigenous to the borough started to be looked after because of abuse or neglect and for 12% the category of need was socially unacceptable behaviour. These proportions are both higher than historic trends for regional and national averages.

Legal Status: Section 20 is the section of the Children Act 1989 which states that a local authority must provide accommodation for a child or young person if they have no one who has parental responsibility for them or if the person with parental responsibility is unable to provide suitable accommodation. The local authority may also provide accommodation for a child or young person under section 20 if they believe that doing so will safeguard the child or promote their welfare.

All UASC are accommodated under section 20, which explains the high proportion of Looked After Children with this legal status over the past three years, 73% in 2011, 69% in 2012 and 63% in 2013. The provisional figures for 2014 show broadly the same picture as in previous years at 65%.

Focusing on the legal status of indigenous Looked After Children in 2014 shows that 37% were accommodated under section 20.

Placements: Most Looked After Children in Croydon are placed with foster carers, placements of this type have increased by 10% in recent years, from 67% in 2011 to 77% in 2013. Children in other placement types have reduced over the same period, 'Secure units, children's homes and hostels' has reduced from 13% (2011) to 5% (2013) and children placed in 'Other placement in the community' has reduced from 15% (2011) to 12% (2013).

Over the three year period between 2011 and 2013 the majority of children placed by Croydon, where the distance between the home address of the child and the placement is known, are placed within 20 miles of their home. This is significantly better than the London average at 36.2% in 2013, regional data shows a far higher proportion of children being placed less than 20 miles outside the boundary at 43.2%.

Overview of children who ceased to be looked after: There were approximately 445 children who ceased to be looked after in 2011 compared to only 345 in 2013, which is probably linked to a fall in the number of UASC in previous years. Unofficial data for 2014 shows that the number of children who ceased to be looked after during the year was 335.

Special guardianship orders have increased over the past three years from less than five in 2011 to approximately 20 in 2013. These give parental responsibility to a special guardian, who can be relatives or foster carers. Between 2011 and 2013 unopposed adoptions have also increased. A significant proportion of children who ceased to be looked after (approximately 19% in 2014) return home to their parents. However the largest proportion of children (40% in 2014) are recorded as having 'Other reasons' for leaving care, this is also linked to the large number of UASC in the borough.

Attainment outcomes: 2013 attainment data at Key Stage 1 for Looked After Children shows that levels for this cohort have fallen to below levels for 2012 when attainment for this cohort was in line with overall attainment for Croydon, London and England.

Key Stage 2 attainment Level 4 or above in mathematics for the overall student population was 84% for Croydon, 87% for London and 85% for England in 2013. 53% of Looked After Children achieved this level of attainment in 2013, which shows a reduction compared to 2011 when 64% of this cohort achieved Level 4 or above in maths at Key Stage 2.

The gap between the Key Stage 2 attainment of Looked After Children and the general population can also be seen for reading. In 2013, 87% of the overall pupil population in Croydon achieved Level 4 or above, compared to 88% for London and 86% for England. Compared to 60% of Looked After Children who achieved this level of attainment in 2013, which is below regional and national averages for this cohort, and reduction compared to 2011 attainment levels.

Key Stage 4 (5 or more GCSEs at A*-C including maths or English) attainment levels for the overall pupil population in Croydon has been improving over time and in 2013 64% pupils achieved this level of attainment compared to 65% for London and 59% for England.

Key Stage 4 (5 or more GCSEs at A*-C including maths or English) attainment levels for Looked After Children have also been improving since 2011, when 8.4% of this cohort achieved this level of attainment, increasing to 17.5% in 2013. Local performance levels are currently below London (20.8%) but above England (15.3%).

The JSNA on Looked After Children in 2011 noted that attainment levels of UASC are lower than the overall average for Looked After Children and that local studies of the indigenous Looked After Children found they outperformed the national average.

Health outcomes: Local authorities are required to assess the emotional and behavioural health of all Looked After Children between the ages of 4 and 16. This is done through the strengths and difficulties questionnaire (SDQ). A score under 14 is considered normal, scores between 14 and 16 are a borderline cause for concern and scores of 17 or over are considered a cause for concern. In 2012/13 59% of Looked After Children in Croydon had a normal score compared to 50% of Looked After Children nationally. Only 30% of Looked After Children in Croydon had a score that was a cause for concern compared to 38% nationally.

Every looked after child over the age of five has to have an annual health assessment. Looked After Children under five have to have a health assessment every six months. Croydon has consistently remained below the regional and national averages for annual health assessments over the past three years. In 2012/13 71.6% of Looked After Children in Croydon received their annual health check compared to 90.3% for London and 87.3% for England.

Up to date immunisations for Looked After Children is also recorded. Performance in Croydon has fallen in the last three years from 93.8% in 2010/11 to 64.2% in 2012/13. Local performance for 2010/11 was above the regional and national averages and has fallen to below them in 2012/13.

Outcomes for care leavers: Latest data for 2013 shows that 57% of 19 year old care leavers were known to be in education, employment or training locally, compared to 64% across London and 58% across England; 75% of care leavers in Croydon were known to be in suitable accommodation compared to 88% for both London and England.

Looked After Children Projections: Projection models focus on the indigenous LAC population, using population projections and previous trends as the basis for projecting growth for this cohort. There are four separate scenarios which show low, medium and high projections. There are no specific projections for LAC who are UASC as it not possible to predict the international events that will impact on these numbers in the future.

Next steps

- Integrate a final set of 2014 data for Children in Need and Looked After Children. Current 2014 data for Looked After Children is provisional.
- Integrate input from service managers around key data sets to better understand trends and key findings.

7. Context/demographics

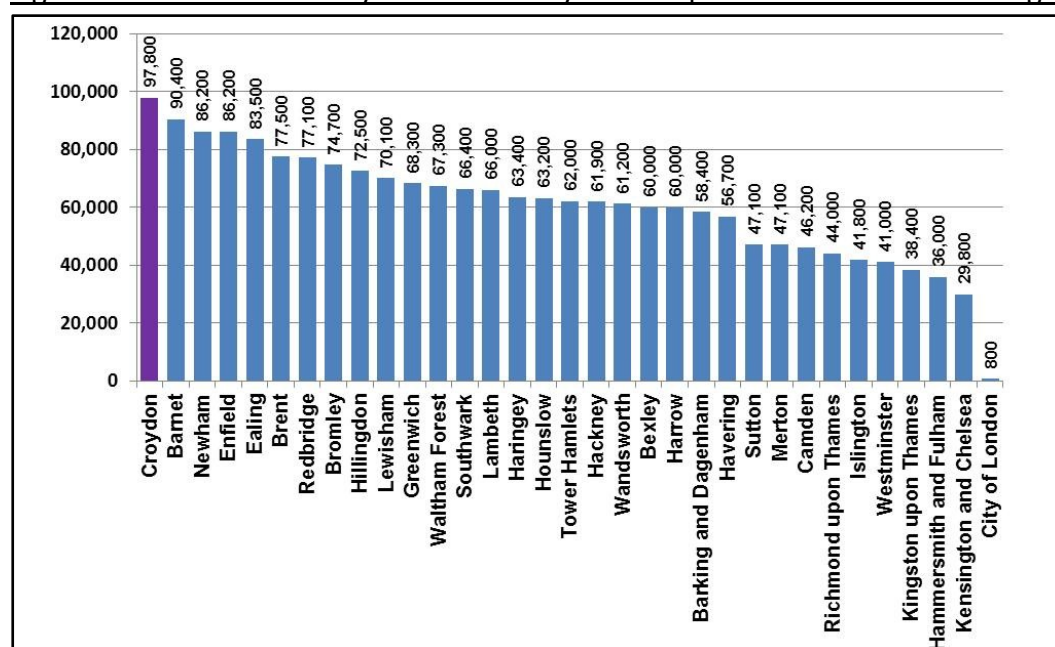
This section provides an overview of the changing demographic profile in Croydon. Focussing on the population growth and population projections for 0-19yr olds, the ethnicity profile for this population group and migration data.

7.1 Population profile 0-19years

Population growth is a factor that impacts on potential demand for safeguarding services. Data from the 2011 Census shows that Croydon has the largest resident population compared to all other London boroughs. The overall population increased by 8.4% from 335,100 on Census day 2001 to 363,400 on Census day 2011.

Croydon has the highest number of residents aged 0-19 years compared to all the other London boroughs, at 97,800 residents within this age group.

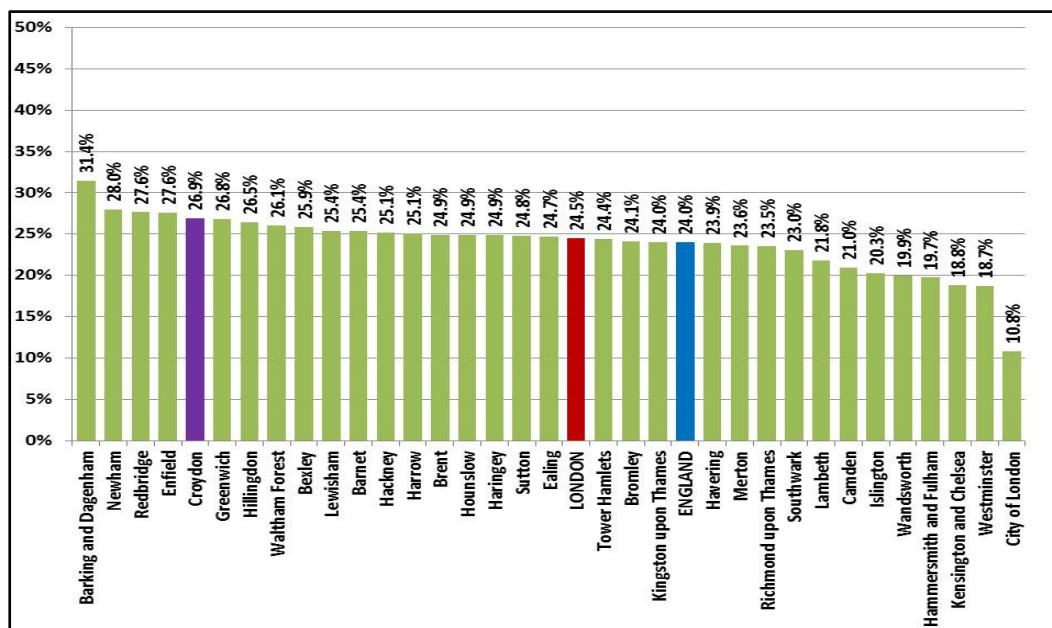
Figure 1 – Number of 0-19 year olds in Croydon compared to all London boroughs.



Source : ONS, Census 2011.

In terms of percentages, Croydon has the 5th highest percentage (26.9%) of 0-19 year olds compared to all other London local authorities, London overall and England. Barking and Dagenham has the highest percentage at 31.4%.

Figure 2 - Percentage of 0-19 year olds in Croydon compared to all London Boroughs, London and England

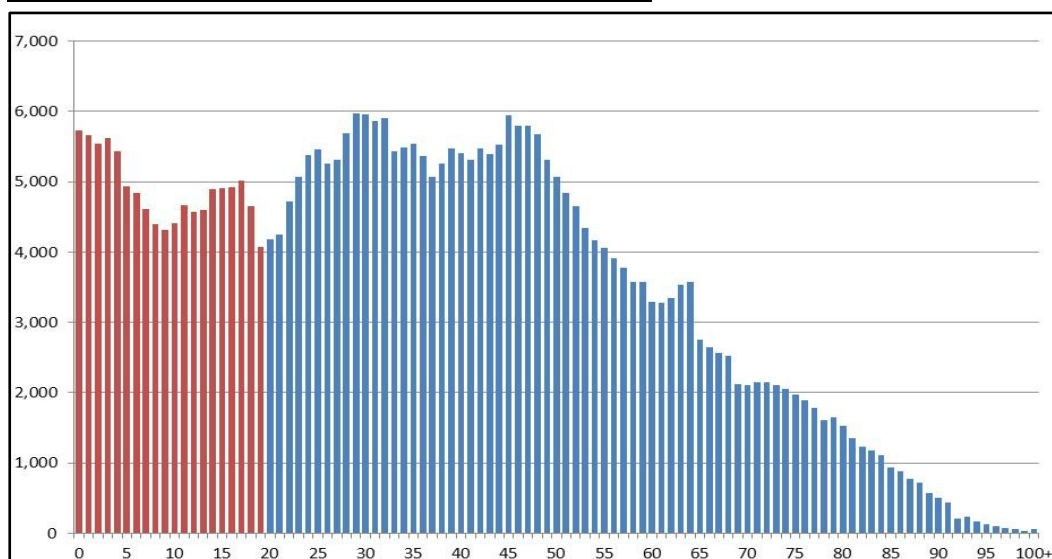


Source : ONS, Census 2011.

Residents by single year of age

Data for single year of age shows that the 0-19 population peaks at the pre-school ages between 0-4 years and residents aged 14-17 years, secondary school ages.

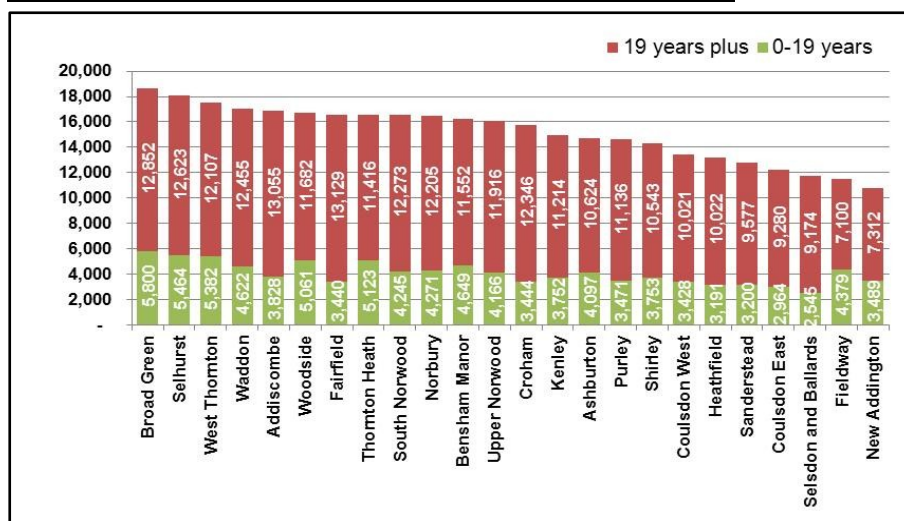
Figure 3 – Croydon residents by single year of age



Source : ONS Census 2011.

Population 0-19years at ward level

Figure 4 – Number of 0-19 year olds in Croydon by ward

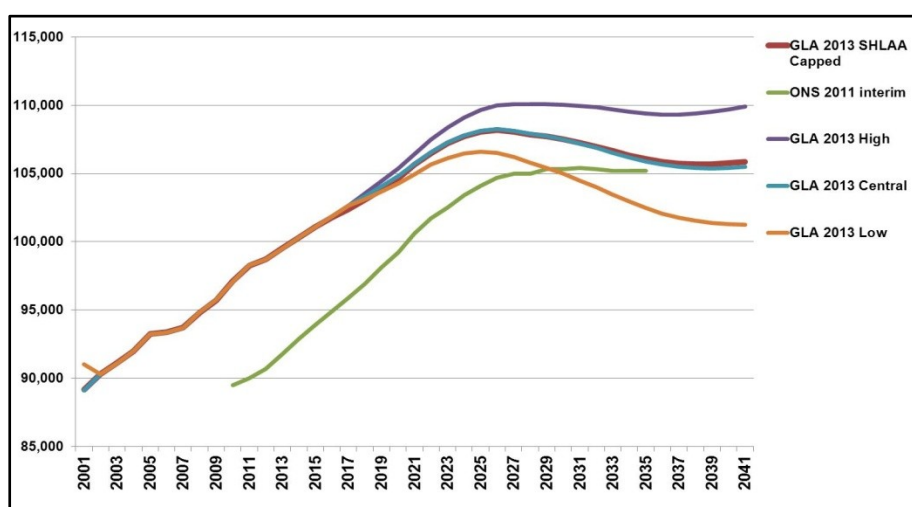


Source : ONS, Census 2011.

7.2 Population projections 2001 - 2041

The GLA and ONS produce a range of population projections which aim to support local authorities in developing future service provision which take account of increasing and/or changing demand. Figure 5 shows the current projections for the 0-19 year age group by different projection models. All the GLA models project growth for the 0-19 year population up to 2026/2027 before levelling or reaching a plateau by 2041. The GLA low trend forecast predicts a drop of nearly 5,300 people from 2026 to 2041 for this population group, which is the highest drop predicted for all the projection models. (Appendix 4 – provides an explanation of different population projection models).

Figure 5 - Population projections for 0-19 year olds in Croydon



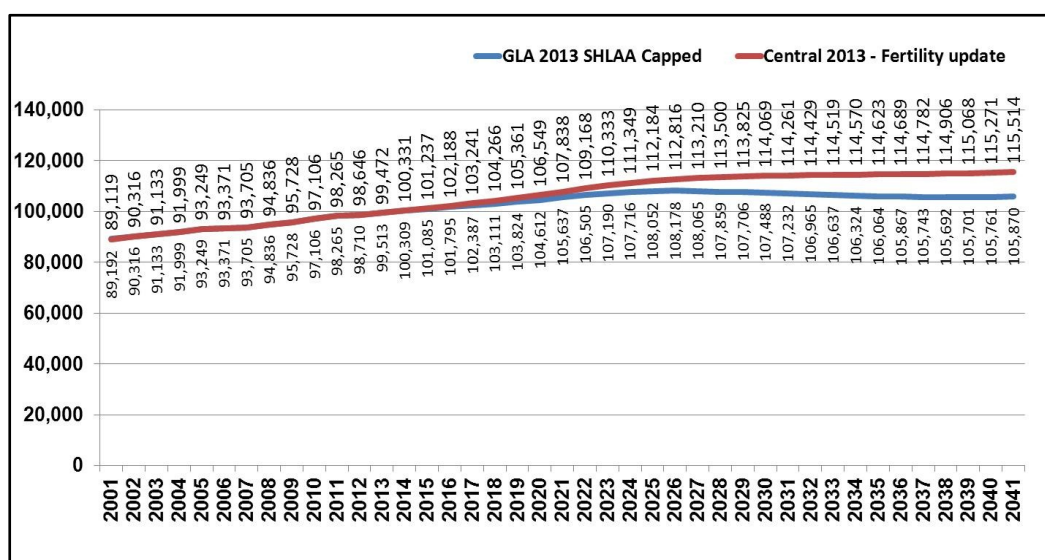
Source : GLA 2013 Round of Trend projections, GLA SHLAA Household size capped projections 2013, ONS Interim 2011.

Population projections 2001- 2041 GLA SHLAA Household size Capped model

The GLA SHLAA Household Size Capped model 2013 estimates that the number of residents aged 0-19 years will increase from a baseline of 98,265 in 2011 to 105,637 by 2021 (7.5% increase compared to the baseline) and 107,232 by 2031 (just over 9% increase compared to the baseline).

The GLA have recently (May 2014) revised their trend-based “Central” projection model to include new ONS 2012-based NPP fertility assumptions. This projection model forecasts a higher population for 0-19 year olds, particularly after 2021 as Figure 6, below, shows.

Figure 6 - GLA Projections for 0-19 year olds in Croydon 2001-2041.



Source : GLA 2013 SHLAA Capped projection and GLA 2013 Trend-based “Central” – Fertility revised projections

Understanding the methodology and assumptions associated with population projections will contribute to the development of accurate projection models for Looked After Children.

7.3 Family profile

Understanding the family profile in Croydon is vital to the development of local services, for example ensuring universal services designed to deliver within catchment areas are responding to the needs of families within that particular geography.

Families with dependent children

According to the 2011 Census there are 98,856 families in Croydon and just over a half 51.5% (50,958) have one or more dependent children.

Table 1 – Croydon families with dependent children and no dependent children

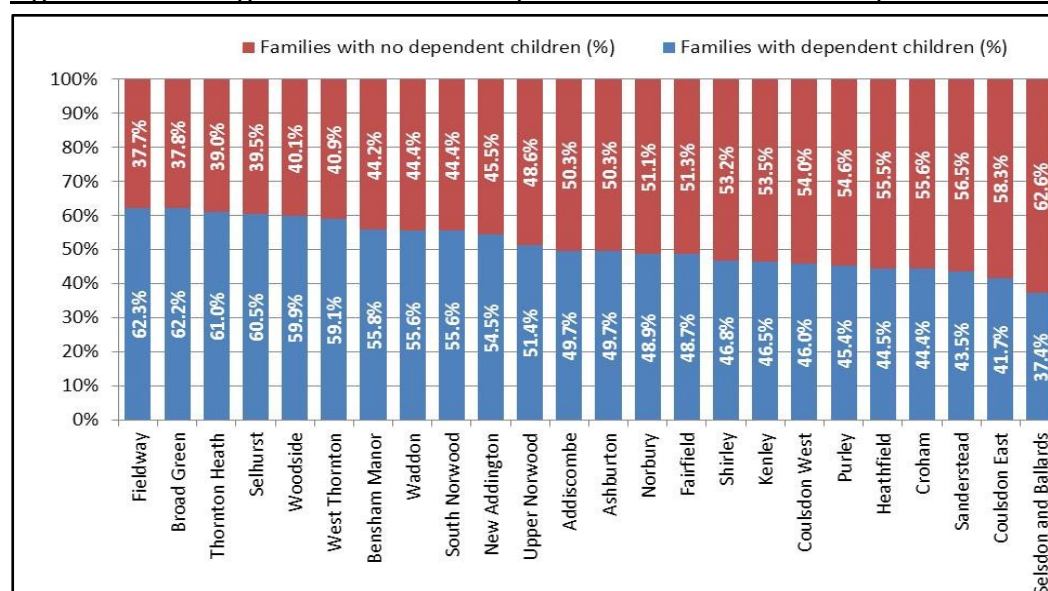
All categories: All families	Families with dependent children	Families with no dependent children	Families with dependent children (%)	Families with no dependent children (%)
98,856	50,958	47,898	51.5%	48.5%

Source: ONS census 2011, table DC1114EW

Families with dependent children by ward

Data at disaggregated to ward level shows that wards in the south of the borough have a higher proportion of families with no dependent children. Selsdon and Ballards had the highest percentage of families with no dependent children at 62.6%. Fieldway has the highest percentage of families with dependent children at 62.3%, followed closely by Broad Green at 62.2% and Thornton Heath 61.0% in the north of Croydon.

Figure 7 Percentage of families with dependent children and no dependent children by ward



Source : ONS census 2011, table DC1114EW

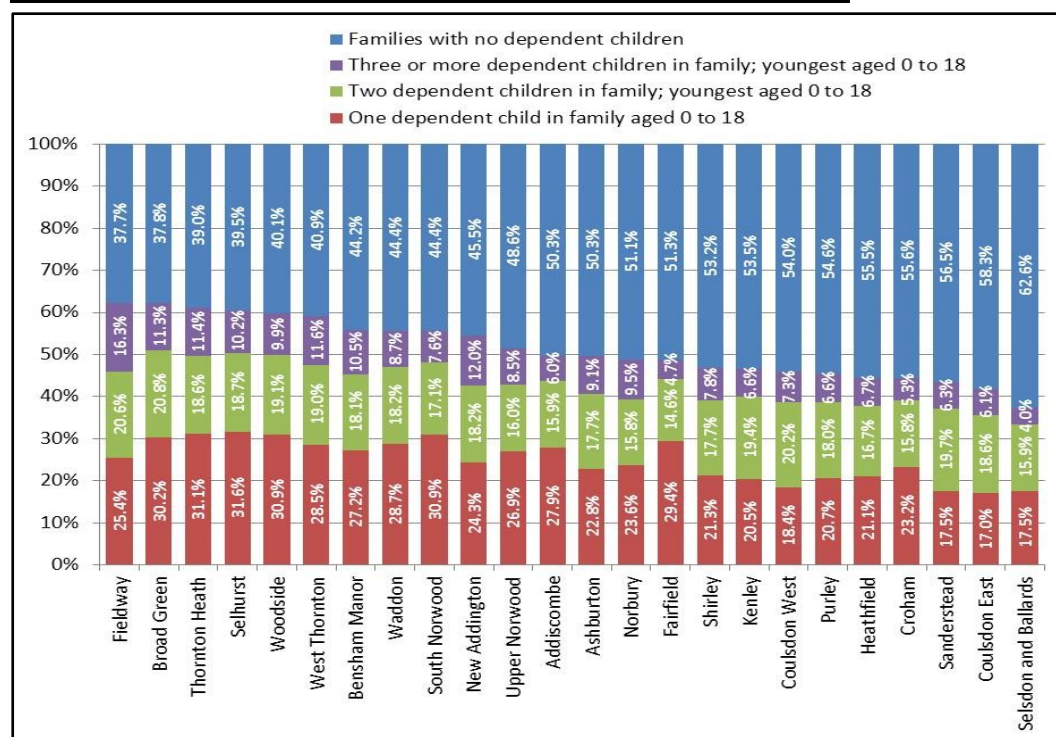
Dependent children by family type and ward

Census 2011 data by family type at ward level shows that five wards have 30% or more families with one dependent child, Selhurst (31.6%), Thornton Heath (31.1%), Woodside (30.9%), South Norwood (30.9%) and Broad Green (30.2%)

Three wards have just over 20% of families with 2 dependent children, Broad Green (20.8%), Fieldway (20.6%) and Coulsdon West (20.2%).

Fieldway has the highest percentage families with 3 or more dependent children at 16.3%. New Addington has the second highest percentage at 12.0% compared to the borough average of 8.5%.

Figure 8 - Dependent children in Croydon by family type by ward



Source : ONS census 2011, table DC1114EW

The following diagram produced using household level data provides a summary of the contrasting characteristics of different areas across Croydon.

NORTH OF THE BOROUGH

- Higher proportion of households and dependent children from BME communities
- Greater concentration of younger one-person households
- Higher proportions of single and divorced residents

CENTRAL CROYDON

- Concentration of 1 and 2-bedroom properties near transport links

EAST CROYDON

- Higher proportion of households with younger dependant children and single-parent families
- Greater concentration of purpose-built 3 bedroom properties

SOUTH OF THE BOROUGH

- Higher proportion of married and cohabiting residents
- Greater concentration of single people over 65
- Relatively less diverse communities
- Larger homes

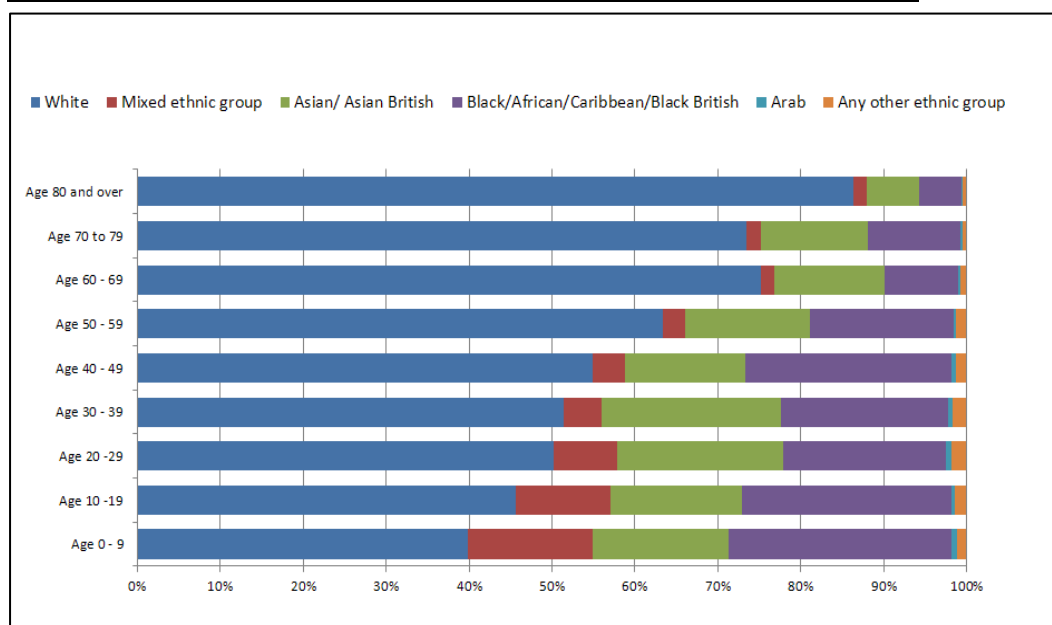
Source: ONS Census 2011 Release 3

7.4 Ethnicity profile 0-19years

Understanding the ethnic profile of the 0-19 year old population in the borough supports service development and the commissioning of services that need to respond to the growing diversity and complexity of the local population. Croydon has one of the largest BME populations, making up 44.9% of the total resident population; approximately 163,167 residents. This compares with 40.2% in London and 14.6% in England. At a local level, Croydon shares characteristics with inner London Boroughs in terms of ethnic diversity, such as Hackney, Lewisham, Lambeth and Barking & Dagenham.

Data from the 2011 Census 3.2 release enables analysis of data by age and ethnicity. Croydon's younger population is more diverse than the older population locally there is a higher proportion of residents aged 0-19 years from BME communities compared to residents classified as 'white', the largest proportion of residents classified as 'mixed ethnic group' are also aged between 0-19 years.

Figure 9 - Broad ethnic groups in Croydon by 10 year age bands - 2011

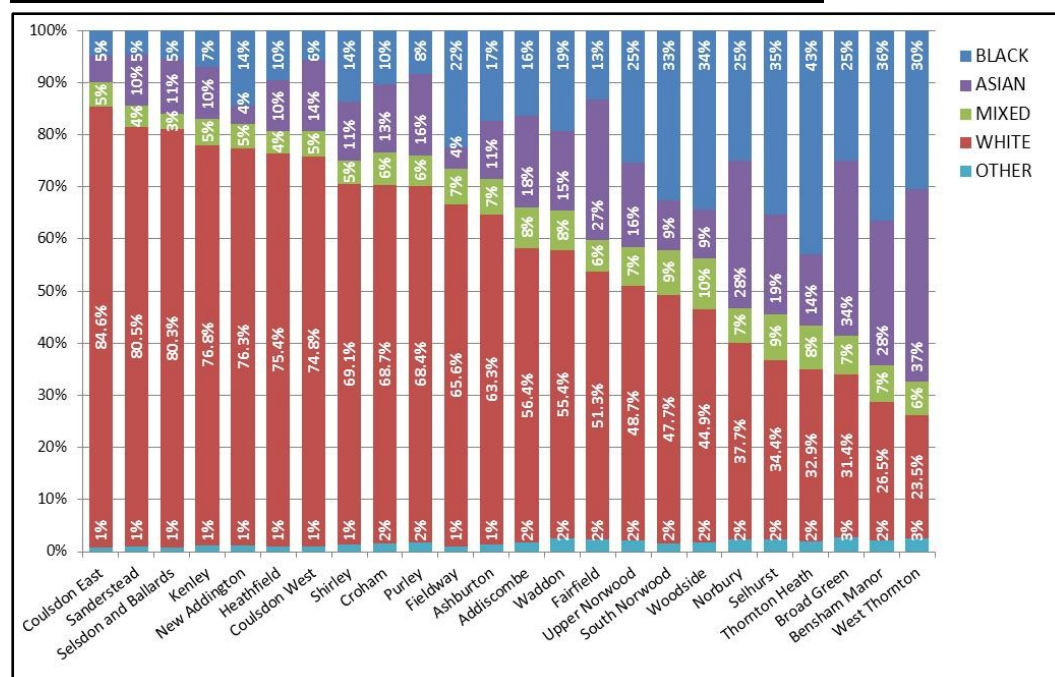


Source: ONS 2011 Census, Table DC2101EW. Data released 16 May 2013.

Ward profiles

Analysis of ethnic composition at a ward level shows that the north of the borough is more ethnically diverse than the south. Nine wards have a greater proportion of residents from BME communities than residents who classified themselves as "white" - West Thornton, Bensham Manor, Broad Green, Thornton Heath, Selhurst, Norbury, Woodside, South Norwood and Upper Norwood.

Figure 10 – Croydon residents by broad ethnic group and ward

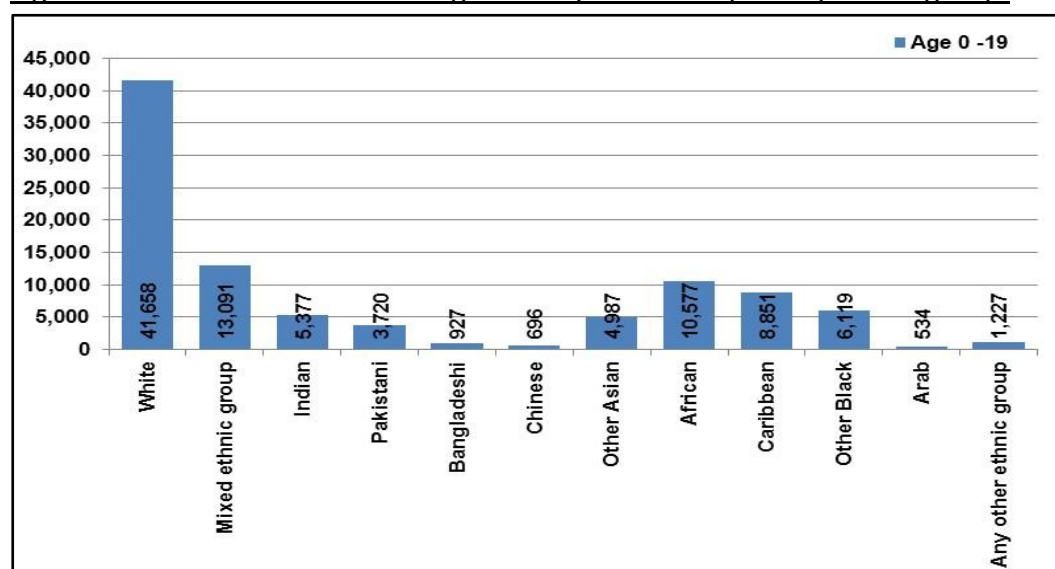


Source : ONS 2011, Table C2101EW.

Detailed ethnic group profile 0-19 years

Focusing on the 0-19 year old population by detailed ethnic group, shows the largest number of residents in this age band are self-classified as “White” at 41,658 residents, followed by the “mixed” ethnic group at 13,091 residents. Residents from “African”, “Caribbean” and “Other Black” ethnic groups collectively total 25,547.

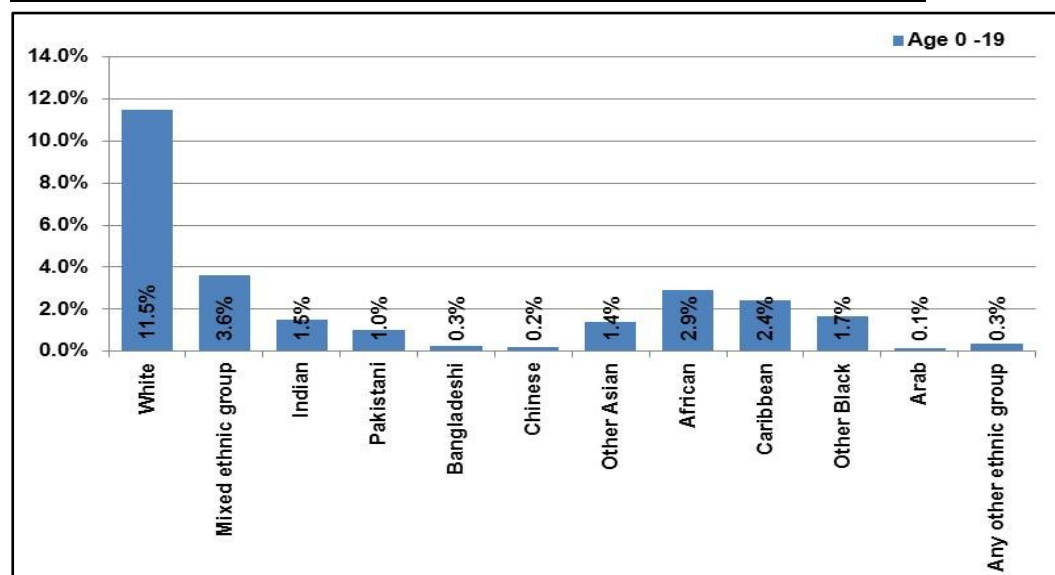
Figure 11 – Number of residents aged 0-19 years in Croydon by ethnic group.



Source : ONS Census 2011, Table DC2101EW.

Residents aged 0-19 years make up 26.9% of the total resident population in Croydon. Residents classified as “White” make up the highest percentage within this cohort at 11.5%, followed by residents classified as “Mixed” at 3.6%. Residents from “Black” ethnic groups combined make up 7.0% and residents classified from “Asian” groups combined make up 4.3%

Figure 12 – % of residents aged 0-19 years in Croydon by ethnic group.



Source : ONS Census 2011, Table DC2101EW.

Ethnicity projections

The GLA have published population projections by ethnicity up to 2041, data for Croydon shows that by 2021 (10 years after the last Census), Croydon will become more ethnically diverse. By 2015 the overall percentage of residents from BME communities is projected to increase to 49.5% compared to 43.3% for London, and by 2021 the percentage will increase to 54.3% BME residents in Croydon compared to 46.3% in London.

2011	White	BME
Croydon	55.1%	44.9%
London	59.8%	40.2%

2011	White	BME	Total
Croydon	200,195	163,183	363,378
London	4,887,435	3,286,506	8,173,941

2015	White	BME
Croydon	50.5%	49.5%
London	56.7%	43.3%

2015	White	BME	Total
Croydon	192,692	188,673	381,365
London	4,875,530	3,721,427	8,596,957

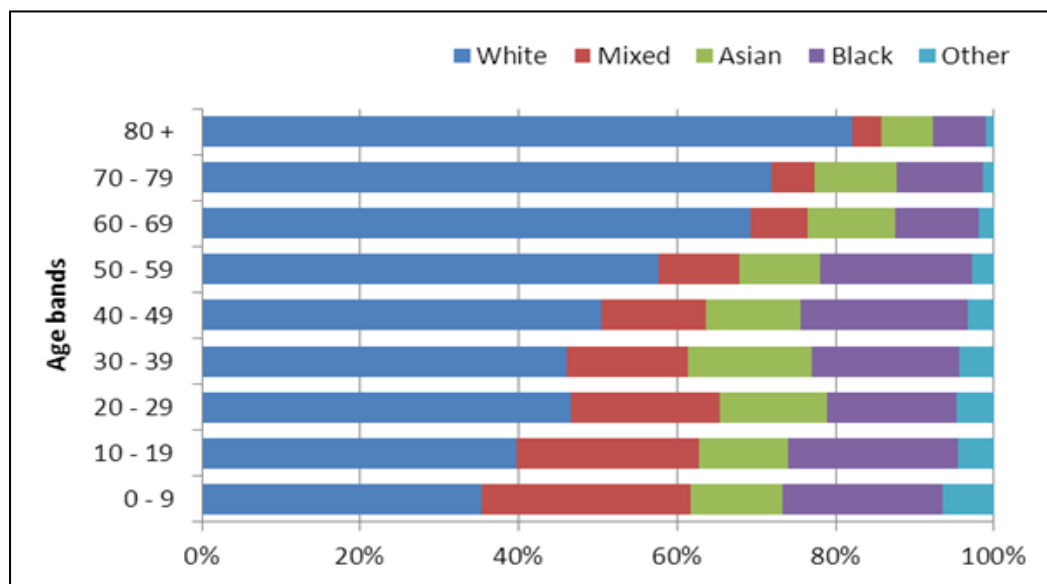
2021	White	BME
Croydon	45.7%	54.3%
London	53.7%	46.3%

2021	White	BME	Total
Croydon	183,572	218,527	402,099
London	4,884,123	4,217,568	9,503,790

Source : GLA 2012 Round Final Ethnic Group Population Projection (EGPP) figures, by 5-year age band from 2001 to 2041.

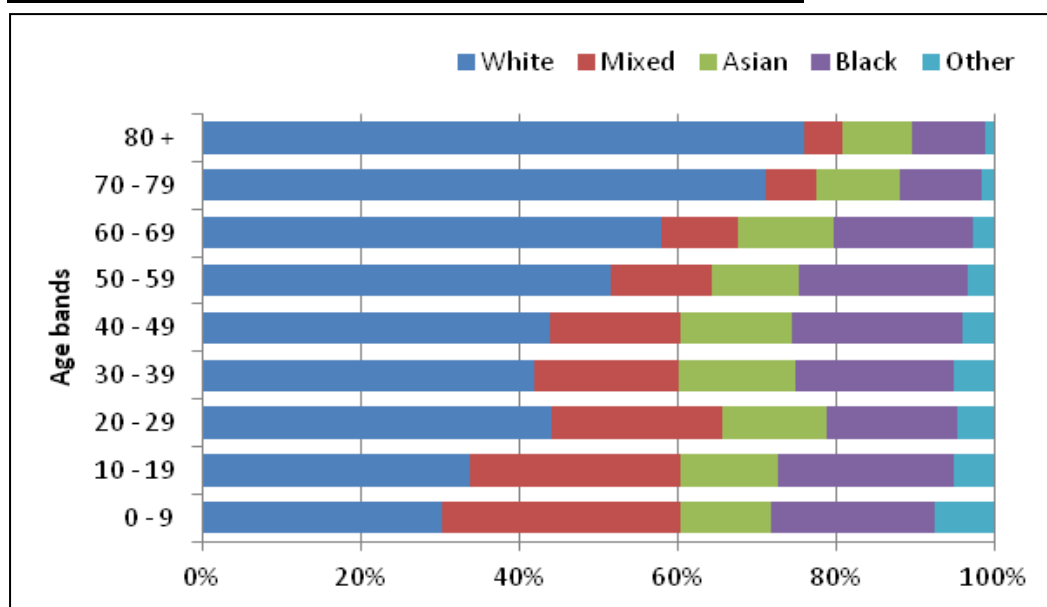
Looking at this data by ten year age groups shows that all age groups up to 49 years, are predicted to have over 50% of residents from BME communities by 2021. The younger age groups (0-19years) are predicted to be the most diverse with over 60% of residents from BME communities.

Croydon population projections by broad ethnic group - 2015



Source : GLA 2012 Round Final Ethnic Group Population Projection (EGPP) figures, by 5-year age band from 2001 to 2041.

Croydon population projections by broad ethnic group - 2021



Source : GLA 2012 Round Final Ethnic Group Population Projection (EGPP) figures, by 5-year age band from 2001 to 2041.

Main languages

In the Census 2011, main language spoken was collected by broad age bands (refer to Table 2). Overall 85.5% of the residents in Croydon speak English as their main language, the next highest percentage of residents speak a South Asian language (5.4%) such as Panjabi, Urdu, Bengali (with Sylheti and Chatgaya), Gujarati and Tamil.

Table 2 – Main languages in Croydon broken down by country and age bands

LANGUAGE	ALL Ages	Age 3 to 15	Age 16 to 49	Age 50 to 64	Age 65 and over
English	85.5%	16.3%	42.5%	15.0%	11.6%
European (EU)	4.8%	0.6%	3.5%	0.4%	0.3%
European (non EU)	0.8%	0.1%	0.5%	0.1%	0.0%
Arabic	0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
West/Central Asian language	0.7%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
South Asian language	5.4%	0.6%	3.2%	1.0%	0.7%
Chinese	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%
Any other East Asian language	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%
African language	1.3%	0.1%	0.9%	0.2%	0.1%
Other language	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	100.0%	17.9%	52.2%	17.0%	12.8%

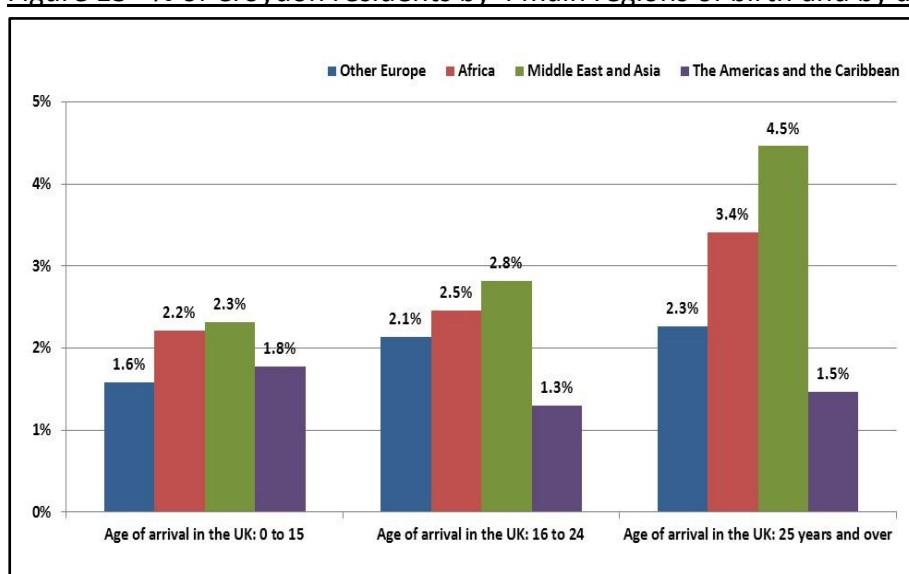
Source : ONS, Census 2011, Table LC2104EW.

7.5 Country of birth and migration

Key factors which impact on population projections and increasing diversity are internal and international migration. These factors are taken into consideration when developing borough population projection models and are particularly relevant to projections for Looked After Children due to the large numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC) who are looked after in Croydon.

Census 2011 data shows that 70.4% of Croydon residents were born in the UK and 29.6% were born outside of the country. 7.9% of residents not born in the UK were aged 0-15 years when they arrived, the highest percentages from the Middle East and Asia at 2.3% and Africa at 2.2%.

Figure 13 –% of Croydon residents by 4 main regions of birth and by age of arrival in UK



Source : ONS Census 2011, Table DC2802EW.

Long-Term International Migration (LTIM) is considered the most comprehensive estimate of international long-term migration as it takes into account international passenger survey data (IPS), asylum seekers, migration to and from Northern Ireland and people whose length of stay changes from their original intentions. ONS provisional LTIM data for the year ending September 2013 shows that inflows into the UK rose by 35,000 in 2013 to reach 532,000.

Short-term international migration; this type of migration largely consists of those migrating for reasons other than employment or study. Latest short-term international migration (stays of less than 12 months) data for year ending June 2011, shows that the number migrating for employment rose year-on-year between 2004 and 2006. It then fell for three consecutive years to 36,000 before rising temporarily. The latest figures show that the number who migrated for employment purposes fell again to a low of 34,000. Around 70,000 migrated for study in 2004 and this figure in 2011 is 64,000 despite a rise in 2006 to 82,000.

In-migration; The ONS migration indicators suggest that the most popular reason for in-migration to the UK for the year ending September 2013 was “formal study” (176,000 people), followed by those with a definite job (138,000 people). The number of people migrating to the UK for formal study has fallen year on year since 2010. Migration to the UK for a definite job has risen from 109,000 in 2012 to 138,000 in 2013. Since 2012, there has only been an additional 3,000 people migrating to the UK to accompany someone.

Out-migration; for the year ending September 2013, there were 114,000 people who left the UK because of a definite job. This is a fall of 13,000 compared to 2012 but remains on par with 2010 and 2011 levels. There was also a reduction to 9,000 for those leaving the UK for ‘Other’ reasons.

Data contained within the “Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2012/2013 – An overview of mental health and well-being in Croydon” reports that around 6,000-7,000 new immigrants come to Croydon from outside the UK each year and 3,000 residents emigrate. In recent years immigration from South Asia, Eastern Europe and certain African countries has increased. (India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka - 2,300 people per year; Poland, Romania, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Hungary - 1,100 people per year; Ghana and Nigeria : 500 people per year).

It is important to note that migration data is unreliable and it will not be possible to reliably compare Croydon to other areas until the publication of the relevant census data in 2013/2014.

Internal migration between local authorities

Net internal migration is defined as the difference between the number of people moving in and the number of people moving out of a specific area.

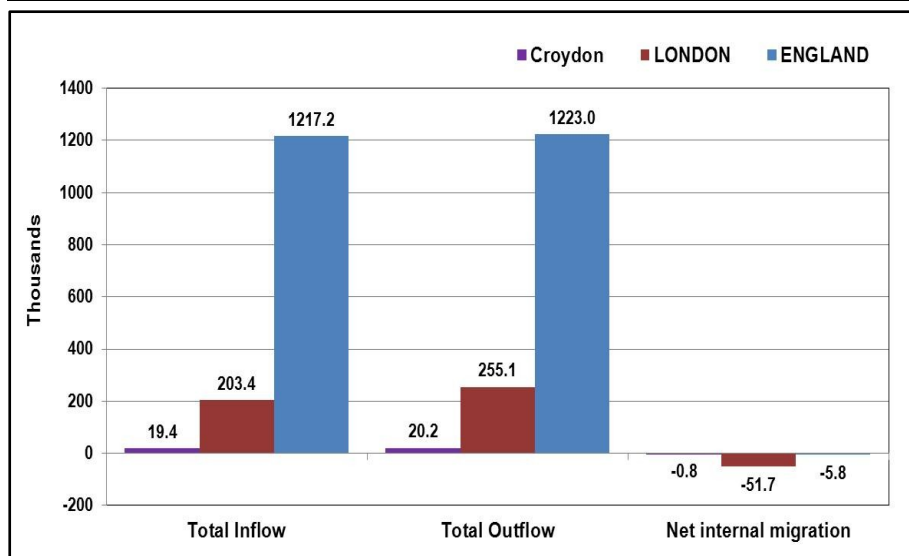
Migration – Croydon

In earlier ONS statistics for 2007-2010 the average annual internal migration showed that every year around 18,000 people move into Croydon and 20,000 people move out of Croydon to elsewhere within the UK. Croydon’s population is subject to a north to south flow of migrants from Inner South London to Outer South London and from Outer South London to Surrey.

This means that there is a net inflow of people from more deprived areas than Croydon and a net outflow of people to more affluent areas. Over time, these migration flows are likely to result in Croydon’s population becoming more deprived.

Latest data annual data to the end June 2012, shows Croydon had a net internal migration of under 1,000 people (that is residents moving in/out of Croydon from/to other London boroughs).

Figure 14 – Migration in Croydon, London and England, year ending June 2012



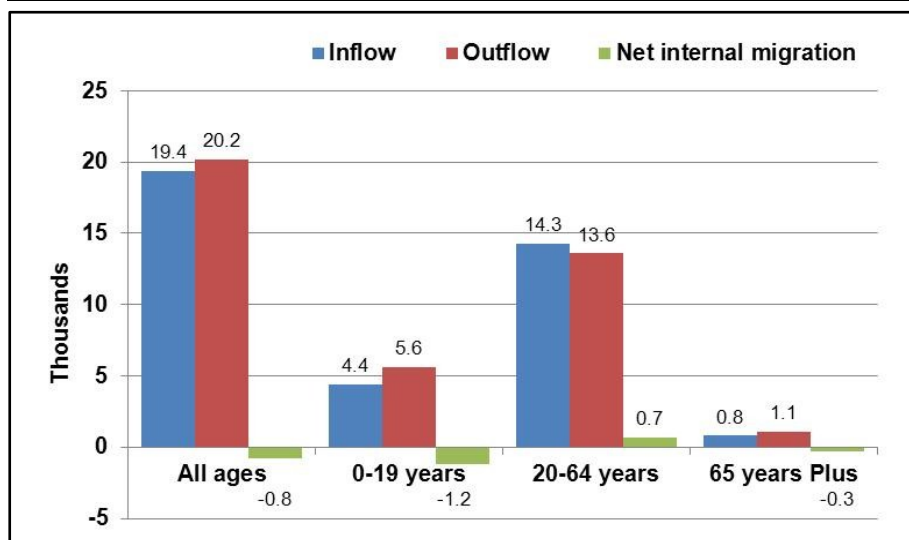
Source : ONS, Migration Statistics Unit (migstatsunit@ons.gsi.gov.uk) © Crown Copyright 2013

Migration – Croydon 0-19 year olds

ONS reported that for 2012 at the national level, the peak age for internal migration was 19 years with approximately 23% of 19-year-olds living in England and Wales moving from one local authority to another. It would be reasonable to assume the main reason for this is students leaving home to go to universities located away from their home addresses.

Locally there has been a higher level of migration out of the borough than in to the borough for the 0-19 year age group. Potential reasons could again be students attending universities or access to affordable housing outside London, as there have been relocations of Croydon families to places like Newcastle as a result of Welfare Reform.

Figure 15 – Migration in Croydon by set age bands, year ending June 2012



Source : ONS, Migration Statistics Unit (migstatsunit@ons.gsi.gov.uk) © Crown Copyright 2013

No recourse to public funds

Information on adult asylum seekers is limited, but data is available for people with No Recourse to Public Funds. Under the National Assistance Act 1948 (NAA 1948) section 21, the local authority social services departments may provide accommodation, financial support and support services to Children in Need and their families, and to adults who require such support because of physical or mental illness, disability or old age. These people are only provided with services if they are 'ordinarily resident' within an authority. Ordinary residence has no statutory definition but usually means where the person is actually living or present, even if this is only for a very short period.

Over the years, people in Croydon with no recourse to public funds have come from the following countries :Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bulgaria, Brazil, British (failing HRT) Cameroon, China, Congo, Congo Democratic Republic (Zaire), Emirates, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Malaysia, Martinique, Mauritius, Myanmar (Burma), Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Persia, Rwanda, Russia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tobago, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

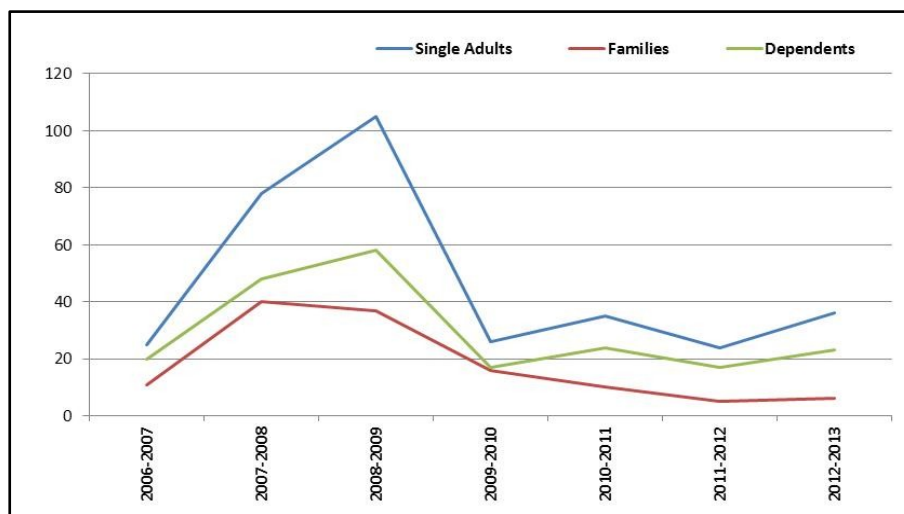
The number of Croydon residents supported rose between 2006/2007 to 2008/2009. In 2009/2010 there was a steep decline and since then the number has stabilised up to 2012/2013. There are consistently higher numbers of single adults supported than both families and dependents, peaking in 2008/09.

Table 3 - Families and Individuals with 'no recourse to public funds' accommodated since 2006-2007

Year :	Single Adults	Families	Dependents
2006-2007	25	11	20
2007-2008	78	40	48
2008-2009	105	37	58
2009-2010	26	16	17
2010-2011	35	10	24
2011-2012	24	5	17
2012-2013	36	6	23

Source : Adults In Need team, Adult Services Health And Housing, Croydon Council.

Figure 16 - People with No Recourse to Public Funds and supported by Support provision under section 21 NAA 1948.



Source : Adults In Need team, Adult Services Health And Housing, Croydon Council.

While data in this area is limited, improved understanding and closer monitoring of international and internal migration patterns will help support services anticipate and respond to the changing needs of the population.

8. External factors and parental factors

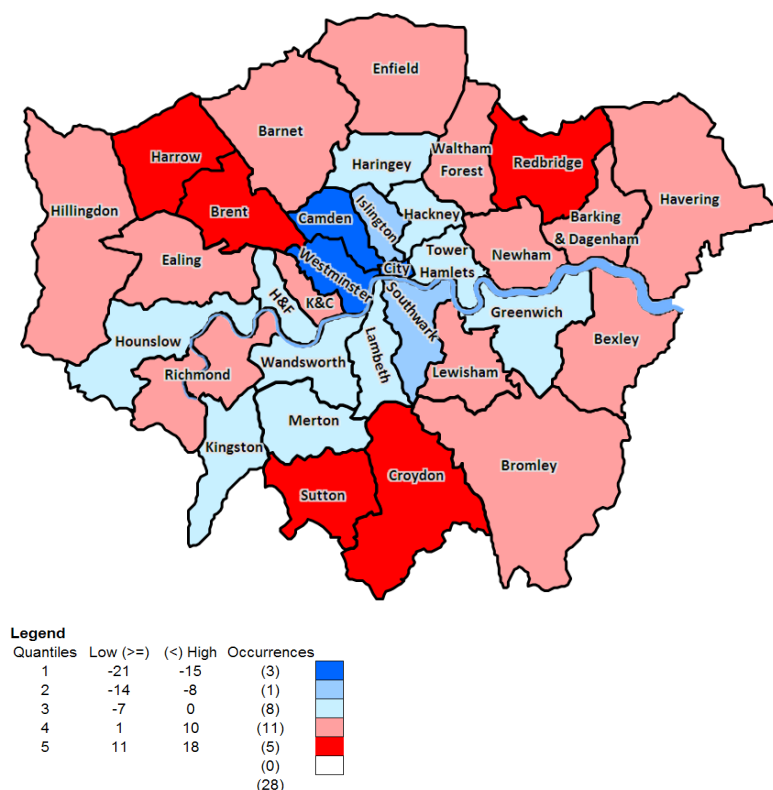
This section provides a picture of specific characteristics and issues in Croydon that are relevant to the understanding of safeguarding issues. For example, poverty and poor housing are factors which add stresses to families and can adversely affect parenting. Domestic violence, parental mental ill-health and parental substance misuse are all factors frequently present in cases where there are safeguarding concerns. Data in this section is presented at borough level to provide context and an overview of trends relating to these factors.

8.1 Socio-economic

Deprivation and poverty

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010 data shows that Croydon has become more deprived between 2004 and 2010, relative to all local authorities. The north of borough is generally more deprived than the south, sharing more of the characteristics of inner London than the south of the borough. Fieldway and New Addington wards in the east of Croydon also have high levels of deprivation, with Fieldway being the most deprived ward in Croydon.

Figure 17 - Percentage change in average rank for Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2004-2010



Source – ODPM (2004) DCLG (2010)

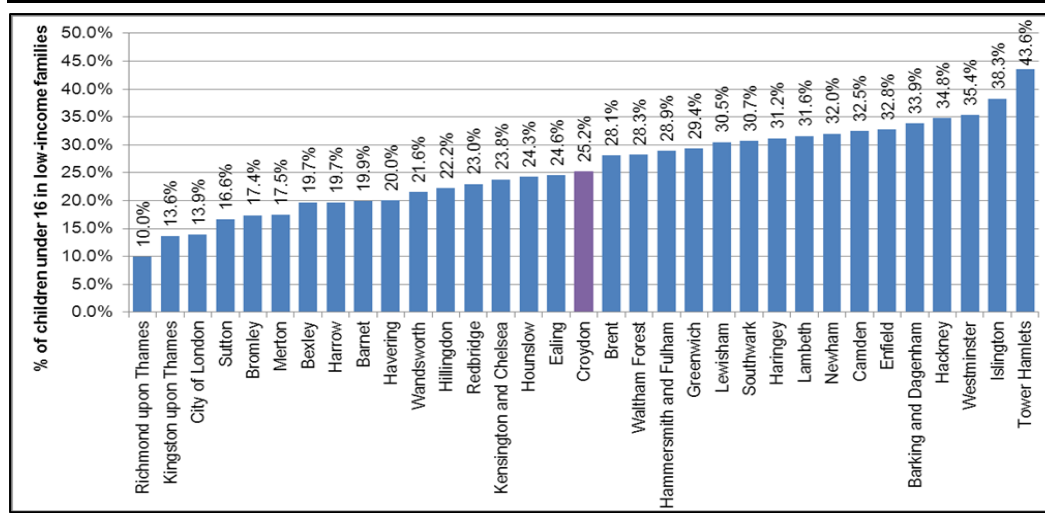
Child poverty

It has been well documented that children living in poverty are more likely to come into contact with safeguarding services. The Office for the Children's Commissioner submission to the independent review on poverty and life chances 2010 states that 'although safeguarding is not just a concern for poor families, there is a much higher correlation between living in poverty and abuse, neglect and maltreatment. Abuse, maltreatment and neglect can be seen as a secondary affect of living in poor families'.¹

The Governments approach to tackling child poverty is set out in 'A New Approach to Child Poverty: Tackling the Causes of Disadvantage and Transforming Families' Lives'. This approach centres around strengthening families, encouraging responsibility, promoting work, guaranteeing fairness and providing support to the most vulnerable. The national strategy meets the requirements set out in the Child Poverty Act 2010, focuses on improving the life chances of the most disadvantaged children, and sits alongside the Government's broader strategy to improve social mobility.

The low-income families local measure from HMRC (formerly the Revised Local Child Poverty Measure) shows the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out-of-work (means-tested) benefits or in receipt of tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of UK median income. Latest data for Croydon shows that 25.2% of children under 16 years live in low income families. There is a wide variation across all the London Boroughs with 10% of children living in low income families in Richmond upon Thames and 43.6 % in Tower Hamlets.

Figure 18 - % of children under 16 yrs living in low-income families London boroughs 2011



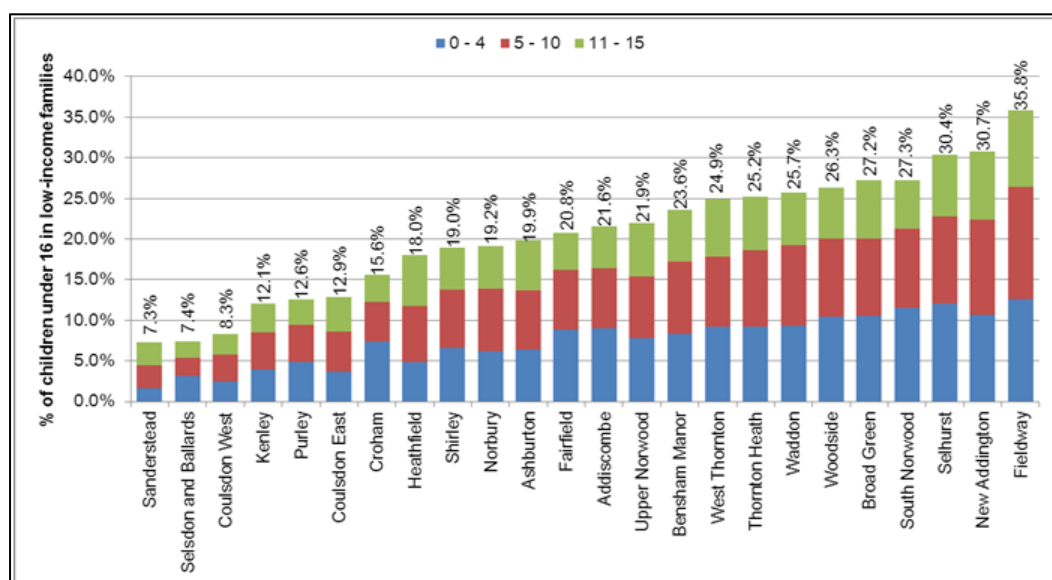
Source: HMRC, Children in Low-Income Families Local Measure 2011, local authority tables

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/statistics/child-poverty-stats.htm>

¹ Insert source and link

At ward level there is a wide variation across the borough in the percentage of children living in low income families, the highest levels are in Fieldway (35.8%), New Addington (30.7%) and Selhurst (30.4%), compared to the lowest levels in the south of the borough, for example Sanderstead (7.3%) and Selsdon and Ballards (7.4%) . This variation correlates with the variation in deprivation at ward level.

Figure 19 - % of children under 16 years living in low-income families Croydon wards



Source: HMRC, Children in Low-Income Families Local Measure 2011, local authority tables
<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/statistics/child-poverty-stats.htm>

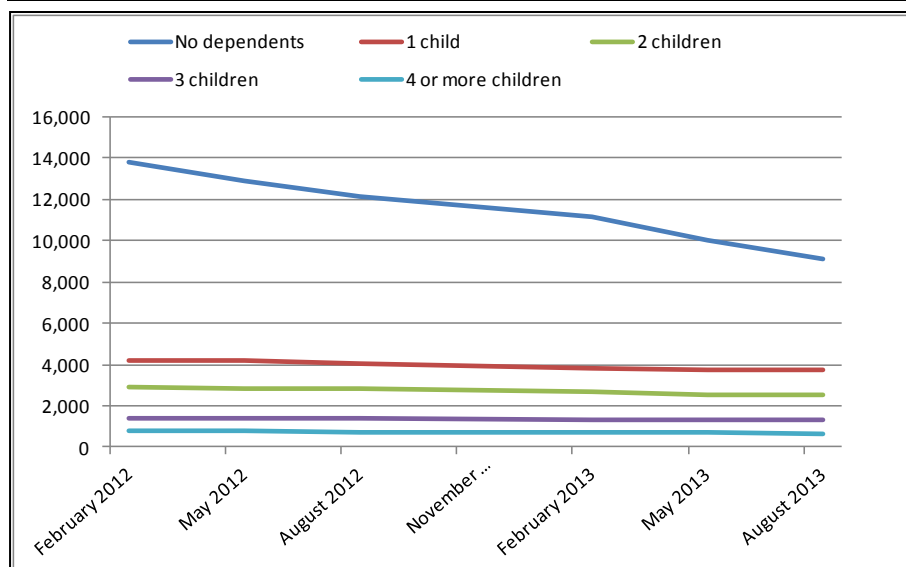
Benefits and welfare reform

The number of residents claiming out of work and housing benefits are also key indicators for monitoring increasing or reducing levels of poverty in the borough.

Data for the last two years shows that the local key out of work benefit claimant rate peaked in February 2012 at 12.3% (30,330 working age claimants). The number of local residents claiming these benefits has been on a downward trend with the latest rate (for August 2013) now at 11% (26,690 claimants).

Out of work benefit data can also be disaggregated by claimants with dependents and number of dependents. The number of claimants with no dependents has significantly reduced from 13,820 residents in February 2012 to 9,090 residents in August 2013 (34% reduction). The total number of claimants with dependents (1,2,3 and 4 or more children) reduced by 11% over the same period, reducing from 9,210 claimants to 8,180 claimants. The greatest reduction was for claimants with 1 child only, the claimant rate for residents with 2,3,4 or more dependents remained relatively unchanged. This shows that parents in families with larger numbers of children are less likely to access employment opportunities, reducing their potential for social mobility.

Figure 20 - Number of out of work claimants with dependents and number of dependents.



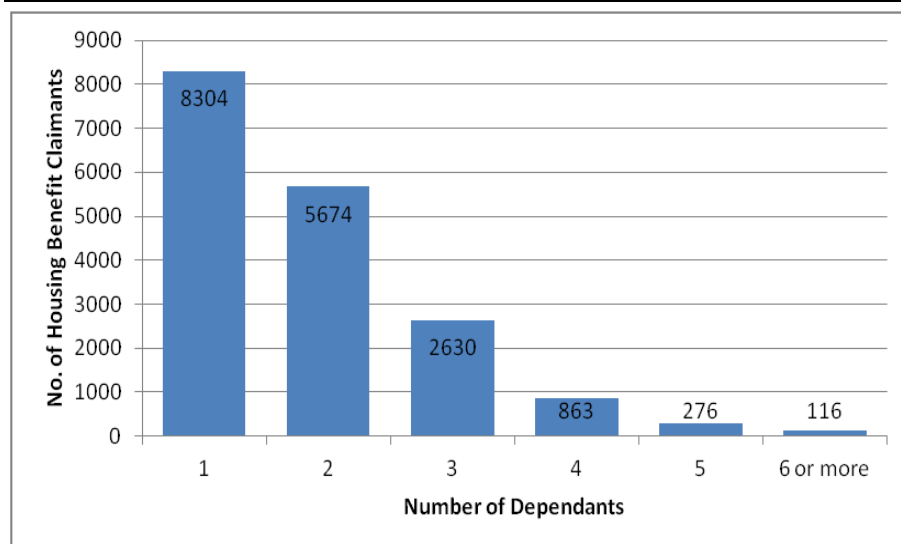
Source: NOMIS, DWP benefit claimants - working age client group with dependents (including unknown)

August 13 – www.nomisweb.co.uk

Housing Benefit Claimants

Latest snapshot data for March 2014 shows that the current housing benefit caseload in Croydon is 36,491 which represents a slight decrease compared to the end of the previous quarter (36,790 claimants in December 2013). Almost half (49%) of housing benefit claimants have dependent children between the ages 0 – 20 years . Of which 46% had one dependant, 32% had two dependants and 22% had three of more dependants.

Figure 21 - Housing Benefit Claimants with Dependent Children, March 2014

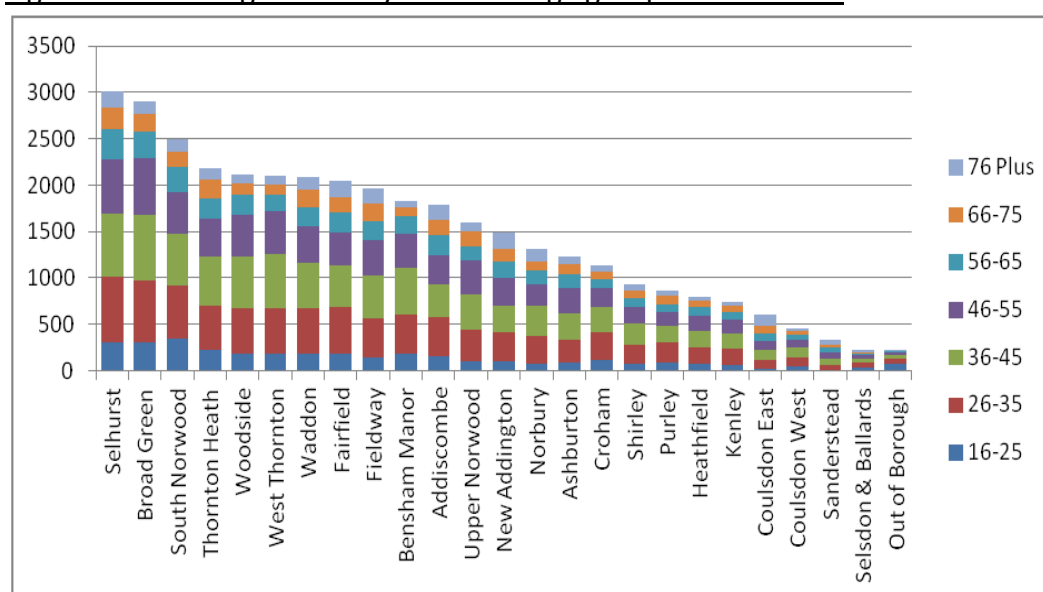


Source: Internal Northgate Revenues & Benefits System – Date, March 2014

Data at ward level shows that 23.1% of all housing benefit claimants live in Selhurst, Broad Green and South Norwood compared to the least amount of claimants at 2.8% living in Coulsdon West, Sanderstead and Selsdon & Ballards. There are 216 claimants that live outside of the borough.

The highest number of claimants is within the age group 36-45yrs followed by 26-35 age groups. The 76 and over age group make up the least number of claimants.

Figure 22 - Housing Benefit by ward and age group - March 2014



Source: Internal Northgate Revenues & Benefits System – Date, March 2014

Welfare Reform

The Welfare Reform Act 2012 introduced a 'Universal Credit' to replace a range of existing means-tested benefits and tax credits for people of working age, starting from 2013. In addition to introducing Universal Credit and related measures, the Act made other significant changes to the benefits system.

From April 2013 the government introduced four major changes as part of its radical overhaul of welfare. These changes have affected 16,000 Croydon residents and led to housing benefit (HB) deductions paid to 2,224 working age social housing tenants under-occupying their homes, including 1033 council tenants in Croydon.

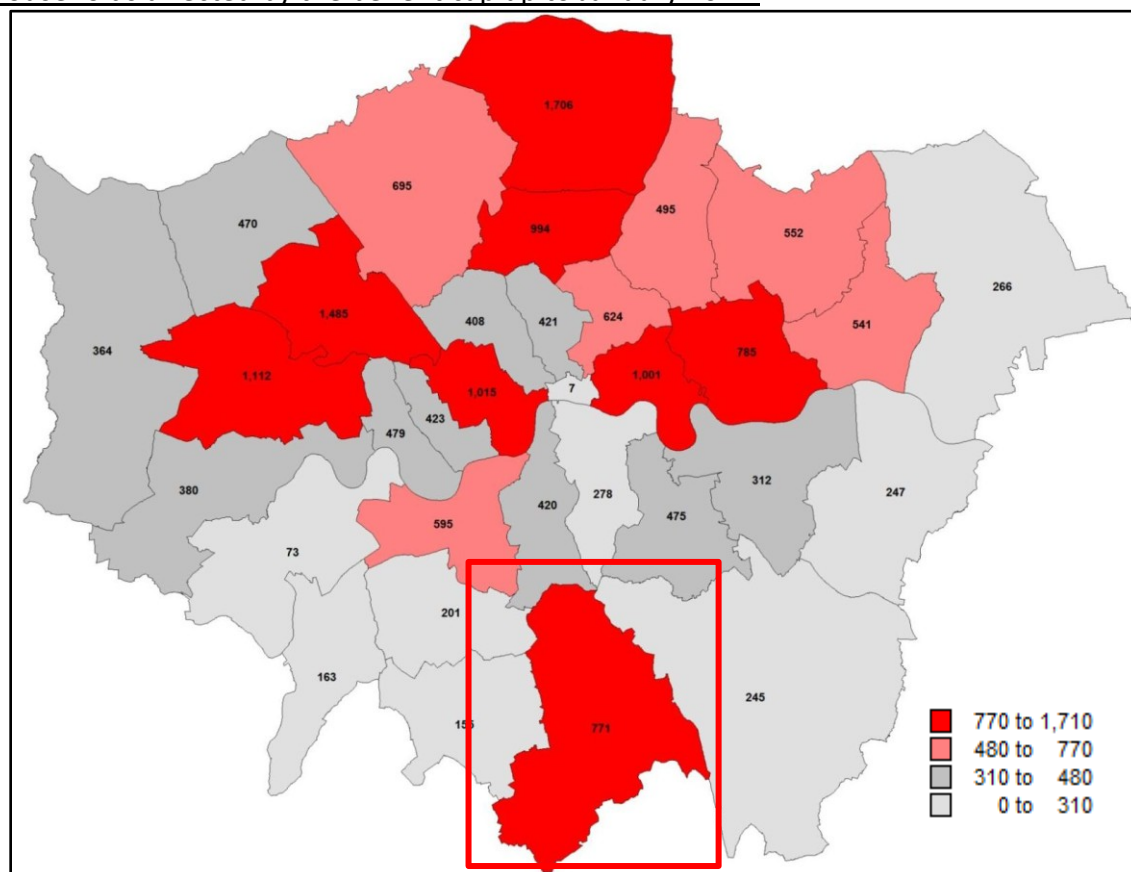
To date, Croydon has seen 802 completed welfare reform cases. 250 households (31%) are now working and exempt from the cap; 101 (13%) have been helped to claim Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and are exempt from the cap; 246 (31%) have moved to more affordable homes or are no longer affected and 205 (25%) are making up the shortfall.

Benefit Cap

The Benefit Cap was introduced from April 2013 and puts a cap on the total amount of benefit a working age household can receive. Benefit levels are now capped at the level of the average working family income after tax which will be £500 a week for families and £350 a week for single people. (The exceptions being those households that include a war widow, a Disability Living Allowance claimant or a Working Tax Credit claimant). Local councils are required to reduce Housing Benefit payments until the cap is reached.

The Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) impact assessments estimated that 56,000 households would be affected by the benefit cap, and half of these would be in London. A cumulative total of 38,600 households had their benefits capped at any point between April 2013 and January 2014; 47% of these cap cases have been in London. In January 2014, Croydon made it into the top quartile of households affected by the benefit cap with a cumulative number of 771. Since then, there have been 785 households affected by the benefit cap and this number is likely to rise.

Figure 23 - Geographical Distribution of Impacts of the Benefit Cap : Cumulative number of households affected by the benefit cap up to January 2014.



Source : The Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) impact assessments

Discretionary Housing payments (DHP)

The Government has allocated a cash limited fund to councils to make awards in the form of Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) for families in receipt of Housing Benefit who have a shortfall between the amount of benefit they receive and the amount of rent they need to pay to their landlord. In Croydon, 3,154 claims have been made and 46% approved. So far 836 people have benefited from awards totalling £595,000.

The number of DHP awards made has been growing which reflects the late implementation of the benefit cap. From May 2013 to January 2014, the number of discretionary housing payments has steadily increased from a low base of just 60 to 561. In February 2014, this number has reduced back down to 298 payments.

8.2 Housing

The negative impact that homelessness can have on people's lives is well documented, the Coalition Government recognises the particular impacts of homelessness and periods in poor quality temporary accommodation on children's lives. This is particularly relevant to homeless young people aged 16-17 year olds and care leavers. The Government's most recent strategies focus on this cohort, as well as children and families living in temporary accommodation and/or at risk of becoming homeless; ensuring that Local Authorities work in partnership to support young people and families with their housing needs.

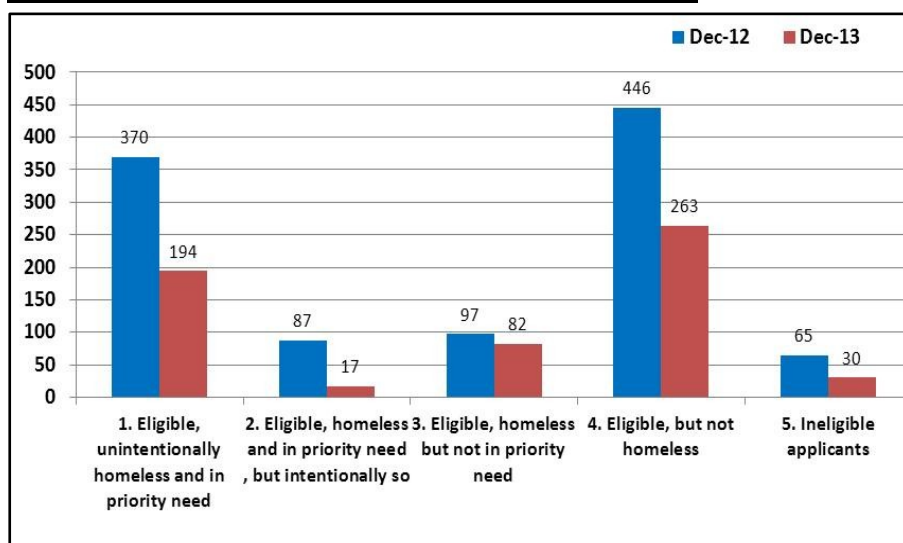
Homelessness

Local authorities have a legal requirement to find suitable housing for households that they accept as homeless. To be formally recognised as homeless, the person or household will have no 'licence to occupy' a home or will be living somewhere not considered reasonable accommodation.

A household is only entitled to accommodation from the local authority if they are classified as unintentionally homeless and deemed to be in 'priority need'. This would include those with dependent children or those who meet one of several criteria for 'vulnerability'. The Council is not obliged to find a home for a homeless person who "intentionally" makes themselves homeless by leaving a dwelling that it would have been reasonable to stay in.

Latest data for the quarter ending 31st December 2013 shows that the number of homeless applications for assistance was 586. This is a reduction from the previous 12 months when the number was 810. For those who were deemed to be in priority need of housing, (criteria 1 and 2), the number has dropped by more than half (53.8%) from a figure of 457 in December 2012 to a figure of 211 in December 2013. Around 60% of the people who present are not considered to have priority housing needs.

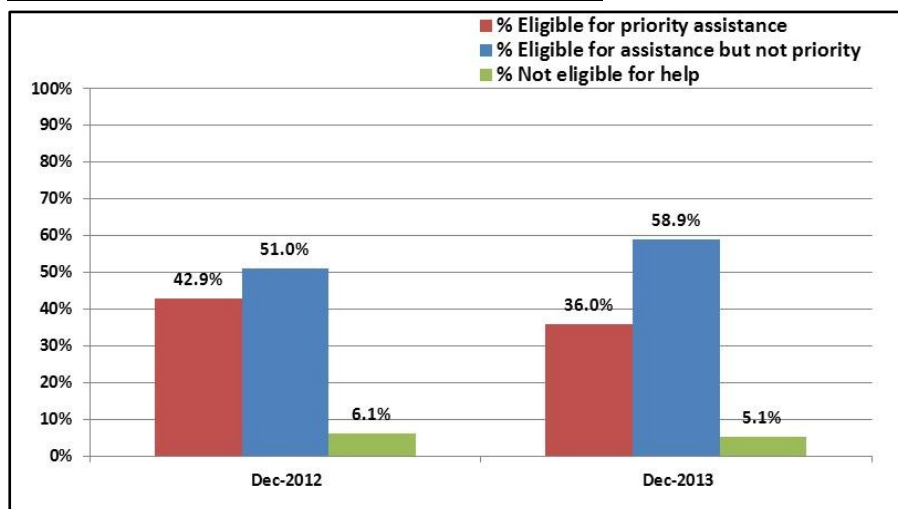
Figure 24 – Number of homeless acceptances based on decisions on eligibility : Quarters ending December 2012 compared to December 2013



Source: CLG, Quarterly return: P1E Table E1, Period: Q2 2012-13 to Q3 2013/14

Based on data from the latest quarter ending December 2013, 36% of homeless applications were deemed to be eligible for priority support. This is a higher percentage than 4 previous quarters but lower than the quarter ending December 2012, when the priority need for housing assistance was 42.9%. Latest figures show that only 5.1% of the people who claim to be homeless are not eligible for any level of support. This is a reduction of 1% on the previous 12 months.

Figure 25 –Homeless acceptances based on decisions of eligibility :
December 2012 compared to December 2013

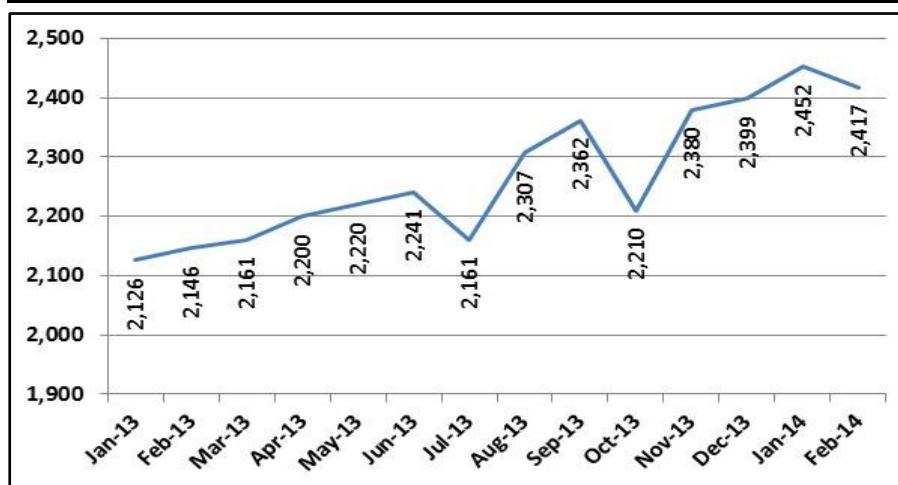


Source: CLG, Quarterly return: P1E Table E1, Period: Q3 2012-13 and Q3 2013/14

Temporary accommodation

Temporary accommodation is arranged by the council after a homelessness application has been made and there has not been an offer of a permanent tenancy through the council's waiting list. Croydon Council has a responsibility to house vulnerable families, with no permanent home, into temporary accommodation. In Croydon, at any one time, there are in excess of 2,000 households placed in some form of temporary accommodation.

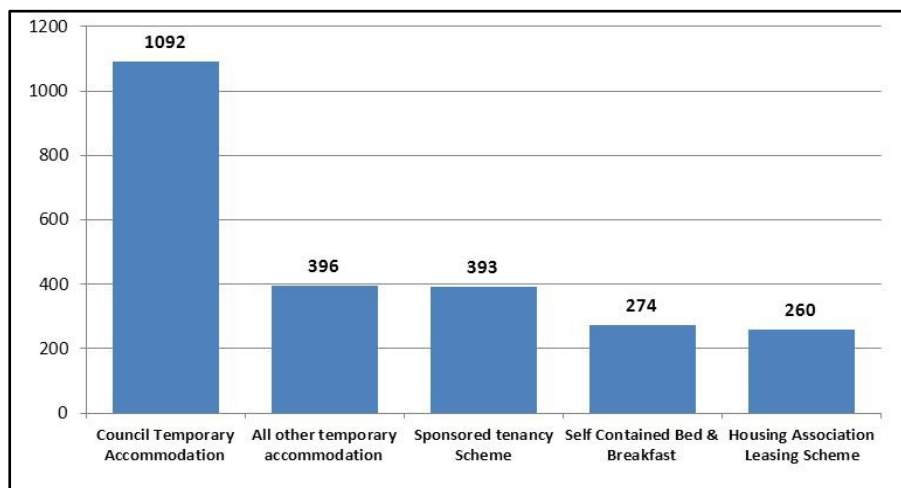
Figure 26 - Temporary Accommodation - monthly snapshot of placements



Source: Online Housing Management System - Section E5 1a on P1E form

Latest data for the end of March 2014 shows that there were a total of 2,415 households living in temporary accommodation, comprising of 3,583 children.

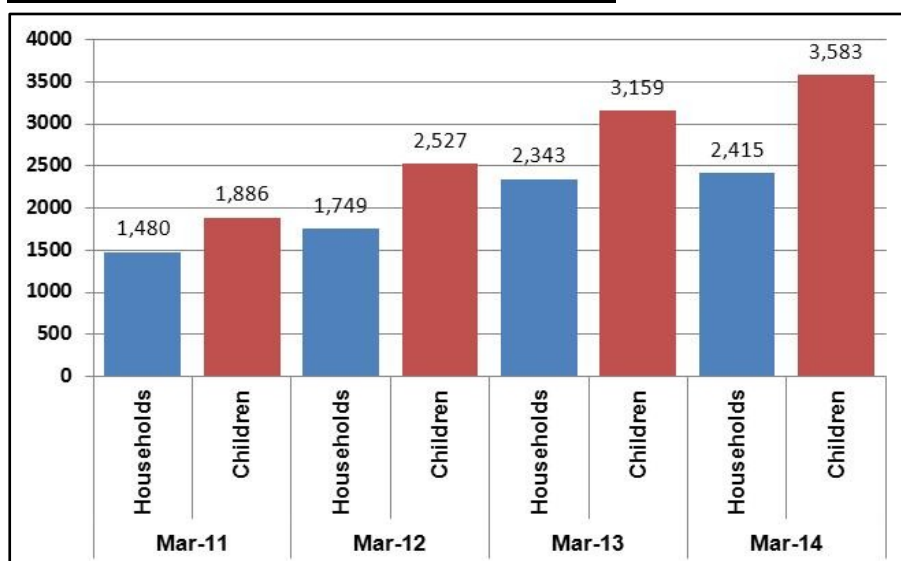
Figure 27 - Temporary Accommodation : Number of Households by accommodation type as at 31st March 2014



Source: Online Housing Management System, March 2014

Between March 2011 to March 2014, the number of households and children in temporary accommodation has been increasing steadily. In March 2014, there were 2,415 households and 3,583 children living in temporary accommodation. This represents an increase of 3.1% and 13.4% respectively on the previous year. From March 2011 to March 2014, the percentage of households in temporary accommodation has increased by 63.2% and the percentage of children by 90.0%.

Figure 28 – Total number of households and children in Temporary Accommodation : each year from March 2011 to March 2014 inclusive



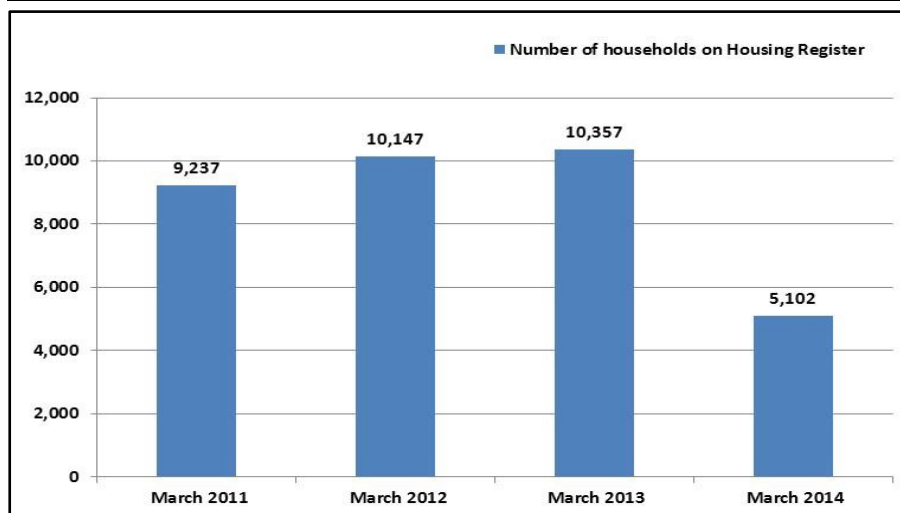
Source: Online Housing Management System, March 2014

Housing register

In Croydon, the Housing Register is made up of Council tenants and Housing Association tenants requiring a transfer or homeless applicants and housing applicants.

At the end of March 2014 there were 5,102 households on the Housing Register, comprising of 7,402 adults and 6,179 children. The number of households on the Housing Register increased slightly every year from March 2011 (9,237) to March 2013 (10,357). In March 2014, the number has reduced by more than 50% to 5,102.

Figure 29 – Number of households on the Housing Register 2011-2014



Source: Online Housing Management System, March 2014

Monthly data shows the trend over the past financial year and the month on month reductions between January 2013 and July 2013. Since July 2013, the number of households is increasing each month to 5,102 household in March 14.

Figure 30 - Number of Households on Housing Register monthly snapshot



Source: Online Housing Management System

8.3 Crime and domestic violence

Crime, youth crime and domestic violence are key factors in the safeguarding of children. Children who experience poor parenting or violence within their families have both a higher risk of offending or becoming looked after to remove them from the risk of harm.

Gangs and youth crime

Gangs and youth violence have a devastating effect on communities and the individuals involved, increasing fear of crime and costs to the taxpayer. However, while the public are fearful of gangs most 'gang crime' occurs between gang members, gang membership in Croydon remains very low and activity is limited to a small number of areas within the borough. Croydon has 2 types of gangs, several groups of mainly young people – aged 11-25 that are generally territory based, quite chaotic in structure and often in conflict with each other. There is also one adult group (Jaffna Boys, Tamil) who are engaged in more organised serious activities such as protection and class A drugs in and around the West Croydon, London Road area.

The volume of gang related incidents in Croydon is significantly lower compared to boroughs such as Lambeth, Southwark Hackney.

Serious Youth Violence

In Croydon there were a total of 305 reported serious youth violent crimes by ages 10-19yrs in 2012/13, with robbery (190) the highest crime type. Most crimes of this type were committed by 18 and 17 year olds, totally 53 and 52 respectively. The most robberies were committed by 13 year olds, 33 in total. The most violence against the persons were committed by 18 year olds (23), closely followed by 16 year olds (22).

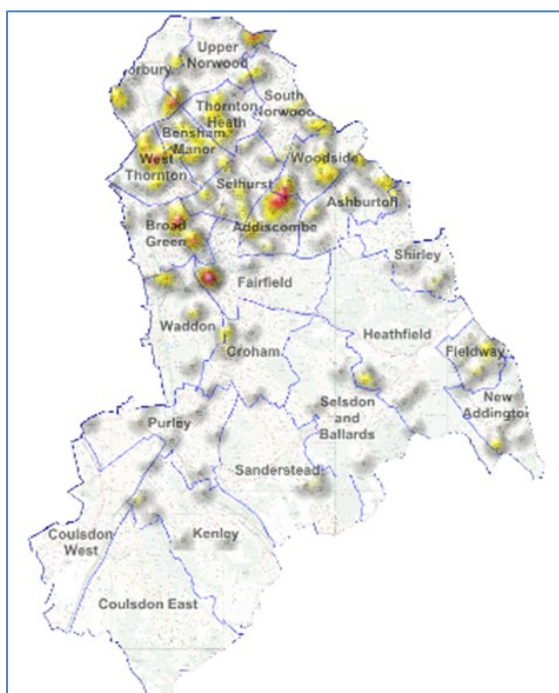
Table 4 - Serious Youth Violence in Croydon by age², offence type and volume, 2012/13

*Please note in order to protect confidentiality figures of less than 5 have been suppressed and are denoted by '-'. There was one sexual offence which has been removed due to suppression.

Offence Type	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Total
Robbery	-	-	8	17	33	25	30	23	30	17	190
Violence against the person	-	-	-	-	14	15	22	18	23	12	114
Total	5	5	11	21	47	40	52	41	53	29	304

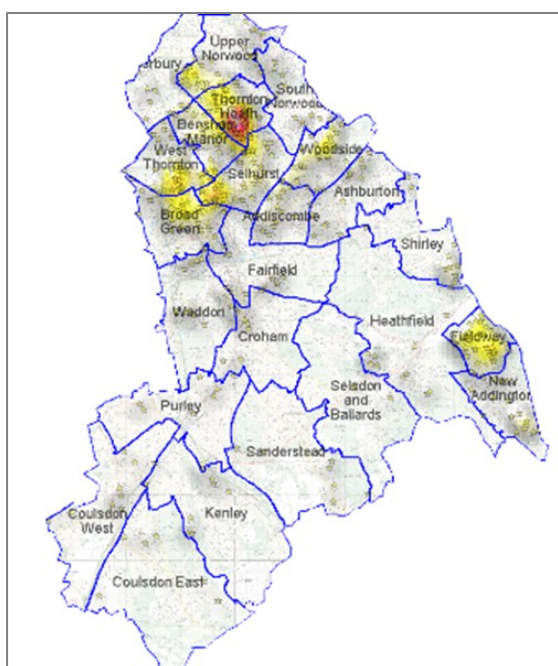
² This only includes offences for young people aged 10 and above because the age of criminal responsibility in England is 10 years old. This means that young people under 10 cannot be arrested or charged with a crime.

The primary hotspot for youth violence is Selhurst with secondary hotspots in Woodside and Broad Green (April 12 – March 13)



Source – Safer Croydon Strategic Assessment 2013

Over the same period there were 889 offences committed by YOT clients, the top four offences were theft and handling 21%, violence against the person 21%, drugs 16%, robbery 12 %. In terms of the profile of offenders, 85% were males, 71% were males aged 15-19 years. The primary hotspot for YOT offences was Thornton Heath, with secondary hotspots in West Thornton, Fieldway and Selhurst.



Source – Safer Croydon Strategic Assessment 2013

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence and abuse are complex issues that require a partnership response from a range of agencies. Children and young people can experience domestic violence when they are exposed to it within their own families and their own relationships. British Crime survey data showed that 7.3% of all women and 5% of men experienced domestic violence and abuse in 2011/12. In Croydon (between July 2011 – June 2012) there were almost 6,000 allegations of domestic abuse, of which around 1,800 were allegations of serious nature, include grievous and actual bodily harm, rape and harassment.³ However, it has been acknowledged that underreporting is an issue locally, so the actual extent of this issue may be a lot greater.

Met Police data shows that for this financial year monthly levels of domestic violence offences were on an upward trend between April – July 2013, taking this year's levels to above levels for the previous two financial years. The current sanction detection rate for domestic violence in Croydon is 28.4% (March 2014) which is lower than the previous month 37.9% (February 2013) and lower than the March rate for the previous two years 39.9% 2012/13 and 49.0% 2011/12.

Figure 31 - Domestic violence offences by month 2011/12 – 2013/14

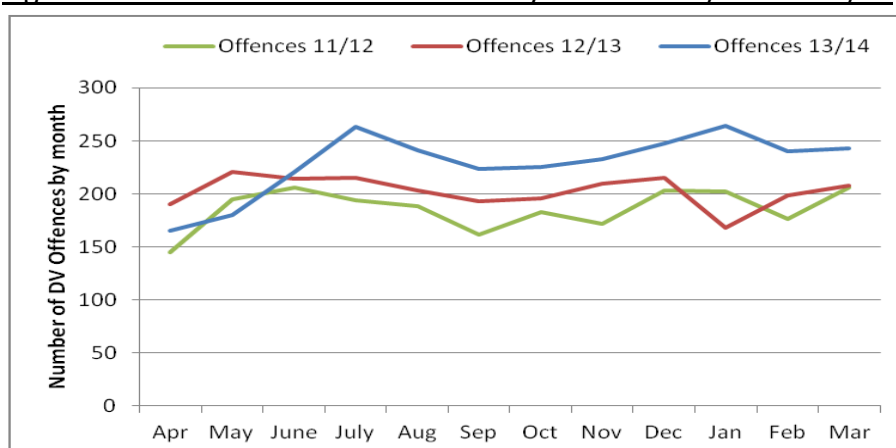
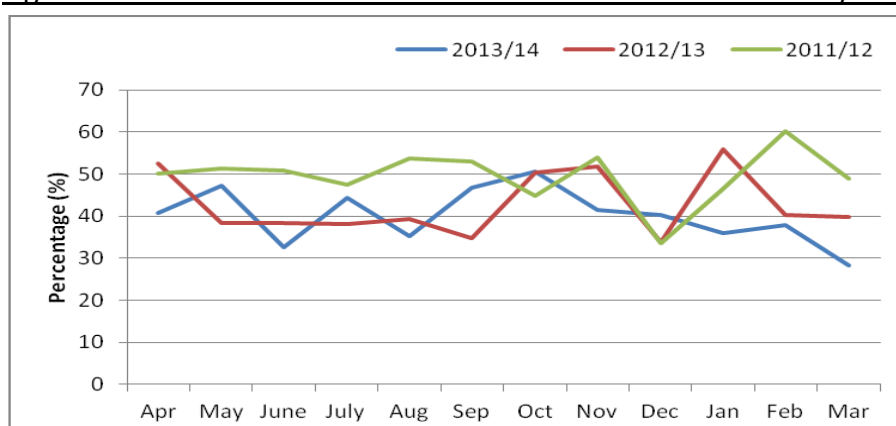


Figure 32 - % Sanction detection rate for domestic violence 2011/12 – 2013/14

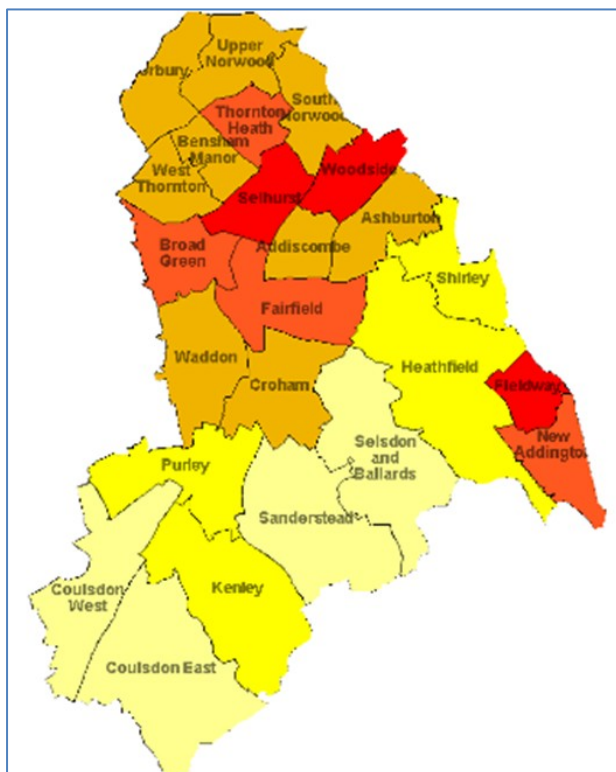


Source: Met police – Date, March 2014 www.met.police.uk

³ Source JSNA 2013/14 Domestic Violence and Abuse

Data in the Safer Croydon Strategic Assessment 2013, shows there were 2,046 victims of domestic violence (April 12 – March 13). The profile of victims shows that 82% were female, 43% were white females, 28% were black females and the peak age range was 21-30years.

The primary hotspot for incidents of domestic violence was Selhurst, followed by Fieldway and Woodside.



Source – Safer Croydon Strategic Assessment 2013

The Family Justice Centre in Croydon is one a range of agencies providing front line services for victims of domestic violence including multi-agency risk assessments, counselling, legal and housing advice. Local data from the service is explored in the Early Intervention section of this document.

Data gaps around children who are missing and child sexual exploitation will be addressed in the next iteration of this needs assessment, although it is important to note that data for these areas is limited.

8.4 Health

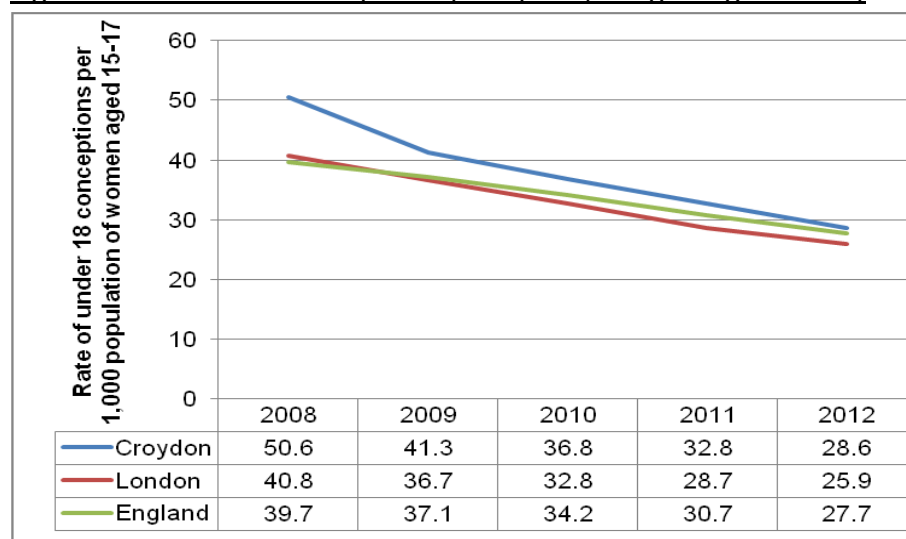
Children and young people often enter the care system with a worse level of health than their peers. This is due in part, to the impact of family breakdown, abuse or neglect that led to their being placed into care.⁴ Analysis of data relating to health outcomes for this cohort is presented in the overview of Looked After Children section of this needs assessment. This section presents some relevant health data, teenage pregnancy, substance misuse and mental health, at a borough level.

Teenage pregnancy

National research suggests that children and young people with a history of being looked after by local authorities are more likely to become teenage parents.

Croydon's teenage conception rate (15-17years) has reduced from an average of 55.4 per 1,000 in 2008 to 28.6 per 1,000 in 2012. The gap between the local rate and regional and national rates has been steadily closing over this period, and the local average is now only slightly higher than the regional (25.9) and national (27.7) rates.

Figure 33 - Under 18 conceptions (rate per 1,000 girls aged 15-17)

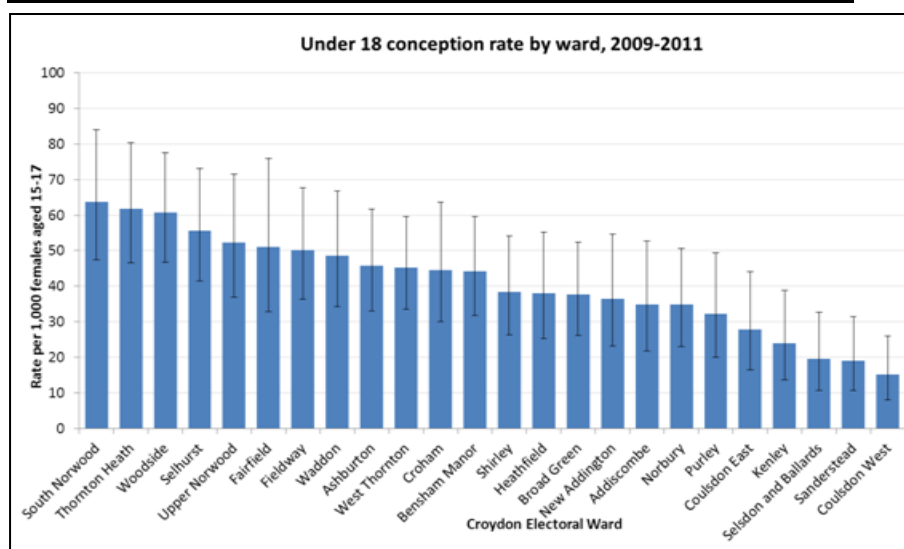


Source: ONS - Date, 2012 <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcm%3A77-332828>

The latest data shows a decrease in the rate of under 18 conceptions for most wards in Croydon. The most noticeable decreases were in New Addington, Addiscombe and Thornton Heath.

⁴ Croydon JSNA 2010/11 Looked After Children

Figure 34 - Under 18yr teenage conception rate by ward 2009/11



Source: ONS - Date, 2011 www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcn%3A77-294336

Local data for looked after children who are mothers shows there were 23 out of a total cohort of 755 (3%) in 2011/12 reducing to 12 out of a total cohort of 736 (1.6%) in 2012/13. Provisional data for the 2013/14 shows there were 15 out of total of 797 (1.8%) (To note: this includes mothers who had their children after leaving care or after the 01/04/14).

Substance misuse

Nationally, it is estimated that nearly half (45%) of children aged 11-15 years have drunk alcohol in the previous year.⁵ The majority of young people who seek help for problems with alcohol have other emotional or social problems, such as self harming, offending or family issues. Studies have shown that young people from the following vulnerable groups are at risk of drug or alcohol misuse:

- Young offenders
- Looked After Children and care leavers
- Children affected by parental substance misuse
- Homeless young people
- Young people at risk from sexual exploitation
- Excluded young people and truants⁶

Young people's drinking behaviour can be strongly influenced by parental drinking and children with parents who are problem drinkers are more likely to develop alcohol problems themselves.

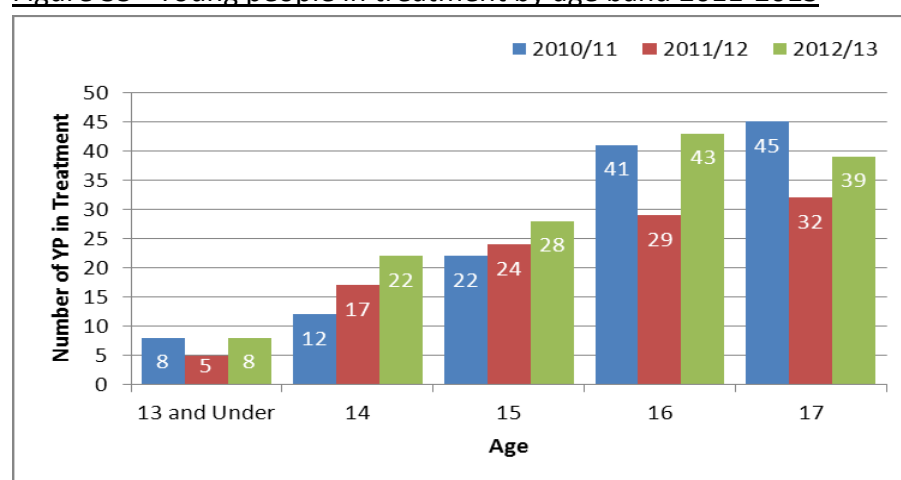
⁵ Insitute of Alcohol Studies (2013) Children, adolescents and underage drinking Factsheet 5

⁶ JSNA 2013/14 A rapid assessment of population alcohol needs in Croydon

About one in three of the alcohol treatment population in England has a child living with them at some of the time. It is estimated that 1.3 million children under 16 are affected by parent whose drinking is classified as either harmful or dependent. In Croydon, 45% of the alcohol treatment population (502 adults) had children living with them in 2012/13. The national proportion is around 28%.

In 2012/13 there were 140 young people in treatment (for substance misuse) locally, 71% male, 29% female and 39% from a 'White' background followed by 24% from a 'Black' background. The number of young people in treatment was higher for older children and young people, with 59% aged 16 and 17 years and 12% of those in treatment were Looked After Children in 2012/13 compared to 7% in 2011/12.

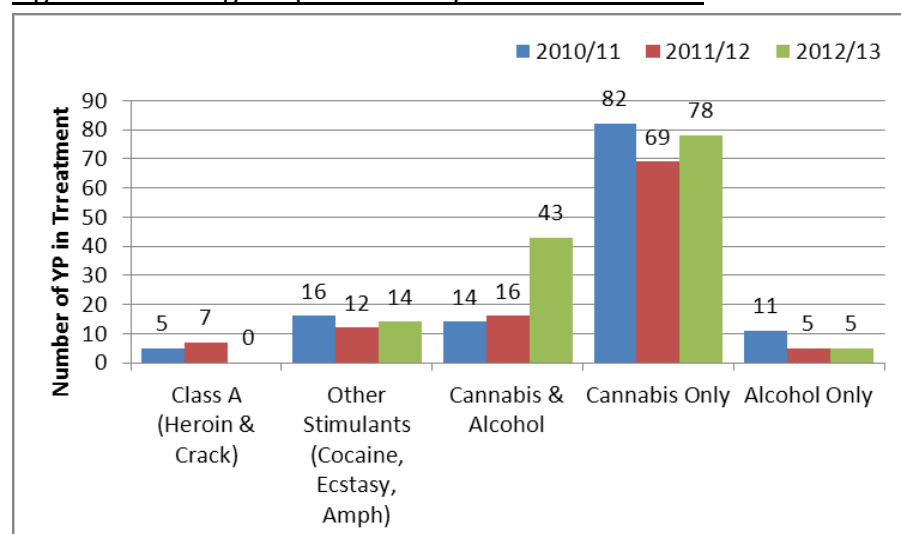
Figure 35 - Young people in treatment by age band 2011-2013



Source: National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)

Consistently over the last three years the main drug for young people was cannabis followed by cannabis & alcohol. Both are considered the experimental phase and introduction to substances for young people.

Figure 36 - Young People's Primary Substance Misuse



Source: National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)

Mental health

Mental health problems are more common in areas of deprivation. Poor mental health is both a cause and a consequence of the experience of social, economic and environmental inequalities.

Estimated numbers of adults with mental health conditions in Croydon (projected up to 2021) are detailed in the JSNA 2012/13 'An overview of mental health' http://lbcdatafirst.org/2012_2013_JSNA

Parental mental illness does not necessarily have an adverse impact on a child's care and developmental needs, however where a parent has an enduring and/or severe mental ill-health, children in the household are more likely to be at risk of harm.

It is not possible to obtain accurate figures of the number of parents in Croydon with mental health but based on the national prevalence rate it's reasonable to assume that many children in Croydon are living with at least one parent with a mental health problem. Some of these will be serious mental problems. Poor parental mental health is also associated with emotional/conduct disorder in children, which in turn increases the risk of offending.⁷

Foster carers frequently report that the most common difficulty experienced by the children and young people they care for is their emotional wellbeing and mental health. Looked After Children have disproportionately high rates of depression, conduct disorder, anxiety disorder and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

A national survey of Looked After Children and young people aged 5-17 years reported that 45% had a mental disorder, 37% had clinically significant conduct disorders, 12% had emotional disorders and 7% were rated hyperactive.⁸

The data gap relating to parental factors present in safeguarding cases has been highlighted as an issue as currently this data is not collected on a consistent or compulsory basis. Work has been undertaken to better understand these factors through reviewing a 5% random sample of new referrals and new child protection plans. The results of the analysis showed that there was a high level of domestic violence in both referrals and CPPs⁹.

⁷ JSNA 10/11 Looked After Children

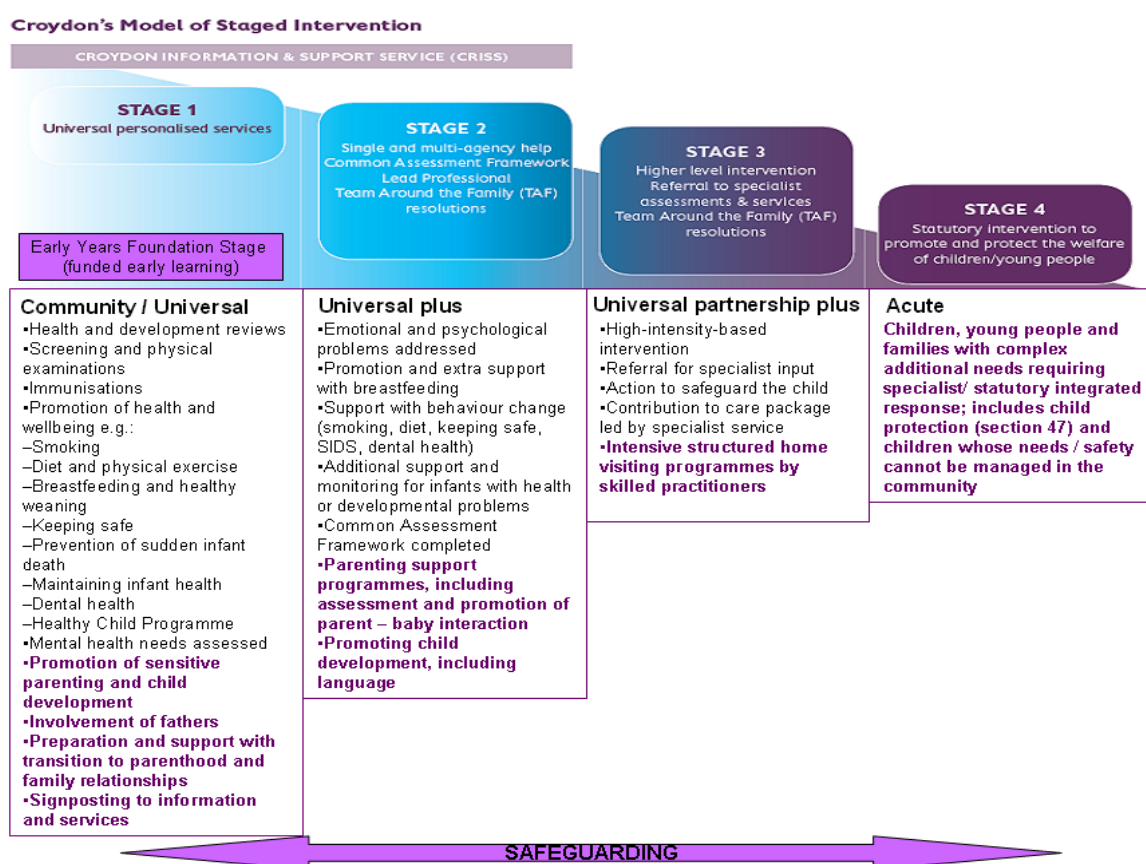
⁸ JSNA 10/11 Looked After Children

⁹ Report to the Croydon Safeguarding Children Board (CSCB) 27th May 2014

9. Early intervention

This section of the needs assessment presents analysis of data relating to early intervention services. These services cover stages 1, 2 and 3 of Croydon's staged intervention model (illustrated below).

To note: Data in this section is drawn from Croydon Council local systems and services (some of which have just been established) and not from statutory returns. As a result data for some of the services is limited, however work is being undertaken to address this and improve the quality of data going forward.



9.1 Stage 1 Universal services - Children's Centres

Children's Centres

Croydon's children's centres deliver universal services to families with children aged under five years from a range of access points and outreach centres.

There were 11,195 families and 10,843 children seen at Croydon's children's centres in 2013/14, an increase of 15% and 9% respectively on 2012/13.

Table 5 - Total number of families, carers and children accessing children's centres 2011/12 to 2013/14

	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
Families	8,307	9,740	11,195
Carers	9,183	10,856	12,262
Children	8,879	9,955	10,843

Source: eStart

All types of families, children and carers seen at children's centres increased between 2011/12 and 2013/14. The number of teenage parents accessing services nearly doubled over this period, from 107 to 199, with the number of pregnant teenagers also significantly increasing 16 to 57.

There were 6,728 BME families and 5,220 BME children seen at the centres in 2013/14, an increase of 18% and 16% respectively on 2012/13. The following table provides a detailed breakdown of the types of families receiving these services.

Table 6 - Types of families, carers and children accessing children's centre services 2011/12 to 2013/14

Type	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
Disabled parents	100	120	133
Disabled children	81	75	90
Lone Parents	987	1,089	1,345
Fathers	1,162	1,426	1,678
Teenage Parents	107	146	199
Pregnant Teenagers	16	19	57
BME families	4,747	5,699	6,728
BME Carers	4,130	5,225	6,291
BME Children	3,773	4,518	5,220

Source: eStart

A range of services are delivered through the Children's Centres. The service with the highest level of users in all years is contact with families which covers universal stay & play sessions, outreach sessions/support, and community events.

Table 7 - Type of service families received 2011/12 to 2013/14

Type of service	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
By core purpose categories:			
Parenting aspirations and parenting skills	804	1067	1514
Child development and school readiness	2925	4622	6133
Child and family health and life chances	2981	3570	4626
By other categories:			
Contact with families	6088	6192	5618
Cross Cutting	34	354	1057

9.2 Stage 2 Early Help Assessments and Family Engagement Partnerships

Early Help Assessments (CAFs)

Locality Early Help encompasses supporting practitioners to undertake high quality early help Assessments (CAFs) through workforce development and locality practitioner support, oversight of the Family Engagement Partnerships for families with children aged from conception to under five and Early Help in the Multiagency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

In all years more early help assessments CAFs were undertaken in relation to males than females as shown in the following table.

Table 8 -Total number of CAFs by gender 2011/12 to 2013/14

Gender	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Male	221	54%	323	58%	271	59%
Female	185	45%	230	41%	185	41%
Unknown	2	0%	5	1%	0	0%
Total	408	100%	558	100%	456	100%

Source: eCAF

The age profile of children and young people receiving early help assessments shows the highest percentage of assessments were for children and young people aged 16-18 years for all three years.

Table 9 - Total number of CAFs by age 2011/12 to 2013/14

Age	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Unborn / recording error	4	1%	4	1%	3	1%
0-2 years	43	11%	90	16%	27	6%
3-4 years	36	9%	51	9%	29	6%
5-11 years	63	15%	136	24%	118	26%
12-15 years	61	15%	112	20%	107	23%
16-18 years	201	49%	165	30%	172	38%
Total	408	100%	558	100%	456	100%

Source: eCAF

Ethnicity data for early help assessments shows that in 2013/14, 43% of assessments were for children and young people classified as 'White ethnic origin'. In terms of proportions the ethnic profile is similar for years 2011/12 and 2012/13.

Table 10 - Total number of CAFs by ethnicity 2011/12 to 2013/14

Ethnicity	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
White	159	39%	210	38%	194	43%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	125	31%	173	31%	122	27%
Mixed ethnic group	80	20%	108	19%	89	20%
Asian/Asian British	26	6%	39	7%	23	5%
Unknown	8	2%	23	4%	18	4%
Any other ethnic group	10	2%	5	1%	10	2%
Total	408	100%	558	100%	456	100%

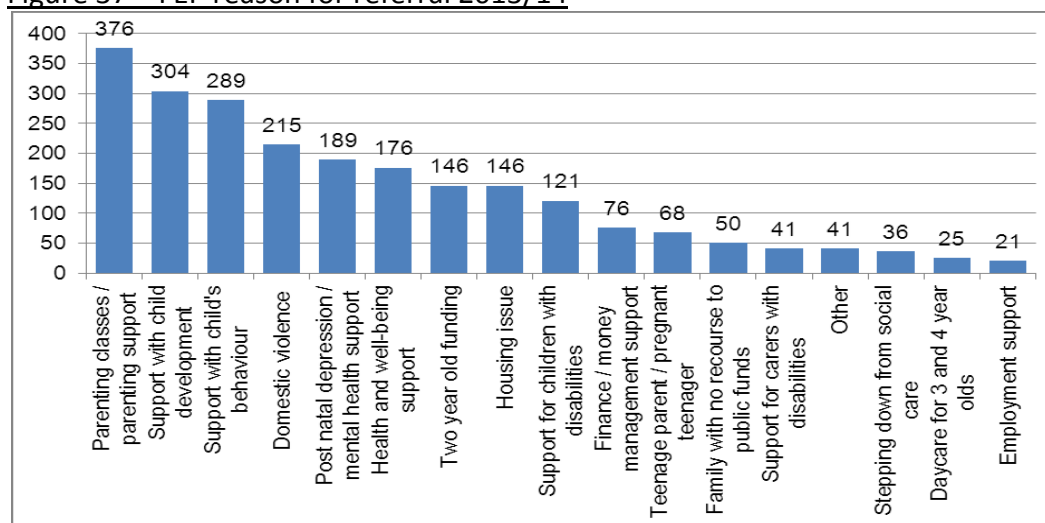
Source: eCAF

Important to note: Early help assessment data is limited to the analysis of the cohort by gender, age and ethnicity. Data on the reason and source of referral is not available since these data sets are not currently collected on a consistent basis with the above data. Due to data quality issues data on outcomes on CAF closure is currently not available. Development work is currently being undertaken to improve the quality of CAF data which includes the number of cases being stepped up and stepped down from social care.

Family Engagement Partnerships (FEPs)

Family Engagement Partnerships (FEPs) went live in September 2012. They were established to support early engagement of families with very young children (conception to age five) by Croydon's children's centres. There are five FEPs across the borough, one in each locality. A total of 963 families with children aged from conception to under five years were referred through the FEP process from April 2013 to March 2014. Of these 508 (53%) were families with a child aged from conception to under 2 years old. In 2013/14, most families had more than one presenting need and the most common were: parenting support, support with child development, support with child's behaviour and domestic violence support.

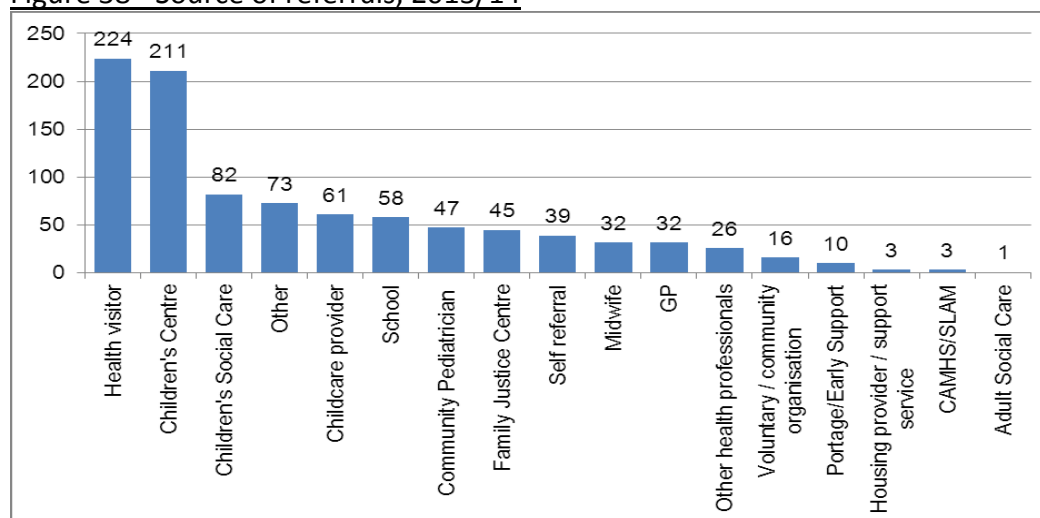
Figure 37 – FEP reason for referral 2013/14



Source: Report on referrals to the Family Engagement Partnerships

In 2013/14, most referrals came from health visitors (23%) and children's centres (22%). The range of 'other' referral agencies is wide and varied and includes Cotelands, Connexions, Family Centre and Lifeline.

Figure 38 - Source of referrals, 2013/14



Source: Report on referrals to the Family Engagement Partnerships

The number of case files that have been closed has increased considerably from 85 for the quarter October – December 13 to 149 during January to March 2014. The number of CAFs has increased from six during October to December to 14 during January to March.

The following table summarises the number of cases closed, number of CAFs initiated and referrals to social care and the numbers which met / did not meet the threshold for social care intervention for the period July 2013 to March 2014¹⁰.

Table 11 - Case Management Overview July 2013 to March 2014

Period	Cases closed	CAFs initiated by FEP	Stars initiated	Stepped up to social care		Referred to MARAC ¹¹
				Met threshold	Didn't meet threshold	
July to Sept 2013	103	4	22	13	6	1
Oct to Dec 2013	85	6	27	11	2	1
Jan to March 2014	149	14	29	8	5	4

Source: Report on referrals to the Family Engagement Partnerships

All FEP Family Support teams use the Family Outcomes Star¹² and have access to the Star online. The star enables practitioners and families to measure and record progress across eight domains. In order to measure progress at least two stars have to have been completed for a family. To date there are 55 stars from which progress can be measured - 52 of which are Family Stars and three are Empowerment Stars (for families experiencing

¹⁰ Data for April to June 2013 not collected

¹¹ MARAC is a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference where high risk victims are discussed with partners and actions agreed to minimise the risk of harm to them.

¹² More information on the Family Outcomes Star can be found at www.outcomesstar.org.uk

domestic violence). Each star has its own set of domains against which progress is measured. The star online reports show that families have made progress across all domains.

In 2013/14 Q4 the biggest change in relation to the Family Star is in the social networks domain with an average improvement of 2 scale points. The lowest improvement is in the home and money domain. The following table shows the average first and last scores for clients in each quarter for 2013/14. The difference between these two is the 'change', or outcome.

Table 12 - Average increase and decrease in scores for each scale 2013/14

Scale	2013/14											
	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
	Initial	Final	Change	Initial	Final	Change	Initial	Final	Change	Initial	Final	Change
Physical health	5.5	7.5	2	6.2	8	1.8	5.9	7.5	1.6	6.1	7.6	1.5
Emotional well-being	4.7	6.5	1.8	5.2	6.2	1	5.5	7.2	1.6	5.6	7	1.4
Keeping your children safe	6.6	7.7	1.1	7	8.1	1.1	6.5	8	1.5	6.7	7.9	1.2
Social networks	5.1	6.3	1.2	4.7	6.6	1.9	4.8	7.1	2.4	4.9	6.9	2
Education and learning	5.4	7	1.6	5.4	6.6	1.2	6	7.4	1.4	5.9	7.2	1.3
Boundaries and behaviour	4.7	6.2	1.5	5.1	6.5	1.4	5.4	6.9	1.5	5.4	6.9	1.5
Family routine	6.1	7.4	1.3	6.3	7.6	1.3	6.5	7.8	1.3	6.4	7.6	1.2
Home and money	6.6	6.7	0.1	6.8	6.6	-0.2	6.1	7.1	0.9	6	6.9	0.9
Average	5.6	6.9	1.3	5.8	7	1.2	5.8	7.4	1.6	5.9	7.3	1.4

Source: Report on referrals to the Family Engagement Partnerships

9.3 Stage 3 Services

This section presents data that profiles clients accessing early intervention services relating to stage 3 of the staged intervention model.

Family Resilience Service (FRS)

The Family Resilience Service encompasses Troubled Families and the Family Justice Centre. Troubled Families is a national programme aimed at turning around the lives of the most troubled families i.e. those who:

- are involved in youth crime or anti-social behaviour
- have children who are regularly truanting
- have an adult on out-of-work benefits
- cost the public sector large sums in responding to their problems

The Family Justice Centre delivers advice and support to victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence including young people and provides advice sessions for practitioners.

Troubled Families Programme¹³

In 2013/14 there were 543 families referred to the Troubled Families programme, of which 267 met the criteria¹⁴ to enter into this programme. There were 192 families who met the crime/anti-social behaviour criteria, 177 met the education criteria, 208 met the out of work criteria and 166 met the local discretionary high cost criteria.

(Please note that a child or household can meet multiples within the laid out criteria, i.e. a child can have committed a Crime, be triaged and can be known for ASB. This would count as meeting 1 for Criteria One. A child or household could have had over 15% unauthorised attendance and be in a PRU, this would count as meeting 1 for Criteria Two.)

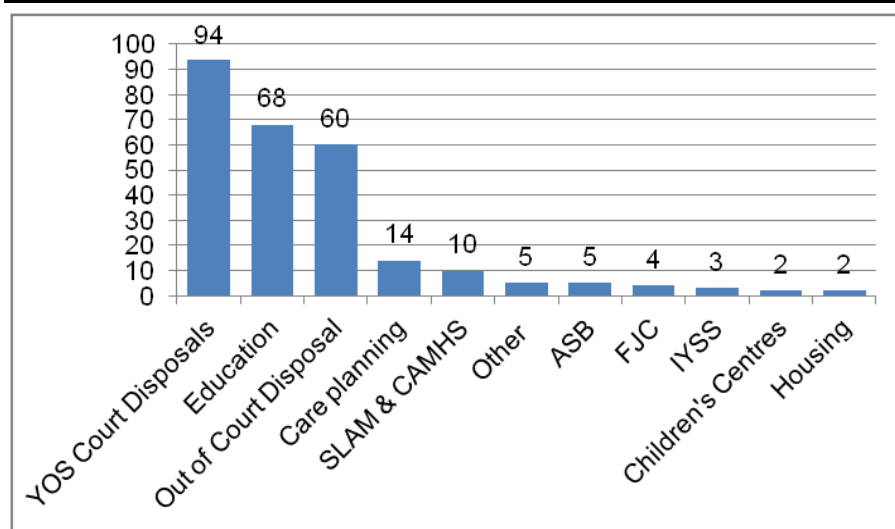
Table 13 - Families that Meet and do not Meet the Criteria for the Troubled Families Programme, 2013/14

	Criteria 1 Crime	Criteria 1 ASB	Criteria 1 Total	Criteria 2 3 fixed terms	Criteria 2 15% or over unauth' absence	Criteria 2 Perm excl/ PRU	Criteria 2 Total	Criteria 3 Out of Work Benefit	Criteria 4 High Cost	Totals
Met	167	37	192	47	71	113	177	208	166	267
Not met	156	6	160	12	6	22	32	36	102	276
Total	323	43	352	59	77	135	209	244	268	543

Source: Croydon Troubled Families dataset

The majority of referrals (83%) were from the YOS court disposals (35%), Education (25%) and Out of Court Disposals (22%),

Figure 39 - Source of referral for families who met the criteria, 2013/14



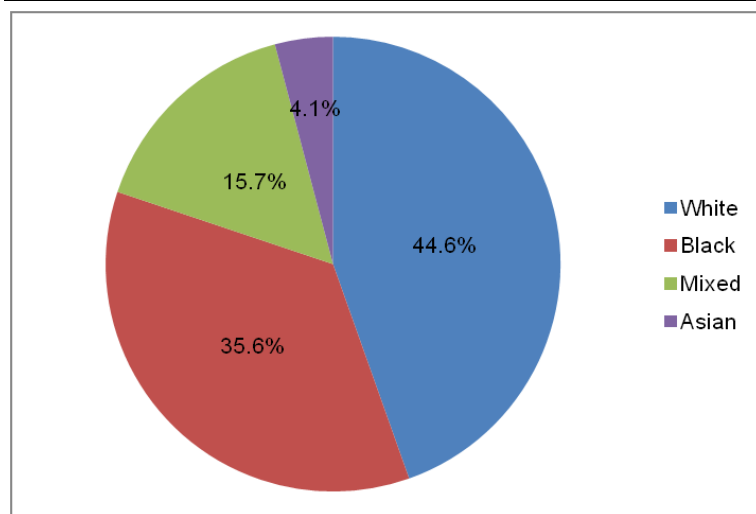
Source: Croydon Troubled Families dataset

¹³ The figures reported in this section exclude duplicates

¹⁴ See Annex A for the criteria

In 2013/14, 44.6% of families who met the criteria were white, 35.6% were black, 15.7% were mixed and 4.1% were Asian.

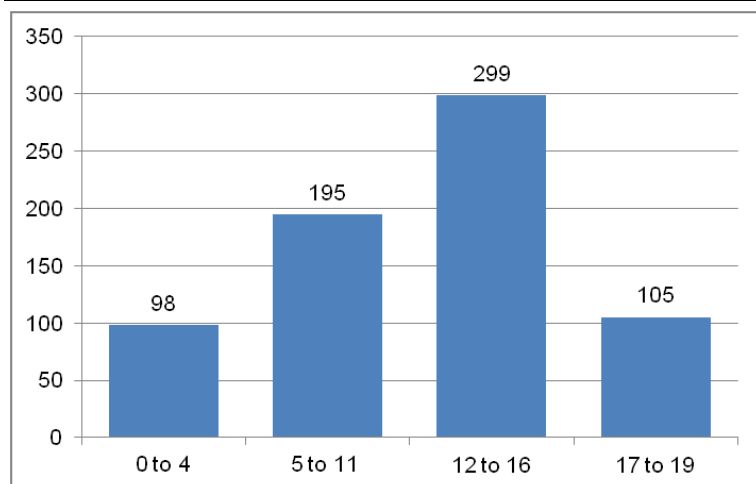
Figure 40 - Ethnicity of families who met the criteria, 2013/14



Source: Croydon Troubled Families dataset

In total there were 697 children in the families who met the criteria, of which the largest age group was the 12-16yr olds, with 299 (43%) children in total. The lowest was the 0-4yr olds at 98 (14%), closely followed by 17-19yr olds at 105 (15%).

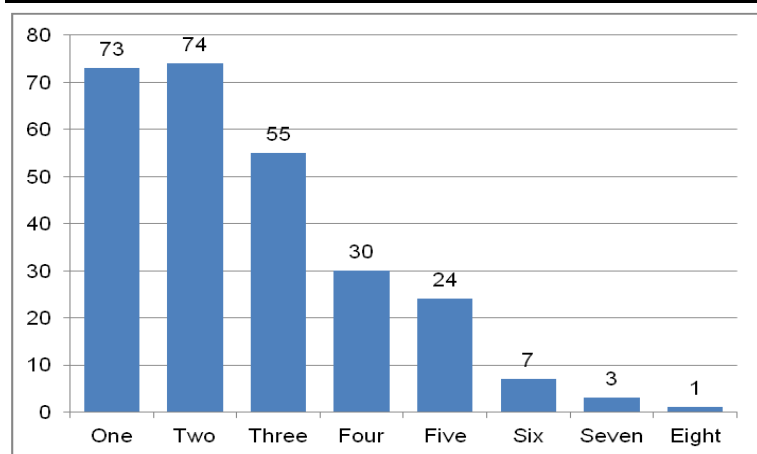
Figure 41 - Age range of children in families who met the criteria, 2013/14



Source: Croydon Troubled Families dataset

Of the 267 families who met the criteria, 74 had two children, which is the largest type of family. The lowest is families with 8 children, 1 in total.

Figure 42 - Number of children per family who met the criteria, 2013/14



Source: Croydon Troubled Families dataset

Troubled Families Outcomes

Most recent and available data for the period July 2013 to February 2014, shows outcome payments have been claimed for 226 families.

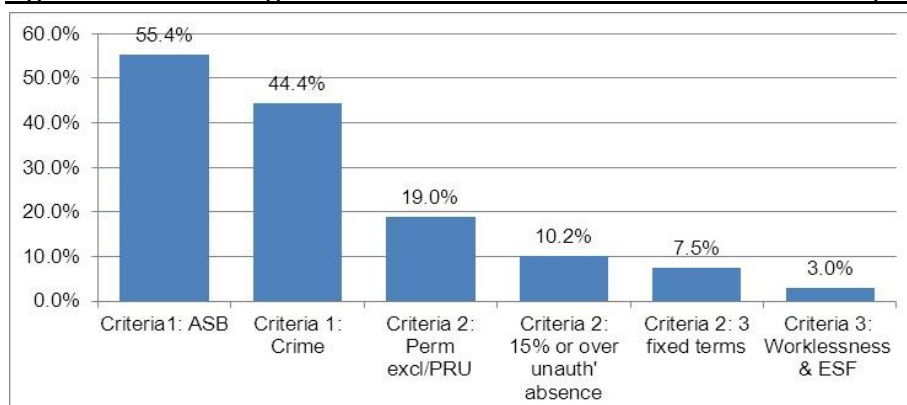
Table 14 - Number of families for whom a Troubled Family Outcome Payment is achieved¹⁵, July 2013 to February 2014

Period	Number
July 2013	163
October 2013	36
February 2014	27
Total	226

Source: Croydon Troubled Families dataset

Out of those families that met the criteria as of the 31st July 2013, the highest percentage of turnaround was for families who met the ASB criteria (55.4%), followed by crime (44.4%). The lowest percentage of claims were made for families who met the worklessness & ESF criteria (European Social Fund) at 3%.

Figure 43 - Percentages of Results and Criteria Claimed For as of 31/07/13

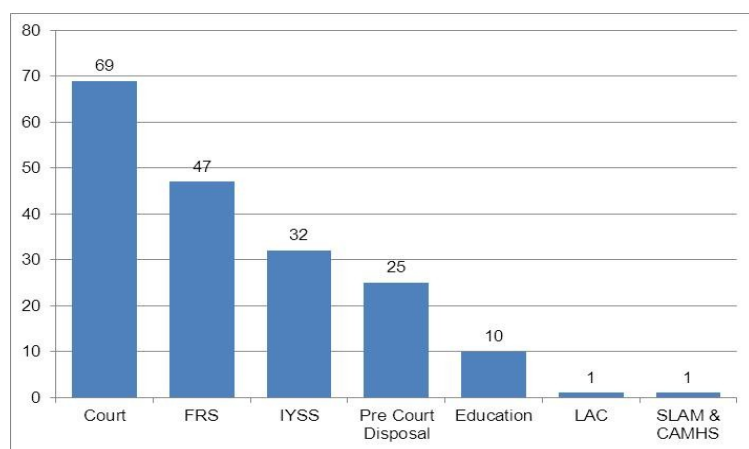


Source: Croydon Troubled Families dataset

¹⁵ Figures are gathered on a quarterly basis

Between 1st March 2012 and 31st July 2013, the service intervention with the most families claimed for were courts at 69, the next highest was FRS at 47.

Figure 44 - Numbers of Families Claimed For by Service Intervention, 01/03/12 - 31/07/13



Source: Croydon Troubled Families dataset

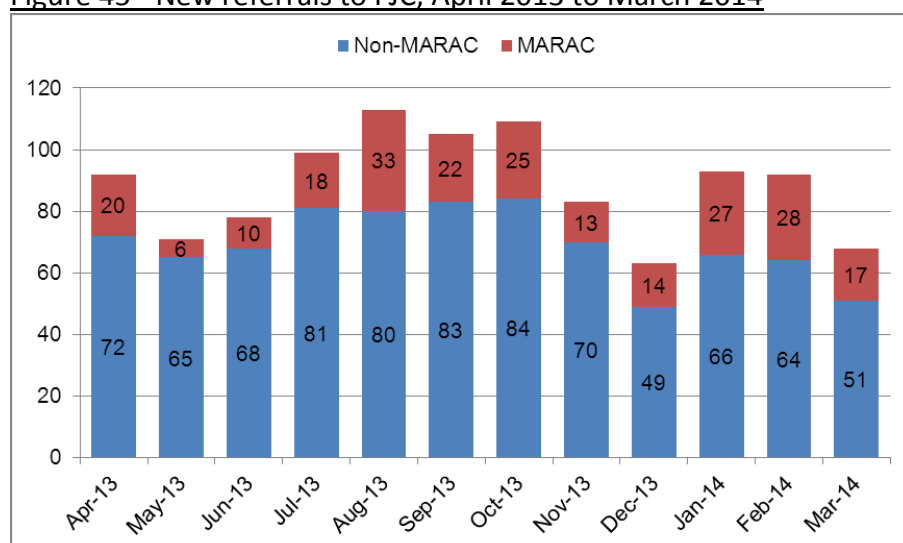
Family Justice Centre (FJC)

The Family Justice Centre in Croydon is one a range of agencies providing front line services for victims of domestic violence including multi-agency risk assessments, counselling, legal and housing advice.

In 2013/14, 1066 new referrals were seen at the FJC. 22% of the new referrals were high risk victims referred to MARAC by staff at the FJC. Some of the MARAC referrals made by staff at the FJC are to other boroughs where the victims are resident.

MARAC is a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference where high risk victims are discussed with partners and actions agreed to minimise the risk of harm to them.

Figure 45 - New referrals to FJC, April 2013 to March 2014



Source: FJC data report April 2013 to March 2014

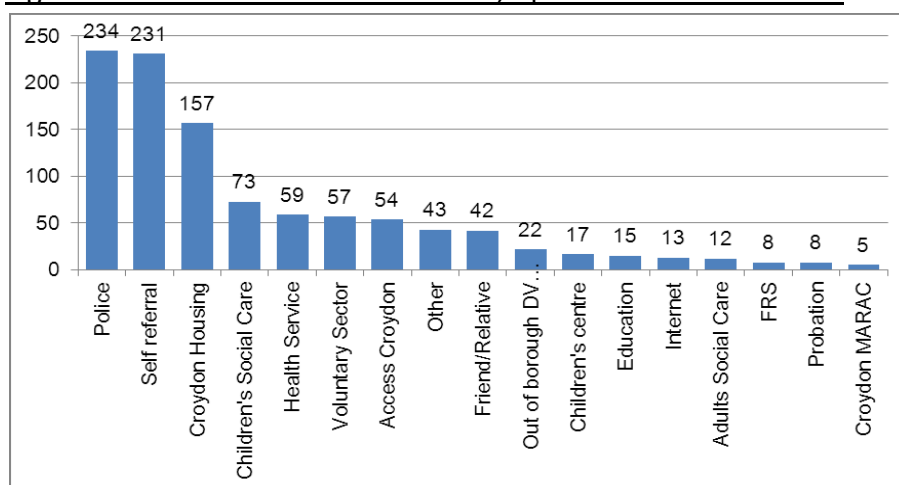
In 2013/14, most of the service users seen at the FJC are referred by the police (234) and by the individuals themselves (231), with the lowest from MARAC (5).

The category “out of borough DV service” includes referrals from refuges, national domestic violence helpline and other services outside Croydon.

“Health service” includes GPs, hospitals, health visitors and mental health services whereas education includes primary and secondary schools as well as colleges.

The category “other” is for referrals from substance misuse services, probation, registered social landlords and other Croydon council services.

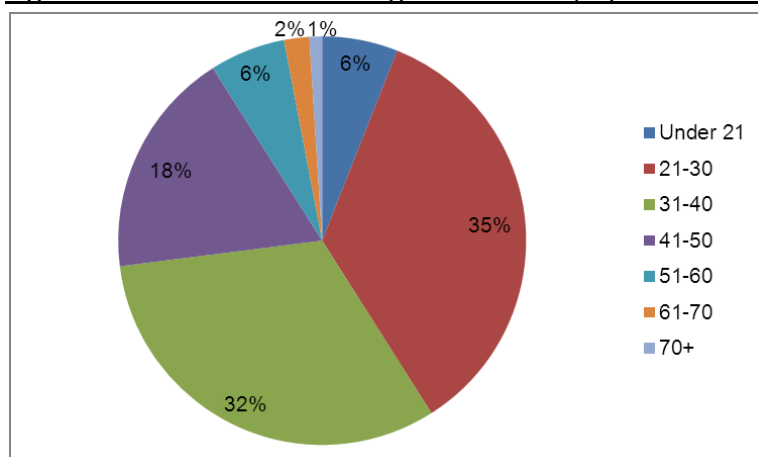
Figure 46 - Source of referrals¹⁶ to FJC, April 2013 to March 2014



Source: FJC data report April 2013 to March 2014

Data relating to the client profile for the FJC shows that in 2013/14, 92% of the service users were female and in the 21-30yrs and 31-40yrs age brackets, accounting for 35% and 32% of users respectively. In terms of ethnicity, data for 2013/14 shows that 58% of the service users accessing FJC were from BME communities

Figure 47 - FJC service users age breakdown, April 2013 to March 2014

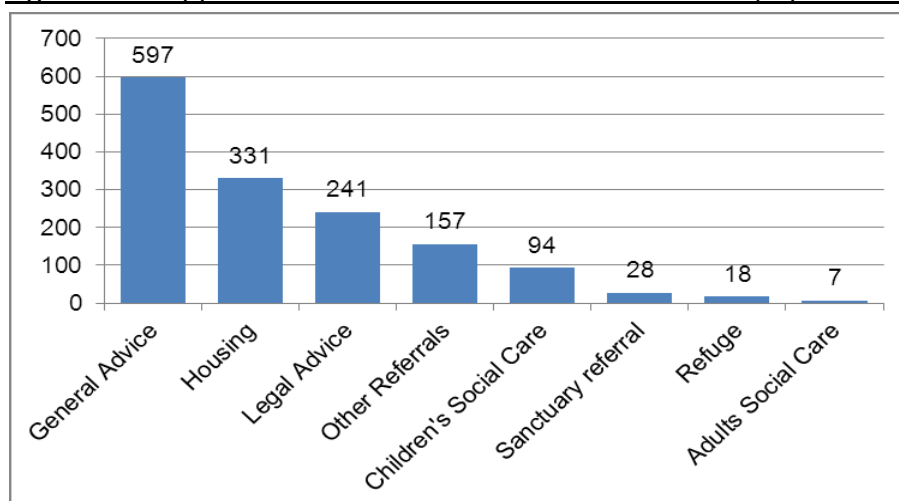


Source: FJC data report April 2013 to March 2014

¹⁶ Origin of 16 of the referrals was unknown

Data shows that many FJC clients access more than one service. The service accessed by the highest number of service users over the last financial year, was general advice (597) which constitutes safety planning, emotional support and signposting to other agencies. The category “other referrals” refers to a variety of services and includes family therapy and FEP.

Figure 48 - Support offered & referrals made from the FJC, April 2013 to March 2014



Source: FJC data report April 2013 to March 2014

Children and Young People’s Resilience

The Children and young People’s Resilience Service (CYPRS) is based at the Turnaround Centre and is the central base for services targeted at young people with significant needs including the Drop-in-Zone service provided by CAYSH. The new service, which went live in January 2014, has three teams of Keyworkers who will work through intensive assertive outreach with children, young people and their families whose needs are complex but do not meet the troubled families’ criteria. All referrals to CYPRS will be made through the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub where the Lead Professional is able to evidence that there continues to be complex and unmet needs.

Functional Family Therapy

A new Functional Family Therapy Team, to deliver evidence based programme that works with young people 10-17 to reduce the risk of entering the criminal justice centre or care will be in place from June 2014.

10. Overview - 'Children in Need'

Definition

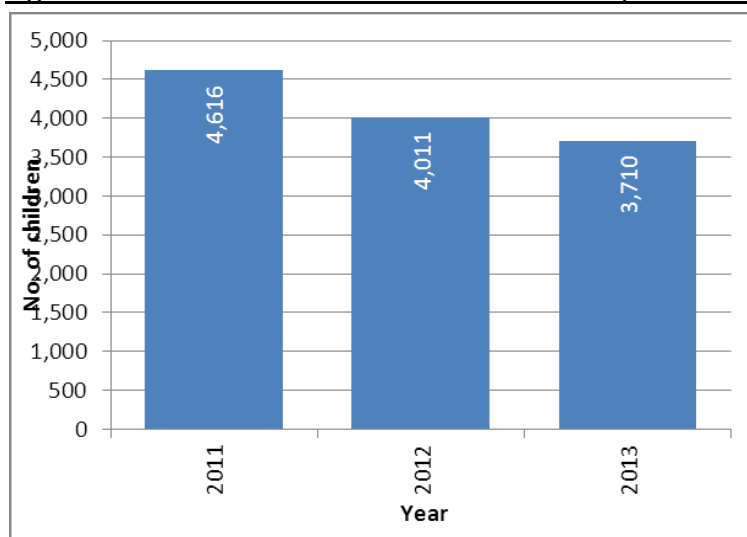
Under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 a child is in need if:

- '(a) he is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for him of services by a local authority under this Part;
- (b) his health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for him of such services; or
- (c) he is disabled,'

10.1 Profile of Children in Need (2011/2013)

The number of Children in Need in Croydon has fallen by 20% over the past three years, from 4,616 in 2011 children to 3,710 children in 2013.

Figure 49 – Numbers of Children in Need in Croydon 2011-13

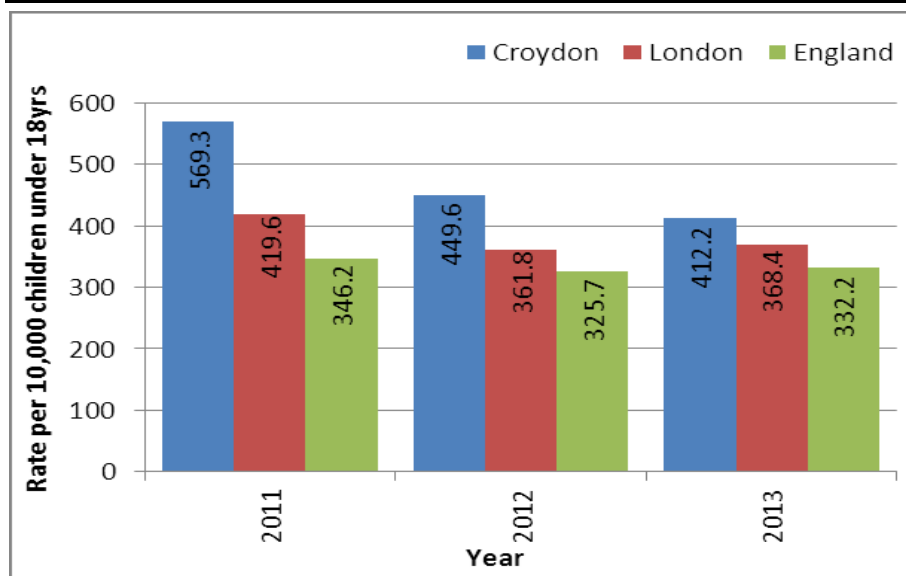


Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

Although the overall numbers for this cohort has fallen, which is in part due to cases being open for longer and a higher number of cases being held at Tier 2 and 3 Stages (Early Intervention), the rate of Children in Need is still far higher than the regional or national averages.

Croydon's rate of Children in Need has fallen by 21.0%, from 569.3 (2011) to 449.6 (2012) and fell again by 8.3% to 412.2 by 2013. Locally there has been a year on year decrease, in contrast to both London and England where the rates decreased in 2012 and then increased in 2013. However the local rate of Children in Need remains 11% higher than London and 19% higher than England in 2013.

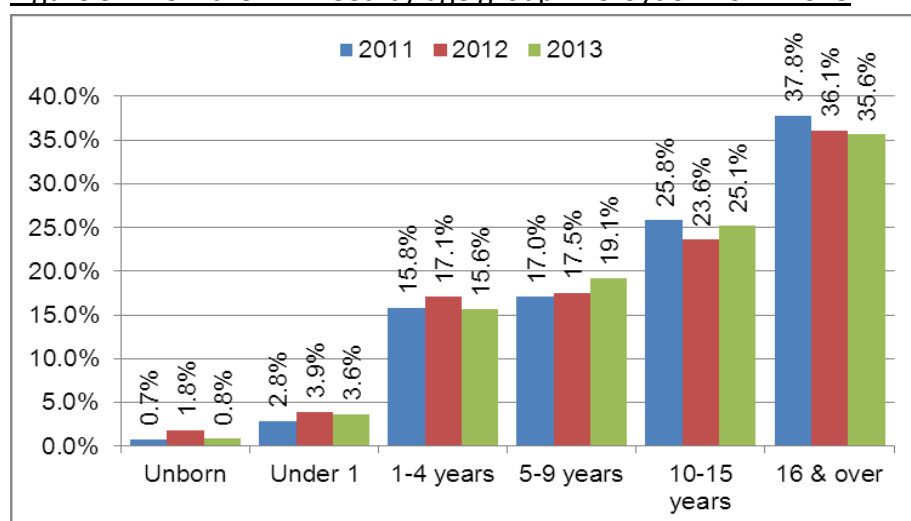
Figure 50 – Rate of Children in Need Croydon, London, England 2011-2013¹⁷



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

The majority of Children in Need in Croydon are aged 10 or over, with the highest proportion aged 16 years and over. This is a consistent trend for the period 2011 to 2013.

Figure 51 – Children in Need by age group in Croydon 2011-2013

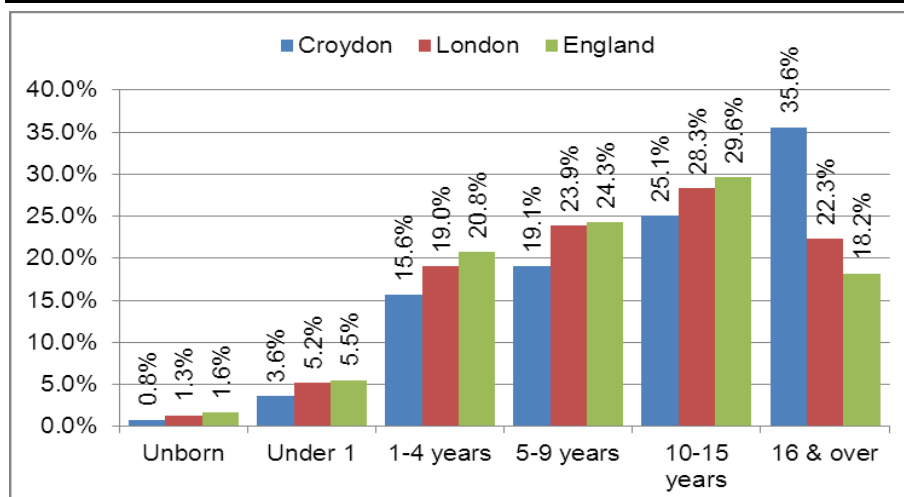


Source: DfE Ofsted Tables.

Latest data shows that locally there is a higher proportion of Children in Need aged 16 and over (35.6%) compared to the regional (22.3%) and national (18.2%) averages. For London and England proportions are higher in all the other age groups between 0 to 15 years.

¹⁷ To note on the rates – the 2013 rates will be calculated using the same mid-2012 population estimates as the 2012 figures. The 2011 rates are calculated using mid-2011 figures. It's possible the actual rates for 2013 are lower than calculated due to additional population growth.

Figure 52 – Children in Need by age, Croydon, London, England, March 2013

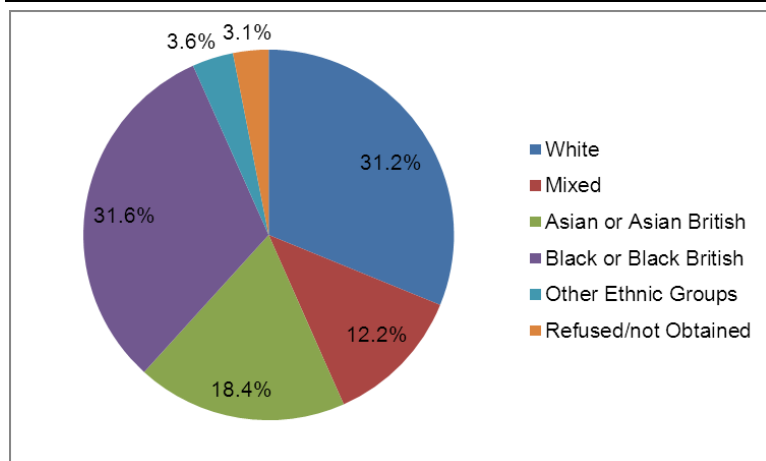


Source: DfE Ofsted Tables.

The gender breakdown for this cohort has consistently been approximately 60% male, 40% female in previous years. (To note: The gender breakdown is only available for 2011 and 2012 from SFRs and has not produced as part of 2013 Ofsted tables).

Locally the ethnic profile of Children in Need shows that over two thirds of children come from BME communities, which is higher than the overall ethnic profile for all children (0-19years) resident in the borough.

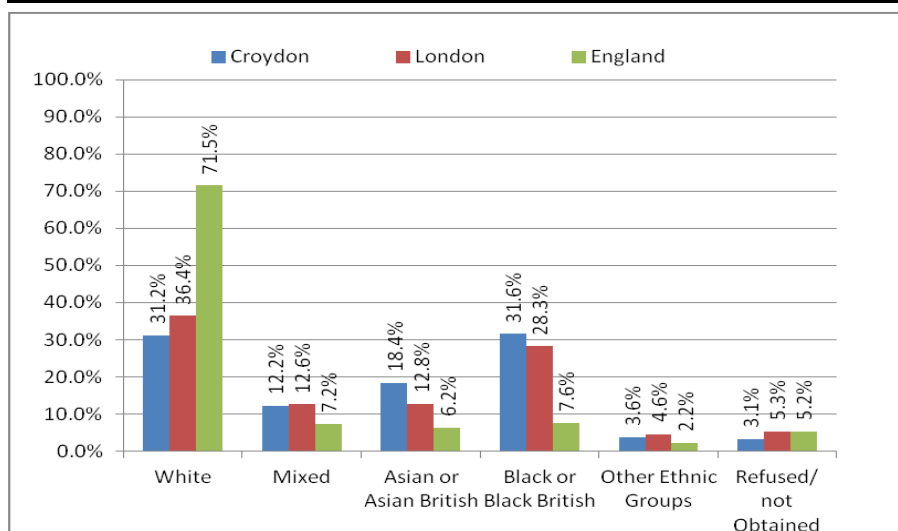
Figure 53 – Children in Need by ethnicity in Croydon, March 2013



Source: DfE Ofsted Tables

Comparing the ethnicity profile for Croydon, London and England shows considerably higher proportions of Children in Need from BME communities locally and regionally than nationally. This is consistent with the ethnicity profile for the overall population.

Figure 54 – Children in Need by ethnicity, Croydon, London, England, March 2013



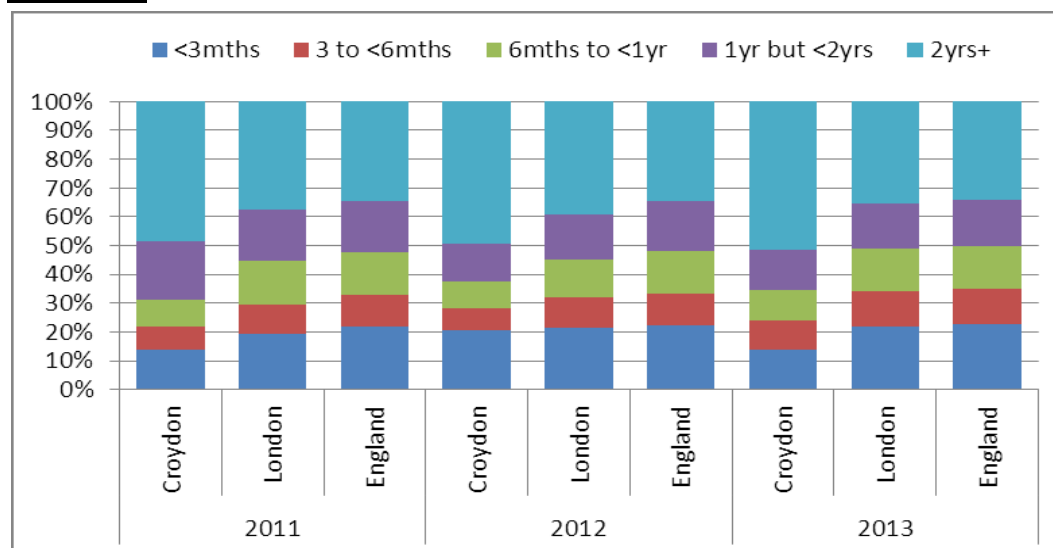
Source: DfE Ofsted Tables.

10.2 Children in Need – Duration of open cases (2011/2013)

In 2011 48.5% of open cases in Croydon had been open for 2 years and over. By 2013 this had increased to 51.6%. In comparison for 2013 the number of cases open for 2 years and over in London has fallen and for England is constant.

Over the last 3 years the percentage of open cases for 2 years and over has been higher than both London and England.

Figure 55 – Children in Need caseload, duration of open cases, Croydon, London, England 2011-2013



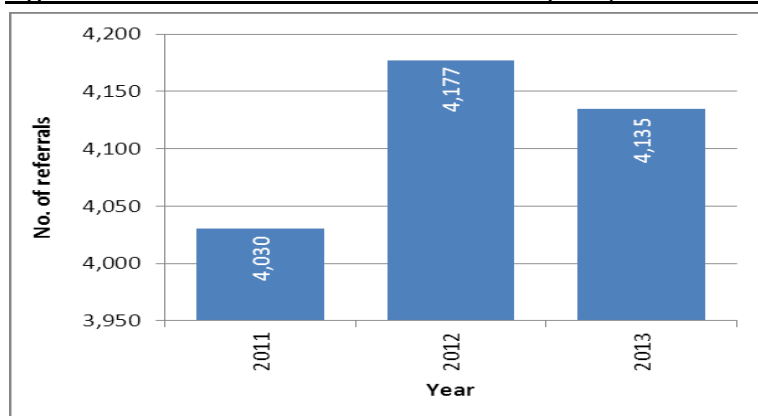
		<3mths	3 to <6mths	6mths to <1yr	1yr but <2yrs	2yrs+
Croydon	2011	14.0%	8.0%	9.0%	20.5%	48.5%
	2012	20.5%	7.9%	9.0%	13.4%	49.2%
	2013	13.8%	10.3%	10.6%	13.7%	51.6%
London	2011	19.3%	10.2%	15.3%	17.7%	37.5%
	2012	21.4%	10.6%	13.3%	15.6%	39.1%
	2013	22.0%	12.3%	14.8%	15.4%	35.5%
England	2011	21.9%	11.1%	14.9%	17.6%	34.5%
	2012	22.4%	11.1%	14.7%	17.1%	34.7%
	2013	22.9%	12.1%	14.9%	15.9%	34.2%

Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011,2012 & 2013

10.3 Children in Need – Referrals Summary (2011/2013)

Local data for referrals shows that the number of Children in Need referrals completed in Croydon in 2011 was 4,030 which increased in 2012 to 4,177 (3.6%) and then decreased in 2013 to 4,135 (-1%).

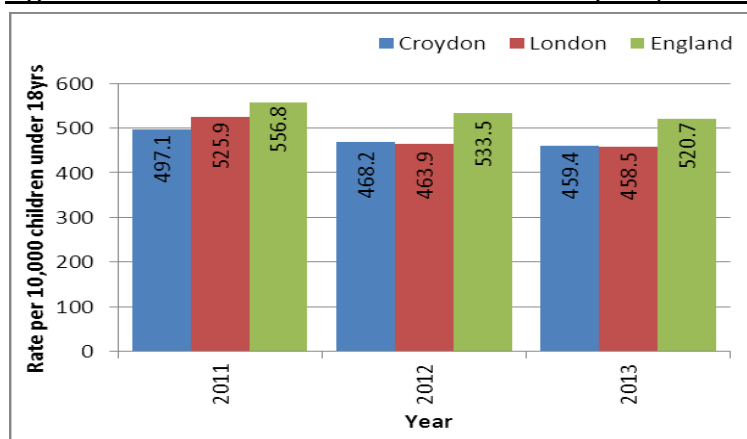
Figure 56 – Children in Need referrals Croydon, March 2013



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011,2012 & 2013

Croydon's rate of referrals has fallen by 7.6%, from 497.1(2011) to 459.4 (2013) which is in line with London's fall of 12.8% and England's 6.5%. Croydon has seen a year on year decrease in-line with London and England. Croydon's rate in 2013 is on par with London's rate although 13% lower than England's.

Figure 57 – Children in Need referral rate Croydon, London, England 2011-2013



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011,2012 & 2013

Comparing the local and London rate is important as the last Ofsted report from an inspection in June 2012 highlighted that Croydon had a lower referral rate than average. One of the recommendations from the analysis relating to referrals, is that as all referrals should progress to assessment, any referrals not following this route should be subject to quality assurance activity.

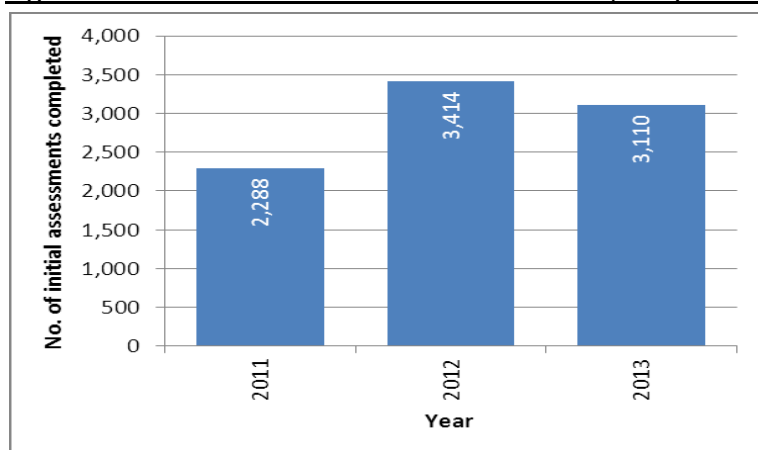
10.4 Children in Need - Initial Assessments Summary (2011/13)

Combining the percentage of referrals to initial assessment with the number of initial assessments would show the improvement in the percentage of referrals going on to initial assessment and the volume demand. One of the previous parliamentary reports into social care states that most referrals should progress on to initial assessment. Low percentages of referrals going on to initial assessment can be a sign of a high number of inappropriate referrals or poor recording/practice by either not recording initial assessments or not conducting them where appropriate.

The initial assessment is a brief assessment of the child's needs. It could lead to the provision of services directly, or a further investigation if the child was felt to be at risk through a core assessment and/or s.47 enquiries. Alternatively a recommendation of no further action could be made if it was felt that the child did not require social care support. The initial assessment and the core assessment have subsequently been combined into a single assessment. Data for this new assessment is not available yet.

The number of initial assessments completed in Croydon in 2011 was 2,288, this increased by 49.2% in 2012 to 3,414 and decreased by 8.9% in 2013 to 3,110.

Figure 58 – Children in Need initial assessment, Croydon 2011-2013

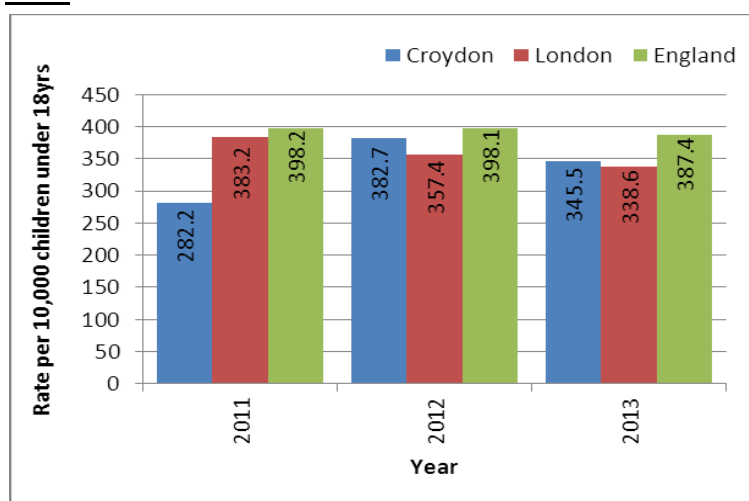


Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

Between 2011 and 2013 Croydon has seen an overall increase of 22.4% in the rate of initial core assessments completed.

Although Croydon has seen an overall increase, both London and England have both seen falls. Croydon's rate in 2013 is 2% higher than London's rate, and 12% lower than England's.

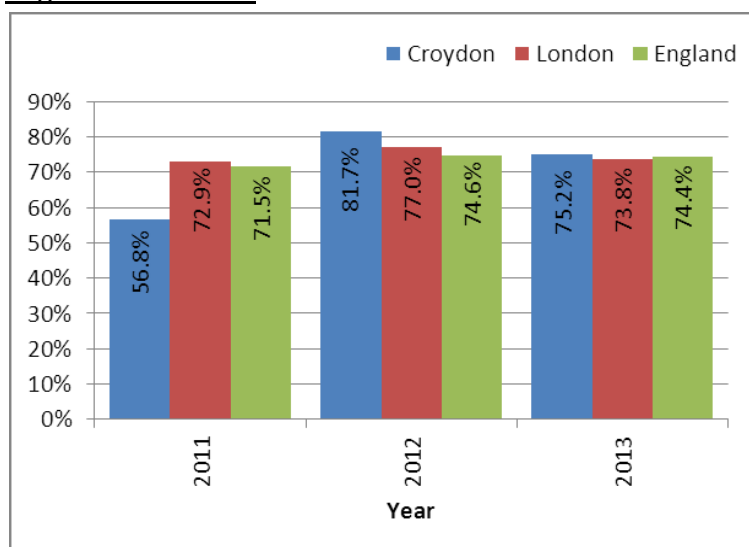
Figure 59 – Children in Need rate of initial assessments Croydon, London, England 2011-2013



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

In Croydon in 2011 56.8% of referrals lead to an initial assessment compared to London at 72.9% and England at 71.5%. Locally this increased to 81.7% in 2012 and then fell to 75.2% in 2013. Latest data shows that the local rate is now in line with London at 73.8% and England at 74.4%

Figure 60 – Children in Need, initial assessments as a % of referrals, Croydon, London, England 2011-2013



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

Percentage of referrals within 12 months of a previous referral represents a proxy measure for 'churn' – children who go back through the system without having their needs adequately addressed. However there will always be some children who have repeat referrals due to unforeseeable changes in circumstance which is why it's not a true measure.

In Croydon there was a fall from 2011 (25.7%) to 2012 (15.7%) followed by an increase in 2013 (20.7%). Regionally there was a continuous fall from 2011 (19.9%) to 2013 (17.7%).

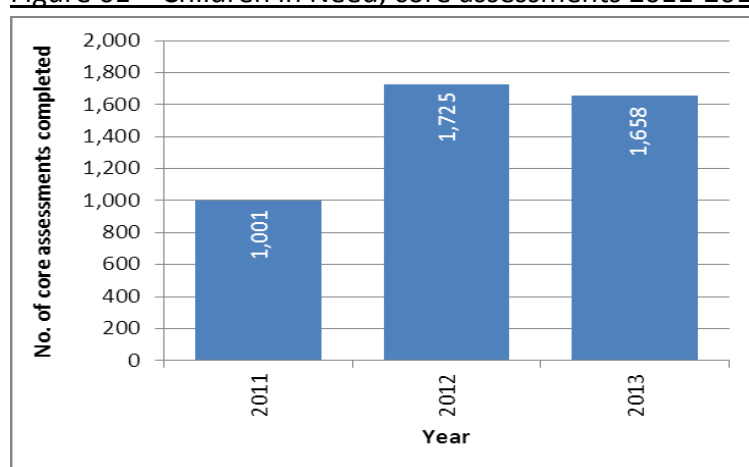
	2011	2012	2013	2011-2013
Croydon	25.7%	15.7%	20.7%	-5.0%
London	19.9%	19.1%	17.7%	-2.2%
England	25.6%	26.1%	24.9%	-0.7%

Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011,2012 & 2013

10.5 Children in Need – Core Assessment Summary (2011/2013)

The number of core assessments completed in Croydon in 2011 was 1,001, this increased by 72.3% in 2012 to 1,725 and then decreased by 3.9% in 2013 to 1,658 assessments

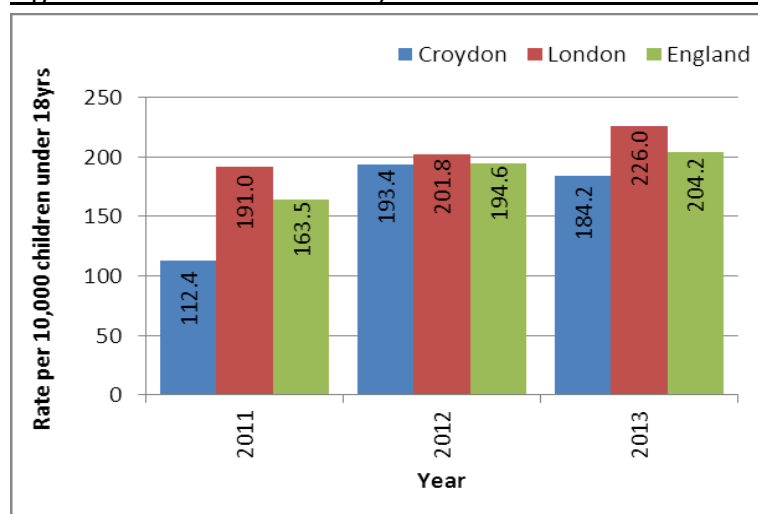
Figure 61 – Children in Need, core assessments 2011-2013



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011,2012 & 2013

Between 2011 and 2013 Croydon has seen an overall increase of 63.9% in the rate of core assessments completed, this is in line with increases for both London and England, although Croydon's rate is 23% lower than London and 11% lower than England.

Figure 62 – Children in Need, core assessment rate 2011-2013



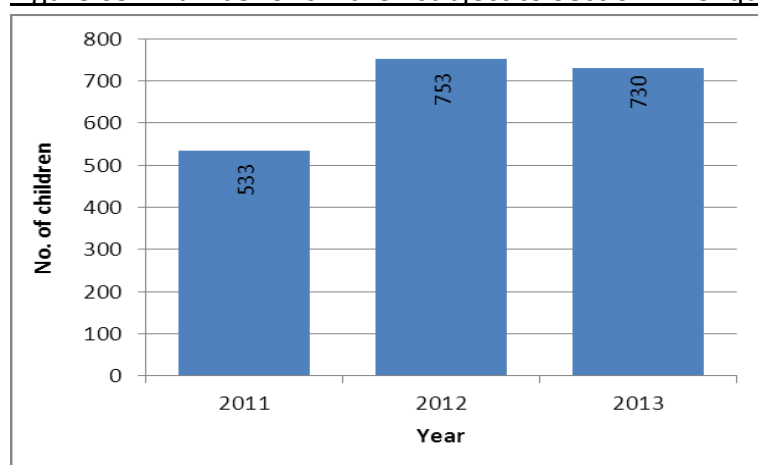
Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011,2012 & 2013

10.6 Children in Need – Section 47 Enquiries (2011/2013)

A section 47 enquiry (refers to s.47 of the Children Act) is carried out if the local authority has reason to suspect that the child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. If it is found that the child is at continuing risk of harm as a result of a s.47 enquiry an initial child protection conference will be held.

The number of children who were subject to Section 47 enquiries in Croydon in 2011 was 533, this increased by 41.3% in 2012 to 753 and then decreased by 3.1% in 2013. Looking at the data for all the phases of the social care journey shows an improvement from 2012 in social care services. This may be as a result of tightening safeguarding procedures, but also may be attributed to an increase in need locally as a result of Croydon's growing population and/or an increase in deprivation as a result of benefit cuts and welfare reform; more families have moved into Croydon resulting in an increase in transfer in cases.

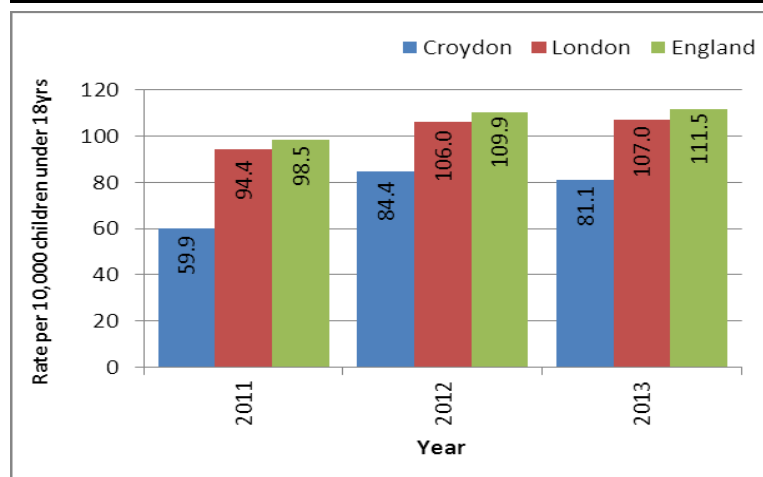
Figure 63 - Number of children subject to Section 47 enquiries 2011-2013



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

Between 2011 and 2013 Croydon has seen an overall increase of 35.4% in the rate of children who were subject to Section 47 enquiries. Although Croydon has seen an increase in 2012 and then a decrease in 2013 both London and England have both seen continuous increases year on year and Croydon's rate is still lower than London (by 32%) and England (by 37%).

Figure 64 – Rate of children subject to S47 enquiries, Croydon, London, England 2011-2013



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

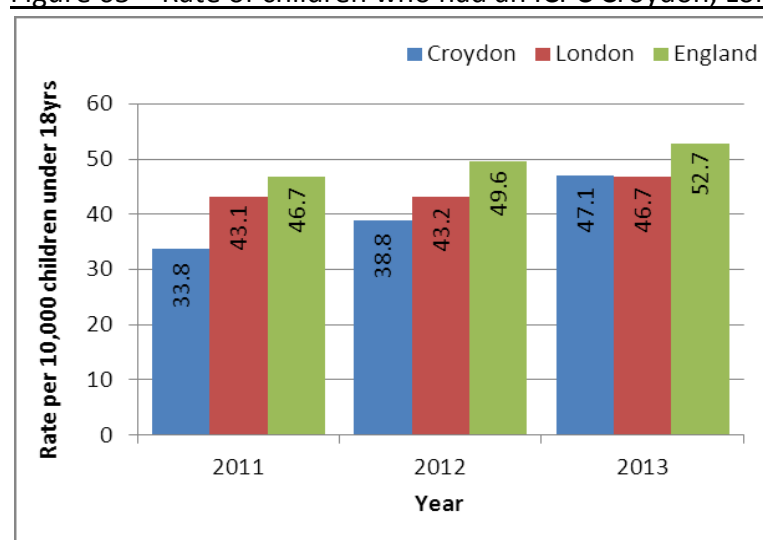
10.6 Children in Need - Initial Child Protection Conferences (2011/2013)

An initial child protection conference is held to determine whether a child needs to be put onto a Child Protection Plan

Year on year the number of children who had an Initial Child Protection Conference in Croydon has increased, in 2011 the number was 301, this increased by 15% in 2012 to 346 and then increased again, by 22.5% in 2013 to 424 children.

Between 2011 and 2013 Croydon has seen an overall increase of 39.3% in the rate of children who had an initial Child Protection Conference. The trend across Croydon, London and England shows a year on year increase although locally this has been more significant and Croydon is now on par with London, and just behind England.

Figure 65 – Rate of children who had an ICPC Croydon, London, England 2011-2013

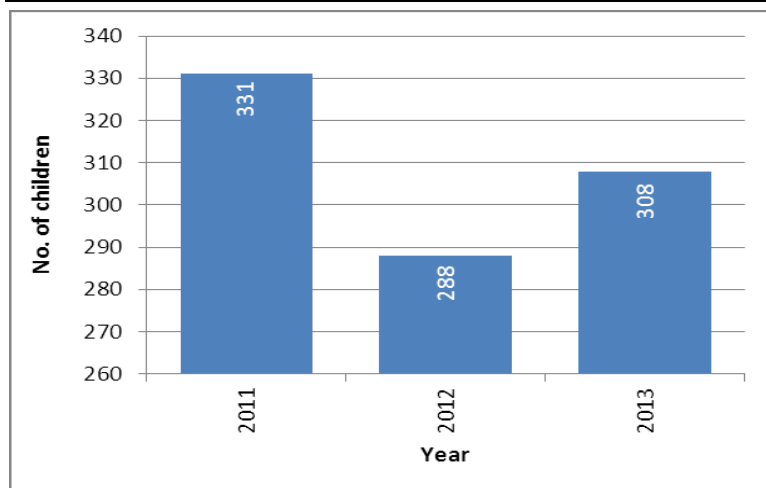


Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

10.7 Children in Need – Child Protection Plans (2011/2013)

In Croydon between 2011 and 2013 there has been an overall fall in the number of children who were the subject of a Child Protection Plan. In 2011 there were 331 children and this decreasing by 13% in 2012 to 288 children, and increasing by 6.9% in 2013 to 308 children.

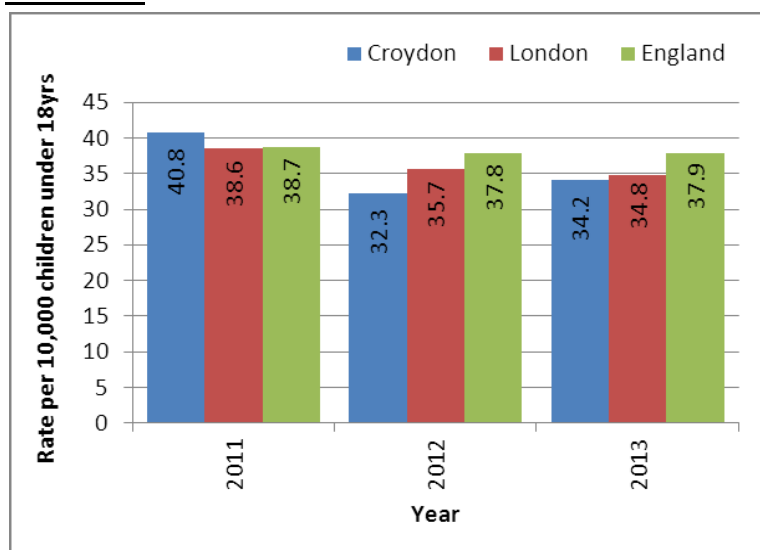
Figure 66 – Number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan Croydon 2011-2013



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011,2012 & 2013

Between 2011 and 2013 Croydon has seen an overall fall of -16.2% in the rate of children who were the subject of a Child Protection Plan, the current rate for 2013 is 34.2 per 10,000 children. During this period London saw a fall of -9.8% and England saw an overall fall of 2.1%

Figure 66 – Rate of children subject of a Child Protection Plan , Croydon, London, England 2011-2013

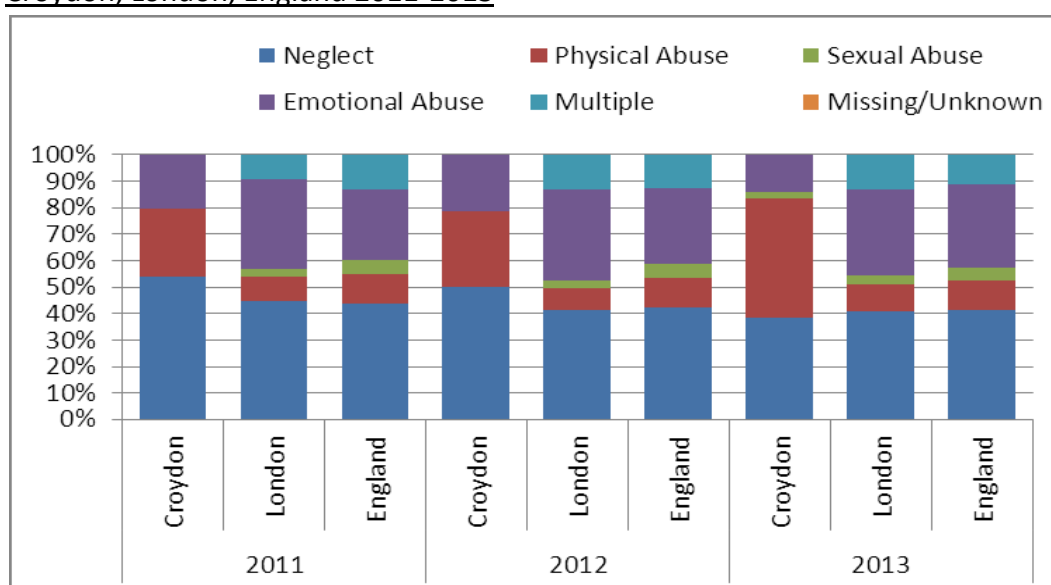


Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011,2012 & 2013

Data for children who were subject of a Child Protection Plan by initial category of abuse shows that during 2011 and 2012 Croydon had a higher percentage of children whose initial category of abuse was 'neglect' compared to London and England which was 'emotional abuse'.

By 2013 the number of children on who were subject of a Children Protection Plan locally due to 'neglect' had fallen in-line with London and England. One of the reasons for this decrease is the re-categorisation of domestic violence from 'neglect' to 'emotional abuse'. The number of children categorised as experiencing 'physical abuse' increased dramatically from 25.5% in 2011 to 45.1% in 2013.

Figure 67 - Children who were subject of a Child Protection Plan by initial category of abuse, Croydon, London, England 2011-2013



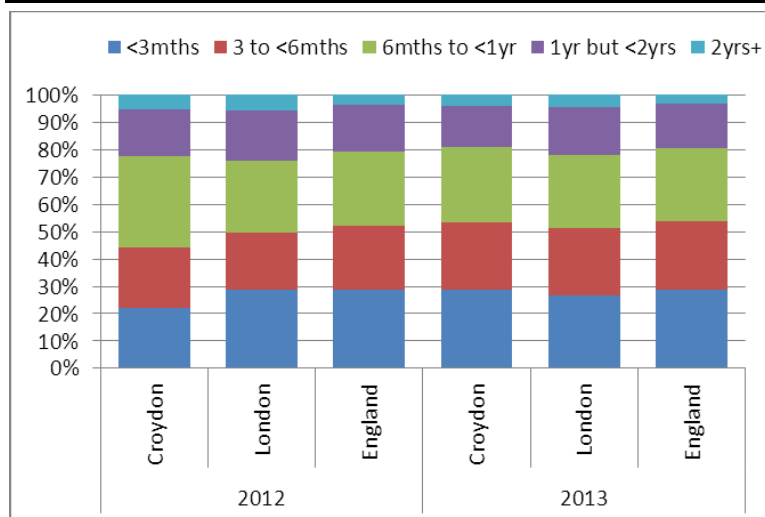
		Neglect	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Emotional Abuse	Multiple	Missing/Unknown	Total
2011	Croydon	54.2%	25.5%	0.0%	20.3%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	London	44.6%	9.2%	3.1%	33.8%	9.2%	0.0%	100.0%
	England	43.6%	11.3%	5.5%	26.6%	13.0%	0.0%	100.0%
2012	Croydon	50.0%	28.4%	0.0%	21.6%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	London	41.3%	8.5%	2.6%	34.4%	13.3%	0.0%	100.0%
	England	42.5%	10.9%	5.2%	28.8%	12.6%	0.0%	100.0%
2013	Croydon	38.3%	45.1%	2.6%	14.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	London	40.8%	10.3%	3.1%	32.7%	13.1%	0.0%	100.0%
	England	41.6%	10.8%	4.7%	31.6%	11.3%	0.0%	100.0%

Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

Data shows that in Croydon for 2012 there were more children who were subject of a Child Protection Plan for 6 months to under a year (33.3%) compared to any other length of time. By 2013 this had fallen to 27.6% with the majority of children being subject to a Child Protection Plan for under 3 months.¹⁸

Croydon is comparable to both London and England across all lengths of time, with higher percentages in the shorter periods and lower percentages in the longer periods.

Figure 68 - Percentage of children who became the subject of a Child Protection Plan, by length of time as the subject of a plan for Croydon, London and England 2011-2013



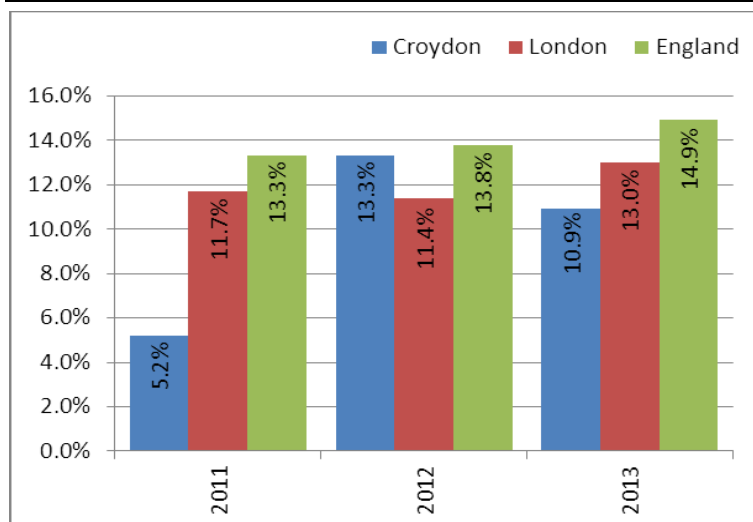
		<3mths	3 to <6mths	6mths to <1yr	1yr but <2yrs	2yrs+
2012	Croydon	21.9%	22.2%	33.3%	17.4%	5.2%
	London	28.9%	20.9%	26.3%	18.3%	5.6%
	England	28.6%	23.4%	27.3%	17.2%	3.6%
2013	Croydon	28.6%	24.7%	27.6%	14.9%	4.2%
	London	26.8%	24.4%	26.8%	17.5%	4.4%
	England	28.7%	25.0%	26.9%	16.2%	3.2%

Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2012 & 2013

The number of children who become the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time should be low as any risks should be addressed the first time children are subject to a CPP. Latest data between 2011 and 2013 shows a peak in 2012, which may be as a result of practitioners picking up issues that were not resolved in 2011 (where the percentage is far lower for Croydon compared to London and England).

¹⁸ Note: Data is not available for 2011. The only length of time data available is for those children who ceased to be the subject of a plan during the year ending 31 March 2012, by length of time as the subject of a plan

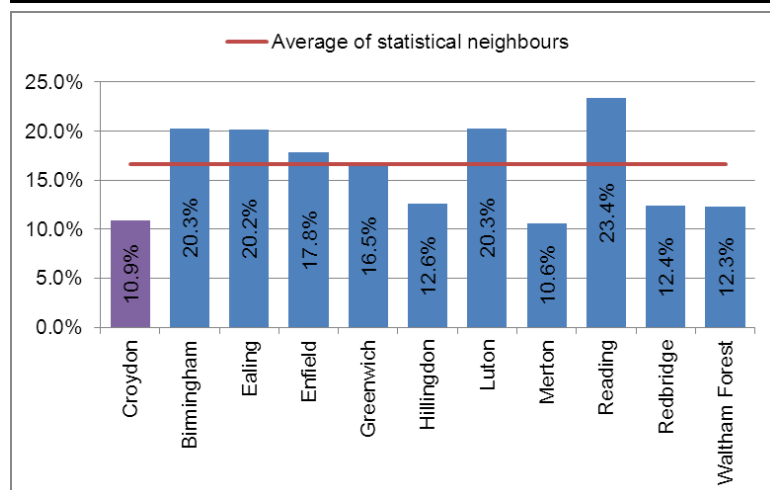
Figure 69a - Percentage of children who became the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time Croydon, London and England 2011-2013



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census, 2011, 2012 & 2013

Despite the peak in 2012, Croydon has a far lower percentage of children becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time, compared to the average (16.6%) for statistical neighbours and the actual performance for all the individual boroughs in the SNN group, with the exception of Merton.

Figure 69b - Percentage of children who became the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time for Croydon and statistical neighbours



Source: Department for Education (DfE), Children in Need Census 2013

11. Overview ‘Looked After Children’

The term ‘Looked After Children and young people’ (LAC) is generally used to mean those looked after by the state and these children will not be living at home.

Children who are normally resident in Croydon who become looked after are referred to as indigenous in this section.

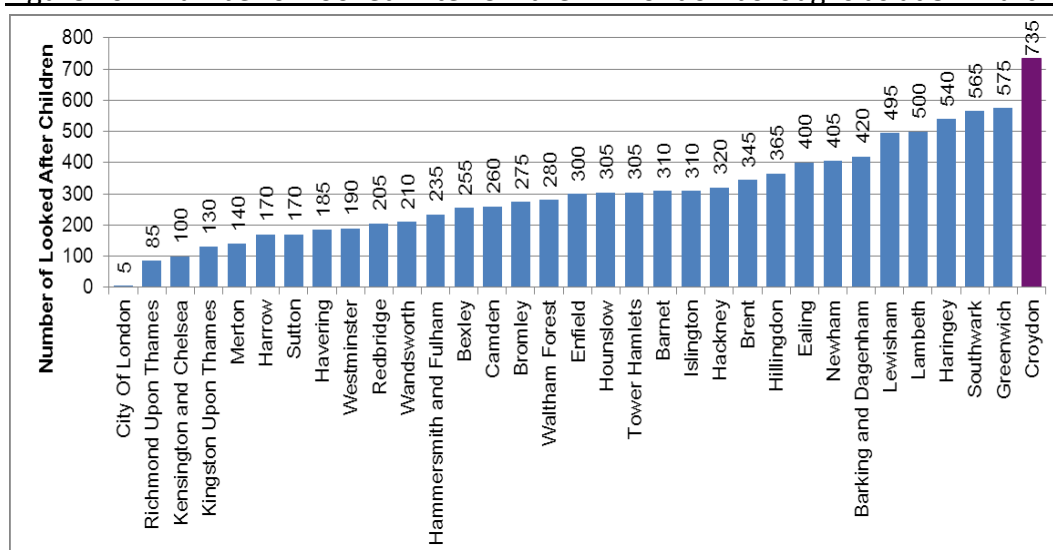
Unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) nationally made up only 5% of asylum seekers in 2013 (Home Office, 2014). However despite the overall small numbers of unaccompanied asylum seeking children nationally these children have a significant impact on service provision locally.

11.1 Profile of Looked After Children

Local unpublished data as at March 14 shows there are currently 797 Looked After Children in Croydon. This cohort is made up of 437 indigenous children and 360 UASC.

Published data as at March 2013 shows the number of Looked After Children in Croydon compared to all other London boroughs.¹⁹

Figure 70 – Number of Looked After Children in London boroughs as at 31 March 2013

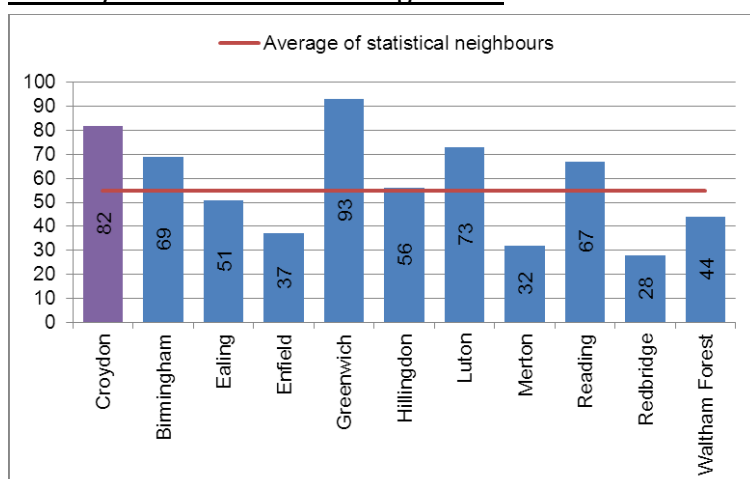


Source: DfE SFR36/2013 Table LA1 (Note: All numbers rounded to the nearest 5)

Croydon has consistently had a higher number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) than any other local authority. In 2013 Croydon had 305 UASC, Kent had the next highest number at 185 (DfE, SFR36/2013, Table LAA4). To put this into context Croydon had over a third of the total number of UASC in London, which was a total of 840 children and young people, and 16% of the national total, which was 1,860.

¹⁹ To note: Published data for all London boroughs as at March 2014 is not yet available

Figure 71 – Rate of looked after children per 10,000 children under 18 as at 31 March 2013 for Croydon and statistical neighbours



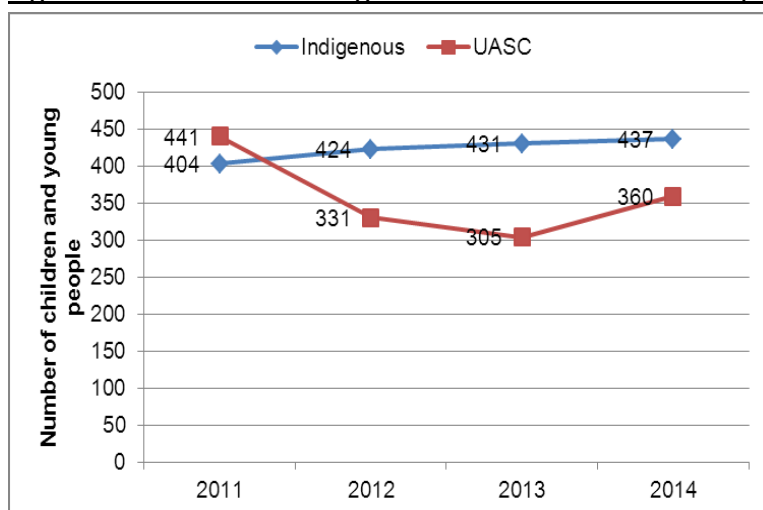
Source: DfE SFR36/2013 Table LA1

Figure 71 shows that Croydon had a higher rate than the average for Croydon's statistical neighbours. However this again is affected by the high numbers of UASC. Croydon still has a lower rate overall than Greenwich which has 93 looked after children per 10,000 children under 18.

Nationally the number of UASC almost halved from 3,890 in 2009 to 1,860 in 2013. Over the same period the number of UASC in Croydon dropped from approximately 685 in 2009 to 305 in 2013. (DfE, SFR36/2013, Table LAA4).

In 2014 the number of UASC has risen again to 360. In comparison the number of indigenous LAC has increased gradually from 2011 to 2014.

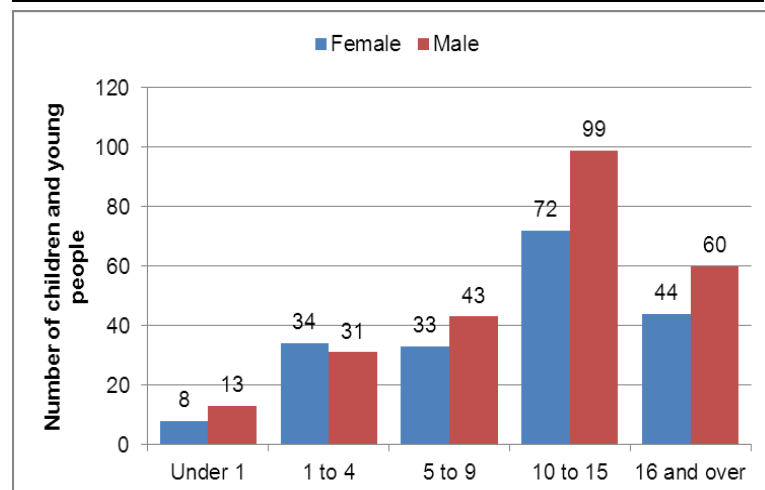
Figure 72 – Number of indigenous and UASC LAC for Croydon (2011-2014)



Source: CRS

The two groups of Looked After Children in Croydon, indigenous and UASC have very different compositions. In terms of the breakdown by age and sex of Croydon's indigenous LAC population, trends have remained fairly constant over the past few years with slightly more boys than girls; in 2014 56% of the indigenous Looked After Children were male. There are also more secondary school aged children than primary school aged children.

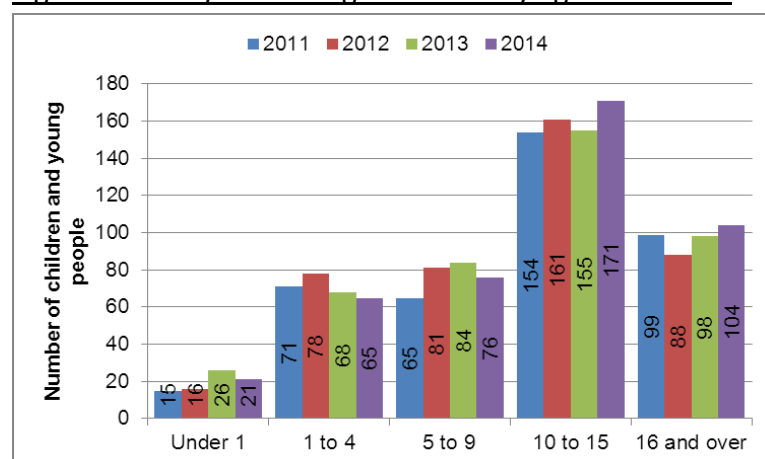
Figure 73 - Croydon's indigenous LAC by age and sex 2014



Source: CRS

There has been little change in the age composition of indigenous Looked After Children for the past few years.

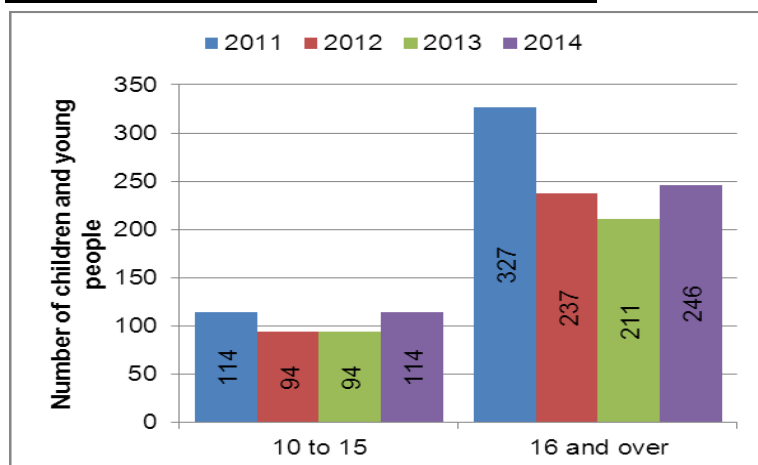
Figure 74 –Croydon's indigenous LAC by age 2011-2014



Source: CRS

The age and sex profile of UASC has also remained fairly constant over the past few years although there has been a drop in the number of older UASC in recent years compared to 2011. There are far more boys than girls amongst UASC; in 2014 86% of UASC were male. 68% of UASC were aged 16 years and over, with the remaining 32% aged between 10 and 15 years.

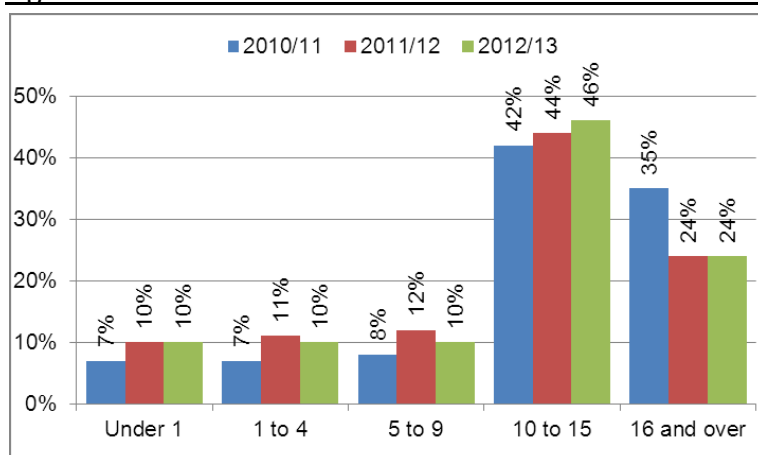
Figure 75 –Croydon’s UASC by age 2011-2014



Source: CRS

The proportions of the children who started to be looked after who were aged under 1, between 1 and 4 years old or between 5 and 9 years old remained relatively equal between 2010/11 and 2012/13. The higher number of UASC account for the large proportion of children aged 10 or over who started to be looked after during this period.

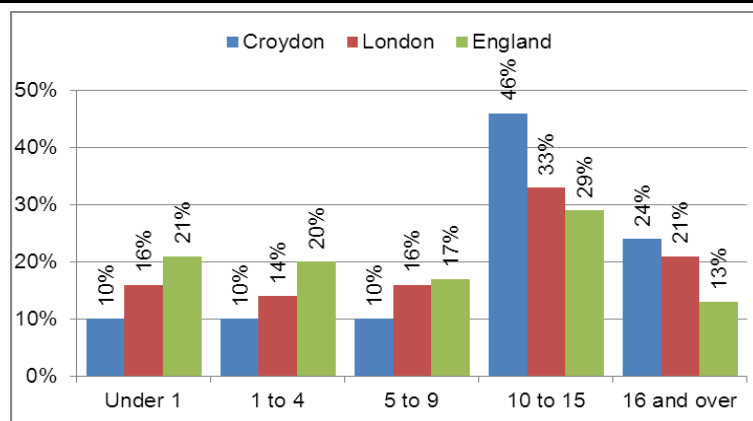
Figure 76 – Children who started to be looked after in Croydon by their age on starting



Sources: DfE SFR21/2011 Table LAC2, DfE SFR20/2012 Table LAC2, DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAC2.

The figures for London and England for 2012/13 show a much lower proportion of children and young people aged over 10. This is because of the lower proportion of UASC in other local authorities.

Figure 77 – Children who started to be looked after in 2012/13 by their age on starting



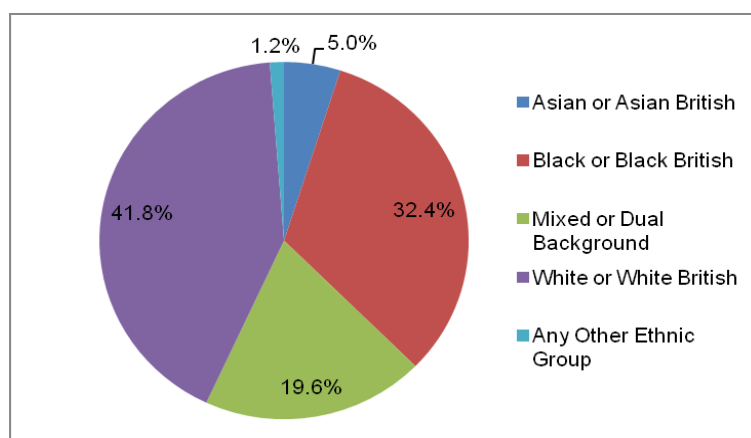
Source: DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAC2.

Ethnicity profile of Croydon's Looked After Children

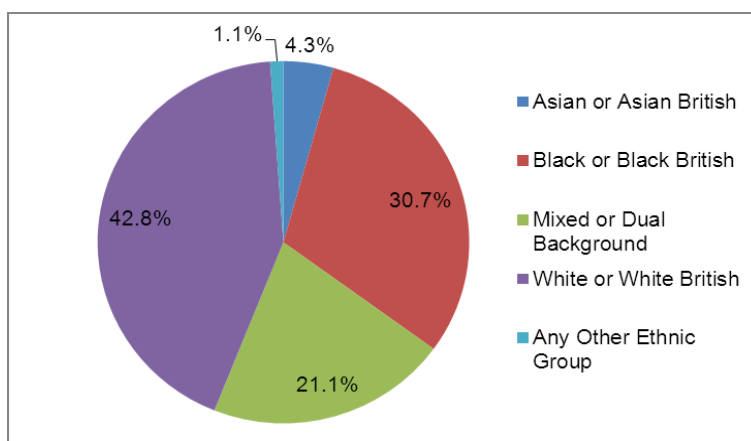
The ethnic profiles of indigenous LAC and UASC are also very different. The ethnic profile of indigenous LAC has remained fairly constant over the past few years, with a larger proportion recorded as 'White or White British' and 'Mixed or Dual Background' compared to the general population.

Figure 78 - Croydon's indigenous LAC in 2011 and 2014 by major ethnic group

2011



2014

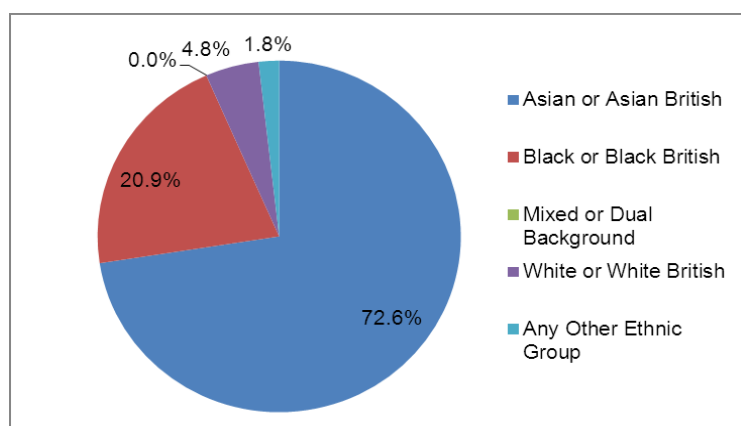


Source: CRS

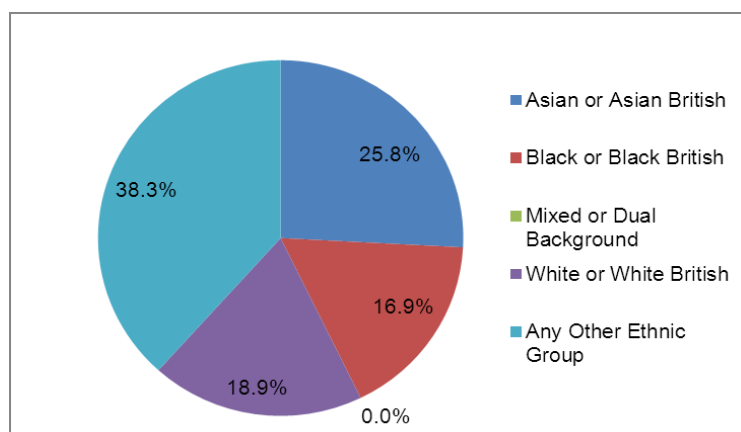
In contrast the ethnic profile of UASC has changed over the past few years

Figure 79 – Croydon’s UASC in 2011 and 2014 by major ethnic group

2011



2014



Source: CRS

The large proportion of UASC from an Asian background in 2011 is linked to the high numbers of UASC from Afghanistan. Similarly the increase in UASC recorded as White or Any Other Ethnic Group in 2014 is linked to the increase in UASC from Albania. This change is shown in the following table (Table 14)

	2011		2012		2013		2014	
	Country	No	Country	No	Country	No	Country	No
1	Afghanistan	241	Afghanistan	162	Afghanistan	106	Albania	152
2	Eritrea	39	Albania	29	Albania	65	Afghanistan	70
3	Iran	22	Eritrea	27	Eritrea	23	Eritrea	31
4	Albania Pakistan	19 19	Iran	22	Iran	21	Vietnam	15

Source: CRS

Most of the countries of birth recorded for UASC are deemed countries of concern by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO, 2014). The main exception to this is Albania. The main countries of birth for UASC differs from the most common nationalities recorded for all asylum seekers nationally. The four most common nationalities for all asylum seekers were Pakistan, Iran, Sri Lanka and Syria in 2013. Eritrea came 5th, Albania 6th and Afghanistan 8th (Home Office, 2014).

Religious profile of Croydon's Looked After Children

The religion of indigenous LAC is not well recorded. In 2014 this information was not provided for 45% of all indigenous LAC. Of those who did have a religion recorded the majority were classified as Christian (46% of the total indigenous LAC). Recording of religion is better for the UASC with only 16% of records missing this information. The picture of religious affiliation amongst UASC appears to be different. Only 17% of UASC are recorded as Christian, whilst 65% are recorded as Muslim. The large proportion of UASC recorded as Muslim is linked to the high numbers of UASC from Afghanistan and Albania. There are only very small numbers of indigenous and UASC LAC who were recorded as Hindu, Buddhist or Sikh. The picture of religious affiliation for both indigenous and UASC LAC has remained fairly unchanged over the past four years.

Recorded languages for Croydon's UASC

The most commonly recorded languages for UASC reflects the decrease in the number of UASC from Afghanistan and the increase in UASC from Albania. Pashto and Dari are both spoken in Afghanistan whilst Tigrinya is spoken in Eritrea.

Table 15 – Recorded languages for Croydon's UASC 2011-2014

	2011		2012		2013		2014	
	Language	No	Language	No	Language	No	Language	No
1	Pashto	174	Pashto	117	Pashto	77	Albanian	141
2	Dari	61	Dari	41	Albanian	72	Pashto	53
3	Tigrinya	31	Albanian	29	Dari	29	Tigrinya	26
4	Albanian	19	Tigrinya	16	Tigrinya	20	Arabic	20

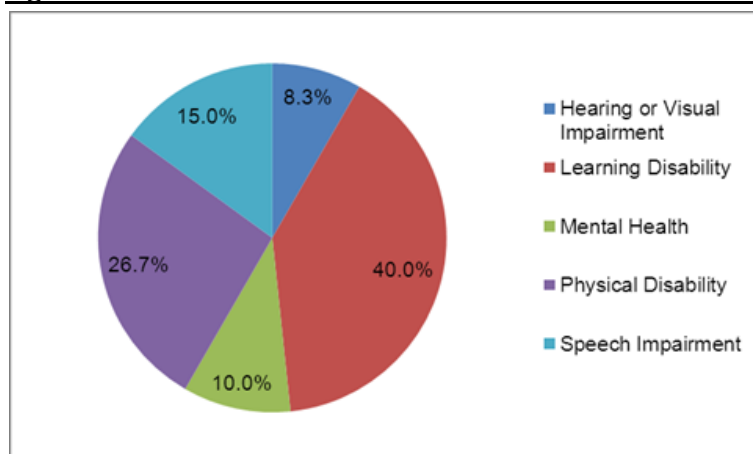
Source: CRS

However this hides the diversity of languages spoken by UASC; in 2014 over 25 different languages were recorded. The total number and variety of languages spoken by UASC varies year on year.

11.2 Looked After Children with Disabilities

5.9% of Looked After Children are recorded as having a disability. This includes children and young people who are looked after as a result of their disability. The following chart shows the breakdown of the type of disability for these children and young people where this has been recorded. The highest proportion of Looked After Children with a recorded disability had a learning disability (40%) following by physical disability (26.7%).

Figure 80 - Looked After Children with a recorded disability – December 2013

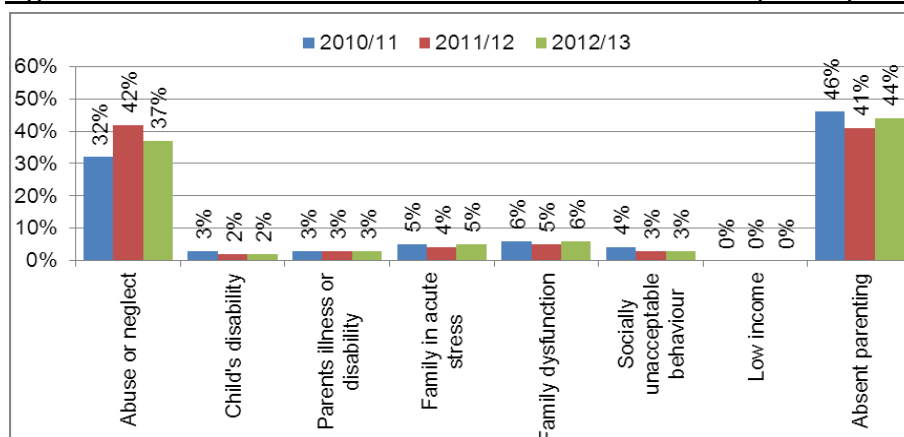


Source: CRS

11.3 Looked After Children – Overview of Need (2011/2013)

Children become looked after for a range of reasons. Some children and young people receive support from social services because of their disability. These children are often looked after in short term placements to provide respite care. The total number of children looked after in short term placements is relatively small and has fallen from approximately 35 in 2011 to approximately 10 in 2013 (SFR36/2013 Table LAB1). This section focuses on children who receive longer term care. The highest categories of need for all three years are 'Abuse or neglect' and 'Absent parenting'

Figure 81 – Children who started to be looked after in Croydon by category of need²⁰

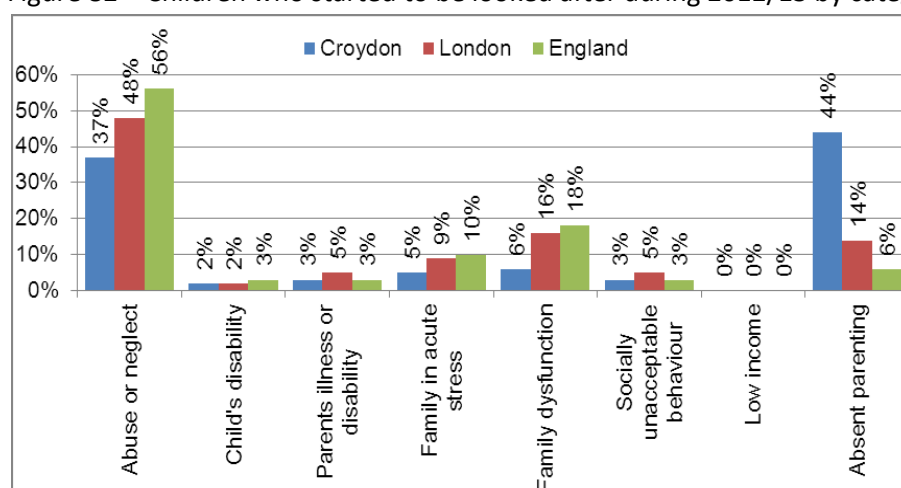


Sources: DfE SFR21/2011 Table LAC4, DfE SFR20/2012 Table LAC4, DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAC4.

²⁰ To note: Looked After Children category of need data for March 2014 is not yet available

There has been some variation in the proportion of children and young people who became looked after because of abuse or neglect or due to absent parenting over the past few years. The majority of Looked After Children affected by absent parenting are UASC so it is reasonable to assume the variation seen is linked to the variation in the total number of UASC over this period. Croydon has a higher proportion of children and young people who become looked after because of absent parenting than London and England. Again this is affected by the large numbers of UASC in the borough, which becomes evident when compared local proportions (44%) to regional (14%) and national proportions (6%).

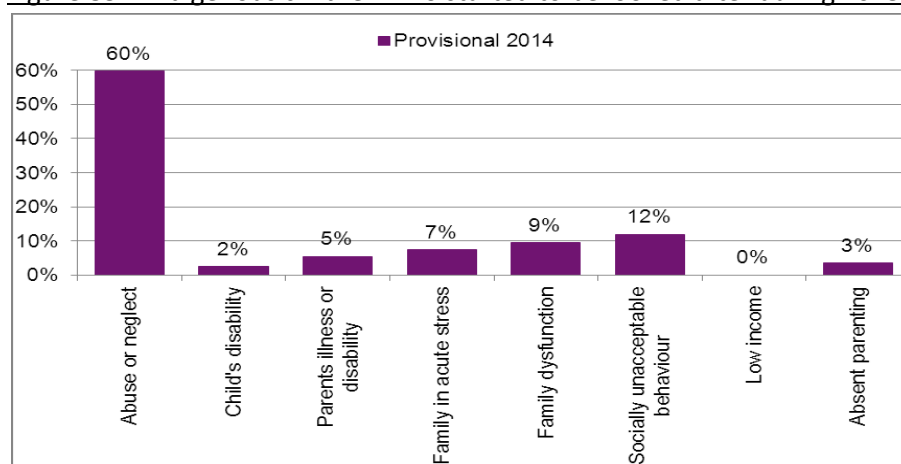
Figure 82 – Children who started to be looked after during 2012/13 by category of need



Source: DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAC4

The provisional data for 2013/14 shows that almost all of the children who started to be looked after because of absent parenting were UASC. Figure x shows the breakdown of category of need for those children who started to be looked after who were indigenous to the borough. This clearly shows the distorting effect the UASC have on the overall figures. The percentage of indigenous LAC who started to be looked after because of abuse or neglect, or because of socially unacceptable behaviour is significantly higher than the historic regional and national averages.

Figure 83 – Indigenous children who started to be looked after during 2013/14 by category of need



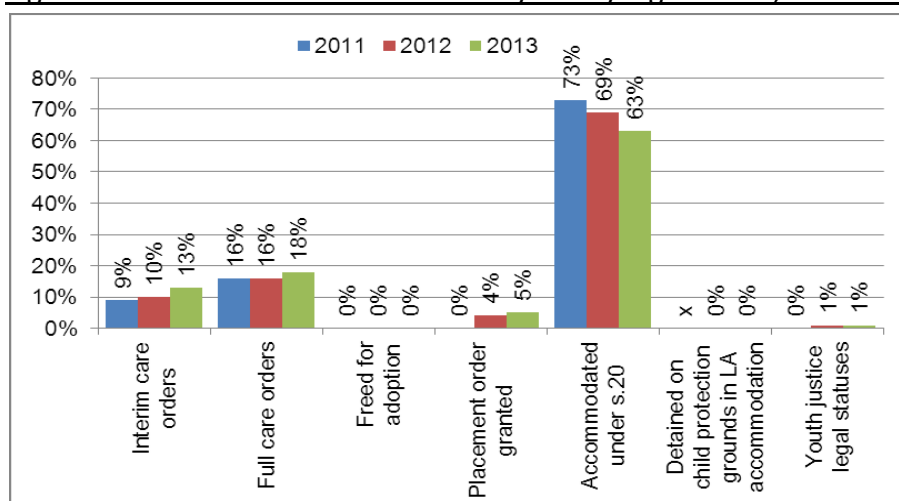
Source: CRS

11.4 Looked After Children – Legal Status Summary (2011/13)

Section 20 is the section of the Children Act 1989 which states that a local authority must provide accommodation for a child or young person if they have no one who has parental responsibility for them or if the person with parental responsibility is unable to provide suitable accommodation. The local authority may also provide accommodation for a child or young person under section 20 if they believe that doing so will safeguard the child or promote their welfare.

All UASC are accommodated under section 20, which explains the high proportion of Looked After Children with this legal status over the past three years, 73% in 2011, 69% in 2012 and 63% in 2013.

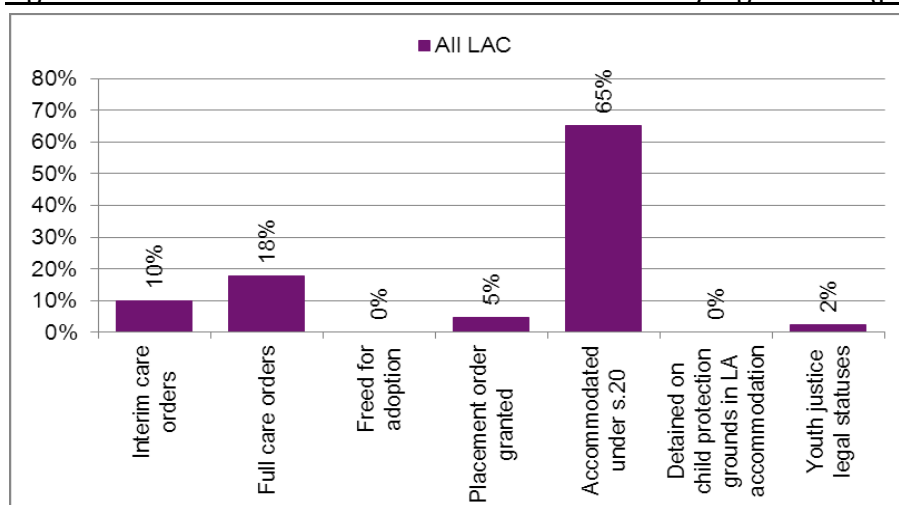
Figure 84 – Children looked after in Croydon by legal status, 2011-2013



Sources: DfE SFR21/2011 Table LAA2, DfE SFR20/2012 Table LAA2, DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAA2.

The provisional figures for 2014 show broadly the same picture as in previous years at 65%.

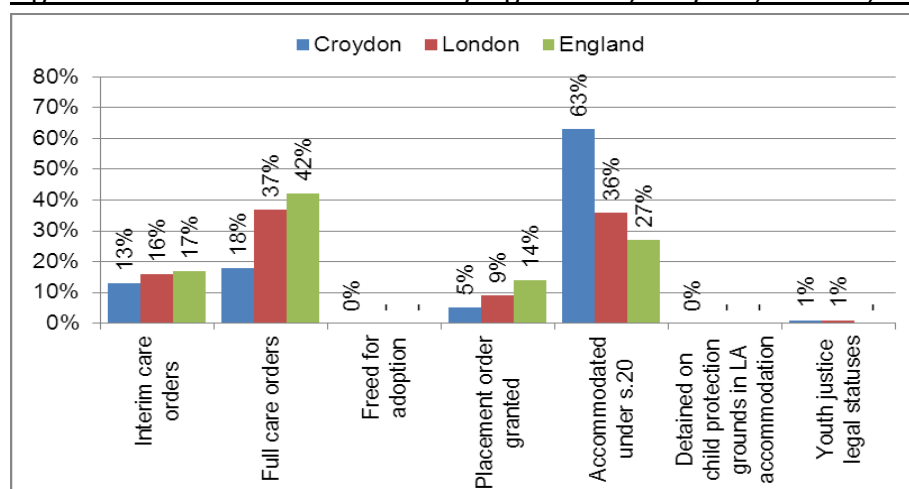
Figure 85 – Children looked after at 31 March 2014 by legal status (provisional)



Source: CRS

The effect of the UASC on Croydon's figures can clearly be shown by comparing these with the regional and national averages.

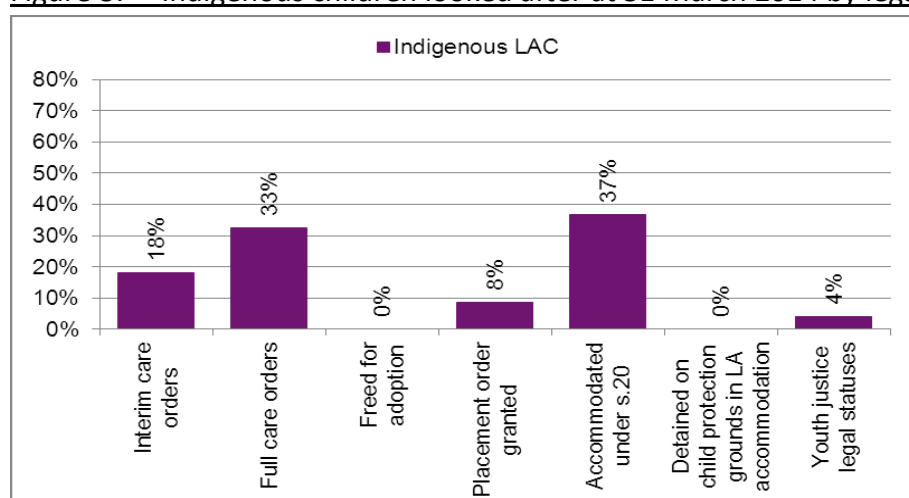
Figure 86 – Children looked after by legal status, Croydon, London, England 2013



Source: DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAA2

Figure 87 shows the legal statuses of indigenous looked after children in 2014. This more closely resembles the regional averages for 2013.

Figure 87 – Indigenous children looked after at 31 March 2014 by legal status (provisional)



Source: CRS

11.5 Looked After Children - Placement Overview (2011/2013)

Most Looked After Children in Croydon are placed with foster carers, which has increased by 10% in recent years, from 67% in 2011 to 77% in 2013. Children placed in other placement types has reduced over the same period, 'Secure units, children's homes and hostels' has reduced from 13% (2011) to 5% (2013) and children placed in 'Other placement in the community' has reduced from 15% (2011) to 12% (2013).

Table 14 – Children looked after in Croydon by placement type March 2013²¹

	Foster placements	Placed for adoption	Placement with parents	Other placement in the community	Secure units, children's homes and hostels	Other residential settings	Residential schools	Missing - Absent for more than 24 hours from agreed placement	Other placement
2011	67%	x	1%	15%	13%	1%	1%	x	0%
2012	73%	2%	1%	13%	8%	1%	x	x	0%
2013	77%	2%	x	12%	5%	1%	1%	x	0%

Note: x is used where the percentages are too small to be published for confidentiality reasons. – designates a negligible percentage below 0.5%. Sources: DfE SFR21/2011 Table LAA3, DfE SFR20/2012 Table LAA3, DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAA3

Comparing local data to London and England shows that a lower proportion of Looked After Children in Croydon were placed in secure units, children's homes and hostels than the regional and national averages; however a higher proportion were in other placements in the community.

Table 15 – Children looked after at 31 March 2013 by placement type

	Foster placements	Placed for adoption	Placement with parents	Other placement in the community	Secure units, children's homes and hostels	Other residential settings	Residential schools	Missing - Absent for more than 24 hours from agreed placement	Other placement
Croydon	77%	2%	x	12%	5%	1%	1%	x	0%
London	75%	4%	2%	5%	10%	2%	2%	-	0%
England	75%	5%	5%	3%	9%	2%	1%	-	-

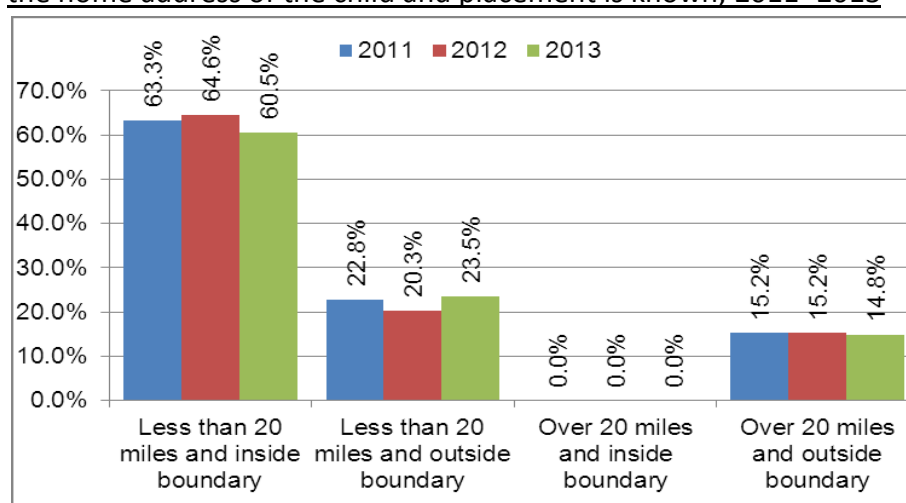
Note: x is used where the percentages are too small to be published for confidentiality reasons. – designates a negligible percentage below 0.5%.

Source: DfE SFR36/2013, Table LAA3

²¹ To note: Data for March 2014 by placement type is not yet available

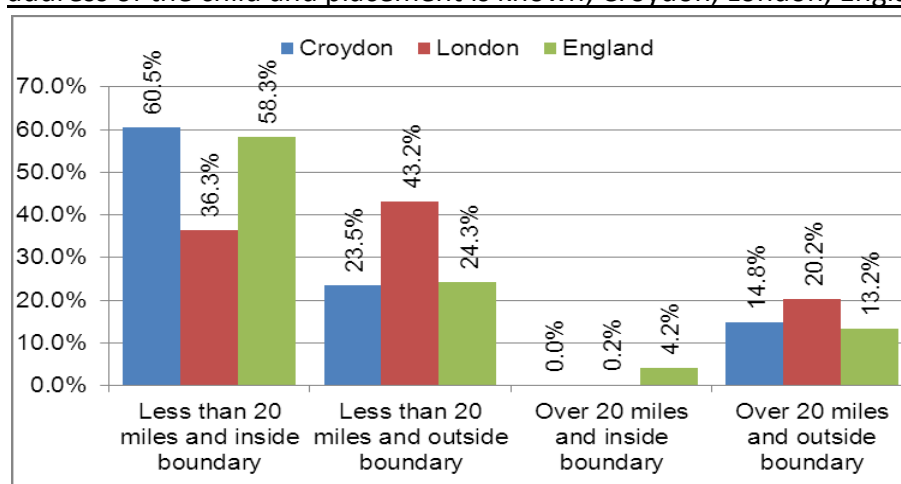
Local authorities should ensure that Looked After Children are placed within 20 miles of their home unless it is in the child's best interests to be placed further away, for example in cases involving gangs. Over the three year period the majority of children placed by Croydon, where the distance between the home address of the child and the placement is known, are placed within 20 miles of their home, 63.3% in 2011 and 60.5% in 2013. This is significantly better than the London average at 36.2% in 2013, regional data shows a far higher proportion of children being placed less than 20 miles outside the boundary at 43.2%.

Figure 88 – Placements of Looked After Children in Croydon where the distance between the home address of the child and placement is known, 2011- 2013



Sources: DfE SFR21/2011 Table LAA6, DfE SFR20/2012 Table LAA6, DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAA6²²

Figure 89 – Placements of Looked After Children where the distance between the home address of the child and placement is known, Croydon, London, England, March 2013



Source: DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAA6.

The distance between the home address and placement was unknown for 45% of LAC in Croydon in 2013 (SFR36/2013 Table LAA6). This is due to the high numbers of UASC.

²² To note: Data for March 2014 by placement type is not yet available

11.6 Overview of children who ceased to be looked after

There were approximately 445 children who ceased to be looked after in 2011 compared to only 345 in 2013, which is probably linked to a fall in the number of UASC in previous years. Unofficial data for 2014 shows that the number of children ceased to be looked after during the year was approximately 335 as at March 2014.

Table 16 – Children who ceased to be looked after in Croydon during the year ending 31 March by reason episode ceased 2011-2013 and provisional data 2014

	All children who ceased to be looked after during the year ending 31 March	Adopted - application unopposed	Adopted - consent dispensed with	Died	Care taken by another LA	Returned home to live with parents or relatives	Residence order granted
2011	445	5	x	x	x	75	x
2012	415	10	0	x	x	75	x
2013	345	25	0	0	x	80	x
2014	335	20	5	0	x	65	5

Note: x is used where the figures are too small to be published for confidentiality reasons. All figures have been rounded to the nearest 5

Special guardianship orders have increased over the past three years from less than five in 2011 to approximately 20 in 2013. These give parental responsibility to a special guardian. Special guardians can be relatives or foster carers. Between 2011 and 2013 unopposed adoptions have also increased. A proportion of care leavers (approximately 19% in 2014) return home to their parents. However most care leavers (40% in 2014) are recorded as having 'Other reasons' for leaving care, this is linked to the large number of UASC in the borough.

Table 17 – Children who ceased to be looked after during the year ending by reason episode ceased 2011-2013

	Special guardianship order made to former foster carers	Special guardianship order made to carers other than former foster carers	Moved into independent living (with supportive accommodation)	Moved into independent living (with no formalised support)	Transferred to residential care funded by adult social services	Sentenced to custody	Care ceased for any other reason
2011	x	x	5	0	X	10	325
2012	10	x	X	0	0	5	305
2013	10	10	X	X	X	5	200

Note: x is used where the figures are too small to be published for confidentiality reasons. All figures have been rounded to the nearest 5

Sources: DfE SFR21/2011 Table LAD2, DfE SFR20/2012 Table LAD2, DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAD2

Table 18 – Children who ceased to be looked after during the year by reason episode ceased ending 31 March 2014 (provisional)

	Special guardianship order made to former foster carers	Special guardianship order made to carers other than former foster carers	Moved into independent living (with supportive accommodation)	Moved into independent living (with no formalised support)	Transferred to residential care funded by adult social services	Sentenced to custody	Care ceased for any other reason
2014	5	30	5	x	50	15	135

Note: x is used where the figures are too small to be published for confidentiality reasons. All figures have been rounded to the nearest 5. Source: CRS

11.7 Outcomes for Looked After Children – Education

Attainment at Key Stage 1

Croydon has fewer younger Looked After Children and as a result the number of Looked After Children who were eligible to sit Key Stage 1 tasks and tests over the past few years has been very small, only around 10 pupils each year. This means that the individual performance of one or two pupils can have a dramatic effect on the overall figure for Croydon. In 2010 and 2011 the number of pupils achieving Level 2 or above, which is the expected level of attainment, was too small to be published. In 2012 attainment at Key Stage 1 for Looked After Children was in line with overall attainment Croydon, London and England. Data for 2013 shows that attainment levels for this cohort has fallen to below average.

Table 19 – Percentage of children who were looked after continuously for at least 12 months who achieved Level 2 or above at Key Stage 1

	Year	Number eligible for Key Stage 1 assessments	Percentage achieving at least Level 2 in the following		
			Reading	Writing	Mathematics
Croydon	2012	10	92	92	92
	2013	10	64	55	73
London	2012	190	69	62	69
	2013	210	69	62	70
England	2012	1,720	69	61	71
	2013	1670	67	57	71

Sources: DfE SFR32/2012 Table LA1 and DfE SFR50/2013 Table LA1. Note: Numbers of eligible pupils has been rounded to the nearest 5 for Croydon and the nearest 10 for London and England. 2013 data are provisional as the final results for pupils were not available at the time of release.

Table 20 – Percentage of pupils achieving at least Level 2 at Key Stage 1

	Year	Percentage achieving at least Level 2 in the following		
		Reading	Writing	Mathematics
Croydon	2012	88	83	90
	2013	90	86	92
London	2012	87	83	90
	2013	89	86	92
England	2012	87	83	91
	2013	89	85	91

Note: 2013 data are revised.

Source: DfE SFR37/2013, Table 16.

Attainment at Key Stage 2

The number of Looked After Children eligible to sit Key Stage 2 tasks and tests over the past few years has again been very small, approximately 10 pupils.

In 2010 and 2012 the number of Croydon Looked After Children pupils achieving Level 4 or more, which is the expected level of attainment, was too small to be published. For the years where data was published the charts show that the percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or more in mathematics or reading varied. The data for London and England are more complete and are based on much larger cohorts. These show an overall increase in the percentages of Looked After Children achieving Level 4 or more in mathematics and in reading over the period.

Data for 2011 shows the percentage of Looked After Children in Croydon achieving Level 4 or above in mathematics was above London and England at 64%, in 2013 this percentage reduce to 53% below the regional and national averages which had improved over the same period. This compares to Key stage 2 attainment Level 4 or above in mathematics for the overall pupil population was 84% for Croydon, 87% for London and 85% for England in 2013

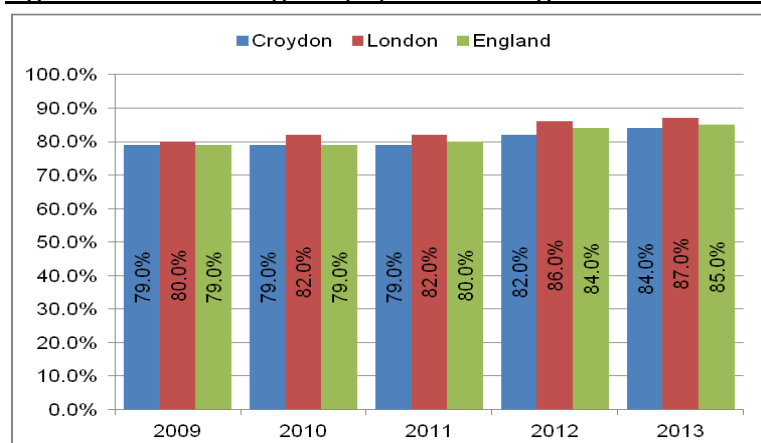
Figure 90 – Percentage of children who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months who achieved Level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 mathematics test



*Note: * is used where the number of eligible LAC was too small for the attainment data to be published. 2013 data are provisional.*

Source: DfE SFR50/2013 Table LA2

Figure 91 – Percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or more at Key Stage 2 in mathematics



Note: 2013 data are revised. Croydon and London figures are for state-funded schools only. England figures include all schools.

Source: DfE Local Authority Interactive Tool April 2014 edition.

The gap between the attainment of Looked After Children and the general population can also be seen for reading. Data for 2011 shows the percentage of Looked After Children in Croydon achieving Level 4 or above in reading was also above London and England at 64%, in 2013 this percentage reduce to 60%, below the regional and national averages which had improved over the same period.

This compares to Key stage 2 attainment Level 4 or above in reading for the overall pupil population was 87% for Croydon, 88% for London and 86% for England in 2013

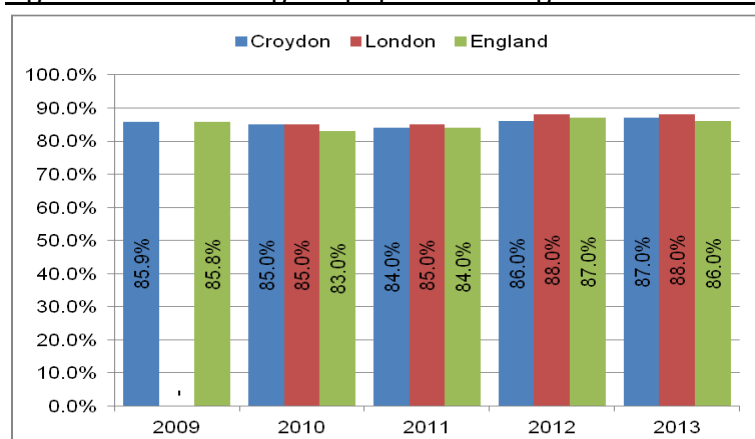
Figure 92 – Percentage of children who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months who achieved Level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 reading test.



*Note: * is used where the number of eligible LAC was too small for the attainment data to be published. 2013 data are provisional.*

Source: DfE SFR50/2013 Table LA2

Figure 93 – Percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or above at Key Stage 2 in reading



Note: - data not available. 2013 data are revised. Croydon and London figures are for state-funded schools only. England figures include all schools.

Source: DfE Local Authority Interactive Tool April 2014 edition.

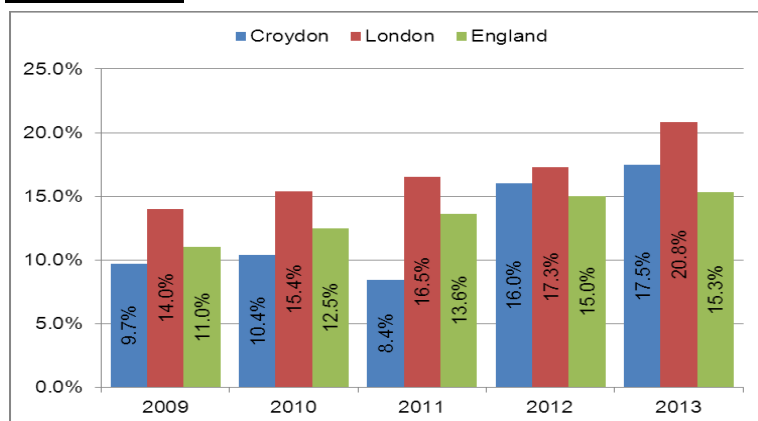
Attainment at Key Stage 4

There are higher numbers of Looked After Children eligible to sit GCSEs due to the age profile of Looked After Children. Data shows that attainment levels at Key Stage 4 (5 or more GCSEs at A*-C including maths or English) has been improving since 2011 when the percentage of this cohort achieving this level of attainment was 8.4% increasing to 17.5% in 2013. Local performance levels are currently below London (20.8%) but above England (15.3%).

Key Stage 4 (5 or more GCSEs at A*-C including maths or English) attainment levels for the overall pupil population in Croydon has been improving over time and in 2013 64% pupils achieved this level of attainment compared to 65% for London and 59% for England.

The JSNA on Looked After Children in 2011 noted that attainment levels of UASC lower the overall average for Looked After Children and that local studies of the indigenous Looked After Children found they outperformed the national average.

Figure 94 – Percentage of children who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months achieving 5 or more GCSEs at A*-C or equivalent including English or mathematics for all schools



Note: 2013 data are provisional.

Source: DfE SFR50/2013, Table LA3

11.8 Outcomes for Looked After Children – Health and development

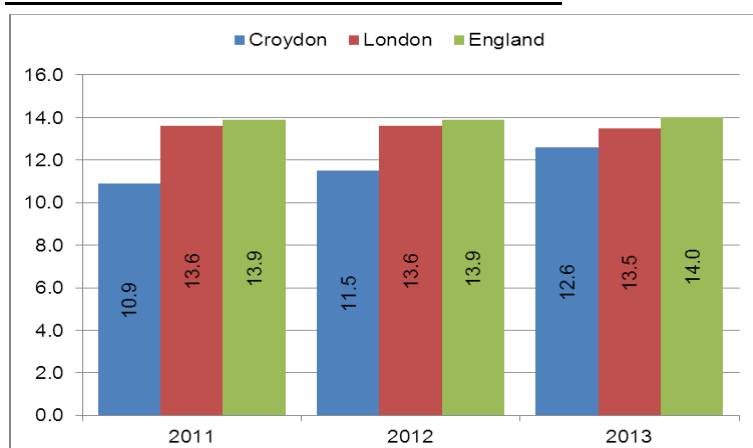
According to NICE approximately 60% of Looked After Children are reported to have emotional and mental health problems (NICE, 2013, QS31).

Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire

Local authorities are required to assess the emotional and behavioural health of all Looked After Children between the ages of 4 and 16. This is done through the strengths and difficulties questionnaire (SDQ). The following graph shows the average SDQ score for Looked After Children from 2011 to 2013. Please note that these data are only reported for children aged 5 to 16 who had been looked after for at least 12 months as at 31 March.

A score under 14 is considered normal, scores between 14 and 16 are a borderline cause for concern and scores of 17 or over are considered a cause for concern. In 2013 59% of Looked After Children in Croydon had a normal score compared to 50% of Looked After Children nationally. Only 30% of Looked After Children in Croydon had a score that was a cause for concern compared to 38% nationally. However in 2012 in Croydon 65% of Looked After Children had a normal score and only 21% had a score that was a cause for concern.

Figure 95 – Average SDQ score for children who were aged 5 to 16 and had been looked after for at least 12 months as at 31 March

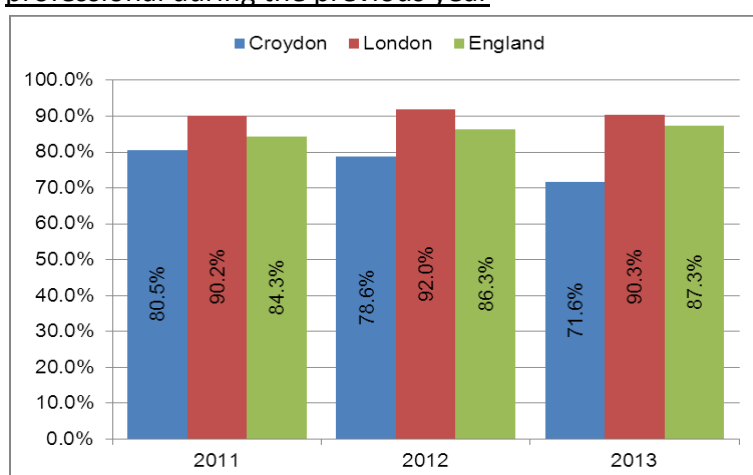


Source: DfE SFR50/2013, Table LA7.

Annual Health Assessments

Every looked after child over the age of five has to have an annual health assessment. Looked After Children under five have to have a health assessment every six months. Croydon has consistently remained below the regional and national averages for annual health assessments over the past three years.

Figure 96 - Percentage of Looked After Children who were looked after for at least 12 months as at 31 March who had received their annual health assessment from a qualified professional during the previous year



Sources: DfE SFR30/2011, Table LA6; DfE SFR32/2012, Table LA6; DfE SFR50/2013, Table LA6.

Dental checks

Looked After Children must also have regular dental checks. Over the last three years Croydon has consistently been behind the London average for dental checks, however for two of these years Croydon was in line with the national average.

Figure 97 - Percentage of Looked After Children who were looked after for at least 12 months as at 31 March who had had their teeth checked by a dentist during the previous year

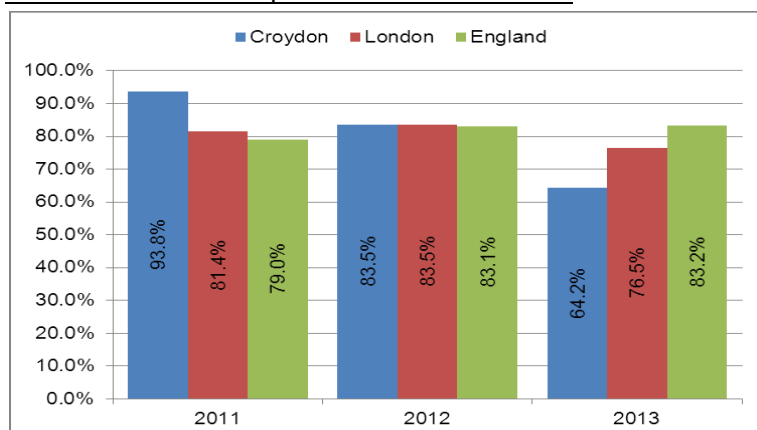


Sources: DfE SFR30/2011, Table LA6; DfE SFR32/2012, Table LA6; DfE SFR50/2013, Table LA6.

Immunisations²³

Whether Looked After Children have up-to-date immunisations is also recorded. This looks at whether they have received all of their immunisations in line with the Department for Health's guidance. Performance in Croydon has fallen in the last three years from 93.8% in 2011 to 64.2% in 2013. Local performance for 2011 was above the regional and national averages to below them in 2013.

Figure 98 –Percentage of children who had been looked after for at least 12 months whose immunisations were up-to-date as at 31 March.



Sources: DfE SFR30/2011, Table LA6; DfE SFR32/2012, Table LA6; DfE SFR50/2013, Table LA6.

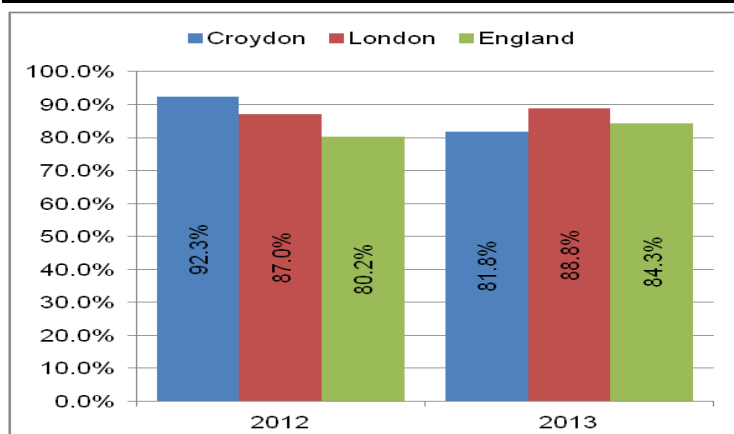
Development Assessments

Development Assessment data are recorded for Looked After Children under 5 years old who have been looked after continuously for at least 12 months. These show whether these children have up-to-date Health Surveillance or Health Promotion Checks. These data have

²³ To note: The SFR states that there was underreporting of immunisations and development assessments for under 5s for some local authorities.

only been published since 2012. Croydon has seen a drop in the number of LAC with up-to-date checks between 2012 and 2013.

Figure 99 –Percentage of children who had been looked after for at least 12 months whose development assessments were up-to-date as at 31 March



Sources: DfE SFR32/2012, Table LA6; DfE SFR50/2013, Table LA6.

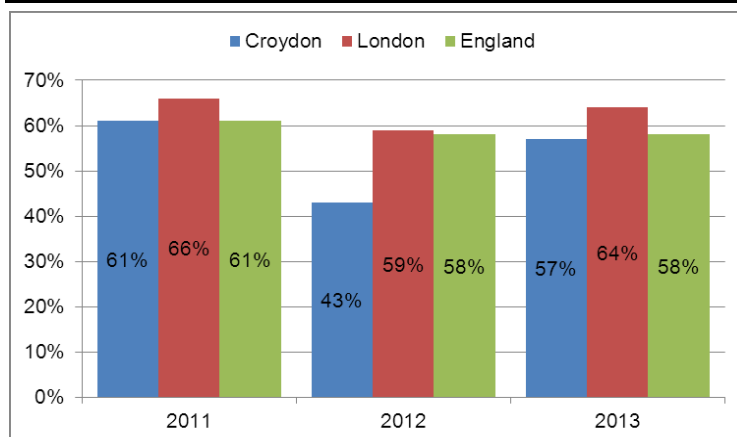
11.9 Outcomes for Care Leavers

In education, employment or training

Overall care leavers are less likely to be in education, employment or training than their peers. In 2011 and 2013 the council was not in touch with approximately 20% of 19 year old care leavers, which impacts on data for this area. Whilst this may mean that there was a higher proportion of care leavers in education, employment or training this seems unlikely. In 2012 the council was not in touch with just 6% of 19 year old care leavers.

Latest data for 2013 shows that 57% of 19 year old care leavers were known to be in education, employment or training locally, compared to 64% across London and 58% across England.

Figure 100 – Percentage of children aged 19 years old who were looked after when they were 16 years old who were known to be in education, employment or training

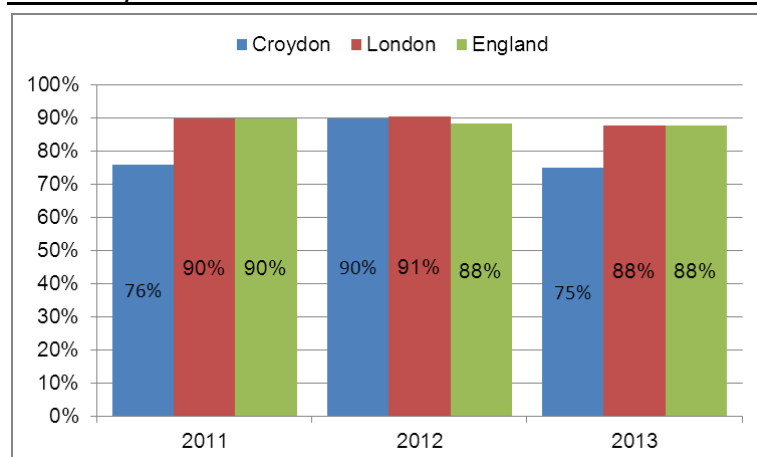


Source: DfE SFR21/2011 Table LAF1, DfE SFR20/2012 Table LAF1, DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAF1

Suitable accommodation

The council has a duty to ensure that all Looked After Children are found suitable accommodation when leaving care. Data shows that for two of the last three years Croydon has been below the regional and national averages for 19 year old care leavers known to be in suitable accommodation. In 2013 75% of care leavers in Croydon were known to be in suitable accommodation compared to 88% for both London and England. Figures for 2011 and 2013 could be affected by the council not being in touch with a significant proportion of 19 year old care leavers.

Figure 101 - Percentage of children aged 19 years old who were looked after when they were 16 years old who were known to be in suitable accommodation



Source: DfE SFR21/2011 Table LAF2, DfE SFR20/2012 Table LAF2, DfE SFR36/2013 Table LAF2

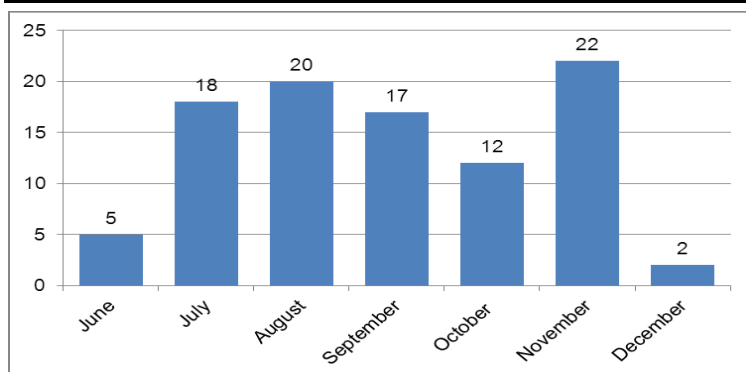
12. Summary analysis of Looked After Children Caseload Sample

Purpose of sample analysis²⁴

A deep dive on 250 cases that were referred to social care²⁵ within the last 6 months (June to December 2013) was undertaken in order to develop an evaluation framework and entry criteria for FFT, FRS and CYPRS. It will evidence cost savings by identifying the key characteristics of young people and children where they would be on a likely trajectory to enter the care system or be placed on a child protection plan. Below is the analysis of these cases²⁶.

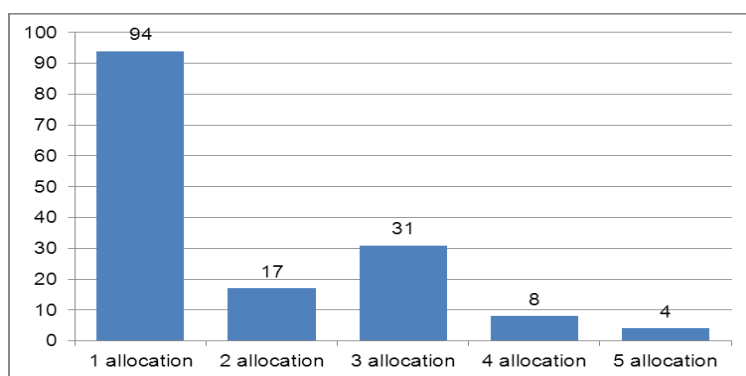
Of these 250 cases reviewed in the period June to December 2013, 96 (38%) were Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC).

Figure 102 Number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, June to December 2013



Of the 154 cases that were not UASC, most (61%) cases were allocated one social worker before being placed onto a child protection (CP) plan or into care, whilst 7% of cases had 4 or more social workers allocated before this action was taken.

Figure 103 - Number of times the child has been allocated a social worker before being placed on a CP plan or into care, June to December 2013



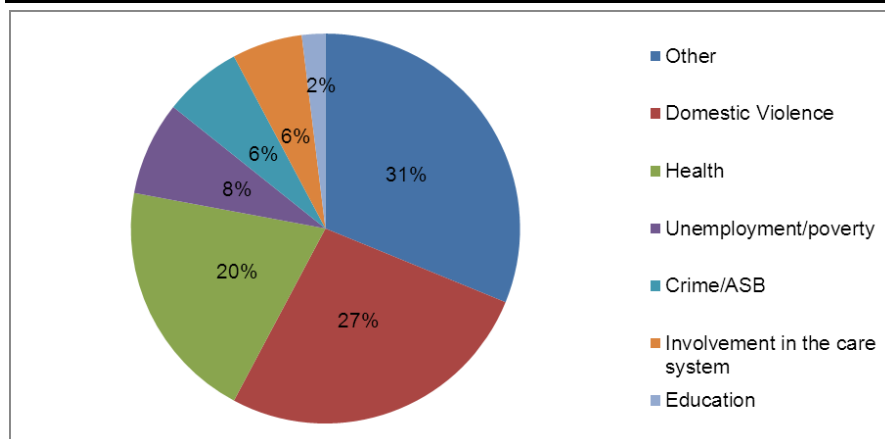
²⁴ See Appendix A for the deep dive methodology

²⁵ See Appendix B for the different stages of referral to social care

²⁶ Please note the analyses are per child and not per family

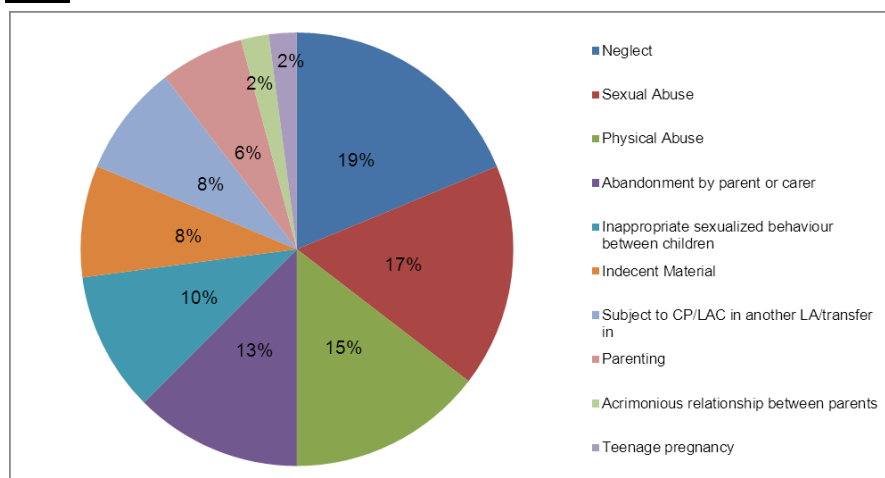
Of the 154 cases analysed (excluding UASC), the main reason for referral²⁷ into social care was for other (31%), domestic violence (27%) and health (20%). The lowest was for education reasons at 2%.

Figure 104 - Reason for being referred to social care, June to December 2013



In terms of the other referral category, neglect, sexual and physical abuse accounted for half of this category.

Figure 105 - Reason for being referred to social care, other category, June to December 2013



To note additional data to be added:

- *Number of contacts between initial point of contact to Social Care and allocation*
- *Age at point of going into care or being placed on a child protection plan*

Data queried above as these data does not sum to the 154 cases excluding UASC.

²⁷ See appendix C for a definition of what is included for specific referral categories

Of the 154 cases analysed (excluding UASC) within June to December 2013, 100 (65%) were added to a CP plan 49 (32%) were placed into care, and 5 (3%) were placed on a CP plan and placed into care. The ratio of children that were placed on a CP plan compared to those placed in care was 2:1.

Table 21 - Number of cases added to CP plan or into care or both, June to December 2013

Placement type	Cases	Percentage
Number of cases added to a Child Protection plan	100	65%
Number of cases placed into care	49	32%
Number of cases that have been placed on a CP Plan and placed into care	5	3%
Total	154	100%

13. Looked After Children Projection Models

Based on the findings within this needs assessment it is reasonable to assume that simply based on projected population growth, the number of families impacted by factors such as deprivation, housing, crime and domestic violence, substance misuse and mental health will increase over time.

The increasing diversity of the local population and projected increases in diversity particularly in relation to 0-19yr population will also to the complexity of issues affecting families in Croydon.

Projection models in this section focus on the indigenous LAC population, using population projections and previous trends as the basis for projecting growth for this cohort. There are four separate scenarios which show low, medium and high projections. There are no specific projections for LAC who are UASC as it not possible to predict the international events that will impact on these numbers in the future.

(See Appendix 11 for single years)

Table 22 - Current LAC trends and population projections:

	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024	2026	2028	2030
0-17 population (GLA capped SHLAA)	84,650	86,020	87,920	89,786	91,389	93,179	94,773	96,683	98,267	98,935	98,662	98,299	97,763
Actual number indigenous LAC (rounded)	390	355	425	415	435								
Rate of indigenous LAC per 10,000 population under 18	46	41	48	46	48								

Note: 2014 number of indigenous LAC is a provisional estimate based on the latest data available

Table 23 - Scenario 1 Low - Continue at estimated rate of indigenous LAC per 10000 population under 18 for 2014

This scenario assumes that the indigenous LAC population will grow in line with overall population projections (using GLA capped SHLAA projections) and uses the number of LAC in 2014 as the baseline.

Scenario 1 - Continue at estimated rate of indigenous LAC per 10000 population under 18 for 2014													
	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024	2026	2028	2030
Estimated number of indigenous LAC	390	355	425	415	435	445	450	460	470	470	470	470	465

Note: 2014 number of indigenous LAC is a provisional estimate based on the latest data available

Table 24 - Scenario 2 Low - Application of average rate of indigenous LAC per 10000 population under 18 for the period 2011-2014

This scenario assumes that the indigenous LAC population will grow in line with overall population projections (using GLA capped SHLAA projections) and uses the average rate of LAC over the period 2011-2014 (2014 is provisional) as the baseline.

	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024	2026	2028	2030
Estimated number of indigenous LAC	390	355	425	415	435	435	440	450	455	460	460	455	455

Note: 2014 number of indigenous LAC is a provisional estimate based on the latest data available

Table 25 - Scenario 3 Medium - Constant growth in rate of LAC based on trend in rates over the period 2006-2014

This scenario assumes that the indigenous LAC population will grow in line with overall population projections (using GLA capped SHLAA projections) and uses the average rate of LAC over the period 2006-2014 (2014 is provisional) as the baseline.

	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024	2026	2028	2030
Estimated number of indigenous LAC	390	355	425	415	435	455	470	490	510	525	530	540	550

Note: 2014 number of indigenous LAC is a provisional estimate based on the latest data available

Table 26 - Scenario 4 High - Constant growth in rate of LAC based on change in rates over the period 2011-2014

This scenario assumes that the indigenous LAC population will grow above the rate of population projections (using GLA capped SHLAA projections). It assumes that the rate of LAC will continue to increase year on year to 2022 and uses the increase in rate over the period 2011-2014 as the baseline.

As this projection is above population growth and projects an increase higher than the increase over the period 2006-2014, the model is limited and projected forward for the same length of time as the back series of data used.

Scenario 3 - Constant growth in rate of LAC based on change in rates over the period 2011-2014									
	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
Estimated number of indigenous LAC	390	355	425	415	435	465	495	520	550

Note: 2014 number of indigenous LAC is a provisional estimate based on the latest data available

Table 27 - Comparison of scenarios

	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024	2026	2028	2030
Scenario 1	390	355	425	415	435	445	450	460	470	470	470	470	465
Scenario 2	390	355	425	415	435	435	440	450	455	460	460	455	455
Scenario 3	390	355	425	415	435	455	470	490	510	525	530	540	550
Scenario 4	390	355	425	415	435	465	495	520	550				

Table 28 – projected total cost of LAC placements (£millions)

Note – these projections are an extrapolation based on current placement unit costs and projected LAC numbers. They do not take account of external inflationary pressures or predicted market forces.

	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Scenario 1	£11.70	£10.65	£12.75	£12.45	£13.13	£13.28	£13.16	£13.16	£13.31	£13.46	£13.61	£13.75	£13.90	£13.90
Scenario 2	£11.70	£10.65	£12.75	£12.45	£13.13	£12.98	£12.87	£12.87	£13.01	£13.16	£13.31	£13.46	£13.46	£13.61
Scenario 3	£11.70	£10.65	£12.75	£12.45	£13.13	£13.58	£13.75	£14.20	£14.64	£14.94	£15.38	£15.82	£16.27	£16.71
Scenario 4	£11.70	£10.65	£12.75	£12.45	£13.13	£13.43	£13.46	£13.61	£13.90	£14.20	£14.49	£14.79	£15.09	£15.23

Appendix 1 – The Children Act 2004

The Children Act 2004 secured Royal Assent on 15 November 2004. The Act is the legislative spine on which we want to build our reforms of children's services. It establishes for England:

- a Children's Commissioner to champion the views and interests of children and young people;
- a duty on Local Authorities to make arrangements to promote co-operation between agencies and other appropriate bodies (such as voluntary and community organisations) in order to improve children's well-being (where well-being is defined by reference to the five outcomes), and a duty on key partners to take part in the co-operation arrangements;
- a duty on key agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children;
- a duty on Local Authorities to set up Local Safeguarding Children Boards and on key partners to take part;
- provision for indexes or databases containing basic information about children and young people to enable better sharing of information;
- a requirement for a single Children and Young People's Plan to be drawn up by each Local Authority;
- a requirement on Local Authorities to appoint a Director of Children's Services and designate a Lead Member;
- the creation of an integrated inspection framework and the conduct of Joint Area Reviews to assess local areas' progress in improving outcomes; and
- provisions relating to foster care, private fostering and the education of children in care.

Appendix 2 - The Children and Families Act 2014

The Children and Families Act gained Royal Assent on 13 March 2014. Over the coming months the measures made law then will come into force. The government is currently consulting on a series of regulation changes on adoption and new guidance for social workers on how to navigate the new system, and will issue the final SEN code of practice shortly ahead of reforms coming into force in September.

The majority of the family justice provisions in the Children and Families Act will come into force on 22 April, at the same time as the launch of the new single family court.

Further roll out of legal changes will be announced in due course.

Part 1: Adoption and contact

Makes provisions for implementing the Government paper [An Action Plan for Adoption: Tackling Delay](#) which has the objective of seeing more children being adopted with less delay. The Act provides for:

- Fostering for adoption to enable children to be placed earlier with prospective adopters who are already approved foster parents
- Removing the requirement that adoption agencies must give due consideration to ethnicity, religious persuasion, racial origin and cultural and linguistic background when seeking prospective adopters
- Government power to require a local authority to outsource its functions relating to the recruitment, assessment and approval of prospective adopters adoption functions
- Improving support for adoptive families through personal budgets, additional information and access by prospective adopters to the national register of children for whom adoptive parents are sought
- A new statutory basis to giving an adoptive child contact with the child's birth family
- LAs to promote the educational achievement of looked-after children.

Part 2: Family Justice

Implements commitments the Government made in response to the [Family Justice Review](#) with the objective of achieving better outcomes for children and families who go to court after family separation or where children may be taken into care including:

- Attendance at a family mediation information and assessment meeting (MIAM) would be required before an application is made to the courts
- Courts to take into account that both separated parents should continue to be involved in their child's lives where that is consistent with the child's welfare
- A new child arrangements order to replace the existing residence and contact orders which will focus parents on the child's needs and not on the parents' 'rights'
- A 26-week time limit is introduced when the courts are considering whether a child should be taken into care

- Changes to divorce law so that arrangements for children are no longer considered as part of that process but through separate proceedings.

Part 3: Children and young people in England with special education needs or disabilities

Implements Government proposals which were first published in the Green Paper [*Support and Aspiration: a new approach to special educational needs and disability*](#) (2011) and the [*Progress and next steps report*](#) (2012)

Local authority functions: Supporting and involving children and young people

The Act retains the pivotal role of the local authority in identifying, assessing, and securing the educational provision for children and young people with SEN. A new requirement is that the local authority must follow four guiding principles. The LA must:

- Listen to the views, wishes and feelings of children, young people and parents
- Ensure children, young people and parents participate in decision-making
- Provide the necessary information and support to help children, young people and parents participate in decision-making
- Support children, young people and parents in order that children and young people can achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes.

Special educational needs etc

The current definitions of special educational needs and special educational provision are broadly retained and extended to include young persons in education or training under the age of 25. Thus, 'a child or young person has special educational needs if he or she has a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her'.

Identifying children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities

A local authority must use its functions to identify all children and young people in its area who have or may have SEN or a disability and is responsible for them when the authority has identified them or they have been brought to the authority's attention by a health service body if below compulsory school age.

Education, health and care provision: integration and joint commissioning

A local authority must work with health and social care services to ensure 'the integration of educational provision and training provision' where this promotes the well-being of children with SEN or a disability and improves the quality of special educational provision for them. In particular, the local authority 'and its partner commissioning bodies' must make joint commissioning arrangements about education, health and care provision to be secured for children and young people with SEN and those who have a disability. This is known as "EHC provision" - education, health and care provision. As with current arrangements, the provision for any particular child does not necessarily have to have an EHC plan to safeguard the provision.

Co-operation and assistance

In carrying out these functions, the local authority must co-operate with a range of local partners including maintained schools and academies, further education bodies and clinical commissioning groups, and they must co-operate with the local authority in the exercise of the local authority's functions.

Information and advice

A local authority must publish a "local offer" of services it expects to be available for children and young people with SEN and/or a disability. The offer must include EHC provision, other education and training provision, travel support, and provision to assist in preparing children and young people for adulthood and independent living. The local authority is placed under a wide duty to provide advice and information to children and young people and their parents and the education institutions in its area.

Mainstream education

The legislation on the education, health and care (EHC) plan is based on the current legislation for statements of SEN including the assumption that a child with a plan (currently a statement) is educated in a mainstream school unless it is incompatible with (a) the wishes of the child's parent or the young person or (b) the provision of efficient education for others.

If a child has SEN but no EHC Plan, then the child must be educated in mainstream provision. However, a parent can pay for the child or young person to be educated in non-mainstream provision in the independent sector. A child with SEN but no EHC Plan can be educated in a special school for the purpose of an EHC needs assessment.

Assessment

An EHC needs assessment may be requested by a child's parents, a young person or an educational institution. In determining whether to carry out an assessment, the local authority must consult the parents and young person, and formally notify them if an assessment is to be carried out or not.

Education, health and care plans

If required by the EHC needs assessment, the local authority must secure that an EHC Plan is prepared, and subsequently maintained. The plan must specify the child's or young person's SEN, the outcomes sought, the SEN provision required and any health care and social care 'reasonably required' by the learning difficulties and disabilities which result in the special educational needs. The Plan may also specify 'other' reasonably required health and social care provision (not resulting in the SEN).

The local authority must secure the special educational provision in an EHC plan and the 'responsible' health care commissioning body must secure the health care provision.

Schools and other institutions named in an EHC plan must admit the child or young person irrespective of the law on pupil admissions. A local authority must review an EHC plan in the first year and annually thereafter.

The local authority must prepare a 'personal budget' when requested by a child's parents or young person. The personal budget is the amount specified or proposed to be specified in the EHC plan with the money being paid to the parents or young person. Provision is made for 'direct payments' where the local authority pays any fees etc with the consent of the parents or young person.

Appeals, mediation and dispute resolution

As at present, parents may appeal to the first-tier tribunal against certain matters including decision not to do an EHC needs assessment, a decision not to secure an EHC plan following an assessment, the content of a final plan, re-assessment, amendment and cessation. A right to mediation is provided

The local authority must make arrangement for avoiding or resolving disputes between the local authority or school or other educational institution and a child's parents or young person with an EHC plan. An independent person must be appointed to resolve the dispute.

Special educational provision: functions of local authorities

Local authorities may arrange for a child or young person's special educational provision to be met otherwise than in a school, post-16 institution, or in early years provision. The local authority must pay the fees at non-maintained schools and post-16 institutions if required by the EHC plan.

Part 4: Childcare etc

The Act contains a number of provisions to take forward its aim of reforming childcare to ensure "the whole system focuses on providing safe, high-quality care and early education for children" as set out in the paper More great childcare. The Act introduces:

Childminder agencies to contract or employ childminders to stimulate the number of childminders, offer greater support and provide quality assurance

Early years settings will be able to request and pay for an Ofsted inspection

The duty to publish an assessment of the sufficiency of childcare is repealed

A maintained school governing body will no longer have to consult the local authority, staff and parents before making childcare provision at the school.

Part 5: Welfare of Children

The Act makes it a criminal offence for a person over the age of 18 to buy tobacco or cigarette papers on behalf of an individual aged under 18

The sale of nicotine products such as e-cigarettes to persons under the age of 18 is prohibited

Regulations can be made to standardise tobacco packaging or to provide for cars to be smoke-free when a person under the age of 18 is present in the vehicle

The legislation on the rights of young carers is consolidated and extended to include the right to an assessment of need for support to all young carers under the age of 18

The legislation on the right to an assessment for parent carers is consolidated. The requirement that such carers provide a substantial amount of care on a regular basis in order to be assessed is removed, and local authorities are required to assess when a need is perceived, as well as on request.

Former Looked After Children will be able to continue to live with foster parents until the age of 21

Each local authority is required to have a 'virtual school head'

All state funded schools will have a statutory obligation to provide free school lunches on request to all pupils in reception and years one and two; the duty can be extended to nursery provision and all early years settings.

Part 6: The Children's Commissioner

The Act develops the role of the Children's Commissioner's effectiveness, taking forward recommendations in Review of the Office of the Children's Commissioner .

Parts 7, 8 and 9 – employment

A number of changes are made to workplace practice to support better parenting as set out in the Government's response to the Modern Workplaces consultation.

Part 7: Statutory rights to leave and pay

Enables the sharing of parental leave following the birth of a child, on adoption, and for prospective adopters who are fostering a child for adoption (from April 2015).

Part 8: Time off work: ante-natal care etc

Enables the partners of pregnant women to time off work to accompany the woman to ante-natal care. The new right is extended to time off to attend adoption appointments. (From 1 October 2014)

Part 9: Right to request flexible working

The right to request flexible working is extended to all employees, not just those with parental or caring responsibilities (from 30 June 2014).

Appendix 3 - Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012

The Act introduced significant changes that affect the youth justice system, particularly around:

- youth sentences
- remands of children (otherwise than on bail)
- out-of-court disposals
- knife crime
- rehabilitation of offenders.

Among other measures, the act:

- gives courts greater discretion to issue conditional discharges for young person's pleading guilty to a first offence
- creates a "single remand framework" for the use of secure remand for children and young people; transfers the cost of remand arrangements to local authorities; creates new conditions that must be met before a child or young person is remanded into custody
- expands Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs) to allow longer curfew hours, single duration extensions of six months; increases the maximum fines for breaches; and allows courts to order a period of supervision instead of custody following a breach
- abolishes the Legal Services Commission, a non-departmental public body, and replaces it with the Legal Aid Agency, a new executive agency of the Ministry of Justice
- removes financial support for most cases involving housing, welfare, medical negligence, employment, debt and immigration
- creates a new offence of squatting in a residential building, with a maximum punishment of 51 weeks' imprisonment, a fine not exceeding level 5 of the standard scale (£5,000), or both; and amends the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 to allow the police to enter and search such a building if they suspect someone to be squatting in it
- brings the sentencing starting point for murders caused by hate on the grounds of disability or transgender to 30 years, to be in line with other types of hate crime
- modifies the Crime (Sentences) Act 1997 to allow the Secretary of State to deport foreign nationals serving indeterminate prison sentences, once they have served the minimum term.

Remands to Youth Detention Accommodation (YDA)

Background:

- Numbers of children and young people (cyp) on secure and custodial remand are not reducing at the same rate as those serving custodial sentences.
- In 2010/11, 26% of all cyp in custody were on remand however 61% of cyp on secure remand were acquitted or did not go on to receive a custodial sentence from trial. This suggests that many secure remands may be unnecessary.
- Remands to custody are expensive.
- Currently the MoJ/YJB pays for:
 - Two thirds of Court Ordered Secure Remand (c £15m for MoJ versus c £8m from local authorities across England and Wales)
 - All the costs of remands to custody.

Progression of primary legislation LASPO

- Simplified remand framework;
- 17 year olds now subject to the same remand framework as 12 to 16 year olds, therefore ending their treatment as adults for remand purposes;
- LAC status extended to all 12-17 year olds given a secure remand (and 17 year olds now eligible for a remand to local authority accommodation)
- New test for remanding young people to youth detention accommodation (YDA);
- Greater financial responsibility for local authorities*;
- Aim to reduce *unnecessary* remands;

Impact on Looked After Children (LAC)

- From the implementation of LASPO all cyp remanded in youth detention accommodation (YDA) will receive LAC status;
- Current work underway to look at any deregulations;
- LAC guide being developed and piloted via reference groups with YOTs and Children's Services;
- A budget will be transferred for this new responsibility;

Appendix 4 – Population projection definitions

GLA Trend-based projections 2012

These projections do not take into account any housing dwellings.

GLA SHLAA-based projections

The SHLAA (Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment) projection tends to be much lower than the GLA trend-based projections for many Outer London boroughs, but higher for a band of Inner and East London boroughs.

ONS Interim 2011-based Subnational Population Projections (SPP)

ONS assumptions take no account of policy or development aims that have not yet impacted observed trends. Their starting point is the ONS mid-year 2012 estimates (published in August 2013). ONS is now working on Subnational Population Projections (SPP) for England to take better account of fertility, mortality and migration trends.

GLA 2013 Round of Demographic Projections (High)

In this scenario, domestic migration trends are taken from the period mid-2008 to mid-2012 and held constant for the entire projection period. Both inflows and outflows increase over time to reflect increasing population in London and the rest of the UK. Projections take no account of housing developments.

GLA 2013 Round of Demographic Projections (Central)

In this scenario, beyond 2018, domestic outflow set to increase by 5% and inflows by 3% as compared to the High variant. This scenario takes the mid-point of the assumptions in the High and Low projections. That is, after 2017 outflows increase by five per cent and inflows fall by three per cent. Projections take no account of housing developments.

GLA 2013 Round of Demographic Projections (Low)

In this scenario, domestic migration patterns are assumed to be transient and return to 2008 recession trends beyond 2018. Domestic migration is the same as per the High projection through to mid-2017. Beyond this point, outflows increase by ten per cent and inflows decrease by six per cent. Projections take no account of housing developments.

Appendix 5 - Definition of type of service offered by children's centres

Core purpose categories:	Types of services included in these categories
Parenting aspirations and parenting skills	Volunteering support, numeracy & literacy skills courses, employment & training courses, WTC/benefits&childcare support evidence based parenting programmes (commissioned)
Child development and school readiness	Midwife clinics, health clinics (e.g. child development checks), healthy eating & exercise sessions, domestic violence sessions/support
Child and family health and life chances	2YO funding support, transition to primary schools support, language & communication support, out of school sessions
Other categories:	
Contact with families	Universal stay & play sessions, outreach sessions/support, community events
Cross Cutting	Specialist sessions that covers support all the main 3 core purposes, e.g. CAF support, Family Engagement partnership support, Family Outcome Star support

Appendix 6 – Limitations of the CAF data

When analysing the CAF data the following points should be noted:

1. The information has been taken from our eCAF system (Holistix).
2. Croydon went 'live' with Holistix eCAF in mid-June 2011, up until 6 weeks prior to this we were using a system provided by central government. Although data from the previous system was migrated there is likely to have been an under-recording of new CAFs that were started during the transition period.
3. For a variety of reasons there was only one service that has deployed Holistix eCAF – the Drop-in-Zone at the Turnaround Centre. For CAFs completed by other services (schools; children's centres; health providers etc.) arrangements were put in place for paper versions to be received at a central point within EISS, and once received Business Support staff have uploaded the details of the assessment onto the system. In the initial months these arrangements were not particularly robust – this is likely to have resulted in a skewing of the results towards 16 / 17 year olds.
4. There is a time-lag between a paper CAF being completed, and this information being added to eCAF – this will have an impact on the results for 2013/14.
5. The use of the Common Assessment Framework in some sectors, most notably Health, appears to be low. There is some anecdotal evidence to suggest that whilst some health providers may have been completing CAFs, these were not being shared with other services. There are a number of possible reasons for this, the lack of integration between recording systems being one of the most frequent given.
6. With the re-structuring of EISS and the appointment of Locality Advisers (end 2013), support to schools has had an increased focus on the quality of CAF assessments and early intervention. There is some anecdotal evidence to suggest that they may have lowered the number of CAFs being completed.

Appendix 7 – Troubled Families criteria

1. Crime/anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Households with 1 or more under 18-year-old with a proven offence in the last 12 months AND/ OR

- Households where 1 or more member has an ASBO, ASB injunction, anti-social behaviour contract (ABC), or where the family has been subject to a housing-related ASB intervention in the last 12 months (such as a notice of seeking possession on ASB grounds, a housing-related injunction, a demotion order, eviction from social housing on ASB grounds).

2. Education

Identify households affected by truancy or exclusion from school, where a child:

- Has been subject to permanent exclusion; three or more fixed school exclusions across the last 3 consecutive terms; OR
- Is in a Pupil Referral Unit or alternative provision because they have previously been excluded; OR is not on a school roll; AND/OR
- A child has had 15% unauthorised absences or more from school across the last 3 consecutive terms.

3. Work

Once you have identified everyone who meets one or both of criteria 1 and 2, you may identify households which also have an adult on DWP out of work. (Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Carer's Allowance, Income Support and/or Jobseekers Allowance, Severe Disablement Allowance).

4 Local discretion High Cost

Families with a high cost, Domestic Violence, Mental Health Issues, Child in Need, Child Protection Plan, Physical Disability, Sensory Impairment, Substance Misuse, HIV, AIDS, Homeless (HL), Post adoption work (PA).

Appendix 8 - Methodology for sample analysis

Below is the methodology of how the 250 cases were selected and analysed for the deep dive.

A list was given by social care of all the cases that had gone into care along with those who had been placed on a child protection plan within the last six months. This information was given in a spreadsheet format. The spreadsheet was adapted to be able to log the following;

- Number of contacts that were recorded as No Further Action or Information Recorded before the child or young person was allocated a social worker.
- Number of times an assessment was carried out by a social worker before the child or young person was placed on a CP plan or became looked after.
- Main concerns and key characteristics that reoccurred between contacts and referrals.
- Documented which agencies had been involved in those young person and children's lives.
- Noted the closure reason for each allocation before the child or young person was placed on a CP plan or became looked after.

Using the child's unique ID the SWIFT and the CRS databases was searched for the above information. The CRS database did not have all the information needed, for example, it was noted on some cases that data migration had not been performed so there was historical information on SWIFT that had not been migrated to the CRS system. Therefore a true reflection of the historical records that social care held for a child is not given. For information prior to 2006, you need to request the families paper files, as this information such as why the family had been referred initially is not stored on either system - this has been noted on the initial spreadsheet as historic.

Please note that the findings are by per child and not by per family.

Appendix 9 - Stages of referral to Social Care

Contact

When someone contacts the services with information on the child/young person or where they contact with concerns. The outcome of a contact can be information recorded, NFA, progressed to a referral.

Referral

The contact will be work flowed to a screening manager to see whether it warrants intervention. This does not guarantee an allocation as it may not meet social care threshold. The turnaround period for a decision on a referral is 24 hours.

Allocation

Where the case is allocated to a social worker. If a new referral comes in within 3 months of the case being closed, it will be passed back to the previous worker/team.

Child Protection/Care

Where the child is placed on the child protection plan following an initial child protection conference or placed into Care if threshold is met.

Appendix 10 - Sample analysis - Definition of specific referral categories

Crime/ASB

- Parents are offenders / have offended
- Child or young person is offending/has offended
- Siblings are offenders / have offended

Education

- No parent has any qualifications
- Child or young person
 - Has periods of absence from school
 - Is not achieving
 - Has been excluded in primary phase

Unemployment/Poverty

- No parent in the family is in work
- Family lives in poor quality or overcrowded housing
- Family has low income (below 60% median)
- Family cannot afford a number of food and clothing items

Health (including mental health)

- Parent has mental health problems
- At least one parent has a long-standing limiting illness, disability or infirmity
- Child is disabled
- Substance Misuse

Involvement in care system

- Elder sibling in care
- Parents are care leavers

Other

- Neglect
- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Abandonment by parent or carer
- Inappropriate sexualized behaviour between children
- Indecent Material
- Subject to CP/LAC in another LA/transfer in
- Parenting
- Acrimonious relationship between parents
- Teenage pregnancy

Appendix 11 – Projections by single year

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
0-17 population (GLA capped SHLAA)	84,650	85,056	86,020	86,742	87,920	89,216	89,786	90,581	91,389	92,204	93,179	93,955	94,773	95,679	96,683	97,631	98,267	98,697	98,935	98,882	98,662	98,521	98,299	98,024	97,763
Actual number indigenous LAC (rounded)	390	360	355	385	425	400	415	430	435																
Rate of indigenous LAC per 10,000 population	46	42	41	44	48	45	46	47	48																
Note: 2014 number of indigenous LAC is a provisional estimate based on the latest data available																									
Scenario 1 - Continue at estimated rate of indigenous LAC per 10000 population under 18 for 2014																									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Estimated number of indigenous LAC	390	360	355	385	425	400	415	430	435	440	445	445	450	455	460	465	470	470	470	470	470	470	470	465	465
Scenario 2 - Application of average rate of indigenous LAC per 10000 population under 18 for the period 2011-2014																									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Estimated number of indigenous LAC	390	360	355	385	425	400	415	430	435	430	435	435	440	445	450	455	455	460	460	460	460	460	455	455	455
Scenario 3 - Constant growth in rate of LAC based on trend in rates over the period 2006-2014																									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Estimated number of indigenous LAC	390	360	355	385	425	400	415	430	435	445	455	460	470	480	490	500	510	515	525	530	530	535	540	545	550
Scenario 4 - Constant growth in rate of LAC based on change in rates over the period 2011-2014																									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023							
Estimated number of indigenous LAC	390	360	355	385	425	400	415	430	435	450	465	480	495	505	520	535	550	565							
Note: It is uncertain how much longer the rate will continue to increase for so rates have only been projected forward to 2023.																									
Comparison of scenarios																									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Scenario 1 - Low	390	360	355	385	425	400	415	430	435	440	445	445	450	455	460	465	470	470	470	470	470	470	470	465	465
Scenario 2 - Low	390	360	355	385	425	400	415	430	435	430	435	435	440	445	450	455	455	460	460	460	460	460	455	455	455
Scenario 3 - Medium	390	360	355	385	425	400	415	430	435	445	455	460	470	480	490	500	510	515	525	530	530	535	540	545	550
Scenario 4 - High	390	360	355	385	425	400	415	430	435	450	465	480	495	505	520	535	550	565							

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