



# **LA Peer Challenge – Bolton January 2017**

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Director of People

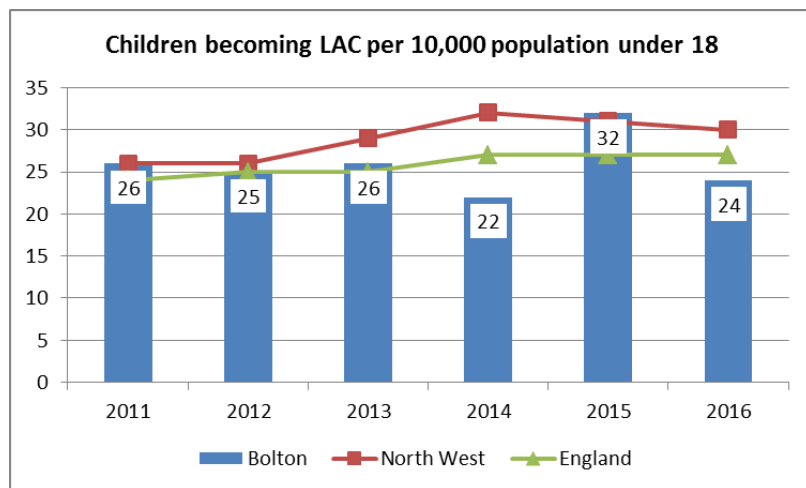
**Bolton**  
**Council**



# Our Strengths

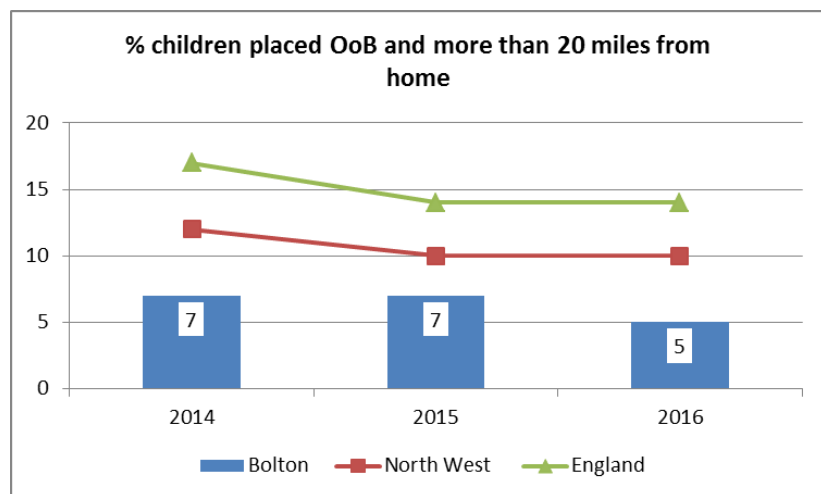
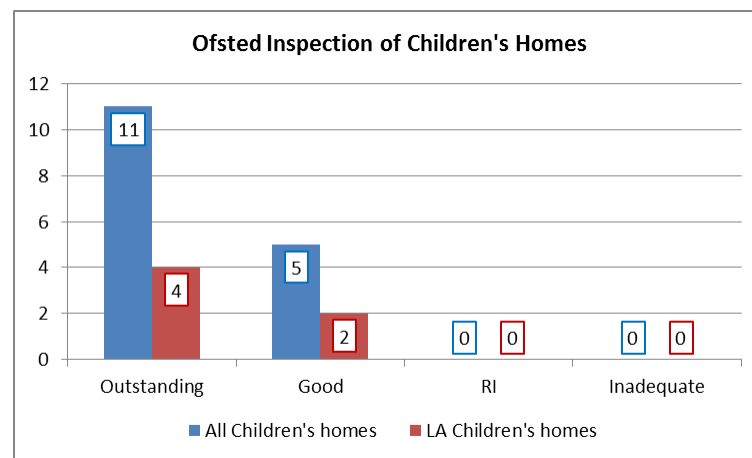
## Children's Social Care in Bolton

- Consistent and responsive front door via the MASSS
- Improved Early Help offer
- Effective risk management
- Continued successful application of our LAC Strategy despite the changing court arena
- Well-regarded Adolescent Support Unit prevents many young people becoming looked after
- Few children placed out of borough
- Good and outstanding provision
- Improved missing and CSE processes – timely intervention and intelligence gathering
- Stable, skilled and motivated workforce 5% vacancy rate c.f. 17% nationally.



← LAC admission rate has been largely maintained

High quality residential provision →



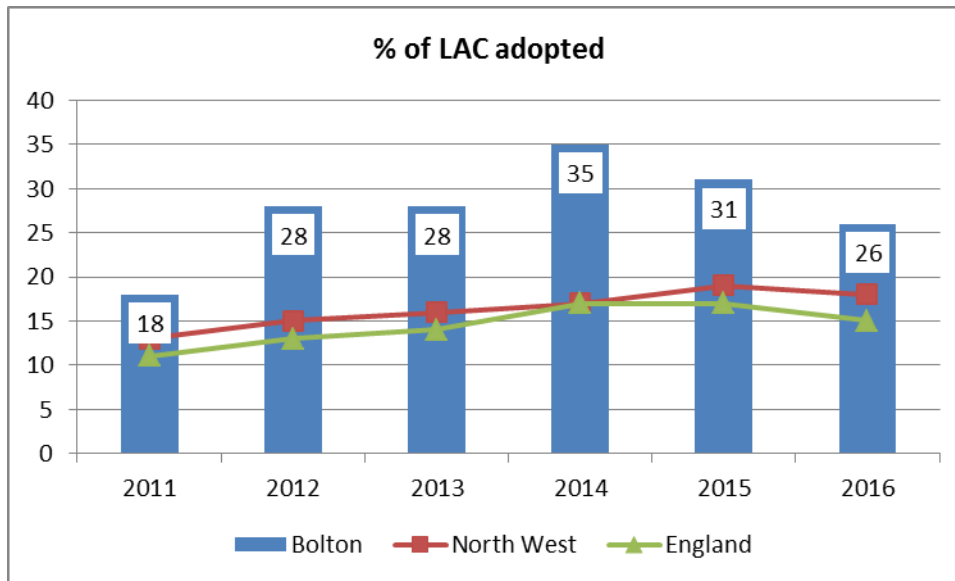
← Low numbers placed at a distance from home



# Our Challenges

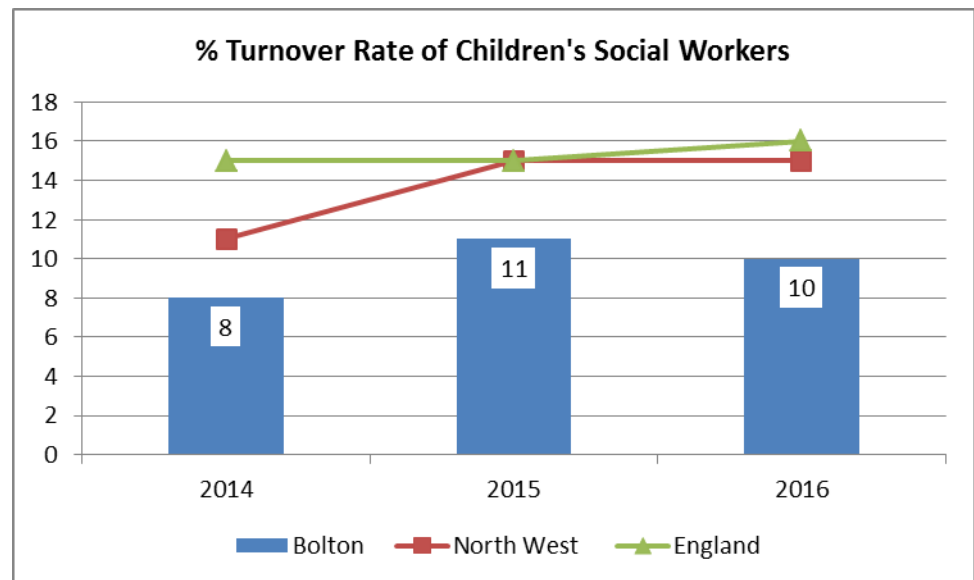
## Children's Social Care in Bolton

- Maintaining adoption performance within the current court arena and a move to regional arrangements
- Reducing the number of LAC
- Responding to changing demographics and increasing complexity of safeguarding
- Retaining our stable, skilled and motivated workforce
- Learning from our own practice and that of others.



Despite changes in the court arena, we have been able to maintain high adoption levels

We work at retaining our stable workforce





# Our Response

## Children's Social Care in Bolton

- Early Help and Complex Families Hub to improve management of step up/step down
- Working across GM on ASU model to reduce LAC
- Emerging transition strategy for young people with complex needs who will require adult social care
- Improved joint commissioning with partners in health, CCG, adult social care
- Increased capacity of IRO team
- Active involvement of staff in development of MASSS, audit programmes and practice week
- Comprehensive suite of management and performance intelligence reports tailored to various audiences.