



**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
10 MARCH 2017**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR J D HOUGH (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors R Wootten (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, W J Aron, Mrs J Brockway, S R Dodds, A G Hagues, B W Keimach, C R Oxby, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs N J Smith, L Wootten, M A Whittington and Mrs S M Wray.

Added Members

Church Representatives: No representatives in attendance.

Parent Governor Representatives: No representatives in attendance.

Councillor: D Brailsford (Executive Support Councillor for Children's Services), Simon Morley (Head teacher Kirkby on Bain C E School), Suzanne Scott (Head teacher Ellison Boulters C E Academy) and Andrew Stores (Head teacher William Farr C E Comprehensive School) were also in attendance.

Officers in attendance:-

Michelle Andrews (Service Manager Early Years and Childcare Support), Debbie Barnes (Executive Director, Children's Services), Gavin Booth (Children's Services Manager, Education Strategy), Katrina Cope (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Tracy Johnson (Senior Scrutiny Officer), Heather Sandy (Chief Commissioning Officer for Learning) and Martin Smith (Children's Services Manager, School Standards).

59 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs L A Rollings and Mrs H N J Powell.

Apologies for absence were also received from Mrs S Rudman and Mr P Thompson (Church Representatives) and Mrs P J Barnett and Dr E van der Zee (Parent Governor Representatives).

60 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of member's interest made at this point in the meeting.

61 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2017

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee held on 20 January 2017, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

62 SECTOR LED SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT MODEL - UPDATE REPORT

Consideration was given to a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services, which provided the Committee with updates relating to the Sector-Led approach to School Improvement.

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting three Headteachers who attended to advise the Committee of their experiences on the new sector-led model. The Headteachers who attended were: Simon Morley, Kirkby on Bain CE School; Andrew Stones, William Farr CE Comprehensive School; and Suzanne Scott, Ellison Boulters C E Academy.

The key points raised by the three Headteachers included:-

- That the change in culture in schools could not be under estimated;
- That schools that had traditionally not worked together were pooling and sharing their resources, which had had a big impact on schools;
- That training provided was bespoke to help everyone out;
- That research was key as this informed good practice;
- That when reviewing other schools, there was honesty and openness; and a willingness to help with any problems, by sharing experiences and knowledge; and as a result no-one now felt isolated. It was highlighted that there was no longer a fear factor;
- A suggestion was made that to move forward further, peer reviews across clusters would be useful to ensure further cross pollination; and
- That most schools felt that there was more to come from working more collectively, as the experience so far had proven to be very positive.

Gavin Booth, Children's Services Manager – Education Strategy guided the Committee through the report explaining that the role of the Local Authority relating to school improvement had changed greatly over recent years, with the introduction of academies, multi-academy trusts and teaching schools. It was highlighted that over the last 14 years, Lincolnshire had commissioned CfBT to deliver its statutory services and provide a traded offer of school improvement to its schools. Now Lincolnshire schools could access a range of partners who together were supporting school improvement. This method was echoed in the White Paper, which indicated that schools and groups of schools should have increased autonomy and responsibility for their own outcomes through working in a sector-led system.

The Committee was advised that the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership had grown over the last two years to a partnership of over 340 schools. These schools had made a commitment to developing a sector-led approach to school improvement and support. All schools had been engaged in the Peer Reviews, working together in clusters to improve outcomes for children.

It was reported that the Local Authority had been creative and proactive in its response when schools had found themselves in difficulty. The Council had work with schools to find local solutions by brokering support from other local schools, liaising with the Regional Schools Commissioner to seek local sponsors when required and by utilising teaching schools National Leaders of Education or National Locality Leads to help with performance. The Committee was advised that Locality Leads were a small team of Educational Advisers who monitored the performance of schools; signposting schools to receive relevant support; and also worked alongside some of the Council's most vulnerable schools.

The Sector-Led approach was ensuring that expertise remained within the County; and that the continual focus was to find local solutions. It was highlighted to the Committee that Lincolnshire leaders were getting increasing recognition for their collaborative working; and Lincolnshire was delighted to announce that the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership (LLP) had been recently referenced in a school's Ofsted inspection as being a positive collaboration arrangement.

In conclusion, it was noted that Sector-Led improvement was becoming more embedded and was now acceptable as common practice. It was highlighted that the LLP was compiling a strategic plan to provide further support schools moving forward. A list of the key areas being considered was detailed on page 20 of the report presented. Officers also advised that the LLP had developed a committee structure responsible for, and based upon delivering the broad aims of:-

- Championing learners and leaders to shape their own futures;
- Promoting successes, innovation and evidenced practice to benefit all;
- Empowering schools to meet the needs of their communities; and
- Challenging all schools to keep getting better.

Overall, the Local Authority would continue to champion effective collaborations, monitoring and intervening when necessary in the most vulnerable schools; and also developing cohesion amongst the different elements of the Sector-Led model.

During discussion, the following points were raised:-

- Officers were thanked for the presentation and some members expressed their support for the model; particularly the sharing of ideas and the fact that there was now a lack of fear amongst the schools in sharing data;
- One question asked was whether there was more pressure on other staff when Headteachers were out of school. The Committee noted that the pooling and sharing arrangements were actually helping teachers with their own personal development, which in turn was then helping the schools and its pupils. One of the Headteachers present confirmed that the arrangement had

not had an effect on the workload of their particular school leadership team. Having the opportunity to visit other schools was a wonderful professional development opportunity; as something was always learnt from each school visited. The gained knowledge was shared and lessons were learnt. It was also noted that subject clusters were a way of sharing knowledge and experiences;

- One member enquired as to what happened to schools that were not included. It was noted that all schools were encouraged to engage. Officers advised that the sector-led approach was working in other places in the Country and with partnership working the culture in Lincolnshire was changing; and that at the end of the day the overall effect was the impact the positive working was having on pupils in Lincolnshire. Officers confirmed that the schools that were not involved would be written to regularly; advising them of the work being undertaken and offering them the opportunity to get involved;
- The Committee was advised that lots of work was ongoing with regard to exclusions. It was highlighted that officers were doing a great deal of work to support schools not to exclude pupils for a one off incident. The outreach service helped schools by sharing experiences and knowledge and the service being provided by schools;
- The Committee noted that the existing Regional School Commissioner was due to leave at the end of March; and
- It was highlighted that with a collective voice for Lincolnshire Schools, meant that there was more power for Lincolnshire Nationally.

RESOLVED

1. That the Sector-Led School Improvement Model – Report Update be received.
2. That further six monthly updates on the model's implementation and development be received by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

63 SCHOOLS NATIONAL FUNDING FORMULA

The Committee gave consideration to a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services, which provided an update on the stage 2 consultation for a schools national funding formula.

It was highlighted that through the government's national funding formula, Lincolnshire mainstream schools collectively were set to receive additional funding from the current level of Lincolnshire's Dedicated Schools Grant Funding. A copy of the report considered by the Lincolnshire Schools Forum was attached as Appendix A to the report. Page 33 of the said Appendix provided the Local Authority Observations of the school national funding formula.

The Executive Director of Children's Services guided the Committee through the report and Appendix A, making reference to:-

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- That the government had proposed the building blocks of the schools national funding formula to be basic per-pupil funding, additional needs, school-led funding and geographical funding. Details of the 13 formula factors with the building block were detailed on page 24 of the report;
- The Schools National Funding Formula comparison with Lincolnshire's Local Funding Formula;
- Illustrative Local Authority Allocations for 2018/19. It was noted the Local Authorities illustrative allocations baseline that had been used by the government was from each Local Authorities 'Authority Proforma Tool'. It was highlighted that the baseline approach would influence each schools final notional budget by the application of the 'funding floor' and minimum funding guarantee, and the gains cap during the transition period;
- Lincolnshire Schools Position – It was highlighted that the introduction of the national funding formula was positive news for Lincolnshire schools; as Lincolnshire would receive additional funding of £15.534m per annum using 2016/17 data compared to the current level of funding provided by government for Lincolnshire schools. Examples were provided within the report regarding the financial impact for schools prior and after the application of the 'funding floor' and minimum funding guarantee, and the gains cap. It was highlighted that prior the application the largest primary gain would be £130,512; and the largest primary loss would be (£299,403); the largest secondary gain would be £507,904 and the largest secondary loss would be (£174,751). After the application the largest primary gain would be £130,512 and the largest primary loss would be (£52,667); likewise the largest secondary gain would be £507,904; and the largest secondary loss would be (£82,067). It was further highlighted that through the government's application of the 3% gains cap, Lincolnshire schools would lose out on funding in 2018/19 by £7.865m following the application of the minimum funding guarantee;
- Lincolnshire Schools Position – Academy Schools – It was highlighted that the government was proposing through the National Funding Formula changes to use the General Annual Grant (which included Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant protection funding) or Education Funding Agency termed 'local minimum funding guarantee' for the academy schools' baseline. The baseline would be compared to the national funding formula before the application of the funding floor and minimum funding guarantee, and the gains cap. Examples were provided within the report of the financial impact on Lincolnshire Academy schools prior to and after the application of the funding floor and minimum funding guarantee, and the gains cap. It was highlighted that prior the application the largest primary gain would be £129,577 and the largest primary loss would be (£302,321); the largest secondary gain would be £309,584 and the largest secondary loss would be £1,281,031). After the application the largest primary gain would be £129,577 and the largest primary loss would be (£55,780). The largest secondary gain would be £309,584 and the largest secondary loss would be (£176,357); and
- The Local Authority observations of the schools national funding formula. These were detailed on page 33/34 of the report presented.

During discussion, the Committee raised the following issues:-

- The complexity of the new national funding formula – The proposed approach was far too complicated, and as a result very few people understood it. It was felt that the proposed formula should be made easier to understand and more transparent;
- The use of national averages rather than a "needs based approach" – The use of national averages did not provide suitable evidence that funding levels for schools were sufficient to meet the needs of pupils and the costs of operating schools of different sizes;
- The financial pressures facing schools – It was highlighted that Schools were estimated to be facing financial pressures of around 8% between 2016/17 and 2019/20 as a result of pay increases, employer contributions to national insurance and pensions, and the Apprenticeship Levy. These increased financial costs would lead to a reduction in real terms of funding for schools. This reduction in funding would have an impact on schools being able to keep, and recruit, good staff;
- Schools in Lincolnshire were already poorly supported in terms of funding - No schools in Lincolnshire should end up with a cash reduction in its funding when schools locally were already underfunded when compared to schools nationally. Lincolnshire 2017/18 per pupil value was £4,305.40 compared to an England average of £4,618.63. However, under the proposed formula, it was estimated that 17 primary schools and 9 secondary schools in Lincolnshire would lose funding. Any funding formula that included Lincolnshire should have a floor mechanism that ensured that no school in Lincolnshire would be worse off than they already were;
- The lump sum rate of £110,000 for all schools - The proposal to fix the lump sum rate at the same value for primary and secondary schools appeared unjustified. The proposals did not seem to recognise or understand the fixed costs in running a school. The lump sum rate should vary depending on the size of the school;
- The sparsity factor did not reflect reality - In Lincolnshire, there was a large number of small rural primary schools, but as these schools were close together, such as in neighbouring villages, they would not benefit from the sparsity factor; The loss of Looked After Children funding - Lincolnshire would be disadvantaged financially by the Looked After Children factor monies being added into the Looked After Children pupil premium. By putting the Looked After Children factor monies into the national pot, would dilute the Looked After Children funding for those local authorities that use the formula factor. The separate Looked After Children factor should be retained to maximise the funding available to support Looked After Children;
- Pupil Premium and Deprivation Funding – The inclusion of additional needs funding for deprivation while still providing pupil premium funding meant that there would be double funding for schools that were eligible for both funding streams; and
- A fairer funding settlement for each school – The 3% per pupil 'funding floor' and the protection for early academy convertors was unlikely to create fairness and equity across all schools. It was unclear whether the level of protection for schools losing funding could be sustained and what would happen to those schools losing funding once the protection ended in 2019/20.

RESOLVED

1. That the report on the Schools National Funding Formula be noted.
2. That the concerns raised by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee as detailed above be forwarded on to the Department of Education in response to the consultation on the Schools National Funding Formula.

64 EARLY YEARS NATIONAL FUNDING FORMULA

Consideration was given to a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services, which invited the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider the Early Years National Funding Formula, which was due to be considered by the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services on 31 March 2017. The Committee was advised that its views would be reported to the Executive Councillor as part of her consideration of this item.

Detailed at Appendix 1 was a copy of the Executive Councillor report, which had appended to it at Appendix A, a copy of the report considered by the Lincolnshire Schools Forum at its meeting on 22 February 2017.

In guiding the Committee through the report presented, Michelle Andrews, Children's Services Manager – Early Years and Childcare Support advised that on 11 August 2016, the government had announced a consultation for a national funding formula for early years. The proposal was for the government to deliver a fair and transparent funding system worked out on a formulaic basis.

The outcome of the above said consultation released in December 2016, advised that implementation of the new funding formula would be April 2017. It was highlighted that the lateness in the government's announcement had made timescales extremely challenging for Local Authorities.

The report presented provided an overview to the formulaic approach to funding Local Authorities using early year's factors of 'base rate' and 'additional needs'. Table 1 on page 12 of the report provided details of the national distribution of funding across the factors including the basic hourly rate (before and after the 'area cost adjustment'). It was highlighted that the 'area cost adjustment' was fundamental in determining the overall level of funding at a Local Authority level.

It was highlighted that the government in response to consultation had also announced a 'minimum funding rate' per pupil of at least £4.30 per hour. It was highlighted further that Lincolnshire's rate using the formulaic approach was £4.16 per hour, therefore the 'minimum funding rate' had increased Lincolnshire's rate to £4.30 per hour. Nationally, Lincolnshire was one of 47 out of 150 Local Authorities to be on this minimum funding rate.

The Committee was advised that Lincolnshire's indicative early years funding for 2017/18 was £25.060m; and that the government would be funding the additional 15

hours for 3 & 4 year old children of eligible families from September 2017. This would be funded at the same rate of £4.30 per hour to Local Authorities; and that the indicative allocation for this was £4.582m for 2017/18. It was noted that the decision to have a universal rate would have a significant impact on the financial sustainability of maintained nursery schools. As a result the government would be providing supplementary funding for 2017/18 and 2018/19 to maintain the current rate of funding across Local Authorities for maintained nursery schools, which in essence would protect Lincolnshire's five nursery schools at its current funding rate for the duration of this parliament.

It was reported that the Local Authority had adopted an approach to determine a local universal rate; which was based on a typical cost model approach, based on agreed staff ratios and setting characteristics; and that the cost model considered all activities it takes to provide early years entitlement.

The Committee noted that the 2017/18 hourly rate from April 2017 for 3 and 4 year old entitlement had been determined at £3.82; and that the hourly rate for eligible 2 year old entitlement had been determined at £4.85. The Committee noted further that the Schools Forum had been consulted on the 22 February 2017 and support had been given to the Early Years Funding Formula and provider rates for early year's children; and approval was given to the Local Authority's proposals to centrally retained funding.

During discussion, the Committee raised the following issues:-

- Concerns were raised about the level of consultation undertaken with early year's providers and whether they had been fully consulted. It was confirmed that an electronic consultation with the sector had taken place, and the report to Lincolnshire Schools Forum attached at Appendix A incorporated the feedback from the provider survey and this had informed the decisions on the local funding formula. It was also clarified that there were three early years' providers' representatives at the Lincolnshire Schools Forum meeting on 22 February 2017. However, although the Committee recognised that there had been some consultation with providers, there were still concerns about whether there had been enough undertaken;
- It was queried what the outcomes had been from the consultation, as the consultation feedback had not been included in the report. It was clarified that as providers were in different locations, then the responses varied, such as in relation to the deprivation factor where those in deprived areas argued for more deprivation funding whereas others argued for less. Overall, there was support for the proposals from the early years providers but there was a need to keep the deprivation factor under review;
- Concerns were raised about whether early years providers would be able to cope with the potential increased demand when the additional 15 free hours for three and four year olds from eligible working families comes into force in September 2017. It was noted that not all eligible families would necessarily take up the full additional 15 free hours, and that data suggested that about 50% of eligible families currently had children in longer than 15 hours per week in the autumn term and as many as 75% accessed additional hours in

the summer term of 2016. It was clarified that demand for places varied over the year, as there was usually a lower take up in the autumn term, but summer was the peak term when there would be more pressure for places, therefore any shortage of capacity may not become evident until summer 2018; and

- Concerns were raised about whether some early year's providers would close due to the level of funding available for the additional 15 free hours, which for some providers might be less than what they would charge for those extra hours. There were also concerns that some providers might refuse to provide the additional 15 free hours due to the loss in income for them. It was clarified that the only way to increase the hourly rate of £3.82 to providers would be by reducing the level of funding for the deprivation factor, and the inclusion funding to provide additional support for children with moderate Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

RESOLVED

1. That the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee unanimously supported the recommendations as detailed in the report presented.
2. That the comments as detailed above be passed on to the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services in relation to this item.

65 LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL PERFORMANCE 2015 - 16

The Committee gave consideration to a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services, which summarised the 2015/2016 performance made by Lincolnshire Schools.

Martin Smith, Children's Services Manager – School Standards, guided the Committee through the report. The report highlighted the outcomes of assessments within the Early Years, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. Each measure contained a summary comment expressing the standing of Lincolnshire within the region and national context.

Attached to the report were the following Appendices:-

- Appendix A - Lincolnshire Local Authority Data
- Appendix B - Closing the gap
- Appendix C – East Midlands Regional Priorities
- Appendix D – LA response to need
- Appendix E – OfSTED Standards

It was highlighted that the data within the report identified that there had been year on year improvements in pupil outcomes. However, there was still a number of key actions needed in order for all groups of Lincolnshire pupils to be achieving at least at levels seen nationally, with aspirations to achieve higher.

The Committee was advised that comparisons of previous data were flawed as the methodology within Primary assessment had changed significantly in terms of calculations and the production of scaled scores rather than levels.

It was highlighted that underperforming maintained schools and academies had already been challenged, and some were individually working with Lincolnshire County Council Education Locality Leads. It was further highlighted that there was a number of productive and positive relationships with Lincolnshire Teaching Schools to develop broader and more accessible training to meet the needs of the County.

The Council was also improving the use of National Leaders in Education, Local Leaders in Education, and Specialist Leaders in Education to ensure that the sector was developing leaders to sustain improvement in conjunction with the Teaching Schools. It was highlighted that the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership was also key in developing leadership within Lincolnshire.

The report also provided an explanation as to the role of the Lincolnshire Learning Locality Leads whose role was to ensure that intervention, support and challenge would be provided when required to ensure that improvement activities were taking place promptly to address underlying needs.

During discussion, the Committee raised the following issues:-

- Page 52 – Achieving a High Score or Working at Greater Depth within the Expected Standard - The report highlighted that the gap had widened across all subjects, except for Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS) which had narrowed slightly. Work was ongoing to increase access to Teaching Schools;
- Page 53 - % of pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate at KS4 - the greater discrepancy between this measure and the earlier measure. It was highlighted that Lincolnshire was ahead of National in this measure;
- Page 53 - Attainment Score by component subject area – Some concern was expressed to the below Lincolnshire vs National average. The report highlighted that the biggest gap was between Lincolnshire and National for English at - 0.2;
- One member also highlighted that results were dependent on a number of factors; some schools were located in areas with high levels of deprivation; and that schools were constantly having to work in a changing environment which was having an effect on some schools performance; and
- Page 94 - KS4 % gap between Disadvantaged pupils and Non-Disadvantaged pupils – It was highlighted that the Lincolnshire Disadvantaged vs Non-Disadvantaged pupils gap was wider than National across all measures. Officers confirmed that the size of schools in Lincolnshire made it difficult to compete for funding. Lincolnshire was the 4th poorest funded authority, which meant that children were disadvantaged and that was why Lincolnshire was doing as much networking as it could.

RESOLVED

That the report relating Lincolnshire Local Authority School Performance 2015/16 be noted.

66 THE LOCAL AUTHORITY PROCESS REGARDING SCHOOLS GRADED AS INADEQUATE

Consideration was given to a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services, which advise the Committee of the role of the Local Authority in schools graded as Inadequate by Ofsted.

Gavin Booth, Children's Services Manager – Education Strategy presented the report and highlighted to the Committee the stages relating to Ofsted inspections. Particular reference was made to when a school was judged as requiring improvement at its last inspection. The Committee was advised that the school would be subject to monitoring from inspectors to check its progress and would be inspected within a period of around two years. If after this period the school was still judged as requiring improvement, further monitoring would take place; and another inspection would take place within a further two years. If at this inspection the outcome was still not good, it would be highly likely that the school would be judged inadequate, and deemed to require special measures.

It was noted that a standard inspection usually lasted two days and that the number of inspectors on the inspection team would vary depending on the size of the school. Full details of the areas the inspectors would make graded judgements on were detailed on page 110 of the report.

It was noted further that if a school was judged as being inadequate, it could be placed in special measures, which meant that the school was failing to provide pupils with an acceptable level of education, and was not showing improvement; or if a school was judged as having serious weaknesses, this meant that there would be one or more of the key areas of the school's performance requiring significant improvement, but leaders and managers had demonstrated the capacity to improve.

The Committee was advised that if a school was deemed by Ofsted as inadequate, it was required to become a sponsored academy, to which the Local Authority had a statutory role. The process could often leave maintained schools waiting for a sponsored conversion for quite a long period of time; and that the process of who supports the school, and to what degree following a special measures judgement was inconsistent. As a result, the Committee was advised that Lincolnshire as a Local Authority had taken the decision to draft a protocol to clarify relationships between the Local Authority and the Regional School Commissioner (RSC) during the interim period and the expected timelines of the necessary support/monitoring. The draft protocol was currently waiting for approval by regional colleagues before being shared with the RSC.

In conclusion, the Committee was advised that the Local Authority continued to work with schools graded as 'Inadequate' to facilitate their conversion to sponsored

academy status; and to challenge any delays in the process due to the detrimental impact on pupils, families and the wider community. The Education Team would continue to risk assess schools and broker support for the most vulnerable and high risks schools in order to try and mitigate the possibility of schools receiving a Grade 4 judgement in line with the Council's School Improvement Strategy.

A list of Lincolnshire schools graded as inadequate was detailed on page 112 of the report presented.

A short discussion ensued, from which some concerns was raised to the damage caused to pupils, families, and the community as a result of the delays arising from the conversion to sponsored academy status. One member expressed thanks to officers for the support provided to Louth Monks Dyke Tennyson College; and reiterated the need for a protocol.

The Committee felt that the Executive Director of Children's Services should take up the concerns raised particularly in relation to Cherry Willingham Community School and Louth Monks Dyke Tennyson College; who the Department for Education had not yet identified an academy sponsor for.

RESOLVED

1. That the report regarding the Local Authority Process regarding schools graded as inadequate be noted.
2. That the Committee extend their support to Executive Director of Children's Services to raise concerns; and if necessary make a referral to the Parliamentary Ombudsman.

67 LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP - UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report which enabled the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to have an overview of the activities of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group, in particular the Sub-Group's consideration of child safeguarding matters.

It was reported that the Scrutiny Sub-Group had last met on 11 January 2017, and the draft minutes were included within the agenda pack.

The Sub-Group had been updated on the work of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). It was noted that the Board was hoping to work with the Department for Education around shaping and designing the model and role of Local Safeguarding Children Boards in the future.

The Sub-Group had also considered the outcomes from a Serious Care Review – SCR E; details of which had now been published on the LSCB website.

The Sub-Group had also been informed of a recent Joint Targeted Area Inspection into domestic abuse, which the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee had considered at its last meeting; and the action plan arising from it would be discussed later on in the agenda.

It was noted that the Sub-Group had also received an update on the work being undertaken by the Board to identify and prevent Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

It was noted further that the next meeting of the Sub-Group was planned to be held on 28 March 2017 and it would be receiving updates on Serious Case Reviews, CSE and the work of the Board.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub Group, held on 11 January 2017, be noted.

68 PERFORMANCE - QUARTER 3 2016/17

The Committee gave consideration to a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services, which provided key performance information for Quarter 3 2016/17 relevant to the work of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

Attached to the report were the following Appendices:-

- Appendix A – Detailed report that covered the Council Business Plan indicators used by Children's Services;
- Appendix B – Provided complaints and compliments received in relation to Children Services and schools;
- Appendix C - Provided an overview of the Ofsted status of schools in Lincolnshire; and
- Appendix D – Performance Monitoring of Contract - Exempt

At this point in the meeting it was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That in accordance with Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Appendix D to the report on the grounds that if they were present there could be a disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

The Chairman invited Members of the Committee to ask questions in relation to Appendix D of the report and officers responded to questions raised.

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RESOLVED

That the Performance – Quarter 3 2016/17 report be noted.

69 JOINT TARGETED AREA INSPECTION ON DOMESTIC ABUSE AND
NEGLECT IN LINCOLNSHIRE - ACTION PLAN

Pursuant to Minute number 52(2) from the meeting held on 20 January 2017 the Committee gave consideration to a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services, which had appended to it at Appendix B a copy of the Joint Targeted Area Inspection Action Plan, which provided a response to the specific findings set out in the Joint Targeted Area Inspection of the multi-agency response to abuse and neglect in Lincolnshire report. It was noted that the Action Plan was still work in progress.

The Committee was invited to consider and comment on the content of the Action Plan.

Some concern was expressed with regard to the sharing of intelligence. Officers confirmed that not all information was able to be shared due to Data Protection legislation.

A further concern was raised with regard to thresholds for children in situations of harm. Officers advised that this was an area that was a constant challenge on a daily basis. A further issue raised was in a situation where cultural differences were in place; as this often resulted in different tolerances and expectations. Officers advised that the Council's Children's Centres were very important; as parents were able attend and share experiences, and challenge what was acceptable.

RESOLVED

That the Joint Targeted Area Inspection Action Plan be received.

70 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK
PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report which enabled the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider its work programme.

The Senior Scrutiny Officer advised the Committee that the meeting scheduled to be held on the 28 April 2017 had been cancelled, and that this was therefore the last planned meeting of the Committee for the Council term.

The Committee was also reminded that a Safeguarding Focus Group with Social Workers and other key officers was due to be held at 2.00pm in Committee Room 1 later in the day.

The Committee extended its thanks to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the work carried out by the Committee which had always been very thorough and challenging.

Thanks were also extended by the Committee to the Senior Scrutiny Officer for all her help and support.

RESOLVED

That the Work Programme as set out in Appendix A to the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 1.10 p.m.

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