



TRAFFORD  
COUNCIL

Pennine Care  
NHS Foundation Trust



# Children and Young Peoples Scrutiny Committee

Child Protection Planning –performance update

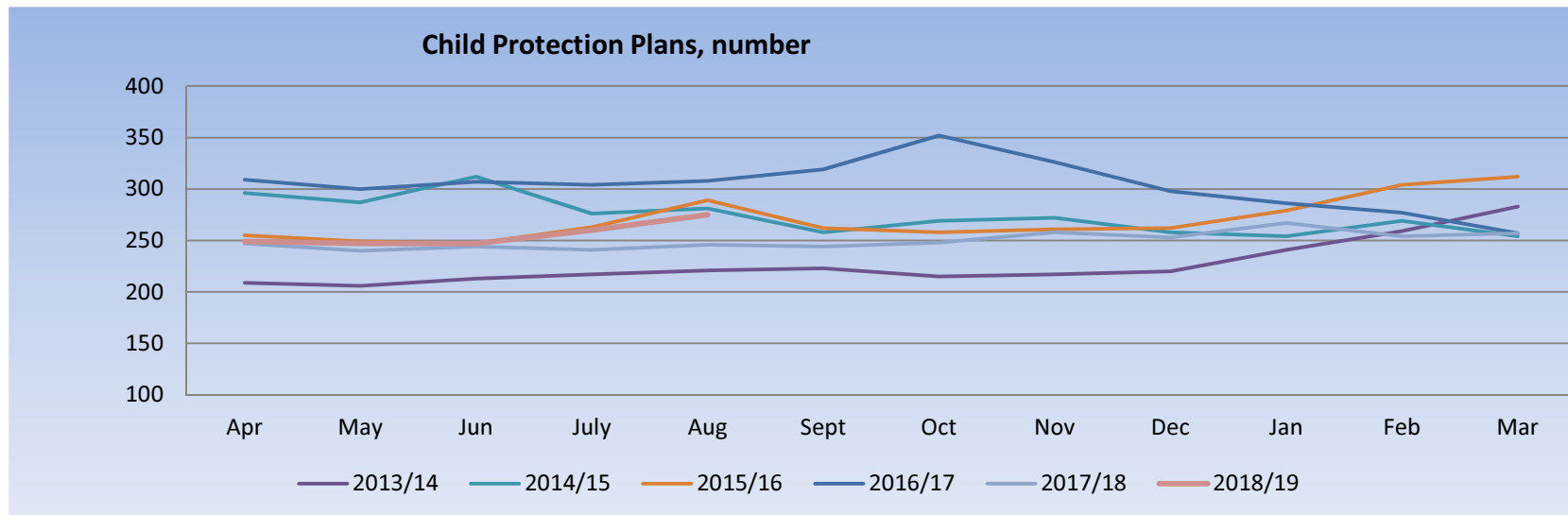
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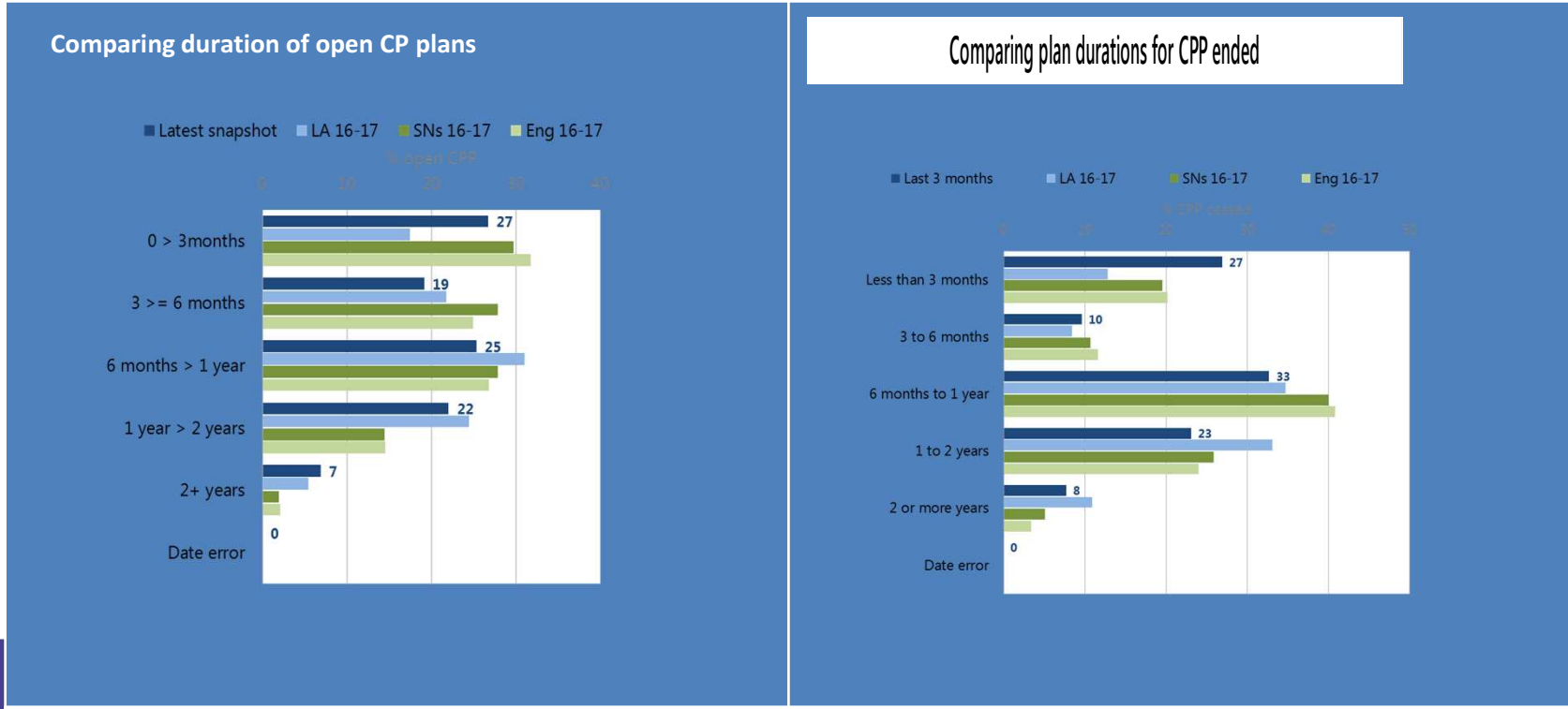
 [www.penninecare.nhs.uk](http://www.penninecare.nhs.uk)

**The number of children subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP), has been generally steady this reporting year, in fact back to March 2017. We have reported monthly figures in the range +/- 4% of 250 from that point until August this year, where the number ‘spiked’ to 275, but has since returned to a level within the range we have been reporting.**

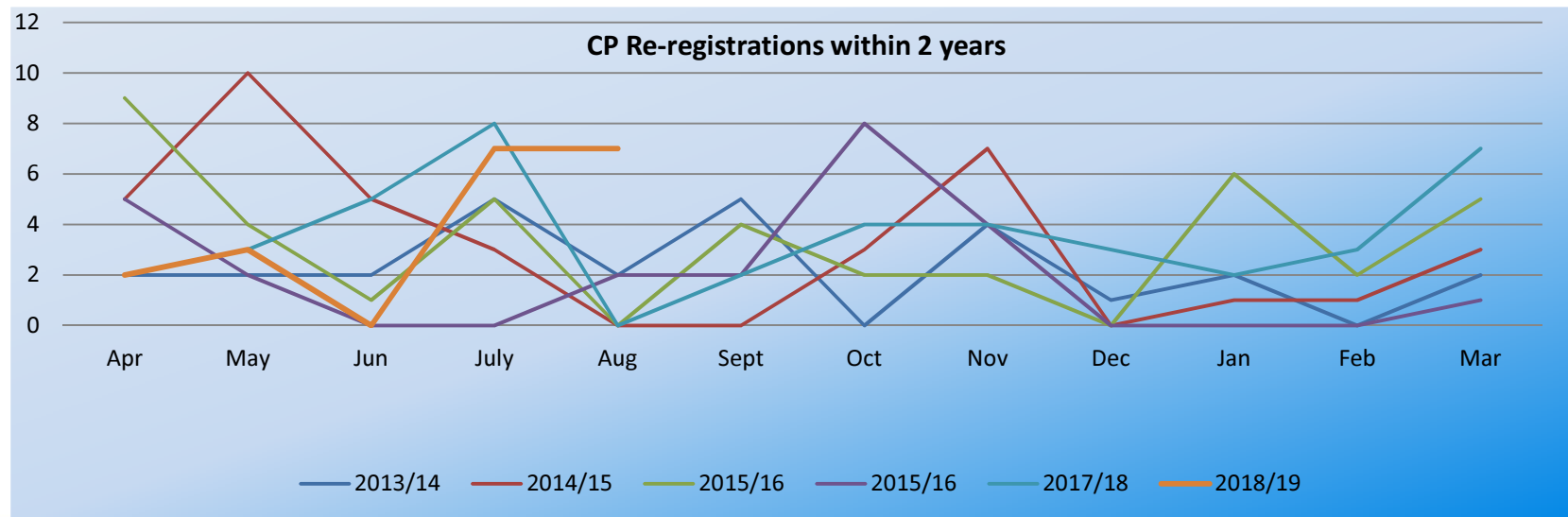




**The length of CP plans: both current, and those closing. We currently have 6.5% of plans that have been open 2 years+. It should also be noted that the proportion of CP closing that were open for 2 years + is 8%, slightly down from the last full year figure of 11% but remaining approximately two times the proportion seen in statistical neighbours.**



**With regard to child protection re-plans, we ended the year to March 2018 with 29% of plans that started in the year being a second or subsequent episode. At the time of writing, this is little changed so far this year (end of August) with 27% being a second or subsequent plan. This equates to 30 of the 112 CP plans that have started this year. This is concerning.**





- The impact of re-plans on children and their families is that they are potentially being supported at a more intense and intrusive level than they require. It can also be confusing for families to “bounce around” the thresholds of intervention (e.g. from child protection to child in need and back into child protection) and this can at times make sustaining positive working relationships more difficult.





- Whilst we should be reassured that we are protecting the most vulnerable children in Trafford we need to be confident that we are working at the most appropriate level and that our families are not becoming overly reliant on statutory services.



## What are we doing to make improvements?

- From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018, our child protection conferences have been “restorative”. In preparation for this, physical changes were made to the environment to make it more inclusive and less threatening. Changes have also been made to assessment templates and correspondence to reflect a more restorative ethos. Early feedback from families is that this new way of working is less intimidating and they feel listened to. Professionals have commented that the new style of conferences is more strength-based and collaborative.



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# The new conference facilities





## What are we doing to make improvements?

- We have streamlined assessments and plans to make them 'SMARTER' for families to understand and professionals to action.
- IRO's will undertake mandatory professional thinking time to facilitate discussion to manage risk, not be led by incident specific actions
- We will review what services we commission to ensure we target support to families.



## What are we doing to make improvements?

- The Strategic Lead –Safeguarding is overseeing all consultations on re-plans to ensure a consistent threshold is applied at referral. The Unit will lead on ensuring quality decisions are made around planning.
- We are meeting colleagues from other Local Authorities to understand good practice and embed the learning back into Trafford.

