

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIAL CARE
& SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL
18 JANUARY 2021**

**Fostering Report
2020/21**



MIDDLESBROUGH
CHILDREN
MATTER



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Middlesbrough
moving forward



**Our mission is to show
Middlesbrough children
that they matter.**

1. Number of Carers and Places:

Quarter:	Carers:	Places:
Annual Return – 2019/20	141	267
Quarter 1	149	243
Quarter 2	156	263
Quarter 3		
Quarter 4		

2. Number of Carers by Primary Care Type:

Primary Care Type:	2019/20	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Long-Term	21	19	17		
Short-Term	74	85	89		
Fully Approved Connected Persons	27	33	38		
Fostering to Adopt	1	1	1		
Respite	18	11	11		
Total:	141	149	156		

3. Number of Carers Approved:

Approved Carers:	2019/20	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Mainstream	22	5	5		
Fully Approved Connected Persons	19	5	7		
Total:	41	10	12		

4. Number of Carers De-Registrations:

De-Registrations	2019/20	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Mainstream	16	2	0		
Fully Approved Connected Persons	8	2	2		
Total:	24	4	2		

8. Placements:

Age Group:	2019/20	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Number of Children	163	145	174		
Number of vacant places	15	5	15		
Number of not available places	54	55	56		
Number of places used for Respite Care	35	16	16		

9a. Number of not available places:

Not available reason:	2019/20	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Carer taking a break/pending resignation	19	20	18		
Needs of child currently in placement	26	26	29		
Only available if sibling group placed	6	6	7		
Used by CYP Staying Put after turning 18	3	3	2		
Total:	54	55	56		

9b. Number of not available places:

Breakdown of Carers taking a break/pending resignation	Quarter 2
Personal / Health Reasons	7
Pending Resignation	2
Current Investigation – Standards of Care	2
Post Adoption	2
Fully Approved Connected Person's – To be Closed	2
Update Assessment Required	3
Total:	18

12. Recruitment:

Recruitment:	2019/20	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Initial Enquiries	123	12	19		

What's Working Well

- We have devised a more robust initial screening process that encourages greater dialogue with applicants early in the assessment process and we anticipate that this will reduce the number of initial home visits that do not progress to assessment.
- We have developed plans to streamline the initial enquiry process to reduce the time between initial enquiry and home visit.
- A foster carer recruitment campaign is being delivered in December and staff have been encouraged to contribute to the planning and consultation with the marketing team.
- We have recruited a team of Independent Social Workers to complete Form F assessments to ensure that we can meet the demand generated by the recruitment campaign.(recruitment campaign goes live in 01.21
- There has been a reduction in requests for connected carer assessments due to the greater scrutiny on the range of placement options for children.
- We are developing the Supported Lodgings Provision to ensure robust assessments of potential providers are completed and that subsequent supervision and monitoring of providers is in line with the expectations of mainstream foster carers

QUESTIONS