



Children's Homes in Birmingham

Handsworth Wood Ward Meeting
Thursday 1st December



**BIRMINGHAM
CHILDREN'S TRUST**

Birmingham Children's Trust

- Exists to make a positive difference for children, young people and families in the city.
- Previously Children's Services and run by Birmingham City Council.
- Became a Children's Trust in April 2018 to accelerate improvements to services.
- Work with the most disadvantaged children and young people of Birmingham and keep them safe, happy and healthy.
- Responsible for safeguarding over 10,000 children and young people
- Collective Corporate Parenting Responsibility – elected members, employees and partner agencies



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Birmingham Children's Trust

- Services include Safeguarding, Children in Care, Disabled Children's Social Care, Fostering and Adoption as well as specialist provisions such as Family Drug and Alcohol Court Team (FDAC), Early Help and Intervention, Family Support Services, Care Leavers and Youth Offending.
- Strong, dedicated and diverse workforce of over 1,800 employees.



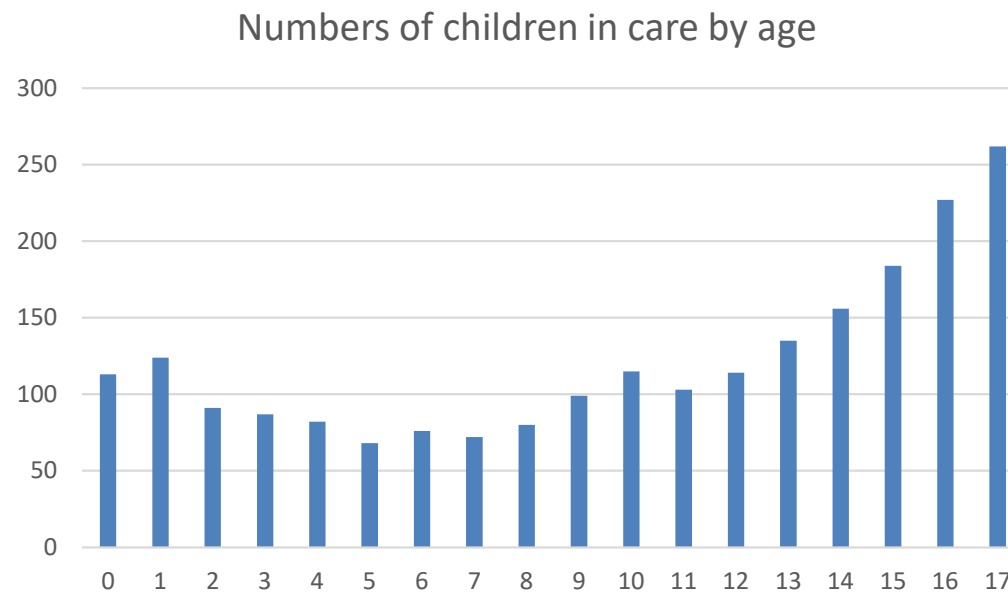
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Birmingham Children in Care

(November 2022)

- 2,188 children in care



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Birmingham Children in Care

- Primary reason for admission to care

(Birmingham Sufficiency Strategy 2021)

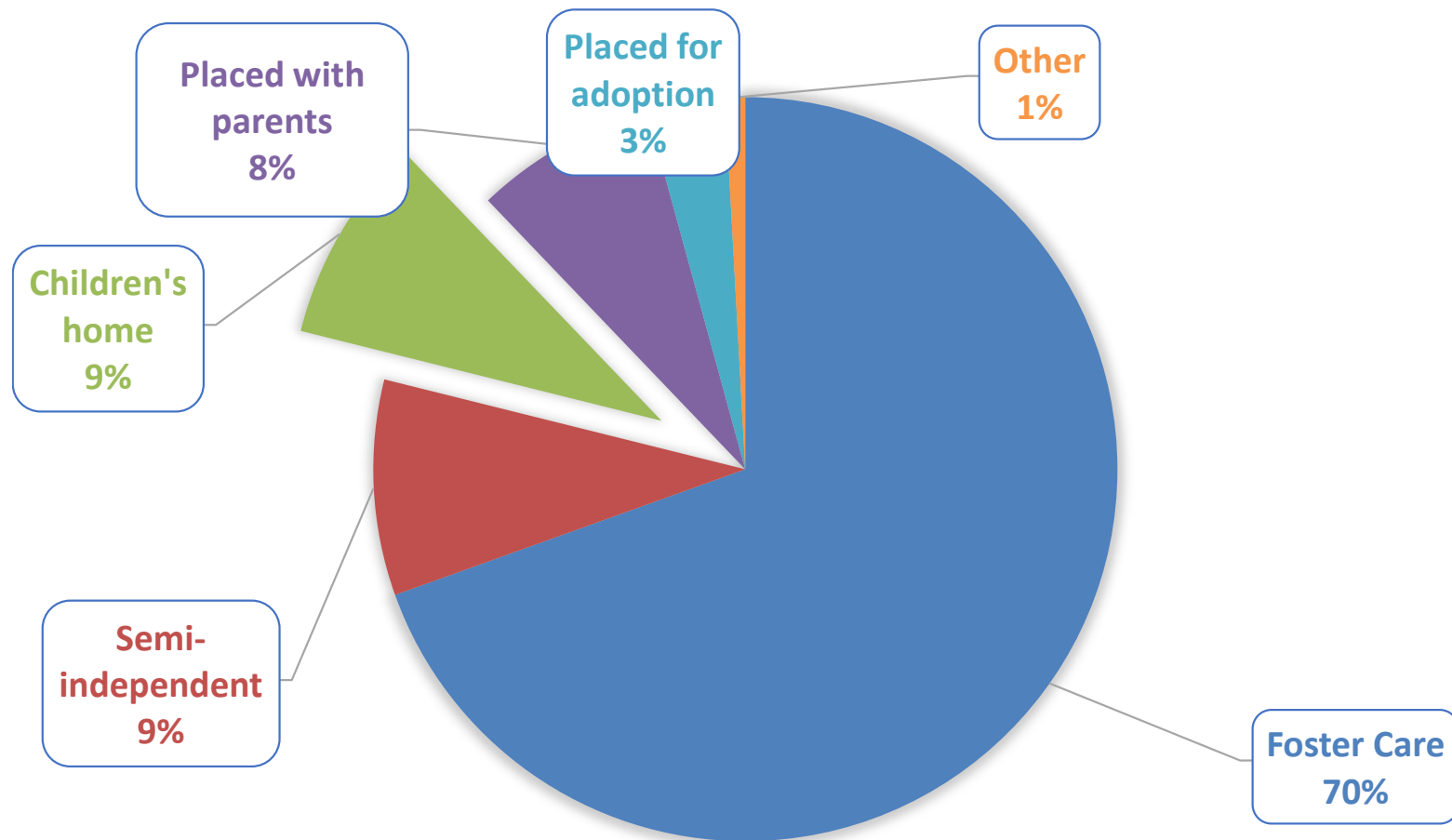
- Abuse and neglect (64%)
- Acute family stress (9%)
- Family dysfunction (9%)
- Absent parenting (9%)
- 20% have identified disability
- 8% have complex health needs



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Birmingham Children in Care



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Children's Homes

- 70 homes Ofsted registered in Birmingham
 - 250 beds
- 5 homes registered in Handsworth Wood
 - 14 beds
- 2 homes currently seeking planning permission in Handsworth Wood



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Ofsted registration

- Application to Ofsted includes:-
 - Details of company including Directors, Responsible Individual and Registered Manager
 - Business plan, cashflow forecast, annual accounts
 - Policies and procedures
 - Insurances
 - Statement of purpose and children's guide
 - Location Risk Assessment
 - Accessibility of services
 - Safeguarding concerns
-



Ofsted Inspection

- Full inspection completed at least one annually
- Visits are unannounced
- Inspect against evaluation criteria assessing
 - Overall experiences and progress of children
 - How well children are helped and protected
 - The effectiveness of leaders and managers
- Graded judgement ranging from Inadequate to Outstanding



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Staffing requirements

- Staff will be on site 24/7
- Home must have sufficient staff to meet the needs of the young people
- Safer recruitment processes followed including enhanced DBS checks, references and full employment history
- Staff must have the right experience, qualifications and skills



How we work with providers

- West Midlands regional contract
 - Due diligence
 - Information sharing
 - Relationship building
- Do not place with Inadequate homes
- Aim to place more children close to home, where safe and appropriate
- Local places for local children



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How we work with providers

- Placement matching / compatibility assessment
- Relationships with other stakeholders
 - Police
 - Health
 - Education
- QA visits
- Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)



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