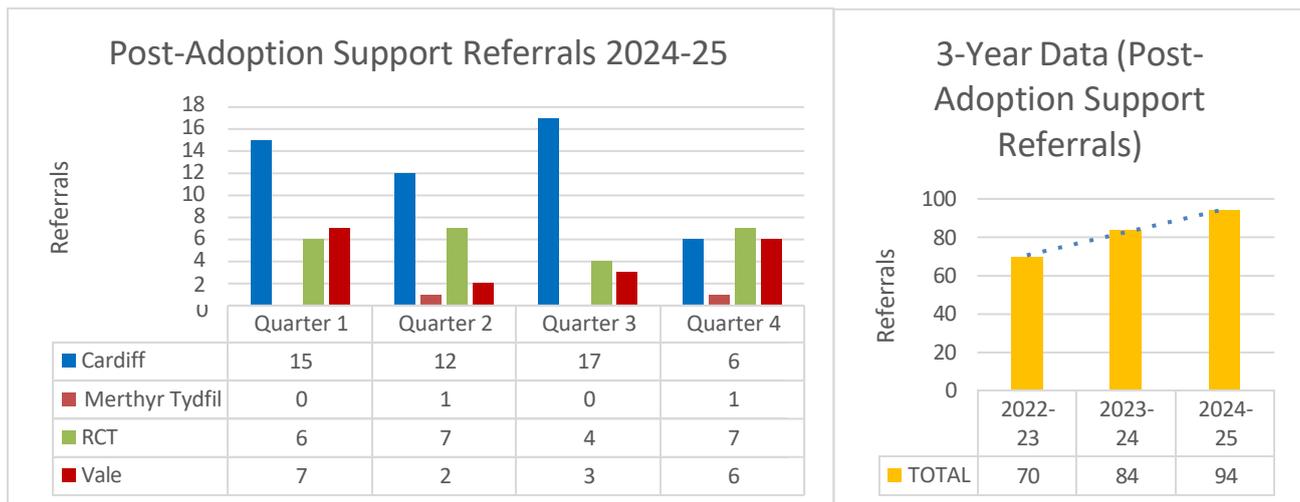


Appendix 3

Adoption Support

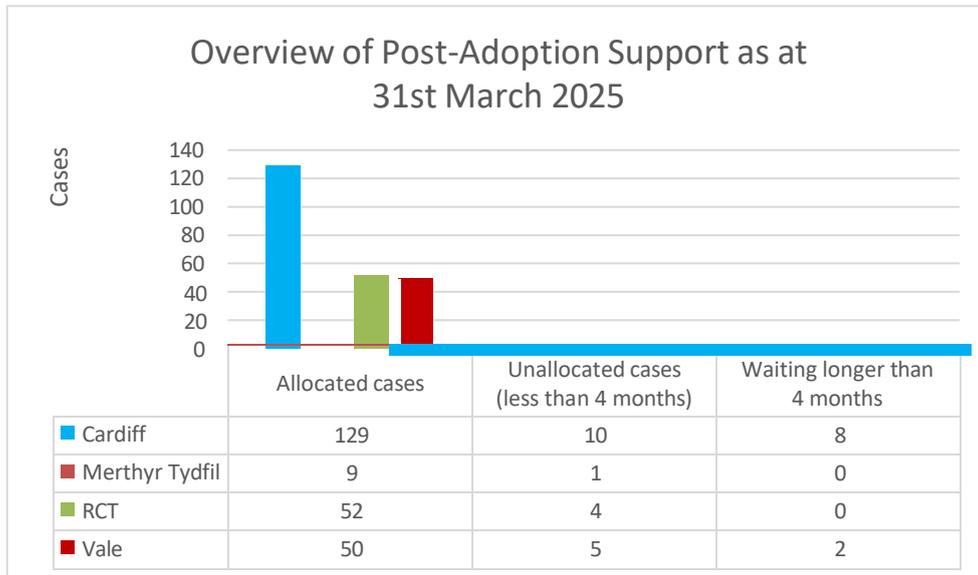
Referrals

94 referrals for adoption support for children have been received in 2024-25. The 3-Year data shows a significant rise in post-adoption support referrals annually and is placing greater pressure on existing services to meet those needs.



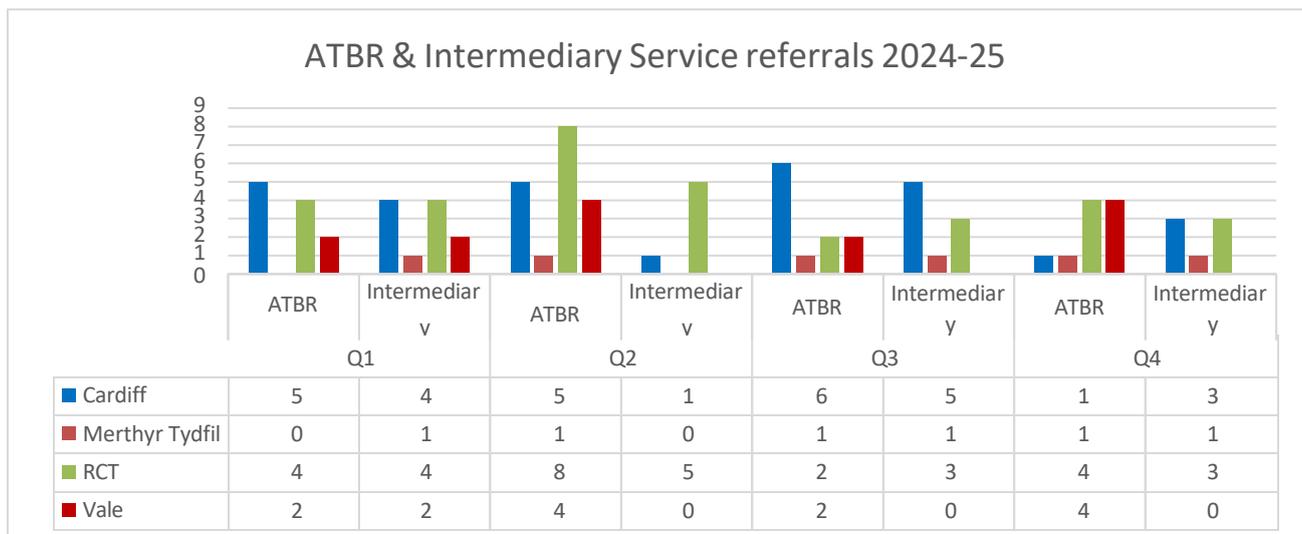
Current Snapshot:

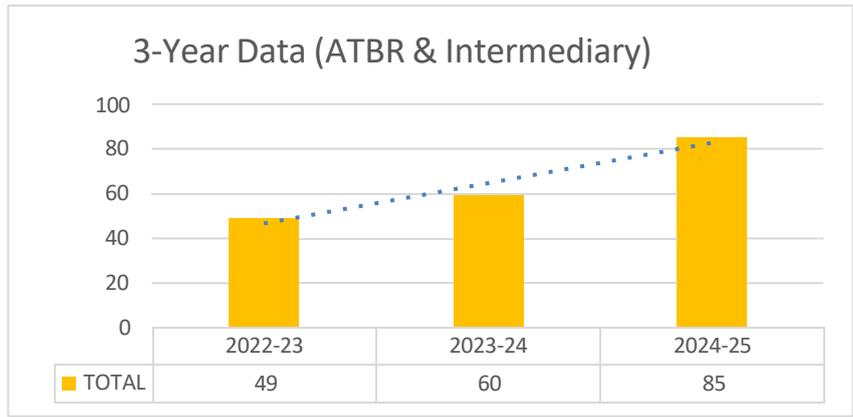
The overview below shows the current volume of work in supporting adoptive families (excluding supporting with contact arrangements). There are currently **20** unallocated children awaiting an assessment of their adoption support needs, **10** of which have been waiting for over the benchmark of 4 months for assessment. It is positive however that the number of unallocated children has significantly reduced since the start of the year. The pressures within the adoption support team have been well documented within collaborative reports as the demand for services continues to rise and as adoption support services continue to be promoted nationwide.



Access to Birth Records and Intermediary Services

This is another area where the workload is rising significantly. **85** referrals were received in 2024-25 comprising of 50 requests for access to birth records and 36 requests for an intermediary service.

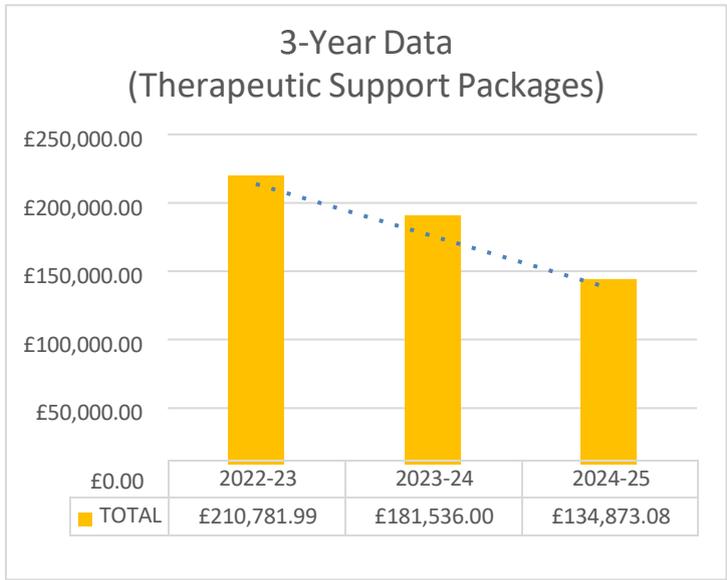
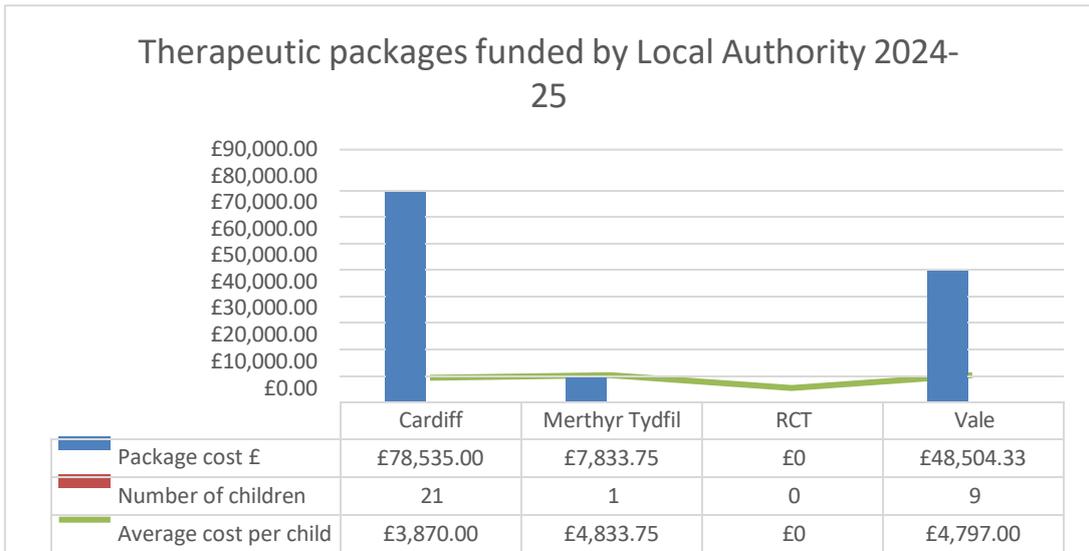




The above data highlights the significant rise year-on-year of referrals for support for adults affected by adoption.

Post Adoption Support Therapeutic Packages

There has been a significant reduction both in spending on therapeutic packages of support and in the number of children receiving these. Whilst the assessment of need is completed by the post-adoption support team, the financial decision-making remains with the individual local authorities who have established their own processes around this.



The number of children receiving externally commissioned services has dropped considerable (by 50% in the last year):

Year	Number of Children
2021-22	90
2022-23	64
2023-24	61
2024-25	31

Compared to the total 315 adoption support cases open during 2024-25 this represents just 10% of children open to PAS having externally commissioned support, the rest supported by in-house services.