

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 16 DECEMBER 2016

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

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Children's Health Services

A review has taken place into the children's health services that the Council currently commissions from Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) including Health Visiting, School Nursing, Family Nurse Partnership and Antenatal Weight Management services. On 1 November 2016, the Executive agreed a new model of services which has been designed taking into account local need, statutory duties, best practice and engagement feedback from families and professionals.

Officers across the Council are now planning for the impact of these changes to services and working to ensure a smooth transition for staff and service users. It is anticipated that new services will commence in October 2017 but this is being confirmed. This is a truly exciting opportunity to integrate services to the benefit of families.

Lincolnshire Adoption Service Wins National Award

Lincolnshire County Council's Adoption Service has won First4Adoption's Excellence in Adoption Practice Award.

The service received the award for their dedication and consistently high standards, coupled with their innovative approach to meeting the needs of children whose plan is adoption. The service's last two OFSTED inspections have also been graded as 'outstanding'.

The annual National Adoption Week Awards took place on 18 October at the Foundling Museum, London to celebrate good practice and exceptional achievement among those working or involved in adoption in the UK.

Lincolnshire Adoption Service is currently recruiting adopters for the following:

- Children aged 3 years and above
- Brothers and sisters who need to be kept together
- Children with disabilities and additional needs
- Children who are placed under the Foster to Adopt scheme

If you feel that you could offer a loving and secure home to children such as these we would love to hear from you. Contact our friendly team today on 01522 554114 or log on at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/adoption

Lincolnshire Learning Partnership (LLP)

The Learning Partnership continues to build momentum with its structures becoming increasingly formalised and the development of key sub-committees to design and deliver improvements around specific areas including: championing learners and leaders to shape their own futures; promoting success, innovation and evidence-based research; empowering schools to meet the needs of their communities; and challenging all schools to keep getting better. The Partnership intends to publish its strategic plan in January 2017 and to hold a conference for school leaders in February to share their plans and encourage schools to work with them on its key aims. Interest in the Partnership's work also continues to spread with the LLP sharing its development journey with colleagues from across the country, including in Portsmouth and Scotland, as well as internationally.

The "Mobilise" Teaching Assistant project has garnered great support from schools with over 400 school leaders trained in the materials. This project is aimed at getting the very best from the Teaching Assistant workforce by ensuring their intervention and work with students is of the highest quality. We look forward to seeing the impact of this year long project towards the end of the summer term but anecdotal evidence to date suggest it is having a marked effect on pupil outcomes. This project epitomises the sector-led approach with the original work being commissioned by the LLP, the contract and delivery being monitored by the council and the project delivery being led by the LTT.

Key Stage 1 and 2 results

There has been a significant change in the assessment system this year which means year on year comparisons are not possible. Results are now published in a standardised score for attainment, with 100 indicating age related expectations for that child. The significant increase in challenge of the recently implemented national curriculum has meant that results have dropped nationally, but the DFE has suggested that the results are positive in terms schools striving to achieve more for children. *(These results will be validated shortly.)*

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

Lincolnshire continues to improve educational outcomes for our youngest children in education. During the autumn term the data release was made available for the EYFSP. Nationally the percentage of children achieving this Good Level of Development in 2016 was 69.3%. In Lincolnshire, the level rose by 1.4% on the 2015 score to 70.5% in 2016, remaining above the National level. The education gap between outcomes for girls and boys has narrowed again this year to 13.3%. Lincolnshire's gap is narrower than regional (14.6%) and national averages (14.7%), and in terms of closing the gender gap Lincolnshire is second out of the 11 statistical neighbours.

Key Stage 1: Outcomes for Lincolnshire across KS1 are slightly below national figures. The performance of Lincolnshire boys is an area we are investigating further as the gap to national is wider than that of girls and is one of the main reasons for Lincolnshire's overall performance being below national.

Key Stage 2: Again, outcomes for Lincolnshire are slightly below the national figures and it is difficult to identify a year on year trend due to the changes in the assessment system.

Early Progress data: Lincolnshire pupils make slightly less progress than national in each of Reading (-0.54), Writing (-0.17) and Maths (-0.68). It is notable that Boston Borough stands out with excellent progress data well above the national average and we are analysing this in order to draw meaningful conclusions and share good practice.

Key Stage 4: Strong improvement can be seen across our KS4 outcomes - the percentage of pupils achieving A*-C in English and Maths at Key Stage 4 has improved well and the percentage of pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate at KS4 remains well above National, ranking us top of our statistical neighbours.

Key Stage 5: The overall average point score for all level 3 students in Lincolnshire compares favourably to a national figure of and to our statistical neighbour. The average grade in Lincolnshire of a C for A Level students is consistent with national and statistical neighbour average grades of C.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

The new CAMHS service model was implemented in April of this year. The core service is delivered from four hubs across the county in Lincoln, Boston, Grantham and Louth and there are now Crisis and Home Treatment and Eating Disorder teams supporting children and young people across the county. Across the service, waiting time targets have been reduced from 12 to 6 weeks.

The introduction of the Professional Advice Line (PAL) where professionals are able to discuss their concerns about a child or young person's mental health with qualified CAMHS practitioners, and can receive advice on making referrals is receiving positive feedback. Additionally, advice may also be given about other services that can provide support and strategies that can be effective. Early indicators are that the advice line is upskilling the universal workforce and reducing the amount of inappropriate referrals ensuring that young people get the right support at the right time. There has also been positive feedback for the Crisis and Home treatment team which was developed to reduce the number of inpatient admissions by providing support in the home as the new service has almost completely stopped admission into hospitals.

Joint Targeted Area Inspection

In October our multi-agency response to abuse and neglect in Lincolnshire was inspected by Ofsted, Care Quality Commission, HMI Constabulary and HMI Probation.

The main outcome is that Lincolnshire children and young people are provided with good services and support to protect them from neglect and abuse.

The report highlights management and oversight of domestic abuse in Lincolnshire is well developed, with a positive impact across services to improve responses to children who have experienced domestic abuse.

There is strong focus on equipping frontline staff and their managers with the resources and knowledge to identify and tackle domestic abuse. We're pleased to see the clear drive and commitment from partners to support parents and children.

But we recognise that there is more to do to ensure consistency and effective joint working at all stages of engaging with children and their families.

Early Years Funding consultation

Over the summer the government conducted its consultation on changes to early years funding.

The key messages are:

- a new early years national funding formula from April 2017 that will increase Government funding rates in 80% of local authorities;
- a minimum funding rate of at least £4.30 per hour for every local authority;
- a requirement for local authorities to pass 95% of their funding to providers;
- additional funding, worth £55m per year, to support maintained nursery schools until the end of this Parliament (2019-20);
- a new Disability Access Fund worth £615 per child per year to support disabled three- and four-year-olds to access their early years entitlement; and
- a requirement for all local authorities to have Inclusion Funds to channel additional support to children with Special Educational Needs.

ADULT CARE AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Work is well underway to create a unified directorate from the former Adult Care and Public Health Directorates, and in the first instance has seen the unification of the public health procurement and contract management functions with those of Adult Care in the Commercial Unit. The interviews for a new Director of Public Health take place on 13 and 14 December and I expect we will be able to announce the successful candidate later in the month.

ADULT CARE

In October, the national Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) measures were published, giving an indication of how well Councils with Social Services responsibility had performed in the last reporting year. For 13 out of the 22 reportable measures for 2015/16, performance had remained the same or improved compared to the previous year. It was good to see that this included some positive results from the annual adult care survey where people who use services told us they generally felt satisfied with services, which helped them sustain a good quality and life, with more control and some time to do the things they value and enjoy. Other good markers of success included supporting people to remain independent across mental health and learning disability services. The effectiveness of Reablement is also improving as very few people leave the service with longer term support needs.

Where we did not do quite so well relates to hospital pathways. As Members will have seen from national media coverage, the NHS nationally is under increasing pressure with a rising number of delayed transfers of care prolonging patients' stays in hospital unnecessarily. Locally, there are a number of projects, some funded from the Better Care Fund, helping to alleviate the pressures, but not to the extent we would like.

I believe this topic will receive an even higher national profile in the weeks ahead because at the end of September - which is the latest available data - discharge delays nationally were the worst ever and growing. The average delays attributable to adult care nationally are 34.4% of total delays, in Lincolnshire it is 22% and reducing. However, we should not ignore the main point that health and social care services are under immense pressure and will remain a regular agenda item at the Adult Scrutiny Committee.

On balance, at the end of Quarter 2, all of the strategies are performing well in terms of the Council Business Plan measures. Reviews remain a priority and the service expects to be on target by year end. Permanent admissions to residential care are higher than expected and in some respects are tied to pressures in getting people out of hospital. With regard to support for carers, the new provider Carers First is proactively working with other agencies and hospitals to increase the awareness of support for carers and to identify carers as early as possible to avoid carer breakdown and a family crisis. It is anticipated that, over time, the universal offer of ongoing advice and support will extend to more and more carers in the community, to help them sustain their caring role.

The importance of appropriate housing in meeting the needs of our many vulnerable residents has been recognised for some time. In the last twelve months we have been working with all seven District/City Councils to improve and develop the experience of people in need of housing related support e.g. minor, major adaptations etc. In part, this has been helped with the Government's inclusion of Disabled Facilities Grants within the Better Care Fund, which my colleague Councillor Woolley will refer to in more detail.

In my last statement I referred to the need to expand the provision of Extra Care housing across the County, primarily to those areas with a predicted and substantial growth in older people. In comparison to other large Shire Counties, Lincolnshire has a relatively low number of Extra Care facilities and it has long been our desire to see an expansion in order to provide more choice and improved housing options for older people. We are now close to the end of a programme which – we hope – will begin to deliver that expansion supported by a capital/or land investment. I hope to be able to say more in my next statement.

Dementia Family Support Service (DFSS)

Lincolnshire County Council has worked with the Alzheimer's Society to extend the successful Dementia Family Support Service into Hospitals. Over the last twelve months, the Dementia Family Support Service has provided support, information and guidance to over 1,300 individuals and families affected by a diagnosis of dementia, at any stage of the condition.

The Council is now funding an extension of the DFSS service to include people in the acute hospitals at Lincoln, Boston, and Grantham, and to Lincolnshire patients in Peterborough City Hospital. From 1 October 2016, DFSS staff have been working with hospital teams to help support patients with dementia and their families during a hospital stay, and offering their specialist knowledge to assist the process of discharge planning.

Support can include personalised information, access to a dementia adviser, and services such as counselling, personal care, respite, and day care with the aim of helping people to live as well as possible with the condition, promote wellbeing, and

preventing or delaying the need for more intensive support such as residential care or unnecessary hospital admission.

This service supports the Council's commitments in the *Lincolnshire Joint Strategy for Dementia 2014 -2017*.

Winter Plan

The Adult Care 16/17 Winter Plan is now agreed with Health partners and is operational. Adult Care staff are able to support people home from hospital including over the festive period. The range of support includes reablement at home, the Wellbeing service, Home Safe, District Councils, Age UK, local voluntary and third sector organisations and Home Care. At this point I would like to commend to Members of the Council the many thousands of dedicated and caring care workers, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and nursing staff – plus their managers who will be very busy indeed supporting vulnerable adults and their families over the Christmas and New Year break.

Care Quality Commission

The overall standard of regulated care in Lincolnshire continues to be good under the new style CQC inspection regime. Of the published new style reports for social care locations in the county, by October 2016: one service was rated as outstanding; 197 (70.5%) were rated as good; 82 (29.3%) required improvement; and there were none found to be inadequate. 34 providers are yet to be formally rated by CQC.

In its comparator group Lincolnshire remains above average on providers rated as good and average with 71.3% rated as outstanding or good compared to 69.3% comparator group average.

(Data source: Care Quality Commission)

Adult Care continues to work closely with the Council's Commercial Team, Care Quality Commission, LinCA (the independent providers' 'trade body'), and other partners to robustly monitor services, support continuous improvement and provide appropriate training and advice.

Within the Care Home market there are unfortunate times when providers close their businesses, and in these circumstances we work with them to endeavour to make the transition for people using the service as least disruptive as possible. The reasons for closure can be for a variety of reasons including quality not being as required and staffing recruitment and retention.

One specific area of focus, locally and nationally, is Nursing Care Home placements as there is a shortage of nursing staff to work in these environments, with the NHS and Care Home providers trying to recruit from the same staff pool. In endeavouring to address this, Adult Care and the local NHS continue to work together to formulate strategies to support Care Homes and coordinate work that we do with them.

Adult Care continue to be committed to paying a fair price for Care Home placements and continue to work with providers to understand how we can support them in delivering quality services in our county.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Wellbeing Service – Lincolnshire Independent Living Partnership Win Award

The Council continues to support the development of innovative partnerships between local service providers of social care and health in Lincolnshire. I am delighted to say that the Lincolnshire Independent Living Partnership (LILP) won the Chartered Institute of Housing Annual Midlands Award for Health, Housing and Care. LILP have used their consortium approach to deliver our Wellbeing Service over the past two and half years to support vulnerable people in Lincolnshire to maintain their independence for as long as possible.

One You

The recent launch of the Public Health England 'One You' campaign has encouraged over 4,700 people in Lincolnshire to engage, either by completing the 'How Are You' self-assessment tool and/or downloading an associated support app. From this cohort, the top motivational factors expressed by residents were for a desire for increase energy levels, reduced pain and achieve a healthy weight. 21.9% of these people were not achieving the recommended levels of physical activity, 12.1% were smokers, 5.6% were drinking over the alcohol recommendations and 3.2% were not meeting the healthy eating recommendations for optimal health.

Lincolnshire County Council has begun engaging with partners across the county via the locality health and wellbeing networks, JSNA expert panel, events, various media channels and via the newly formed Health Improvement Partnership. As a result of the partnership we are able to form a collaborative response to national campaigns and are able to effectively utilise partners' communication channels. Commissioned services, and other willing organisations, are being encouraged to co-brand with One You to increase consistency and awareness of the initiative.

Substance Misuse

I am pleased to announce that on 1 October 2016 a new Alcohol and Drug Treatment service provided by Addaction commenced. It looks to develop the recovery model to new levels by creating a community based treatment service that is flexible, local and for both adults and young people. There are treatment centres in Lincoln, Grantham and Boston with local hubs in eleven further towns across Lincolnshire. This means appointments are now available in more convenient locations than before including GP surgeries and community centres.

Officers within the Public Health have been working with Addaction and outgoing providers to ensure a smooth transition of service users and staff. Now this is complete, a full review of all service users has commenced to ensure all treatment programmes conform to the new model and can help those receiving care to achieve full recovery.

In addition to the Addaction treatment service, a new Recovery service has also commenced; this is provided by Double Impact, a local recovery charity based in Nottingham. The service provides an Academy offering a range of accredited level 1 and 2 qualifications. The Academy will also provide opportunities for people to get involved in peer support and mutual aid thus helping connect people to

opportunities and activities in their local communities including employment and greater social inclusion.

This new service will see 1000's of Lincolnshire people each year with a high success rate in helping people to reduce their problems with substances. This is essential in the safety and wellbeing of wider communities where alcohol is significantly involved as a driver of anti-social behaviour and violence between individuals.

COMMUNITY LEARNING

There continues to be high demand for Adult Learning provision. In the 2016/17 academic year over 550 courses will be funded through the Adult Education budget.

We have been working hard to reshape the programme, moving the balance of provision from leisure courses towards those that develop employability skills, including delivering a range of English, mathematics and other vocational qualifications, so that the programme is firmly aligned with the strategic aims of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) and the County Council, helping to drive economic growth. The service works hard to increase the skills levels of people in our communities, giving them new career opportunities and allowing local businesses to recruit the talented employees they need to develop.

This unique provision addresses market failure by filling the gaps and meeting the needs of Lincolnshire communities that aren't able to be met by other funded provision. For example, the service has funded 'Decoding Church Architecture' provision delivered by Heritage Trust based in Heckington. This course was developed to meet a local need, to train people involved in caring for historic churches so that they can feel confident in presenting their buildings to visitors, with benefits for both the local community and the visitor economy. Through our partnership working and careful planning we work to ensure our provision complements and provides progression opportunities from other funded provision rather than duplicating what is already in place. For example, through our funding Boston College deliver an introduction to GCSE provision. This helps to recruit those hard to reach learners who are most at need of this provision, and allows for seamless progression onto full GCSE programmes, supporting good retention and satisfaction rates.

We are very proud of the impact of our provision at a local level. A success story of particular note is the case of Alex Harrison, a former Guardsman in the British Army Grenadier Guards who, severely traumatised and disabled from his time in Afghanistan, has overcome these challenges to considerably benefit from the support provided by the service in helping to set up his gardening business 'Guardsman Landscaping and Property Services'

Working in partnership with the Library Service, there will be a display in each of the Counties 15 major libraries between mid-December and mid-January raising awareness of the Community Learning Service and encouraging residents to sign up for Adult Learning in 2017.