

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES DASHBOARD – QUARTER 2 2019-20

Further Information regarding Dashboard Item 7 – Children Missing from Home/Care

Measure	2018-19	Q2 2018-19	Q2 2019-20	Direction of Travel
<b>Children missing from home/care</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>↑</b>
% return home interviews carried out on time	38%	33.3%	62.5%	↑
Children missing from education (snapshot at end of period)	13	n/a	5	↓

### What is the background to this?

At the Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020, further information was requested about the 53 children who went missing from home or care in Quarter 2 2019-20.

### What more does the data tell us?

As indicated in the dashboard above, 53 children went missing from home or care in Quarter 2 2019-20. Between them, they went missing for a total number of 112 times. Comparatively, for the same quarter in 2018-19, 29 children went missing from home or care a total number of 35 times.

Of the 53 children missing in Quarter 2 2019, seven were Wokingham Children in Care (CiC). These seven children went missing on a total of 22 occasions, but never for more than 24 hours. This is illustrated in Table 1.

Table 1: Wokingham Children in Care missing from care – Q2 2019-20

Child	Age band	No. of times missing in Q2	No. of times missing for more than 12 hours in Q2	No. of times missing for more than 24 hours in Q2	Return Home Interview (RHI) offered	RHI accepted
1	16+	4	0	0	Yes	No
2	16+	1	0	0	Yes	No
3	11-15	1	0	0	Yes	Yes
4	11-15	11	1	0	Yes	No
5	16+	1	0	0	Yes	No
6	11-15	2	1	0	Yes	No
7	16+	2	1	0	Yes	Yes
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>		

Three of the children who appear in the above table – including the two who went missing for 11 and 4 times respectively - are open cases to Wokingham’s Exploitation Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (EMRAC), which meets monthly to consider risks around sexual and criminal exploitation.

For the same quarter in 2018-19, four Wokingham Children in Care went missing a total of 7 times; two for more than 24 hours.

Of the remaining children who went missing in Q2 2019-20, nine were Children in Care under the jurisdiction of other local authorities. Between these nine children, they went missing from care a total of 41 times, as illustrated in Table 2.

Table 2: Other Local Authority CiC missing from care in Wokingham – Q2 2019-20

Child	Age	No. of times missing in Q2	No. of times missing for more than 12 hours in Q2	No. of times missing for more than 24 hours in Q2	RHI offered	RHI accepted
1	16+	9	3	1	n/a	n/a
2	16+	1	0	0	n/a	n/a
3	16+	22	3	3	n/a	n/a
4	16+	1	0	0	n/a	n/a
5	11-15	1	0	0	n/a	n/a
6	16+	3	1	0	n/a	n/a
7	16+	2	0	0	n/a	n/a
8	16+	1	1	1	n/a	n/a
9	16+	1	1	0	n/a	n/a
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>41</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>		

Please note: Return home interviews (RHI) are not offered to children under the care of other authorities as this would be the responsibility of their corporate parents.

For the same quarter in 2018-19, five other authority Children in Care went missing a total of 7 times; two for more than 24 hours.

The remaining 37 children who went missing during Quarter 2 2019-20 were not in the care of Wokingham or another local authority; however, 3 of these children were on a child protection plan at the time they went missing. The breakdown of these children is illustrated in Table 3.

For the same quarter in 2018-19, two children subject to a child protection plan went missing for a total of two occasions.

All of the children in Table 3 are open cases to Wokingham’s EMRAC panel.

Table 3: Children subject to a CP Plan missing from home

Child	Age band	No. of times missing in Q2	No. of times missing for more than 12 hours in Q2	No. of times missing for more than 24 hours in Q2	Return Home Interview (RHI) offered	RHI accepted
1	11-15	1	0	0	Yes	Yes
2	11-15	2	1	1	Yes	Yes
3	16+	5	0	0	Yes	Yes
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>		

There were also 3 children who were on a Child in Need plan who went missing from home in Quarter 2 2019-20. The breakdown of these children is illustrated in Table 4.

Table 4: Children subject to a CIN Plan missing from home

Child	Age band	No. of times missing in Q2	No. of times missing for more than 12 hours in Q2	No. of times missing for more than 24 hours in Q2	Return Home Interview (RHI) offered	RHI accepted
1	6-10	1	1	0	Yes	No
2	11-15	1	0	0	Yes	No
3	11-15	1	0	0	Yes	No
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>		

One of the children in Table 4 is open to Wokingham's EMRAC panel.

Two further children who went missing in Quarter 2 2019-20 have since become subject to a Child in Need plan, but were not subject to the plan at the time of them going missing. One of these is now open to Wokingham's EMRAC panel.

Of the remaining 29 children who went missing in Quarter 2 2019-20, only three went missing on more than one occasion. Of these, one was subsequently opened to the Early Help Team, and another was already known to the Children with Disabilities Team. Both cases were opened to Wokingham's EMRAC panel. The third case was referred to Children's Social Care but no role for them was identified.

