

# Cafcass Performance Report

November 2017 Summary



## Summary of Key Issues

- Year to date 2017/18 (Apr-Oct), **8,343** public law care applications have been received, this is a decrease of **3.3%** (283 applications) on the same period last year. However compared to same period in 2015/16, it is an increase of **16.9%** (1,209 applications).
- Cafcass received a total of **25,438** private law cases year to date 2017/18 (Apr-Oct), this is an increase of **6.8%** (**1,612** cases) on the same period last year. Compared to the same period in 2015/16, the increase is **17.8%** (**3,844** cases)
- In the last rolling 12 month period (Nov 2016 – Oct 2017) comparing to the same period in 2015/2016, care applications are **0.2% higher** and private law demand is **6.4% higher**:
  - On average Cafcass has received **1,193** new public law (care) applications and **3,515** new private cases per month in the last 12 months (Nov 2016 – Oct 2017).
  - Over the last 12 months our overall stock of open cases has risen by **4.2%** with public law care stock **1.8% lower** and private law cases **8.0% higher** than October 2016.
- Quarter 2 2017-18 saw the average s31 Application duration reducing to **30 weeks** from 31 weeks in Quarter 1. The full 2016/17 financial year had an average duration was 29 weeks (down from 30 weeks in 2015/16).
- Overall performance remains strong with all KPIs in Green year to date 2017/18 (Apr-Oct). Full KPI data can be viewed in the Appendix.
- Despite the sustained rises in overall demand, the overall average active caseloads of our social work staff have fallen as additional frontline resources continues. As At November 2017 there was an full time equivalent of 1288.7 social work staff and a headcount of 158 Agency FCAs, a total increase of 12.6% since 31 March 2017.
- At the end of Q2 2017-18, MoJ forecasted for **+2.8%** for public law and **+7.6%** for private law for 2017-18, these are calculated on historic data trend.

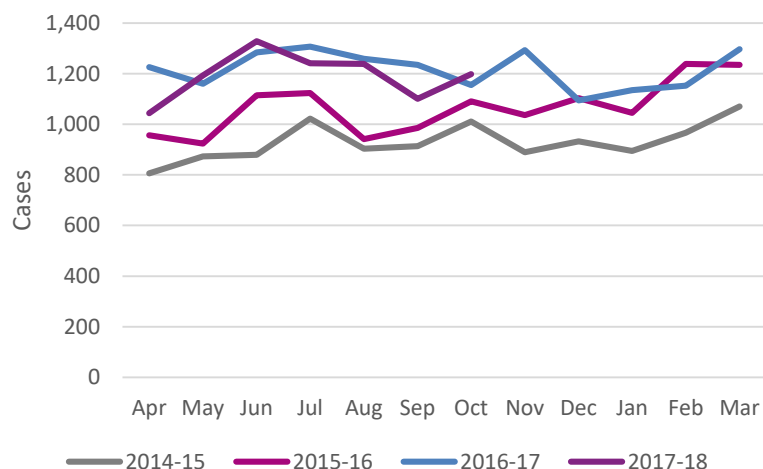
# Cafcass Performance Report

## November 2017 Summary



### Public Law (Care)

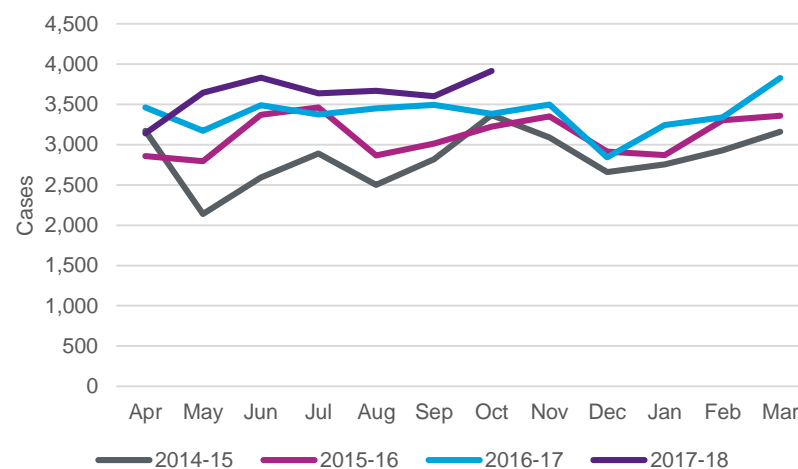
Cafcass care applications demand



- There were **8,343** new Care (s31) applications between April and October 2017, this is decrease of a **3.3%** (283 applications) from the same period in 2016/17, but an increase of 16.9% (1,209 applications) when compared to the same period in 2015/16.
- The stock of open care cases (**9,967**) was **1.8%** lower in October 2017 than October 2016. The overall open care cases stock has remained between 9,700 and 10,400 over the last 12 months.
- s31 applications completed in Quarter 2 2017-18 took on average **30 weeks** to conclude, this has reduced from 31 weeks since Quarter 1 2017/18.

### Private Law

Private Law Case Demand



- There were **25,438** new Private Law cases between April and October 2017, this is an increase of a **6.8%** (1,612 cases) from the same period in 2016/17, and an increase of 17.8% (3,851 cases) when compared to the same period in 2015/16.
- The stock of open private law cases (**17,759**) was **8.0%** higher in October 2017 than October 2016 (**1,308**). Overall open private stock law has remained between 16,400 and 17,800 cases over the last 12 months.
- Cafcass' involvement in Private Law in Quarter 2 2017/18 took an average of **16 weeks** to conclude, this has reduced from 17 weeks since Quarter 1 2016/17.

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



**KPI 1**

**99.3%**



**KPI 2**

**1.0 Days**



**KPI 3**

**98.7%**



**KPI 4**

**98.8%**

## Key Performance Indicator (KPI)

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-October).
- 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-Oct) to 10.0 weeks during YTD 2017-18. Section 7 report demand has increased in 2017/18 by 14.4% (1,451) 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

-1.8%



Allocation Time

1.0 Days



Demand

-3.3%



Throughput

73.2%

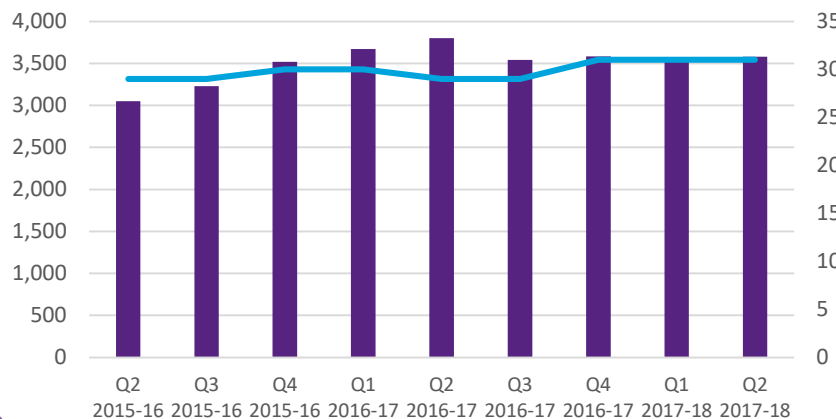


Duration

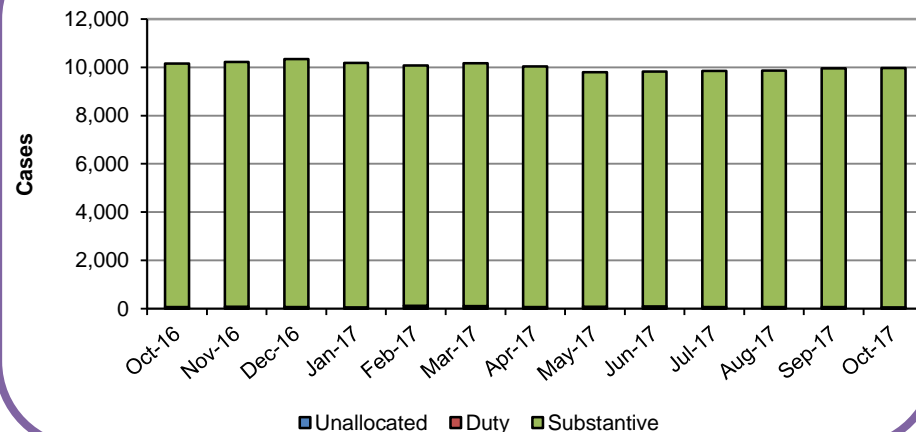
30 Weeks

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

+8.0%



S7 Reports filed by  
Agreed date

98.7%



Demand

+6.8%



Throughput

100.8%

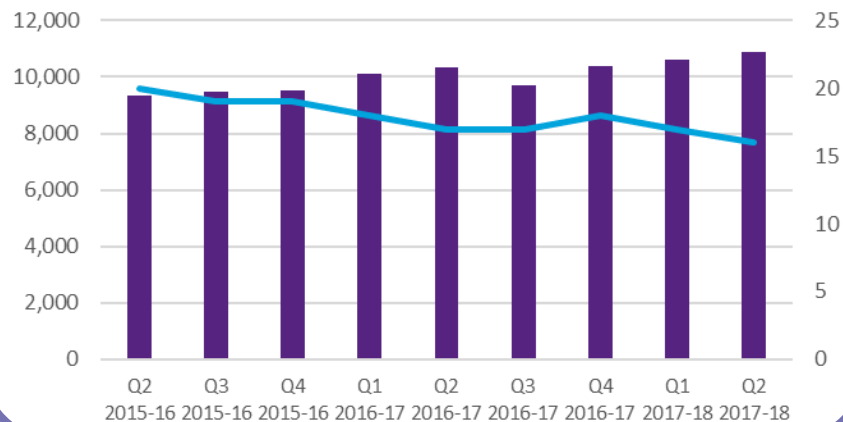


S7 Average  
Filing Times

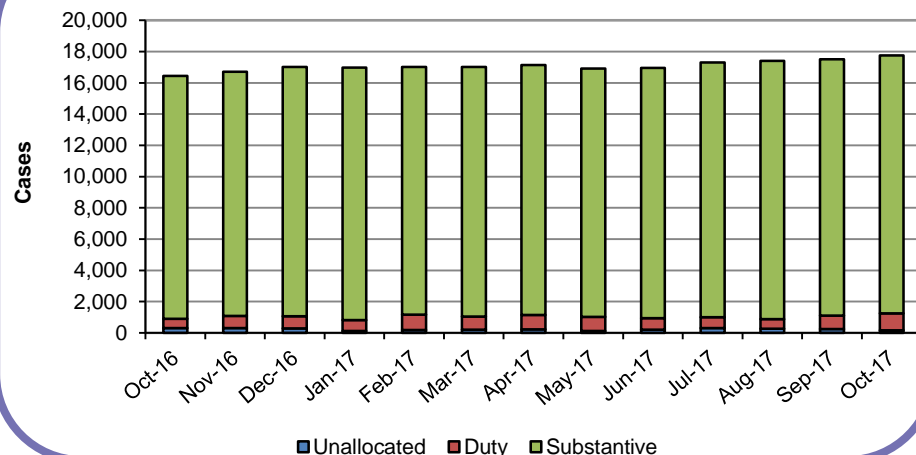
10.0 Weeks

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 care duration heat map (by DFJ Area)

## Care Application Duration (Q2 2017/18)

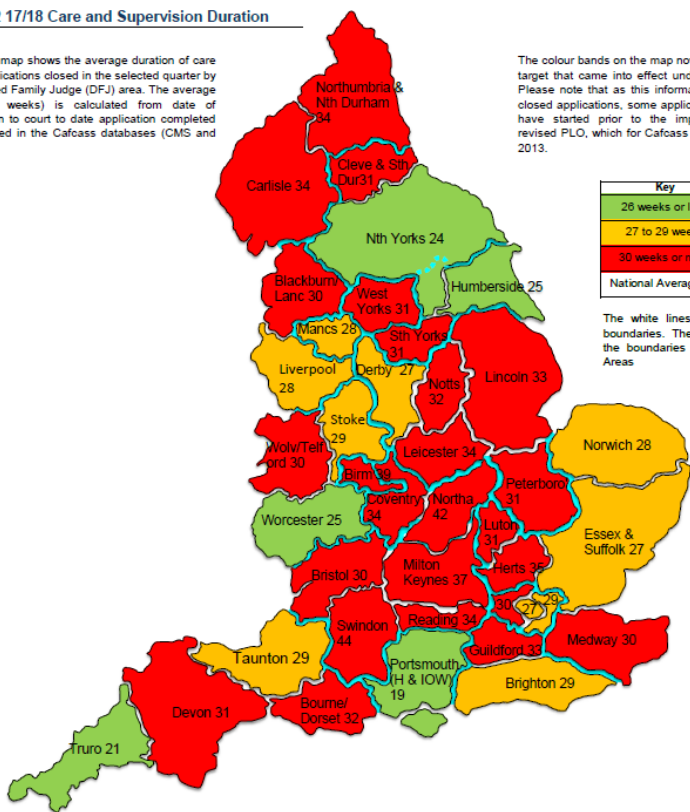
### DFJ Q2 17/18 Care and Supervision Duration

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	10
30 weeks or more	26
National Average: 30	

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



## Care Application Duration (Q1 2017/18)

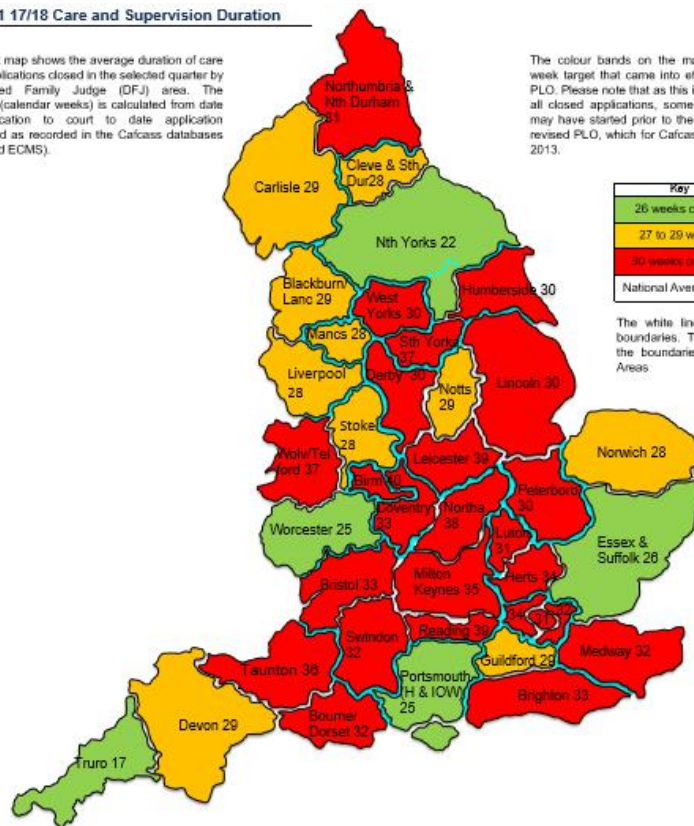
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The colour bands on the map now reflect the 26 week target that came into effect under the revised PLO. Please note that as this information is based on all closed applications, some applications captured may have started prior to the implementation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

Key	DFJs Q1 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



For Comparison

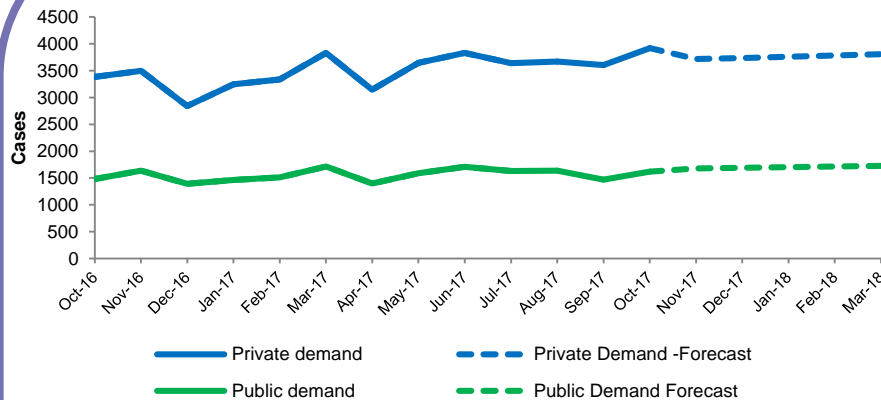
A full breakdown by DFJ can be accessed in the attached [Appendix 4](#).



# Demand Forecast

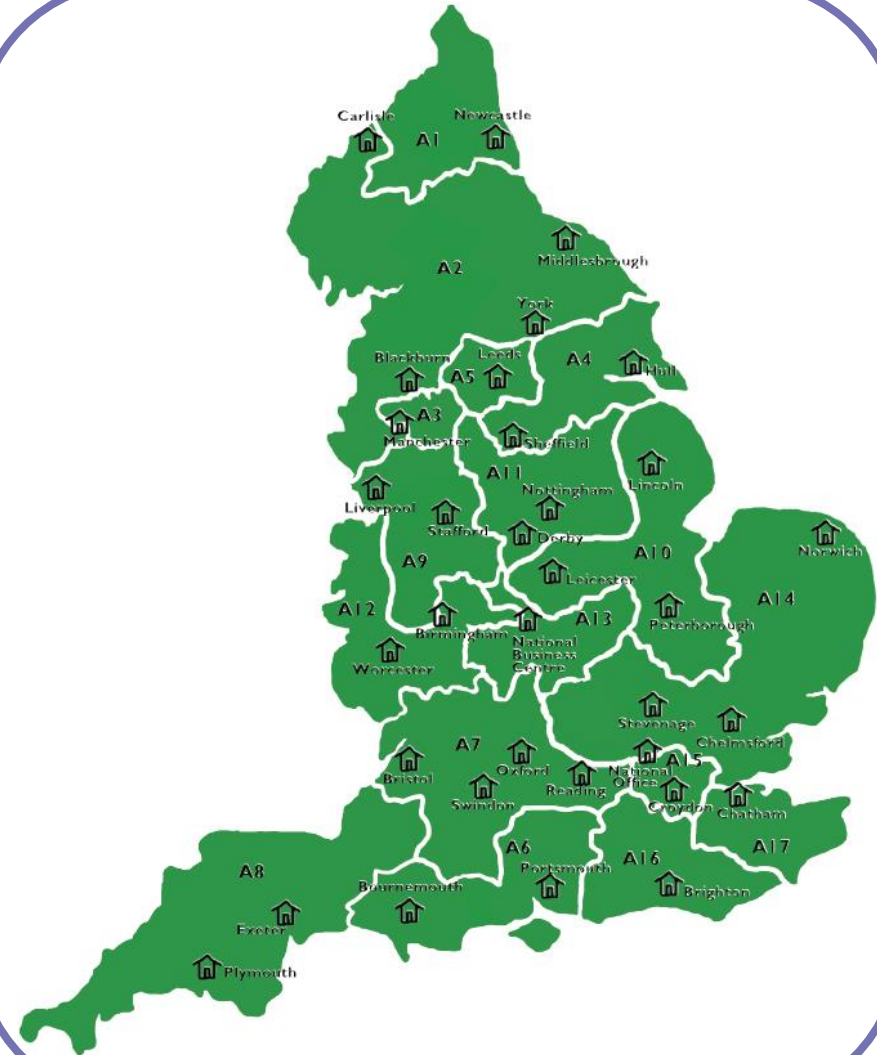
## Demand Forecast

Demand Forecast



- Forecasts based on historical Cafcass data show, a **+4.3% for public law** and **+9.0% for Private Law** predicted for the full 2017-18 financial year.
- At the end of Q2 2017-18, MoJ forecasted for **+2.8% for public law** and **+7.6% 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.
- For this forecast MoJ analysts have made the assumption (in their view in the absence of any insight to suggest that the elevated levels of mid-2016 will occur again), that caseloads will increase from the current lower level, at a rate which reflects only the increase in the number of children in the population.
- Early 2017/18 data is in line with MoJ forecasts, although caution must be applied at this point in the 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