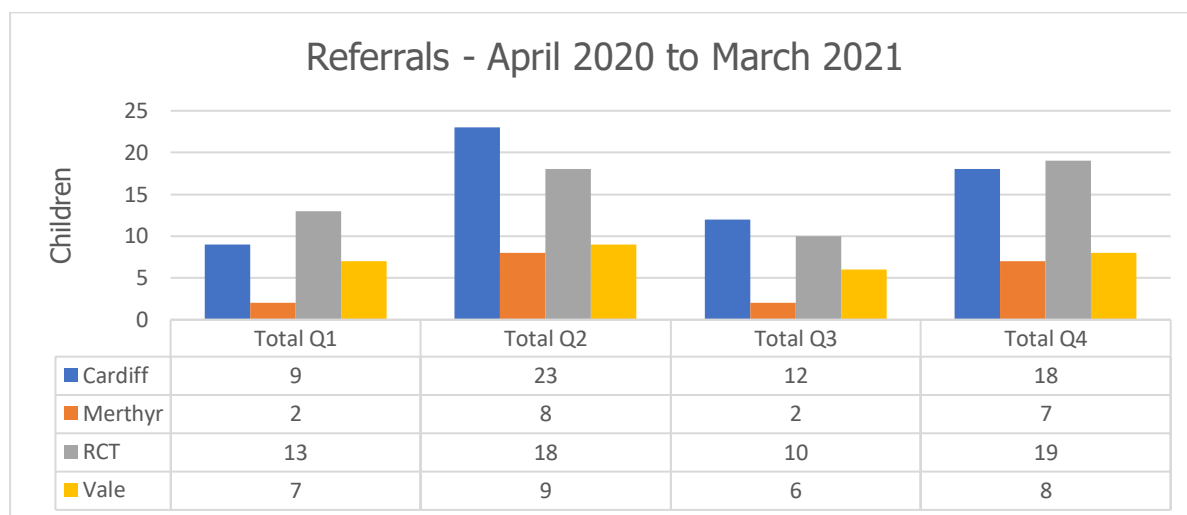


Family Finding

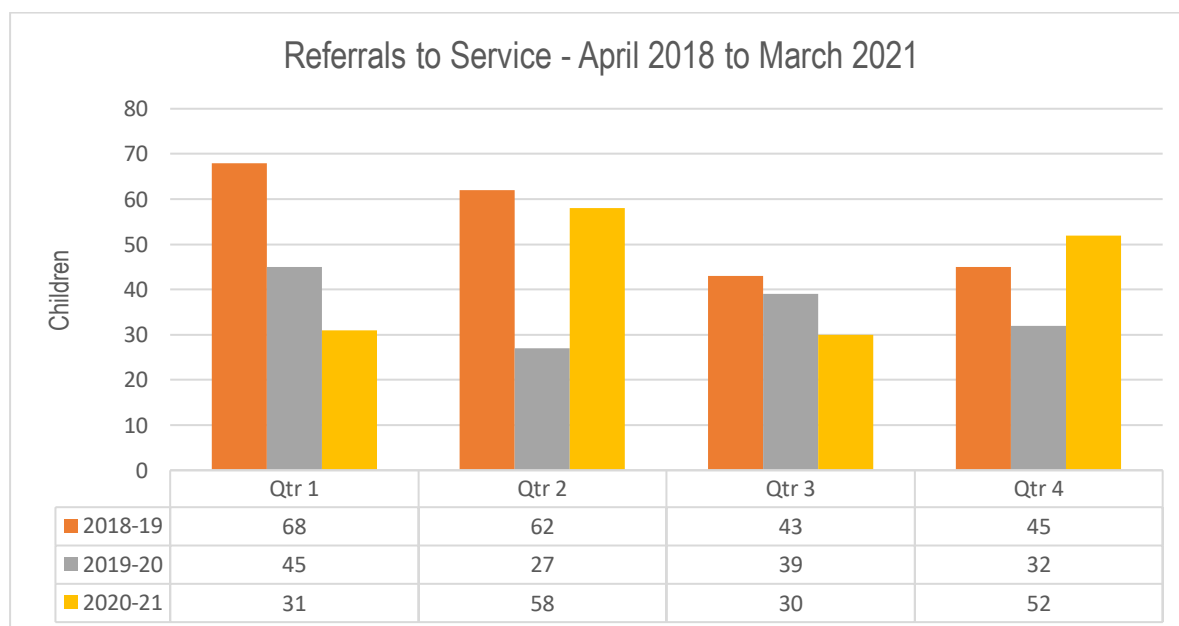
Children Referrals

171 children were referred to the service during the period April 2020 to March 2021. On average 14 referrals were received monthly, with 36% and 35% of referrals received from Cardiff and RCT respectively. 18% of referrals were received from the Vale of Glamorgan and 11% from Merthyr Tydfil.



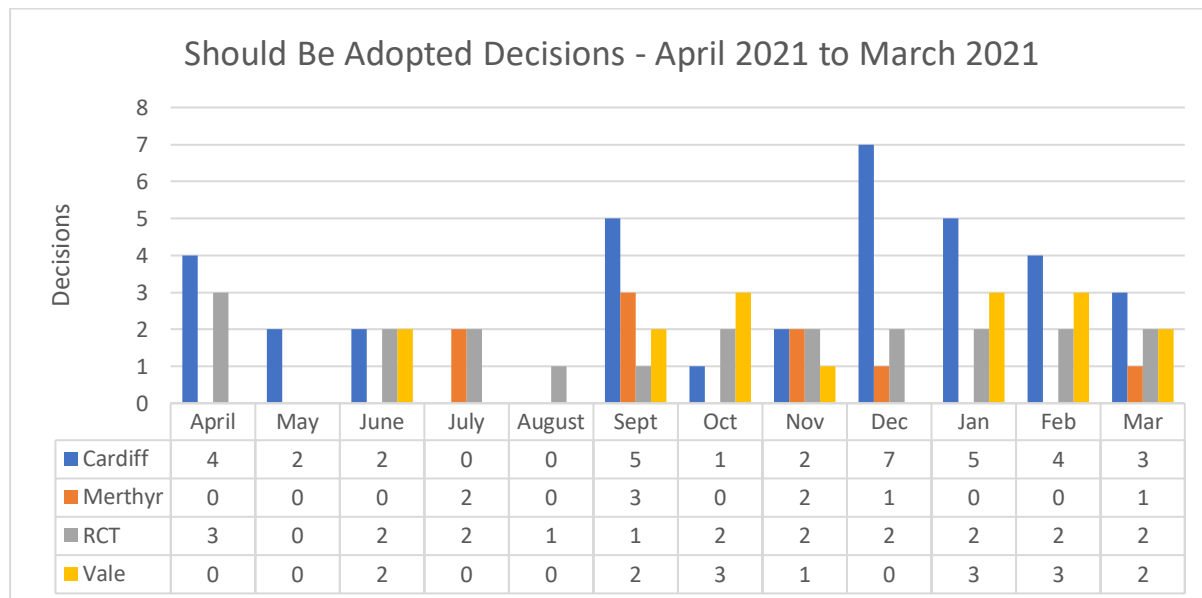
Comparative Data

Comparative data for 2018-19 and 2019-20 noted a 34% decrease in the number of referrals made to the service and was in line with national trends. However, when 2020-21 data is compared with 2019-20, a 20% increase is noted.



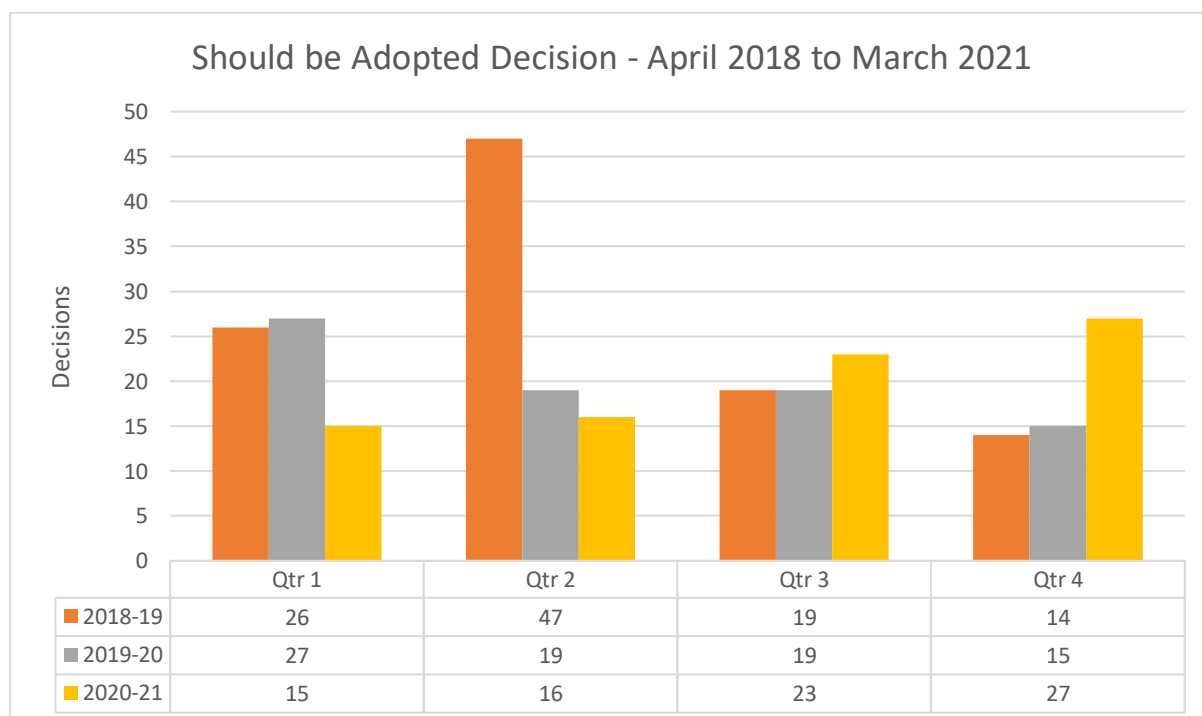
‘Should be Adopted’

81 SBA decisions were made during the period April 2021 to March 2021. This is consistent with previous years.



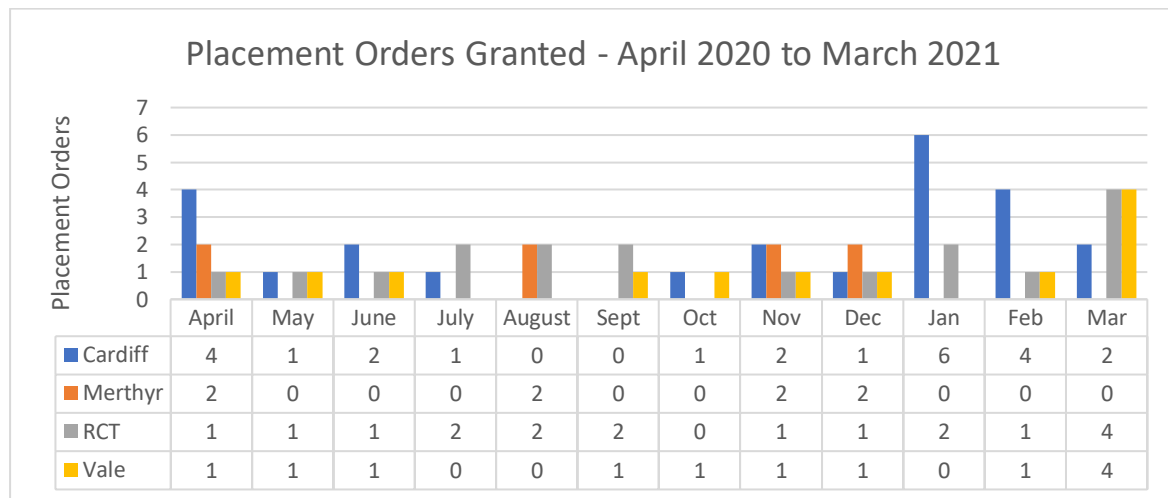
Comparative Data

Comparative data demonstrates a 23.5% decrease of SBA decisions when compared to data held for 2018-19 and is consistent with national trends.



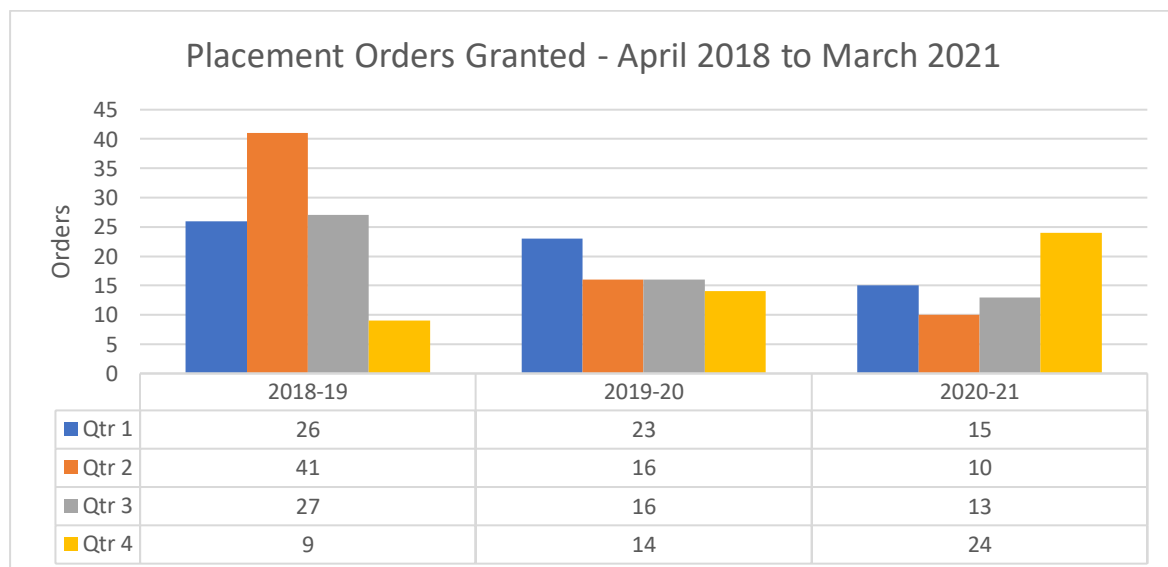
Placement Orders

62 Placement Orders were granted in the first half year, which is **13%** lower than the same period in previous year, however we are slowly seeing an increase in the number of Placement Orders being granted. The active family finding data monitored by Welsh Government shows 53 children with a Placement Order who are yet not linked, matched, or placed and whose care plan remains one of adoption. This number of children 'waiting' has significantly reduced through a combination of increased adopter recruitment, utilisation of specialist family finding measures and the reduction in Placement Orders over the past two years.



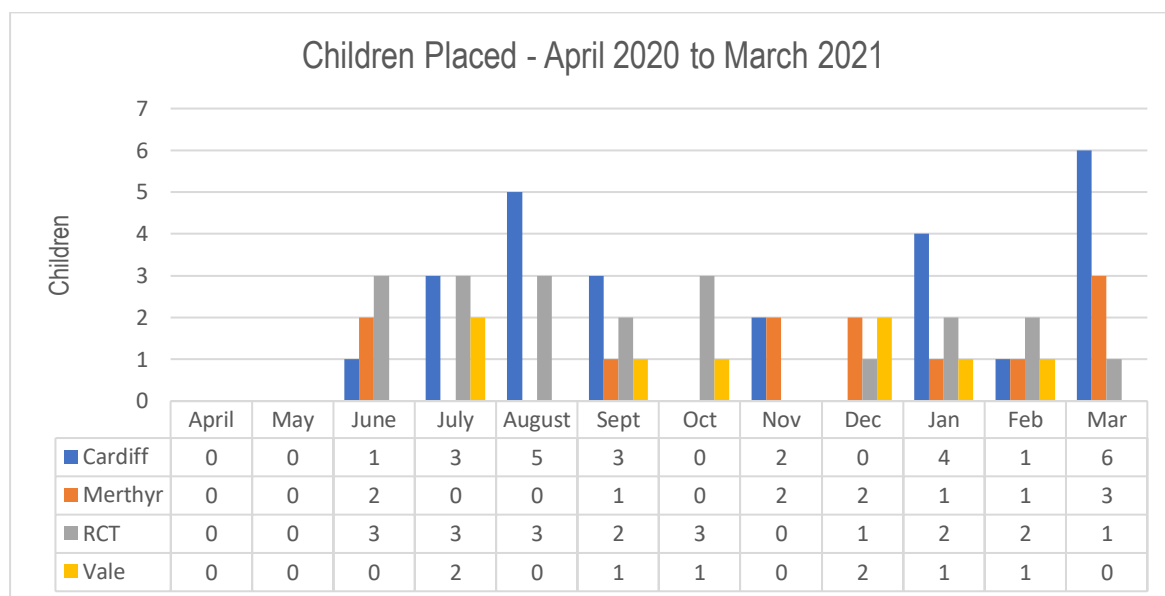
Comparative Data

Comparative data indicates a marked decrease (33%) in Placement Orders granted during the period 2018-19 and 2019-20 which is indicative of national trends.



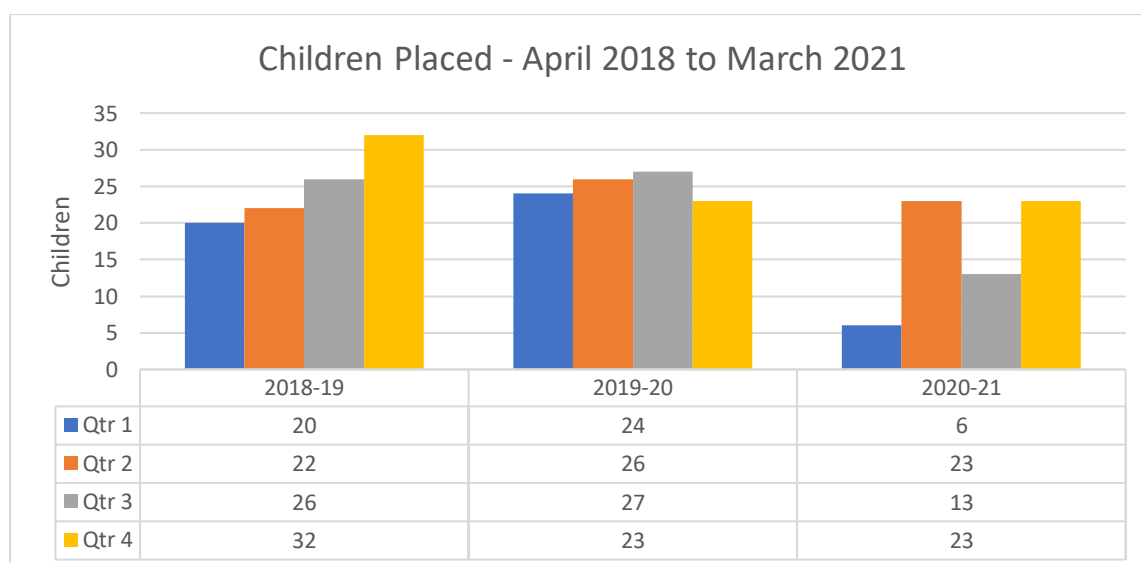
Children Placed

65 children were placed between April 2020 and March 2021. Whilst there was an initial delay in being able to place children early on due to the coronavirus pandemic, there have been no ongoing delays because of this, and the transitions risk assessment process is enabling placements to continue.



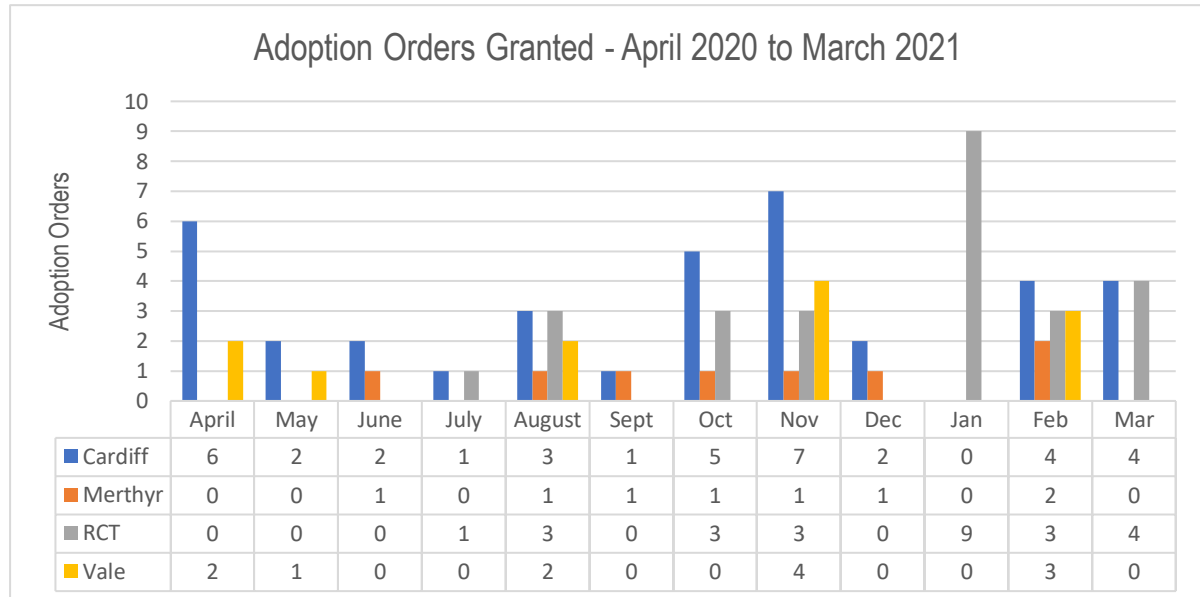
Comparative Data

The number of children placed is lower than in previous years, in line with the overall reduction in the number of children requiring adoptive placements observed over the past two years.



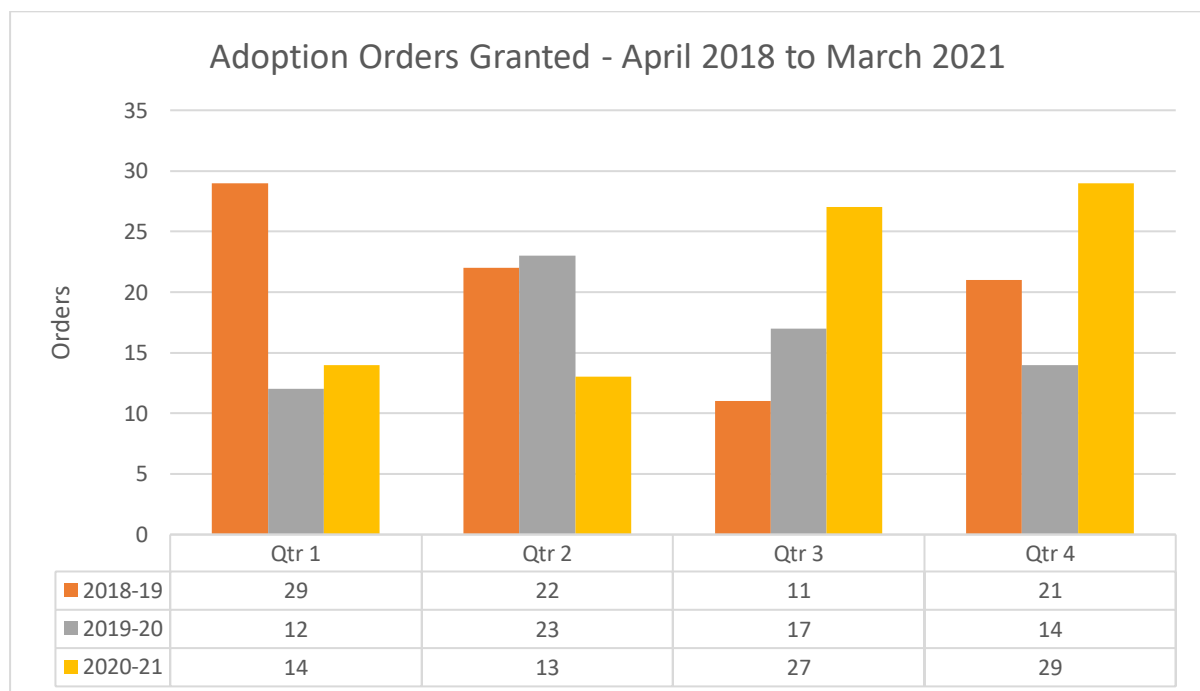
Adoption Orders

83 Adoption Orders were granted in the reporting period. There has been a significant increase from the first two quarters to the end of quarter 4 in line with an increasing number of final adoption order hearings which have been able to take place following the initial delays earlier in the pandemic.



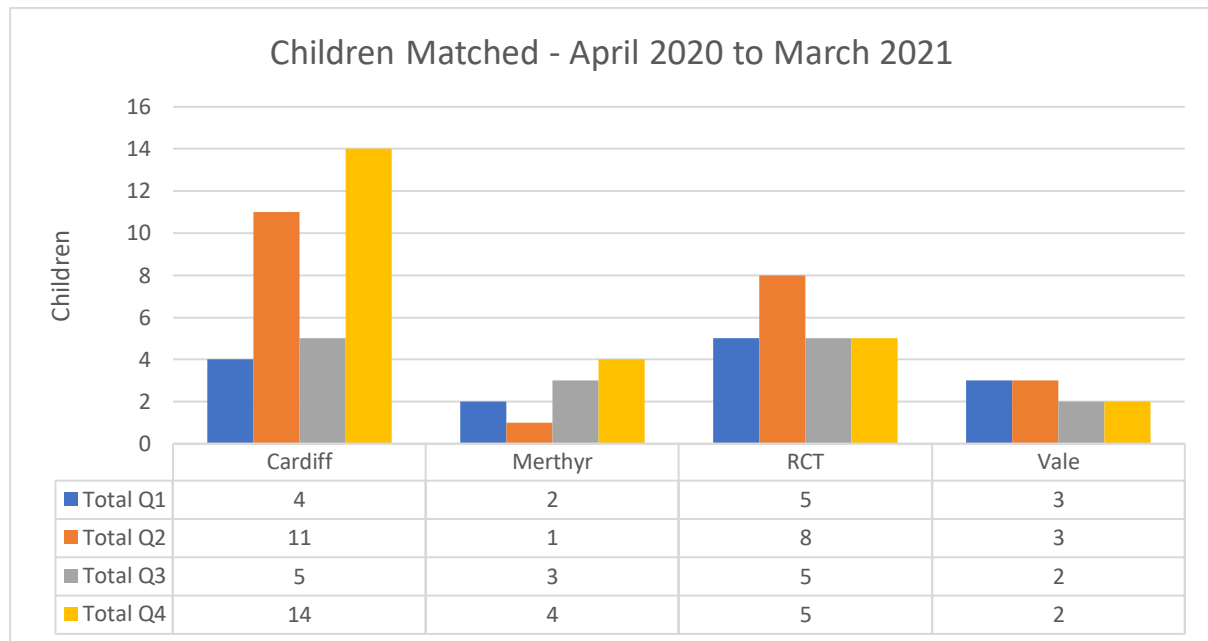
Comparative Data

Adoption Orders granted during 2020-21 are comparable with data held for 2018-19. A slight decrease (16%) in Adoption Orders granted was noted in 2019-20.



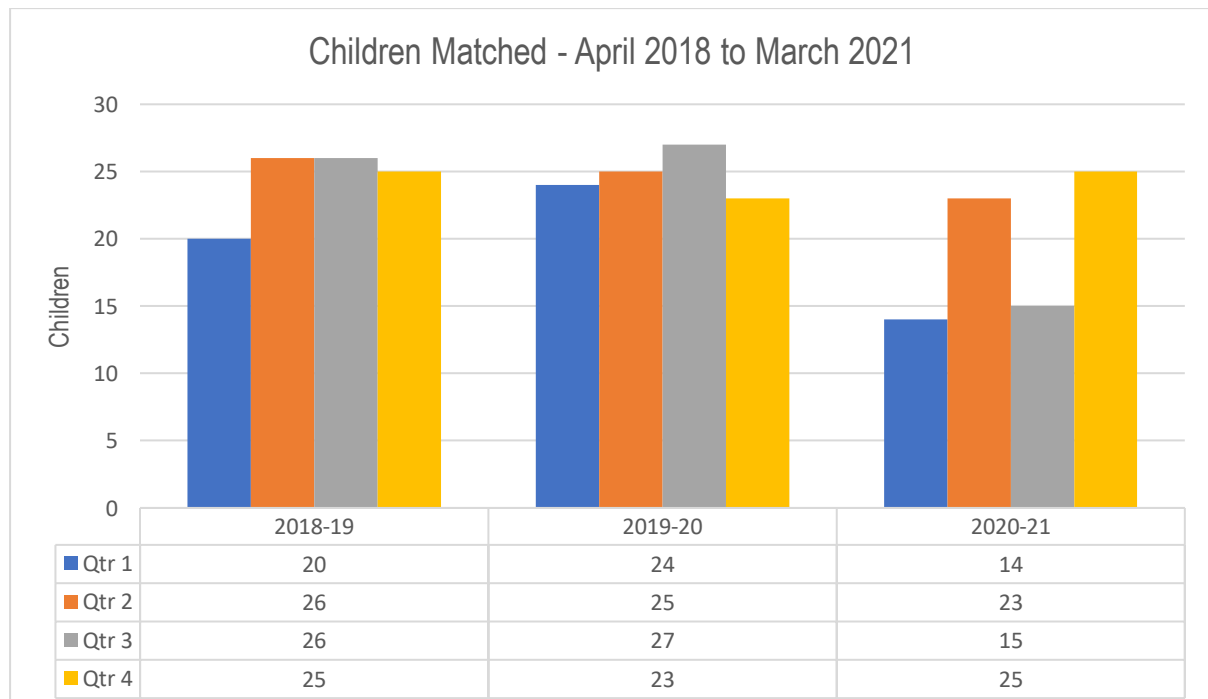
Children Matched

77 children were matched to adopters during the reporting period. This figure is **22.22%** lower when compared to the same period in previous year.



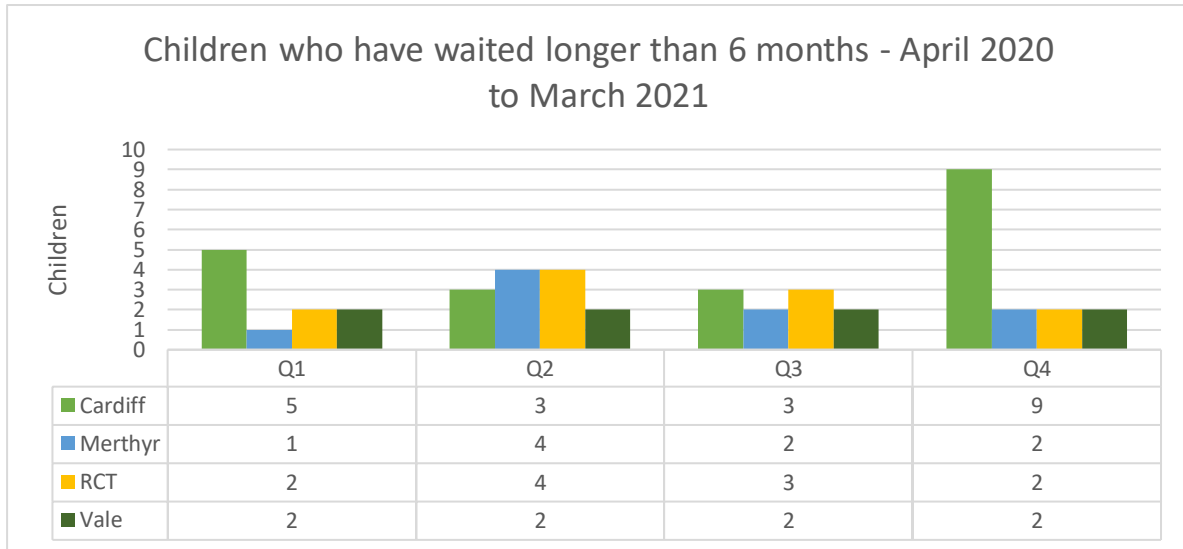
Comparative Data

The service continues to consistently match children. It should be noted however, children placed in 2020-21 is 21% lower when compared to previous years.

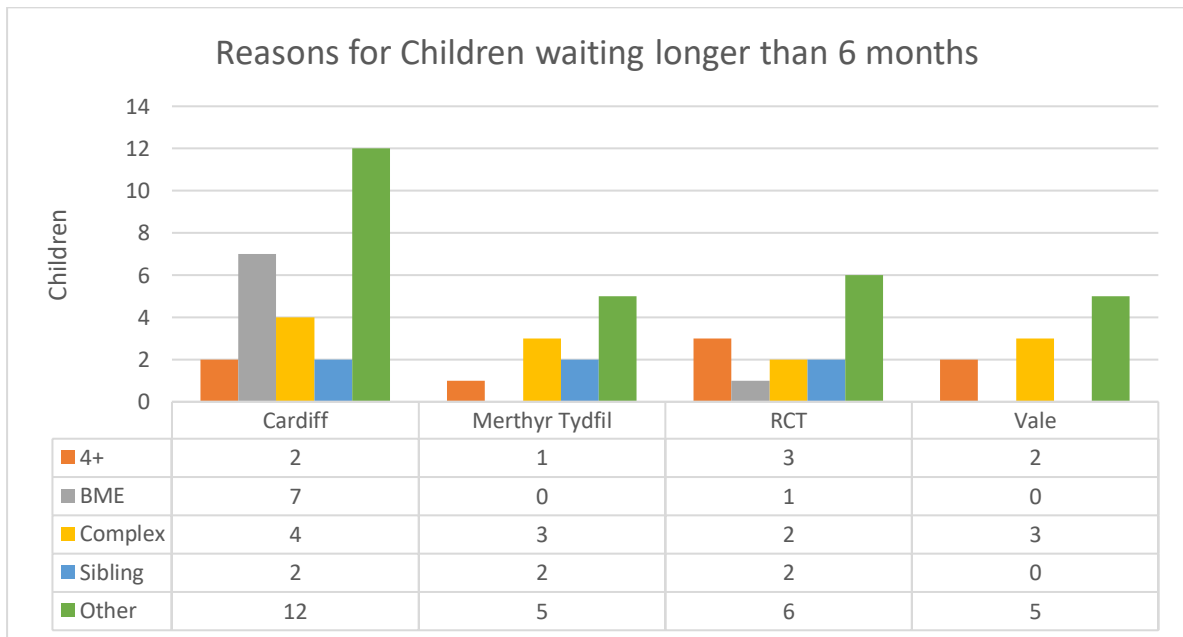


Number of children Matched since April 2020 who have waited longer than 6 months (or 3 months for a relinquished child under 6 months of age) to progress from “Should be placed for Adoption” decision to approve to Match

48 (73.84%) children matched in 2020-21 have waited longer than six months to progress from SBA to approve to match. This includes several children with additional/complex needs whose adoption searches have taken time but also whose matching with adopters has been drawn out over a longer period to ensure both that adopters have had sufficient time and information to proceed and that children have been able to be prepared.

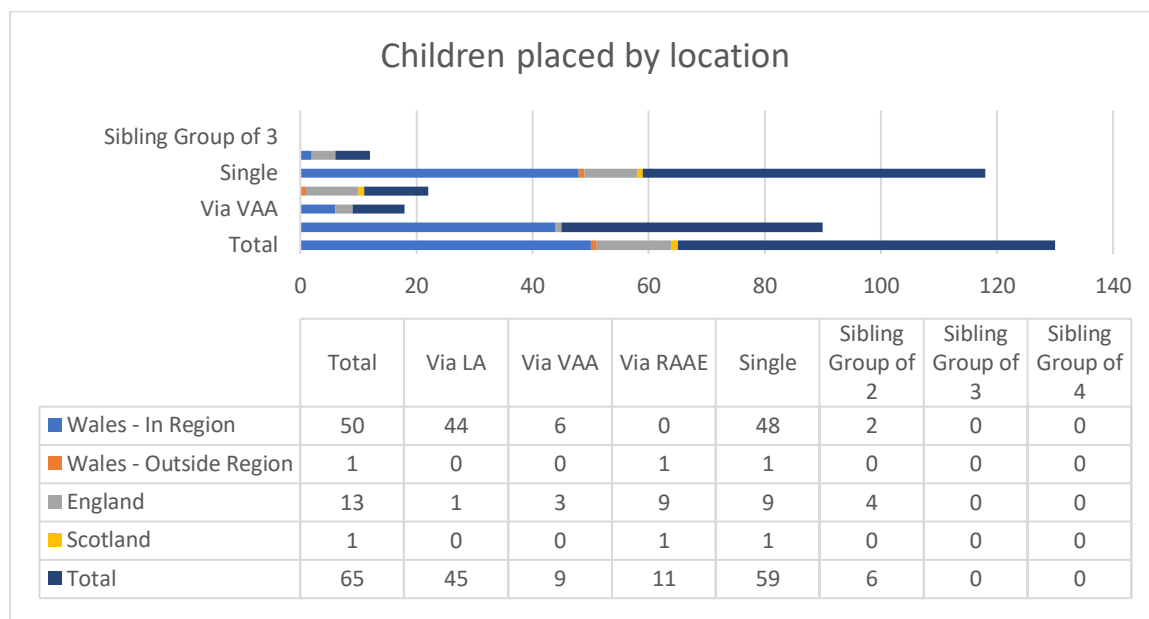


In many cases, children who have waited longer than six months come under more than one category.



Type of Placement

68% of the children have been placed with VVC adopters



Life Journey Work

Amendments to the performance indicators for Life Journey work came into effect on 1st April 2020.

M20A The number of children during the quarter where life journey material has been provided by the time of matching panel. ***Life Journey material at matching panel has been defined as: draft later life letter; and draft life storybook.***

M20 The number of children for whom life journey material has been provided to adopters by the time of the second adoption review.

M21 The number of children during the quarter who had their second adoption review.

Quarter on quarter we can see a steady increase in performance with most local authorities achieving 100% compliance. Given the relatively small numbers of children involved in both measures, just 1 child can show a significant impact on the overall %.

