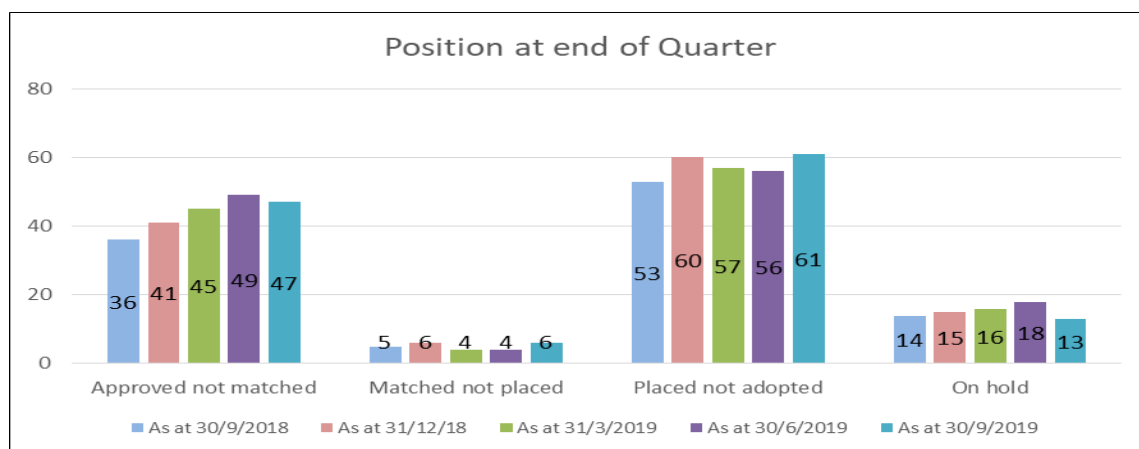
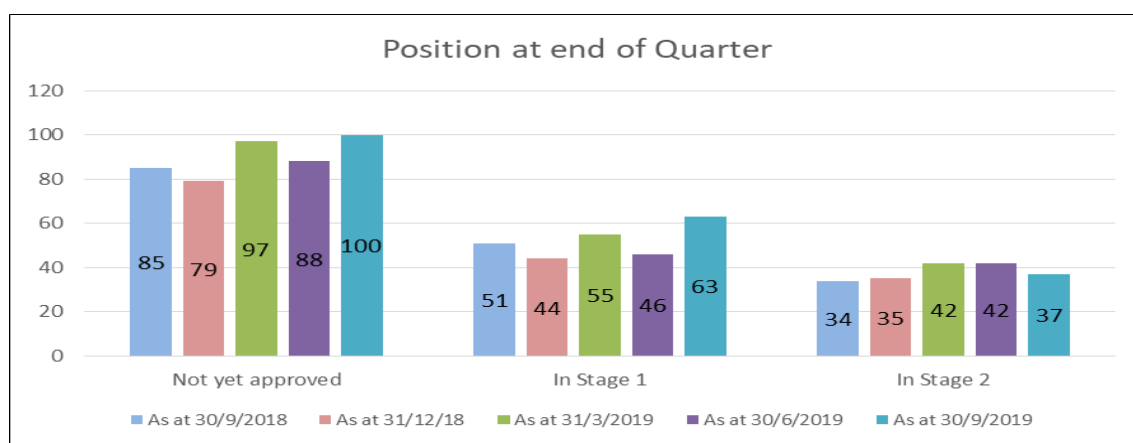




### Quarter 2 Highlight Report on performance for the board

a) **Sufficiency:** Are enough of the right kind of adopters being recruited and approved to meet the needs of the children waiting?



### Adopters

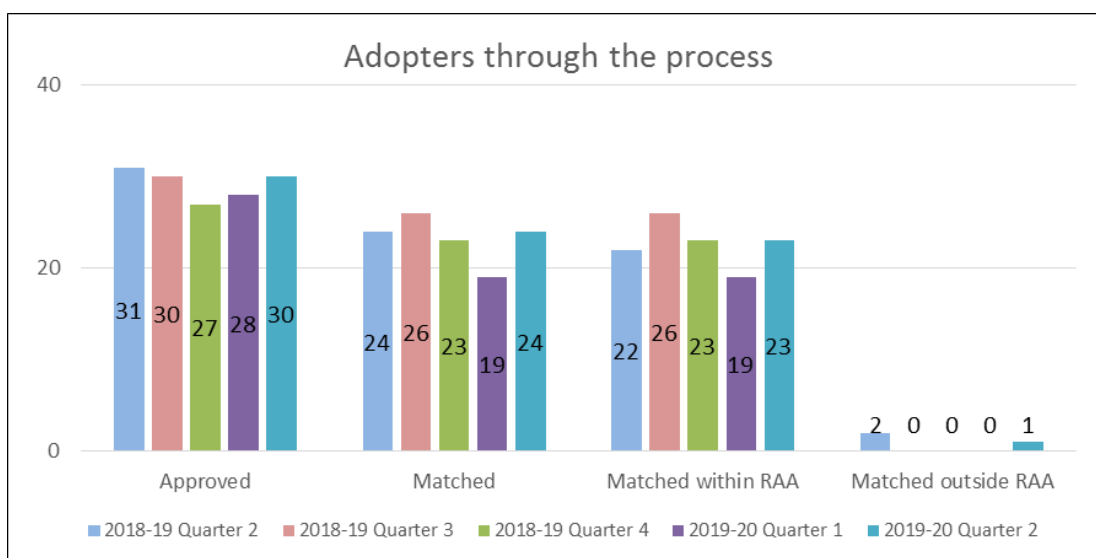
During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter we achieved 30 approvals.

Of the 39 adoptive families who ended Stage 1 in quarter 2, 20 were in Stage 1 for more than 2 months.

Of the 30 adoptive families who ended Stage 2 (Approved) in quarter 2, 11 were in stage 2 for more than 4 months

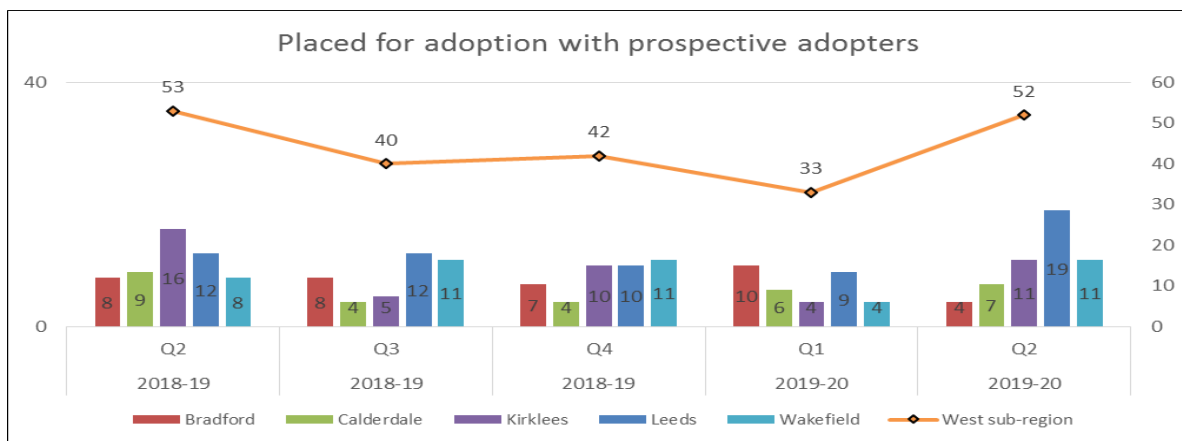
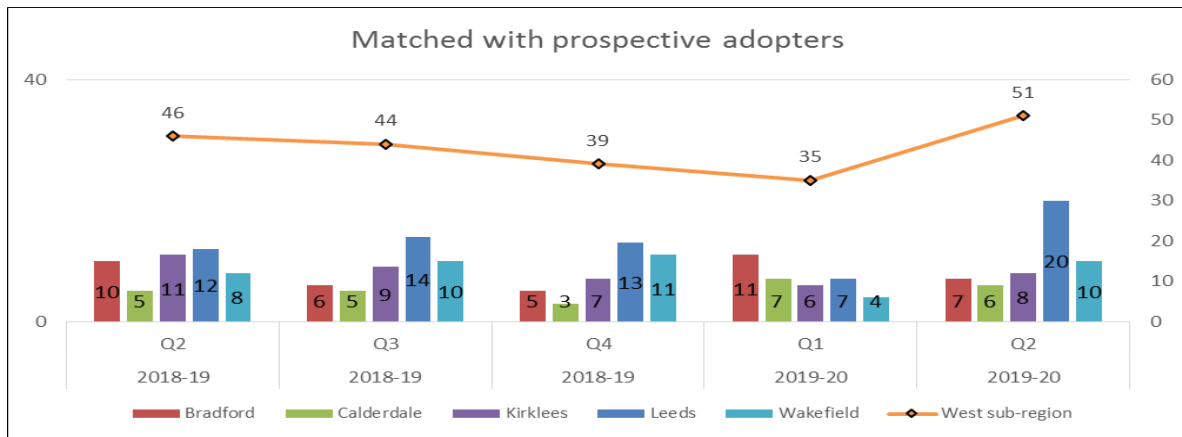
Delays in stage 1 tend to be regarding getting medicals completed by GP's and undertaking DBS checks in the early stages. Further exploration of those in stage 1 longer than 2 months is underway to clarify the reasons and to explore options for improving the timescales.

At half year 58 adoptive families have been approved, 43 have been matched with children, 42 of these being with children from the West Yorkshire region.

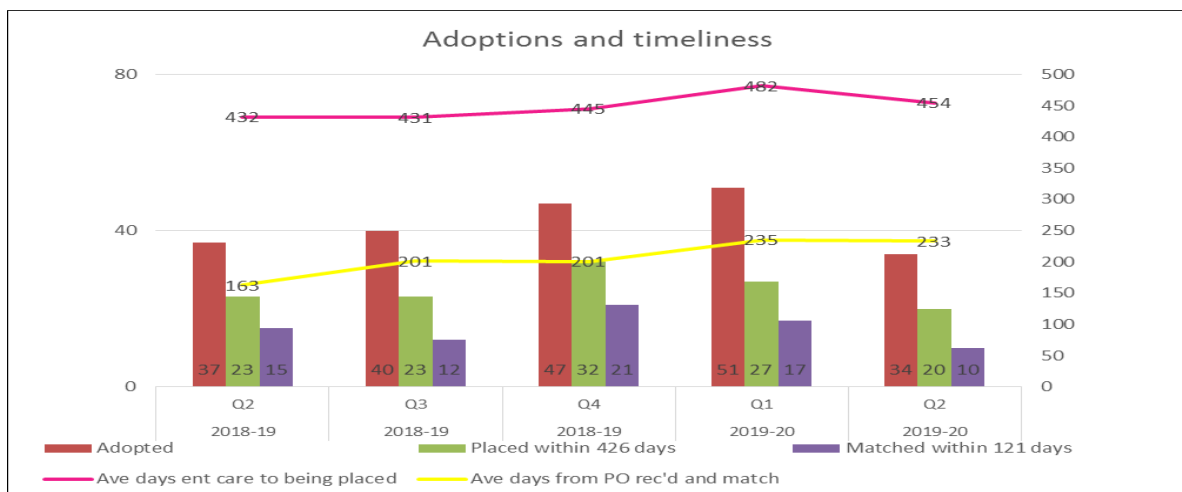


Within the 58 households, 112 individuals were approved throughout. Of these, 11 (10%) are from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) backgrounds. We need to improve our percentage of BME carers and keep a focus on ensuring that we approve a full range of adoptive families to meet the range of children requiring placement, while at the same time not relying on matching children with regard to ethnic identity as an overriding factor. 6 households were approved for sibling groups and 20 households were open to an Early Permanence Placements. There is still more to do around recruiting adopters for sibling groups, which is reflected in the development of additional training to offer additional support to those considering this.

**b) Timeliness:** Are children being matched and placed without delay including those children who wait longer?



It is clear from these graphs that in the second quarter that there has been an increase in children matched and placed compared to the first quarter. The 51 children matched in quarter 2 includes 27 children who wait longer due to their needs (e.g. over the age of 5 years; sibling groups, BME & children with disabilities).

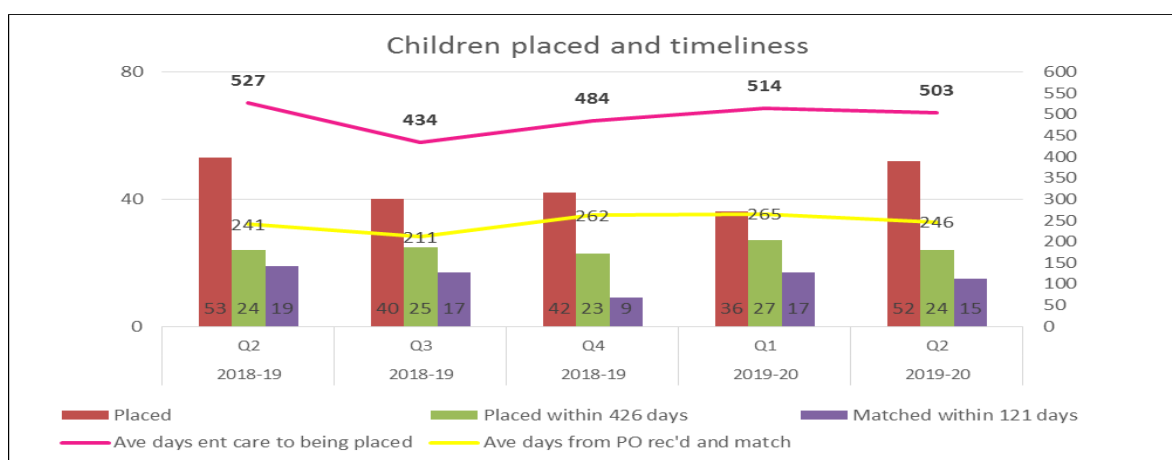


The graph immediately above is with regard to children adopted in the period. The A1 scorecard indicator of children adopted is above national indicator of 426 days as at the end of September 2019.

The A2 scorecard indicator is still above national indicator in quarter 2. Of the 34 children adopted in quarter 2, 19 of these were classed as children who wait longer to match, this affects the overall average timeliness.

**A1 indicator of the children placed:** (see table below)

**This shows a slight decrease in timeliness. However, of the 52 children placed in Q2, 22 children had more than 500 days between entering care and being placed making the average 503 days, without these 22 children it brings the average down to 351.**



Case examples of all the children placed in Q2:-

28 were children who wait longer (e.g. classed by the DfE as harder to place children):

- 3 were aged 5+ years;
- 22 were part of a sibling group;
- 13 were Black and minority ethnic (BME).

**A2 indicator of the children placed:**

**36 of the 52 children took more than 121 days from Placement Order to match:**

- Of the 36, 22 are in the cohort above.

**At the end of September 2019, 66 children who have been waiting for at least 18 months since entering care and are not placed:**

Of these 66 children, 13 entered care between 2013 and 2016 – this is shared across 4 LA's and all still awaiting a match.

## Highlight Performance Report

52 are classed as “hard to place” children (5+years old, sibling group, disability, BME), of which 32 have more than one of these characteristics. 14 of the 66 children are however not classed as hard to place so further exploration of these 14, to understand the issues, is underway.

It is clear there has been some delay with foster carer adoptions. A protocol has now been agreed with the 5 LA's to progress swift decision making regarding financial support so that these can be resolved before full assessment commences.