



Ms Angela Fitzpatrick (Australia)

Glen Eira maternal and child health outreach: improving outcomes for vulnerable children





**Glen Eira Maternal
and Child Health
Outreach Service:
improving
outcomes for
vulnerable children.**

**Angela Fitzpatrick
Glen Eira City Council
Australia**



History of Maternal and Child Health Service

- 1914 Melbourne, 10 % of all babies died before their 1st birthday.
 - 1917 Richmond, first baby health centre was started by Dr Younger Ross emphasis on education for new mothers in care of their child.
 - 1917 Richmond City Council hired the first full-time nurses (Infant Welfare Sisters)
 - Consultations were free (and remain so today) but are not compulsory.
 - **2017 Melbourne, the Maternal and Child Health Service celebrated its 100th Anniversary.**
 - 2020 there are over 1400 maternal and child health nurses ensuring all Victorians babies get the best start in life.
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Victorian Maternal and Child Health Nurses

- Registered nurses.
 - Registered midwives.
 - Post Graduate Diploma of Nursing Science in Child, Family and Community.
 - Many hold a Master's degree.
 - Many are nurse immunisers.
 - Many are lactation consultants.
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Victorian Maternal and Child Service consist of

- Universal MCH Service.
 - Enhanced MCH Service.
 - 24 hour MCH Line.
 - MCH mobile app
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Maternal and Child Health Service

- **The Victorian MCH Service is considered world's best practice for providing free care, support and advice for all new families.**
 - Free and confidential service for all families with children from birth to school age in all 79 Local Government Areas (LGA's) within Victoria.
 - Each LGA delivers their service in a slightly different manner.
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Health promotion and Parenting information

What the MCH Service does is inclusive of, but not limited to:

- Initial home visit for every child born in Victoria.
 - SUDI information and compliance, including a safe sleeping checklist.
 - Promotion of breastfeeding and nutritional support for infants.
 - Sleep and settling: Support and education
 - Promoting childhood immunisations.
 - Health promotion: QUIT, Sun smart, introducing the Raising Children resources.
 - Regular consultations and assessments (KAS visits) to ensure children are meeting their developmental milestones.
 - Behavioural, developmental, social and emotional issues of children, including screening for autism up to 30 months of age.
 - Introduction of solids food and children's fussy eating.
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Health promotion and Parenting information

- Teething and dental care concerns.
 - Toilet training guidance.
 - Kindergarten enrolment information.
 - Childcare and Family Day Care facilities in the local area.
 - Speech concerns.
 - Vision screening.
 - BMI of children.
 - Family violence assessment, ongoing surveillance, and support.
 - Maternal physical, emotional and mental health.
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PEDS

We firmly believe that every parent is an expert about their own child's physical and socio-emotional development and therefore at each KAS consultation we use the Parental Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS) form. PEDS asks parents questions about their child's development in several different developmental domains.

- expressive and receptive language.
 - fine and gross motor skills.
 - social-emotional development.
 - self-help skills.
 - any areas of concerns they have about their baby or child.
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Leadership for Community and Family Engagement

- 2011 to present: Course for professionals working with children and families up to 8 years of age in the South Eastern region of Victoria.
 - Fully funded by the SE region of the DET.
 - Resource materials, inspirational guest speakers and incredible professional mentors were also provided to all participants.
 - The course's focus: developing local community leadership and partnerships, and providing strategies to achieve this.
 - Participants are supported to initiate action research projects that will improve services to **vulnerable children and their families within their community.**
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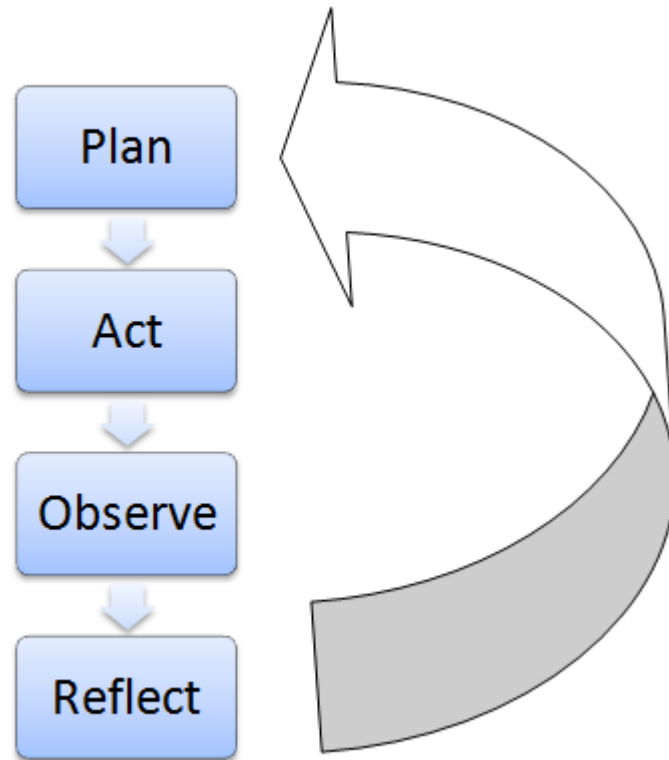
Program Principles

- Leadership **is critical** for achieving and improving outcomes for every child and family.
 - **Collaborative practice and respectful partnership** helps to promote inclusive and welcoming environments for all children and families.
 - Community and family engagement requires a **planned approach between all participants.**
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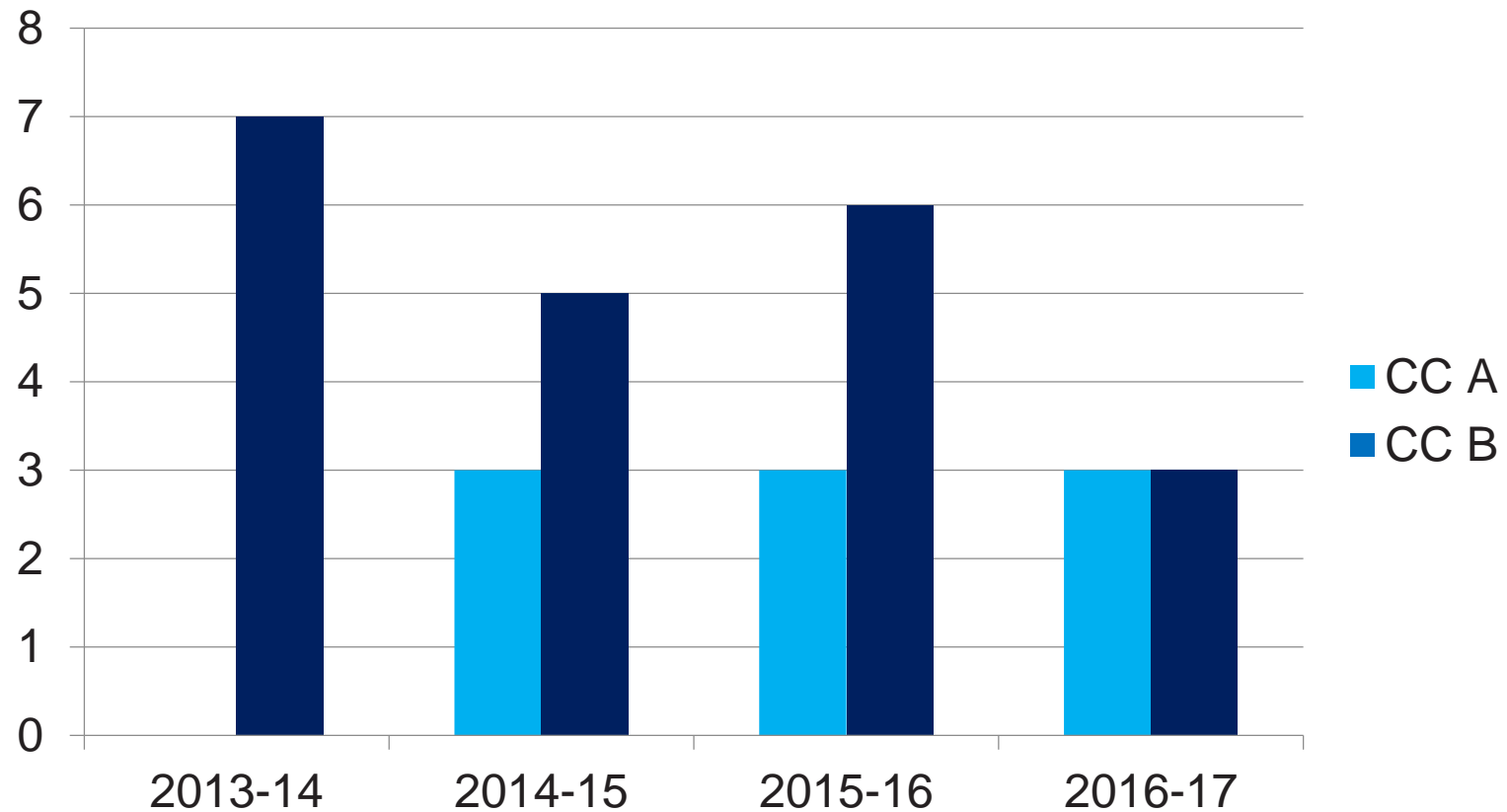
What is an Outreach MCH nurse?

- MCH Nurse who provides the universal MCH service in a variety of different settings: homes, childcare centres, kindergartens or family day care in City of Glen Eira.
 - Children do not have to reside in Glen Eira, to be able to use this service, only attend a child care service.
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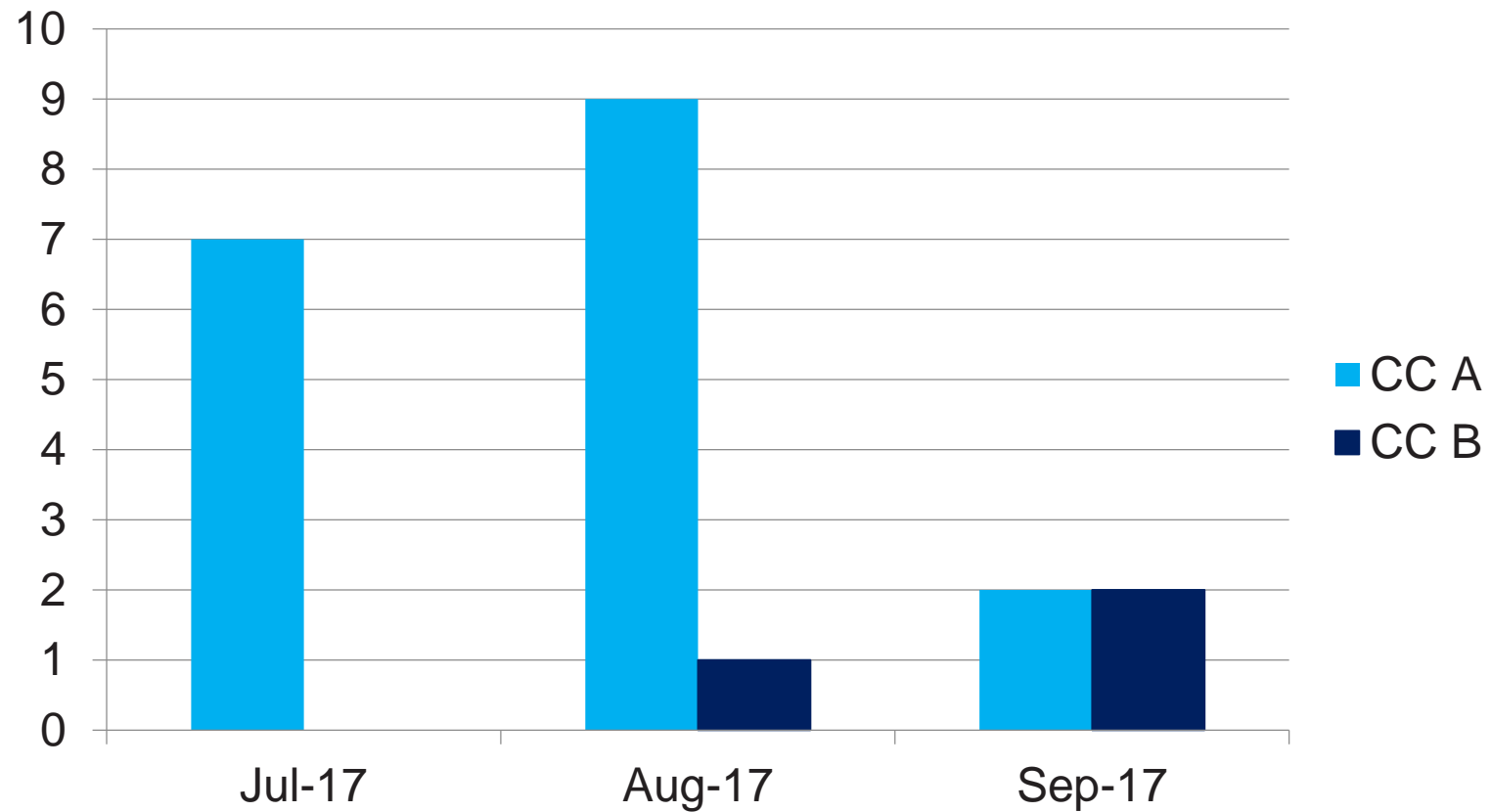
Action Research



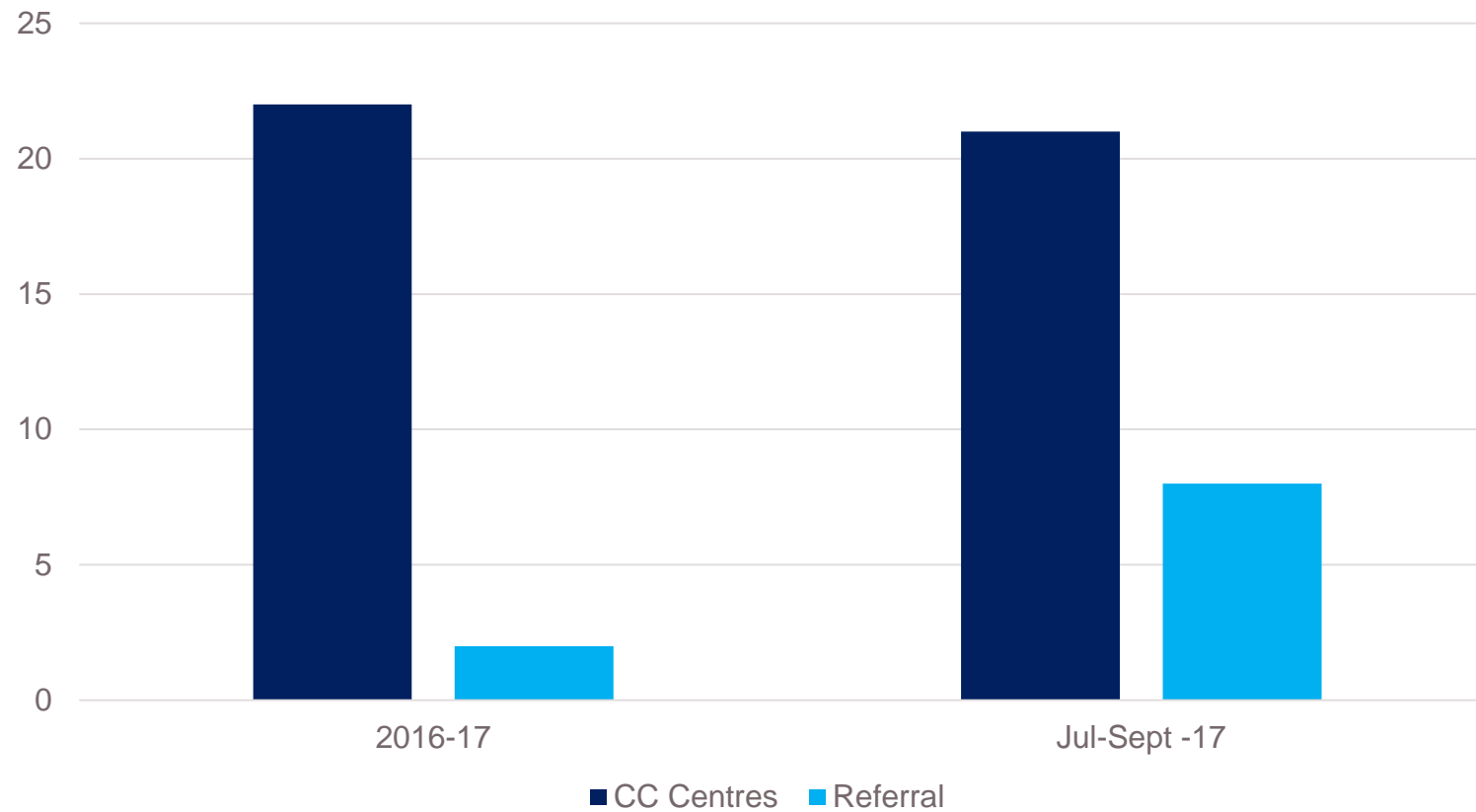
Pre Project rate of Engagement



Number of children seen from July- September 2017



Referral rates post talking to educators



Action Research 2018

Please find attached the paper work to send to out to all parents, as well as the posters to put up on the doors of each room, advertising that the MCH nurse is coming to your centre soon.

Please speak to all the educators, so they can check with the parents to see if their child has had their 12 or 18 month, 2 year and 3 and a half year old assessment with the MCH service and also any child they are concerned about developmentally.

Please ask the parents to return the forms to you, and then email them to me, so I can organise the visit.

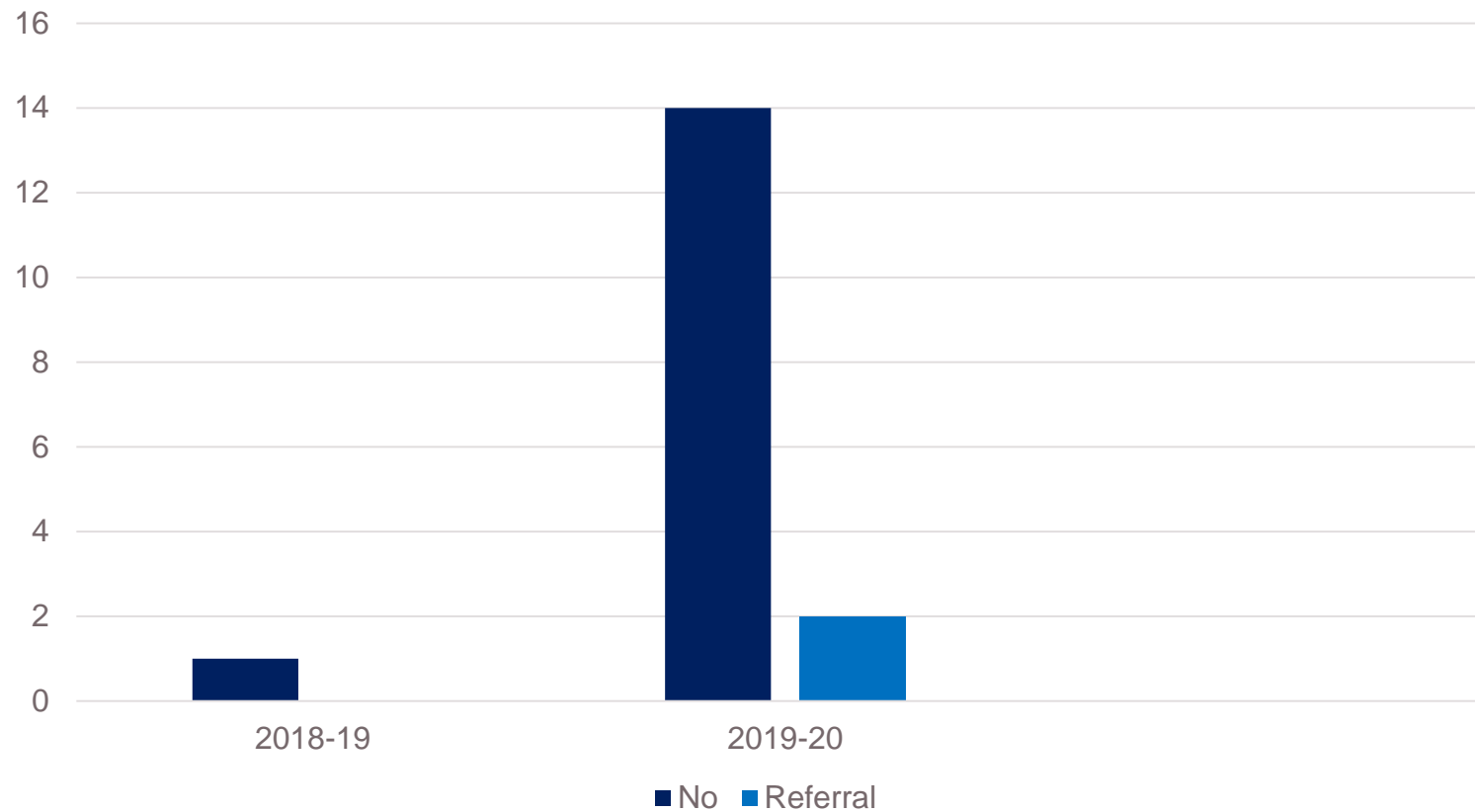
Remember parents do not have to have a Medicare card or live in Glen Eira to use this free service; the child only needs to be attending your service.

Any questions feel free to contact me

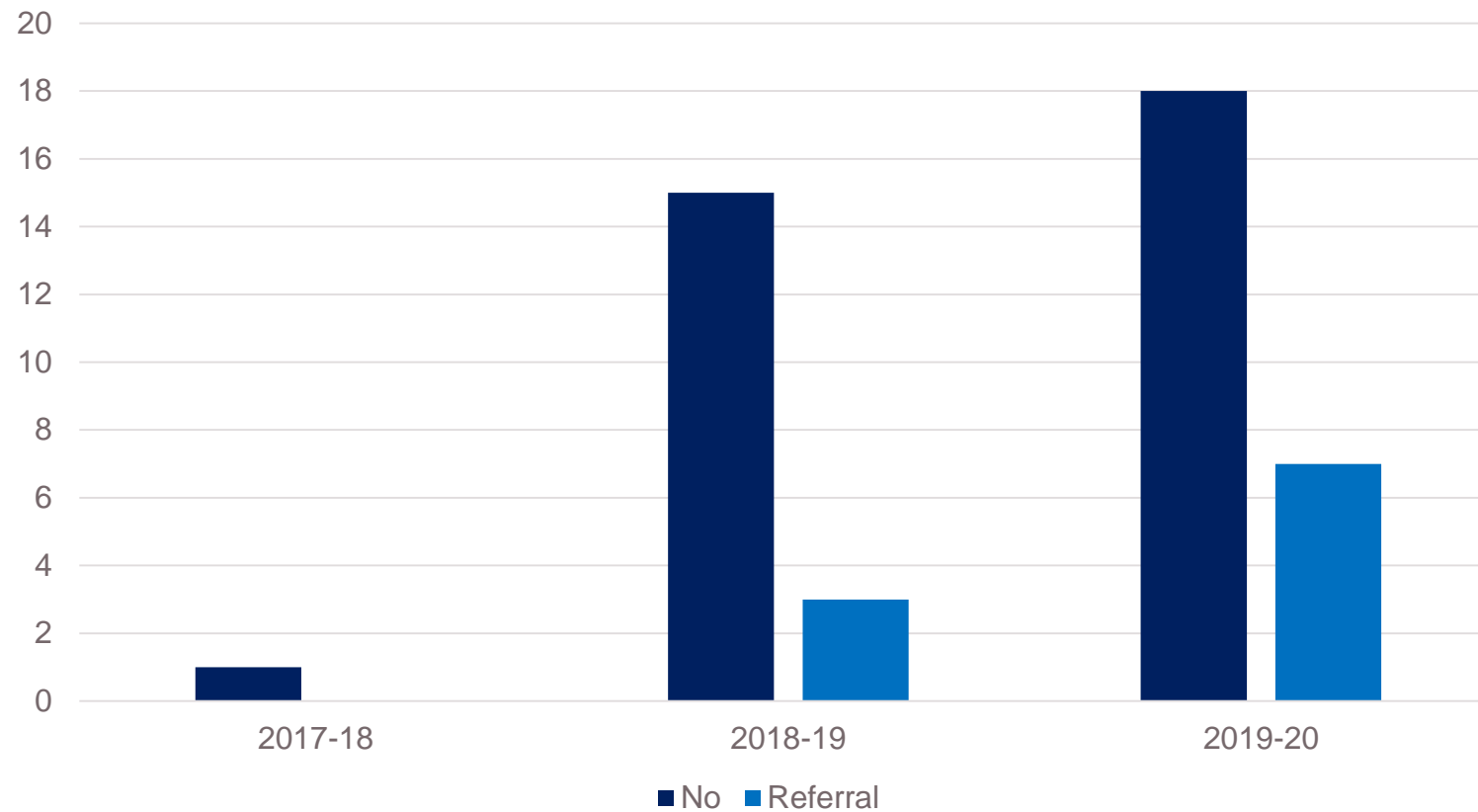
Regards,

Angela Fitzpatrick

Number of children seen at Childcare since changing the email message



Number of children seen at Childcare since changing the email message



Questions?

