

# Cafcass Demand & Performance Report

August 2018 Summary



## Summary

### Public Law

- Cafcass received a total of **4,693** Public Law Care applications year to date 2018/19 (Apr-2018 to Jul-2018), this is a decrease of **2.6%** (124 applications) on the same period last year. Compared to same period in 2016/17, it is a decrease of **5.7%** (283 applications).
- On average Cafcass received **1,175** new Care applications per month in the past 12 months (Aug 2017 – Jul 2018).
- **48.3%** of Care Applications were completed within 26 weeks (Q1 208/19 ); this is up from 46.5% in the previous quarter.
- At the end of July 2018, stock of open Care cases has increased by **5.5%** (546 cases) compared to July 2017.

### Private Law

- Cafcass received a total of **14,359** Private Law cases year to date 2018/19 (Apr-2018 to Jul-2018), this is an increase of **1%** (142 cases) on the same period last year. Compared to the same period in 2016/17, it has increased by **6.4%** (864 cases).
- On average Cafcass received **3,504** new Private Law cases per month in the past 12 months (Aug 2017 – Jul 2018);
- Stock of open Private cases has increased by **15.3%** (2,656 cases) since July 2017

### Other

- KPI performance remains strong with all in Green year to date (Apr-2018 to Jul-2018). Full KPI data can be viewed in Appendix 1.
- S31 Duration has dropped to **31** weeks in Q1 18/19, this is in line with the 2017-18 average of 31 weeks and the general trend since Q4 16/17.
- There has been a sharp increase in non-care supervision cases over the last 12 months. The 820 new cases year to date (April to July 2018) is **136%** higher (472 cases) than the same period in 2017. This follows a 72% increase in 2017/18. More detail is available in Appendix 2.
- Overall average active caseloads of our social work staff have increased slightly to **20.8 cases** (August 2018) from 20.5 (April 2018). Private Law and Mixed workloads have increased in line with recent demand. Further detail on caseloads can be found in Appendix 6.
- As at July 2018 there was a full time equivalent of 1344.6 Social Work staff, this is **1.1%** more than in March 2018.
- At the end of Q1 2018-19, MoJ forecasted for **-0.5%** for public law and **+2.2%** for private law for 2018-19, these are calculated on historic data trend.
- Cafcass' involvement in Private Law took an average of **19 weeks** (Q1 2018/19 the same as the previous quarter (reconciled up to 19, was 18 at time of publishing).

# Key Performance Indicators (KPI) – 2018/19 (YTD)



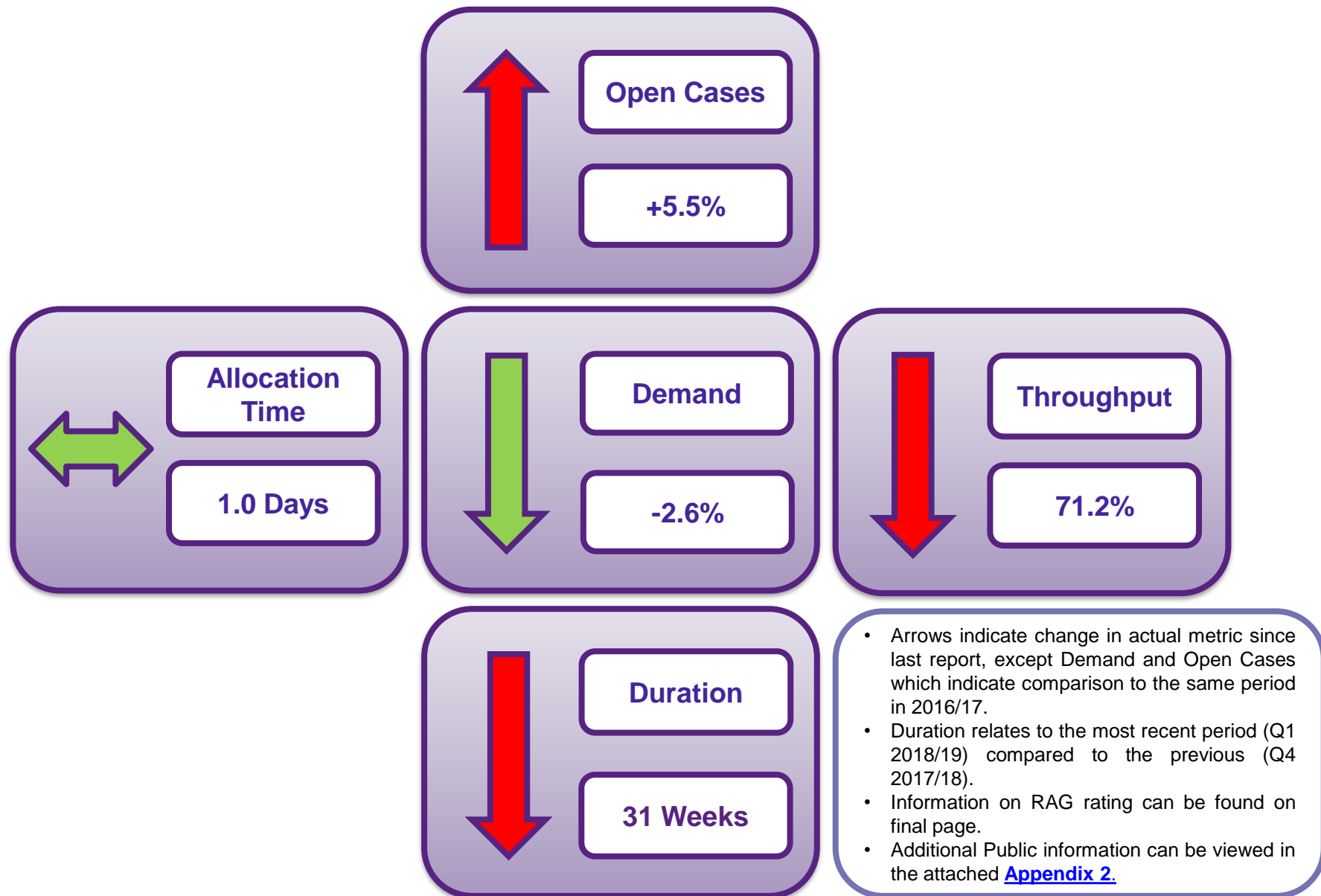
Key Performance Indicator (KPI)	Target
1: Public care cases allocated to Children's Guardian at month end	97%
2: Average working days to allocate Children's Guardian to care case	<3 working days
3: Private law cases allocated to Family Court Adviser at month end	97%
4: Private law section 7 reports filed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

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

- Year to date 2018/19 all KPIs have exceeded target (April 2018 - July 2018).
- The average number of weeks to file Section 7 reports has slightly increased from 9.8 weeks in 2017/18 (Apr-Jul) to 10.0 weeks in 2018-19. Section 7 report demand has increased in 2018/19 by +9% (571 reports) 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 1.1 days for the same period in 2017/18.
- **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 2018/19
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

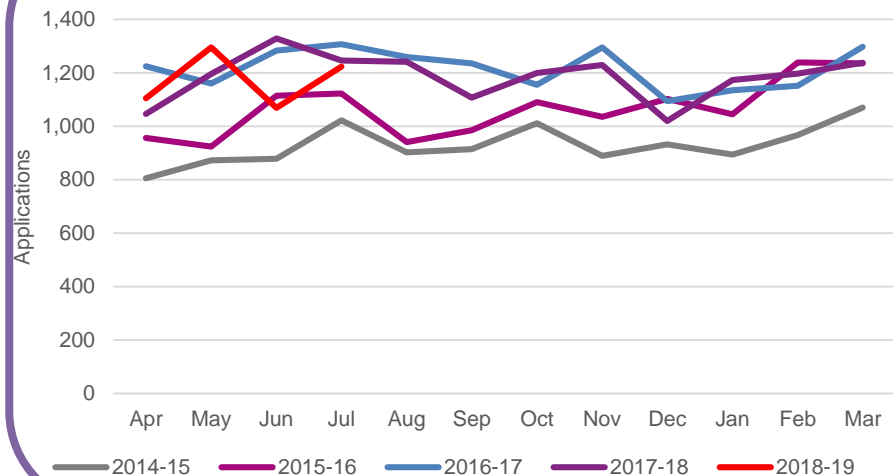
# Public Law (Care) 2018/19 YTD



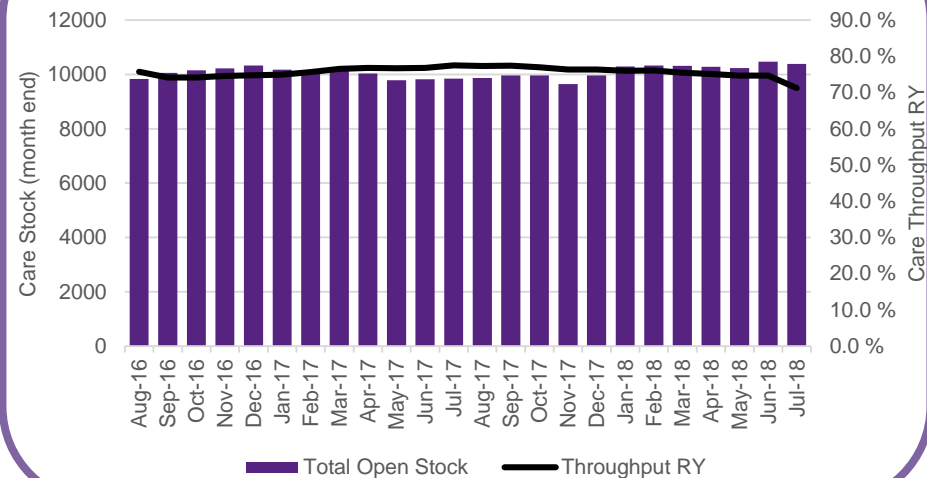
# Public Law (Care)



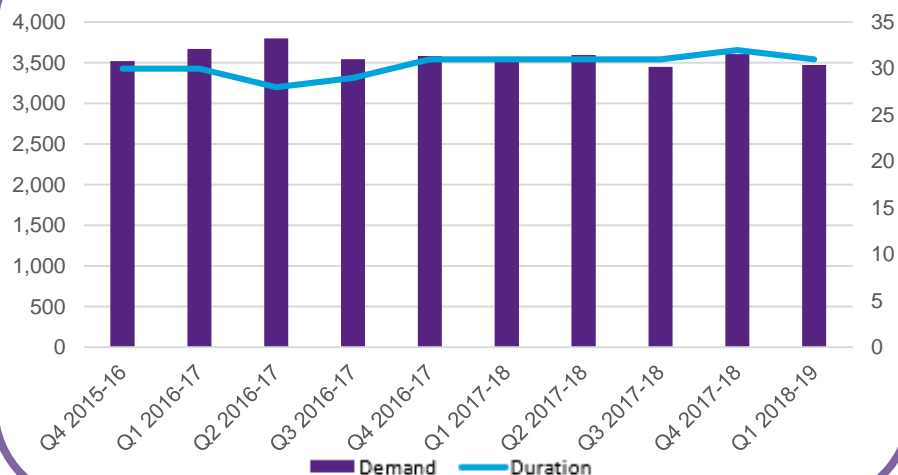
Cafcass care applications demand



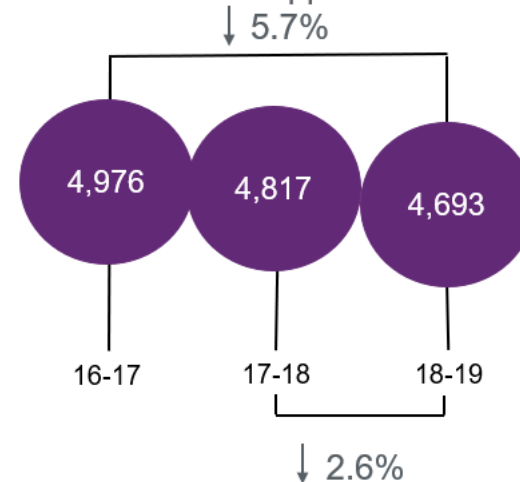
Care Throughput Rolling Year / Total Open Stock



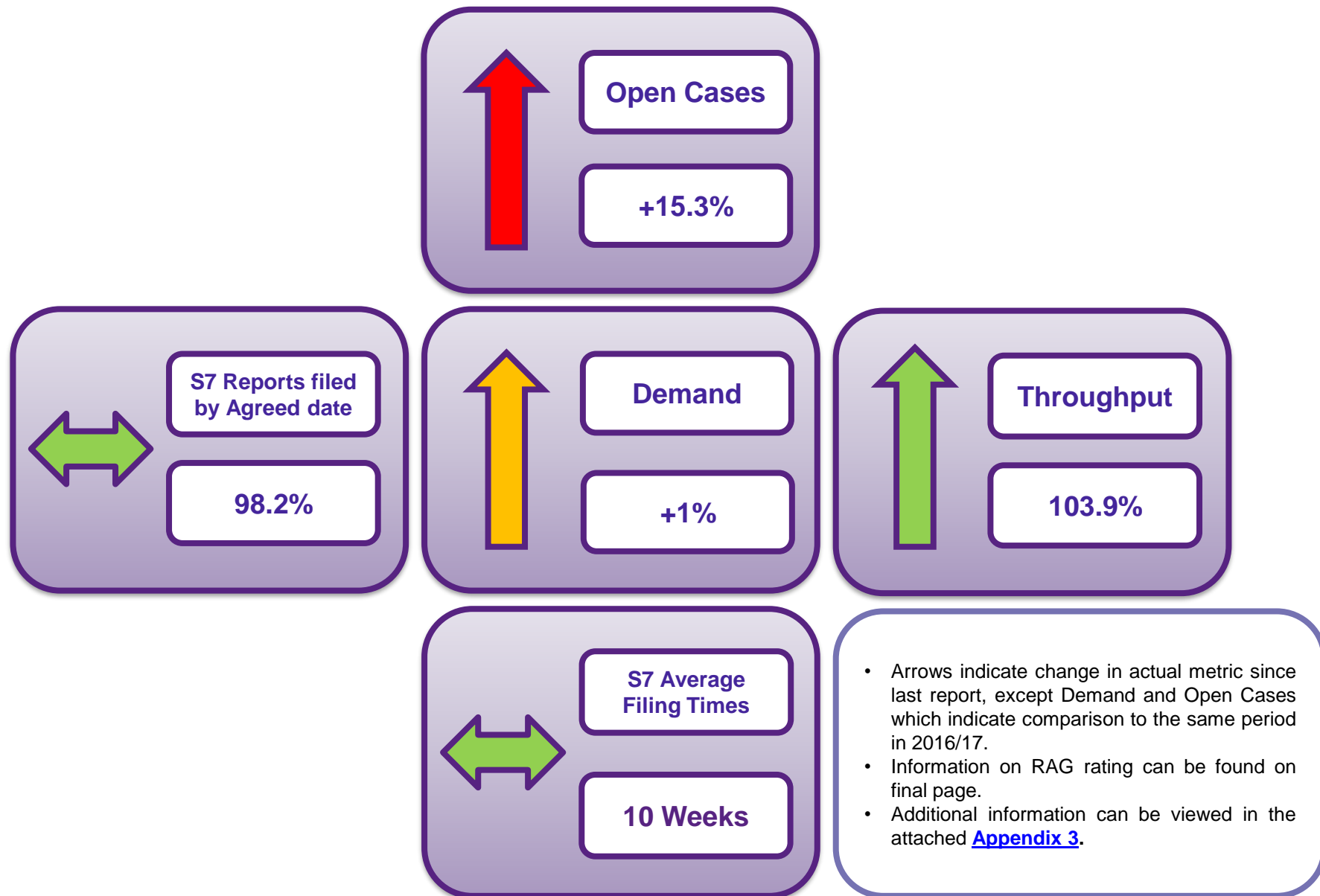
Public Law Care Application Demand and Duration



YTD Care Applications

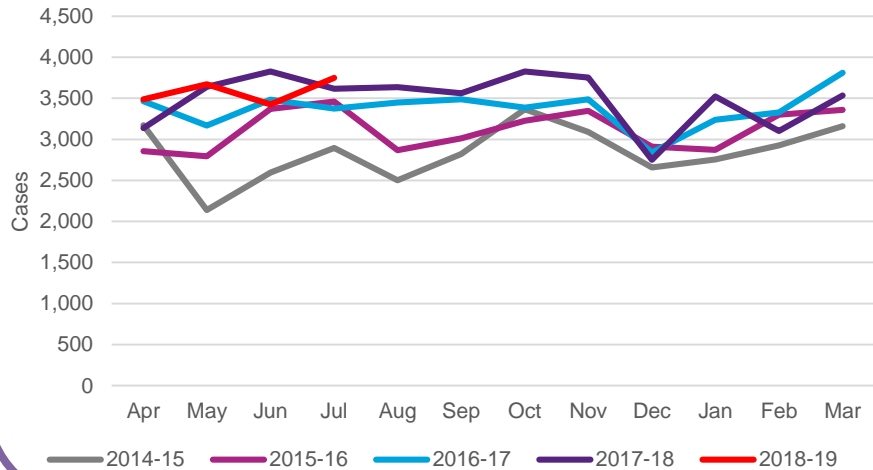


# Private Law 2018/19 YTD

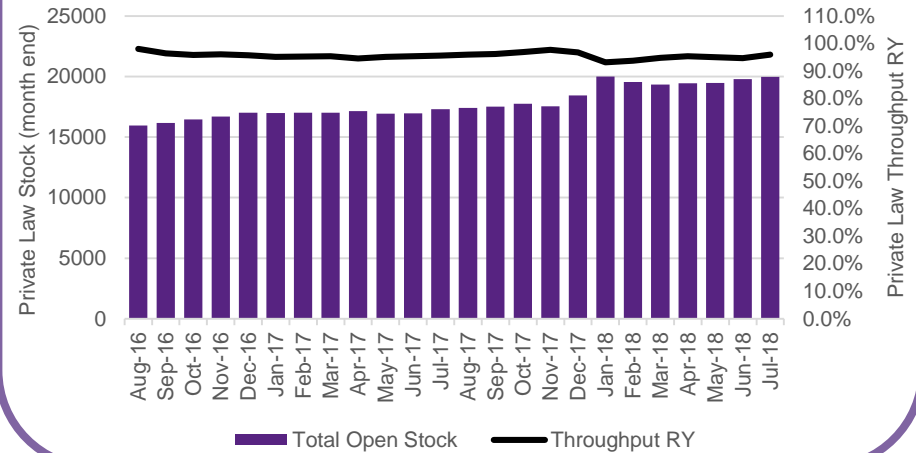


# Private Law

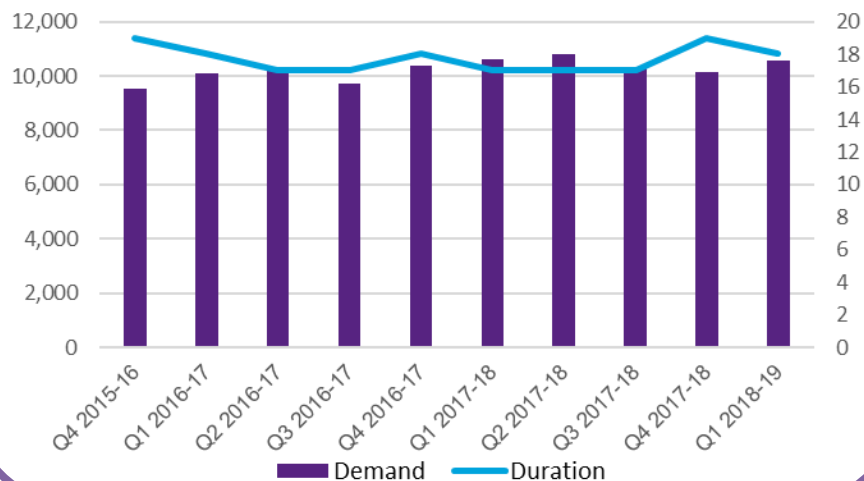
## Private Law Case Demand



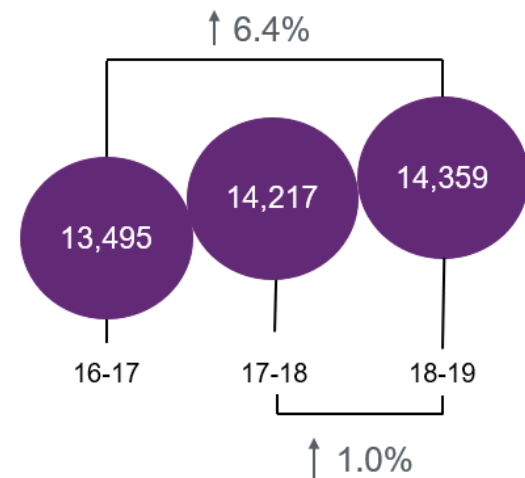
## Private Law Throughput Rolling Year / Total Open Stock



## Private Law Case Demand and Duration

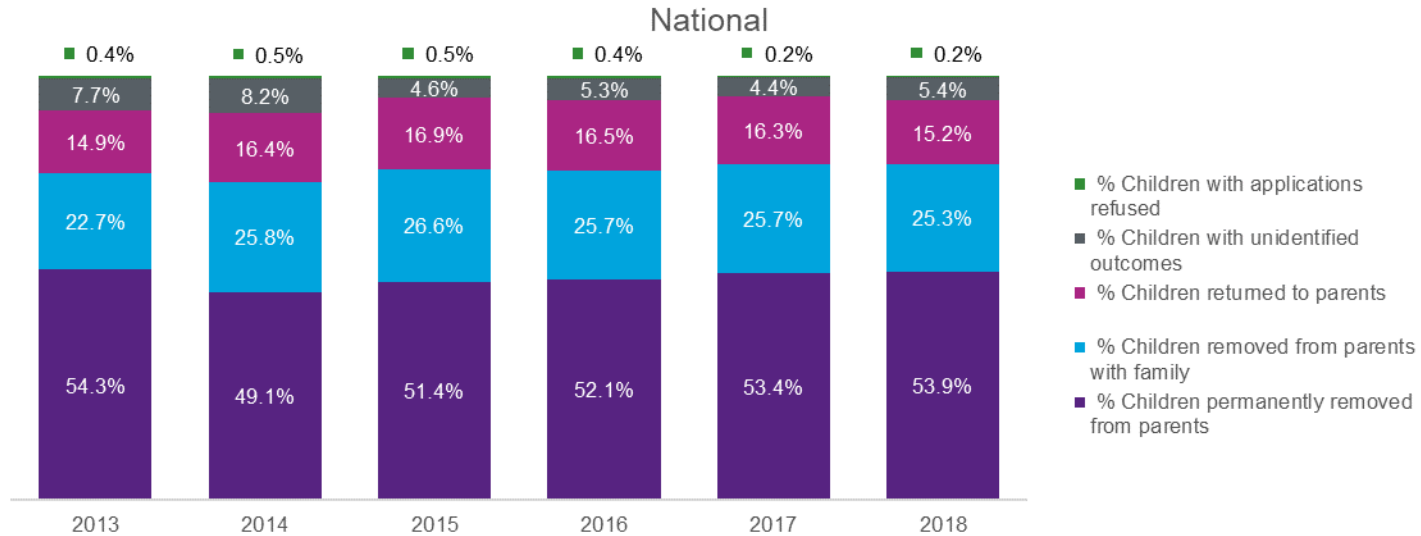


## YTD Private New Law Cases

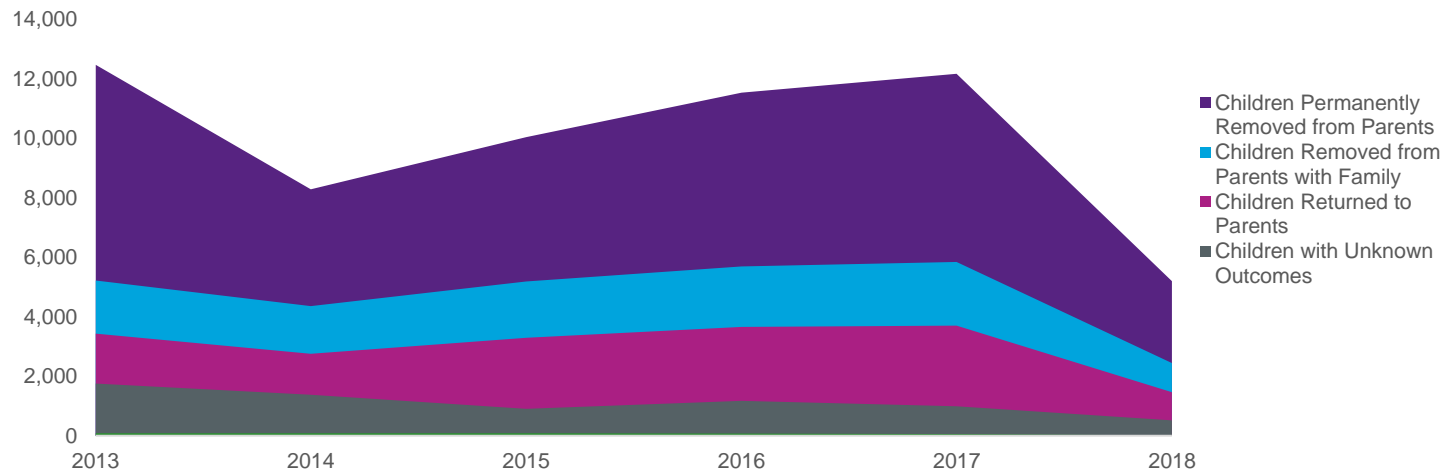


# Outcomes – Public s31 Care Applications 2013 - 2018

(2018/19 data is year to date)

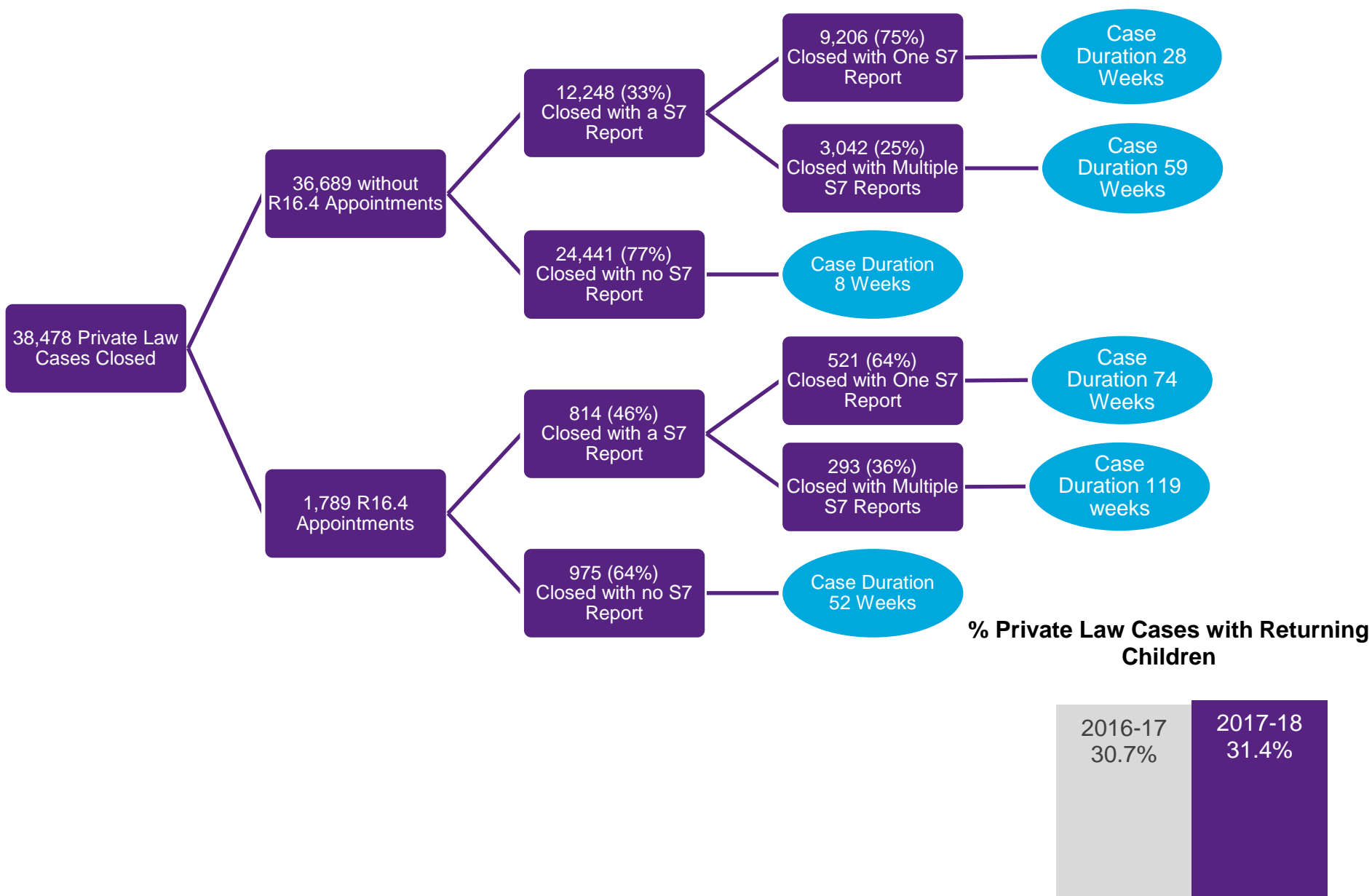


Children with Legal Outcomes per Calendar Year



Additional information on the grouping can be viewed in the attached [Appendix 2](#).

# Outcomes – Private Law 2017/18





# Public Law S31 Duration Heat Map (by DFJ Area)

## Care Application Duration (Q1 2018/19)

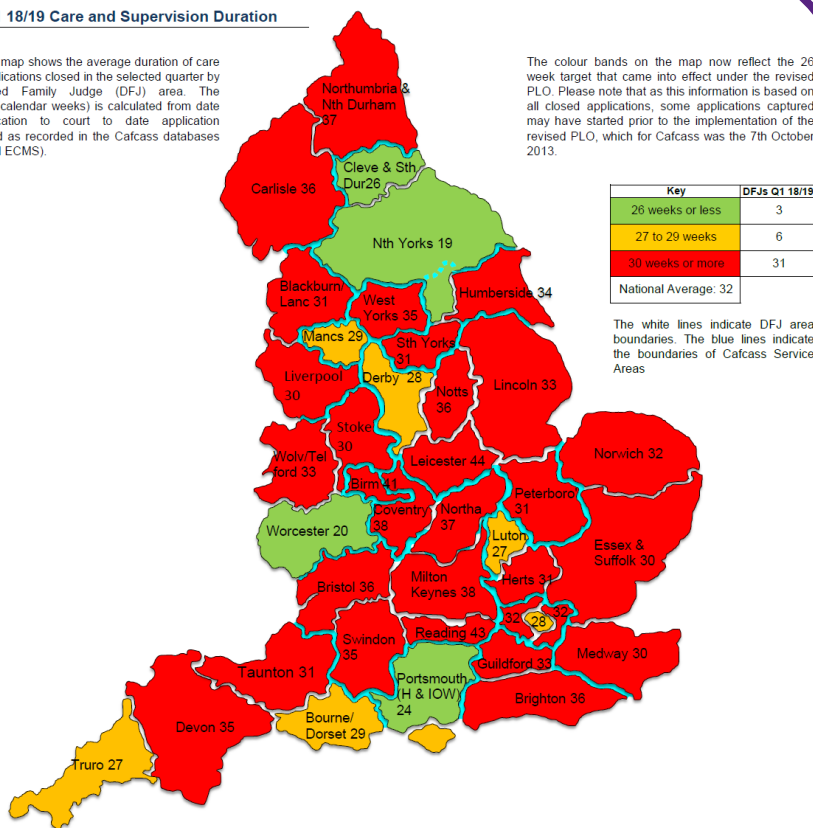
### DFJ Q1 18/19 Care and Supervision Duration

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 Q1 18/19
26 weeks or less	3
27 to 29 weeks	6
30 weeks or more	31
National Average: 32	

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



## Care Application Duration (Q4 2017/18)

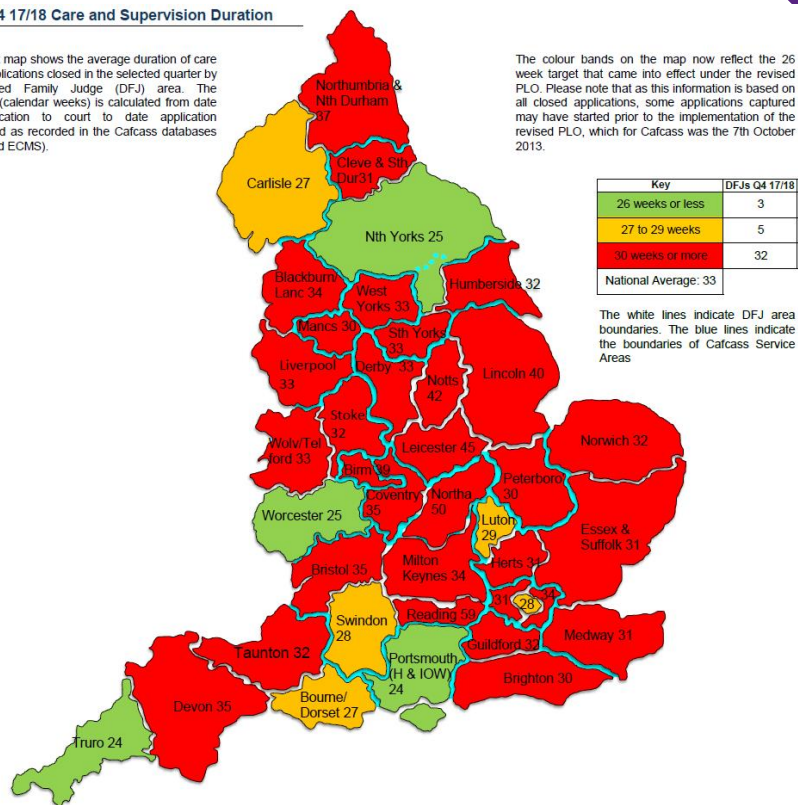
### DFJ Q4 17/18 Care and Supervision Duration

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 Q4 17/18
26 weeks or less	3
27 to 29 weeks	5
30 weeks or more	32
National Average: 33	

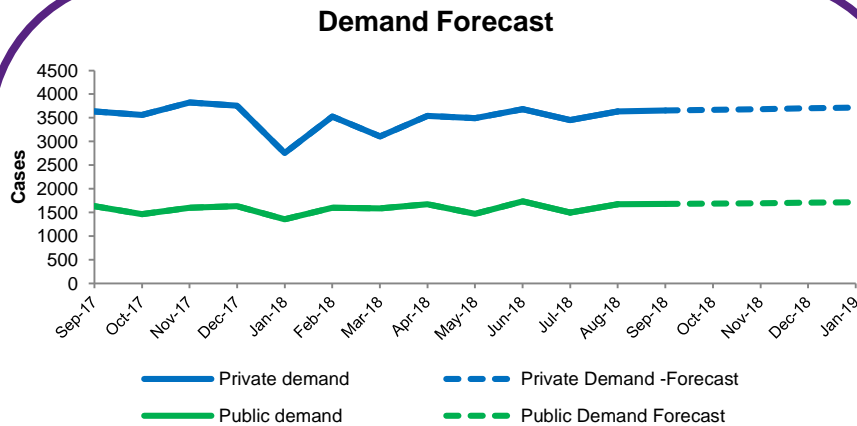
The white lines indicate DFJ area boundaries. The blue lines indicate the boundaries of Cafcass Service Areas



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

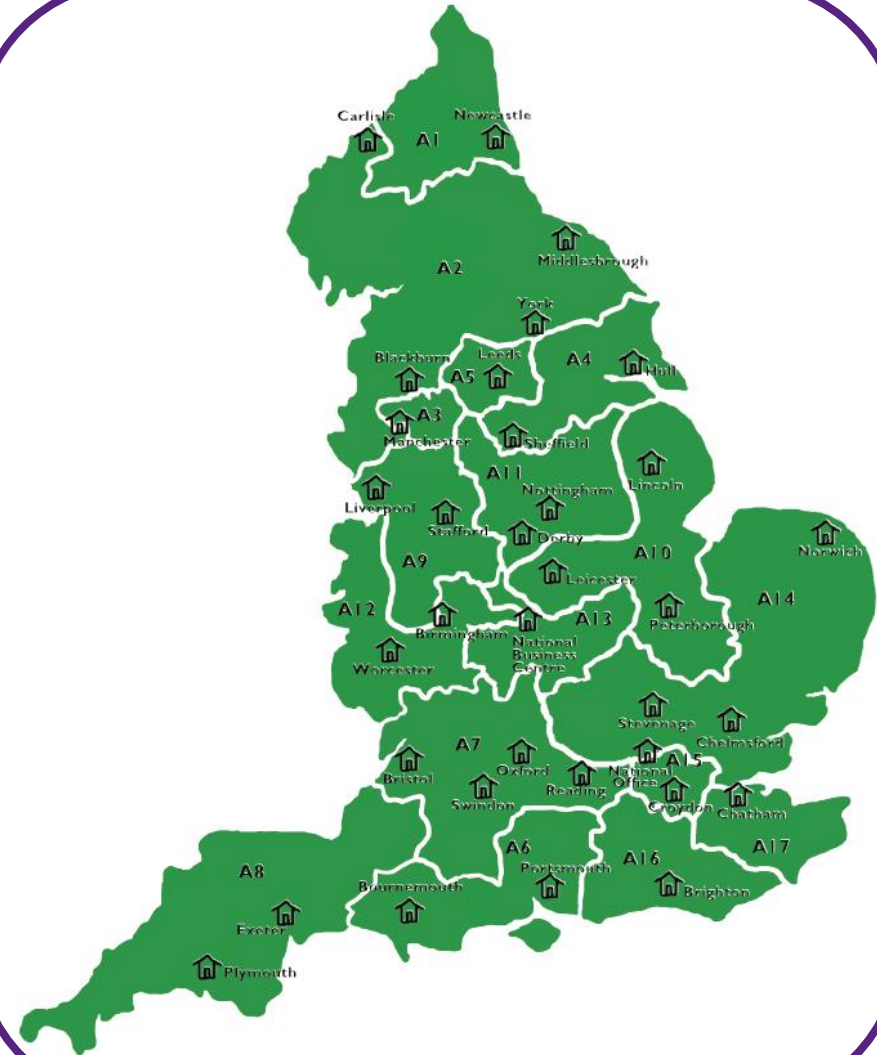
# Demand Forecast

## Demand Forecast



- Forecasts based on historical Cafcass data show, a **+2% for Total Public Law** and **+3% for Private Law** predicted for the full 2018-19 financial year.
- At the end of Q1 2017-18, MoJ forecasted for **-0.5% for Public Law** and **+2.2% for Private Law** for 2018-19. These are reviewed and updated every quarter.
- A Cabinet Office 'deep dive' identified several drivers of Public Law volumes:
  - Changing LA behaviour e.g. improved practice or increased risk aversion
  - A growing gap between the needs of the population and the services available
  - Increased awareness among LAs of risks to older children, including abuse and neglect
  - Factors specific to local areas such as deprivation, rates of cohabitation, mental health spending, children per social worker
  - Variation in LA decision-making
  - Impact of Ofsted inspections
- There is some regional variation in drivers of demand, such that it can be difficult to determine which is most significant overall.
- There is limited understanding of the drivers behind the Private Law increase, and the extent to which they will drive future increase, so MoJ have used the same time-series forecasting approach.

## 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