

Islands Safeguarding Children Partnership

Guernsey and Alderney

Annual Report
2018



Foreword



As this will be my last annual report as Independent Chair of the ISCP I want to thank all those people who have given their time and expertise developing the Partnership over the last four years. In particular, I want to thank David Foote, Business Manager and Claire Wherry, administrator for the Partnership. Without their support it would have been impossible for me to do my role effectively.

This annual report highlights the progress made and the challenges still ahead.

The numbers of children on a Child Protection plan have increased, but this indicates a positive approach to early support as the number staying on a plan for more than two years have reduced significantly. Those who return to a plan for a second time have also decreased, alongside an increase in non-offence referrals to the Convenor and an increase in enquiries to the multi-agency support hub resulting in early help support. The main reason for children coming off a child protection plan is an improvement in home circumstances. Together these indicate that services are intervening early and effectively to reduce the need for long term support.

I believe the ISCP has grown in its efficiency and effectiveness during my tenure, now working closely with those implementing the Children and Young People's Plan and now ready to develop further by strengthening integrated working to safeguard vulnerable adults in Guernsey and Alderney and increase joint working with Jersey to make efficiencies in an already stretched resource area.

There remains much to do though. There is an urgent need to provide safeguarding practitioners with clearer statutory guidance to assist them in interpreting and implementing the Children Law and ensuring the Courts and the services keep the child at the centre of their work and reduce delay.

Better strategic coordination of safeguarding work between acute hospital services, GPs, CAMHS, paediatrics and community health services will increase the safeguarding effectiveness and capacity of the system.

There remains a need to ensure that the lived experience of the child is always put at the centre of developments so that new arrangements are based on a continuing understanding of children's needs. It will be important to manage the risks that organisational pressures can unwittingly drive change to meet the needs of the organisations rather than those of children and families.

Most children in Guernsey live safe, happy and fulfilled lives, have ambition and people to support them achieve this. The work of the ISCP should continue to focus on achieving that for those children who are not as fortunate to have that support.

The best way to safeguard children is to prevent them becoming in need therefore it is essential that a focus on prevention should drive the Children and Young People's Plan for all children and the ISCP should continue to press the agencies to give priority to support those most in need.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, which appears to read 'S Westwood', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

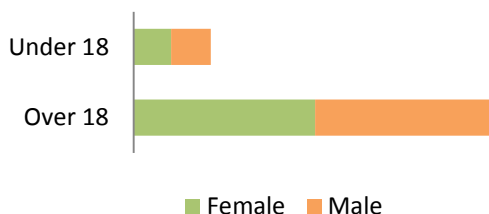
Simon Westwood, Independent Chair ISCP

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Executive summary



TOTAL CHILD POPULATION FOR GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY AT END OF MARCH 2018 –

11,424

= 18% OF TOTAL POPULATION

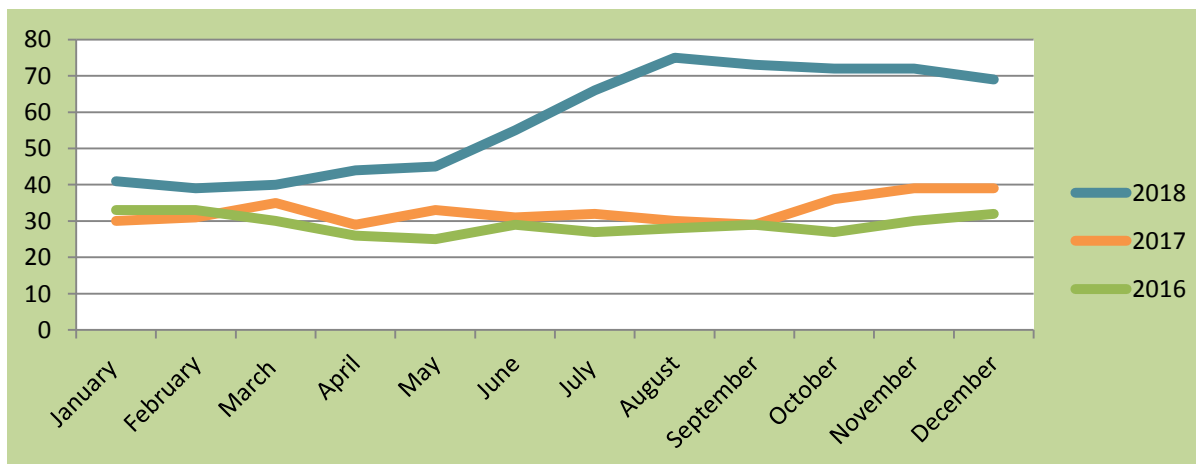


88 CHILDREN WERE LOOKED AFTER



THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN ROSE FROM 80 IN 2017 TO 88 IN 2018. THE PERCENTAGE OF THOSE CHILDREN LIVING OFF-ISLAND FELL FROM 14% IN 2017 TO LESS THAN 10% IN 2018

CHILD PROTECTION REGISTRATION FIGURES ROSE DURING THE YEAR FROM **41** AT THE END OF JANUARY TO **69** BY THE END OF THE YEAR



There was a total of 122 children on the register in 2018 – just over 1% of the child population

Resources		Partnership and engagement	
	<i>The ISCP have managed well with the available budget for 2018</i>	The ISCP continue to work closely with the Youth Forum to gain the views of children and young people and have also begun working closely with the Children and Young People’s Plan implementation group to support priorities identified in that plan.	
Additional resources were allocated by HSC in 2018 for the development of the interagency training coordinator post.		<i>The ISCP jointly hosted conferences with the Domestic Abuse Strategy and the Children and Young People’s Plan.</i>	
<i>Suitable forensic examination facilities for child sexual abuse assessment were found + funding for the necessary equipment</i>		The <i>Care and Support Framework</i> was agreed and published on the ISCP website - http://iscp.gg/Care-and-Support-Framework	
		<i>The website was further developed during 2018 to include new risk assessment procedures. This work will continue in 2019 – http://iscp.gg.</i>	
Information sharing guidance for practitioners has been redrafted and will be published in 2019 following wider consultation. Work was also carried out on developing the use of online forms for feedback from practitioners and ISCP agency representatives. This will continue to be developed in 2019.			
Focus on vulnerable groups			
The rate of children on the child protection register for longer than 2 years has fallen from 10.5% to 1.9% and improved home situation remains the most common outcome.		<i>Long term trends indicate a decline in the number of children looked after by HSC.</i>	
Re-registration rates within 24 months remained low at 2.4%			
Training on safeguarding children with disabilities has continued as a Level 4 safeguarding course.		<i>Across the year the percentage of looked after children living off-island fell from 12.1% in January to 7.4% in December.</i>	
Re-offending rates for young people in the islands remains low compared to England and Wales			
The level of early help and support being provided to children and families through the Multi-Agency Support Hub (MASH) increased to 67% of enquiries, aided by the introduction of early help assessments being undertaken by the MASH from October 2018 onwards.			
Learning and improvement			
Learning from case reviews have led to the development of training on sexual abuse, neglect, parental mental health and disguised compliance.		<i>The Quality Assurance group has been reviewed and reformed to audit child protection processes.</i>	

What we plan to do in 2019

1. Maximising capacity and resources

- Support development of the interagency training coordinator post to disseminate learning from case reviews, build engagement with safeguarding children practitioners and facilitate the development of some practitioners as trainers.
- Continue to monitor and support the development of suitable forensic examination facilities for the assessment, support and investigation of child sexual abuse.
- Contribute to the development of interagency safeguarding arrangements for children and adults.

2. Managing partnership and engagement

- Continue to press partner agencies for arrangements that will meet the role of a Designated Safeguarding Doctor in full.
- Further develop new processes for engaging frontline practitioners in feedback on safeguarding issues experienced in practice.
- Explore the use of social media to engage and inform the local safeguarding children workforce.

3. Ensuring focus on vulnerable groups

- Maintain links with the Youth Forum and Youth Commission to ensure the views of children and young people continue to be considered in relation to safeguarding issues.
- Continue to work with the Children and Young People's Plan implementation group to help maintain a focus on the emotional health and welfare of children.
- Continue to monitor and assess the impact of initiatives aimed at supporting emotional health and welfare of children in the islands.

4. Embedding learning and improvement

- Consider barriers to using escalation procedures to raise concerns about interagency safeguarding practice and review the ISCP Resolution of Professional Disagreements procedures.
- Publish and publicise the updated information sharing guidance for practitioners providing services to children, young people, parents and carers.
- Consider the cumulative pressures of work in the child protection system highlighted in the 2018 joint audit exploring causes of delay and drift.

Section 1 - Local background and context

Guernsey

Guernsey is the second largest of the Channel Islands. It is a British Crown Dependency but independent from the UK Government. Guernsey's parliament is called the States of Deliberation (the States). It comprises 38 elected deputies and two Alderney representatives. The States services are structured under a central Policy and Resources Committee, six Principal Committees, five authorities/boards/commissions and a Scrutiny Management Committee.

The legislation that underpins child protection practice in the islands is the Children (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2008 (the Children Law), which was implemented in January 2010. The child protection system in the islands is similar to UK practice, although the Children Law introduced the Office of the Children's Convenor and the Child, Youth and Community Tribunal (the CYCT), which sets Guernsey and Alderney apart from practice in England and Wales. The CYCT is a welfare-based system, modelled on the Scottish Children's Hearings system. It replaces the Court in the majority of cases where there is a need for compulsory intervention either to protect children and young people from harm or to support children and families to change harmful or risky behaviours. The CYCT therefore is an important part of the overall child safeguarding system, operating alongside processes for early help, multi-agency support for children in need, child protection case conferences and the juvenile court.

Alderney

Alderney is part of the Bailiwick of Guernsey and is independently governed through the States of Alderney, which is made up of ten democratically elected States Members and a President. The States of Alderney has its own law-making powers, apart from matters of law and order and some transferred services. Education, health and social care, policing and the Office of the Children's Convenor are extended to Alderney. The children of Alderney are therefore safeguarded in the same way as the children of Guernsey.

Sark

Sark is part of the Bailiwick of Guernsey and is also independently governed. Sark approved its own version of the law, the Children (Sark) Law, 2016. This includes the child welfare principles and child welfare checklist, definition of parental responsibility and private law orders. Sark is not included in the remit of the Islands Safeguarding Children Partnership (ISCP), although the island has a designated safeguarding officer, who is invited to attend ISCP meetings as an observer. If any child in Sark is identified as being at risk of significant harm the relevant officers in Guernsey are commissioned by the Sark authorities to undertake the necessary assessment and provide the intervention.

Herm

Herm is one of the smallest islands of the Bailiwick and is considered to be part of Guernsey within the law. Therefore, the rules that safeguard children in Herm are the same as those for Guernsey children.

Population

The States of Guernsey Electronic Census Report shows there were 62,307 people resident in Guernsey at the end of March 2018. In Alderney the total population was 2,019, giving an overall population of **64,326** for the islands. The child population for the islands at the end of March 2018 was approximately **11,424** (under 18). Alderney's population is older on average with a median age of 56 for males and 57 for females, compared to the median age in Guernsey of 42 for males and 45 for females. So there are a higher proportion of older people in Alderney than in Guernsey. The child population accounts for approximately 18% of the total population for both islands, although the percentage for Alderney alone is approximately 11%. Population statistics in both islands indicate a dynamic population with most migrants in Guernsey and Alderney being of working age. More information and analysis of population trends can be found on the States of Guernsey website: <https://gov.gg/data>.

Purpose of the Islands Safeguarding Children Partnership

The Islands Safeguarding Children Partnership is formally known as the Islands Child Protection Committee in the Children Law. There was a move towards using the Islands Safeguarding Children Partnership (ISCP) as a working name in 2017 to reflect the wider remit of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children as referred to in the Children Law. The ISCP is made up of senior representatives from agencies working with children and families in the public, private and voluntary sectors. It was set up as the Islands Child Protection Committee under the Children Law, with the principal objective being:

“to co-ordinate what is done by each agency represented on the Committee for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.”

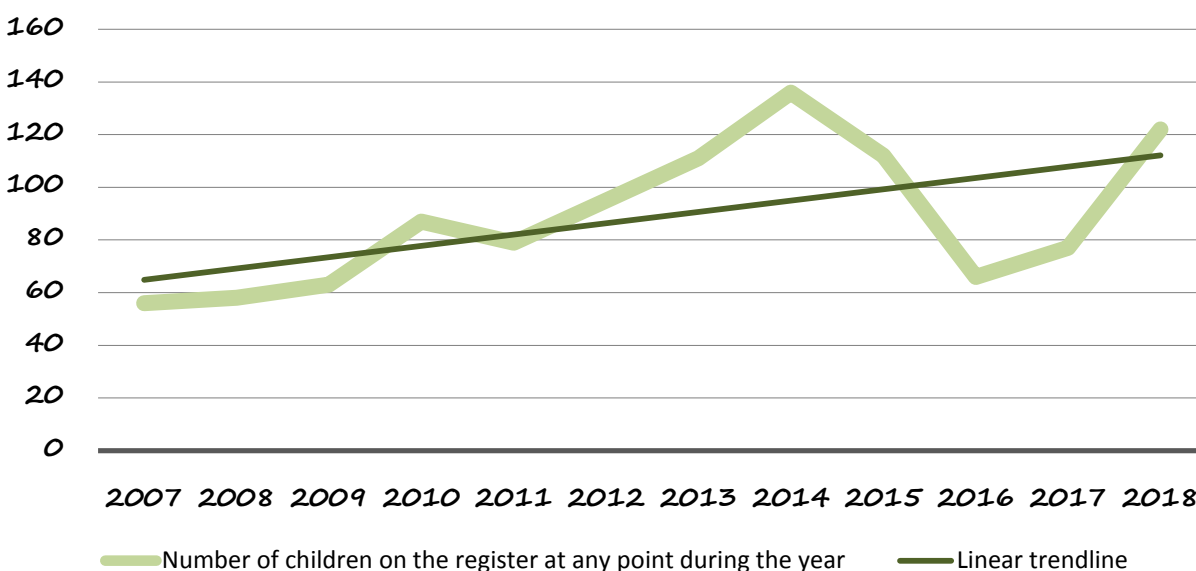
The Committee is also intended to:

- **promote effective co-operation between all persons involved in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children;**
- **provide guidance to employees working with children in Guernsey and Alderney; and,**
- **review any case or incident where a child has died or suffered serious harm.**

Cases are intended to be reviewed by the ISCP in those circumstances when abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected; and either the child has died; or been seriously harmed **and** there is cause for concern as to the way agencies have worked together to safeguard the child. The purpose is to identify lessons and to ensure that local practice is continuously improving

and evolving based on feedback and experience from both the Bailiwick and international best practice in safeguarding children and young people.

Children in the child protection system



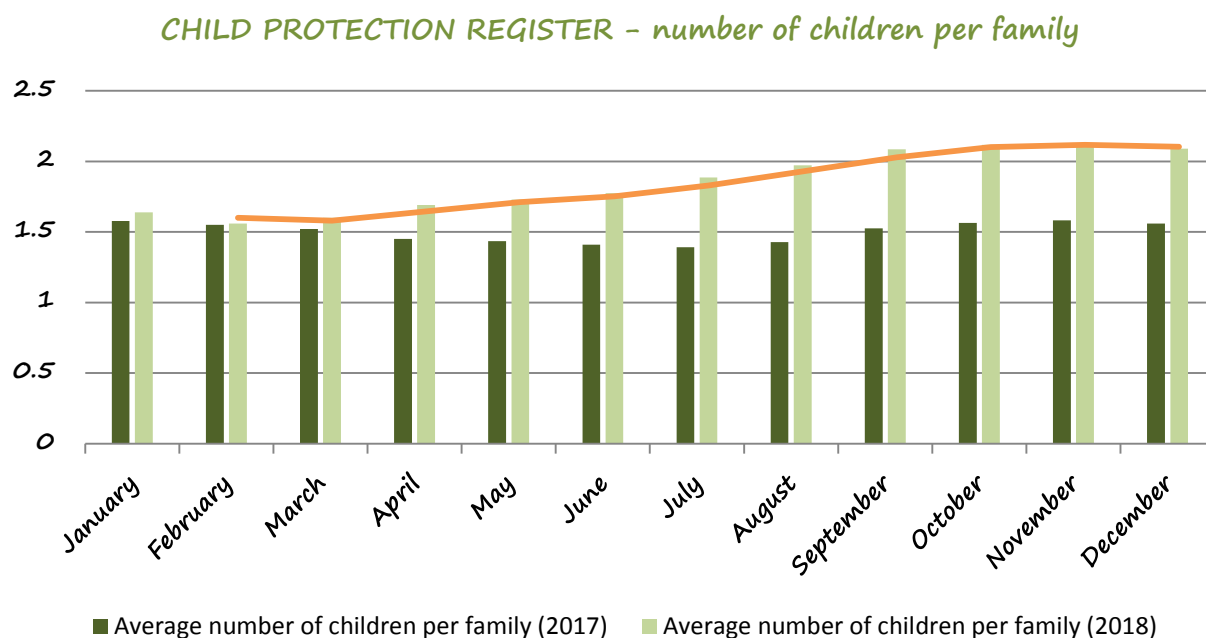
The Committee for Health & Social Care (HSC) has a duty to carry out initial inquiries when it is notified of a concern about a child or young person. When it appears to children's social care that a child might have suffered, or be likely to suffer, serious harm through abuse or neglect a strategy discussion will take place to decide whether there should be a joint investigation with the police and plan for the immediate protection of a child. In cases of unborn babies, a pre-birth planning meeting will be held to decide whether a social work assessment is necessary. Through the course of investigation and assessment, if it is felt that a child has suffered, or is likely to suffer, serious harm then a child protection case conference will take place. The purpose of the conference is to decide with the parents and relevant professionals if the child needs a child protection plan. If it is thought that they do need a plan, then the child's name will be placed on the child protection register.

The numbers of strategy discussions, pre-birth planning meetings and child protection registrations can give an indication of trends in child abuse and the service response to it. However, many children who experience abuse or neglect might not be identified by statutory services, so the figures do not necessarily reflect the prevalence of need in the islands.

In 2018 there was an increase in the number of child protection registrations over the course of the year from 41 at the end of January to 69 by the end of December. In England the rate of

children with child protection plans was 45.3 per 10,000 at the end of March 2018, up from 43.3 the previous year. The comparable figure in Guernsey and Alderney at the end of March 2018 was 35 per 10,000 child population, although the figure at the end of the year had risen to 60.4 per 10,000. The rate for the total number of child protection plans at any point during the year in England was 100.9 per 10,000 child population and the equivalent figure in Guernsey and Alderney was 106.8 per 10,000.

It is likely that the relatively small population accounts for some fluctuation in local data. For example, large sibling groups can have a significant effect on rates of child protection registration. The average number of children per family on the child protection register had risen over the course of 2018 from 1.6 in January to 2.1 in December and this rise accounts for some of the observed increase in registrations. Although there was an increase of 28 in the number of children on the register (from 41 to 69), the respective increase in families was 8, from 25 in January to 33 in December. In 2017 the average number of children per family on the child protection register remained at around 1.5 throughout the year.



After a 32% increase in the number of strategy discussions and pre-birth planning meetings between 2016 and 2017, there was a 13% decrease in 2018. However, the four-year trend since 2015 suggests that these figures are fairly stable.

The percentage of children whose names remained on the register in Guernsey and Alderney for longer than two years was 10.5% in 2017, compared to 3.4% in England. This figure fell to

1.9% in 2018 for Guernsey and Alderney. At the same time, re-registration rates remained low; suggesting child protection plans had worked and were not ended too early.

The quality assurance sub-group continued auditing re-registrations and cases that had been on the register for more than 12 months in 2018. As in previous years it was identified that some child protection plans were not specific enough in detailing actions required and the timeframe expected to achieve them. The group further identified that plans do not always address the risks present in the lives of the children. Risks from long-term neglect can sometimes be overlooked in the presence of risks from domestic abuse or parental substance misuse. Learning from these audits continues to inform the ongoing safeguarding training for professionals. The terms of reference and membership of the quality assurance sub-group was reviewed in 2018, which now includes members of the HSC Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Team.

One possible reason for the observed reduction in lengthy periods of registration is the developing practice of referring children, at the second review conference, to the Children's Convenor (when appropriate). The Children's Convenor can take an independent view on whether compulsory intervention may be necessary and if so, refer the child to the CYCT. If a care requirement is made by the CYCT a review child protection conference is then convened to consider de-registration.

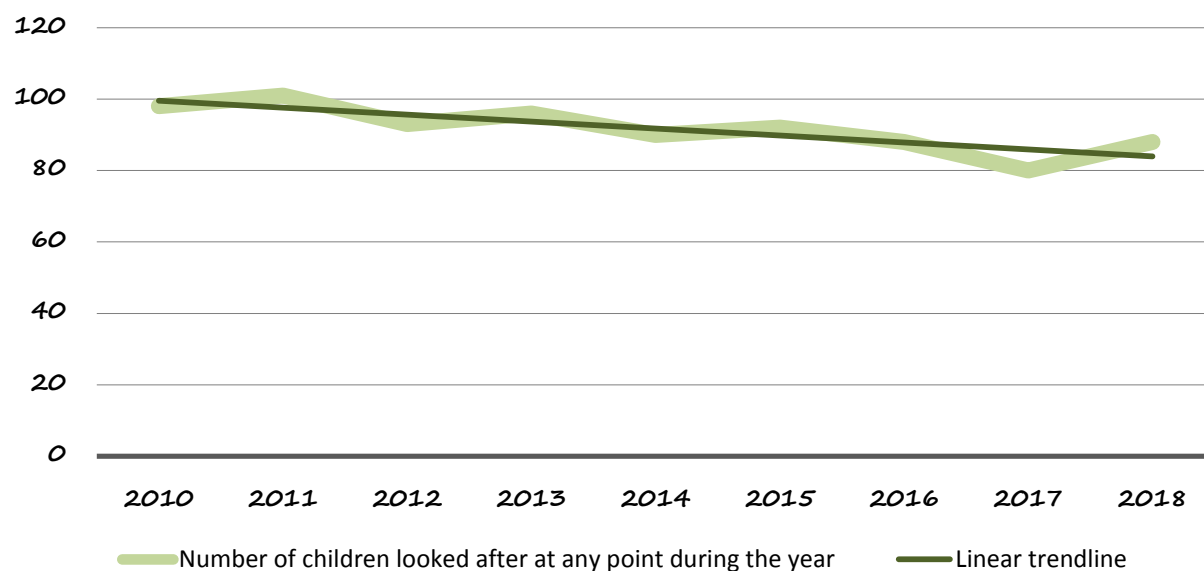
Emotional abuse is no longer the highest category for registration, falling from 65% in 2016 to 48% in 2017 to 34% in 2018. This compares to 35% in England where neglect remains the highest category of abuse at 48%. Registrations for neglect in Guernsey and Alderney is 19%. The highest category in Guernsey and Alderney is now multiple (38%), where more than one main category has been identified. This includes a high proportion of emotional abuse. Child protection plans under multiple categories in England account for 5% of the total.

It is difficult to draw conclusions from these comparisons as decisions about category of registration are subjective and it can be assumed that all types of abuse include some degree of emotional abuse. The combination of registrations under emotional abuse alone and as part of multiple category registrations indicate it is still an issue locally. Neglect was the most commonly identified need for referrals into MASH at 18%, although domestic abuse (a source of emotional abuse for children) remained high at 17% and a further 11% were referred for emotional abuse.

Parental factors of substance misuse, histories of violence and mental health issues are still the most commonly identified for children on the child protection register with issues around parental mental health being the highest identified.

Improvements in their home situation is still the most likely reason for de-registration, which along with the low rates of re-registration (0% within one year, 2.4% within two years) suggest child protection plans are working to support children and families. However, there has been an increase in de-registration as a result of becoming subject to a Care Requirement, which indicates a move towards compulsory intervention.

Children looked after



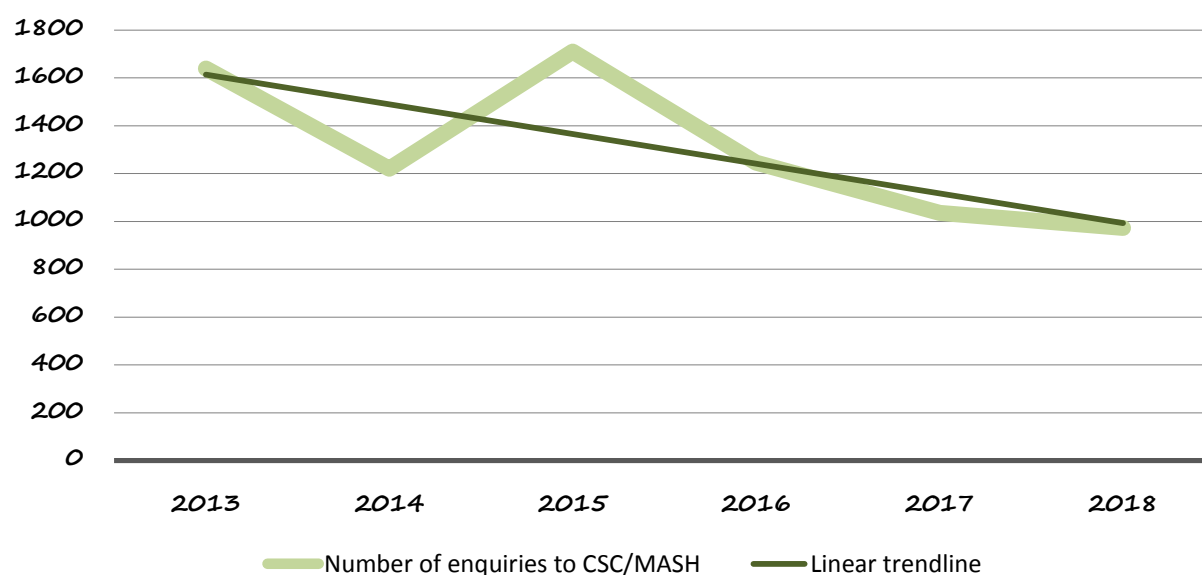
Children looked after are defined here as those who are accommodated by the Committee *for* Health & Social Care (HSC). There are many reasons why children might be looked after by HSC. They could be at risk from abuse or neglect or have specific needs requiring specialist support. Some children are looked after for short periods at a time while others are looked after on a long-term basis or go on to be adopted. Children can be looked after as the result of a Court Order or Care Requirement made by the CYCT, or on a voluntary basis, by agreement with their parents.

In total there were 88 children looked after during 2018, with an average of 66 during each month. This is a rise of 10 % when compared to the previous year where the overall figure was 80, although the monthly average has remained the same. The general trend since 2010 is that there has been a decline in the number of children being looked after by HSC. The number of children being looked after off-island continued to fall, from 14% in 2017 to less than 10% in 2018. This compares to a generally increasing trend for children looked after in all four UK nations.

It is widely recognised in research that children who are looked after face additional adversity and need stability and comprehensive support if they are to achieve on a par with their peers. One of the measures of stability is the number of placement moves children experience. In Guernsey and Alderney 2% of children looked after experienced three or more moves during 2018, down from 10% in 2017. The comparable figure in England for the year ending March 2017 was 10.3%; 10.5% in Wales; 5.4% in Scotland and 5% in Northern Ireland (although Scotland includes children looked after at home and Northern Ireland record moves in a six-month period and exclude moves for respite purposes).

The majority of looked after children are accessing mainstream school on-island.

Children in need



Note: the systems for making and recording referrals have changed over the years and the Multi-Agency Support Hub (MASH) was introduced in 2015 as a process for accessing multi-agency support. Fluctuations in rates of enquiries is partly indicative of those changes.

The definition of need in the Children Law is where children are unlikely to maintain a reasonable standard of health and development without additional services.

Children can be in need for many different reasons: they can be in need because they have a disability or are affected by the disability or illness of a parent or other family member; they can also be in need because of the standard of care they receive or the impact of abuse and neglect. Sometimes children are vulnerable to exploitation or become vulnerable through their own risk-taking behaviour.

Anyone who has concerns about the welfare of a child can make enquiries to the Multi-Agency Support Hub (MASH), which is the single point of entry to multi-agency support for children with additional needs and their families.

The MASH was set up in March 2015. The data from 2016 provided the first full year of statistics from referrals to the MASH when 50% of enquiries led to early help being provided by MASH and through single or multi-agency support plans. The subsequent figures have been 45% in 2017 and 67% in 2018. 14% of enquiries were referred for social work assessment in 2018 compared to 20% in 2017 and 12% in 2016.

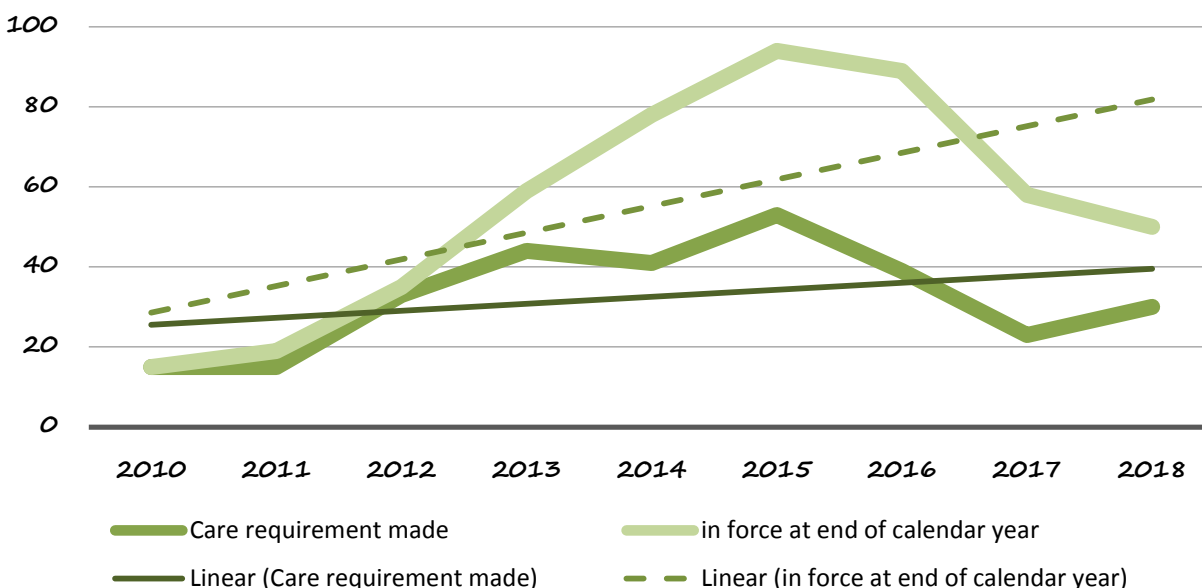
The Police are still the main source of enquiries into MASH (32%) and send significantly more notifications to MASH than show up in the statistics. This is because enquiries that concern cases already open to children's social care are not recorded as enquiries. The majority of the remaining enquiries come from education (17%) and health (11%).

The rate of repeat enquiries into MASH (within 12 months) fell to 31% in 2018 from 47% in 2017. This means that, although the number of enquiries to MASH fell from 1036 in 2017 to 973 in 2018 the number of individual children the enquiries related to rose slightly, from 763 to 770 children respectively.

There has been a 56% increase in the number of children being admitted to hospital due to a mental health condition between 2017 and 2018. However, more than half of the admissions were for children who were admitted on repeat occasions. It is also local practice for some children with known mental health needs to be admitted to hospital as a place of safety, before any harm has been caused. Nearly half of the mental health admissions were for this reason, which is positive in that the service had worked to prevent harm. The remaining admissions were for incidents of self-harm or overdose. The average length of stay in hospital for the children was four days, but this ranged from 1 to 31 days for those who were there as a place of safety and 1 – 14 days for those who had self-harmed or taken an overdose. All of these children received an assessment from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), although only 11% of admissions required medical input from a paediatrician.

The ISCP considered the emotional welfare of local children a priority for services in 2018 and the ongoing increase in admissions to hospital and contact with CAMHS indicates that it should remain so for 2019. Some work has been done during 2018, particularly by education services and through the Children and Young People's Plan, to address the emotional welfare of children at an early stage. Continued monitoring will assess the effectiveness of these strategies.

Children at risk



Within the Children Law a child is considered to be at risk if their circumstances might meet the grounds for compulsory intervention. These include those children who: have suffered or are likely to suffer physical or sexual abuse or significant impairment to their health or development; have misused drugs or alcohol; have committed a criminal offence or displayed behaviour that is violent or destructive; or, are failing to attend school without good reason.

Anyone who believes that compulsory intervention may be necessary to ensure the provision of adequate care, protection, guidance or control for a child can make a referral to the Children's Convenor. Where the grounds for compulsory intervention are met, the Convenor can refer the case to the Child, Youth and Community Tribunal (CYCT). If the CYCT decide compulsory intervention is required they can make a legal order called a care requirement.

There was an increase in referrals to the Children's Convenor in 2018, 362 referrals in relation to 268 children. There was also an increase in non-offence referrals, 147 referrals in 2018, up from 81 in 2017. The number of new care requirements made also increased on the previous year – 30 in 2018 compared to 23 in 2017.

The number of children missing from home, care or school fell to 110 in 2018 from 154 in 2017. The highest number of children missing reported by ISCP was in 2015 (292), although it is likely this was due to a change in police recording systems as figures fell after 2015 and have not returned to that level since.

The re-referral rate for youth offending in the islands fell from 31% in 2017 to 16% in 2018, which compares to a proven reoffending rate of 40.9% in England and Wales for the year

ending March 2018. It is a positive sign that this figure has remained low. In addition, there were only two custodial sentences for under 18 year-olds and no secure accommodation orders on criminal grounds.

Summary

Although there has been a rise in the number of children on the child protection register the figures show that there has been a decrease in the number of children on the register for longer than two years as well as a decrease in the number of re-registrations. These are positive signs that, in general, child protection plans are working, especially when considering the main reason for de-registration remains improvement in the child's home situation. In addition, there has been an observed increase in the number of referrals to the Convenor on welfare grounds and an increase in the number of enquiries to MASH that result in early help. Together these indicate that the system is working effectively without the need for long term intervention to safeguard children.

Section 2 - Governance and accountability arrangements

Membership

There were some changes to the membership of the ISCP during 2018. Alan Brown left his role as Director of Education at the end of 2017. The ISCP would like to thank him for the very valuable contributions he made both as a member of the partnership and as Chair of the Learning and Improvement sub-committee.

Nick Hynes, Director of Learning, Performance and Intervention in Education Services replaced Alan Brown as the Education, Sport and Culture representative until Andrew Warren was appointed as Director of Education.

Nigel Taylor left the partnership at the end of May 2018 and Phil Breban took his place as police representative. The ISCP would like to thank Nigel Taylor for his hard work and commitment to the work of the ISCP both within the main committee and as police representative on the Case Review Group.

The ISCP would also like to thank Chelsea Martel (Head of Operations, Committee for Home Affairs) for her valuable contributions. She left the partnership at the end of 2017 and was replaced by Anna Guilbert, Head of the Probation Service, as representative for Home Affairs.

Martin Winward also left the partnership in July 2018 as the Alderney representative. The ISCP would like to thank Martin for his support and for the work he continues to do in promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children in Alderney.

List of ISCP members 2018

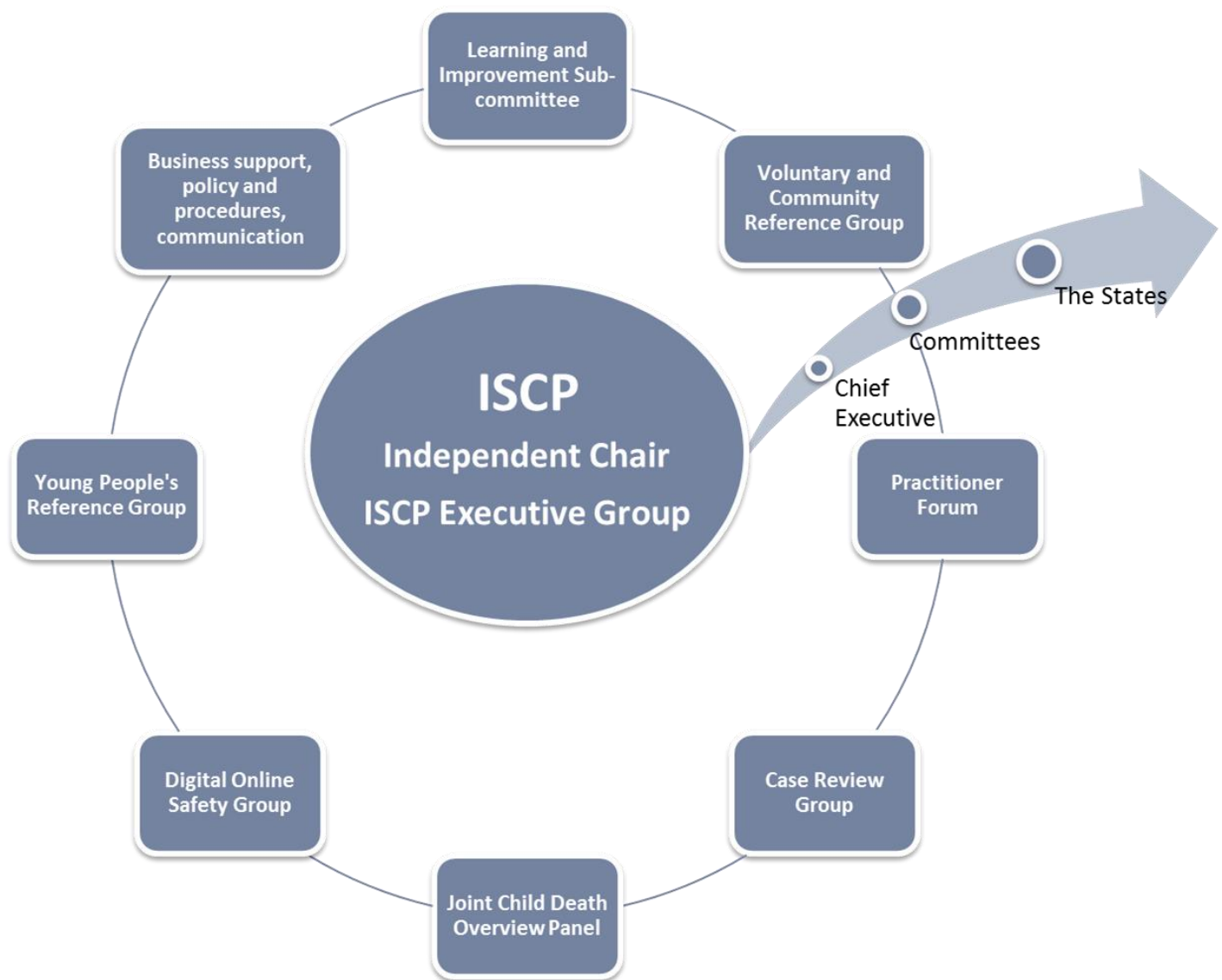
Independent Chair	Simon Westwood
Committee for Health & Social Care	Nicky Gallienne Head of Children and Family Community Services
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	Dr. Penny Thompson Psychiatrist
Committee for Education, Sport & Culture	Nick Hynes Director of Learning, Performance and Intervention (January to May)
	Andrew Warren Director of Education (from July)
Committee for Home Affairs	Anna Guilbert Head of Probation Service
Police	Nigel Taylor Superintendent (January to May)
	Phil Breban Chief Inspector (from May)
Children's Convenor	Karen Brady
Primary Care	Dr. Janice Porritt Queen's Road Medical Practice
Paediatrics	Dr. Sandie Bohin Medical Specialist Group, paediatrician
Alderney	Martin Winward Headteacher, St Anne's School (January to July)
Voluntary sector	Kareena Hodgson Manager, Action for Children
Sark	Christine Audrain (observer January to May)

Attendance

Islands Safeguarding Children Partnership Attendance at meetings 2018 (6 meetings in total)	
Dept/Organisation	No. of meetings attended
Independent Chair	6
Health & Social Care	6
Home	6
Police	6
Education, Sport & Culture	4
Alderney	0
Voluntary Agencies Representative	4
Paediatrician	5
Convenor	5
Primary Care	5
CAMHS	4

Structure of the ISCP 2017 – 2018

The ISCP has an Independent Chair to provide leadership, challenge and effective scrutiny of safeguarding practice. The Independent Chair reports directly to the ISCP Executive Group which meets three times a year to discuss progress and issues raised through the ISCP. The Executive Group is chaired by the Chief Executive of the States of Guernsey and is made up of the Chief Secretaries of the Committee *for* Health & Social Care, the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture and the Committee *for* Home Affairs.



Business support and funding arrangements

The ISCP is supported through a full-time business manager and a part-time administrative assistant, and has an annual core budget of £78,000, funded through contributions from the three main Committees *for* Home Affairs, Education, Sport & Culture and Health & Social Care. The Committee *for* Health & Social Care funds the business manager post, provides office space and facilities for the ISCP support team as well as contributing to the core budget.

Core budget expenditure

	Annual projection - 2018	Actuals - 2018	Variation from projection - 2018
Contributions			
HSC	-32,334	-32,334	
Home	-13,333	-13,333	
Education	-32,333	-32,333	
Total Income	-78,000	-78,000	
Expenditure			
Independent Chair	18,000	16,344	1,656
Established staff	20,700	60,058	-39,358
LSCB chairs Association	1,500	1,500	0
Website/procedures	1,000	720	280
Annual conference	5,000	2,733	2,267
Travel and accommodation	7,000	7,335	-335
Incidental expenses	1,000	117	883
Venue hire	1,500	217	1,283
Catering	2,000	448	1,552
COW legal	17,000	16,505	495
Training and Development	2,000	2,110	-110
	76,700	108,087	31,387
	-1,300	30,087	31,387

The observed overspend in the budget is due wholly to the addition of the interagency training coordinator post to the ISCP budget in 2018. The post was recruited to in May and had not been included in the annual projection. Funding for the post was agreed by the Committee for Health & Social Care and will be reflected in full within the budget for 2019. The overspend was mitigated in part by underspends in other areas of the budget, particularly in relation to the annual conference, of which the ISCP ran two during the year. Costs for these conferences were kept to a minimum through working in partnership with the Domestic Abuse Strategy and the Children and Young People's Plan who each co-produced a conference with the ISCP. The Children and Young People's Plan have agreed to co-produce a conference again in 2019.

Section 3 - Progress against the strategic priorities for 2018

The strategic priorities for 2018 remained as: maximising capacity and resources; managing partnership and engagement; ensuring focus on vulnerable groups; embedding learning and improvement. In the business plan for 2018 there were 15 actions identified against these four priorities.

1. Maximising capacity and resources

- *Develop a comprehensive training strategy to include an ongoing training needs analysis and develop further initiatives to disseminate learning from case reviews*
- *Continue to monitor and help resolve the gap in provision of suitable forensic examination facilities for child sexual abuse assessment, support and investigation*
- *Continue to press funding agencies to secure legal advice and implementation support to finalise amendments to the ISCP regulations and constitution that will reflect the updated structure and governance arrangements*

An interagency training coordinator was successfully appointed in May 2018 and a process for training needs analysis has been developed to inform the ongoing safeguarding training strategy. Level 1 safeguarding training has remained as an e-learning package, level 2 has been reviewed and updated and the level 3 training has been developed into a series of half-day modules. The modular approach has been developed to help clarify aspects of the safeguarding process and includes modules on: information sharing; preparing for and attending child protection conference; and, the Multi-Agency Support Hub, Care and Support Framework and Failure to be Brought guidance. Additional level 4 modules have also been developed in relation to learning from case reviews and these include: Neglect - the Graded Care Profile; Safeguarding Children with Disabilities; Sexual Abuse of Children and Young People; Women's Maternal and Parental Mental Health; and Disguised Compliance. The updated training programme will begin from January 2019.

Suitable forensic examination facilities were identified in 2018 as well as the funding for refurbishment and necessary equipment. Some issues remain around staffing and accessing specialist skills to carry out the assessments and children currently attend facilities in Jersey to access the right support.

Access to legal support had been agreed during 2018 to update the regulations and constitution, although it was recognised the officer's legal caseload would necessarily take precedence over re-drafting regulations and this action remains to be achieved. It is likely that the ISCP structure will further develop during 2019 and as a result this action is no longer a

priority. It would be better for the ISCP to await the outcome of any further structural changes and then update the regulations accordingly.

2. Managing partnership and engagement

- *Continue to press partner agencies to appoint a Designated Safeguarding Doctor to coordinate safeguarding improvements across the health economy, working with health safeguarding leads*
- *Publish revised guidance for practitioners on information sharing and multi-agency care pathways, considering the forthcoming General Data Protection Regulation*
- *Develop an implementation plan for the new guidance documents to ensure practitioners are aware of their roles and responsibilities*
- *Further develop the practitioners' forum to increase engagement of the ISCP with frontline practice*

A visiting consultant paediatrician provides safeguarding supervision for local paediatricians and facilitates a monthly peer review meeting for health professionals. It is considered that this arrangement fulfils all but the strategic elements of a Designated Doctor role, but the ISCP will monitor this and continue to press for an arrangement that meets the role in full.

A new post of Named Nurse for Safeguarding was identified within the Committee for Health & Social Care in 2018 and it is expected that this will be appointed to early in 2019.

The information sharing guidance was revised in 2018 in line with the General Data Protection Regulation and the local equivalent Data Protection (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2017. Training has begun on the new principles for handling personal information in the context of safeguarding children and the new guidance will be published following final consultation.

The Care and Support Framework was agreed and published during 2018. This document sets out the multi-agency care pathways and provides useful information for staff about indicators of need and levels of service to be expected. The framework has been published on the ISCP website and is also available to download [here](#). To promote use of the framework, it has been shared widely with professionals along with follow-up meetings with managers to discuss it, a poster summary of the framework has been designed and distributed and training has been incorporated into the ISCP training plan.

A new model for the practitioners forum was developed in 2018 using anonymised cases, presented by practitioners to share learning and open up discussion about how multi-agency systems work. The model was trialled within two service areas and the plan is to extend this to a wider group of practitioners in the future. The plan for 2019 is also to continue to provide some update sessions for practitioners.

Progress was also made on the ISCP website and practitioners are now able to sign up to ISCP updates by email or SMS message, although the process of communication using the website or social media needs more consideration to improve effectiveness.

3. Ensuring focus on vulnerable groups

- *Continue to work with the Youth Forum and Youth Commission to ensure the views of children and young people are considered in relation to safeguarding issues*
- *Raise local public safeguarding awareness through a targeted campaign*
- *Continue to champion the safeguarding needs of vulnerable groups, particularly children in the youth justice system and children with disabilities*
- *Challenge partner agencies to demonstrate how improvements are being made to meet the emotional health and welfare needs of children in the islands*

The ISCP have continued to work closely with the Youth Forum and Youth Commission through involvement of members with the partnership and its sub-committees. The ISCP lost its standing Youth Forum representative during the year as she grew older, entered full-time employment and the Youth Forum selected new members and re-structured. The ISCP is looking forward to including new representatives in some 2019 meetings.

The voice of children is championed by the ISCP within quality assurance processes and within the case reviews commissioned by the partnership. There were two case reviews commissioned during the year for which hearing the child's voice is central to the process.

Relevant publicity material has been identified for a public awareness-raising campaign, although support for launching the campaign was not possible due to other resource priorities. The ISCP will look at alternative ways of using the material during 2019.

Safeguarding training in relation to the needs of disabled children has been included in levels 2, 3 and 4 training and the ISCP has continued to monitor service responses to vulnerable groups through the collated performance information.

The ISCP ran a joint conference with the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) in November 2018 which focused on the emotional health and wellbeing of children. This introduced the Rights Respecting Schools initiative and the CYPP aim for Guernsey and Alderney to become signatories to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) to a wider professional audience. The ISCP and CYPP have agreed to host a joint conference again in 2019 to build on the positive experience of this initial collaboration.

Data collected for 2018 indicate that emotional health and wellbeing remains an issue for children in the islands. Although referrals to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

(CAMHS) were down there was an increase in the complexity of mental health concerns and an increase in direct contact between children and CAMHS workers. There was also a 62% increase in the number of admissions to hospital for mental health concerns (an additional 32 admissions on the previous year).

Guernsey Law Enforcement services have adopted a new definition of vulnerability, which has been published and added to relevant policies. Training for Law Enforcement officers has been disseminated on recognising vulnerability and ensuring safeguarding is considered at the earliest opportunity. This is a welcome development for safeguarding particularly vulnerable groups of children and young people.

4. Embedding learning and improvement

- *Promote the ISCP escalation policy and encourage practitioners to take personal responsibility to resolve professional disagreements around concerns for children*
- *Extend the work and membership of the quality assurance group to include monitoring of action plans from strategy meetings*
- *Update and develop the ISCP website to include live versions of important guidance documents*
- *Conduct a joint audit between the Office of the Children's Convenor and Children and Family Community Services to further explore causes of delay and drift in the child protection system.*

Lessons from case reviews commissioned by the ISCP have encouraged the wider use of escalation procedures among professionals when there are disagreements about the safeguarding needs of children. The ISCP has an escalation procedure, which is published on its [website](#). This has been promoted throughout 2018 and there are signs that people are beginning to use it. However, the use of such procedures does present some difficulties for some staff and the management of interagency relationships. For this reason the procedures will be reviewed during 2019 and some work carried out on understanding the barriers to escalating concerns.

A review of the remit and membership of the quality assurance group was conducted during 2018 and new terms of reference were agreed. The work of this group is now supported by the development of the Children and Family Community Services, Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Team. The team has developed a comprehensive auditing programme for all Children and Family Community Services files, a development that the ISCP hopes to build on during 2019.

Development of the ISCP website has also progressed during the year with live versions of the Care and Support Framework and the Risk Assessment Framework. More live versions of relevant guidance, such as information sharing will be added during 2019.

The joint audit between the Office of the Children's Convenor and the Children and Family Community Services to examine causes of delay for children within the safeguarding system has taken place. The audit had noted a spike in Emergency Child Protection Orders in 2017, although on examination there was no corresponding spike in Child Protection Orders. However, the audit noted cumulative pressures of work in the system and that might warrant a more in-depth analysis. This will be considered by the ISCP in 2019.

Section 4 - Strategic Priorities for 2019

The strategic priorities for 2019 remain the same but specific actions and work to progress these priorities will build on the progress made during 2018.

Maximising capacity and resources

- The addition of an interagency training coordinator post enabled a comprehensive training needs analysis process in 2018 to inform training provision for 2019. The ISCP intend to build on this development and make best use of the additional post to disseminate learning from case reviews and help build closer engagement with safeguarding children practitioners. The post will also be able to facilitate the development of some practitioners as trainers to further the reach of relevant learning.
- Good progress has been made towards the development of forensic examination facilities for the assessment, support and investigation of child sexual abuse. However, there remain some issues in relation to the staffing and development of these facilities. The ISCP will continue to monitor and support the development of these facilities.
- The ISCP has not been able to gain access to legal support to update the regulations and constitution, although it is likely that there will be further structural changes to the ISCP in 2019. The ISCP anticipate contributing to the development of these interagency safeguarding arrangements.

Managing partnership and engagement

- A Named Nurse was appointed by HSC in 2018 but the appointment of a Designated Safeguarding Doctor has not been completely resolved. The ISCP will continue to press for an arrangement that will meet this role in full.

- Some new ideas for the engagement of frontline practitioners were trialled in 2018. The engagement of practitioners in discussion of anonymised cases was particularly useful and the ISCP (through relevant sub groups) will develop this further in 2019.
- Progress has also been made on the design and use of the ISCP website, although there needs to be further exploration of how the ISCP can directly engage with safeguarding practitioners, possibly through the managed use of social media. This will be considered in 2019.

Ensuring focus on vulnerable groups

- The ISCP have continued to work with the Youth Forum, although there is no longer an identified representative for the ISCP. However, the ISCP will maintain links with the Youth Forum and Youth Commission to ensure the views of children and young people continue to be considered in relation to safeguarding issues.
- The ISCP have established links with the Children and Young People's Plan during 2018 and it is the ISCP's intention to continue this relationship to help maintain a focus on the emotional health and welfare of children in the islands.
- Through the Children and Young People's Plan a number of initiatives have been developed to support the emotional health and welfare of children. The ISCP will continue to monitor and assess the impact of these initiatives.

Embedding learning and improvement

- Escalation procedures were promoted during 2018, although this highlighted some barriers to using the procedures for some practitioners. The ISCP will address this by further considering barriers to using the escalation procedures and reviewing the process in line with the findings.
- The information sharing guidance was reviewed and updated in 2018, although publication is awaiting further consultation and endorsement from the Data Protection Commissioner. This process of consultation will be completed in 2019 and the updated information sharing guidance will be published on the ISCP website.
- The joint audit to explore causes of delay and drift in the child protection system conducted in 2018 highlighted concern about cumulative pressures of work in the system. Alongside the learning from other reviews this suggests that there is more work to be done on implementation of the Children Law, including provision of regulations and statutory guidance. These pressures will be considered further by the ISCP in 2019.

Section 5 - Reports from Sub-committees

ISCP Learning and Improvement Sub-committee

Learning & Improvement Sub-committee Attendance at meetings 2018 (6 meetings)	
Dept/Organisation	No. of meetings attended
Children's Social Care, HSC	5
Quality Assurance, HSC (not invited to all meetings)	3
Police	5
Primary Care	5
Education, Sport & Culture	4
Governance, HSC	5
Adult Mental Health, HSC	4
Home	4
ISCP Business Manager	6
Convenor	5
<i>The following became members during 2018:</i>	
ISCP Training Co-ordinator	2
Children and Young People's Plan	2
Safeguarding Unit, HSC	2
Practice Development, HSC	1
Youth Commission	1

The sub-committee started the year without a chair but Vice-Chair, Dr Janice Porritt, a practising GP representing Primary Care, chaired meetings until Guernsey Police representative Chief Inspector Clare Cuthbert was appointed chair in March. We would like to record our thanks to Janice for leading the sub-committee during the interim period. The work completed during the year was varied and significant progress was made on priorities in the ISCP 2018 business plan.

One of the most significant achievements of the year was the appointment of a dedicated ISCP multi-agency training co-ordinator and, consequently, significant developments in safeguarding training. Linda Roberts was recruited to the post in May and we warmly welcome her to the team. In line with the 2018 business plan, she completed a training needs analysis to assess need and monitor access to interagency safeguarding training across the islands. From this, it was determined that additional level 2 courses were required and these were added to meet

demand during the year. Level 3 training has been revised and new modular sessions have been developed for 2019, covering: information sharing, the care and support framework, MASH, Children Law and the CYCT and child protection case conferences. Safeguarding of disabled children was included in levels 2, 3 and 4, and training on the Graded Care Profile, an assessment tool for neglect, was reinstated.

The membership of the sub-committee was revised to include the new post of Safeguarding Named Nurse, a representative of the Youth Commission and the lead officer for the Children and Young People's Plan. Other additions to membership include the HSC Safeguarding Unit Service Manager and Practice Development Lead, both of whom are also members of the sub-committee's Quality Assurance group. The terms of reference of the Quality Assurance group were revised and the group met regularly to review cases. Audit tools were trialled in order to best identify issues and trends and to review thresholds. The group also made links with the Child Development Centre and useful discussions took place regarding safeguarding disabled children, another priority identified by the ISCP for 2018.

Another important achievement in 2018 was the publication of the [Care and Support Framework: multi-agency guidance for those working with children and families](#), which has been welcomed by frontline practitioners. The framework has been widely distributed, follow-up meetings with managers have taken place to raise awareness of it and inter-agency training is planned for 2019.

Several other documents to provide guidance for practitioners were written or revised in 2018. The information sharing guidance was re-written in the light of new GDPR legislation and endorsement by the Data Protection Commissioner is being sought. [The Short Guide](#) to the Children Law was revised and published on the ISCP website. This is particularly valuable for newly recruited social workers from the UK as it explains the unique local legislation, which has similarities with both Scottish and English legislation.

One of the most pressing priorities in the ISCP 2018 business plan was to continue to monitor and help resolve the gap in provision of suitable forensic examination facilities for child sexual abuse assessment, support and investigation. The matter was escalated from the sub-committee to the ISCP when insufficient progress was being made and from there, the ISCP Chair escalated the issues to the Executive group. We are now pleased to have achieved significant progress; funding has been secured for essential specialist equipment and premises have been identified and are being converted to make them suitable for this specialist use. It is anticipated that the facilities will be open for use in 2019.

The sub-committee held two conferences in 2018. The first: Child to Parent Violence and Abuse, in July; and the second, in conjunction with the Children and Young People's Plan, in

November. Both were attended by a diverse range of multi-agency professionals and the November conference, on emotional health and well-being and the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools award, was also attended by representatives of the Youth Forum and politicians. Feedback gathered from both conferences was very positive, with attendees reporting greater understanding of the issues raised and useful networking opportunities to enable better frontline working.

As a result of an external case review, the sub-committee organised a workshop for professionals to get feedback from the reviewer and recommendations from the report were added to the sub-committee's consolidated action list. One of the issues raised in this case was disguised compliance and training is being developed to inform professionals about this difficult issue. Other actions resulting from case reviews continued to be monitored and followed up, including transitions from child to adult services. This is a topic that will be given priority in 2019.

Case reviews continue to influence issues for training development and planning, including: information sharing, neglect, sexual abuse, supervision and disguised compliance.

In relation to identifying risks for children who go missing, the return home questionnaires were revised in consultation with the Youth Commission's CSE worker.

The Learning and Improvement sub-committee will continue to monitor progress and work on these issues during 2019, with further case reviews in progress likely to guide ongoing action plans.

ISCP Digital Online Safety Group

'Making the online world better for children and young people'

Digital Online Safety Group	
Attendance at meetings 2018 (5 meetings)	
Dept/Organisation	No. of meetings attended
Education (headteacher)	5
Policy & Resources	5
PSHCE	4
Schools Library Service	3
Education (IT Advisory Teacher)	4
Youth Commission	5
Ladies College	3
Police	3
School Attendance Service	3
Data Protection Commission	4
SHARE	2
South West Grid for Learning	5
Safe and Secure Online	3
Economic Development	3
Sure	5
Action for Children	3

The committee meets five times a year, tasked with helping keep children and young people safe online. We continue to work closely with the UK Safer Internet Centre who attend our meetings and provide valuable updates into current trends as well as training and advice. Attendance at the group remains strong. Meetings are currently held at the Digital Greenhouse as we are no longer able to have a room at Beau Sejour without being charged.

Our partnership with Sure continues and we are pleased to note that since the implementation of the Net Clean filtering solution they have blocked thousands of attempts to access illegal child content. Between March 2018 and March 2019 - 111,905 attempts were blocked across Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man.

Our sponsorship with Vodafone has now finished and the committee are currently reviewing how best to deliver support to schools. The committee has commissioned a survey to be sent to all schools to audit current provision across the Island. The results will help inform future

planning. James Kelsh has joined Matthew Parker to deliver Safe and Secure Online training to children in Years 5 and 6.

Digital Ace was held in February and was well attended. Online safety remains central to the event. This year's speakers covered topics such as gaming, passwords, email scams and social media. Virtual reality, 3D printing and robotics were also on show.

Training, delivered by UK Safer Internet Centre, has taken place for social workers and the Sports Commission.

Tracey Moore

Headteacher

Chair, ISCP Digital Online Safety Group

Case Review Group

Case Review Group	
Attendance at meetings 2018* (2 meetings)	
Dept/Organisation	No. of meetings attended
Social Care and Transformation Lead	1
Children's Social Care, HSC	2
Convenor	2
Police	1
Paediatrician	1
Child Health, HSC	1
Education, Sport & Culture	2
Voluntary Agency representative	1
Safeguarding Unit Manager	1
Primary Care	1

* not all attendees were invited to both meetings

The Case Review Group met twice during 2018. On both occasions it was to consider the reports of external reviews commissioned by the group.

The Case Review Group manage the process of external reviews and quality assure the reports that are submitted before reporting the findings to the ISCP. The quality assurance process also gives agencies the chance to update reviewers on progress already made as well as act on emerging lessons from the review without having to wait for a conclusion to the review process.

The final recommendations and learning from reviews are approved by the ISCP and the Learning and Improvement sub-committee are tasked with developing and monitoring action plans to address the recommendations.

Two events for feedback from frontline practitioners into the reviews were held during the year, both of which were reported to be positive learning experiences. The ISCP and the Case Review Group intend to build on these positive experiences through developing processes for a speedier review process, informed by engagement with practitioners most directly involved.

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Guernsey and Alderney “Islands Safeguarding Children Partnership” and Jersey Safeguarding Children Partnership Board meet together bi-annually to review the deaths of all children under the age of 18, excluding still births and planned terminations. The role of the panel is advisory. The panel considers the circumstances of all individual cases, contributory factors and preventability. It will then make recommendations for action and identifies any concerning patterns or trends.

Two panels were held in 2018 which considered a small number of child deaths from Jersey, Guernsey and Alderney.

Susan Turnbull

CDOP Panel Chair

Appendix 1 - Statistical information

N.B. Figures in the tables below include those for both Guernsey and Alderney. As the figures for Alderney are so low they cannot be included separately.

Table 1. Children in the child protection system

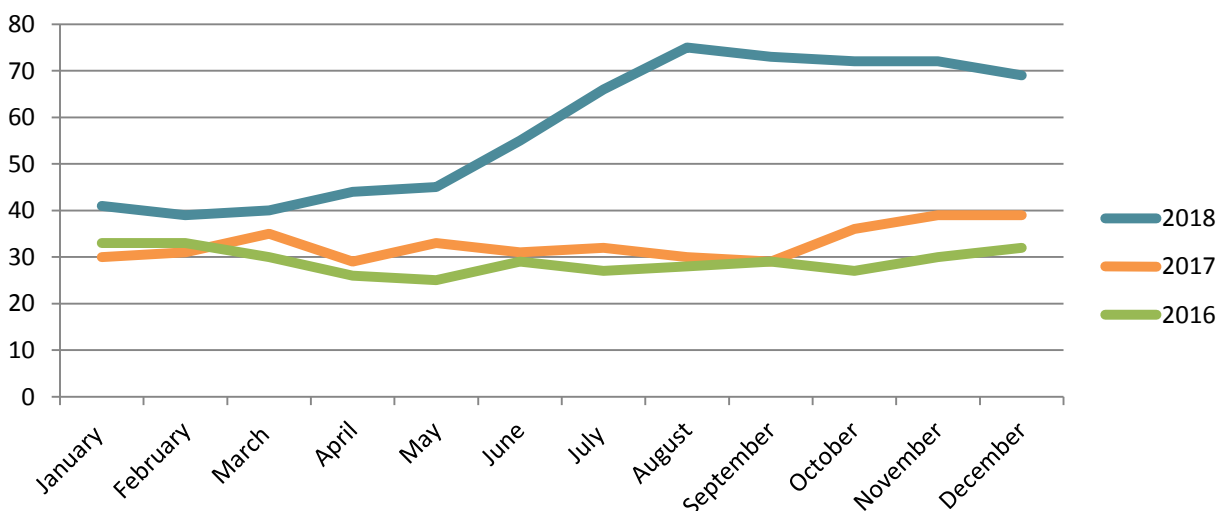
a. Strategy discussions and pre-birth planning meetings

Strategy discussions and pre-birth planning meetings are held when it is considered there is a serious risk of harm to a child or unborn baby. During 2018 strategy discussions and pre-birth planning meetings were held concerning 185 children.

Strategy discussions and pre-birth planning meetings	2015	2016	2017	2018
Strategy meetings	151	130	196	160
Pre-birth planning meetings	41	15	17	25
Total:	192	145	213	185

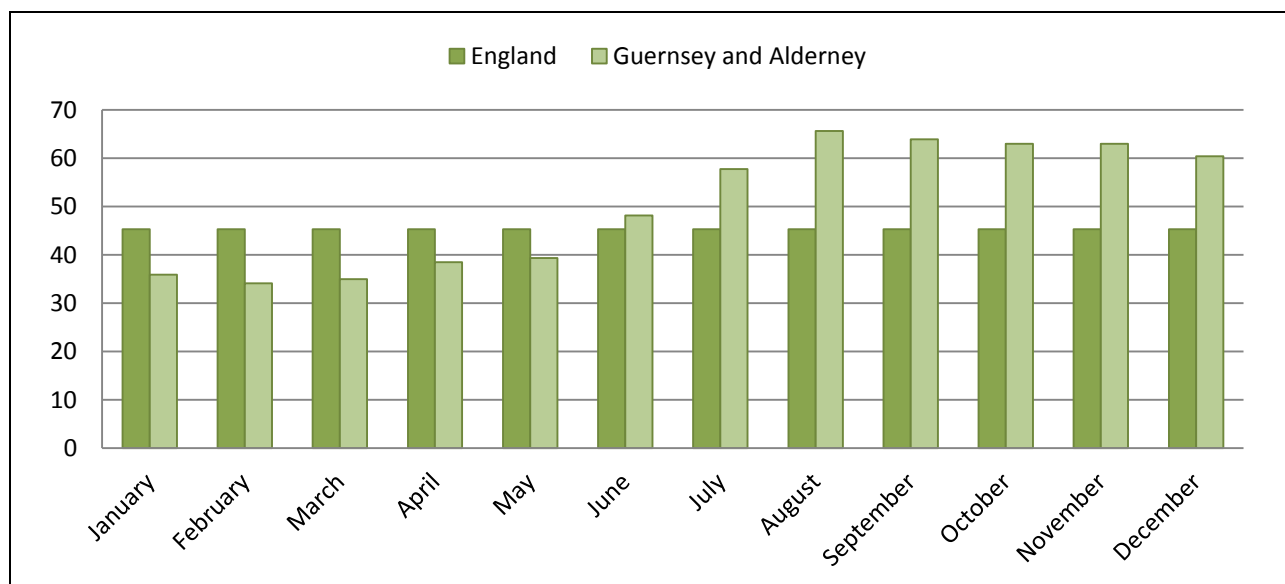
b. Children on the child protection register (monthly)

There were 77 children on the child protection register in 2017, with a range between 29 and 39 at any one time. The 2018 figures show an increase overall - 122 children were on the register during the year, with a range between 39 and 75 recorded at the end of each month. The figures show an increase on previous years, partly due to some large sibling groups on the register.

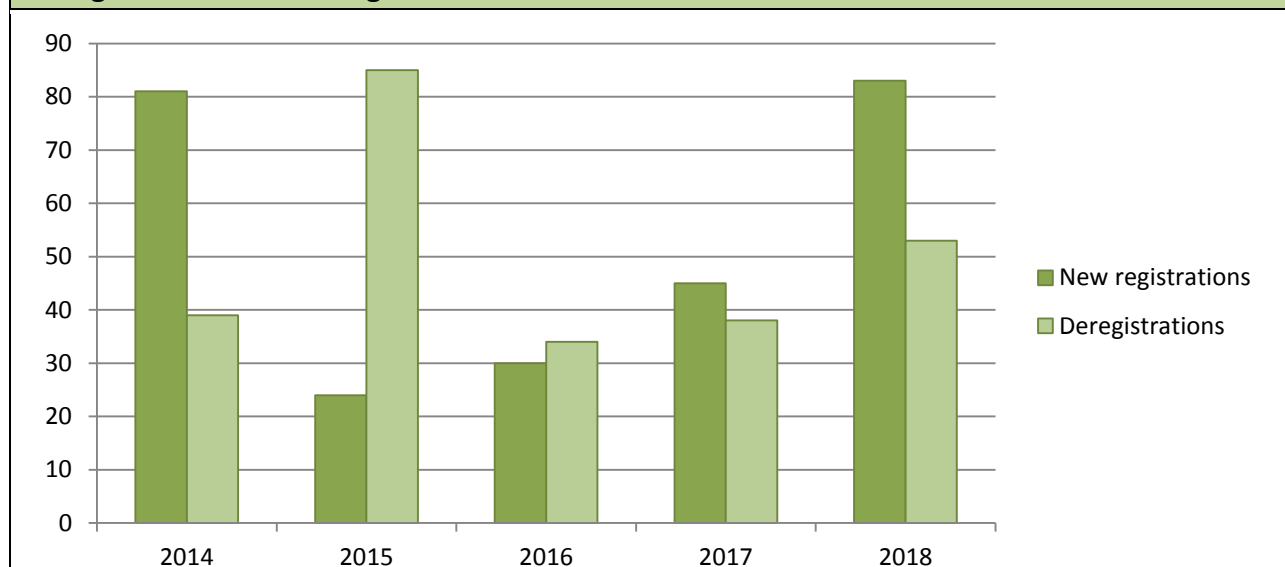


c. Monthly rate per 10,000 children subject of a child protection plan compared to rate for England at 31 March 2018 - i.e. above or below 45.3

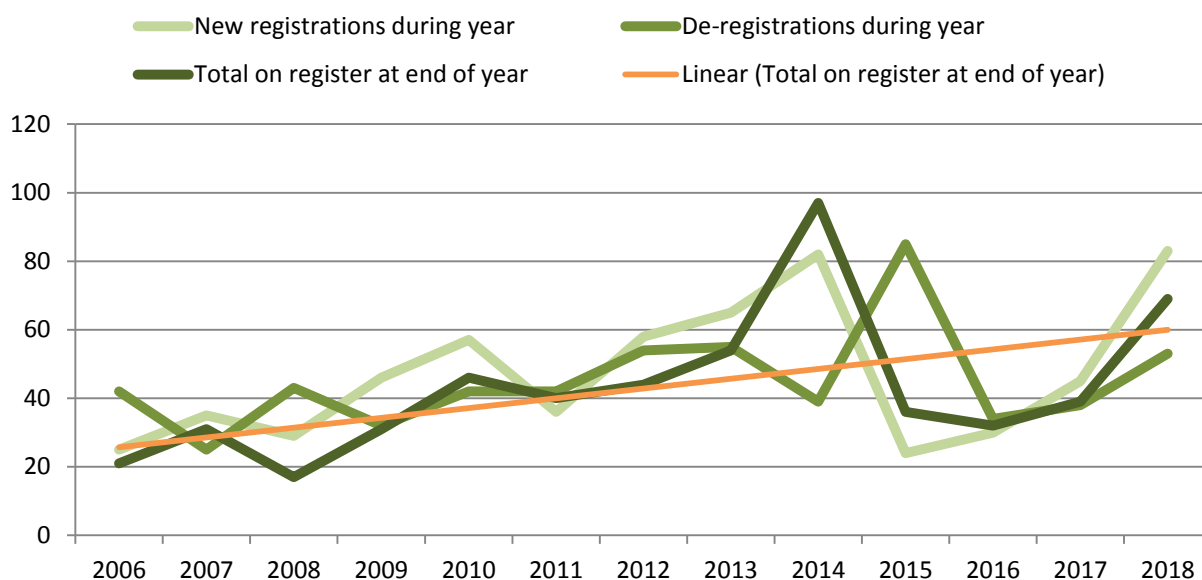
There has been a generally increasing trend in the number of children made subject to a child protection plan in England over the last seven years. The number of children with a child protection plan in England per 10,000 child population as of 31st March 2018 was **45.3** (up from 43.3 the previous year). At the end of March the comparable figure in Guernsey and Alderney was **35** (up from 30.3 the previous year), with a range from 34.1 to 65.7 across the year.



d. Registrations and de-registrations



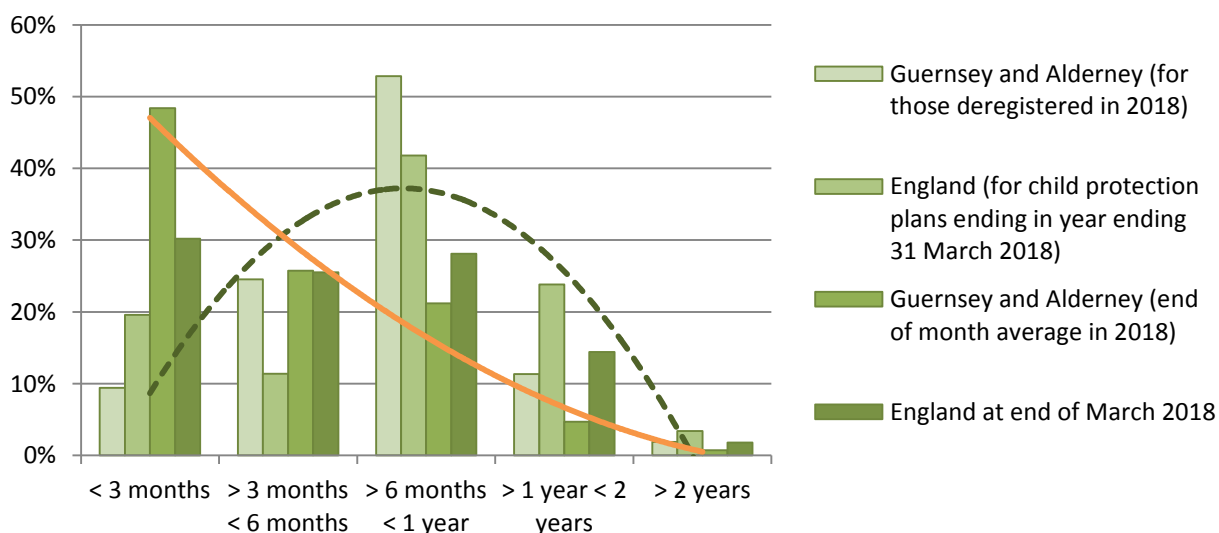
In **2014** the number of children whose names were added to the child protection register was more than double the amount whose names were taken off. In **2015** this pattern was reversed and the number of children whose names were added to the register was less than a third of those whose names were taken off. In **2018** new registrations outweigh de-registrations again, but when examining the data in family groupings new registration/de-registration figures are much closer together. The average number of children per family for new registrations was 2.1, whereas the average number for de-registered families was 1.6. This means there were 83 new registrations and 53 de-registrations for individual children from 40 and 34 families respectively.



Looking at child protection registrations over a longer period (2006 to 2018) a generally increasing trend can be seen, which can also be seen in comparable figures for the UK.

e. Length of time on register

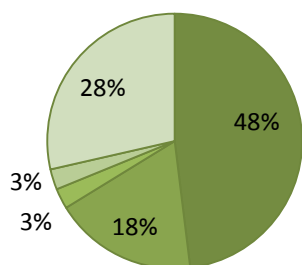
When children remain on the child protection register for long periods of time, it suggests that child protection plans are not working or cases are being allowed to drift. In 2018 1.9% of those children who were de-registered had been on the register for more than two years, which was down from 10.5% the previous year. The comparative figure in England is 3.4% (the same as the previous year). Trendlines in the chart below illustrate that ---the majority of children remain on the register in the middle of the time range; more than 6 months but less than 2 years. Analysis of the composition of end of month registration figures shows that --- children were more likely to have been newly registered than on the register for a long time.



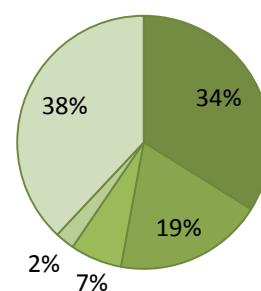
f. Category of registration

Emotional abuse remained the highest single category for registration in 2018, accounting for just over a third of registrations, compared to nearly half in 2017. However, a higher proportion of children were registered under multiple categories (38%) with emotional abuse being present in nearly 90% of those cases. Alongside emotional abuse, physical abuse was the most commonly cited category for those registered under multiple categories, being present in 80% of cases. There was a rise in single category registrations in Guernsey and Alderney for physical abuse to 7% from 3% in 2017. In England the predominant reason for having a child protection plan remained neglect (48%), followed by emotional abuse (34%). Emotional abuse has risen as the reason for a child to be on a child protection plan in both England and Wales in the past five years.

Guernsey and Alderney 2017

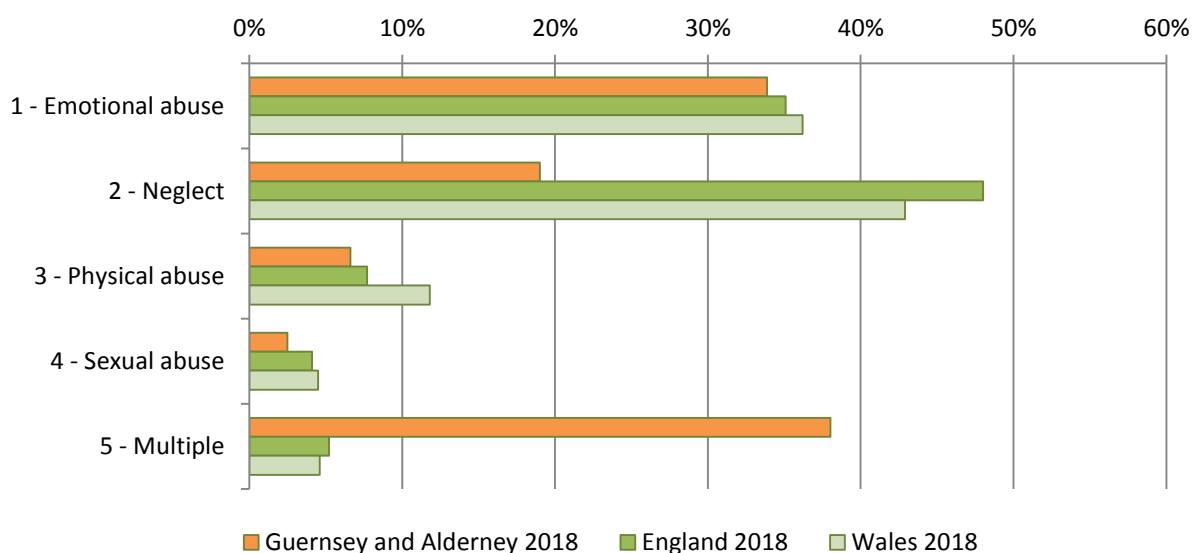


Guernsey and Alderney 2018

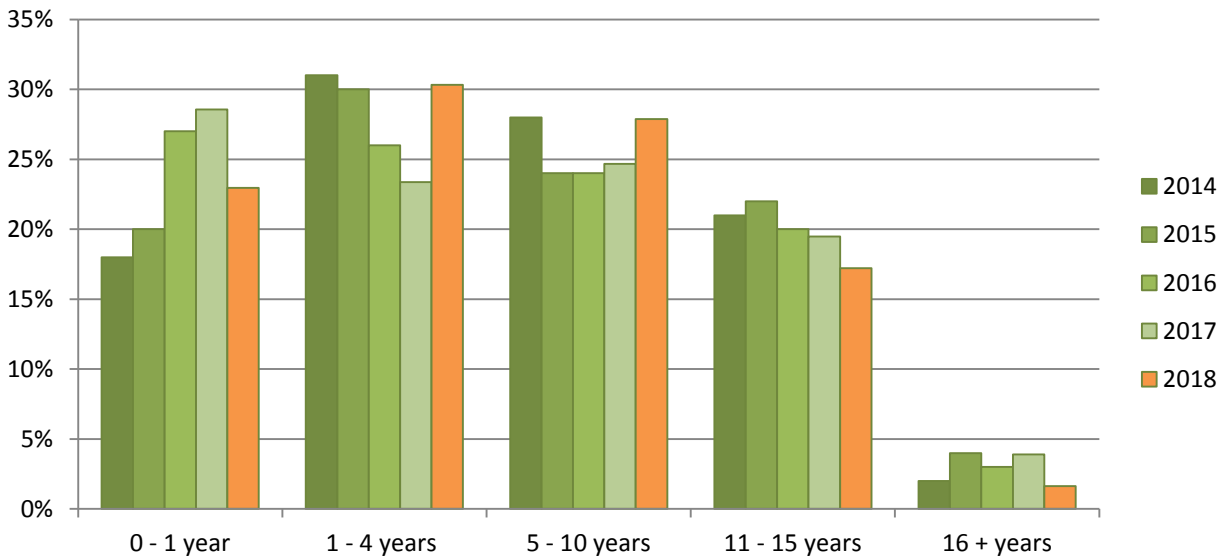


1 - Emotional abuse 2 - Neglect
 3 - Physical abuse 4 - Sexual abuse
 5 - Multiple

1 - Emotional abuse 2 - Neglect
 3 - Physical abuse 4 - Sexual abuse
 5 - Multiple

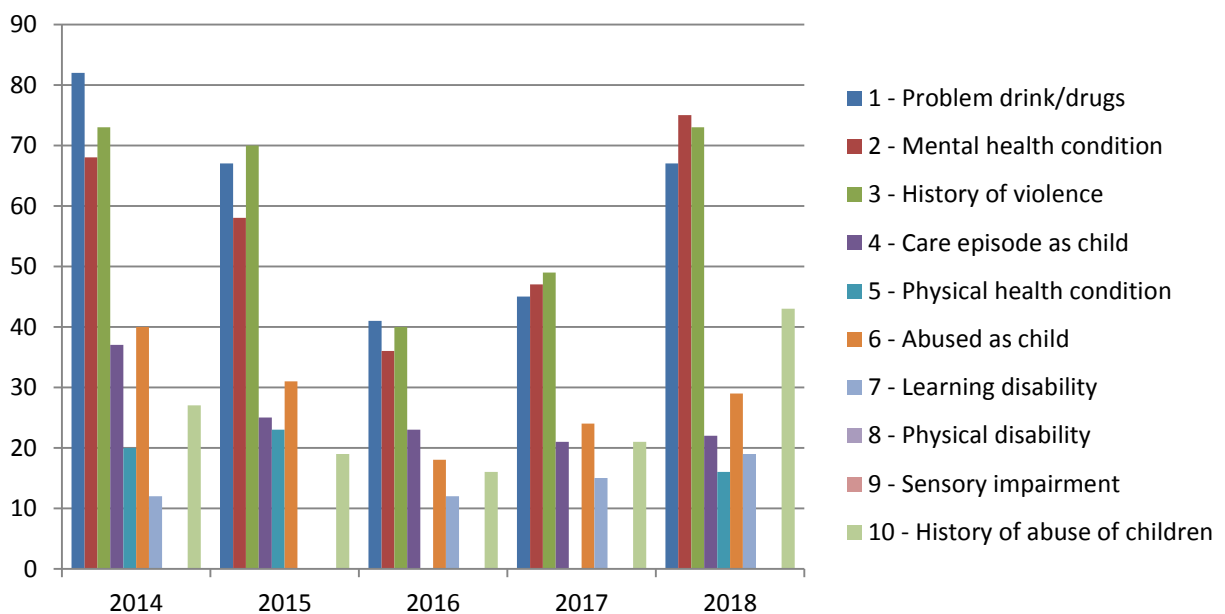


g. Ages of children on the child protection register



The above chart, breaking down the ages of children on the child protection register, continues to highlight the vulnerability of younger children, although there has been a decrease in the children under 1 and an increase in the 1 – 10 years age range.

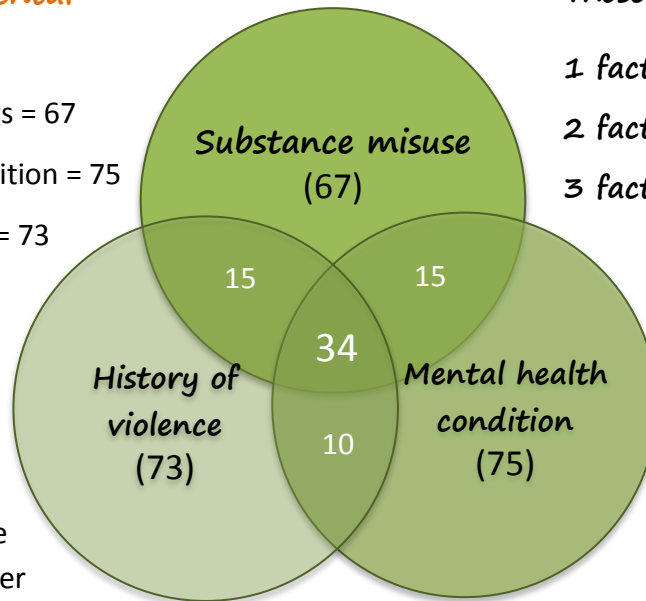
h. Parental factors



This chart illustrates that the parental factors of substance misuse, mental health issues and histories of violence remain the most regularly identified risk factors for children on the child protection register. It has been shown that there is a cumulative risk of harm when these factors are present together or over periods of time. These factors are predominant in those identified for children on the child protection register, which probably indicates that the right children are being registered, those most at risk.

Predominant parental risk factors:

1. Problem drink/drugs = 67
2. Mental health condition = 75
3. History of violence = 73

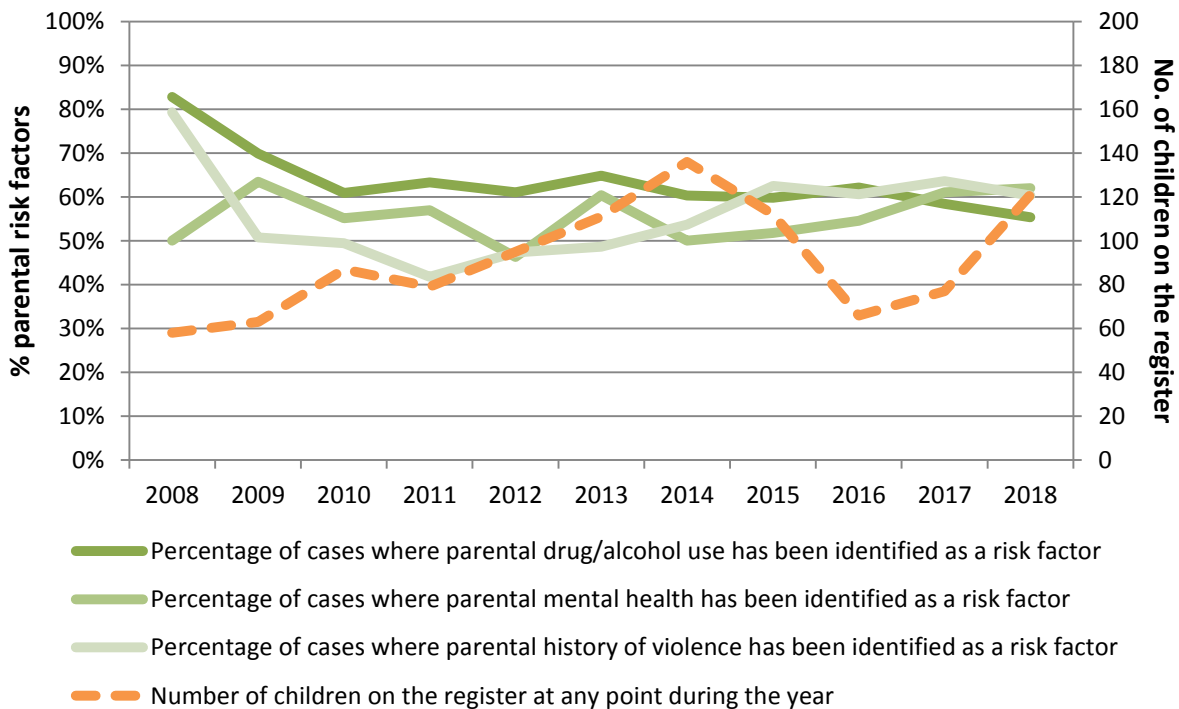


Those affected by:

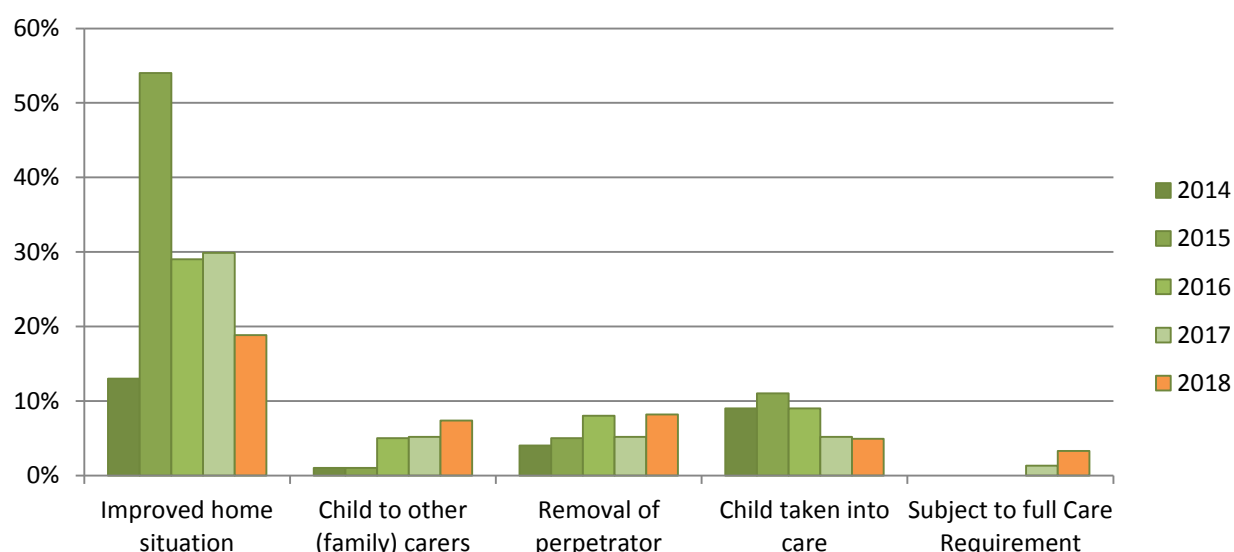
- 1 factor = 33 children
- 2 factors = 40 children
- 3 factors = 34 children

88% of children on the child protection register were affected by one or more of these factors

The chart below indicates the percentage of those for whom parental substance misuse, mental health concerns and histories of violence are identified risks has remained relatively consistent over the last five years at around 50% to 60%, despite fluctuating registration rates. This could indicate the relevance of child protection plans, being targeted at those with complex problems.



i. Outcomes of child protection registration



Improved home situation remains the highest reason for de-registration which is positive and indicates that child protection plans have been successful. The chart also indicates a rise in children moving to the care of other family members, such as grandparents, and the developing trend towards de-registration when full Care Requirements have been made – to avoid duplication of process.

j. Re-registrations

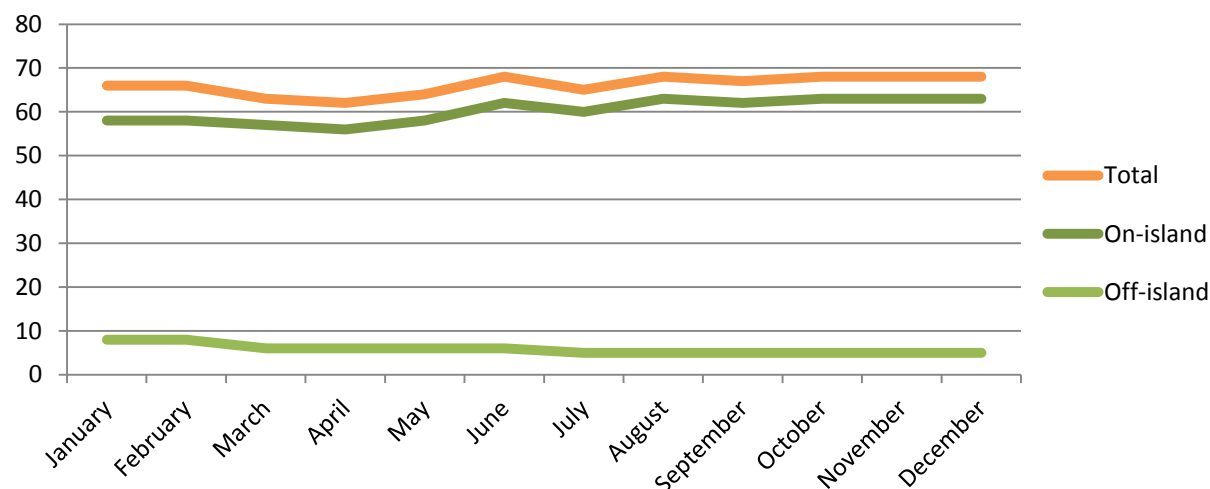
The following table shows the percentage of children whose names were added to the child protection register in 2018 who had previously been registered.

Re-registration rates have remained low. This indicates that children are not being de-registered prematurely and that child protection plans have been successful in ensuring lasting change and safety for those children involved. The comparable figure in England was 20.2 % at the end of March 2018.

	2016	2017	2018
Re-registered within 1 year of de-registration	3%	2.2%	0
Re-registered within 2 years of de-registration	0	0	2.4%
Registered more than two years previously	11.8%	13.3%	12%

Table 2. Children who are looked after

a. Children looked after 2018 (monthly)

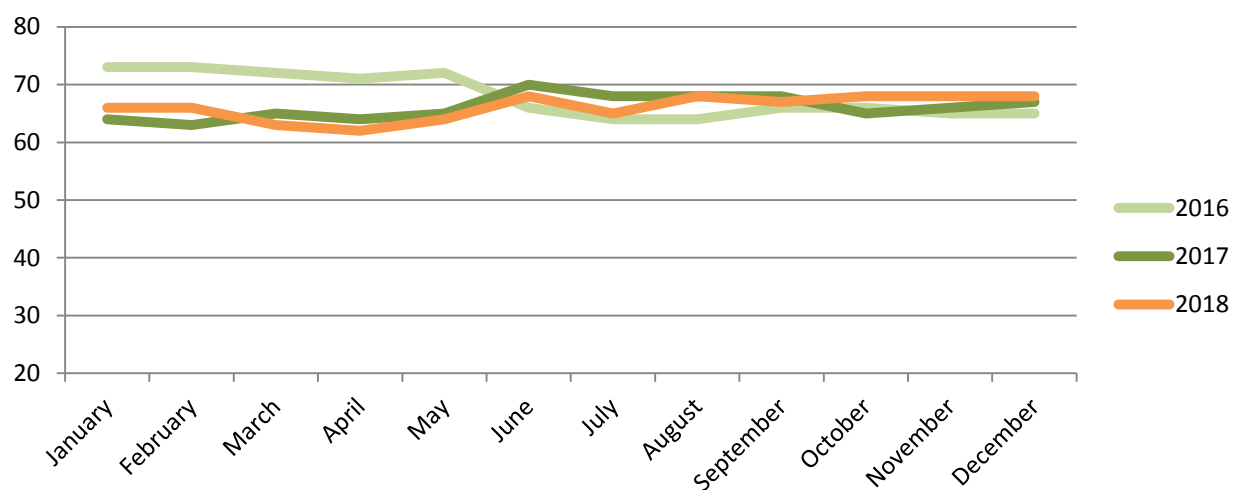


The total number of children who were looked after on-island rose slightly during the year, but the number who were looked after off-island continued to fall, reflecting the commitment to keep the number of children going off-island to a minimum. Overall there was a 10% increase in the number of children looked after in 2018 compared to the total number looked after in 2017.

b. Total number of children looked after

	2016	2017	2018
Total:	88	80	88
Female:	60%	55%	53%
Male:	40%	45%	47%

Although there was a rise in the total number of children who were looked after by HSC at some point during the year, the number looked after each month remained similar to the numbers in 2017 and the longer term trend shows a reduction in numbers looked after.



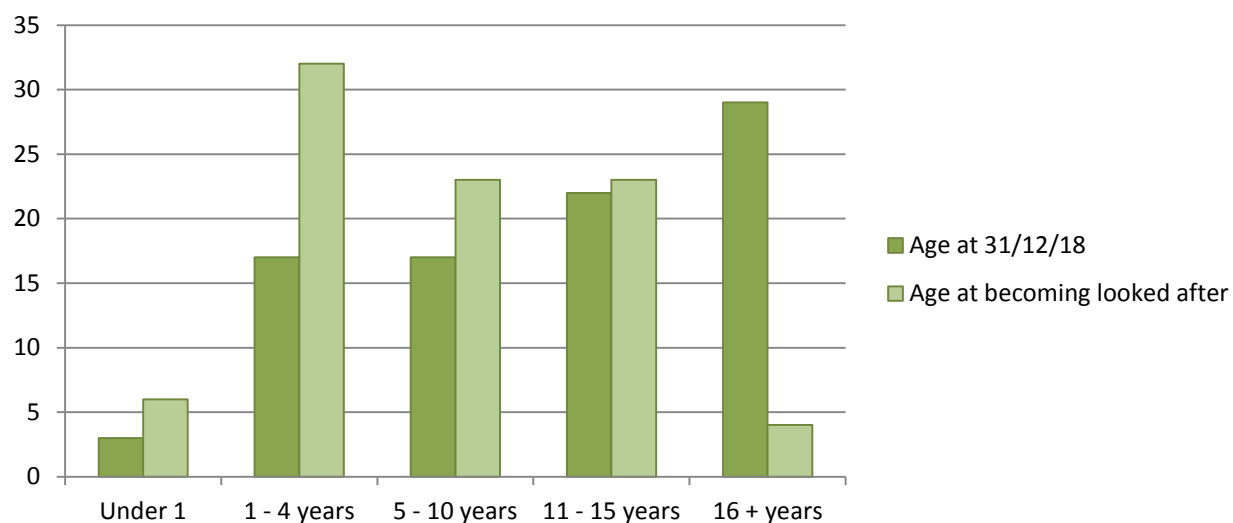
c. On-island / off-island 2018

On-island care	91%
Off-island care	9%

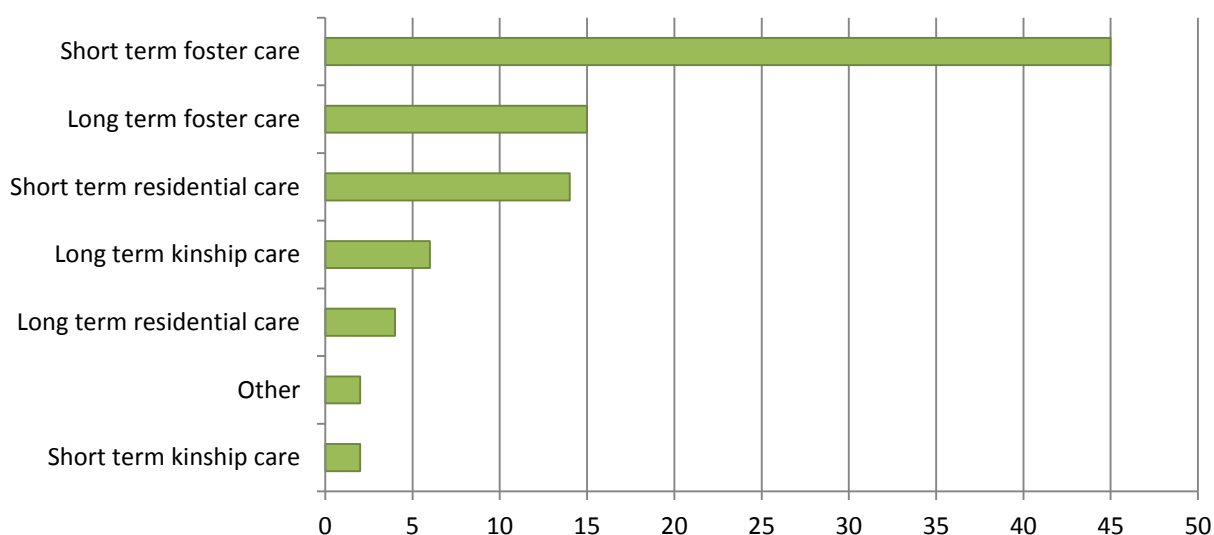
d. Ethnicity 2018

1 - White	90%
2 - Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	7%
3- Asian or Asian British	0
4 - Black or Black British	0
5 - Other ethnic group	3%
6 - Not known/not stated	0

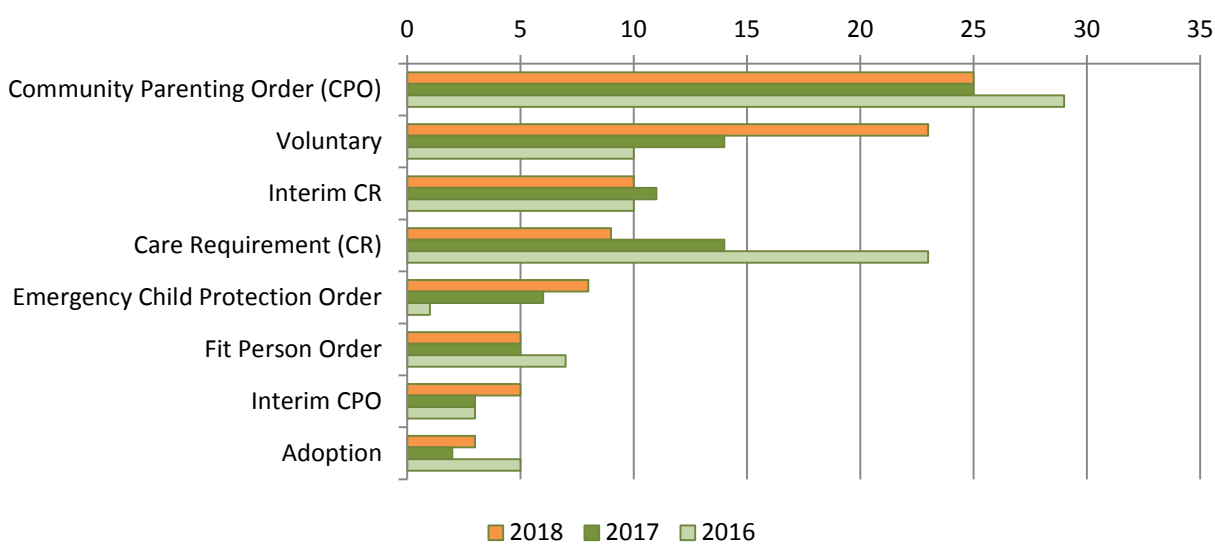
e. Ages of children looked after (31/12/18) and age at becoming looked after



f. Type of placement 2018



g. Legal status for looked after children during 2018



h. Placement moves 1st January to 31st December 2018

Number of moves	Number of children	% of total LAC
1 move	21	24
2 moves	6	7
3 moves	1	1
>3 moves	1	1
Total:	29	33

The proportion of looked after children who had three or more placement moves = **2 %**. This is down from 10% in 2017.

Children who are looked after benefit from stability in their care and the number of placement moves is an important indication of levels of stability. The comparable figures in the UK in 2017 were: 10.3% in England; 10.5% in Wales; 5.4% in Scotland; and 5% for Northern Ireland (who record three or more moves in a six-month period and exclude moves for respite purposes).

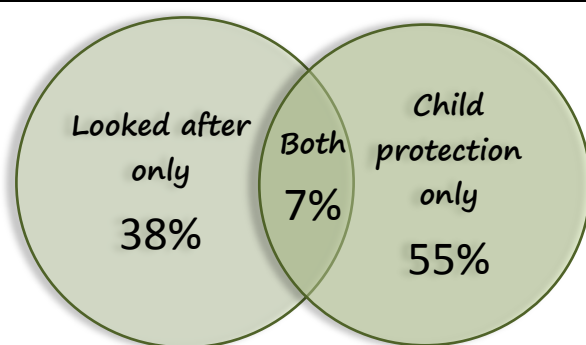
i. Reason for placement moves

	2017	2018	% (2017)	% (2018)
Breakdown of placement	14	6	22	15
Planned move	41	25	65	61
Carers unable to continue	-	6	-	15
Return home	3	2	5	5
Return to former placement	2	-	3	-
Secure Accommodation Order	3	2	5	5
Total:	63	41		

N.B. Planned moves include: moves to adopters or prospective adopters; moves from short term to long term carers; planned moves for periods of respite; moves to specialist placements; or planned moves for periods of transition between secure accommodation and returning to former carers.

j. Children looked after and child protection registration

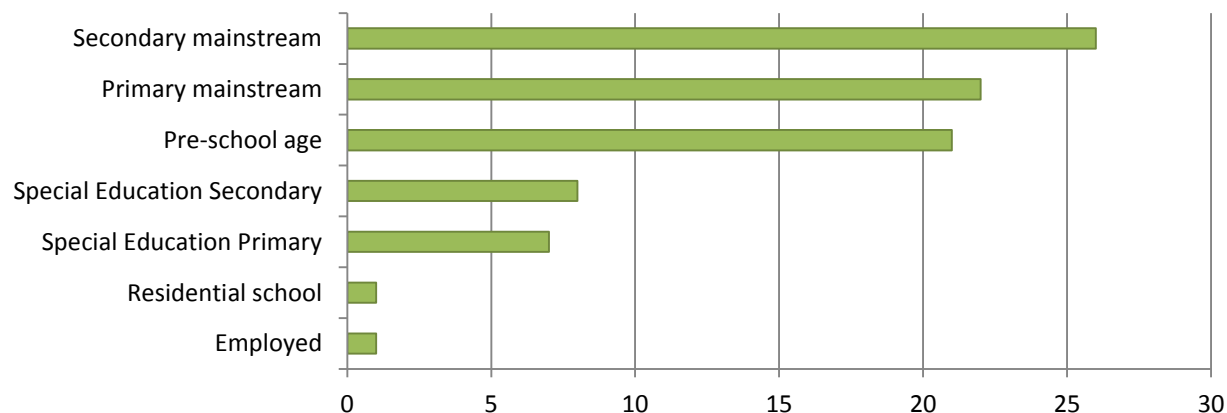
Population under 18	11,424
Looked after children	88
Child protection registration	122
Both	13
Total looked after or on the child protection register	197



The total number of children who were looked after or on the child protection register during 2018 was **197**, 7% of whom were both looked after and on the child protection register at some point during the year. This is 1.7% of the total child population in the islands.

98.3%	Not looked after or on the child protection register	1.7%	Looked after or on the child protection register
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k. Education and employment for looked after children 2018



l. Leaving care

21 children had been looked after and left the care of HSC in 2018. Nine of those children would be classed as care leavers, having reached the age of 18.

Table 3. Children in need

The Children Law introduced definitions for children in need (s.23) and children at risk (s.35) alongside a duty for the States to intervene, work together and provide services where children might be in need or at risk. Children are in need if: they require additional services, over and above those universally provided, in order to maintain a reasonable standard of health and development; their health or development is likely to be significantly or further impaired without additional services; they are disabled; or, they are adversely affected by the disability or illness of a parent or another family member.

All enquiries for children's services are now made through the Multi-Agency Support Hub (MASH), which was introduced as a single point of referral in March 2015.

When it is believed a child needs additional support, or where there are concerns about their welfare or safety, anyone can make enquiries to the MASH to request help, advice and support.

The majority of enquiries to MASH come from the police, followed by education and health services.

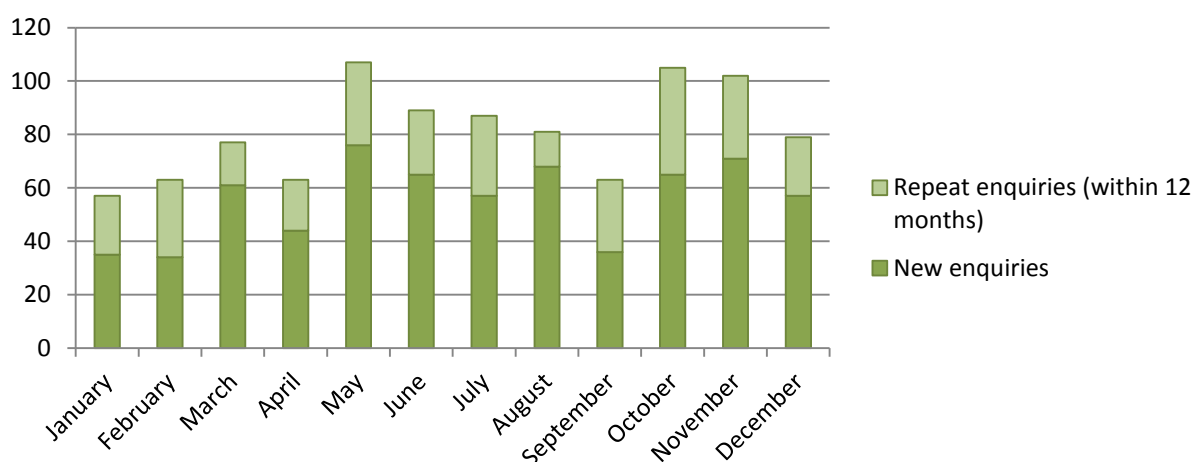
a. Enquiries to the Multi-Agency Support Hub (MASH)

2016	2017	2018
1246	1036	973

The MASH began operating on 16th March 2015; as such 2016 was the first year in which there was a full year of MASH data. Before that date referrals for children's social care were made to HSC children's services and the data was processed differently.

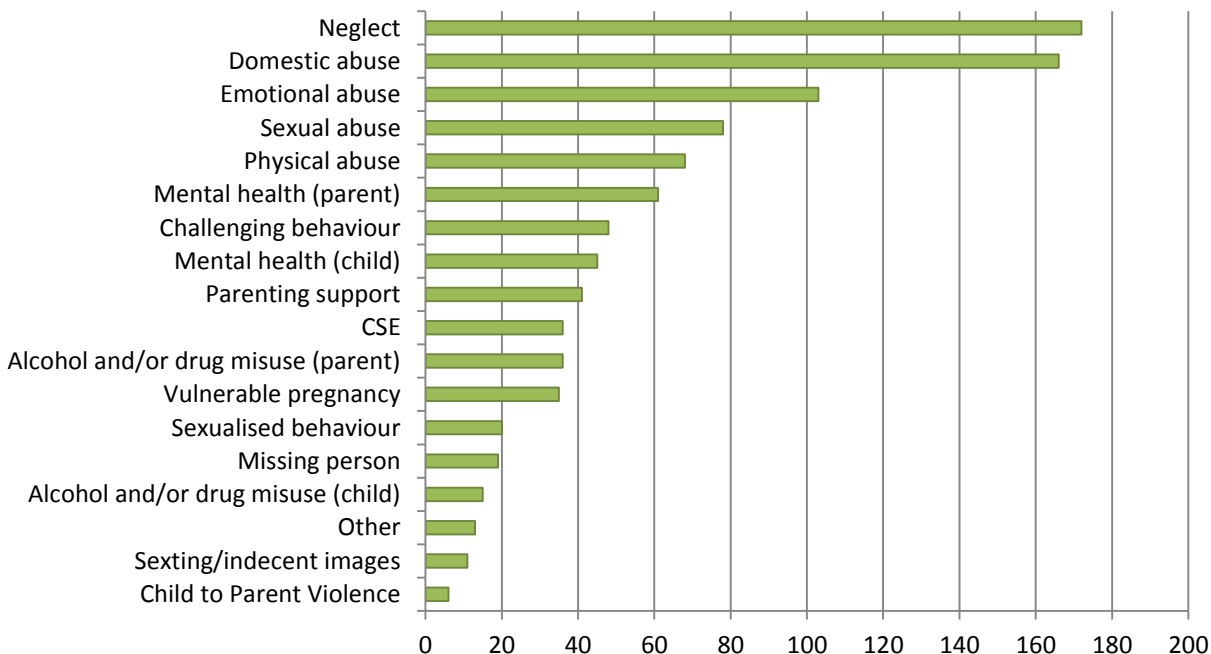
Now, when an enquiry is made to the MASH, if the case is already open to children's social care, information is passed to the child's social worker and not recorded as an enquiry to MASH. As such the actual number of enquiries into MASH from agencies is higher than the figure finally recorded.

b. New and repeat enquiries (monthly 2018)

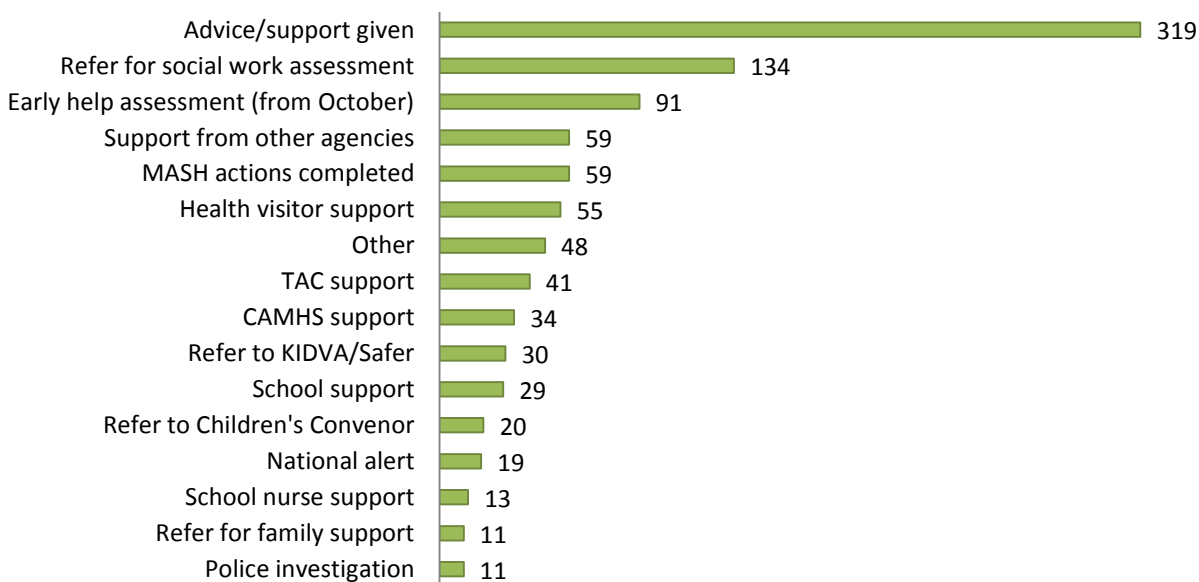


The rate of repeat enquiries into MASH fell to 31% in 2018, from 47% in 2017. Therefore, the number of children subject to enquiries remained almost the same - 770 in 2018, 763 in 2017.

c. Breakdown of identified need in 2018



d. Outcome of enquiries to MASH 2018



N.B. The MASH began doing early help assessments routinely in October 2018.

Abbreviations:

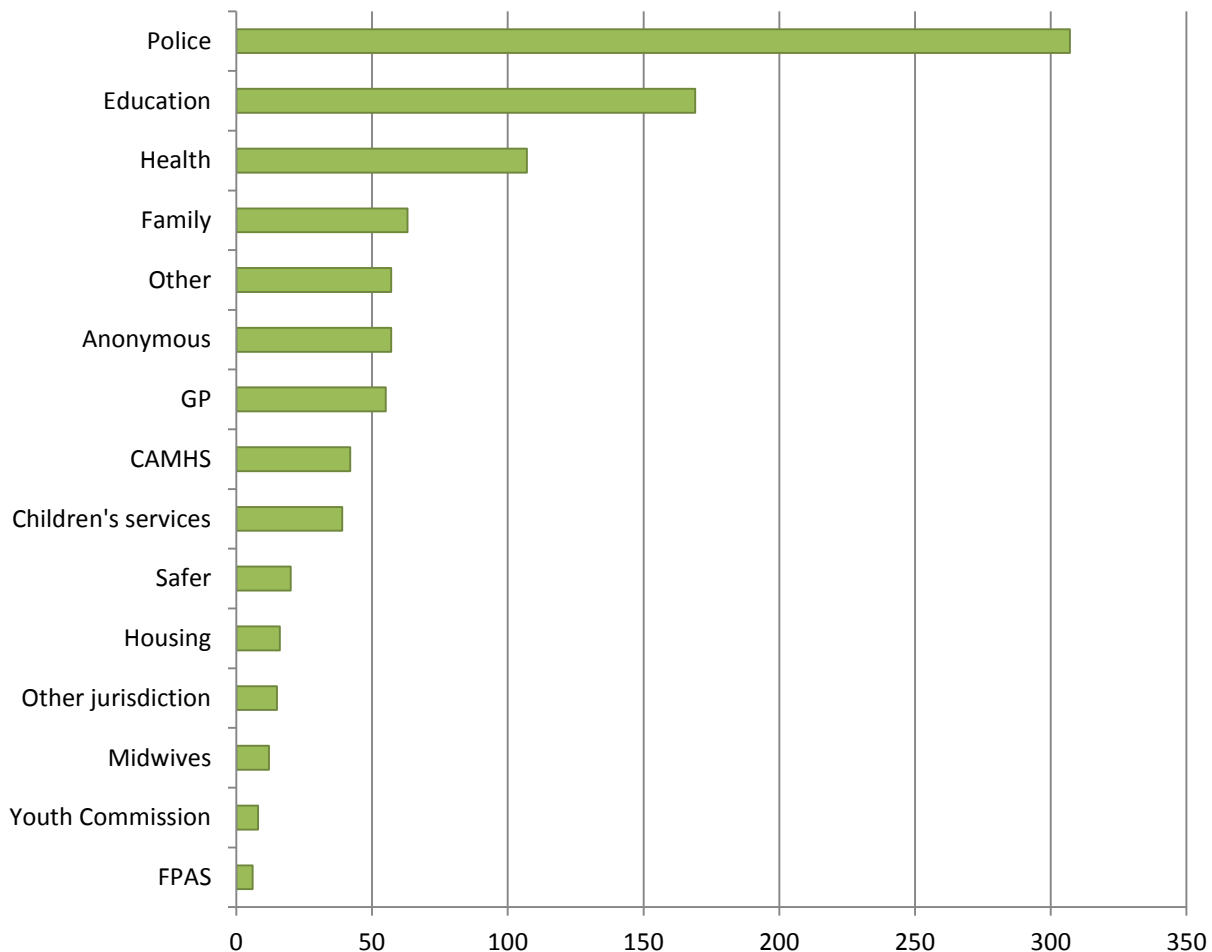
CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

TAC – Team Around the Child (multi-agency planning process for children and families)

National alerts refer to instances when other jurisdictions have contacted in relation to children who are in child protection or care proceedings and are either missing or at risk of being abducted.

e. Source of enquiry to MASH 2018

When someone has a concern about the needs or welfare of a child they can make an enquiry to the Multi-Agency Support Hub (MASH) by using the online enquiry form (for professionals) or by telephone. Most enquiries come from professionals, with the police, education and health services making 60% of the total enquiries.

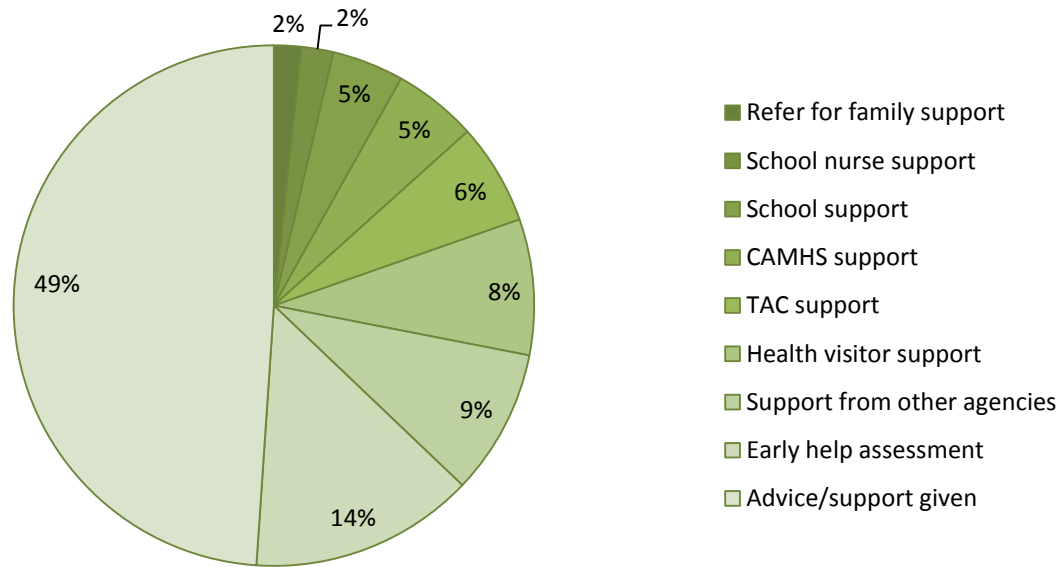


FPAS is the Family Proceedings Advisory Service, formerly the Safeguarder Service.

Early help and multi-agency assessments

The Multi-Agency Support Hub includes professionals from health and social care, education, police, other States services and voluntary agencies. They jointly assess the needs of children about whom there are concerns and agree the right level of support for each child. There were a total of 973 enquiries into MASH for children in need with 67% of these resulting in early help and support, either directly from the MASH or through other agencies.

f. Referrals from MASH for early help and support



At the end of 2017 there were 33 cases waiting to be allocated for early help, 11 cases waiting to be allocated for social work assessment and 25 cases of unmet need. The MASH began doing early help assessments in 2018, which has helped tackle some of these causes of delay.

g. Referrals to CAMHS 2018

In 2018 there were 504 children who had been referred to CAMHS. This is a slight reduction on the previous year (539). However, CAMHS have observed more complex presentations within their service user group and there was a 10.8% increase in direct contact.

There were 81 admissions to the children's ward at the Princess Elizabeth Hospital for mental health concerns, a 56% increase on 2017. Approximately half of these admissions related to children who were admitted on two or more occasions and nearly half were admissions to the hospital as a place of safety, as a form of early help and prevention of harm.

Emotional health and wellbeing of children was a key theme raised at the joint ISCP and Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) annual conference. This was intended to explore with partners if any additional early help services are needed to reduce this risk.

Since the conference Education Services have introduced emotional health and wellbeing leads into all schools as part of the ongoing work to identify and address the emotional health needs of all children. In addition, there are plans for all schools to work towards the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools award, which emphasises the emotional health and wellbeing of students.

Table 4. Children at risk

The definition of risk in the Children Law emphasises the responsibility of parents/carers and recognises that where parents/carers are not able and willing to provide the child with adequate care, protection, guidance or control they would be at risk if they:

- have suffered or are likely to suffer significant impairment to their health or development;
- have suffered or are likely to suffer sexual or physical abuse;
- misuse drugs or alcohol or inhale a volatile substance;
- are exposed or likely to be exposed to moral danger;
- have displayed violent or destructive behaviour and are likely to become a danger to themselves or others, or are otherwise beyond parental control;
- have committed a criminal offence; or,
- are failing to attend school without good reason.

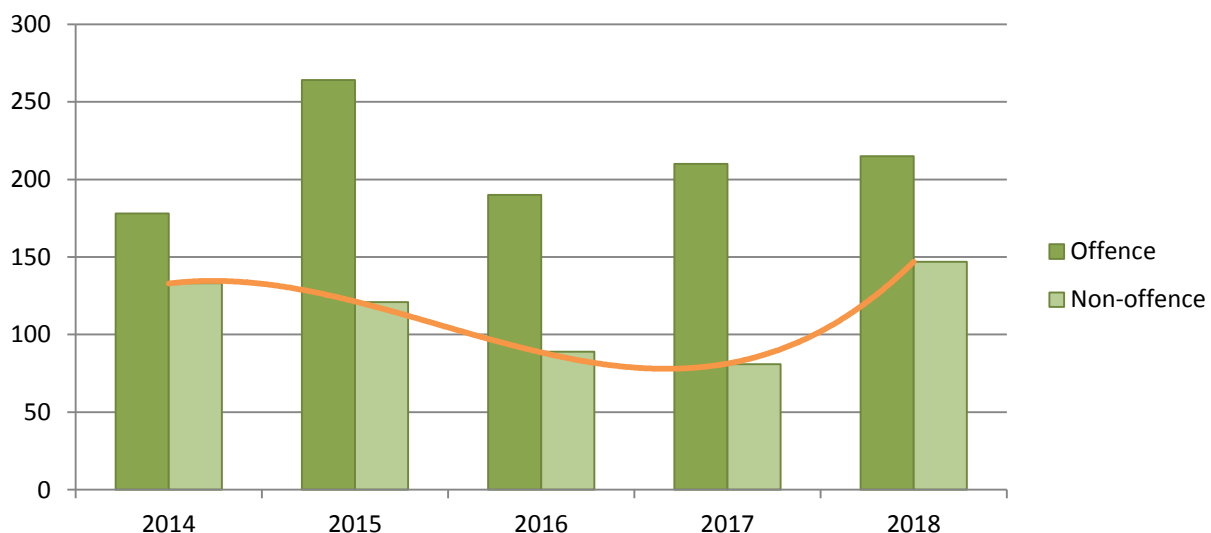
This definition of risk forms the grounds for compulsory intervention within the law and is the basis for referral to the Children's Convenor and the Child, Youth and Community Tribunal.

Children's Convenor and the Child Youth and Community Tribunal (CYCT)

The CYCT was introduced in the Children Law as a means for addressing the needs of children where it is considered they might be at risk and in need of compulsory intervention. Referrals to the CYCT are made by the Children's Convenor.

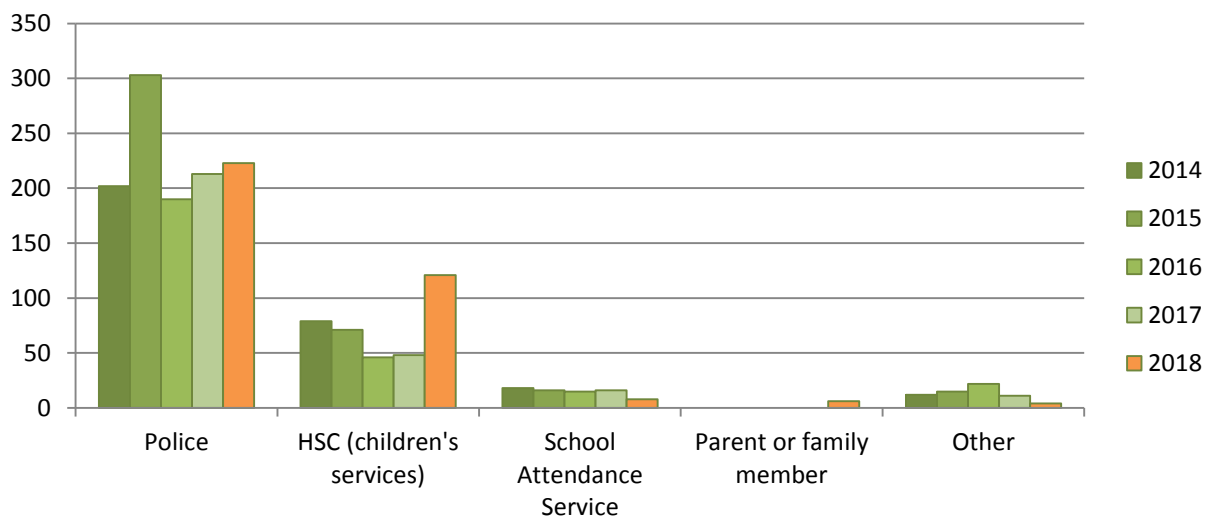
a. Number of referrals received by the Children's Convenor 2018

There were 362 referrals to the Convenor in 2018 in relation to 268 children. 7% of those children were referred three or more times and some children were referred on both offence and non-offence grounds. There was an 81% increase on the previous year in referrals on non-offence grounds. The police remain the main source of referrals.



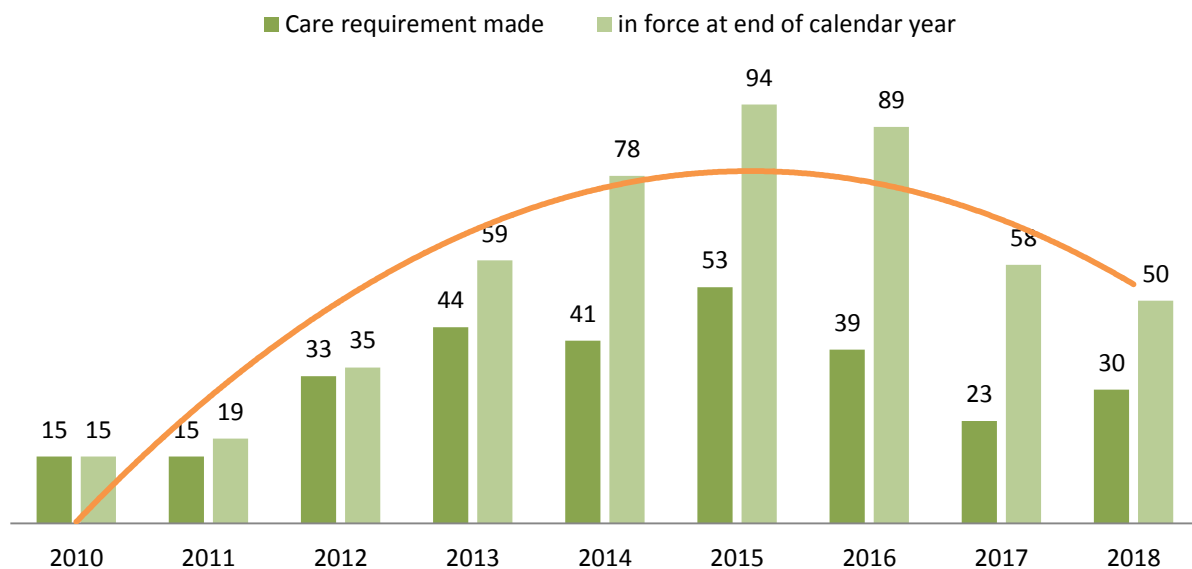
b. Source of referrals received by the Children's Convenor 2018

Agency	Referrals
Police	223
HSC (children's services)	121
School Attendance Service	8
Parent or family member	6
Other	4
Total:	362

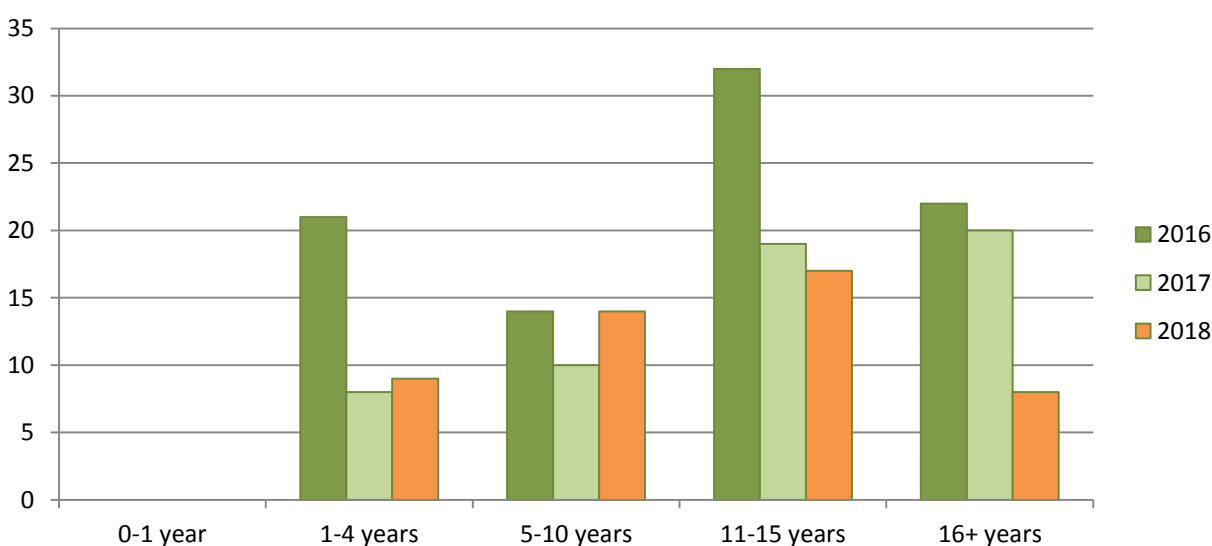


c. Number of care requirements made and in force

A care requirement is a legal order that can be made by the CYCT when it is considered compulsory intervention is required. In 2018 30 new care requirements were made and 50 children were subject to a care requirement at the end of the year.



d. Ages of children subject to a care requirement on 31/12/2018



N.B. There have been children under the age of one subject to care requirements although numbers under five have not been reported to ensure anonymity of the data.

e. Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

During 2018 there were 177 cases of domestic violence (involving 224 children) referred to MARAC, slightly higher than the previous year. In 2018, over 2% of the subject victims, and just under 2% of those causing harm to others, were under 18 years old.

f. Victims of crime

Type of crime	Crime reports	Convictions
Violent	94	31
Sexual	32	17

N.B. Persons convicted in a year do not generally relate to the crimes or offences recorded as it can take 12 to 18 months for some cases to go through the court process.

g. Children missing

During 2018 the Guernsey Police had 110 reports of children missing.

	2016	2017	2018
missing from home	24	60	58
missing from residential/foster care	72	85	43
missing from school	3	9	9
Total:	99	154	110

The police follow best practice when investigating reports of missing children and appropriate risk assessments are carried out. When children have been missing they are interviewed by trained workers from the Youth Commission after they have safely returned. This is to ensure they are safe and that there are no unresolved issues that caused them to be missing.

h. Youth offending			
Referrals to the Youth Justice Service 2018:			
	2016	2017	2018
Total referrals	124	123	116
New entrants	90	85	98
Re-referrals	34	38	18
- Re-referral rate	27%	31%	16%
Sexual offences	5	4	2
Secure accommodation	0	0	0
Prison (remand/sentence)	0	2 (remand)	2