

## Abuse type and trends 2017-18

### Update for Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission November 2018

#### Assessment factors

When a child or young person is referred to Hackney Children and Families Service (CFS) and an assessment is undertaken, this assessment will identify factors present in the family that may need support by CFS, or other agencies. It is possible to identify multiple factors that may require support and there are currently 23 factors available for selection (based on the categories outlined in the Department for Education's annual data return).

Over time, once the family have been working with CFS, it may become clear that they have other needs. For example, a family that may present as having problems with substance misuse, may later reveal domestic abuse issues or mental health issues that will also require support. For this reason, assessment factors are viewed as a snapshot of the family's needs at the point the assessment is completed.

The pattern for the top assessment factors over last 3 years is included in the below table:

Most used category (1 = highest use)	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
1	Other	Neglect	Neglect
2	Neglect	Domestic violence	Domestic violence
3	Domestic violence	Other	Other
4	Mental health	Mental health	Mental health
5	Physical abuse	Physical abuse	Physical abuse
6	Drug misuse	Emotional abuse	Drug misuse
7	Emotional abuse	Drug abuse	Emotional abuse
8	Alcohol misuse	Physical abuse	Alcohol misuse

'Neglect', 'domestic violence' and 'mental health' are the most frequently selected assessment factors.

'Other' is used for any other factor that may fall outside of the 23 named categories. Analysis of the comments included under the category of 'other' takes place regularly, and additional factors are added to the recording system if there are consistent themes that it would be helpful to capture.

#### Child Protection Plans

Children become subject to a Child Protection Plan when they are at risk of significant harm. The Child Protection Plan will outline the multi-agency interventions and support that will be put in place with the child and family to reduce the risk of harm and to achieve change within the family.

Child Protection Plans are categorised into 4 categories (with an option for 'multiple categories') and trend information about the categories of plan in Hackney is included below:

Child Protection	% of plan category	% of plan category	% of plan category
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<b>Plan category</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
Emotional Abuse	55.5%	53.9%	51.2%
Neglect	40.2%	33.9%	38.3%
Sexual Abuse	3.5%	6.7%	6.5%
Physical Abuse	0.9%	3.6%	3.5%
Multiple categories	0%	1.8%	0.5%

There has been little significant change in the prevalence of each Plan category over the past three years.