



Director of Social Services Annual Report 23/24

Appendix 4 Children

Please note this data is subject to WG's validation and publication thereafter.

11 JUNE 2024

Children: Social Services Performance and Improvement Framework, 2023-24

Table 1: Information, Advice and Assistance (Referrals)

V2: Please use the comments boxes to explain any increases or decreases above 20% when comparing 2023-24 data with 2022-23 data.

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/001	The number of contacts received for children by statutory social services during the year	12,405	✓		11,024	✓	
CH/002	The number of contacts for children received by statutory social services during the year where advice or assistance was provided	4,494	✓		5,067	✓	
CH/003	The number of contacts received by statutory children's social services during the year where a decision was made by the end of the next working day	12,260	✓		10,509	✓	

The number of contacts received by statutory children's social services during the year received, by type of contact:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/004a	Self	33	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	111	✗	
CH/004b	Relative	594	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	232	✗	
CH/004c	Friend or neighbour	6	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	35	✗	
CH/004d	Early intervention prevention service (Step-up)	8	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	11	✗	
CH/004e	Health	1,586	✓	Increase in DTRs and decrease in the use of the other categories	1,199	✗	
CH/004f	Education	2,530	✓	Increase in DTRs and decrease in the use of the other categories	1,949	✗	
CH/004g	Housing	126	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	95	✗	
CH/004h	Police	4,787	✓		4,238	✓	
CH/004i	Probation	309	✓		345	✓	
CH/004j	Third Sector Organisation	387	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	186	✗	
CH/004k	Local Authority	179	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	108	✗	
CH/004l	Independent Hospital	0	✓		0	✓	
CH/004m	Ambulance Service	40	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	13	✗	
CH/004n	Care Regulator	0	✓		0	✓	
CH/004o	Provider	3	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	4	✗	
CH/004p	Advocate	1	✓	The variation seen in referral source is not significant and there are no particular reason of	0	✗	
CH/004q	Other	1,234	✓	Improvement in process of not defaulting the referral source to other	1,940	✗	
CH/004r	Internal (Social Worker, Other Team)	582	✓		568	✓	
CH/004	Total	12,405	✓		11,024	✓	

The total number of contacts received during the year where:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/005a	Physical punishment by a parent or carer was one of several factors	490	✓	The variation is not significant and there are no particular reason of this decrease.	686	✗	
CH/005b	Physical punishment by a parent or carer was the only factor	83	✓		119	✓	

Table 2: Assessments

V2: Please use the comments boxes to explain any increases or decreases above 20% when comparing 2023-24 data with 2022-23 data.

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/006	The number of new assessments completed for children during the year	4,719	✓	The variation is not significant and is a result of increased referrals being received.	4,796	✗	

The number of new assessments completed for children during the year where:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/007a	Needs were only able to be met with a care and support plan	416	✓		368	✓	
CH/007b	Needs were able to be met by any other means	2,845	✓		2,747	✓	
CH/007c	There were no eligible needs to meet	1,458	✓		1,681	✓	
CH/007	Total	4,719	✓		4,796	✓	

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/008a	The total number of assessments for children completed during the year for children who were born at the time the assessment concluded	4,698	✓		4,785	✓	
CH/008b	of those, where there is evidence that the child has been seen	1,282	✓		1,482	✓	

The number of assessments for children completed (CH/006) during the year where:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/009a	There was evidence of the active offer of Welsh	4,431	✓		4,440	✓	
CH/009b	The Active Offer of Welsh was accepted	0	✓		0	✓	
*CH/009c	The assessment was undertaken using the language of choice	4,716	✓		4,784	✓	

**Record whether the assessment was undertaken using the language of choice regardless of what the language was*

The number of new assessments completed for children during the year undertaken in secure estate

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/010	The number of new assessments completed for children during the year undertaken in secure estate	0	✓		0	✓	

The total number of assessments completed during the year where:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/011a	Physical punishment by a parent or carer was one of several factors	328	✓	We have no control over the circumstances for a referral hence there is no explanation other than variation between years.	456	✗	
CH/011b	Physical punishment by a parent or carer was the only factor	164	✓	We have no control over the circumstances for a referral hence there is no explanation other than variation between years.	235	✗	

The number of new assessments completed for children during the year that were completed within statutory timescales

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/012	The number of new assessments completed for children during the year that were completed within statutory timescales	3,109	✓		3,811	✓	

The number of new assessments that were requested by the child or family during the year where a previous assessment had been completed in the previous 12 months

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/013	The number of new assessments that were requested by the child or family during the year where a previous assessment had been completed in the previous 12 months	280	✓	There has been a significant increase in referrals hence a corresponding increase in repeat referrals/assessments.	187	✗	

Where:

CH/014a	Needs were only able to be met with a care and support plan	11	✓	There has been a significant increase in referrals hence a corresponding increase in repeat referrals/assessments.	17	✗	
CH/014b	Needs were able to be met by any other means	187	✓	There has been a significant increase in referrals hence a corresponding increase in repeat referrals/assessments.	130	✗	
CH/014c	There were no eligible needs to meet	82	✓	There has been a significant increase in referrals hence a corresponding increase in repeat referrals/assessments.	40	✗	
CH/014	Total	280	✓	There has been a significant increase in referrals hence a corresponding increase in repeat referrals/assessments.	187	✗	

Table 3: Plans**V2: Please use the comments boxes to explain any increases or decreases above 20% when comparing 2023-24 data with 2022-23 data.**

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/015a	The number of children with a care and support plan on 31 March	851	✓		978	✓	
CH015b	The number of children with a care and support plan on 31 March and also a carer's support plan, where the child has both their own care and support needs and responsibilities as a young carer	7	✓		7	✓	
CH/016	The total number of children with a care and support plan where needs are met through a Direct Payment on 31 March	51	✓		49	✓	

Table 4: Reviews

V2: Please use the comments boxes to explain any increases or decreases above 20% when comparing 2023-24 data with 2022-23 data.

The number of reviews of care and support plans and provisions of financial support that were due during the collection year that were:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH017a	Child protection reviews	361	✓		418	✓	
CH017b	Looked after reviews (including pathway plan reviews and pre-adoption reviews)	953	✓		1,139	✓	
CH017c	Reviews of children in need of care and support (including children supported by a direct payment)	934	✓	2023/24 is in more inline with 2021/22 totals looking back at 2022/23 there may have been overcounting in particular SGO support reviews not being excluded.	1,342	✗	
CH017d	Reviews of support for children with Special Guardianship Orders	183	✓		204	✓	
CH017e	Reviews of financial support for children with Special Guardianship Orders	193	✓		197	✓	
CH017	Total	2,624	✓	See above comment	3,300	✗	

The number of reviews of care and support plans and provisions of financial support that were completed during the collection year and were within statutory timescales, that were:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH018a	Child protection reviews	331	✓		375	✓	
CH018b	Looked after reviews (including pathway plan reviews and pre-adoption reviews)	876	✓		851	✓	
CH018c	Reviews of children in need of care and support (including children supported by a direct payment)	727	✓	2023/24 is in more inline with 2021/22 totals looking back at 2022/23 there may have been overcounting in particular SGO support reviews not being excluded.	1,029	✗	
CH018d	Reviews of support for children with Special Guardianship Orders	124	✓		185	✗	
CH018e	Reviews of financial support for children with Special Guardianship Orders	101	✓	Due to payment rate changes being agreed late for the new financial year the financial reviews were delayed.	29	✗	
CH018	Total	2,159	✓		2,469	✓	

The number of reviews of care and support plans and provisions of financial support that were completed during the collection year, regardless of whether they were within statutory timescales, that were:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH019a	Child protection reviews	361	✓		411	✓	
CH019b	Looked after reviews (including pathway plan reviews and pre-adoption reviews)	943	✓		941	✓	
CH019c	Reviews of children in need of care and support (including children supported by a direct payment)	873	✓	2023/24 is in more inline with 2021/22 totals looking back at 2022/23 there may have been overcounting in particular SGO support reviews not being excluded.	1,104	✗	
CH019d	Reviews of support for children with Special Guardianship Orders	141	✓		185	✗	
CH019e	Reviews of financial support for children with Special Guardianship Orders	133	✓		175	✗	
CH019	Total	2,451	✓		2,816	✓	

Table 5: Safeguarding

V2: Please use the comments boxes to explain any increases or decreases above 20% when comparing 2023-24 data with 2022-23 data.

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH020	The number of Initial Strategy Meetings for children concluded during the collection year	1,385	✓		1,569	✓	
CH021	The number of Strategy Meetings held during the year that progressed to Section 47 enquiries	1,215	✓		1,467	✓	
CH022	The total number of Section 47 enquiries completed during the year that progressed to Initial Child Protection Conference	173	✓	The number of initial starts between the years is higher and the % variation of initial starts lead to an 54.7 is only +.5%, so is not	232	✗	

The total number of Initial Child Protection Conferences held in the year that led to the decision to place a child on the Child Protection Register under the category of:

		2023-24						V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
		Age										
		Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 15	16 - 18	Total Age					
CH023a	Neglect	11	8	13	25	1	58	✓		63	✓	
CH023b	Physical abuse	2	5	3	3	0	13	✓	Enhanced rapid response intervention resulting in greater family engagement and management of risk. Hence CP registrations have been	18	✗	
CH023c	Sexual abuse	0	4	3	3	2	12	✓	Enhanced rapid response intervention resulting in greater family engagement and management of risk. Hence CP registrations have been	4	✗	
CH023d	Emotional abuse	15	12	17	14	2	60	✓	Enhanced rapid response intervention resulting in greater family engagement and management of risk. Hence CP registrations have been	123	✗	
CH023e	Financial abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓		0	✓	
CH023f	Neglect and physical abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓		0	✓	
CH023g	Physical and sexual abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓		0	✓	
CH023h	Neglect and sexual abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓		0	✓	
CH023i	Neglect, physical and sexual Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓		0	✓	
CH023	Total	28	29	36	45	5	143	✓	Enhanced rapid response intervention resulting in greater family engagement and management of risk. Hence CP registrations have been	208	✗	

The total number of Initial Child Protection Conferences held in the year that led to the decision not to place a child on the Child Protection Register

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH023j	The number of children during the year not deemed to be at risk of significant harm at child protection conference but still have need for Care and Support	28	✓		24	✓	
CH023k	The number of children during the year not deemed to be at risk of significant harm at child protection conference and no additional eligible needs were identified (This metric is automatically calculated: CH022 – (CH023a-i + CH023j). If total is wrong, please insert a comment.)	2	✓	Low number of children not a significant variation.	0	✗	

The number of children who were added to the child protection register during the collection year:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH024a	All children	143	✓		16	✗	** change in metric from 2022/23 there is now a Ch012a and CH012b 16 from 2022/23 relates to Ch012b
CH024b	Children previously registered under any category, at any time during the previous 12 months	6	✗	Validation is incorrect on the cell		✗	
CH025	The number of initial child protection conferences held during the collection year that were held within statutory timescales	135	✓		151	✓	
CH026a	The total number of children on the Child Protection Register on 31 March	118	✓		135	✓	
CH026b	The total number of children on the Child Protection Register during the collection year	227	✓		-	✓	
CH027	The number of initial core group meetings held during the year	138	✗	Validation is incorrect on the cell	168	✓	

CH/028	The number of initial core group meetings held during the year that were held within statutory timescales	77	✓	Process have not changed in 2023/24 although there have been vacancies within the team which may have resulted in core groups being outside the due date	118	✗	
CH/029	The total number of visits to children on the child protection register that were due during the collection year	3,173	✓		3,630	✓	
CH/030a	The total number of visits to children on the child protection register that were completed, regardless of if they were within statutory timescales	2,970	✓		-	✓	
CH/030b	The total number of visits to children on the child protection register that were completed within statutory timescales	2,179	✓		2,102	✓	
CH/031	The total number of reports of children who go missing from care during the year	387	✓	NCC have reviewed the process for recording missing children in 2023/24 which may explain the increase being better recording rather than more children going missing	239	✗	
CH/032	The total number of children who go missing from care during the year	69	✓	NCC have reviewed the process for recording missing children in 2023/24 which may explain the increase being better recording rather than more children going missing	55	✗	

The total number of children reported during the year where child exploitation was a factor

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/033	The total number of children reported during the year where child exploitation was a factor	129	✓		141	✓	
<i>The total number of reports of child exploitation received during the year where the primary factor was:</i>							
CH/034a	Child sexual exploitation	97	✓		89	✓	
CH/034b	Child criminal exploitation	100	✓		93	✓	
CH/034c	Child trafficking	19	✓	Low no. of children so not a significant increase between years	14	✗	
CH/034	Total	216	✓		196	✓	

Removal from the children protection register during the year

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/035	The total number of days on the child protection register for children who were removed from the register during the year	38,852	✓	There have been less children registered on the CPR hence the number of days to decrease.	49,694	✗	
CH/036	The total number of children removed (de-registered) from the child protection register during the year	159	✓	The number of children registered in 2023/24 has reduced which has resulted in a corresponding reduction in de-registrations.	201	✗	

Number of pre-birth child protection conferences convened during the year

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CA/002*	Number of pre-birth child protection conferences convened during the year	9	✓	The variation is not significant with only a difference of 4 between the years.	13	✗	

*Where there are concerns that an unborn child may be at future risk of significant harm, local authority children's social services may decide to convene a child protection conference prior to the child's birth. If more than one pre-birth child protection conference is convened for the same child, only one should be counted.

Table 6: Children Looked After

V2: Please use the comments boxes to explain any increases or decreases above 20% when comparing 2023-24 data with 2022-23 data.

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/037a	The number of children becoming looked after during the year	-	✓		119	✓	
CH/037b	The number of new episodes of children becoming looked after during the year	-	✓		122	✓	
CH/037c	The number of new instances of children becoming looked after during the year where the initial episode in care lasted 10 working days or more	-	✓		88	✓	

(Data for measures CH/037a, CH/037b and CH/037c will be post-populated from the Children Looked After Census)

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/038	The number of part 6 care and support plans that were completed within 10 working days from the start of becoming looked after	77	✓	Variation is due to the increase of Children who became looked after.	52	✎	
CH/039	The number of children looked after on 31 March	-	✓		376	✓	
CH/040	The total number children receiving (S76) short breaks on 31 March	-	✓		1	✓	
CH/041	The number of statutory visits for children looked after that were due during the year	2,490	✓		2,281	✓	
CH/042a	The number of statutory visits to children looked after during the year that were completed, regardless of if they were within statutory timescales	2,831	✓		-	✓	
CH/042b	The number of statutory visits to children looked after during the year that were completed within statutory timescales	2,199	✓		1,872	✓	
CH/043	The total number of children looked after on 31 March who have experienced three or more placements during the year	-	✓		32	✓	

CH/044	The total number of children looked after on the 31 March who have experienced one or more changes of school during the year (excluding transitional arrangements, moves associated with adoption or moves home)	24	✓	Although there has been an increase in non transitional moves most of these have been for positive reasons, such as moving back to parents or the foster carer moving home.	13	✗	
CH/045	The total number of children looked after who returned home during the year	-	✓		36	✓	
CH/046	The total number of children looked after who are not placed with parents, family, or friends on 31 March	-	✓		274	✓	
CH/047	The total number of children looked after who are placed within Wales, but outside of the responsible local authority on 31 March	-	✓		98	✓	
CH/048	The total number of children looked after who are placed outside of Wales on 31 March	-	✓		28	✓	
CH/049	The total number of initial Pathway Plans due to be completed during the year	54	✓		64	✓	
CH/050	The total number of initial Pathway Plans due during the year that were completed within timescales	32	✓	Improved monitoring during 2023/24 has resulted in improved performance.	21	✗	
CH/051	The total number of young people during the year where a personal adviser was allocated as required	47	✓		41	✓	
CH/052	The total number of care leavers who experience homelessness during the year (as defined by the Housing (Wales) Act 2014)	27	✓		17	✗	

(Data for measures CH/039, CH/040, CH/043, CH/045, CH/046, CH/047 and CH/048 will be post-populated from the Children Looked After Census)

The total number of care-experienced young people in the following categories on 31 March:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/053a	category 1	91	✓		88	✓	
CH/053b	category 2	1	✓	The variation between years is not significant.	3	✗	
CH/053c	category 3	176	✓		162	✓	
CH/053d	category 4	1	✓		1	✓	
CH/053e	category 5	1	✓	The variation between years is not significant.	2	✗	
CH/053f	category 6	2	✓	The variation between years is not significant.	3	✗	
CH/053	Total	272	✓		259	✓	

The total number of care leavers, as of 31 March, who have completed at least 3 consecutive months of employment, education, or training in the collection year, who were:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/054a	category 2	2	✓		-	✓	
CH/054b	category 3	97	✓		-	✓	
CH/054b	category 4	1	✓		-	✓	

The number of young people leaving care who move into a 'When I am Ready' placement during the year

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/055	The number of young people leaving care who move into a 'When I am Ready' placement during the year	-	✓	post populated expecting 11	8	✓	

(Data for measure for CH/055 will be post-populated from the Children Looked After Census)

Table 7: Advocacy

V2: Please use the comments boxes to explain any increases or decreases above 20% when comparing 2023-24 data with 2022-23 data.

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CH/056	The total number of "Active Offers" of advocacy for children, aged five and over at the start of the collection year, during the year	171	✓		185	✓	
CH/057	The total number "Active Offers" of advocacy for children during the year where an Independent Professional Advocate was provided	109	✓		52	✓	

Table 8: Young Carers

V2: Please use the comments boxes to explain any increases or decreases above 20% when comparing 2023-24 data with 2022-23 data.

Information, Advice and Assistance (Referrals)

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CA/011	The total number of contacts to statutory social services by young carers or professionals contacting the service on their behalf received during the year	104	✓		111	✓	
CA/012	The number of contacts by young carers received by statutory Social Services during the year where advice or assistance was provided	66	✓		77	✓	

CA/013: The number of contacts received for young carers by statutory children's services during the year received from:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CA/013a	Self	12	✓		14	✓	
CA/013b	Relative	0	✓	Small variation not significant	2	✎	
CA/013c	Friend or neighbour	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/013d	Early intervention prevention service (Step-up)	9	✓		11	✓	
CA/013e	Health	7	✓		8	✓	
CA/013f	Education	38	✓		39	✓	
CA/013g	Housing	1	✓	Small variation not significant	0	✎	
CA/013h	Police	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/013i	Probation	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/013j	Third Sector Organisation	16	✓		18	✓	
CA/013k	Local Authority	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/013l	Independent Hospital	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/013m	Ambulance Service	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/013n	Care Regulator	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/013o	Provider	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/013p	Advocate	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/013q	Internal (Social Worker, Other Team)	21	✓		18	✓	
CA/013r	Other	0	✓	Small variation not significant	1	✎	
CA/013	Total	104	✓		111	✓	

Assessments

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CA/014	The total number of carers needs assessments for young carers undertaken during the year	66	✓		77	✓	

The number of carers assessments completed for children during the year where:

CA/015a	Needs could be met using a young carer's support plan or care and support plan	66	✓		77	✓	
CA/015b	Needs were able to be met by any other means	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/015c	There were no eligible needs to meet	0	✓		0	✓	
CA/015	Total	66	✓		77	✓	

CA/016: The number of carer's needs assessments for young carers completed (CA/014) during the year where:

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CA/016a	There was evidence of the active offer of Welsh	66	✓		77	✓	
CA/016b	The Active Offer of Welsh was accepted	0	✓		0	✓	
*CA/016c	The assessment was undertaken using the language of choice	66	✓		77	✓	

*Record whether the assessment was undertaken using the language of choice regardless of what the language was

Plans

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CA/017a	The number of young carers with a carer's support plan on 31 March	35	✓	Reduced capacity due to staffing levels.	72	✗	
CA/017b	The number of young carers with a carer's support plan on 31 March and also a care and support plan, where the young person has both responsibilities as a carer and their own care and support needs	7	✓		7	✓	

Reviews

		2023-24	V1	V1 Comment	2022-23	V2	V2 Comment
CA/018	The number of reviews of support plans for young carers that were due during the collection year	104	✓		95	✓	
CA/019	The number of reviews of support plans for young carers that were completed during the collection year that were within statutory timescales	86	✓	Reduced capacity due to staffing levels.	71	✗	
CA/020	The number of reviews of support plans for young carers that were completed during the year, regardless of whether they were within statutory timescales	104	✓		-	✓	