

# Child Protection & Children's Social Work

## Child Protection & Children's Social Work

These pages contain a range of performance information from across the Health and Social Care Partnership's Child Protection and Children's Social Work Services which will allow you to assess how we are performing in this area.

The performance information that is provided here comes from two sources:

- Service key performance indicators (KPIs)
- Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF)

You can view the Child Protection Committee Annual Report on the Inverclyde Child Protection Committee Website <http://www.inverclydechildprotection.org/>

You can also view more information on the LGBF indicators on the Improvement Service website: <http://www.improvementservice.org.uk/benchmarking/>

### Performance Overview 2017/18

There was decrease in the percentage of children issued with a new supervision requirement seen by a supervising officer on time, which meant that the target was not met in 2017/18. The percentage of social background reports submitted to the SCRA on time also did not meet its target.

Not all indicators relating to Child Protection and Children's Social Work have a target set as this is considered not appropriate for all measures.

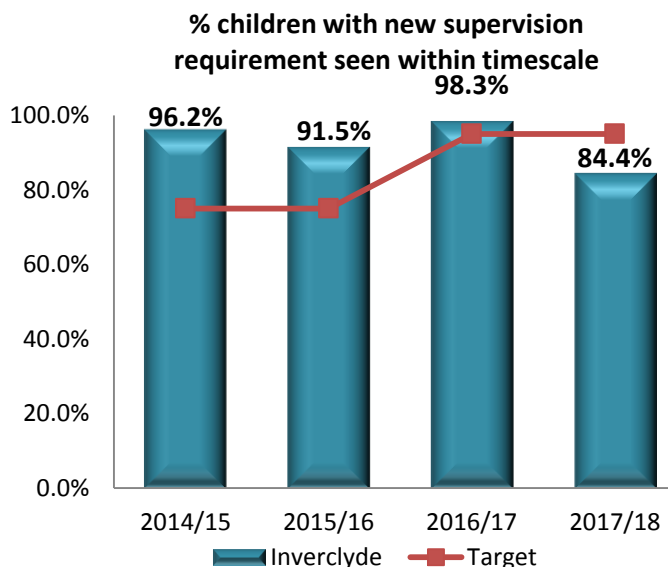
National LGBF data for 2017/18 is not yet published, however in 2016/17, the gross cost of 'children looked after' in both a residential and community setting was lower than the Scottish average. There has been a significant improvement in the percentage of Looked after Children with more than 1 placement in the last year and performance is now better than the Scottish average.

### Supervision Requirement - % children issued with a new supervision requirement seen by supervising officer within timescale (KPI)

The data tells us how quickly a child is seen by a social worker following a decision at a children's hearing to place the child on a statutory supervision order.

There were 32 Compulsory Supervision Requirements, a decrease of 44% from 2016/17. Of this 32, five young people were not seen within the timescale.

There was a decrease of 13.9% in the number of young people seen by a supervising officer within the 15 working days timescale. The performance of this measure was therefore 10.6% below target during the last reporting year.



# Child Protection & Children's Social Work

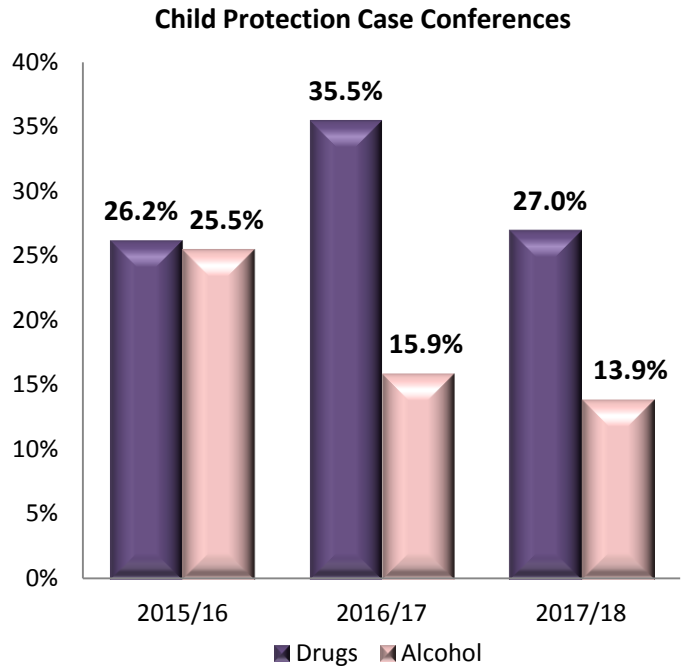
## Child Protection Case Conferences (KPI)

The data indicates the level of concerns of children who have been subject to a child protection case conference during the reporting period and where a level of concern of parental drug or parental alcohol misuse was identified at that case conference.

Parental drug and/or alcohol abuse are amongst a range of concerns, identified for children at child protection case conferences, which are likely to be contributing factors to a child being at risk and may determine the decision or outcome of a child being placed on the child protection register.

Between 2016/17 and 2017/18, there was a decrease of 8.5% in the number of child protection case conferences where parental drug misuse was identified. It should be noted that the 2016/17 figure for this measure was significantly higher than the previous year.

In 2017/18, parental alcohol misuse was identified at 13.9% of cases conferences, a reduction of 2% from the previous reporting year; this figure is steadily decreasing.



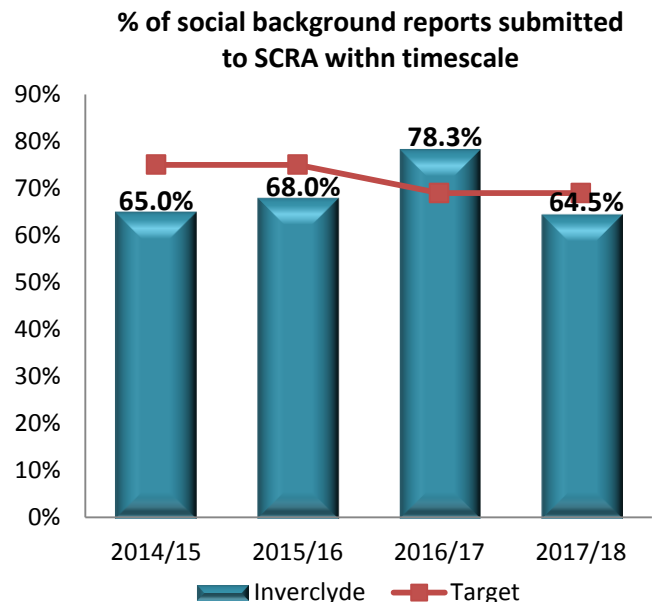
## Percentage of social background reports submitted to SCRA within timescale (KPI)

This indicator is a measure of how quickly a social background report is completed and submitted by social work to the Children's Reporter in time for a children's hearing to take place where an outcome decision may be made for the child at the Hearing.

This was previously a national standard and the Inverclyde HSCP children and families service has set a local target in an effort to meet the standard.

During the last reporting year, there was a significant decrease in the number of Social Background Reports submitted on time. Following a substantial improvement in the performance of this indicator in 2016/17, the percentage of reports submitted within timescale decreased by 13.8% in 2017/18 which means performance for that year was 4.5% below target.

Reasons for the late submission of social background reports include resource scheduling changes, annual leave, sickness absence, changes in a child's circumstances or a need for further information.



## Child Protection & Children's Social Work

### Looked After and Accommodated Children – Community Placements as a percentage of total placements (LGBF)

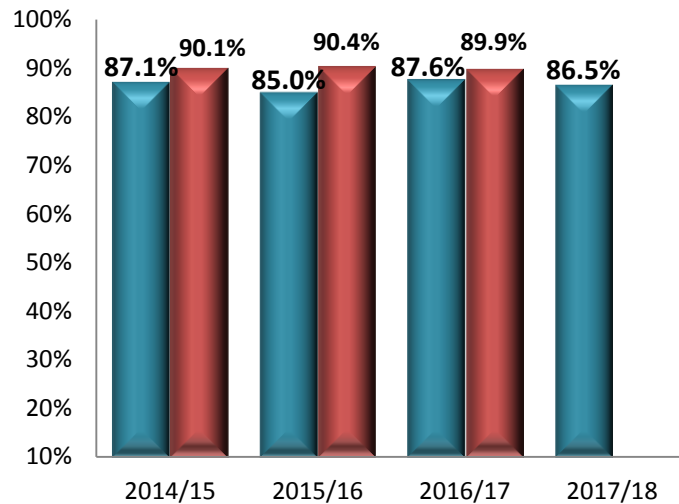
This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework. It is a measure of the proportion (%) of all children who are in the care of the Council who are being looked after in a community rather than residential setting.

As part of the Council's Nurturing Inverclyde approach we are pursuing an explicit policy of placing Inverclyde children within Inverclyde rather than outwith the area (with the exception of adoption).

Between 2016/17 and 2017/18 the percentage of children in community placements decreased slightly.

National data for 2017/18 is not yet published. However, Inverclyde ranked in 20<sup>th</sup> place in Scotland in 2016/17.

LAAC - Community placements as a % of total placements



### Ratio – Child Protection Referrals: Children on the Child Protection Register (KPI)

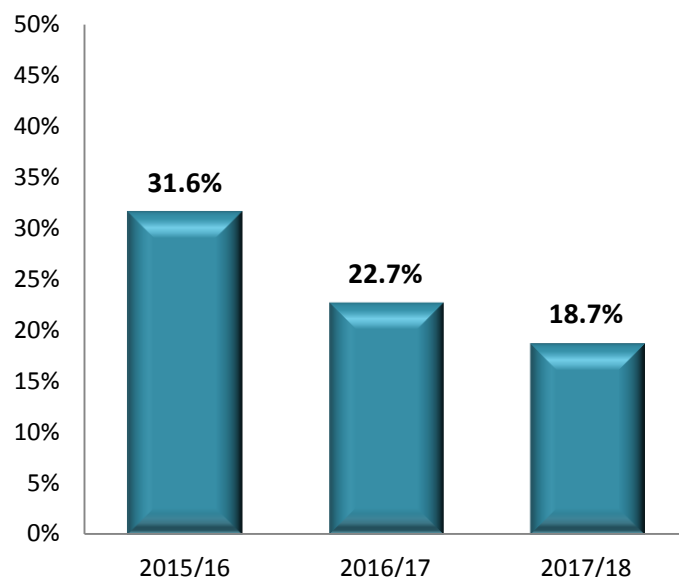
There was a changes in the methodology used to calculate this figure which has been applied to previous years.

The data show us that, although it is not appropriate to set a target for the percentage of children who are placed on the Child Protection Register, the ratio of child protection referrals (the total number of children) to those placed on the Child Protection Register has decreased significantly during the last three years, dropping from 31.6% in 2015/16 to 18.7% in the last reporting year.

Performance in child protection information can vary, depending on specific cases that are referred to the service; therefore it is very difficult to set targets in this area. However, the service maintains close scrutiny of all areas of child protection work. Activity is monitored through quarterly performance service reviews, quarterly progress and status reports and the Child Protection Committee. An annual data return is also submitted to Scottish Government on child protection, and a national bulletin is published each year showing comparative data.

Nationally, as at 31 July 2017, there were 2,631 children on the Child Protection Register, a decrease of 3% from 2016. The total has now fallen for three consecutive years.

Child Protection Referrals: Children on the Child Protection Register



# Child Protection & Children's Social Work

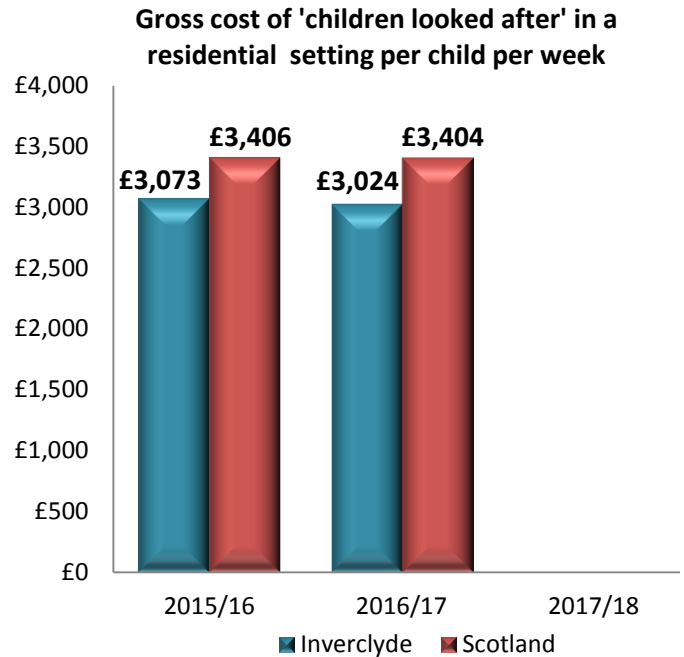
## The Gross Cost of "Children Looked After" in Residential Based Services per Child per Week (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and is a measure of the gross cost (per child, per week) of children that are looked after in a residential setting. National data for 2017/18 is not yet published.

The most recent LGBF data shows that in 2016/17 our costs continued to be lower than the Scottish average. Our national ranking in 2016/17 was 14.

The Council's priority is that the total number of children looked after should decrease. Trends in children looked after has fallen over time with the number of children in residential placements showing a gradual decrease over the past five years. Current re-design of our local residential provision is ongoing.

As part of the LGBF, we will benchmark our performance with our Councils to identify areas for potential improvement.

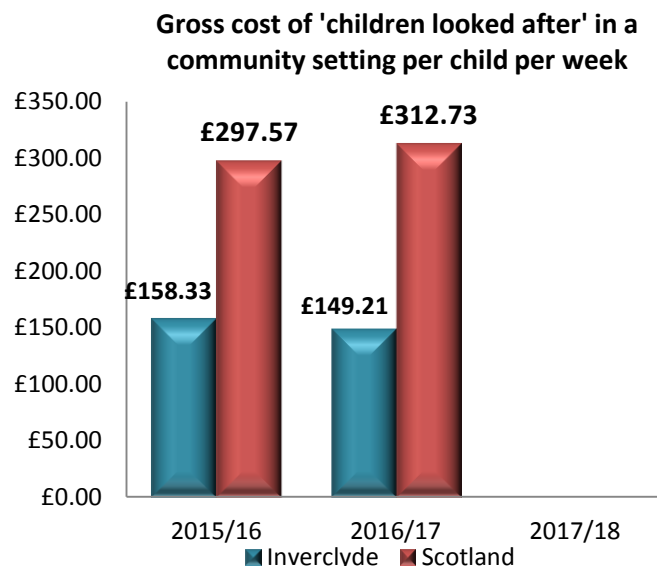


## The Gross Cost of "Children Looked After" in a Community Setting per Child per Week (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and is a measure of the gross cost (per child, per week) of children that are looked after in a community setting. National data for 2017/18 is not yet published.

The most recent LGBF data shows that our weekly costs are far lower than the Scottish average. In 2016/17 our costs were the second lowest in Scotland.

The Council's priority is that the total number of children looked after should decrease. Annual trends of children looked after and cared for in the community have been consistent for a number of years. It is a priority of the Council to increase the speed of decision making in relation to looked after children in areas of community placements and there is an improvement plan in place to monitor this.



The service has an extensive performance plan in place and there are extensive monitoring and reporting arrangements in place across this area. This is carried out on a regular routine basis through for example:

- Organisational Performance Reporting (OPR)
- Quarterly Performance Service Reviews (QPSR)
- Regular management monthly reporting of Management Information.

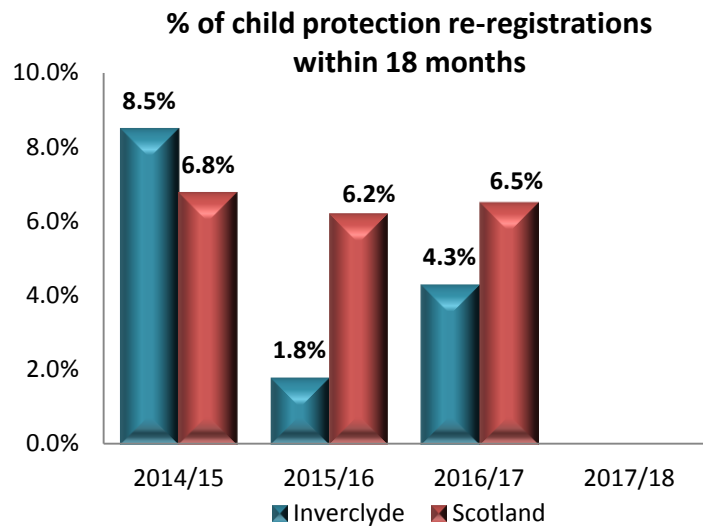
# Child Protection & Children's Social Work

## Percentage of child protection re-registrations within 18 months (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and was introduced in 2016/17. National data for 2017/18 is not yet published.

Re-registrations data shows the number of children on child protection registers who come back onto registers. This is a measure of the percentage of child protection registrations which have been registered previously within the past 18 months.

Data for 2016/17 shows an increase in the percentage of child protection re-registration within 18 months. Inverclyde had the 10<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage of re-registrations in Scotland.



## Percentage of Looked After Children with more than 1 placement in the last year (August – July) (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and was introduced in 2016/17. As a corporate parent, the Council must give consideration to the most effective means of securing the long term stability for children.

National data for 2017/18 is not yet published. Data for 2016/17 however shows a significant reduction in the percentage of looked after children with more than one placement in the past year.

Inverclyde now performs better than the Scottish average which resulted in an improvement in ranking from 11<sup>th</sup> position in 2015/16 to 3<sup>rd</sup> position in 2016/17.

