

## **COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 16 SEPTEMBER 2016**

**Statement from: Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Deputy Leader and Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services**

### **CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

#### **Annual Professional Judgement Conference for Staff**

LCC was proud to host Professor Eileen Munro at the third annual professional judgement Conference. Over 200 staff and partners from other agencies attended the day. Professor Munro gave a presentation about her recent research involvement and findings from the Signs of Safety Innovation Project. LCC have been one of the ten authorities participating in this project.

#### **Progress on school exclusions**

The rate of permanent exclusion of pupils from Lincolnshire schools has remained persistently high for several years and addressing this problem is a top priority for the Local Authority. The Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy was launched in January 2016 and although resources associated with the strategy were not available for schools to access in their complete form until September 2016, it has already had a positive impact on exclusion rates. We have commissioned a behaviour outreach support service (BOSS), delivered by Family Action offering support for pupils at risk from September 2016. 'Restorative Solutions' has been commissioned to run a one year 22 school restorative pilot in Lincolnshire with the aim being to roll the approach out thereafter.. Some of Lincolnshire's highest excluding schools have opted to join the pilot, a very encouraging sign. This new service will be evaluated at the end of the academic year.

#### **School Places**

The basic need work-stream of the capital programme continues to deliver new school places across the county. In March 2016 a further £11m was announced for 2018/19. By September 2019 over £70m will have been invested into Lincolnshire schools since 2011, to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet the needs of local communities. The school age population of Lincolnshire continues to rise with additional school places being planned for both the primary and secondary sector for the years ahead. Over 1000 new primary school places will have been created in the year leading up to September 2016, and there will be many more planned for and delivered in line with birth rates, migration and housing development over the coming years, particularly in the secondary sector as we plan for the increased numbers moving through the primary sector in certain areas of the county.

#### **School Admissions**

This year's schools admissions saw the offer of 15,460 school places with both primary and secondary cohorts being larger than previous years. Maintaining a high first preference satisfaction rate of 92% is in keeping with previous years and remains slightly higher than our East Midlands neighbours. Out of the 15,460 places

only 278 (1.8%) were offers other than the first three chosen by parents. Despite local pressures on successful and popular schools an average of 85% of parents requesting midyear changes of schools through the school admissions team received an offer of a place at their first preference school.

### **A Level Results**

Provisional results from 30 out of 40 sixth forms in the county show that Lincolnshire schools have outperformed the England average in nearly all measures.

At 99.1%, the percentage of Lincolnshire students passing A-levels is ahead of the England average by 1.1%.

Nine Lincolnshire schools (30%) achieved a percentage of A\* grades above the national average, and 12 (40%) Lincolnshire schools have achieved more A\*-A passes at A-level than national.

15 out of the 30 schools have a percentage of pupils achieving 3+ A-Level passes at A\*-E of 90% or more, with three of schools hitting 100% for 3 or more passes.

### **GCSE Results**

Early indications of GCSE results across Lincolnshire show continued improvements this year.

With 10 schools still to return data, provisional figures released by Lincolnshire schools, including academies, indicate that the percentage of students attaining good grades in core subjects continues to rise.

The percentage of students attaining five or more A\*-C including English and Maths is no longer a headline measure of school performance.

The new headline is the percentage of students attaining an A\*-C grade in English and Maths, which has increased by 5%, from 58.3% in 2015 to 63.2% this year. An impressive 23 schools so far have achieved more than 60%.

The percentage of students attaining A\*-C in English is currently 73.5% for 2016 and compares to 67.6% last year, an increase of 5.9%. Four of the 45 schools achieved 100% in this measure.

The percentage of A\*-C in Maths is currently showing as 69.8% for 2016, 1.8% up on last year. Six of the 45 schools achieved 100% in this measure.

With an increase of 2.2% on last year, the percentage achieving the English Baccalaureate is 29.4% for 2016 compared to 27.2% in 2015.

So far 24 schools have shown improvement on last year in this measure, with 12 of those schools improving by over 5% on last year.

## **ADULT CARE**

### **Adult Care Services**

Requests for adult care received in the first quarter of 2016/17 continue to increase. Last year some 34,000 requests were made, yes 34,000! This equates to almost 100 per day from adults who are not already known to Social Care.

Given these figures what we, as a Council, can do to help prevent people needing our support, or to reduce this need is a priority. So far this year two-thirds of requests were dealt with at the Customer Service Centre with information and advice or by directing people to other sources of support, such as charities and community groups, and to give advice to people who can afford to pay for their own care. So, good information and advice is a necessity as is our ability to support local communities and colleagues in voluntary and charitable organisations.

A further 700 people have received the Reablement services and 1,200 people have accessed the Wellbeing Service. Both services have contributed significantly to delaying or reducing the need for more intensive services. Despite slightly higher admissions to residential care than expected, only 5% of all requests for support led to a longer term community package or a residential placement for the person which is where the bulk of the Adult Care budget is spent.

The results from the annual statutory Adult Social Care Survey showed an improvement on customer satisfaction, with 66% of people who were 'extremely' or 'very satisfied' with the care and support they received, and only 5% of clients not satisfied. The survey also showed that people had more control over their daily lives and a better quality of life than reported in the previous year.

My colleague, Cllr Woolley, will have mentioned the Better Care Fund (BCF). I also want to highlight the importance of this fund which resources a series of projects to reduce the pressure on the health sector, and keep people at home for longer. Although pressure remains around delayed discharges, delays attributable to Social Care are still relatively low. Adult Social Care and Health partners continue to work closely together to improve experiences for people accessing services both in and out of hospital. The primary objective for this year is to reduce non-elective admissions to hospital and improve overall performance around delayed transfers of care. Encouragingly, since April there have been 2% fewer non-elective admissions to hospital than planned. Working together is the only way we can achieve a reduction in delayed discharges. The Council is trying to do more work with our health colleagues, but I don't think this is moving at a fast enough pace.

### **Extra Care Housing**

We recognize that in Lincolnshire there is too little Extra Care provision. In order to stimulate an expansion the Council has launched an initiative to significantly increase the availability of Extra Care Housing in Lincolnshire. Adult Care has made available £8 million of capital funding to back a procurement exercise, launched with the support of Corporate Property Services in early August, to award grant funding agreements to successful providers in February 2017.

Extra Care Housing is accommodation which promotes wellbeing and independence, and is available for ownership, or rental. This popular form of supportive housing typically offers one or two bedroom apartments in a development of 40 units or more,

with ready access to care and support 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As well as retaining the security associated with home ownership or tenancy, Extra Care Housing additionally offers a choice for people with care and support needs, which many prefer to residential care.

Lincolnshire currently has eight extra care schemes with a total of 288 units across the county from Louth to Bourne, and from Skegness to Lincoln. They form part of a range of housing options that deliver a variety of levels of care.

The Council investigated a number of options to deliver this program using the funding available. The preferred option selected is the award of a 'Public Works Concession' Contract which grants extra care housing developers and providers financial assistance by way of a capital contribution, while freeing the market to develop flexible solutions using regular sources of funding unavailable to the public sector.

The Council is looking to encourage innovative proposals which may be delivered by several partners, both developers and care providers in the private or public sectors. This process requires bidders to demonstrate how they are going to deliver Extra Care Housing rather than reflecting a traditional specification focused tendering process.

The successful outcome of this procurement will help create further cost effective services which address the needs of our growing older population.

### **Care Quality Commission**

The overall standard of regulated care in Lincolnshire homes continues to be good under the new style ratings. Of the published new style reports for social care locations in the county by June 2016, 180 (60.4%) were rated as good, 79 (26.5%) required improvement, and there were none found to be inadequate. A further 38 (12.8%) are yet to be formally rated. We should know later this autumn how this compares to other Authorities, although early indications suggest Lincolnshire providers are performing well. (*Data Source: Care Quality Commission*) Adult Care continues to work closely with the Council's Commercial Team, CQC, LINCA (the independent providers' 'trade body'), and other partners to robustly monitor services, improve services and provide appropriate training and advice.

### **Serco and Adult Care**

Adult Care commissions financial services from Serco as part of the Corporate Support Contract. I am pleased to say that at the end of Quarter 1 all Key Performance Indicators were meeting target service levels. Improvements in performance have been seen across all areas since the contract began. Particular highlights are improvements in direct payment processing times with 100% of direct payments now paid within 14 business days, 91% of non-residential and 85% of residential financial assessments completed within 15 business days. As part of the contract with Serco there is also a requirement to ensure that Adult Care service users are supported to access DWP benefits. In 2015/16 640 people were identified as not in receipt of their full benefit entitlement. This has resulted in an additional annual income of £1,050,795 for people who use adult services and as a result an additional £397,725 income for Adult Care.

## **Peer Review of Adult Care**

I am delighted to say that an independent Peer Review of Adult Care has provided a very positive result describing Adult Care as 'highly efficient', having a "strong commissioning ethos" and a "clear sense of direction" with enthusiastic and committed staff with high expectations in terms of performance and quality". Peer reviewers also commented that "Adult Safeguarding appeared to be effective" with a "well established Adult Safeguarding Board with a clear intention and plan".

This is the result of a collective effort between Members and officers, involving colleagues across the Council and reflects well on everyone. Well done!

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **Substance Misuse**

In March 2016, the Council awarded a new contract to Addaction for the Lincolnshire Community Alcohol and Drug Treatment service and the Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service.

Since then, officers in the Public Health have been working closely with Addaction and outgoing providers to ensure that a new service can commence on 1 October 2016. I am pleased to report that the implementation phase for the new services is progressing well and Addaction are confident that they will have a fully operational service in place by 1 October 2016.

The new service will provide an integrated model of care and includes adult and young persons' treatment for both alcohol and drugs, as well as a needle syringe programme providing specialist and pharmacy based services.

The recovery service will be delivered by Addaction in partnership with Double Impact which is a local charity specialising in recovery services. The service includes mutual aid, peer support, education and training services as well as building a recovery community. Recruitment is underway and new staff will commence their recovery work ahead of schedule to assist with the transformation running up to October 2016.

### **Sexual Health**

Following their successful bid, the contract with Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust has been signed, with a seamless handover of operations on 1 April 2016. Members of the public saw no difference in service at handover and no access to services issues were reported.

The new Lincolnshire Integrated Sexual Health (LISH) service will provide a flexible, confidential service to anyone who seeks sexual health advice, including sexually transmitted infections, or requires HIV advice, screening and treatment or contraception health needs.

A total of nine open access clinics have been set up in Lincoln, Louth, Gainsborough, Sleaford, Skegness, Boston, Spalding, Grantham and Stamford to meet the identified needs of the population. In addition, the service will be rolling out an outreach service, delivered through a 'clinic in a boot' initiative and secondly from

a bus. In addition, a comprehensive and easily accessible website is now available at [www.lincolnshirehealthyfamilies.nhs.uk](http://www.lincolnshirehealthyfamilies.nhs.uk).

The new contract will see more clinics open for more hours than before, whilst the service embraces new technology and introduces online booking options as part of their delivery plans to increase client choice.

We continue to work effectively with commissioning colleagues in NHS England to manage the Section 75 agreement for HIV treatment.

## **ADULT LEARNING**

### **Community Learning**

There continues to be high demand for Adult Learning provision. In the 2015/16 academic year over 8,224 learners were funded through the Adult Education budget. Of these, 860 were on programmes leading to qualifications, 49 were on Apprenticeship programmes within the County Council and the City of Lincoln Council, and 16 were on Traineeship programmes. In line with national priorities, the core element of the accredited provision is qualifications in English and maths in order to help learners on their journey of improving their life chances. An important aspect of the non-accredited provision is engagement activity to support learners onto accredited programmes including Access to Higher Education and GCSE provision.

### **Celebrating Learner Success**

Three adult learners, who attended Family Learning courses, were honoured for their exceptional achievements at the June Lincolnshire Show and received awards from Councillor Trollope-Bellew. The learners involved were nominated by their tutors for their exemplary dedication to learning over the past 12 months. As a result of their hard work, combined with quality teaching and guidance from the learning service, all three learners have gained employment in local schools as teaching assistants.

Steve Kelby, one of the learners whose achievements were celebrated at the Show provided the following feedback on his time in Family Learning:

*"Family Learning is fun, educational, easy going and a fabulous insight into the school environment from the inside to see how your child is taught and interacts with the teachers and other pupils.*

*There's no pressure to study or take qualifications but the opportunity is there and encouragement given if you wish to continue your own learning journey. There is also help to get back into the workforce if that's something you're looking for.*

*I'd encourage any family member, parents or grandparents of any age or gender to go and try it out. It's free, you've nothing to lose and potentially lots to gain, so what's stopping you?!"*



The Post-16 education sector is critical to Government strategy of raising productivity and economic growth and it is currently reviewing all Further Education activity across the country, known as Area Reviews. Lincolnshire's Area Reviews will start in October. Local authorities are requested to provide evidence to local steering group meetings about the education and economic need for training of Lincolnshire's young people and adults. I am agreeing a joint statement with the Executive Councillor for Development to submit the Area Review to ensure that opportunities for local individuals and economic development matters are well represented.

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