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PARTNERSHIP NAME: Children and Young People Strategic Partnership
MEETING DATE: Monday, 7 April 2014
MEETING TIME: 2.00 pm
LOCATION: Myle Cross Centre, Macauley Drive, Lincoln, LN2 4EL

AGENDA

Item	Title	Purpose	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence		
2	Minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2014		1 - 8
3	CYPSP Chair Comments		Verbal Report
4	LSCB Chair Comments		Verbal Report
5	Action Group Updates:		
5a	Early Help <i>(To receive an update from Stuart Carlton, Assistant Director Children's Services in relation to the Early Help Action Group)</i>		9 - 12
5b	Child Poverty <i>(To receive an update in relation to the Child Poverty Action Group)</i>		13 - 30
5c	RPA/Vulnerable Learners <i>(To receive an update report from Lynn Smith, 14 - 19 Planning and Allocations Manager, in relation to the RPA/Vulnerable Learners Action Group)</i>		31 - 36

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|-----------|--|---------------|
| 6 | Children and Young People's Plan - Performance Report

<i>(To receive a report from David McWilliams, Head of Performance Assurance (Children's Services))</i> | 37 - 70 |
| 7 | Inspection and Improvement

<i>(To receive an update from David Ashcroft, Chair of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership)</i> | Verbal Report |
| 8 | Sustainable Services Review

<i>(To receive an update from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director Children's Services in relation to the Sustainable Services Review)</i> | Verbal Report |
| 9 | Lincolnshire Play Strategy

<i>(To receive an update in relation to work on the draft Lincolnshire Play Strategy)</i> | 71 - 98 |
| 10 | Partner Updates

<i>(An opportunity for Partners to update the Partnership in relation to any work taking place within their organisation which would be relevant to the work of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership)</i> | Verbal Report |
| 11 | Date and time of next meeting

(Development Day – 2 June 2014, commencing at 9.30am until 3.30pm – The Terrace, Grantham Street, Lincoln, LN2 1BD) | |

Distributed on 28 March 2014



**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
24 FEBRUARY 2014**

PRESENT: MR D ASHCROFT (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors D Brailsford

Officers in attendance:-

Malcolm Barham, Debbie Barnes (Executive Director Children's Services), Stuart Carlton (Assistant Director of Children's Services), Karen Parsons, David McWilliams (Head of Performance Assurance) and Janice Spencer

36 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Rachel Boothby (Parent Partnership Co-ordinator), Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell (Executive Councillor Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services), Chris Cook (Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Board), Mandy Cooke (Lincolnshire County Council), Andy Fisher (Boston Borough Council), Lee Freeman (Lincolnshire Police), Kerry Mitchell (Barnados), Semantha Neal (East Lindsey District Council), Chris Seymour (Pilgrim School), Nicki Silver (LCHS) and Pam Townsend (The Walton Girls High School)

37 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 DECEMBER 2013

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2013 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

38 CYPSP CHAIR COMMENTS

The Chairman reported that a regular pattern of pre-meetings with David McWilliams had now been arranged, and he wanted to use the formal meetings and development days to work together in constructive way, and ensure that the other groups and sub-groups which reported to this Partnership were held to account. It was thought that the Partnership was starting to develop a structure that would work.

It was understood that the transfer of health visitors to the local authority had been confirmed for October 2015. This would represent a significant move in terms of local authority's becoming responsible for this service. It was suggested that this was an area that could be discussed in greater detail at a development day.

The Executive Director Children's Services reported that lessons were starting to be learned following the first and second tranches of Ofsted inspections. It was noted

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
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that the inspections seemed fair as inspectors were speaking with the right people including social workers, parents and carers. It was expected that Lincolnshire would have its inspection in May/June 2014.

It was noted that inspections of LSCB's had been less encouraging with all but one requiring improvement. Lincolnshire would be learning from all boards. However, it was noted that Ofsted appeared to be having difficulty in how best to review partnership arrangements. There was a need to be very clear about how partnership arrangements were working.

A number of staffing changes were highlighted to the Partnership, including welcoming Sally Savage, Assistant Director Children's Services. It was noted that this was a joint appointment with the CCG. It was also reported that there would be significant changes within the school improvement service, as Jill Hodges would be leaving the authority, and Tim Culpin would be leaving to work for CfBT nationally. Interim arrangements would be confirmed shortly.

39 LSCB CHAIR COMMENTS

An update on the LSCB was provided by Andy Morris, on behalf of the Chairman of the LSCB, Chris Cook.

Members were advised, that in terms of the Ofsted inspections, it was thought that the Lincolnshire LSCB was in quite a strong position compared to some others.

It was also reported that the Board was currently involved in work regarding child sexual exploitation and child trafficking with care homes in the south of the county. Work with legal highs was also underway as this was a big problem in Lincolnshire, as well as nationally. The Board was working with the Community Safety Partnership, and would be employing a Policy and Audit Officer. Once this person was appointed it was hoped that there would be a greater understanding of the problems in the county.

It was noted that the number of sub groups of the LSCB had reduced from 8 to 4, and the Terms of Reference had been reviewed.

A number of comments were made by members of the Partnership, in relation to the update provided, which included the following:

- It was noted that there was a serious problem with child sexual exploitation in Cambridgeshire, which was in close proximity to Lincolnshire and there were concerns that it would be very easy for the problem to cross county boundaries. The Partnership was assured that officers were working closely with Cambridgeshire Police on this issue;
- It was highlighted that some of the work which had been done in relation to child sexual exploitation had raised issues regarding cross border working;
- The links between the police and Children's Services were very strong;
- Peterborough would be carrying out a serious case review shortly;

- It was noted that the Safeguarding Board had developed an action plan around tackling child sexual exploitation, and it was queried whether it would be useful to share it with the Partnership;
- The partnership was advised that the Lincolnshire LSCB had good communication with the Cambridgeshire LSCB;

40 SUB GROUP AND ACTION GROUP UPDATES:

(a) Lincolnshire Participation Action Group (LPAG)

An update was received from Andrew Garbutt, Participation Team, in relation to the work of the Lincolnshire Participation Action Group (LPAG). It was reported that Kerry Mitchell, who was the current chairman of the LPAG, was coming up to the end of her two year term as Chairman, and was likely to step down at the end of her term, as she was taking on more responsibility in her main role. It was reported that Francis Porter was happy to take over this role, and there would be a handover period.

It was reported that the last event had focused on the story board for the anti bullying film, and it was noted that there was a need to maintain consistency in terms of the young people attending these events. It was noted that the film would be available on the teen info links website. At the next event, the focus would be on working on developing the website and app ideas. It was hoped that following the next event, officers would be in the position to bring something back to this Partnership.

It was noted that dates during half term and school holidays would be the best times for holding events for young people. Officers would work with the LPAG to set these dates.

It was queried a joint meeting of the partnership was needed with the young people, and members were advised that the intention was for some of the young people to attend a future meeting once the web and app ideas had been developed.

(b) Children and Young People's Voluntary Sector Forum (CYPVSF)

The Partnership received an update from Karen Parsons in relation some of to the work of the Children and Young People's Voluntary Sector Forum (CYPVSF) over the past year. It was reported that the Forum had undergone a review, and it would continue to receive a grant from Lincolnshire county Council through Children's Services.

Some of the activities which were highlighted included networking at the regular meetings and also specialist sessions on a targeted subject matter; representations from different partners including CYPSP, youth housing, Participation Action Group and families working together steering group; consultation activity including ensuring that information was distributed across the network as well as targeting particular information at specific members; and communication through their pages on

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www.lincolnshirechildren.net as well as e bulletin's and updates which were sent out regularly. It was noted that decision had been taken to not have a dedicated website, in order to drive internet traffic through the www.lincolnshirechildren.net website.

It was reported that the next meeting would be held on 13 March 2014, with the focus of 'what's important for going forward' and what areas of work members would like to see the Forum engaged in.

Members were advised that workforce development would be on the agenda for the next meeting, and would include the national workforce strategy. It was also commented that there was a need to improve people's opportunities for learning and training within Lincolnshire.

(c) Child Poverty

An update was received from the Executive Director Children's Services in relation to Child Poverty, and members were advised that a session on this issue was being held by City of Lincoln Council in the coming week and Boston Borough Council were carrying out a scrutiny review into this issue. It was noted that the county council had been asked to take part in the scrutiny review.

It was suggested that it might be helpful if a list of all events which were coming up was attached at the end of the minutes.

(d) Youth Housing

Members were reminded that they should have received an invite to the launch event for the Youth Housing Strategy which was taking place at the Bentley Hotel on the 6 March 2014.

(e) Childhood Obesity

The Partnership received an update from Richard Cumbers in relation to the work of the Childhood Obesity Task and Finish group. An update was circulated which showed the headlines from the results of the National Child Measurement Programme for the academic year 2012-13 in Lincolnshire. It was reported that 92% of children in reception and 915 of children in year 6 participated in the programme. It was noted that 174 parents opted out of their child taking part in the programme.

A sub group was working on the school meal offer, and this group was being chaired by Tony McGinty. A strategic plan was being pulled together before being presented to DMT and the relevant scrutiny committee. The membership was being refreshed and the group met every six months.

It was noted that a number of schools had opted out of the Programme, however, one had only opted out of the year 6 programme, but had included the reception class.

A discussion of the data presented followed and some of the points raised by members of the Partnership included the following:

- It was thought it would be useful to have the reasons why some parents had chosen to opt out of the Programme;
- This was the first year of data where the same children who were measured in reception were also measured in year 6;
- One complaint had been received in relation to a child who had opted out of the Programme in reception class, and this opt out had not been continued in year 6;
- The data indicated that obesity levels doubled between reception and year 6;
- Members were advised that any children who had not been included in the NCMP were likely to have been off sick or on holiday on the day of the measurements;
- Going forward officers would be able to do better data analysis as they would be able to drill down further into the data;
- It was stated that the current methods for tackling obesity were inadequate;
- The next meeting of the Task and Finish group would be at the end of March 2014, and any members of the Partnership were welcome to attend;
- It was requested that a more thorough evaluation of the information, including details of the gaps in the data, be brought back to a future meeting of the Partnership as an agenda item;
- It was queried how Lincolnshire compared to other counties in terms of this data, and whether there were any examples of best practice which could be of benefit;
- It was queried whether the measurement programme was commissioned from the same organisation that provided the intervention? It was suggested there could be merit from commissioning them both together, and a payment by results system would be of benefit;
- Work was underway to improve the participation rate;
- The Healthy Schools programme was still in place, and now sat within Public Health. Members of staff from the food in schools team would be transferring to the healthy schools team;
- It was important to work with parents to ensure they understood the messages regarding healthy eating. It was queried whether there would be any sanctions for those parents who chose to ignore the healthy eating messages;

It was noted that this discussion had highlighted a lot of issues, and it was suggested whether this issue should be picked up as part of a development day, when a more complete set of information could be provided, and representatives of public health, schools and CCG's could be invited.

(f) Early Help Offer

This would be covered under a later agenda item.

(g) Support and Aspiration

This would be covered by a later agenda item.

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(h) Raising the Participation Age (RPA)/Vulnerable Learners Group

It was noted that this would be on the agenda as a substantive item for the next meeting in April 2014.

41 EARLY HELP AND TAC

The Partnership received a progress report from the Early Help Steering Group in relation to developments within Team Around the Child (TAC).

The Assistant Director Children's Services guided the Partnership through the report and advised that the recommendations made to CYPSP had all been accepted, and provided a progress update for each one. During discussion, the following points were noted:

- An Early Help conference was being held on 7 July 2014;
- There was a huge amount of work which needed to be done, and would be carried out;
- Work was underway to start addressing trigger points. Quality assurance would be built in;
- There was a need to be clear about supervision arrangements, and where officers could go to talk to someone about any concerns they had;
- Part of the early help consultations would include advice;
- Part of the assessment would involve deciding on the best of action for the child;
- The aim would be for people to carry out a holistic assessment based on signs of safety;
- Effective supervision requirements were essential;

RESOLVED

That the progress report be noted.

42 SUSTAINABLE SERVICES REVIEW

The Executive Director Children's Services reported that there had not been much progress in relation to the Sustainable Services Review since the last meeting of the Partnership.

It was reported that Price Waterhouse Cooper had been commissioned to assist with Phase 2 of the Review.

The Partnership was advised that this would be brought back to the next meeting.

43 LCC AND CCG COMMISSIONING GOVERNANCE

The Partnership received an update from the Executive Director Children's Services in relation to LCC and CCG Governance. It was reported that this was still a work in progress.

It was reported that it was felt that strategically there was a need to look at the commissioning arrangements, and ensure that they were robust. There would also be a need to match governance arrangements with what was happening in the Sustainable Services Review.

It was proposed to establish a single joint commissioning board, with four delivery boards based on the Sustainable Services Review workstreams.

During consideration and discussion of this report the following points were noted:

- The chart attached at appendix a of the report did not include how the work of the Partnership connected to the commissioning structure;
- The Children and Young People Strategic Partnership would report to the Health and Wellbeing Board, and there was a need to ensure that this was clear. The Executive Director Children's Services would feed this back into the process.

RESOLVED

That the update be noted.

44 SEND REFORMS UPDATE

An update was received from the Executive Director Children's Services in relation to the SEND Reforms. It was reported that Part 3 of the current Children and Families Bill, which was due for Royal Assent in Spring 2014, sought to streamline and align the system of SEN assessment, support and provision for young people 0-25.

The SEN reforms set out in the Bill were highlighted to the Partnership and some additional point discussed included the following:

- There would be a need to advertise the local offer;
- The timescale for implementation of the new statements was 1 September 2014;
- The authority was receiving approximately 25 requests per month;
- There would be a need to have systems and processes in place prior to implementation;
- There would be a three year transition period to transfer children with existing statements to the new Education, health and Care (EHC) plan. There were currently 3,000 children in Lincolnshire with a statement;
- There would be a huge issue in terms of expectations, and anxiety from parents would be expected;
- It was expected that these changes would speed up the process and would hopefully prove more cost effective;
- It was queried whether this was something which should be looked at in more detail at a development day? It was agreed that the Partnership should receive an update at a later date.

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RESOLVED

That the update be noted.

45 CQC INSPECTION

The Partnership was advised that the report had been received on the previous Friday, and it would now need to be circulated and an action plan produced. It was reported that the Assistant Director would be attending the action plan scheduled for 4 March 2014.

The published report would be circulated to the Partnership for information.

46 CORE EDUCATION OFFER TO SCHOOLS

It was reported that following the last meeting of the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership, one meeting had been held, and there would be a need to schedule a report back to this Partnership to set out what the offer to schools would look like.

47 WORK PROGRAMME

It was noted that a number of subjects had been identified as being suitable for the development days, as well as some items which needed to be reported back to this meeting at a later date.

The Chairman stated that he would work with David McWilliams to ensure that these items were included in the planning process for future meetings and development days.

48 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The meeting closed at 3.55 pm

Report on Developments to Team Around the Child (TAC) 1/1/14 to 4/4/14

Process Development			
<u>Objective</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Progress</u>	<u>RAG</u> Red = incomplete Amber = partially complete Green = complete
Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership establish a mechanism for implementation and oversight of Early Help Strategy, including TAC developments	Establish Early Help Steering Group (EHSB)	This group is established and meeting monthly. It has clear terms of reference and wide representation from schools, academies, colleges, health agencies, voluntary sector, police and LCC Children's Services.	
	Ensure meetings are organised and administered	Monthly meetings are held and administered by Children's Services	
	Ensure EHSB has a workplan and that this is monitored regularly	There is a work plan for the group and this is monitored at every meeting.	
Ensure LSCB recommendation on documentation review is implemented	New assessment, and guidance drafted	This was completed in February 2014, and revised during March following feedback from a variety of agencies.	
	Consultation undertaken on new assessment	The new Early Help Assessment (EHA) underwent consultation during February and March 2014 via the EHSB and Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The consultation was, in the main, positive, and the EHSB responded accordingly.	
	New templates produced for all steps of TAC process	New templates for Initial TAC meetings, TAC Plans, TAC Reviews and TAC Closures have been developed to follow from the EHA, and are now available from the TAC website.	
	New TAC Handbook produced	The TAC Handbook has been rewritten to reflect the new documentation, and is published on the TAC website.	
	All information on TAC website revised and updated	The website has been updated as above. New Guidance Sheets have been issued on common issues. Systems are in place to continue to develop the resources available on this site.	
	Replace electronic Single Assessment Form with electronic Early Help Assessment (EHA)	This has been completed.	

Ensure all professionals and agencies are aware of the new developments and requirements	Training/ Communication Plan produced	This was agreed and supported by EHSG in February 2014.	
	Delivery of training/awareness raising	A rolling programme of Early Help Briefing Sessions has been delivered since 25/2/14. In the 5 weeks to date almost 600 professionals from a wide range of agencies have attended these 2 hour sessions. Headteachers have been updated at every Headteacher Briefing, and a Priority Email has gone to all schools and academies. This communication with schools and academies included details of access to their additional services.	
	Plan, organise and deliver an Early Help Conference	This is planned for 7 th July 2014, venue EPIC Centre, Lincolnshire Showground. The Conference will include both National and Local speakers, and a series of workshops. All agencies, including schools and academies have been asked to hold the date in their diaries. Formal invitations to follow shortly, once speakers are confirmed.	
Ensure staffing and processes are in place to enable agencies, in particular schools and academies to access increased support	Analysis of current roles and structures	This was completed in December 2013 and January 2014 to inform proposals to Schools' Forum	
	Staff Consultation and restructure	Formal consultation was undertaken with existing staff and ended in mid March 2014. All proposals from the consultation document have now been implemented. In particular, TAC Administrators are now managed as part of the Central TAC Team.	
	Recruitment and selection	Four Early Help Consultants, and a Senior TAC Administrator have been appointed in order to fulfil current service requirements.	
	Implementation of new staffing structure	The new structure was implemented from 1 st April 2014; and all staff will be in post by end April 2014.	
	Development of systems to enable access to additional services to Schools and Academies	Forms have been developed and distributed in a variety of ways to enable access to the new services. Adequate cover is in place pending all staff being in place	
Ensure targets and monitoring systems are in place	Agree targets with stakeholders	Agreed by Children's Services DMT, Schools Forum and EHSG.	
	Develop monitoring and reporting mechanisms	Systems are in place to produce regular performance information and analysis.	

Progress against Performance Targets				
<u>Performance Indicators</u>	<u>Baseline December 2013</u>	<u>Year 1 Target</u>	<u>Current Performance towards target</u>	<u>RAG</u> Red = below target Amber = some concern Green = on track to meet or exceed target
Number of TAC Initiations (per month)	222	25% increase		Green
TAC Active Cases (open at month end)	1094	25% increase		Green
Number of 'Step Downs' from Social Care to TAC (per month)	57	50% increase		Amber
Number of 'Step Ups' from TAC to Social Care	5	10% decrease		Amber

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Child Poverty Strategy
Overview and Update: CYPSP
07.04.14

Background

The Child Poverty Act (CPA) 2010

- ❖ Requirement for Central Government to produce a strategy every three years
- ❖ Establishment of Independent Child Poverty & Social Mobility Commission:
 - Role to assess Government progress against commitments in the plan
 - Aims to *"Ensure opportunities, income and life chances are widely available to as many people as possible"*

Central Government

- ❖ Commitment to end child poverty by 2020
- ❖ Existing target set in 1999
 - Cut in number of households with an income less than 60% of the median UK earnings
 - Unintended consequences?
 - Whether focus is on those closest to the 60% rather than those in deepest poverty

Role of Local Authorities

The CPA places specific duties on all Local Authorities to:

- ❖ Produce an assessment of the needs of children living in poverty in its area (Child Poverty Needs Assessment)
- ❖ Joint Child Poverty Strategy with relevant partners
- ❖ Co-operate with partners / other bodies to reduce child poverty and work to mitigate its effects

Comparison to Statistical Neighbours

Statistical Neighbour Authorities	Total Numbers of children in low income households	% of children in low income households
England	2,319,450	20.10%
East Midlands	179,245	18.40%
Nottinghamshire	27,700	17.00%
Lincolnshire	24,260	16.50%
Derbyshire	26,045	16.40%
Suffolk	22,280	15.10%
Worcestershire	17,735	15.00%
Dorset	9,865	12.70%
Northamptonshire	25,510	15.80%
Staffordshire	25,495	14.80%
Cumbria	14,485	14.90%

Comparison to East Midlands Authorities

East Midland Authorities	Total Numbers of children in low income households	% of children in low income households
England	2,319,450	20.10%
East Midlands	179,245	18.40%
Nottingham City	21,600	34.40%
Leicester City	24,250	30.00%
Derby City	13,660	23.70%
Nottinghamshire	27,700	17.00%
Lincolnshire	24,260	16.50%
Derbyshire	26,045	16.40%
Northamptonshire	25,510	15.80%
Leicestershire	15,655	11.60%
Rutland	565	8.00%

Comparison of Districts/Wards

District	Total Numbers of children in low income households for District	Highest Number of children in low income households for District (sum of LSOA 2011 data) Ward and Number	Lowest Number of children in low income households for District (sum of LSOA 2011 data) Ward and Number
Boston	2,440	Fenside 445	West Ward 10
East Lindsey	5,395	Scarborough Ward 350	Legbourne Ward 20
Lincoln	4,480	Birchward Ward 735	Carholme Ward 190
North Kesteven	2,465	Ruskington Ward 165	North Hykeham Forum 20
South Holland	2,645	Spalding St Pauls Ward 285	Spalding Castle Ward 35
South Kesteven	3,895	Earlesfield Ward 805	Witham Valley Ward 15
West Lindsey	2,965	Gainsborough East Ward 725	Sudbrooke Ward 20
Grand Total	24,285		

Lincolnshire's Strategy 2011-14

❖ Access:

- Reducing Digital Exclusion
- Transport Exclusion

❖ Economic:

- Communicating Welfare changes
- Maximise Family Income
- Tackling Fuel Poverty
- Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

❖ Aspiration:

- Skills Development
- Reduce Worklessness

Governance

- ❖ Agreed at Lincolnshire County Council's Executive
 - Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership
 - Satisfies partner co-operation
 - Strategic steer and expedition of any issues
 - Sub-Group
 - Key delivery partners, chaired by the Director of Public Health

Current Strengths

- ❖ **Strategy and Needs Assessment produced by LCC and Partners**
 - Links to LCC Early Intervention Strategy
 - Confirms the Universal Offer i.e. early help available to families
- ❖ **Recognises successful delivery through partnership**
 - Delivery model: each partner responsible for own projects
- ❖ **Review of strategy and action plan**
 - Fluidity, ensuring its success and continued relevance i.e. central government policies; welfare reform, latest consultation

Reality Check

- ❖ No additional funds from Central Government
 - Pre-existing strategic initiatives / cross cutting themes
 - Important to have a clear child poverty identity to avoid loss of focus

The Action Plan

- ❖ Approved by Children's DMT & Corporate Management Board
- ❖ Agreed at CYPSP October 2013

Ensuring successful delivery

- CYP Scrutiny Committee February 2014
 - Accountability: targets required, measurement of outcomes
 - Progress reports: each theme to be scheduled in on cyclical basis and update via 'accountable officer'
- Sub-Group - three workshops scheduled for 2014
 - Individual partner project action plans shared
 - Challenge; maintain ambition/focus; identify gaps in delivery actions/targets; avoid duplication; shared resources

The Workshops

❖ First Workshop – 24th March 2014

- Lincolnshire NHS Community Health
- Districts: ELDC & Boston
- Housing Renewal
- Education
- Public Health
- Transport
- Libraries
- Community Learning

March Workshop: Key Outcomes

- ❖ Action Plan – complete mapping exercise
- ❖ Review
- ❖ Raise Profile
- ❖ S.M.A.R.T
- ❖ Outcomes Focused – so what?
- ❖ Further consultation – ‘bottom up’ approach
- ❖ Embed within *all* policies and procedures

Next Steps

- ❖ Ensure robust mechanisms in place for monitoring and reporting of progress
- ❖ Strengthen Member's Involvement
- ❖ Identify central co-ordination of action plan/s:
 - Collation and analysis of outcomes
 - Resources
- ❖ Terms of Reference
 - Key aims and objectives of the group
 - Roles and responsibilities
- ❖ Risk Assessment
 - Identify and mitigate against risks to delivery
- ❖ Impact Assessment
 - Equality & Diversity of approach

Government Consultation 2014-17

- ❖ Supporting families into **work** and increasing their earnings,
 - ❖ **Improving living standards**, and
 - ❖ Preventing poor children becoming poor adults through their **educational attainment**
- Proposed two new targets
- Reduction in the educational attainment gap
 - Reduction of households with an income below 60% threshold for more than one year, *and*
 - At least one other problem such as entrenched worklessness

Thank you!

Anita King
Commissioning Officer

anita.king@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

REPORT

DATE OF MEETING:	7 th April 2014
SUBJECT:	Update on RPA and Vulnerable Learners
NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER:	Lynn Smith
CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:	07717 700558
CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS:	Lynn.smith@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Purpose

To provide CYPSP with the background in relation to Raising the Participation Age (RPA) and Vulnerable Learners and an update on progress.

Background

Under sections 15ZA and 18A of the Education Act 1996 (as inserted by the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009) local authorities have a duty to secure sufficient suitable education and training opportunities to meet the reasonable needs of young people in their area, and to make available to young people age 19 and below, support that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training (section 68, Education and Skills Act 2008).

The Education and Skills Act 2008, requires young people to participate in accredited learning until the end of the academic year in which they are 17 from September 2013 onwards and until they are at least 18 from September 2015 onwards. The age of compulsory school education remains unchanged. Young people will still be required to remain at school (including academies) until the end of the academic year in which they are 16. Lincolnshire County Council has specific responsibilities with regard to the implementation of RPA.

The 14-19 team is central to supporting young people 14-19 (25) to access high quality learning and employment opportunities through a range of different partnerships. The 14-19 teams role is to ensure young people's needs are met by working with providers to develop a range of provision which will support and empower them to achieve positive outcomes. However it should be noted that all schools, academies, FE colleges and other providers (including charitable and third sector providers), as autonomous organisations, have responsibility for designing and delivering their own programmes but will be expected to respond to the needs of individuals, employers and the Local Authority strategic overview.

The 14-19(25) Strategic Partnership, supported by local authority officers is the principal way by which the Local Authority consults with its partners about 14-19

(25) issues and works with them to support participation. The members contribute to the realisation of the agreed strategic priorities and contribute to the achievement of collective goals.

Currently 30% of the unemployed in Lincolnshire are from the 16 – 24 age bracket, compared to 25% nationally.

Current Performance

Participation

Participation remains good in Lincolnshire compared to regional and national averages and those of our statistical neighbours, and the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) remains relatively low.

Draft data shows that 94.6% of Lincolnshire young people are meeting the duty to participate compared to 93.9 % nationally and 94.4% regionally (Data source DFE).

The percentage of Looked after children age 16 (RPA cohort) in structured learning is **on target** at **86%** . The percentage of 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) is **4.3%** compared to target **3.5%**

(Data source: Aspire Feb 2014).

There has been an improvement in the proportion of young people progressing from year 12 to 13 in school sixth forms with the percentage of young people leaving at the end of year 12 falling from 21% in 2010/11 to 18% in 11/12.

Whilst the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) aged 16 and 17 remains fairly static, it is higher for 17 year olds and therefore this may become an issue in relation to RPA in 2015. Prioritising support to NEET 16 and 17 year olds by the careers service has had an impact. The unknowns at age 18 are high and may include some young people who are NEET.

There continues to be a need to increase the number and availability of level 3 programmes for those young people who have already achieved level 2 (over 40% of the NEET group) including progression opportunities in apprenticeships.

Young people from a range of vulnerable groups (learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, care leavers, teenage parents, those known to the youth offending team, those who have been eligible for free school meals) continue to be over-represented in NEET.

The Percentage of 16 – 19 year olds with learning difficulties and/or disabilities in education, employment and training is **94.7%** against a target of **92%**.

Performance is above target. Significant work has been undertaken to implement the Lincolnshire strategy for post 16 learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LLDD) with the result that there are more opportunities available for these young people to access learning close to where they live.

Attainment

Overall educational attainment of school pupils and post 16 students in Lincolnshire is generally above the national average and similar local authorities at all stages through from early years to that at age 19. However the good overall statistics do hide poor performance in relation to young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Overall attainment at level 3 at the age of 19 (55%) for Lincolnshire has fallen behind the national average (56%) for the first time in recent years, and the gap in attainment is growing and is much higher than nationally (32% compared to 24%). It is a similar picture at level 2 by the age of 19 (25% gap in Lincolnshire compared to 17% for England). The picture for level 2 including English and maths at age 19 is even worse with the gap being 35% compared to 27% nationally and 31% in similar authorities.

The measure that the Department of Education (DfE) use to identify children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds are those who are or have been eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years (referred to as FSM for the purposes of this paper). Currently the only data available is for 2012 and the preceding years, 2013 data will not be available until mid 2014 at the earliest.

Achievement Level by age 19	(%)	Those eligible for FSM (%)
Level 2	85	61
Level 3	55	25

(Data source DfE)

Lincolnshire has a lower than average proportion of children and young people who are known to be eligible for FSM, (19% or 19277 including 337 looked after children) although this is in line with similar authorities. Analysis at local authority level suggests that the gap is narrower in authorities with high proportions of FSM. FSM are more likely to have additional needs, attend a Special School or Pupil Referral Unit.

The gap in attainment is compounded after young people reach the statutory school leaving age. They are less likely to be in education or training post 16 (71% compared to 80%) and therefore, if they have not achieved level 2 including English and maths by the end of Key Stage 4, (those not participating) will not do so by age 19, nor will they achieve the level 3 qualifications required to enter higher education.

Closing the gap has been identified as a key priority for the Local Authority; CfBT are leading a project to address this across all age groups.

Areas of Success

Apprenticeships. There has been considerable success in promoting apprenticeships to schools, young people, parents/carers and businesses through LCC funding the work of the apprentice champions. The impact of the apprentice champions can be seen in the latest data on apprenticeship starts.

Lincolnshire continues to buck the national trend for 16 -18 year olds starting an apprenticeship as the numbers continue to rise (**up** by 5.1%) as opposed to a regional and national picture of falling numbers in this age bracket (a regional **decrease** of 4.9% and a national **decrease** of 11.6%). This is a result of: our investment in apprenticeship champions who work directly with employers and young people to increase the number of apprenticeship opportunities; our support for initiatives such as the 'Have a Go' events and World Skills; and the work with employers via colleagues in the economy directorate and with the Employment and Skills Board (ESB). In partnership with the economy directorate we held a 'Go for Growth' conference for senior leaders in schools to highlight the range of employment opportunities within the growth sectors across Lincolnshire.

Some progress has been made in increasing the proportion of advanced

apprenticeships (level 3) compared to intermediate (level 2). In the year April 2012 to April 2013 advanced apprenticeships were 30% of starts compared to 25% the previous year.

Lincolnshire County Council has developed a corporate youth employment Strategy; the Council currently employs 33 apprentices, 10 of whom are care Leavers.

As a result of work done with procurement Lincolnshire and Children's Service commissioning are piloting procurement arrangements for contracts for children's services that include the potential for suppliers to demonstrate added social value by supporting the post 16 education agenda.

Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities (LLDD). The Lincolnshire County Strategy for Post 16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and or Disabilities (LLDD) was officially launched in September 2012 with the key priority being to develop local provision for Post 16 LLDD to meet both their diverse needs and their aspirations for adult life within their own communities. This is an area of work where collaboration has been successful. There are 6 groups working across the county comprising of representatives from special schools, colleges of further education, independent specialist providers, independent training providers, learning disability advisers, welfare to work team, support organisations and parents / carers. These groups have brought about increased collaboration and cooperation between special schools, colleges and other post 16 providers facilitating improved transition between organisations, skills sharing, joint training opportunities and cost effective development and sharing of resources. As a result only six young people currently have to access residential provision to secure suitable provision.

In partnership with the welfare to work team and 3 of the 4 colleges in Lincolnshire (Lincoln, Grantham, and Boston) we are successfully piloting Supported Internships for LLDD. Two young people have already been offered an apprenticeship with Lincoln City Council and these started at the beginning of January. A further 2 have been offered paid jobs. 5 are still progressing well. The 14 – 19 team have successfully secured additional Education and Funding Agency (EFA) demographic growth capital funds to the value of £ 1.8 million to support the four colleges to develop further their facilities for LLDD.

Vulnerable Learners. The vulnerable learner group is a sub group of the 14 -19 strategic partnership, it brings together a range of partners with the aim is to ensure all young people in Lincolnshire who are deemed to be vulnerable are able and supported to access post 16 learning.

The Young People's Learning Provision at Earlsfield (LCCs own EFA funded provision for young people) delivers learning to a range of young people who have significant barriers to their participation. of the learners who have left 83% of them have moved on to a positive outcome, such as, employment, an Apprenticeship or Further Education. Study Programmes have been successfully implemented and they have commenced delivery of Traineeships to 16 – 24 year olds. From February YPLP will work in partnerships with Barnardos to deliver Study programmes across the County to Care Leavers.

Challenges

- A significant increase in the number of apprenticeship opportunities available will be required if the coalition government's ambition, that one in five young people will be studying an apprenticeship by 2020, is to be achieved. In

addition the assumption is that any additional places required to meet the requirements of RPA will be apprenticeships rather than additional places in schools sixth forms or colleges. As an apprenticeship requires an employment opportunity, this provides significant challenges given the current levels of youth unemployment opportunities generally. Currently 30% in Lincolnshire compared to 25% nationally.

- There is a need to increase the opportunities for young people to progress through from intermediate apprenticeships to advanced and higher levels if the apprenticeship is to be a real and plausible alternative to the academic route into higher education. The proportions of apprenticeships in specific sectors still do not reflect sufficiently the skills priorities for Lincolnshire.
- The introduction of Study programmes provides some real opportunities to create programmes that more effectively meet individual learner needs. However, there is an increased requirement for work experience for all of the programmes, which along with the needs for continued growth in apprenticeship places and the requirements for Department for Work and Pensions programmes for the jobless give some cause for concern that the demands on employers may be too great.
- Changes to the post 16 curriculum including the introduction of Study Programmes (which include the introduction of Traineeships and Supported Internships) which whilst providing some real opportunities to tailor programmes to better meet young people's and employer's specific needs, are challenging for some providers to deliver.
- The Children and Families Act requires the introduction of Education, Health and Care Plans, and an entitlement to personal budgets for those who are eligible from 2015 which will impact on the education of LLDD (16-25) learners.
- Retention in schools between year 12 and 13. There are some significant variations between schools (both grammar and comprehensive) with some schools retaining less than 60% of pupils into year 13.
- The impact of the continuing reduction in the number of young people in the 16-18 age bracket on school sixth form providers will make it increasingly difficult to recruit viable numbers.
- It is difficult to evaluate the impact of student finance on participation and attainment in post 16 education. Young people who have been eligible for free school meals are more likely to be affected by lack of finance, and these are the same young people who are failing to attain level 2 and level 3 at the age of 19 in line with their peers.
- Currently there is a mismatch between the skills being delivered within post 16 education and training and the forecasted economic growth sectors across Lincolnshire.

How can CYPSP help

Encourage/support the participation of all young people in post 16 education and training by providing opportunities for supported internships for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, traineeships, and wider work experience opportunities for post 16 learners

CYPSP to use its influence with its members promote opportunities for post 16 learners within their own organisations and partners.

CYPSP to engage the public sector in Lincolnshire which, as the largest employment sector in Lincolnshire, will be key to making opportunities for work

experience and work related learning opportunities available to young people. .

Through the CYPSP further investigate how providers of services in Lincolnshire can demonstrate added social value as required under the Social Value Act, by supporting young people to participate in post 16 learning.

Conclusion

There will be some significant challenges in the future, particularly around RPA, securing sufficient adequate provision and addressing the number of unknowns. These challenges are in the context of the development of an ever more diverse and complex range of providers including schools, academies, university technical college (UTC), independent commercial and charitable providers, colleges and potentially free schools, each of which are independent, autonomous organisations and other than the few remaining schools are outside the local authority's control. The increased competition, application of market forces and reduced funding will create risks to provision.

Analysis shows that there will be sufficient post 16 places available to meet the requirements of the extension of the duty to participate to the age of 18 from September 2014, although there will need to be continued growth in the availability of apprenticeship places.

However, there is still a need to alter the mix and balance of provision in order to better meet the needs of young people; in particular those with low attainment at age 16; those who find it difficult to participate due to a range of vulnerabilities; and those that are failing to participate beyond the age of 17.

If young people are to take advantage of the employment opportunities in Lincolnshire, it is important that the available curriculum takes into account the current and future skills needs of employers in the County and the plans for growth currently being developed by the LEP.

References

Strategic Priorities for 16 – 19 (25) Education and Training for 2014/15
Closing the Attainment Gap

Agenda Item 6



Children Young People's Strategic Partnership Performance Report (April 2014)

Last Refresh Date:
01/04/2014

Last Modification Date:
01/04/2014

Data Source:
Performance Plus & CS Performance Database

Contact Email:
performanceplus@lincolnshire.gov.uk

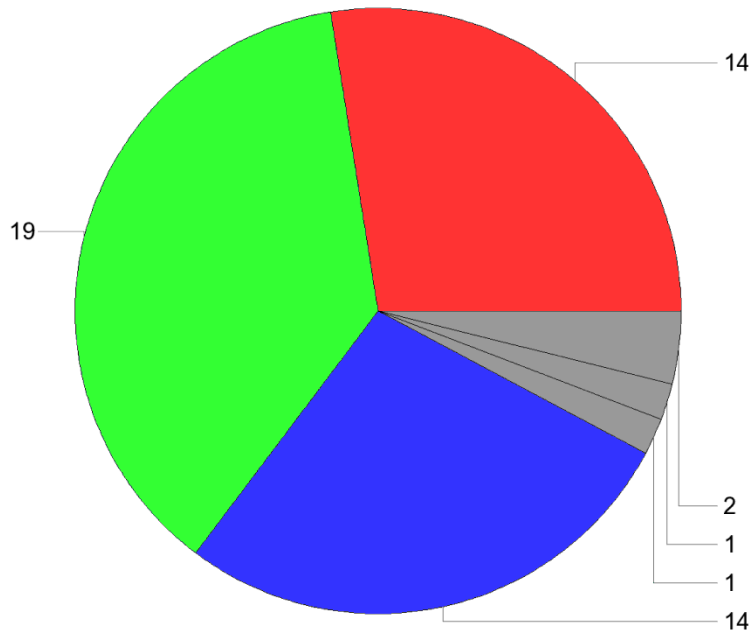
Data Protection Statement:

Not applicable: all data in this report is aggregated above child level.

Report Description:

This report contains performance and commentary for all indicators pertaining to the Children and Young People's Plan. The performance is then graded accordingly using the Performance Plus symbols.

Performance Summary



- Green - Better than target
- Blue - Within target tolerance
- Red - Worse than target
- Grey - Missing data: Please see below

RED DIAMOND (14)

Measure Name
2016SC: % of referrals to social care that are repeats, within 12 mths (QP7.1)
2023SC: No. subject to a CPP per 10,000 population <18
CS043: Primary School persistent absence rate
CS117: % 16-19 teenage mothers in EET
CS138: Progression by 3 levels in English between KS2 and KS4
CS144: The percentage of LAC with an up-to-date health check
CS160: Percentage of 16 to 18 year-olds whose situation is 'unknown' on Aspire
CS163: Progression by two levels in Reading between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
CS181: Percentage of Primary Birth Visits Done Within 14 Days
NI053i Percentage of infants being breastfed at 6-8 weeks (breastfeeding prevalence)
NI061 Timeliness and stability of adoption of looked after children
NI075 Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths
NI102ii Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers (KS4)
NI114 Rate of permanent exclusions from school

Performance Summary

RED DIAMOND (14)

GREEN PLUS (19)

Measure Name
CS118: % 16-19 LDD clients in EET
CS137: Percentage of pupils achieving the English Bacallaureate at KS4
CS141: Children's Centres Targeted Reach Achieved
CS148: Under 18 conception rate
CS155: No. CYP accessing at least one arts/music activity offered by LCC/LSIS
CS156: Number of full Duke of Edinburgh awards gained
CS161: Troubled families programme - number of families worked with
CS167: % of eligible two year-olds who are in receipt of their Early Years Entitlement
CS168: % of 16 year-olds participating in Learning (according to RPA)
CS178: Young People Not In Education, Employment or Training
CS182: Percentage of 6-8 Week Visits Completed Within Timescales.
NI062 Stability of placements of looked after children: number of moves
NI064 Child protection plans lasting 2 years or more
NI082 Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 in the Free School Meals Group
NI087 Secondary school persistent absence rate
NI100 Looked after children reaching level 4 in mathematics at Key Stage 2
NI102i Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers (KS2)
NI107gie %ge point gap KS2 level 4+ English & Maths - Any Other White Background
PAF C23 (BV163): Adoptions of LAC

BLUE CIRCLE (14)

Measure Name
CS014 Rate of fixed term exclusions
CS139: Progression by 3 levels in Maths between KS2 and KS4
CS162: Achievement at level 4 or above in both Reading, Writing and Maths at Key Stage 2 (threshold)
CS164: Progression by two levels in Writing between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
CS169: Achievement of Good Level of Development in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
CS177: % Academic aged 16 - Raising the Participation Age - LAC Participation in learning
CS179: Care Leavers In Suitable Accomodation
CS180: Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training

Performance Summary

BLUE CIRCLE (14)

Measure Name
NI063 Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement
NI079 Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19
NI080 Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19
NI094 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
NI101 Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at KS 4 (with English and Maths)
PAF B79: Fostering/adoption of LAC aged 10 to <16

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (1)

Measure Name
NI092 Narrowing the gap - lowest achieving 20% the Early Yrs Foundation Stage Profile vs the rest

NOT YET DUE (1)

Measure Name
CS158: The number of young people engaged in the National Citizen Service

MISSING DATA (2)

Measure Name
NI099 Children in care reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2
PAF C24: LAC absent from School

Healthy and Safe

Closing the Gap

NI063 Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement

Owner: John Harris

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			67.86			67.07			69.41			
Target			71			71			71			71
Symbol												

No Comments - Within Tolerance

-

Early Help

CS144: The percentage of LAC with an up-to-date health check

Owner: Tara Jones

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			89.4			89.8			90.5			
Target			96			96			96			96
Symbol			◆			◆			◆			■

Comments

Comment From: Tara Jones (Head of Service)

Performance in this quarter is 4.5% below target of which 1.72% are the young people who exercise their right to refuse a health assessment. These young people are within the 16 to 17 year age range. Difficulties continue with the availability of identified GP's to complete the assessments in a timely manner. This has been highlighted as a concern in the recent inspection of Health by the Care Quality Commission. An action plan is being drawn up by health to ensure a prompt response to both initial and review assessments. Existing social care procedures have been updated and circulated to all staff, to ensure that wherever a planned admission to care has been agreed, consent for a health assessments is sought prior to the child's placement. All Social Care Teams have a robust system in place and dedicated Business support personnel, to monitor performance. However, due to capacity issues with the vulnerable children's administrators, delays have been caused and paperwork has not been processed in a prompt manner. This is concerning and I have now been re-assured by the Lead nurse that this has improved.

NI061 Timeliness and stability of adoption of looked after children

Owner: Tara Jones

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			71.4			73.3			83.67			
Target			90			90			90			90
Symbol			◆			◆			◆			■

Comments

Comment From: Tara Jones (Head of Service)

There has been a pleasing rise in performance in this quarter. This is due to the increased number of children being adopted which offset a small number of older children, or those with complex health needs, who successfully achieve adoption but over longer timescales than is set out in the measure. The service could have changed these children's plans away from adoption, to permanent fostering and this would have taken them out of the cohort for this measure. However adoption remained the best option for these children and successful outcomes were achieved. Given the high number of links and adoption hearings coming up, it is anticipated that end of year performance will continue to improve, but will fall just below the target at 86%.

Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

NI062 Stability of placements of looked after children: number of moves

Owner: John Harris

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			0.85			2.63			6.45			
Target			8			8			8			8
Symbol			+			+			+			-

Comments

Comment From: John Harris (Head of Service)

the indicator is a cumulative one and at this point is within target . However there has been a marked deterioration in the past quarter at a time when numbers of children looked after have gradually risen. This has meant that some placements have not been effectively matched upon entry into care and is also indicative a small group of young people who struggle to cope within foster placements. It is also important to note that 9 of this group of 38 children have been successfully placed for adoption,4 of whom had previously been placed as a first placement in a parent and child foster placement.

Unfortunately, there is the potential for this indicator to deteriorate in the final quarter.

PAF B79: Fostering/adoption of LAC aged 10 to <16

Owner: John Harris

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			87.63			86.46			87.05			
Target			88			88			88			88
Symbol			●			●			●			-

No Comments - Within Tolerance

-

Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

PAF C23 (BV163): Adoptions of LAC

Owner: Tara Jones

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			3.8			10.19			15.82			
Target			3			6			9			12
Symbol			+			+			+			-

Comments

Comment From: Tara Jones (Head of Service)

Performance has exceeded the target for this quarter and is likely to continue to do so by the year end. This is due to effective management of timescales, links and timely adoption orders being granted. The adoption reform grant has assisted in increasing social work capacity and family finding activity, which is reflected in this quarter's figure. Performance in this area remains strong against regional and national comparators.

Overall Children and Young People Population

CS148: Under 18 conception rate

Owner: Marie Jarrett

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit:

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual									30.5			
Target									36			
Symbol									+			

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Provider)

Comments not yet received.

CS181: Percentage of Primary Birth Visits Done Within 14 Days

Owner: LCHS

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit:

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			91.2			92.5			92			
Target			95			95			95			95
Symbol			◆			◆			◆			■

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Provider)

Comments not yet received.





Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

CS182: Percentage of 6-8 Week Visits Completed Within Timescales.

Owner: LCHS

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit:

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			96.2			96.7			97.7			
Target			95			95			95			95
Symbol												

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Provider)

Comments not yet received.

Targeted Groups

2016SC: % of referrals to social care that are repeats, within 12 mths (QP7.1)

Owner: Jo Kavanagh

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			17.9			19.02			19.35			
Target			18			18			18			18
Symbol												

Comments

Comment From: Jo Kavanagh (Head of Service)





There has been a further increase in repeat referrals again this month. Since June when the re-referral rate was within target, total referrals have increased from 5699 to 6190 in December, re-referrals have also increased from 1018 in June to 1198 in December. Further exploration work is being undertaken within localities to ensure cases that are being stepped down appropriately and closed when needs are met.

2023SC: No. subject to a CPP per 10,000 population <18

Owner: Roz Cordy

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: Number per

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			26.2			22.3			25.84			
Target			20			20			20			20
Symbol												

Comments

Comment From: Roz Cordy (Head of Service)

There has been an increase in the number of children with a Child Protection Plan compared to October 2013 and is still above target. This is a difficult indicator to manage by target. The reasons can be several and combined; for example earlier recognition that children are suffering significant harm, cases being managed as child Protection rather than Child in Need, an increased number of large sibling groups and better recognition of harm by other agencies. However it should be noted that Lincolnshire's performance is still lower than both its statistical neighbours 34.7 (March 2012) and the all England average 37.8 (March 2012). It is likely that this rate will continue to be higher than the target rate with some fluctuations. Monitoring and auditing of Child Protection cases occurs on a monthly basis with team managers meeting with Case Conference Chairs to discuss individual cases and practise. Heads of service and assistant Directors, at the monthly performance meeting look at themes and trends.

Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

NI064 Child protection plans lasting 2 years or more

Owner: Roz Cordy

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			6.9			5.36			3.81			
Target			4			4			4			4
Symbol												

Comments

Comment From: Roz Cordy (Head of Service)

The number of children who have been on a child protection plan for two years or more has decreased as predicted. The number remains low. The cases are regularly reviewed on a multi agency basis to ensure the right intervention is being undertaken. Executive DMT recently requested a re3view of all the cases to ensure the right intervention is in place.

Learn and Achieve

Closing the Gap

NI102i Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers (KS2)

Owner: *Tim Culpin*

Polarity: *Smaller is Better*

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					15							
Target					18							
Symbol					+							

Comments

Comment From: Tim Culpin (Head Of Service)

The gap is closing and this remains a focus in 2014

NI102ii Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers (KS4)

Owner: *Tim Culpin*

Polarity: *Smaller is Better*

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					31							
Target					29							
Symbol					♦							

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Provider)

Comments not yet received.

Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

NI107gie %ge point gap KS2 level 4+ English & Maths - Any Other White Background

Owner: *Tim Culpin*

Polarity: *Smaller is Better*

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					4.8							
Target					19							
Symbol					+							

Comments

Comment From: Tim Culpin (Head of Service)

This is well above target and we are very pleased about this

Early Help

CS014 Rate of fixed term exclusions

Owner: John O'Connor Polarity: Smaller is Better Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					2.71							
Target					2.7							
Symbol					●							

No Comments - Within Tolerance

-

CS043: Primary School persistent absence rate

Owner: John O'Connor Polarity: Smaller is Better Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					3.9							
Target					3							
Symbol					◆							

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Provider)

Comments are currently being sought.

Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

NI087 Secondary school persistent absence rate

Owner: John O'Connor

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					6.6							
Target					7							
Symbol					+							

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Head of Service)

This comment was given before the release of final data. Comments currently being sought in light of final data.

It is expected that the end of year performance will not meet the original challenging target set, current estimates place performance at 7.4%. The majority of secondary schools are now academies over which the local authority has no jurisdiction. However, the inclusion and attendance team have introduced an annual challenge to all state-funded schools (maintained and academies) where persistent absence is high or where there are children identified at risk of missing education due to low attendance. Inadequate response/actions from all institutes will be challenged either through the local authority or the education funding agency.

NI114 Rate of permanent exclusions from school

Owner: John O'Connor

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					0.16							
Target					0.1							
Symbol					♦							

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Provider)

Comments currently being sought.

Overall Children and Young People Population

CS137: Percentage of pupils achieving the English Bacallaureate at KS4

Owner: *Tim Culpin*

Polarity: *Bigger is Better*

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					27.2							
Target					22							
Symbol					+							

Comments

Comment From: Tim Culpin (Head Of Service)

Achievement well above target and above national figure

CS138: Progression by 3 levels in English between KS2 and KS4

Owner: *Tim Culpin*

Polarity: *Bigger is Better*

Unit:

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					69							
Target					75							
Symbol					♦							

Comments

Comment From: Tim Culpin (Head Of Service)

National figure in 2013 was 70.4. This will continue to be a focus in 2014


Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

CS139: Progression by 3 levels in Maths between KS2 and KS4

Owner: Tim Culpin

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					72							
Target					73							
Symbol												

No Comments - Within Tolerance


-

CS155: No. CYP accessing at least one arts/music activity offered by LCC/LSIS

Owner: John O'Connor

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: Number

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual								19,134				
Target								12,500				
Symbol												

Comments

Comment From: John O'Connor (Head of Service)

There are no known issues with achieving this performance at the end of the year.

CS156: Number of full Duke of Edinburgh awards gained

Owner: Jo Kavanagh

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: Number

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			162			408			881			
Target			250			500			750			1,000
Symbol												

Comments

Comment From: Jo Kavanagh (Head of Service)

The numbers of young people engaged in Duke of Edinburgh continues to increase year on year and this increase in performance reflects the positive experience it offers and the high demand for the programme.

CS158: The number of young people engaged in the National Citizen Service

Owner: Jo Kavanagh

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: Number

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual												
Target												500
Symbol												

No Comments


-

CS162: Achievement at level 4 or above in both Reading, Writing and Maths at Key Stage 2 (threshold)

Owner: Tim Culpin

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					76							
Target					76							
Symbol												

No Comments - Within Tolerance

-

NI075 Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths

Owner: Tim Culpin

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					61.8							
Target					65							
Symbol												

Comments

Comment From: Tim Culpin (Head Of Service)

Although below target, Lincolnshire was again above the national figure in 2013. We will continue to provide schools with support and challenge through the Education Advisers and to have discussions with academies when there is a cause for concern.

Targeted Groups

NI099 Children in care reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2

Owner: Karen Bailey

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual												
Target					35							
Symbol					?							

Comments

Comment From: Karen Bailey (Head of Service)

The keystage 2 provisional results for maths exceeded the target set at 35%. A target was set for English but this is no longer measured. It is now split into reading and writing. In reading the percentage achieved exceeded the target set for English and in writing it was within tolerance. To achieve 5A*-C including English and maths a foundation of level 4B+ is needed at the end of KS2. This cohort will eventually be working on GCSE exams with less teacher assessed work and modular exams. The majority of their courses will be final exams after two years study.

The cohort will need support through use of the pupil premium and LACES intervention throughout their secondary education in order to make continued progress and achieve under the new system. Home tuition started in year 6 is continuing in year 7. Young people in this cohort have had Letterbox Parcels in their year 3, year 5 and will receive them again in year 7. The Letterbox Club was highlighted in Education Matters in Care (2012) as good practice.

NI100 Looked after children reaching level 4 in mathematics at Key Stage 2

Owner: Karen Bailey

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					62							
Target					35							
Symbol					+							

Comments

Comment From: Karen Bailey (Head of Service)

The keystage 2 provisional results for maths exceeded the target set at 35%. A target was set for English but this is no longer measured. It is now split into reading and writing. In reading the percentage achieved exceeded the target set for English and in writing is was within tolerance. To achieve 5A*-C including English and maths a foundation of level 4B+ is needed at the end of KS2. This cohort will eventually be working on GCSE exams with less teacher assessed worked and modular exams. The majority of their courses will be final exams after two years study.

The cohort will need support through use of the pupil premium and LACES intervention throughout their secondary education in order to make continued progress and achieve under the new system. Home tuition started in year 6 is continuing in year 7. Young people in this cohort have had Letterbox Parcels in their year 3, year 5 and will receive them again in year 7. The Letterbox Club was highlighted in Education Matters in Care (2012) as good practice.

NI101 Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at KS 4 (with English and Maths)

Owner: Karen Bailey

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					16.2							
Target					16							
Symbol					●							

Comments

Comment From: Karen Bailey (Head of Service)

The KS4 target for 5A*-C GCSE including English and maths was set at 16% based on detailed knowledge of the cohort and using Fischer Family Trust (FFT) data model B and from Teacher Assessment indicating the levels achieved in core subjects. This process also considered their attendance, behaviour, attitude as reported by the Designated Teacher in school, social worker or carer. The percentage achieving the required level was 16.2% and is within tolerance of the target. These young people have moved onto post 16 education placements or employment with learning with continued support available on an individual level from LACES

Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

PAF C24: LAC absent from School

Owner: Karen Bailey

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual												
Target						2						
Symbol						?						

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Provider)

Data not yet published - will be taken from DfE figures when available.

Ready for Adult Life

Closing the Gap

NI082 Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 in the Free School Meals Group

Owner: Maggie Freeman

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					65							
Target					63							
Symbol					+							

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Provider)

Comments not yet received.

NI102ii Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers (KS4)

Owner: Tim Culpin

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					31							
Target					29							
Symbol					♦							

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Provider)

Comments not yet received.

Early Help

CS160: Percentage of 16 to 18 year-olds whose situation is 'unknown' on Aspire

Owner: Maggie Freeman

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			10.97			40.24			14.71			
Target			10			30			9			8
Symbol			♦			♦			♦			■

Comments

Comment From: Maggie Freeman (Head of Service)

The significant underperformance relates to 18 year olds. The DfE decided that they were no longer able to share UCAS data regarding students entering higher education with us. It is difficult to contact these young people as most of them will in fact have moved address in order to take up a university place. Our performance in relation to 16 and 17 year olds compares well with national data due to a decision to prioritise those groups to ensure we meet our statutory duties in relation to Raising the Participation Age. We have recently secured additional resource to focus on 18 year olds which will assist us to improve performance. The HE data will remain an issue.

CS161: Troubled families programme - number of families worked with

Owner: Jo Kavanagh

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: Number

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			616			716			938			
Target			457			548			693			892
Symbol			+			+			+			■

Comments

Comment From: Jo Kavanagh (Head of Service)

This over performance is positive and demonstrates that we have made more progress than expected at this stage in the 3 year programme.

Overall Children and Young People Population

CS168: % of 16 year-olds participating in Learning (according to RPA)

Owner: Maggie Freeman

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			91.47			68.05			94.55			
Target			87			87			87			94
Symbol			+			◆			+			-

Comments

Comment From: Maggie Freeman (Head of Service)

Significant work has taken place to ensure young people, parents, schools and other partners were made aware of the new duty to participate in learning. The careers service prioritised work to support young people not in education and training at age 16 and 17, and as a result performance is above target.

CS178: Young People Not In Education, Employment or Training

Owner: Maggie Freeman

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			3.27			2.56			3.33			
Target			3.5			3.5			3.5			3.5
Symbol			+			+			+			-

Comments

Comment From: Maggie Freeman (Head of Service)

Performance is better than target and compares well with national data. This is a result of the careers service work to support NEET young people into learning. However, the high level of unknowns at age 18 may include some NEET, and therefore an improvement in the unknown target may result in an increase in NEET for this age group.

Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

NI079 Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19

Owner: Maggie Freeman

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					85.2							
Target					85							
Symbol					●							

No Comments - Within Tolerance

-

NI080 Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19

Owner: Maggie Freeman

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					56.5							
Target					57							
Symbol					●							

No Comments - Within Tolerance

-

Targeted Groups

CS117: % 16-19 teenage mothers in EET

Owner: Marie Jarrett

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			31.11			22.22			16.67			
Target			27			27			27			27
Symbol			+			◆			◆			—

Comments

Comment From: Marie Jarrett (Head of Service)

The Teenage Pregnancy Steering Group has highlighted this target as a key area of concern and efforts are being made across partnership agencies to improve the recording of data to identify young parents with an individual circumstance of either NEET/EET. An agreement has been reached with midwifery services to notify the TP team of new pregnancies and births across the county to improve the accuracy of the data recorded. The new Co-ordinator post- Teenage Parents will work with key partners to identify and improve the recording of data and ensure a support offer is in place to young women who are pregnant and teenage parents

CS118: % 16-19 LDD clients in EET

Owner: Maggie Freeman

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			86.7			73.32			94.69			
Target			90			70			92			94
Symbol			◆			+			+			—

Comments

Comment From: Maggie Freeman (Head of Service)

Significant work has been undertaken to implement the Lincolnshire Strategy for Post 16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities which has resulted in improved availability, quality and range of opportunities for these young people in locations close to where they live.




Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

CS177: % Academic aged 16 - Raising the Participation Age - LAC Participation in learning

Owner: Maggie Freeman

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			75			36.36			85.42			
Target			84			65			86			87
Symbol												

No Comments - Within Tolerance




-

CS179: Care Leavers In Suitable Accomodation

Owner: John Harris

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			90.48			88			89.84			
Target			90			90			90			
Symbol												

No Comments - Within Tolerance




-

CS180: Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training

Owner: John Harris

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			61.27			66			64.76			
Target			65			65			65			
Symbol												

No Comments - Within Tolerance

-

Ready for School

Closing the Gap

CS163: Progression by two levels in Reading between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

Owner: *Tim Culpin*

Polarity: *Bigger is Better*

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					90							
Target					92							
Symbol					♦							

Comments

Comment From: Tim Culpin (Head Of Service)

The Lincolnshire figure did decrease by 1% from 91 in 2012 to 90 in 2013, however here was a drop in the national figure by 2% from 90 to 88. Lincolnshire remains 2% above national and above all its statistical neighbours and improved its national ranking from 35th in 2012 to 30th in 2013.

CS164: Progression by two levels in Writing between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

Owner: *Tim Culpin*

Polarity: *Bigger is Better*

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					93							
Target					92							
Symbol					●							

No Comments - Within Tolerance

-


Performance Report - Quarter 3 2013/14

NI092 Narrowing the gap - lowest achieving 20% the Early Yrs Foundation Stage Profile vs the rest

Owner: Stephanie Douglas

Polarity: Smaller is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					29.6							
Target												
Symbol												

Comments

Comment From: Richard Porter (Data Availability)


No target set due to change of assessment framework mid-year.

NI094 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

Owner: Tim Culpin

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					89							
Target					90							
Symbol												

No Comments - Within Tolerance

-

Early Help

CS167: % of eligible two year-olds who are in receipt of their Early Years Entitlement

Owner: Stephanie Douglas Polarity: Bigger is Better Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual						79.4			93.2			
Target			70			75			80			85
Symbol			?			●			+			■

Comments

Comment From: Stephanie Douglas (Head of Service)

By 15 January 2014, 1183 (93.29%) from the target cohort of 1268 children had been allocated places and an additional 568 children had been placed from the increase to 40% 2014 criteria. This puts Lincolnshire in an advantageous position, by developing and implementing strategies early, in order to achieve the target to fund 40% of the most disadvantaged children by September 2014.

NI053i Percentage of infants being breastfed at 6-8 weeks (breastfeeding prevalence)

Owner: LCHS Polarity: Bigger is Better Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			37.1			38.2			40.2			
Target			42.4			42.4			42.4			42.4
Symbol			◆			◆			◆			■

Comments

Comment From: Tony McGinty (Head of Service)

The maintenance of breast feeding at 6-8 weeks of age remains below target, and low in comparison to national benchmarks. This has traditionally been a difficult target on which to improve performance in Lincolnshire and some gains earlier in the year have levelled off. This is largely due to the over-dependence on a small number of infant feeding staff to support the whole midwifery system to secure more breast feeding. The sickness of one worker has therefore contributed disproportionately to performance in this area. We are reviewing this model to move to a more sustainable one as well as piloting the use of volunteer breast feeding peer supporters to increase the overall level of support to mothers and babies.

Overall Children and Young People Population

CS169: Achievement of Good Level of Development in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Owner: *Stephanie Douglas*

Polarity: *Bigger is Better*

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual					65							
Target					65							
Symbol					●							

Comments

Comment From: Steph Douglas (Head of Service)

There was no target set in advance for this performance indicator as the measurement relates to new statutory assessment criteria introduced in 2013. The target figure is the actual outcome of 65%. Early data collection information indicates that Lincolnshire outcomes of 65% are above the current Local Authority average of 51%. These figures will be confirmed in the 2013 Autumn Statistical Release from the DFE.

Targeted Groups

CS141: Children's Centres Targeted Reach Achieved

Owner: Cornelia Andrecut

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit:

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			69.9			78			79.9			
Target			75			75			75			75
Symbol			◆			+			+			—

Comments

Comment From: Cornelia Andrecut (Head of Service)

Performance has improved since last quarter and stands at 79.90% (which is 4.9% over the target of 75%). It is expected that this will continue to improve as all locality teams actively work on improving this target and they receive support from the Children's Centres Hub and Performance Assurance Team to ensure the information is accurately captured and reported. Localities actively work on increasing participation and engagement and ensuring that Lincolnshire families are able to access all the early childhood services they need through children's centres.

PAF C23 (BV163): Adoptions of LAC

Owner: Tara Jones

Polarity: Bigger is Better

Unit: %

	30/04/13	31/05/13	30/06/13	31/07/13	31/08/13	30/09/13	31/10/13	30/11/13	31/12/13	31/01/14	28/02/14	31/03/14
Actual			3.8			10.19			15.82			
Target			3			6			9			12
Symbol			+			+			+			—

Comments

Comment From: Tara Jones (Head of Service)

Performance has exceeded the target for this quarter and is likely to continue to do so by the year end. This is due to effective management of timescales, links and timely adoption orders being granted. The adoption reform grant has assisted in increasing social work capacity and family finding activity, which is reflected in this quarter's figure. Performance in this area remains strong against regional and national comparators.

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Lincolnshire Play Strategy and Policy

2014-2016

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Summary

Content to be added

Director of Children's Services and Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

First Draft

What is our vision for play in Lincolnshire?

Underpinning the strategy is Lincolnshire County Council's recognition that play is the single most important factor in a child's development. It is also a basic human right as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The right for children and young people to play is proclaimed in Article 12 and 31 of the Convention to which the United Kingdom is a signatory.

On 1 February 2013 the UNCRC announced the adoption of a 'General Comment' which reaffirms its commitment to children's play, emphasising the importance of Article 31 and clearly defining the responsibilities of governments. It also puts an emphasis on the role of unstructured or 'free' play which is facing increasing challenges.

Article 31 recognises;

- The right of children to rest and leisure, to play and recreational activities.
- To respect and promote the right of children to fully participate in cultural and artistic life.
- To provide appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activity.

Children's right to play is further supported by Article 12 (right to be consulted), Article 13 (right to freedom of expression) and Article 15 (right to freedom of association and assembly)

Aims of the strategy

The Lincolnshire play strategy aim is that

Every child and young person in Lincolnshire has the right to safe, accessible and exciting places to play that reflect the needs of the local community and empowers them for life.

Lincolnshire County Council's commitment to play in this strategy ensures that they and all agencies and organisations are working together under shared principles to achieve positive outcomes for children and young people in the County.

The strategy draws together lots of services in the County under common aims for play, will encourage them to adopt the strategy and recognise the contribution that quality play experiences can make to the broader aims of the Children and Young Peoples' Plan and its linked policies and strategies.

Barriers to play - challenges

Survey evidence undertaken for the strategy in 2010 from the districts and the public nationally through the National Playday survey in 2013 is that there are still barriers to play for children;

- Concerns about traffic, stranger danger and bullying
- Intolerant neighbours
- Parents fear they will be judged if they let their children out to play unsupervised
- Lack of time to play for children because of other commitments such as clubs and activities
- Parents don't value open access unsupervised play
- The increasingly formal school day places pressure on free play
- Lack of inclusive play spaces
- Lack of dedicated community spaces
- Increasingly play provision has a cost such as holiday activities, child care

What are benefits of a Strategy for Play to Lincolnshire

- To have a clear vision and understanding of why play matters and what good play provision looks like.
- Since coalition Lincolnshire is one of the few local authorities to continue to support and advocate for play through its play forum involving 7 districts and partners and the play strategy
- Decisions made that affect children and young people's play opportunities such as transport, planning, parks and open spaces will work to the values and principles of the play strategy facilitating improved partnership working.
- To give children, young people and their families a voice in the kind of play services they would like to see.
- Recognise the important contribution play services make to the wider local agenda for children, young people, families and communities
- Prioritise play needs so as to take maximum advantage of funding opportunities when they become available
- Improve children and young people's opportunities to quality play experiences and opportunities to experience risk

The meaning of 'play' and why it is important

The term 'play' within the Play Strategy describes what children and young people do when they follow their own ideas and interests in their own way and for their own reasons.

Playing is a primary need for children, closely linked to their innate need to express themselves, to explore, learn about and make sense of their world.

Play allows children to move naturally through each stage of their development. It helps them to learn what they cannot be taught.

The benefits of play derive from children choosing and doing it for them. The adult role in play provision is to enable rather than to direct.

The key characteristics of play are fun, uncertainty, challenge, flexibility and non-productivity. Together, these factors contribute to the enjoyment it produces and the consequent incentive to continue to play.

Older children and teenagers tend not to use the terms 'play' or 'playing' about themselves. But they have a similar need for places to go where they can enjoy their own informal recreational time and things to do that reflect their own social and cultural lives.

"We don't say we are playing but I suppose any time we are just doing stuff we like is playing, hanging about with mates, kicking a ball about – anything really where we can do what we want."

Why play matters for children and young people - what they think

"Play is what I do when everyone else has stopped telling me what to do"

"Play is fun. Play is making a mess and being with my friends. When it's playtime I can run and be noisy instead of being quiet. I like messing about with my mates and no one telling me what to do."

"Play makes me happy."

"I get to play with awesome things and it takes the stress away if you are mardy after school"

(Children in Lincolnshire attending play ranger sessions)

The scope of the Lincolnshire Play Strategy and this guidance document encompasses the informal, freely chosen leisure and recreational activities of all children and young people and does not prescribe age ranges on the understanding that all children need and like to play and benefit from doing so.

Definition of playwork - how can adults make Play better

Playwork is the provision by adults of an environment and opportunities that enable children and young people to engage in play. These opportunities support and enhance social, physical, intellectual, cultural, creative and emotional development.

A common misconception is that playwork is easy, unskilled work. Playwork is a complex discipline requiring highly skilled workers who need to be trained.

Playworkers choose an intervention style that enables children and young people to extend their play. They need to balance risk with the developmental benefit and well being of children.

The values and principles that inform Lincolnshire's decisions about play

Children and young people must be central to the process and their needs, opinions and reactions taken into account.

There must be consultation and development at all stages and children and young people must see the connection between our policies and what is actually going to happen in practice.

Children and young people's control of their own play activity is a crucial factor in enriching their experience and enhancing their development. Play provision will be based on the principle of empowering children and increasing their choices.

Play empowers children and young people; it affirms and supports their right to make choices, allowing them to discover their own solutions and to develop at their own pace.

All children and young people have a right to be able to have access to play environments that are challenging but safe.

Play should offer children and young people opportunities to extend their exploration and understanding of the wider world and therefore physical, social and cultural settings beyond their immediate experience.

Adults and children involved in play should always promote equality of opportunity and access for all children and young people and seek the development of anti-discriminatory practice and positive attitudes to those who are disadvantaged.

Play opportunities should always be provided within the current legislative framework relevant to children and young people's rights, their health, safety and well being.

Free play

There are many types of Play Provision both supervised and unsupervised. The focus of this Strategy is “Free” play. The Play Partnership believes that the best Play opportunities are free to access, free of charge and most important of all freely chosen

Where does play take place?

Play does not just occur in designated play areas and specific clubs or schemes. Play can and does happen almost anywhere that children and young people have the free time to choose their own activities. Play happens on street corners, school playing fields, homes, gardens, grass verges, afterschool clubs, youth clubs, parks, woods, town centres and in fact almost anywhere children and young people have space and freedom to Play. Play takes place on journeys between locations and is not just restricted to designated areas.

Why play is vital to our children and young people – the case for Play

What do we mean by all children?

We believe that all children have the same fundamental right to quality play opportunities regardless of culture, ethnic background, disability, learning difficulties, gender and social/economic circumstances. We also recognise the rights of children who are looked after and young carers, children who may be fulfilling the role of a carer in their family. When we talk about all children we mean that all children will be listened to and involved in the planning of play opportunities that meet their individual needs.

Diversity

Increasing diversity in the County makes it essential that the Play Strategy meets the needs of all children. By making sure that key agencies are part of the partnership we constantly strive to address the needs of all children, including those who may be hard to reach. Equality of Play for all children is a core belief of the Play Partnership. The Play Strategy strives at all time to adhere to the Social Model of Disability which means that disabled children and young people do not have a disability; rather they are disabled by society's failure to provide for their individual needs.

The value and significance of play for children and young people

The Children Act 2004 places a duty on local authorities and their 'relevant partners' to cooperate in the making of arrangements to improve well-being for local children. The *Every Child Matters (ECM) outcomes framework* is still relevant, and the five outcomes set out by the framework reflect areas where children can be supported to achieve more.

Play is fundamental to these areas and contributes to development in complex and comprehensive ways.

- Being Healthy
- Staying Safe
- Enjoying and Achieving
- Making a Positive Contribution
- Economic Well-being

Being Healthy

Walking and playing provide children with more physical activity than most other events. And encouraging children to be out of the house will increase their physical activity¹ Play is recognised in a number of DOH reports² for the contribution it makes to improving children's fitness, health and emotional well being. It also develops essential life skills such as teamwork and co-ordination, providing a basis for participation in sport and a diversionary activity for young people from alcohol and drugs.

Staying Safe

Play is a key element in children learning to appreciate, assess and take calculated risks, which is fundamental to the development of confidence and abilities in childhood. Children seek out opportunities for risk-taking and it is the responsibility of play provisions to respond with exciting and stimulating environments that balance risks appropriately³. Good play provision can reduce anti social behaviour and support safer neighbourhoods.

Enjoying and Achieving

Learning through play contributes to problem solving, language and literacy skills and children develop self-esteem and a positive outlook on life through the enjoyment of play.

Play complements schooling by providing an opportunity for children and young people to review, absorb and give personal meaning to what they learn in formal education settings. All too often the emphasis has been on the achieving aspect of this outcome whereas play focuses on the enjoyment factor with achievement being a secondary benefit. Outcomes based on the enjoyment and quality of experience is almost universally fulfilled by positive play experiences.

Making a Positive Contribution

Play empowers children and young people with community skills and confidence to participate in decision making around play services and delivery and is relevant for school councils, youth forums and youth parliament and peer mentoring schemes in schools.

Achieve Economic Well Being

Play is a primary factor in a child's self esteem which can directly affect their ability to achieve economic well being in later life. Also through play basic social inclusion and economic skills are learnt

1 Mackett Roger Professor 2004, Making children's lives more active Centre for Transport Studies University College London (publisher) 2004

2 Department of Health Choosing health ; making health choices easier, Stationary Office (publisher) 2004

3 National Playing Fields Association, Children's Play Council, Playlink 2000 Best Play Department For Culture Media and Sport 2000

Why play matters for families and communities

There is growing awareness by parents of the importance of play and the need for better access to play opportunities particularly outdoors. The National Playday survey 2011 and the rethinking childhood survey evidence growing parental concern about children's health, well being and quality of life.

Work in Lincolnshire with New Linx Housing Association is a good case study example of how play;

- Families benefit from healthier, happier children
- Promotes community cohesion and pride in the community
- Diversionsary and positive activities in the holidays
- Makes children more visible in public spaces and more likely to use them where there is good play provision
- Brings children and parents and community members together to play
- Promotes community safety and supports self reliance
- More opportunities for them to be engaged in conversations about local services such as children's centres and for these providers to access new users to support better health and wellbeing
- Promotes opportunities for volunteering, learning and training
- Brings the community together to access funding for play provision

88% of parents say that children playing out helps families to get to know each other in the community

81% of adults believe that children playing outside helps improve community spirit

(Play England Playful Communities)

'Every parent understands the importance of a secure environment for their children. Spaces where they can play...where different generations can meet, binding the community together.'

(Nick Clegg, 2010)

What has informed this plan?

The need for a revised strategy

There has been a play strategy for Lincolnshire since 2006 and each of the 7 districts has also had their own play policies and strategic aims and objectives for play.

Play developments across the County were supported through play pathfinder money to build 22 new and exciting play sites and many free local and accessible play opportunities through the Big Lottery Fund through the children's play initiative.

Since the coalition government took office in 2010 the comprehensive spending review and subsequent austerity reforms have dramatically affected the government policy and resourcing of play.

The 10 year Big Lottery play programme strategy led by Play England to make neighborhoods, streets and green spaces safer and more suited for children's healthy outdoor play has been dropped.

Money previously ring-fenced for extended services has been given back to schools.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) has been rebranded as the Department for Education (DfE), emphasis has shifted to educational achievement and the terminology around the Every Child Matters agenda and 'the five outcomes' has changed to "help children achieve more"

This makes for challenging times for children's play and play related services. The need for a revised strategy is therefore necessary to underpin the county's clear commitment to play and its contribution to deliver children, family and community services.

Positive outcomes to date

In 2009 Lincolnshire received £1,136,805 of Playbuilder funding delivering 29 new and significantly improved play sites.⁴

£1,548,421 funding was also received from the Big Lottery's children's play initiative programme to fund free, open access play opportunities for children and young people across the county. Over sources of revenue for play came through WREN, Section 106, community grants, PCT and Youth Capital Fund.

Lincolnshire has a Children and Young People's Plan for 2013–2016. This identifies commitments to enhance aspiration and well-being so that every child in every part of the County should achieve their potential and play can contribute to the outcomes.

⁴ *The Play Strategy World Class Places (HMG, 2009)* set out the former Government's vision for improving quality of place. It emphasised the importance of green infrastructure and advocated the benefits of outdoor play and everyday interaction with nature, setting out expectations on this for public and open space planning and housing developments.

The Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP) reflect these commitments within plans for spatial and community development and the infrastructure that supports it.

Backed by £235,000,000 of dedicated investment for local play facilities funding was allocated through the BIG lottery programme to 30 play pathfinder and 122 Playbuilder authorities in England. By 2011 there were 3,000 new or refurbished, free play areas and at least 30 fully staffed adventure playgrounds or play parks.

They enable children and their families to take an active role in the development of local play provision and the design of neighbourhoods is relevant to local councils' duty to cooperate with partners and across services, and the duty to involve and empower communities.

The Lincolnshire Play forum partnership continues to run and all 7 districts are members supporting play and play initiatives across the whole County at district town and village levels and it also include the involvement of voluntary organisations.

The Lincolnshire Play Forum

In order to really make a difference to children and young people's lives, all 7 districts and several organisations in Lincolnshire have joined forces to create the Lincolnshire Play Forum. These organisations share a single common goal of making life better for the children and young people of Lincolnshire. The creation of the Lincolnshire Play Forum has been a positive way of supporting and sharing play information, helping to develop policy in a non-coercive and sustainable way.

The work of the group since coalition continues so whilst the climate is now radically different and play is polarized and isolated, we are encouraged that the forum is still engaged with the Government and the officers who work for Government. Our links through other regional associations and Play England remain pivotal in shaping play policy and direction nationally. The group is also not limited to its current members. Anyone who shares the common goals and agrees to the statements and policies within this document is welcome to join the group and help move Play forward in Lincolnshire

List of Play Partnership Organisations

Active Nation
Boston Borough Council
Children's Links
City of Lincoln Council
Community Links
East Lindsey District Council
Family Places
Gainsborough Adventure Playground Association
Hartsholme Cricket Club
Home Start
Leisure Connection
Lincolnshire County Council
Lincolnshire Sports Partnership
NHS Lincolnshire
New Linx Housing Association
North Kesteven District Council

South Holland District Council
South Kesteven District Council
West Lindsey District Council

Play policy context - National

Nick Hurd MP⁵ at the Cabinet Office has taken a personal interest in the play sector. He recognizes the cross cutting nature of play and the contribution it could make to the development and resilience of children, he sees the role of play bringing communities together and raising the wellbeing of families and their children.

Play England was part of the Free Time Consortium (FTC), as are Children's Links on behalf of Lincolnshire; a collective of local and specialist organisations working together to increase freedom to play successfully. With Social Action Fund money from the Cabinet Office they have created 1,200,000 million play opportunities, and recruited over 47,000 volunteers.

Projects have seen children and young people who are healthier and more active, families that feel more confident to let their children play out and communities that value play.

Children's Act 2004

This requirement to support children's play and young people's recreation was underpinned by Section 10 of the Children Act 2004, which placed a duty on the local authority and their partners to cooperate to improve outcomes for children and young people through the *Every Child Matters* outcomes framework

The role of Children's Commissioner currently Maggie Atkinson, was created by the Children Act 2004 and is there to promote the views of children and young people.

Initiatives such as National Take Over Day and the comments on article 31 of the UN Convention for Children's Rights ensure that adults listen to children and uphold young people's rights to play and recreation as being essential to children's health and well-being.

Children and young person's act 2008

Content to be added

Play and health

Play is one of the most effective ways to keep children active and healthy, and research provides convincing evidence of the benefits of play for mental health. Play is an important part of the children and young people's health strategy, *Healthy lives, brighter futures*.

⁵ Conservative, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Charities, Social Enterprise and Volunteering at the Cabinet Office

Tackling obesity is a national priority in the NHS. The cross-government strategy *Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives* and the Department of Health guidance, *Be Active, Be Healthy* promote the importance of play in children's lives.

Play4Life training courses in Lincolnshire supports parents, carers and volunteers with children aged 0-5 years on how to play both indoors and outdoors, creating games and resources at home, low cost play and local activities, including advice on healthy eating and nutrition.

Play and the environment

Children being visible in neighborhoods are an indicator for stronger communities and support healthier lifestyles for families.

Statutory guidance through the local authority transport plan promotes the integration of transport with wider corporate priorities at a local level such as encouraging active lifestyles and improving road safety. It gives a high priority to the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and users of public spaces and supports more child-friendly travel for safe routes to school and play spaces.

The culture of seeing streets simply as a means of providing for traffic, to one of emphasising their community and place function has been evident through lowering speed limits and street play schemes that close off streets to provide improved play opportunities for children particularly in urban high density areas.

The strategy recognises that children want to play "freely" in all kinds of spaces that are not always designated for play. This includes woods, forest play and natural play and other assets some have been mapped and identified as spaces and opportunities for play or if not mapped looking at ways in which they could be promoted.

Planning and housing policy guidance

National planning guidance explicitly recognises the need for dedicated outdoor space for play and recreation. Local authorities assess the needs and opportunities for different types of open space and recreational facilities, including play space for children. Section 106 interest has been used more judiciously to develop neighborhood play areas rather than very local play areas across Lincolnshire where it can be match funded to benefit the most people.

In Lincolnshire Play forum members are using guidance from Design for Play which sets out the principles for creating imaginative, innovative, and stimulating play spaces. The criteria suggest what good play spaces might look like and how they can be evaluated.

Play provision should provide opportunities for:

A varied and interesting physical environment

Examples: Things at different levels, spaces of different sizes, places to hide, trees and bushes as well as things that have been made, places to inspire mystery and imagination.

Challenge in relation to the physical environment

Examples: activities which test the limits of capabilities, rough and tumble, sports and games, chase.

Playing with the natural elements - earth, water, fire, air

Examples: campfires, digging, playing snowballs, flying kites.

Movement - e.g. running, jumping, rolling, climbing, balancing

Examples: beams and ropes, soft mats, bike riding, juggling equipment, ladders, space

Manipulating natural and fabricated materials

Examples: materials for art, cooking, making and mending of all kinds; building dens; making concoctions; using tools; access to bits and pieces of all kinds.

Stimulation of the five senses

Examples: music making, places where shouting is fine, quiet places, different colours and shapes, dark and bright spaces, cooking on a campfire, rotting leaves, a range of food and drink, objects that are soft, prickly, flexible, large and small.

Experiencing change in the natural and built environment

Examples: experiencing the seasons through access to the outdoor environment; opportunities to take part in building, demolishing, or transforming the environment.

Social interactions

Examples: being able to choose whether and when to play alone or with others, to negotiate, co-operate, compete and resolve conflicts. Being able to interact with individuals and groups of different ages, abilities, interests, gender, ethnicity and culture.

Playing with identity

Examples: dressing up, role play, performing, taking on different kinds of responsibility.

Experiencing a range of emotions

Examples: opportunities to be powerful/powerless, scared/confident, liked/disliked, in/out of control, brave/cowardly.

Safe communities and community engagement

Sustainable play spaces and community action are the way forward since the comprehensive spending review and how communities can be given real control over local decisions and services. The duty on local councils to involve local people in key decisions has encouraged authorities to embed a culture of engagement, including when regenerating or providing new play space. The strategy recognises the support needed by communities from local government and the voluntary sector for advice, training and guidance to provide play opportunities in neighborhoods around fundraising and volunteering.

Underpinning the Play Strategy is a vision of community empowerment whereby local children, young people, families and residents are integral to the shaping, quality and long-term future of play provision. Whenever communities are asked about their levels of satisfaction with their neighborhoods, better play and recreational opportunities for children and young people are a consistently strong priority

Workforce development

Fear of strangers, anti-social behavior and bullying are cited as key reasons for children not playing outside. Staffed play provision and volunteer supervision can allay many of these concerns. The DCSF 2020 Children and Young People's Workforce Strategy describes playworkers as an important part of the children's workforce. The Lincolnshire play strategy supports the development of knowledge and skills within the wider workforce such as local planners and highways officers to enable children's play in public space.

Health and safety

'Children need and want to take risks when they play. Play provision aims to respond to these needs and wishes by offering children stimulating, challenging environments for exploring and developing their abilities. In doing this, play provision aims to manage the level of risk so that children are not exposed to unacceptable risks of death or serious injury.'

(Play Safety Forum)

Managing Risk in Play Provision 2013 has been revised and was endorsed by the Health and Safety Executive. The guidance sets out a proportionate approach to risk management that articulates the balance between the benefit and the need for children to play against the duty of play providers to provide safe play. The strategy adopts the play safety forums managing risk in play provision guidance.

0-5 services

Play is central to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) for all early years providers working with children aged from birth to 5 years. The EYFS acknowledges that young children learn best through play in a safe environment, with encouragement and support from parents and practitioners. Lincolnshire's 48 children's centres have a key role in ensuring local parents and carers know about local play opportunities. As hubs of local services, they are well placed to link with local play providers or to develop additional free play provision themselves. Children's centre services vary according to location and need with all centres offering activities for families and children and carers now up to 18.

5-11 services

The *Independent Review of the Primary Curriculum* by Sir Jim Rose, highlighted the importance of play extending and building upon the active, play-based learning of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) across the transition to primary education, especially into Key Stage 1. Play based learning particularly supports children who find formal learning and testing challenging. The school day should allow time for children to relax and play freely

with their friends which also supports their physical and mental wellbeing. Young children learn best through play and, as they get older, play supports and enriches their learning. Children learn best if teaching is creative and enjoyable. In school, time and space for play and outdoor learning is as important as formal teaching. School grounds should be good places to play.

Opportunities for play are an important feature of after school provision as part of the varied menu of activities and the childcare elements of the core offer of services. The county's schools are using accredited outdoor learning programmes such as Outdoor play and learning (OPAL) and John Muir conservation awards to achieve this.

13-19 youth services

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires local authorities to secure sufficient educational and recreational leisure time activities for young people aged 13 to 19. *Aiming High for Young People 2007 the 10 year strategy* to foster a more positive approach to young people across society and within communities with a focus on those most at risk. The emphasis is on increasing their participation in quality positive activities. Actively engaging children and young people in the design and development of their own play and recreational spaces, alongside local residents, can engender a greater sense of community and intergenerational tolerance and respect. Respecting and incorporating children's views results in more appropriate provision, helps them develop their skills and knowledge, and can help develop motivation and participation in society

Play and health

Play is one of the most effective ways to keep children active and healthy and research provides convincing evidence of the benefits of play for mental health. Play is an important part of the children and young people's health strategy, *Healthy lives, brighter futures*. Tackling obesity is a national priority in the NHS. The cross-government strategy *Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives* and the Department of Health guidance, *Be Active, Be Healthy* promote the importance of play in children's lives.

Play4Life training courses in Lincolnshire supports parents, carers and volunteers with children aged 0-5 years on how to play both indoors and outdoors, creating games and resources at home, low cost play and local activities including advice on healthy eating and nutrition.

Local context

How play links to local priorities and policies

Children and Young People's Plan 2013 – 2016

The Lincolnshire Children & Young People's Plan is the single, overarching strategic plan for all services which directly support children and young people in the county.

The vision is "that every child in every part of the County should achieve their potential". Lincolnshire Council's Principles are:-

- Early Intervention and Prevention
 - Strong universal services, providing early action and intensive support to vulnerable children and young people
- Safeguarding and Best Start in Life
 - Ensuring children are safe in every environment
 - Encouraging community responsibility for safeguarding
- Aspiration and Well Being
 - Ensuring all those working with children champion the importance of aspiration
 - Develop self-esteem, self-belief and resilience in all children, young people and their families
- Learning and Achievement
 - All children being the best that they can be
 - Closing the gap between vulnerable groups and children living in disadvantaged communities
- Best Use of Resources
 - Integrating delivery with a focus on outcomes, life chances and opportunities
 - Effective use of resources to provide better services locally
 - Empower communities, creating opportunities for them to engage

Links to other Lincolnshire strategies

Sustainable community's strategy

Local area agreements

District Local strategic partnerships

Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013 – 2018

4th Lincolnshire local transport plan

Cultural Strategy 2010 - 2015

Inspiration to participation – sport and physical activity strategy 2013-2017

Play developments in Lincolnshire

Content to be added

Issues identified in Lincolnshire relating to play

Key issues are

- Lack of opportunities for children with disabilities
- If activities are changed the cost of them can be prohibitive for families
- Reduced levels of government funding for play

Current provision provided in Lincolnshire by Districts

Play sites

Currently play site numbers across the county Boston 41, East Lindsey 51, North Kesteven 35, South Holland 30, South Kesteven 68 and 4 formal parks, Lincoln (content to be added), West Lindsey (content to be added).

Informal play provision

National play day is promoted, celebrated and recognised in every district every year With free play activities organised to support families' children and young people in local communities

Boston Borough Council, South Holland, North Kesteven, South Kesteven District Councils run holiday programmes of activities delivered through contractors across their districts that include freeplay opportunities and chances to get outdoors and get physical every year. In Boston children attending in 2012/13 were 5,915 rising to 8,000 in 2013/14.

East Lindsey, New Linx Housing Association (now Waterloo Housing) and Children's Links have worked together since 2012 to deliver free play sessions with 2,000 children attending across 19 sites in communities with high levels of deprivation and ensuring schemes are delivered for more people to access play provision on their doorstep

Open spaces and parks are advertised and promoted by individual parishes and the destination play sites on district websites and Play England mapping for play. Informal spaces for play and woodland play sites are being mapped in Boston

Play strategies and forum groups

The County Play forum group meets quarterly to raise the profile and issues about play. Play strategies for District councils have been refreshed since 2012 for Lincoln, South Holland and Boston. In Lincoln this identified £935,000 of play area improvements and identified community aspiration around play.

Local strategic partnerships will develop action plans for play and recreation that link to the play strategy in North Kesteven.

Revised standards for play have seen priority use for Section 106 money.

Partnership working in Boston and South Holland developed a joint sports provision and open spaces assessment to better inform future planning policy.

Boston Borough Council hosts a play forum group that meets quarterly

Play training

Temporary play ranger posts have been created through the work of summer schemes and holiday activities. In East Lindsey in the last 5 years a total of 49 Play Rangers have been employed, they were provided with relevant training and guidance.

Positive play training is delivered to junior schools for lunchtime supervisors in Boston

Parent volunteers are trained to deliver play schemes in their communities in Lincoln, RAF Scampton in 2014 supported with community funding.

The community initiative team at North Kesteven supports local communities with advice so that they can be more self sufficient in providing for their leisure and play needs.

V card and Lincolnshire volunteer card are supporting volunteering

Play for life programme has engaged 105 parents to play

Partnership working

Partnerships across the districts have been built to meet increasing demand and needs for play services.

Play funding has been a catalyst for community development

Voluntary centre services and local parish councils are crucial partners in the development of play and leisure services.

Since Big Lottery Funding there has been a shift in thought about the criteria used to evaluate play spaces and the provision of play

Local partners and other organisation providing play

Action for Children

Children's Links – children's centre support, volunteer card, Play for Life, play

Waterloo Housing

Community Lincs

Gainsborough Adventure Playground

Freelance play providers

Our vision and priorities

Our vision for play in Lincolnshire

Every child and young person in Lincolnshire has the right to safe, accessible and exciting places to play that reflect the needs of the local community and empowers them for life.

Our fundamental objectives for play

- 1 Raise the profile of good quality play
- 2 Develop partnerships to link play into all agendas
- 3 Create the opportunities for a range of local play for all children and young people

Profile	Partnerships	Product
Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3
<p>Raise the profile of play</p> <p>Play providers and commissioners know the value and benefits of play</p>	<p>Develop partnerships to link play into all agendas</p> <p>Working to improve quality play provision and promote best practise</p>	<p>Create the opportunities for a range of local play for all children and young people</p> <p>Working for accessible, challenging play environments and opportunities</p>
Objective 1a	Objective 2a	Objective 3a
We communicate and promote our values and principles about play through the implementation of the strategy	Share resources to make play sustainable and appropriate to local needs	Add risk and challenge to children's play whilst maintaining safety
Objective 1b	Objective 2b	Objective 3b
We map play spaces and promote play services and provision so that we increase awareness of quality and the benefits of play	Promote quality play provision use best play guidance when planning play spaces	Communities children and young people have quality play provision that meets their need in an inclusive way
Objective 1c	Objective 2c	Objective 3c
We consult and listen to children and young people's opinions when planning delivering and evaluating play environments.	We support qualified and trained staff and volunteers to provide quality play	Children's play in undesignated community spaces is recognised and accommodated by other users

Objective 1 actions

Profile	
Objective 1 Raise the profile of play	Play providers and commissioners know the value and benefits of play
We communicate and promote our values and principles about play through our values and principles and the implementation of the strategy	Play strategy is implemented through children and young peoples plan Play is integrated into the agendas of Local Strategic Partnerships The county-wide play policy is implemented through local area/district, specific action plans.
We map play spaces and promote play services and provision so that we increase awareness of quality and benefits of play	We keep updated a web page and play information service We support an annual national play day event in all 7 districts of the county We map play spaces that exist as open playable play spaces not just the swings and roundabouts We promote play spaces and services to parents We connect play into walking and cycling to school initiatives
We consult and listen to children young people's opinions when planning delivering and evaluating play environments.	Children and young peoples' views are included in decisions about new play spaces Children have a say in the play services they use

Objective 2 Actions

Partners	
Objective 2 Develop partnerships to link play into all agendas	Working to improve quality play provision and promote best practise
Share resources to make play sustainable and appropriate to local needs	Sustain the county play infrastructure through the county play forum. Community groups both formal and informal know where to go for funding advice, expertise and training to support new play environments Identify funding streams that develop community led open access play provision
Promote quality play provision use best play guidance when planning play spaces	The impacts on play are considered when planning
We support qualified and trained staff and volunteers to provide quality play	Promote learning about play with parents through play 4 life Support school based play programmes inspire plus, legacy challenge, Opal Playwork training and qualifications are promoted Develop Community led open access play provision

Objective 3 Actions

Product	
Objective 3 Create the opportunities for a range of local play for all children and young people	Working for accessible, challenging play environments and opportunities
Add risk and challenge to children's play whilst maintaining safety	We evaluate play provision on value for money as well as its opportunity for risk and challenge
Communities children and young people have quality play provision that meets their need in an inclusive way	Promote open access play as a play provision in it own right Use best play provision guidance when planning play provision
Children's play in undesignated community spaces is recognised and accommodated by other users	Make public spaces playful in our planning

References

Content to be added

First Draft

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