

Cafcass Performance Report

January 2018 Summary



Summary of Key Issues

- Year to date 2017/18 (Apr-2017 to Jan-2018), **11,756** new public law care applications have been received, this is **-3.2%** (-393 applications) on the same period last year. However compared to same period in 2015/16, it is **+13.9%** (+1,438 applications).
- Cafcass received a total of **35,437** new private law cases year to date 2017/18 (Apr-2017 to Jan-2018), this is **+6.1%** (+2,050 cases) on the same period last year. Compared to the same period in 2015/16, it is **+15.3%** (+4,693 cases).
- In the last rolling 12 month period (Feb 2017 – Jan 2018) comparing to the same period in 2016/2017, total public law case demand (including non-care) is **+0.8%** and private law demand is **+6.3%**:
 - On average Cafcass has received **1,184** new public law (care) applications and **3,549** new private cases per month in the last 12 months (Feb 2017 – Jan 2018).
 - Over the last 12 months our overall stock of open cases are **+11.8%** with public law care stock **+2.2%** and private law cases **+17.5%** than February 2017.
- S31 Duration has remained at **31** weeks in Q3 17/18 for the fourth consecutive quarter. The previous full 2016/17 financial year had an average duration was 29 weeks (from 30 weeks in 2015/16).
- Overall performance remains strong with all KPIs in **Green** year to date (Apr-2017 to Jan-2018). Full KPI data can be viewed in the Appendix.
- As at January 2018 there was an full time equivalent of **1305.2** Social Work staff and a headcount of **128** Agency FCAs. This is **+2.4%** since Q2 17/18.
- Overall average caseloads have remained stable with the national average FCA active caseload at **19.6** cases (February 2018).
- At the end of Q3 2017-18, MoJ forecasted changes of **+0.2%** for public law and **+3.7%** for private law for 2017-18, these are calculated on historic data trend.

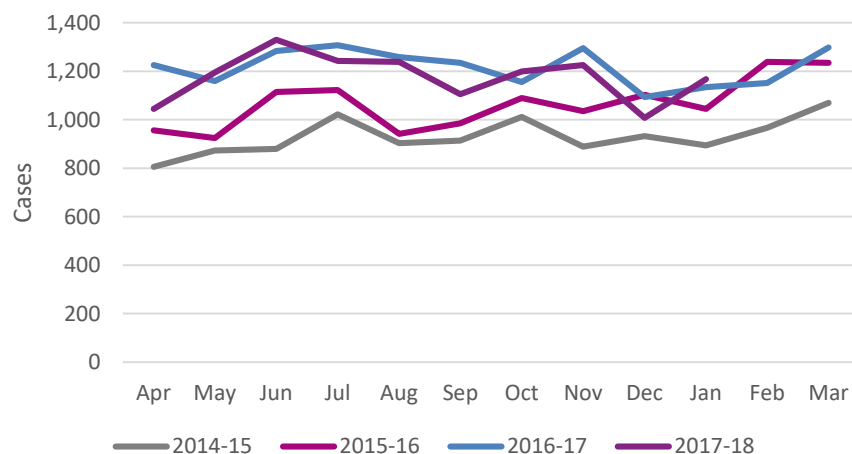
Cafcass Performance Report

January 2018 Summary



Public Law (Care)

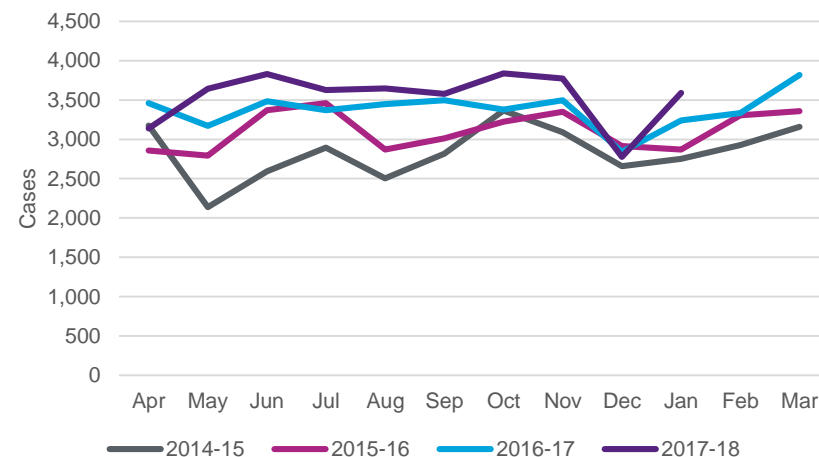
Cafcass Care Applications Demand



- Cafcass received a total of 11,756 new care applications between April 2017 to January 2018. The year to date demand is **-3.2%** (-393 applications) than the same period in 2016-17 and **+13.9%** (+1,438 applications) than the same period in 2015-16. The 1,168 new applications received in January 2018 is the highest monthly total for a January on record.
- The stock of open care cases (**10,297**) was **+1.2%** in January 2018 than January 2017. The overall open care cases stock has remained between 9,700 and 10,400 over the last 12 months.
- s31 applications completed in Quarter 3 2017-18 took on average **31 weeks** to conclude, this has remained the same for the fourth consecutive quarter.

Private Law

Private Law Case Demand



- Cafcass received 35,437 new private law cases between April 2017 and January 2018. This is **+6.1%** (+2,050 cases) than the same period in 2016-17 and **+15.3%** (+4,693 cases) than the same period in 2015-16. The 3,590 new cases received in January is the highest demand for a January since 2013.
- The stock of open private law cases (**19,990**) was **+17.8%** in January 2018 than January 2017. Overall open private stock law has remained between 16,900 and 20,000 cases over the last 12 months.
- Cafcass' involvement in Private Law in Quarter 3 2017/18 took an average of **17 weeks** to conclude, this has remained the same from the previous quarter.

Key Performance Indicators (KPI) – 2017/18 (YTD)



KPI 1

99.3%



KPI 2

1.0 Days



KPI 3

98.8%



KPI 4

98.8%

Key Performance Indicator (KPI)	Target
1: Public care cases allocated to Children's Guardian at month end	97%
2: Average working days to allocate Children's Guardian to care case	<3 working days
3: Private law cases allocated to Family Court Adviser at month end	97%
4: Private law section 7 reports filed by agreed date	97%

Additional KPI performance information can be viewed in the attached [Appendix 1](#).

- Year to date 2017/18 all KPIs have exceeded target (April 2017-January 2018).
- Following a number of months below 97% last financial year, KPI4 has maintained strong performance so far this financial year. The average number of weeks to file Section 7 reports has slightly increased from 9.6 weeks in 2016/17 (Apr-Jan) to 10.0 weeks during YTD 2017-18. Section 7 report demand is +12.2% (+1,786) in 2017/18 year to date compared to same period in the last financial year.
- KPI 2 performance is 1.0 working days to allocate a Children's Guardian, a decrease from 1.2 days for the same period in 2016/17.
- **Details of the national Key Performance Measures (KPMs) monitored by the Family Justice Board are provided below for information.**

Key Performance Measure (KPM)	Ambition for 2017/18
KPM1 – Average (mean) duration of section 31 care or supervision cases (From date of application to first full order i.e. not interim order)	26 weeks (averaged over the year)
KPM2 – Proportion of section 31 care or supervision cases completing within 26 weeks.	65-75%
KPM3 – Average (mean) number of hearings per section 31 care or supervision case	Average of 5 (or fewer) hearings be held per new section 31 care or supervision case
KPM4 – Timeliness of progression of section 8 cases in court	
a) Proportion of section 8 cases where the FHDRA or urgent first hearing takes place within six weeks.	70% - 80% of FHDRA hearings take place within 6 weeks of the application
b) Average time from application to final order for section 8 cases	Continuous improvement
5: Take-up and initial effectiveness of publicly-funded family mediation:	
5a: Number of couples attending a MIAM where one or both parties are publicly-funded	6,000 couples a quarter attending a MIAM
5b: Number of publicly-funded family mediations reaching full/partial agreement on the issues in dispute	2,400 publicly funded mediation agreements a quarter reaching full/partial agreement on the issues in disagreement
5c: Proportion of MIAMs converted to Mediations Starts.	No specific level of ambition set

Public Law (Care) 2017/18 YTD



Open Cases

1.2%



Allocation Time

1.0 Days



Demand

-3.2%



Throughput

76.7%

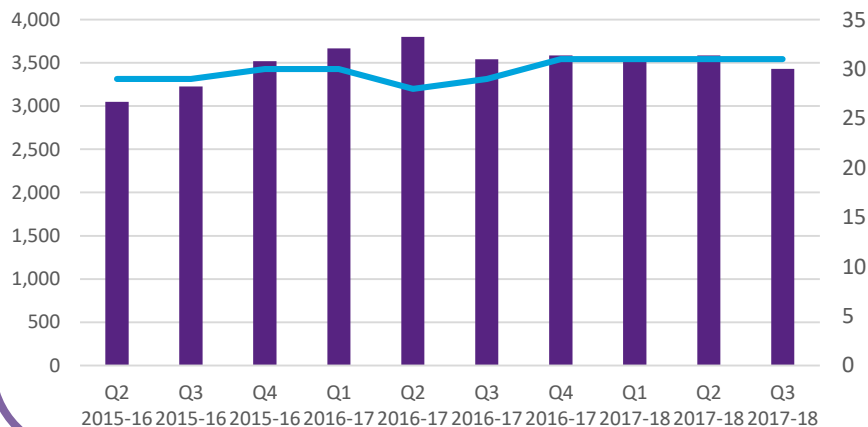


Duration

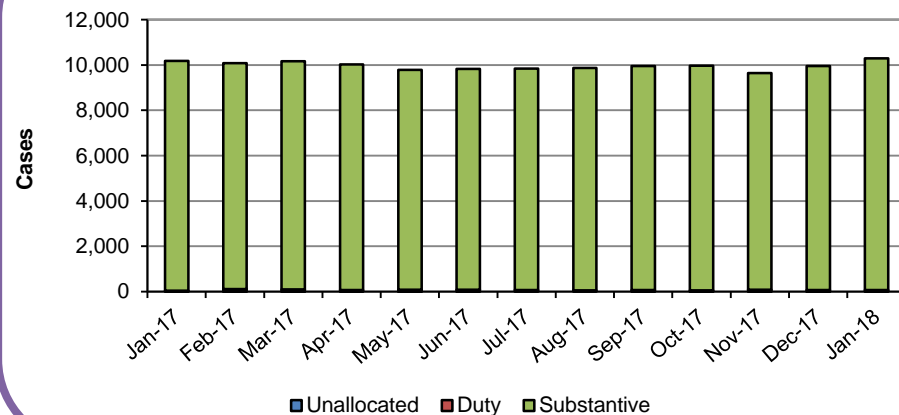
31 Weeks

Arrows indicate change in actual metric since last report, except Demand and Open Cases which indicate comparison to the same period in 2016/17. Information on RAG rating can be found on final page. Additional Public Information can be viewed in the attached [Appendix 2](#).

Public Law Care Application Demand and Duration



Public Law Care Workload



Private Law 2017/18 YTD



Open Cases

+17.8%



S7 Reports filed by
Agreed date

98.8%



Demand

+6.1%



Throughput

105.9%

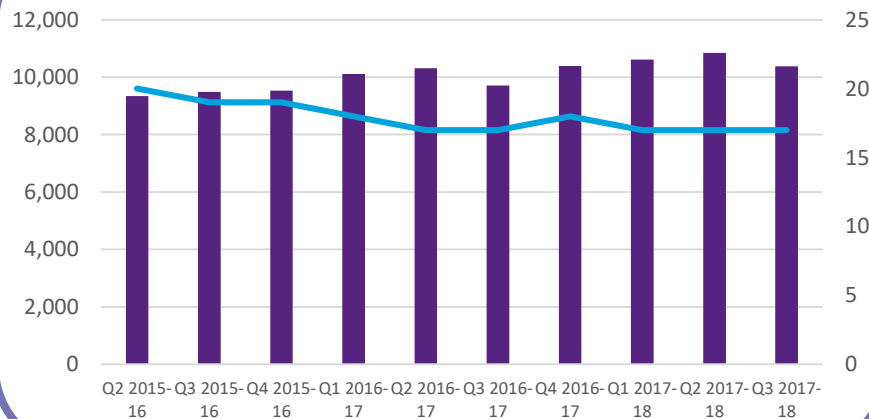


S7 Average
Filing Times

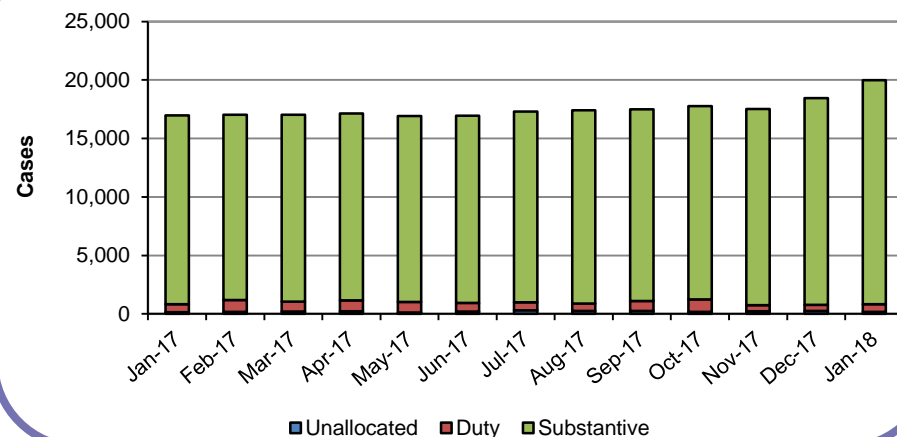
10.0 Weeks

Arrows indicate change in actual metric since last report, except Demand and Open Cases which indicate comparison to the same period in 2016/17. Information on RAG rating can be found on final page. Additional information can be viewed in the attached [Appendix 3](#).

Private Law Care Application Demand and Duration



Private Law Workload



Public Law S31 Duration Heat Map (by DFJ Area)

Care Application Duration (Q3 2017/18)

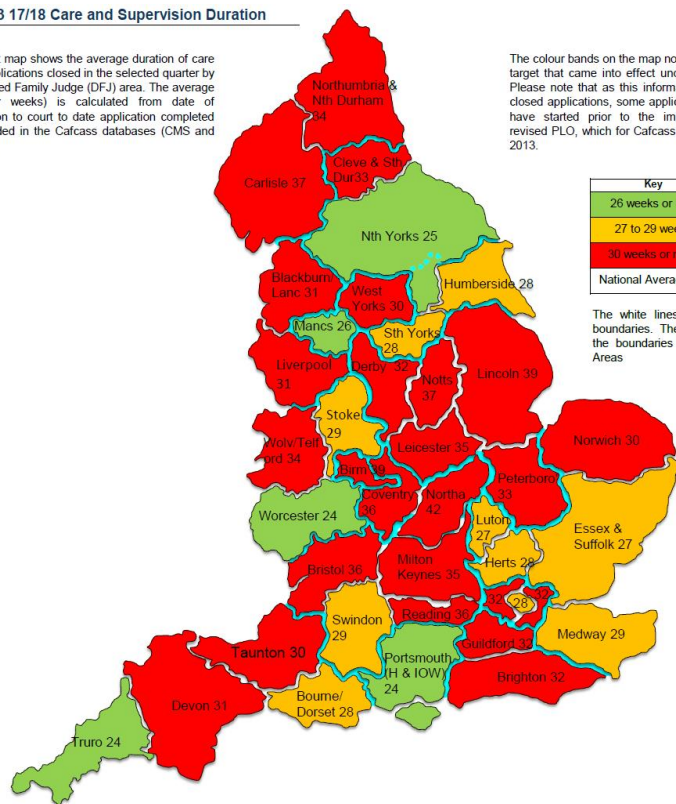
DFJ Q3 17/18 Care and Supervision Duration

This heat map shows the average duration of care (s31) applications closed in the selected quarter by Designated Family Judge (DFJ) area. The average (calendar weeks) is calculated from date of application to court to date application completed as recorded in the Cafcass databases (CMS and ECMS).

The colour bands on the map now reflect the 26 week target that came into effect under the revised PLO. Please note that as this information is based on all closed applications, some applications captured may have started prior to the implementation of the revised PLO, which for Cafcass was the 7th October 2013.

Key	DFJs Q3 17/18
26 weeks or less	4
27 to 29 weeks	10
30 weeks or more	26
National Average: 31	

The white lines indicate DFJ area boundaries. The blue lines indicate the boundaries of Cafcass Service Areas



Care Application Duration (Q2 2017/18)

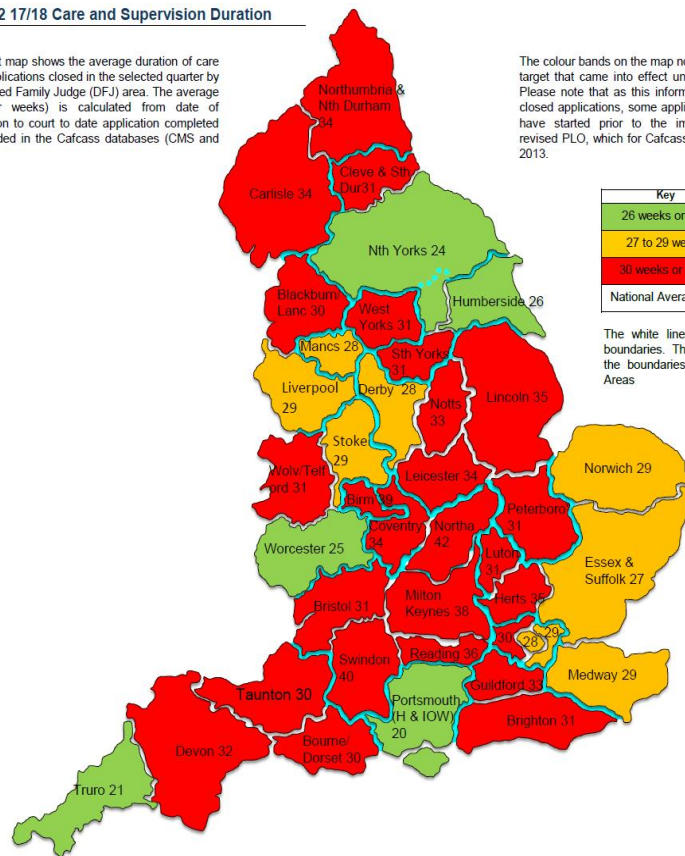
DFJ Q2 17/18 Care and Supervision Duration

This heat map shows the average duration of care (s31) applications closed in the selected quarter by Designated Family Judge (DFJ) area. The average (calendar weeks) is calculated from date of application to court to date application completed as recorded in the Cafcass databases (CMS and ECMS).

The colour bands on the map now reflect the 26 week target that came into effect under the revised PLO. Please note that as this information is based on all closed applications, some applications captured may have started prior to the implementation of the revised PLO, which for Cafcass was the 7th October 2013.

Key	DFJs Q2 17/18
26 weeks or less	4
27 to 29 weeks	9
30 weeks or more	27
National Average: 31	

The white lines indicate DFJ area boundaries. The blue lines indicate the boundaries of Cafcass Service Areas

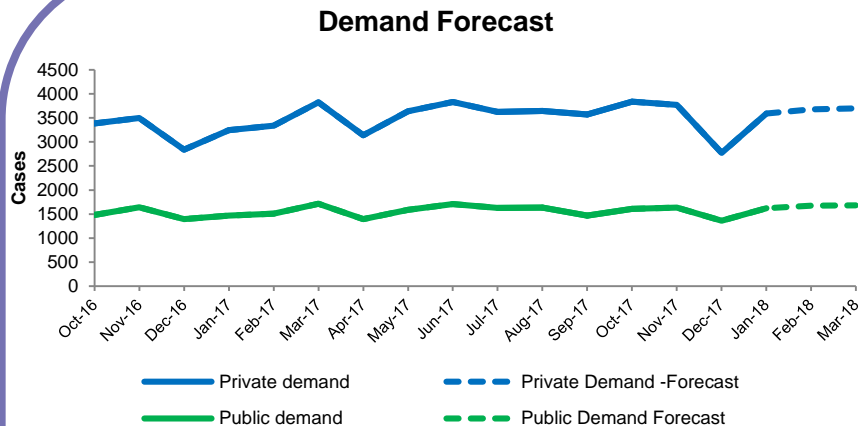


For Comparison

A full breakdown by DFJ can be accessed in the attached [Appendix 4](#).

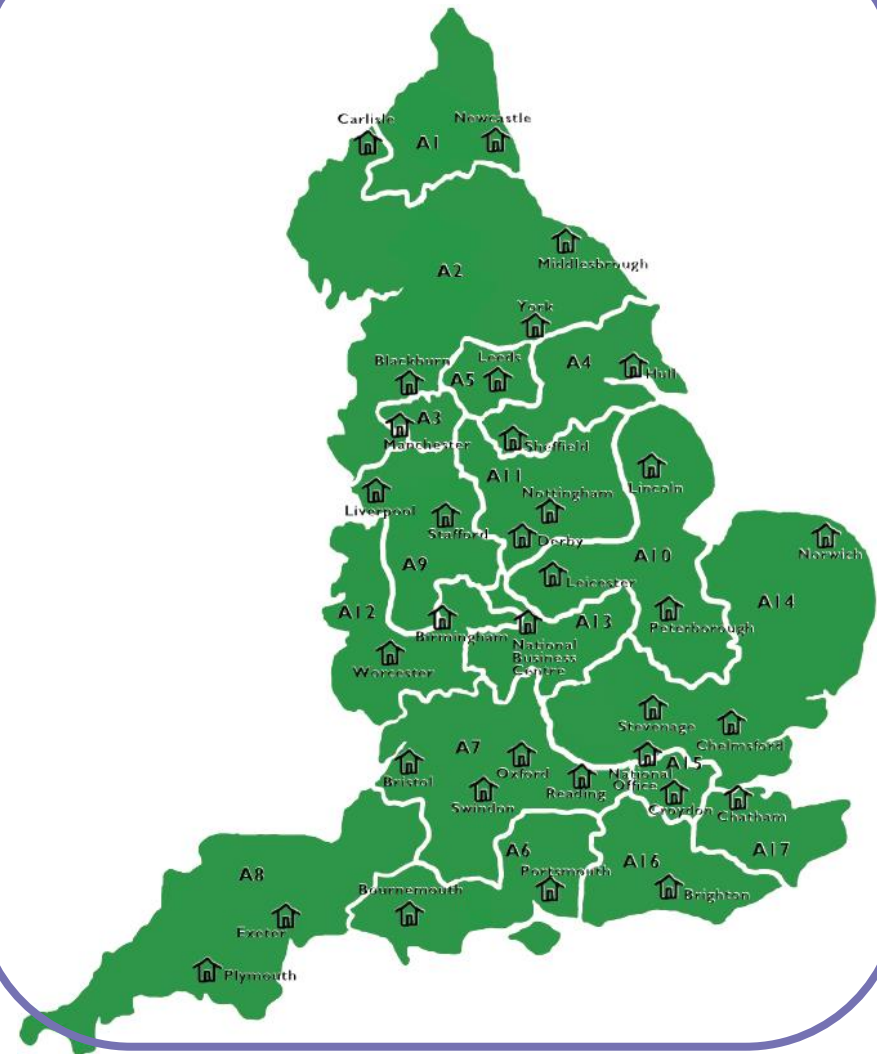
Demand Forecast

Demand Forecast



- Forecasts based on historical Cafcass data predict new demand to change by **+1.3% for Public Law** and **+5.5% for Private Law** for the full 2017-18 financial year.
- At the end of Q3 2017-18, MoJ analysts forecasted that caseloads will change by **+0.2% for public law** and **+3.7% for private law** for 2017-18. These are reviewed and updated every quarter.
- MoJ analysts state that the wide range of possible drivers and variation by Local Authority, as well as the lack of quantified measures of the suggested drivers, means that a driver-based approach to forecasting public law volumes is currently not feasible.
- In the latest update (Jan 2018) MoJ analysts have forecast that caseloads will change by **+1.7 for Public Law** and **+6.8% for Private Law** for the 2018/19 financial year.

Annex 1: Cafcass Office Map



Demand

New public law applications and private law cases

Demand has reduced by more than 2% on the previous year

Demand levels are within 2% of last year's total.

Demand has increased in excess of 2% on last year.

Throughput

Cases opened / cases closed in rolling 12 month period (turnover)

Throughput (cases open/cases closed) exceed 95%

Throughput is below 95% but exceeds 90%

Throughput is lower than 90%

Open Cases

New public law applications and private law cases

The stock of open cases has reduced by more than 2% on the previous year

The stock of open cases is within 2% of last year.

The stock of open cases has increased by more than 2% on last year.

Duration

The Cafcass duration of a case

Cafcass case duration is 26 weeks or below

Cafcass duration is 27 weeks or above and below 30 weeks

Cafcass duration is in excess of 30 weeks

Allocation Time

The time to allocate a children's guardian to a care case

The time to allocation is between 0 and 2.9 days

The time to allocation is between 3 and 4.9 days

The time to allocation is 5 days or above

S7 Reports filed by Agreed date

The time to allocate a children's guardian to a care case

S7 Reports filed to agreed filing times are between 97% and 100%

S7 Reports filed to agreed filing times are between 90% and 96%

S7 Reports filed to agreed filing times are below 90%

S7 Average Filing Times

The the proportion of section 7 reports that meet their agreed filing times.

S7 average filing times are below 10 weeks

S7 average filing times are between 10 and 12 weeks

S7 average filing times are above 12 weeks