

# Children and Education Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Wednesday, 14 April 2021 at 5.30 p.m.

Online 'Virtual' Meeting - <https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

## Supplemental Agenda

This meeting is open to the public to attend.

### Further Information

For further information including Membership of this body and public information see the main agenda.

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Children and Education Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Wednesday, 14 April 2021

5.30 p.m.

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<b>4 .2 Regional Adoption Agency</b>	3 - 8
A presentation to be made at the meeting.	
<b>4 .3 Children's Social Care and Early Help Update</b>	9 - 12
A presentation to be made at the meeting.	

**Next Meeting of the Committee:**

Monday, 14 June 2021 at 6.30 p.m. to be held in the Online 'Virtual' Meeting -  
<https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

# Adopt London East

Overview and Update on progress and performance: October 2019- September 2020



# ALE Performance in the context of the London RAA's up until Sept 2020



- Performance information has been collated from ASGLB which provides a service baseline and measure long term trends across London.
- Across London all RAA's have had a decreased in the numbers of children subject to an adoption plan except for ALE where adoption plan decision have increased year on year. ALE has the highest rate per 10,000 in London at 1.76. However this remain lower than the England average of 3.12.
- All London RAA's have seen significant decrease in placement order and placements except for ALE where placement numbers have remained stable and a small increase in placement orders.



# Tower Hamlets' Child Performance



- A1 timeliness is currently 438 days between coming into care and being placed with an adoptive family. The England average is 449 days.
- The above is a decrease in performance from the previous two years. The main reason is due to the increased complexity in the cases, court delays and Covid.
- A2 timeliness is currently 138 days from placement order to match. The England average is 182 days.
- The above is a significant improvement in the previous two years. The main reason for this improvement has been the focus on early family finding activity prior to placement order being granted.



# continued

NB: 2020/21 cover up to Q3 data

	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-19
Children on a plan for Adoption as at 31 March	32	30	22
Adoptions in year	4	11	16
ADM/SHOPAs	10	24	13
Matches	12	8	10
Placement Orders	7	11	12
Children placed with Adoptive Family	10	8	10



# Adopter Performance



- The number of adopter approval declined in 2019/20 and this is largely due to the transition phase of setting up ALE.
- To date ALE have approved 15 new adoptive families.

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## Historical Adopter Approvals

LA	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20
Newham	3	1	6	4
Tower Hamlets	5	7	10	4
Havering	7	9	8	4
LBBB	3	3	12	6
Total	18	20	36	18





# The Budget



## Adopt London East budget projection 2021/22

There will be an increase in cost for Tower Hamlets in 2021/22 due to the increase in demand for adoption services. The increase has been consumed within the wider Regulated Services budget.

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Income stream	Current base budget contribution	Demand led budget contribution	Budget including 3% commissioning uplift
Havering	373,720.00	340,097.00	340,811.00
LBBB	463,041.35	464,893.00	465,869.00
Tower Hamlets	337,050.52	370,401.00	371,179.00
Newham	479,689.85	475,317.00	476,315.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,650,709.02</b>	<b>1,650,708.00</b>	<b>1,654,174.00</b>







# Overview of Supporting Young People and Families Division; (Early Help and Children's Social Care)

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Right Help  
Right Time

Agenda Item 4.3

Overview and Scrutiny ; April 2021



# Current Position;

- Close monitoring of Demand (preparation for potential rise in demand over the summer and Autumn)
- Back into Inspection Mode; “Focused Visit”/SEND Inspection/Youth Justice Inspection
- Continuing to strengthen performance and data
- Re-structure of Early Help and Youth Services
- Continuing focus on quality of practice; “Doing the simple things well” (visits on time/clear plans/direct work with children/relationships)



# Assurance;

- Improvement Board
- Performance Surgeries
- Audit Schedule (including service user feed-back)
- Practice Weeks
- Ofsted; Focused Visit
- Peer Review; (LADO review by Islington for June) we wish to expand this focus to other areas



# Future Developments;

- Social Workers in Schools project- strengthening links with schools
- Strengthening strategic links with Early Help
- Budget over-sight and accountability
- Continuing to strengthen practice

