Delegated Statutory Functions Data Return 10

In order to ensure that there is no duplication in submitting data to HSCB the key below indicates which data should be completed in this return. Data which is sourced from the DSF spreadsheets or HSCB/DoH is indicated by colour coding.

Key to Data Items:-

This data item is completed in the DSF spreadsheet
This data item should be completed in this Data return 10
Other - there is no need to complete this data item and it is sourced from HSCB/DoH

Please Note: Information for this section will inform the Corporate Parenting Report (CC3/02)

10 Children (NI) Order 1995

Article 18 (2)Schedule 2 Para 1, Article 18 (2)Schedule 2 Para 5(2), Article 18 (2)Schedule 2 Para 9, Article 27 (1)(2), Article 27 (1)(2), Article 27 (8), Article 35, Article 36 (1) Article 44, Article 45 (1)(2), Article 45 (3)(5)(6)(7)(8), Article 108 (1), Article 118, Article 130, Article 174, Article 175, Article 177

	10.1 CHILDREN IN NEED		
10.1.1	How many Children in Need are there in your area as at 30 th September? (exclude children on the caseloads of statutory mental health services)	DSF -Children In Need Spreadsheet	
	Trend analysis and commentary (Trusts must clarify how they arrive at this total figure, and reference any likelihood of double or under representation)	Data Return 10	
10.1.2	Ethnic Origin of Children in Need	DSF -Children In Need Spreadsheet	
10.1.3	Religion of Children in Need	DSF -Children In Need Spreadsheet	
10.1.4	 (a) How many children have been referred for an Assessment of Need during the reporting period i.e. 1st April – 30th September (b) What was the source of referral for children referred for assessment of need during the reporting period i.e. 1st April – 30th September 	DSF -Children In Need Spreadsheet	
10.1.5	How many children are currently awaiting an Assessment of Need at period end by length of wait (unallocated cases including disability as at 30 th September). Source PMSI data on Unallocated cases – comes with child protection data.	HSCB (PMSI)	
10.1.6	How many of these Children in Need are Disabled and known to Trust Social Workers (by major category) at 30 th September? Ensure any specific issues are raised in the Service level summary	DSF -Children In Need Spreadsheet	
10.1.7	Disabled children known to the Trust who left school during the reporting period and the transition plans that are in place.	DSF -Children In Need Spreadsheet	

10.1.8	How many Children in Need are currently awaiting assessment or treatment with child and adolescent mental health services as at 30th September?	HSCB (PMSI)
	Trend analysis and commentary (Refers to ALL i.e. tiers 2-4 children awaiting CAMHS regardless of the pathway to the waiting list)	
10.1.9	This is intentionally blank	
10.1.10	How many of the Children in Need are Young Carers	Data Return 10
10.1.11	How many young people aged 16 and 17 years presented to the Trust as homeless / or were referred by NIHE to Trust as homeless during the period and their outcome This is sourced from Client level Data returns sent into HSCB. The data is summarised into a Homelessness spreadsheet which is held in Meridio – Children's information – Homelessness.	HSCB (Homelessness Data)
10.1.12	 (a) How many Trust sponsored Day Care Places provided through any means including Article 18, Fostering or others are there for Children in Need at period end (b) How many of these children have a disability 	DSF-Children In Need Spreadsheet
10.1.13	Trust usage of Family Centre Places for interventions	DSF-Children In Need Spreadsheet
10.1.14	This is intentionally blank	
10.1.15	Please provide the number of children (if any) subject to a Supervision / Interim Supervision Order at period end (moved from Child Protection section)	DSF -Children In Need Spreadsheet
10.1.16	During the period, please provide the number of children (if any) that became subject of a Supervision / Interim Supervision Order (moved from Child Protection section)	DSF -Children In Need Spreadsheet

10.2 Children (NI) Order 1995

Article 18 (2)Schedule 2 Para 1, Article 18 (2)Schedule 2 Para 5(2), Article 18 (2)Schedule 2 Para 9, Article 27 (1)(2), Article 27 (1)(2), Article 27 (8), Article 35, Article 36 (1) Article 44, Article 45 (1)(2), Article 45 (3)(5)(6)(7)(8), Article 108 (1), Article 118, Article 130, Article 174, Article 175, Article 177

CHILD PROTECTION		
No data 10.2.1	is required for items (10.2.1-10.2.8)– data sourced from HSCB quarterly Child prote How many children are on the Child Protection Register as at 30 th	Quarterly CP return to
	September?	HSCB
10.2.2	How many of these children have a learning disability?	Quarterly CP return to HSCB
10.2.3	How many of these children have a physical disability?	Quarterly CP return to HSCB
10.2.4	Religion of children on the Child Protection Register	Quarterly CP return to HSCB
10.2.5	Ethnic origin of children on the Child Protection Register (Note new categories now used in quarterly child protection template)	Quarterly CP return to HSCB
10.2.6	How many registrations have there been during the period?	Quarterly CP return to HSCB/Sosc are Reports
10.2.7	How many de-registrations have there been during the period?	Quarterly CP return to HSCB
10.2.8	What percentage of registrations are re-registrations?	Quarterly CP return to HSCB
10.2.9	This is intentionally blank	
10.2.10	For children on the register, how long have they spent on the Register (as at 10.2.1)?	Quarterly CP return to HSCB
10.2.11	This is intentionally blank	
10.2.12	This is intentionally blank	
10.2.13	This in intentionally blank	
10.2.14	This is intentionally blank	

10.3 Children (NI) Order 1995

Looked After Children

10.3.1	Provide the current legal status for all Looked After Children at 30 th September (excluding any who are LAC on that day only	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
	by virtue of a short break arrangement)	
10.3.2	Religion and Ethnic origin of Looked After Children (please provide by new list of ethnic minorities)	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.3	Number of Looked After Children (as at 10.3.1) by type of placement at 30 th September	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.4	Age bands and length of time looked after for all Looked After Children at period end	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.5	Number of children provided with a short break during the period who become Looked After by virtue of the short break arrangement	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.6	Number of children accommodated for 3 months or more in a hospital	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.7	Number of children accommodated for 3 months or more in an adult facility. For example Residential Care Home, Nursing Home, Private Hospital	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.8	(a) What facilities – statutory, voluntary and private are available to care for these Looked After Children i.e. how many places in residential homes, foster care placements	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
	(b) Provide your number of foster carers (should agree with 10.5.1) Provide the number of approved places offered (should agree with 10.5.2)	
10.3.9	How many Looked After Children have had placement moves throughout the period?	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
	Trust must provide an explanation of actions taken to reduce placement moves during the period.	
10.3.10	(a) How many Looked After Children are awaiting assessment or treatment with child and adolescent mental health services at 30 th September?	
	(b) How many Looked After Children have been referred for therapeutic services and their waiting time.	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
	(c) Please provide actions taken to reduce waiting time.	Data Return

10.3.11	How many Looked After Children are also on Child Protection Register at 30 th September?	Quarterly CP return to HSCB
10.3.12	How many Looked After Children are Disabled by major category at period end?	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.13	How many Looked After Children have a Statement of Educational Needs (SEN) by school status at period end?	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.14	(a) Has each Looked After Child an allocated a named social worker at period end? Yes/No(b) If no, give number of children and provide an update in the service summary on current position and actions taken	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.15	(a) Did each Looked After Child receive a statutory visit by their allocated and named social worker at least once a month during the period? Yes/No(b) If no, give number of children and provide an update in the service summary on current position and actions taken.	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.16	No. of Looked After Children Reviews held during the period	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.17	Was the case of each Looked After Child reviewed in line with Statutory requirements? No If No, please provide number (in the LAC spreadsheet) and explain actions taken to address this issue. There were 67 LAC reviews held outside the statutory timescales. This was impacted by the number of unfilled vacant social work posts and absence levels across the teams resulting in reduced capacity. Other reasons for Reviews being outside the statutory timescales include delays in expert's reports being provided in Court proceedings to support care planning, parent's requests for their legal representatives to attend Reviews and dates needing to be re-scheduled to facilitate this, parents and staff members being affected by COVID.	Data Return 10
10.3.18	This is intentionally blank	
10.3.19	This is intentionally blank	

10.3.20	Is there an adequate supply of placements for children to enable placement choice? No (If no, Please explain)	Data Return 10
	Over the reporting period the Trust has continued to meet challenges in finding placements which would be considered an appropriate match in terms of a child's needs. This has remained an issue for those older aged teenagers but an emerging issue has been the difficulty in finding placements for younger aged children who display significant dysregulation related behaviours or behaviours which place them at risk.	
	Approaches are being made to carers outside of their approval criteria and additional wrap around supports for placements is being provided in cases where carers agree to accept such placements. Carers are understandably cautious and will often indicate a day to day approach to placements with endings sometimes being unplanned due to carer's feeling they can no longer continue with a placement. This creates instability for the child but also impacts on the carer's openness to other placement requests.	
	The fall in enquiries and the small number of newly approved stranger carers during this reporting period (10) alongside 6 non-kinship carers being de-registered adds further pressures to the challenges of finding appropriate placements.	
10.3.21	How many exceptions to the normal fostering limit were made to foster care approvals in order for a child to be placed in an emergency in the reporting period?	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.22	This is intentionally blank	
10.3.23	How many children are deemed to be in an inappropriate placement given their assessed needs? (Please explain)	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.24	Please provide the number of restraints carried out by staff on young people within each Home during the period.	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.25	Do all looked after children have a concurrent plan by the time of their first 3 month statutory LAC Review? No	Data Return 10
	The Trust's permanence panel continues to meet on a monthly basis to monitor and track plans for all children who are in care 3+ months. The panel report that while most children will have a	

	permanence plan at this stage, for those small numbers who do not, there will be a partial plan with timescales set out regarding work that is required to achieve a full permanence plan.	
10.3.26	Permanency Planning for Looked After Children at period end	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.27	This is intentionally blank	
10.3.28	This is intentionally blank	
10.3.29	(a) How many Looked After Children are involved in offending behaviour (are formally cautioned or convicted)and(b) How many Looked After Children are suspected to use drugs and/or alcohol?	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.30	This is intentionally blank	
10.3.31	This is intentionally blank	
10.3.32	What progress are children making at school and what are their examination results – School Year Ended 30 th June 2021 (this will be collected in September Data Return only) (HSCB will source this directly from DoH)	DOH
10.3.33	Looked After Children, School Attendance – School Year Ended 30 th June 2021 (HSCB will source this directly from DoH)	DOH
10.3.34	(a) Number of children notified to the police as having gone missing from residential or foster care for 24 hours or more? (This data will be sourced directly from the Untoward Event Report)	Untoward Events database, HSCB
	 (b) How many Looked After Children have been reported to the Police for reasons other than having gone missing for 24 hours or more during the period? (This table should be completed for each Residential Facility, it is not required for Foster Carers) 	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.35	Number of children accommodated by ELB for 3 months or more by category	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet

10.3.36	 (a) Number of Sibling groups accommodated: Together - 85 Not accommodation together at period end - 70 	Data Return 10
10.3.37	Number of young people admitted to Secure Accommodation and the reasons for admission during the period This data is sourced directly from Lakewood (it will be forwarded by South Eastern Trust) – after this reporting period the data will be sourced from the Regional Secure panel which is located within HSCB	Lakewood/ Regional Panel
10.3.38	Please provide report into the operation of the Trusts Restriction of Liberty Panel This data is collected annually and sourced from a Restriction of Liberty report (it comes in with DSF). The data will be sources from the Regional Secure Panel going forward – panel began on 1.9.19.	Lakewood/ Regional Panel
10.3.39	 (a) During the period how many children or young people became a Looked After Child by age, gender and first placement (b) To your knowledge have any of the children admitted during the period been subject to a full Adoption Order (c) Of those children at 10.3.39(a) admitted to care during the period how many have previously been on the Child Protection Register in the last 2 years from the period end date (d) Number of Children and Young People who became Looked After during the period had a CLA1 form completed and forwarded to School? (e) Can you confirm that all the above admissions to care are properly recorded and do not include what should rightly be reported as a placement move (e.g. a fostering breakdown where the RESWS moves the child to a children's home) Yes/No 	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.40	 (a) During the period how many children or young people became a Looked After Child by age, gender and legal status on admission; (b) (i) Were these admissions planned, unplanned or emergency; (ii) Of those that were unplanned or emergency how many were admitted to kinship foster care? (iii) Of those unplanned or emergency admissions how many 	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet

	were admitted by RESWS?	
10.3.41	During the period how many children or young people ceased to be Looked After by age, gender and length of time looked after at discharge	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
10.3.42	(a) Of all the children and young people reported at 10.3.41 what was their destination at discharge by age and gender	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
	(b) Of those 16+ year olds who ceased to be Looked After during the period what was their entitlement to Leaving Care Services by age and gender	
10.3.43	This is intentionally blank	
10.3.44	(a) Please provide the total number of children that became subject of a Residence Order during the period.	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet
	For (a) above please give the number of children that were formerly placed with Stranger (Foster Carers), Kinship (Foster Carers), Residential Care or other placement.	
	(b) How many Residence Orders are in place at period end?	
10.3.45	Number of Children or Young People who died during the current reporting period and were Looked After by the Trust by cause/age	DSF – LAC Spreadsheet

Note: Sections 10.3.41 to 10.3.43 should include all discharges including those reported in section 10.4

10.4 CHILDREN (LEAVING CARE) ACT (NI) 2002 Article 34E, Article 34F

10.4.1	Number of young people subject to Leaving Care Act by category, age and gender	DSF-16+ Spreadshe et
10.4.2	Of those eligible young people reported at 10.4.1 give the Children Order Legal Status at period end.	DSF-16+ Spreadshe et
	Age reference table will automatically update as spreadsheets completed.	
10.4.3	This is intentionally blank	
10.4.4	This is intentionally blank	
10.4.5	This is intentionally blank	
10.4.6	Of the young people reported at 10.4.1	DSF-16+ Spreadshe
	 (a) What are the social worker and personal adviser arrangements in place for each category of young people? (b) Of the young people with a named personal adviser, how many have a Person Specific Personal Adviser? (c) How many do not have an up to date Pathway Plan at period end? 	et
10.4.7	Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 how many do not have a completed needs assessment and how long have they been waiting at period end?	DSF-16+ Spreadshe et
10.4.8	Summary of failure to comply as detailed in 10.4.6, 10.4.7 at period end. No failure to comply.	Data Return 10
	The familie to compry.	
10.4.9	Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 what are their living arrangements at period end? Please complete for (a) Eligible; (b) Relevant; (c) Former Relevant; and (d) Qualifying young people	DSF-16+ Spreadshe et
10.4.10	Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 what is their current education, training and employment status, and how many are being supported financially at period end?' 10.4.10 (a) Eligible; (b) Relevant; (c) Former Relevant; and (d) Qualifying young people	DSF-16+ Spreadshe et

10.4.11	Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 how many were convicted during this reporting period?	DSF16 S/Sheet
10.4.12	Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 how many have a disability by major disability – physical, sensory, learning, chronic illness, Autism (see definition) and other, type and gender at period end?'	DSF-16+ S/Sheet
10.4.13	Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 what is their parental status at period end?'	DSF-16+ S/Sheet
10.4.14	'Of the young people reported at 10.4.1 how many are receiving treatment for mental health issues at period end? Of these, how many were new referrals to mental health services during the period?	DSF-16+ S/Sheet
10.4.15	Number of Young People who are no longer Looked After but who died during the current reporting period and were in receipt of aftercare services by cause/age.	DSF-16+ S/Sheet

10.5 FOSTERING		
10.5.1	 (a) How many foster carers are registered with the Trust at period end? How many of the carers above also provide a GEM placement? Of the carers above how many are Prospective adopters dually approved as foster carers? Of the Prospective Adopters/Dually Approved carers above how many are Concurrent Foster/Adoptive Carers? (b) Please give the number of other foster carers; (c) Please give a breakdown of the number of foster carers de-registered during the period and the reason; (d) Please advise of the recruitment process activity during the period; (e) Please give the number of regional enquirers received by the Trust 	DSF-Foster care Spreadsheet
10.5.2	For the foster carers return at 10.5.1 how many places are they registered for and the number of vacant places at period end. Please also provide the number of fostering households that have no child placed with them at period end.	DSF-Foster care Spreadsheet
10.5.3	How many foster carers have annual reviews outstanding?	Data return 10
	Please provide the number of viability visits undertaken during the reporting period. (moved from 10.5.1f) There are 90 Annual Reviews outstanding.	DSF-Foster care Spreadsheet
	A number of teams have experienced reduced capacity issues due to staff sickness and some posts not being filled following staff retiring. Other issues reported have been delays in medical information being returned and carers being on hold following allegations where formal processes have impacted on Reviews coming to panel within timescales.	
	46 Reviews of the outstanding reviews are within the Kinship Service. The Kinship Service remains on the Trust's Divisional Risk Register and there is currently an Action Plan in place by the HSCB to address the pressures within the service at this time. This plan is a 3mth plan and will be formally reviewed at the end of November. Within the plan there has been scope to	

	postpone Reviews to free staff up to undertaken assessments to help reduce the number of unregulated placements. Please provide the number of viability visits undertaken during the reporting period. (moved from 10.5.1f) 87 viabilities were undertaken during the reporting period.	
10.5.4	Please provide specific actions being taken by the Trust to ensure outstanding reviews are completed As highlighted above there is a specific action plan in place for the kinship service which allows management oversight for all reviews. Given there is an agreement under the action plan for 1st and 3rd year reviews to be prioritised, this may explain the number of outstanding reviews in the kinship service. The use of Agency staff at both Social Work and B4 level has been helpful in freeing up capacity to enable staff to complete reviews within timescales.	Data return 10

10.5 PRIVATE FOSTERING

The Children Order (NI) 1995 - Part X
Data Return 10: 1st April 21 - 30th September 21
NB Advice from DLS is that the 28day period should be continuous.

10.5.6	What steps has the Trust taken to encourage notifications?	DSF-Foster care
10.5.0	What steps has the Trust taken to encourage notifications:	Spreadsheet
	How many Private Fostering Arrangements under Article 106 are in	DSF-Foster care
10.5.7	place within the Trust as at the 30 th September?	Spreadsheet
10.5.8	How many Private Fostering notifications under Article 106 has the Trust received during the period?	DSF-Foster care Spreadsheet
	·	
10.5.9	Please provide DOB and Date notification was received in respect	DSF-Foster care Spreadsheet
	of each child/young person reported at 10.5.8	Oproduction
10.5.10	Of the notifications received (10.5.8) how many has the Trust	DSF-Foster care
	accepted?	Spreadsheet
10.5.11	Of those notifications not accepted please summarise reasons and	DSF-Foster care
	action taken by the Trust	Spreadsheet
10.5.12	Number of appeals and during the veen under Article 140	DSF-Foster care
10.5.12	Number of appeals made during the year under Article 113	Spreadsheet
10.5.13	Are supervisory visits undertaken in accordance with Regulation	DSF-Foster care Spreadsheet
	3(1)(a) and (b) as a minimum to children privately fostered?	Spreadsneet
	Please provide details of any circumstances where the Regulation has not been adhered to.	
	has not been adhered to.	
	Notifications under Regulation 4 of the Children	
	(Private Arrangements for Fostering) Regulations (NI)	
	1996	
10.5.14	How many notifications has the Trust received in respect of children	DSF-Foster care Spreadsheet
	being adopted from abroad i.e. Intercountry Adoption within the period.	25.044011000
	Please specify the child's DOB and the date the Trust received	DSF-Foster care
	each notification	Spreadsheet

10.6 Adoption (NI) Order 1987 Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Act (NI) 2001		
	Article 3(as amended by HPSS Order 1994), Article 11	
10.6.1	(a) Number of enquiries, by type, received by the Trust and what prompted their initial approach?(d) Please provide the waiting time from initial inquiry to commencement of training	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.2	Number of domestic applications for assessment received by the Trust by civil status of applicant	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.3	Number of Prospective Domestic Adopters awaiting assessment at period end, length of time waiting, and reason waiting	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.4	Number of inter-country applications for assessment received by the Trust by civil status of applicant (to be completed by NHSCT on behalf of the region)	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.5	Number of Prospective Inter-country adopters awaiting assessment at period end (to be completed by NHSCT on behalf of the region)	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.6	Of all adoption assessments (both domestic and inter country) completed during the period please give details of the outcomes	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.7	Number of looked after children freed for adoption and not yet placed with their prospective adopters as at 30th September; and duration of wait since freeing order as granted	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.8	 (a) Activity under the Adoption (NI) Order 1987 during the period; Of the number above please give the number who were adopted in a Hague designated country and therefore not through the Courts in NI and have had their Article 23 reports completed in the time period; Please provide the number of Freeing Orders made during the reporting period; (b) Of those children who were adopted this period please give the length of time from becoming looked after (last episode) to going to live with the family who went on to adopt them. 	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.9	Please provide the number of children who, at period end, had received a best interest decision for adoption and had not been placed with approved adopters (either adopters, dual approved carers including concurrent carers) and the duration of that wait	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.10	How many children are in receipt of an Adoption Allowance at 30th September and how many households is this?	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet

10.6.11	Of the number at 10.6.10 how many commenced during the period and how many households is this?	DSF- Adoption Spreadsheet
10.6.12	Details of recruitment, assessment, training, support for prospective adopters Family placement teams	Data Return 10
	There was a drop in the number of Preparing to Adopt courses from 3 in the previous period to 1 in this period. There was also a fall in the numbers in attendance from 53 in the previous period to 18 in this period.	
	There was a rise in the number of families approved as adopters from 3 to 7 and there are 23 assessments ongoing. There has been a rise in the number of adoptive families receiving support from 43 to 54.	
	The service is providing Post Adoption Counselling work to 58 cases, which is an increase in 37 cases being worked. The number of cases awaiting allocation has dropped from 24 to 4. The productivity in this area of work has been helped with the appointment of a PACs social worker funded by HSCB.	
	Regional Intercountry Adoption Assessment Service During the period 1st April – 30th September 2021, the Regional Intercountry Adoption Assessment Service (RIAAS) received 27 enquiries. Of these, 10 initial consultations were held. Training was carried out via Zoom during August 2021 with 4 couples in attendance at both the Information Day and Preparation Days. 3 applications were received during the period, two following the training and one application from a couple who have already adopted twice from overseas.	
	Adoption Support Team The Adoption Support Team (AST) is a Trust-wide service, set up to support adopted children and families maintain placement stability through provision of a range of services. Most of the children known to AST come from the LAC population, a vulnerable group of children who, despite achieving a permanent care plan, often need long-term support. As of 30th September 2021, 332 children/young people, up to the age of 18 years, were known to the Adoption Support Team. There has been an increase in the number of these children/young people requiring a service with a total of 238 children currently receiving a service; a rise of 25. 94 children/young people do not currently require active support.	
	Out of the 238 children who are open, the team support: • 213 adopted children/young people (a rise of 29)	

25 children who have an Adoption Care Plan

The nature of support is multi-faceted and continues to develop and evolve, focusing specifically on a two stage model of:

- early intervention (post freeing/ in 1st year of adoption to support families with the foundations around contact, narrative and reinforce the stable bonds of family life)
- the management of fragile or under strain placements

Early Intervention including Contact Plans

It is recognised that the likelihood of a successful outcome in adoption is directly linked to effective intervention and support at the early stage of the process.

The team continue to implement an early intervention model for all children referred to the service by being involved as early as possible and this currently involves co-working with LAC colleagues.

An early Intervention model aims to promote on-going support to devise plans to meet complex needs and to stabilise post adoption support. The Foundation for Attachment group work programme was launched in September 2021 with 8 families taking part. It is hoped that this will be continue to be facilitated on a rolling basis every 6 months.

Post adoption contact continues to be heavily supported by the team.

Within the period, the team supported:

- 18 consultations to formulate and support parties negotiate post adoption contact plans to be presented to Court (a rise of 11).
- 92 direct face-to-face contacts for adopted children with their birth families including birth parents, grandparents and siblings (a rise of 59 explained by the easement in COVID 19 guidance enabling direct contact to take place).
- 72 co-ordinated indirect letterbox contacts (Adoption Support Team involved in managing the exchanges).
- 15 supported and managed virtual Zoom contacts.

An annual review process is ongoing and the team have worked with families and birth parents to renegotiate and amend contact plans in line with children's changing developmental needs. Changes to contact during Covid has led to many families asking for contact to be re-assessed and reviewed more frequently than in the past.

Fragile Placements

The management of fragile placements has continued to change significantly as a consequence of the improvements introduced by the Reform and Modernisation Project Team. The project team that was introduced in 2019 has established a holistic model to the management of fragile placements. Previously this group of children would have been managed between teams which involved adoption cases transferring to LAC or FSIT teams to manage risk and safeguarding concerns, while AST working alongside to support the adoption element of the work.

The project team have introduced practice that manages these cases within the team by trauma informed practitioners. Although this has presented challenges- mostly in respect of capacity, as the team is small and Trust wide- we are starting to see results and it remains a priority target for this incoming year.

Children who are at risk of disruption now receive a comprehensive assessment facilitated by AST in collaboration with multi disciplines and a review process is facilitated by the Adoption Operational Band 8a Manager.

A key component is working these cases closely with the designated Adoption Clinical Psychologist within TTLAAC. Her capacity has increased allowing face to face intervention in addition to providing a consultative and reflective practice role with staff. This service has now become more clearly embedded into team practice.

On the downside, the above work has overshadowed and reduced capacity to manage the "pure" adoption work that emerges for adopted children at each developmental stage. Those middle groups of families, which have the potential to become fragile without regular support remain under review by the Team. The priority is in the identification of children with complex needs so that appropriate services can be put in place at an early stage to prevent escalation and crisis at a later stage.

During the period, there were 10 children in this "fragile" category.

Within the period, there were 3 new post-adoption breakdowns. A slight fall of 2. Of the 3, 1 child has returned to live with birth family, 1 child is placed in residential care and 1 child returned home after a short period in foster care.

The team continues to support children whose adoption previously disrupted. 2 children have been deregistered and there are currently no children on the Child Protection Register. 2 young people have transferred to 16+ services.

1 child who was in Secure Accommodation is currently detained in hospital and 1 child is placed in an unregulated community residential placement staffed by fieldwork staff. The remainder of the fragile families continue to be reviewed under Family Support processes and, where appropriate, others under the Signs of Safety Model. There continues to be key themes emerging from these fragile family situations: Complex high-risk behaviours: child to parent violence, high CSE, drug, alcohol misuse. Children coming from England with no notification that they had moved into the area or any support plan in place. They came to AST attention when at crisis stage with problems entrenched and difficult to bring about change. • All but 1 family have maintained a high level of involvement with the children despite care admission. • There is an improvement in being able to access Family Systemic Therapy and therapeutic support in working with these families. Within the period there were 0 pre-adoption breakdowns. Band 4 workers continue to be integral in providing a diverse, practical and intensive range of support to families. 63 sessions of support from Band 4 workers were provided during the period which is an increase of 22 cases receiving this input. Developing the use of B4 workers has however, been impeded by long term absence and use of agency staff. In line with RAMP strategy and NHSCT vision, the Project team continues to proactively work towards an integrated adoption service that will address the needs within an ever growing number of adoptive placements. Realising this vision is an on-going process; nevertheless significant progress continues to be made. Data Return 10.6.13 Details of Post Adoption Support - this section should include data 10 in respect of the number of and action taken in respect of placement breakdowns both pre (i.e. where adoption is the Care Plan) and post Adoption Order Analysis 10.6.14 This is intentionally blank

10.7 EARLY YEARS

10.7.1	Please provide the current early years provision / places, registrations and de-registrations Include Number of Approved Home Child Carers Please provide the current early years provision / places, registrations and de-registrations Include Number of Approved Home Child Carers The NHSCT Trust has: 1106 registered facilities providing a total of 19829 places recorded as follows:	DSF-Early Years Spreadsheet
	 Day Nurseries Out of Schools within a DN Total Day Nursery Places Stand Alone Crèche Stand Alone Playgroups Stand alone Out of School Childminders Approved Here Child Corors 3104 places 4416 places 393 places 3844 places 1786 places 4566 places 	
	 Approved Home Child Carers 33 Holiday Scheme 1 24 places Two Year Old Program 30 384 places There were a total of 28 new registrations during this review period.	
	 Day Nurseries Out of Schools with a DN Stand Alone Crèche Stand Alone Playgroup Stand Alone Out of school Childminders Approved Home Childcarers Holiday Scheme 2 Year Old program 	
	There were 81 voluntary cessations of facilities during this period. • Day Nurseries 3 • Out of School within a DN 0 • Stand Alone Crèche 0 • Stand Alone Playgroup 4 • Stand Alone Out of School 5 • Childminder 66 • Approved Home Carer 3 • Holiday Scheme 0 • Two Year Old Program 0	

10.7.2	Registration issues and commentary as at period end	Data Return 10
	(If any challenges or issues please provide a brief analysis)	10
	The provider registration figures again note a further small decrease of registered provisions from the 1158 noted at 31 03 2021 to the current figure of 1106. This has been the trend for at least the previous five reporting years.	
	Similarly the largest loss of registered provision of 66 remains in the childminding sector. This sector continues to see significant decrease year on year.	
	Childminders are not required to provide reasons as to why they are ceasing and we are not required to formally collate this information. It could be suggested that COVID has had an impact of the number of voluntary cessations as the numbers reflect a significant increase.	
	Although we have no evidence to substantiate the numbers, we have some concern regarding the potential numbers of unregulated childminders who, unrestricted by registration, challenge the sustainability of registered provision. Where reports of unregistered childminders are brought to our attention the Trust takes the appropriate action.	
	There were 12 closures in the group provision, 3 Day nurseries,5 stand-alone Out of Schools and 4 playgoups.	
	There were 3 voluntary cessations of Approved Home Child Carers.	
10.7.3	Total number of annual Inspections required, number carried out, number outstanding and time outstanding as at 30th September	DSF-Early Years Spreadsheet
	Total number of annual Inspections required, number carried out, number outstanding and time outstanding as at 30th September	
	The Trust were required to complete a total of 1073 annual inspections this reporting year. (This reflects that we have no statutory inspection responsibility for AHC.) This figure is further reduced as 59 childminders remain on voluntary suspension/inactivity and the Out of School within Day Nursery will be completed as part of the Day Nursery Inspection resulting in a total of 967 inspections. Due to the impact of Covid and the standing down of inspection	
	activity by DoH, followed by the restrictions on the numbers of inspections the Trust could complete in any one day it was recognized by the HSCB that Trusts would not be in the position to complete their statutory functions in the reporting year 2020/2021.	

	This resulted in the regional agreement that by March 2022 all Trust registered provision would have had an inspection. Data in this section reflects combination of the 110 inspections we did complete last year therefore not overdue and 762 inspections overdue as of 01 04 2021. In prioritising the inspections the Trust applied the regionally agreed criteria. During this six month reporting period we have completed 380 inspections using the regionally agreed Covid Inspection format. This number would have been higher if there still had not been Covid restrictions in place for 3 months of this reporting period on the numbers of inspections we could complete on any one day.	
	However projected action plan should see us on track to complete the annual inspection cycle.	
10.7.4	Number of outstanding applications for each of the above categories as at 30 th September? In this period there were a total of 12 applications outstanding. 8 of these are within the allotted time frames and of the 4 outside of time frames, all were childminding applications. The 2 registration applications in the 4-6 month's timeframe are awaiting submission of outstanding documentation. The remaining 2 in the 7-9 month's timeframe cannot be progressed until we are in receipt of the required documentation and 1 on hold due to the childminder moving home.	DSF-Early Years Spreadsheet
10.7.5	Number of current applications being assessed at period end and duration of assessment There are 15 applications in progress at the end of this reporting period, 13 of which are within timeframes. The 2 remaining applications reflect a request form the childminder who went on maternity leave and the OOS not progressing due to low numbers over the summer months.	DSF-Early Years Spreadsheet

	10.8 Complaints & Representation	
10.8.1	Does the Trust have an appropriately authorised and experienced children's complaints officer? Yes/No	Data Return 10
	There is a dedicated Complaints Department within the Trust which records and monitors any complaints, both through the Children Order Complaints Process and the general HSC Complaints Procedure. Complaints received through the formal system are recorded by the Complaints Department and on the Datix database and reported and monitored through the Trust's Service User Feedback Committee, Trust Board and the Children's Services Governance Meeting. Regular quarterly and annual reports are forwarded to the DHSSPSNI.	
10.8.2	Does the Trust have an independent advocacy service for children and their families? Yes/No	Data Return 10
	The VOYPIC (Voice of Young People in Care) Project, commissioned by the HSCB, provides an independent advocacy service for children in the Trust area, including a service to residential units, which includes working with children	
	under 'good citizenship' programmes.	
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10.8.3	Please confirm arrangements are in place to ensure that all complaints – both formal and informal – from children and their families are recorded and dealt with? The Regional 'Complaints in Health and Social Care: Standards and Guidelines for Resolution and Learning' and the Children Order Representations and Complaints Procedures both operate within the Trust.	Data Return 10
10.8.4	Please confirm whistle-blowing arrangements are in place to ensure that concerns raised by staff working in children's services are recorded and dealt with? The Trust also has a Whistleblowing Policy for Employees. No concerns were raised through the Whistleblowing Policy during this period	Data Return 10
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10.9 SEPARATED CHILDREN

10.9.1	Number of separated children referred to Gateway Teams by status of children for this period (self-reported age at presentation)	HSCB Separated Children Database
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