

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 15 September 2017

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

From 1 October 2017 Lincolnshire County Council will be delivering the 0-19 public health nursing service across Lincolnshire. We will be welcoming health visiting and school nursing team members who will be transferring from Lincolnshire Community Health NHS Trust into integrated teams with existing children's services staff. This provides an exciting opportunity to deliver the universal child health programme and targeted services for our children and families with higher levels of needs in an integrated way reducing duplication and improving access for families. In response to what people told us during consultation on the new model, we will also be commissioning more services to meet young people's sexual health needs, more online services, and a dedicated service to promote better emotional and psychological wellbeing by working directly with young people and in partnership with schools.

Best Start Lincolnshire

The new 'Best Start Lincolnshire Service' model, delivered through children's centres across the county, was developed based on feedback from parents and professionals, national evidence and local data.

The new 'Best Start Lincolnshire – Early Years and Family Service' started in July, delivered by Lincolnshire Pre-School Learning Alliance. The service will provide a range of high quality early childhood activities to local families in children's centres and community venues across Lincolnshire to support child development and positive parenting. The service will also work closely with Children's Services Early Help and Social Care Teams to provide more tailored support to vulnerable families with children aged 0-5 years, including targeted skills development support to help parents to access education, employment or training.

The 'Best Start Lincolnshire – Black or Minority Ethnic (BME) Inclusion Service', delivered by PAB Languages Centre Ltd., will work alongside the Early Years and Family Service to support to BME families living in Lincoln, Boston and South Holland to access and participate in children's centre services and provide translation support for families working with Early Help or Social Care teams.

Fairer Funding for Schools

We have been advised that it is the Government's intention to implement a Fairer Funding System for schools in 2018/19. Local Authority level allocations for schools, central services and high needs block will be published, we understand, this September. It is then our intention to undertake modelling to determine the impact

on the implementation of the National Funding Formula. The Council is required to consult all schools and academies, and it is our intention to issue this consultation after Schools Forum in October. An extra Schools Forum meeting will be held in late November to discuss the results of the consultation. Final allocations for schools will be published in December.

Lincolnshire currently receives a low funded schools block that is used to distribute funding to mainstream schools. The introduction of the national funding formula is positive news for Lincolnshire schools, however until modelling work is completed we cannot confirm if it will be fairer for all Lincolnshire schools.

The governments has proposed a 3% 'funding floor' to ensure that schools do no lose more than 3% per pupil overall as a result of this formula change.

New arrangements for transport to special schools

In September 2017 the Council will complete the process of providing transport for children attending its special schools through single supplier contracts for each school. The purpose of the change from many individual contracts is to instil greater consistency of approach to transport to specific schools, allow single contractors to build a long-term relationship with a school and its pupils and parents through a longer contract, achieve less change and disruption to schedules through longer planning cycles, and to bring efficiencies and cost savings whilst maintaining quality of transport.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Lincolnshire CAMHS was subject to a CQC Inspection during 3-7 April 2017 and attained an overall rating of **Outstanding**. The inspection report was published on 9 June 2017 and is available to view on the CQC website. There are only a handful of CAMH services nationally to have received this rating, making this a real success story for our young people. The delivery model was recognised as being innovative, outcomes based and child centred. Patients and Carers reported to CQC Inspectors that they felt staff were kind, compassionate and treated them in a respectful manner. Positive feedback also included reference to the Children and Young People Improved Access to Psychological Therapies (CYP-IAPT) collaboration, a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary collaborative providing training on empowering young people. Lincolnshire was a founding member of the CYP-IAPT collaborative, successfully securing NHS funding as part of a drive to continuously improve professional development for front line staff.

The ongoing pursuit to develop and strengthen the local Lincolnshire offer for children and young people with wellbeing concerns sits within the remit of the Future In Mind (FIM) Steering Group. Representatives on the FIM Board include Clinical Commissioning Groups, Lincolnshire NHS Foundation Partnership Trust and Lincolnshire County Council, with guest attendees ranging from commissioned services to Youth Offending. The Board meets on a quarterly basis to share good practice, disseminate information and to collectively help drive local performance.

The Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy

2016-17 saw the implementation of the 'Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy'. At the heart of this is our Ladder of Intervention which describes clearly what schools should do to support their most troubled and troubling pupils. The document has been well received in schools and has attracted considerable interest from outside the county. When schools follow the Ladder, then additional resources become available to them in the form of access to the Behaviour Outreach Support Service (BOSS) and intervention places within alternative provision. With this in place, it is the strong belief of the council that there is no longer any need to permanently exclude pupils from Lincolnshire schools.

The most marked impact over the last year is in the primary sector, with the vast majority of head teachers agreeing that there is no need to exclude. This year, there were 28 permanent exclusions compared with 43 the year before. Indeed, Lincolnshire was consistently the highest excluder of primary-aged pupils in the country. Next year's DfE statistical release will confirm that this is no longer the case. Whereas elsewhere in England primary exclusions are rising, dramatically in some areas, in Lincolnshire that trend has been reversed. There is further work to be done to achieve the goal of zero exclusion, but clearly also much to celebrate.

2017 GCSE and A-level Results

It has been another year of change and challenge for our students and schools to deal with but early indications are that Lincolnshire has performed very well compared to other areas of the country. Provisional results for A-levels from 34 out of 39 schools in the county show that, at 98.1%, the Lincolnshire pass rate for A-levels is ahead of the England average. Results are close to the UK average in many measures. Over a third of Lincolnshire schools, an increase on last year, achieved more A* grades than the national average. This was also the same for those achieving A*-A grades. The percentage of Lincolnshire A-Level entries securing A*, A*-A, A*-B, A*-C and A*-E is ahead of the East Midlands average in every case. It is important to note that A-levels are extremely challenging examinations and represent some of the highest academic standards in the world - success at A-level should be recognised as a significant achievement.

Likewise, the response to GCSEs this year has been excellent given the extent of change and upheaval across the system. Lincolnshire pupils have had to complete the new GCSEs in English and maths, now graded 9-1 and with a greater level of challenge. The different way courses are structured and marked make it difficult and schools will not be able to compare results from previous years to monitor progress. Provisional figures indicate that the percentage of pupils attaining good grades (Grade 4 or more) in English and maths remains broadly similar to last year. Nearly half of students have achieved the new "Grade 5 or more" threshold in English and maths. Lincolnshire has a strong record of success in GCSE performance and, despite the considerable challenges, our students and schools have continued to compete well on a regional and national scale.

ADULT CARE

There were 33,035 requests for support for adult care in 2016/17 which is a slight reduction of 3% compared to 2015/16. Some 62% of these requests were met with the provision of information and advice or signposting to other sources of support instead of proceeding to an assessment and/or the provision of more tangible care and support. We are seeking to better understand the experience of people who are signposted or receive information and advice at first contact and have commissioned a study to explore this in more detail. Adult Care is keen to understand the wider picture in order to develop and inform future service design and better targeting of resources. In the last year we also saw an increase of 13% in the numbers of carers supported when compared to 7,254 in 2015/16.

I am pleased to report that 100% of people, who receive long term support in the community are supported with a personal budget. We have seen a 6% rise in the number of people accessing Direct Payments in the year, enabling people to have maximum choice and control over their care and support.

In 2016/17, there were just over 2,300 adults (excluding their carers) receiving a Direct Payment to pay for services to address their care and support needs, which represented a 26% increase on the previous year's figures.

We continue to support more people in their own homes with 63% of people accessing long term support remaining at home and in their community.

Delayed Transfers of Care (DTC) from Hospital

This matter has received considerable national media and political attention which is only set to continue as the winter approaches. Nationally adult social care is responsible for some 28% of all delays at hospital and represents a deteriorating position.

This is a priority for Adult Care and within Lincolnshire for June 2017 the majority (75%) of delayed days were attributable to Health, with 13% attributable to Social Care (the remainder being seen as delays attributable to 'both'). Overall the total number of delayed days within Lincolnshire has reduced by 16.2% from May 2016 to 2017. Focusing on delayed days attributable to Social Care there has been a reduction of 44.2% over this period. Since January 2017 there has been a consistent fall in the number of delayed days attributable to Social Care.

The Lincolnshire Reablement Service provided by 'Allied Care' continues to help more people stay at home for longer by providing support to regain skills following a crisis, illness or injury. Capacity has increased by 8% on the previous year and will continue to increase to meet demand this year. Reablement make 560 visits a day and over 300 new people a month receive this valuable support. Over 99.6% of people who receive the service say they are treated with compassion, respect and dignity and over 98% of people are very satisfied with the service they receive.

One particular project to help ensure a safe and speedy discharge is the 'Trusted Assessors' scheme. This helps ensure different social care providers co-ordinate

their work to reduce any unnecessary delays. This scheme, funded by the BCF, has, I am pleased to say, received national recognition in a recent DoH publication.

Neighbourhood Teams

Community Integration in Lincolnshire has been discussed for some time with only limited progress with Neighbourhood Teams in recent years, but this year has seen a step forward and a real sense of 'pace' being injected into the transformation. Adult Care is supporting Health partners to make Neighbourhood Teams a reality in six localities by March 2018. Through additional engagement and support with primary health care leaders there, the intention is to inject new urgency to deliver 'wrap around' care for older people and people with physical disabilities in six neighbourhoods by March 2018, with another six sites set to follow throughout 2018 (12 in total). These integrated teams will support people to access care closer to home and ensure that the demand and pressures placed upon acute hospitals are reduced. Gainsborough Neighbourhood Team is furthest ahead with the co-located team based within John Coupland Hospital. Stamford site is moving ahead with the Lakeside Federation, with Boston, Spalding, Grantham Rural and Town and Spalding all planned to make progress before the end of the financial year.

Our 2016/17 User Survey

Results show that through the work completed as part of the user survey, self-reported quality of life index went up in 2016/17. The percentage of people who use services and feel they have control over their daily life rose to 80% in the year, and 89% said that care and support services help them to have control in their lives. There is still work to do and always room for improvement, as delivering a positive experience to people accessing Adult Care services continues to be a priority.

Step Forward – Employment Support

We are eager to increase the number of people who are either in training for or at work. The Step Forward Project was set up to provide pre-employment support for adults of working age that have either a Learning Disability, Autism, and/or a Mental Health problem. Services have been provided across the county by a number of providers, with Boston College as the lead partner, and have included careers information, advice and guidance, the development of a CV, support with exploring possible job options, work experience placements, advice on benefits, advice on how to disclose personal needs to employers and in-work support. Each individual that participated in the Project was given a document wallet to hold their employment related portfolio that could be taken to show prospective employers.

While the main purpose of the Project was preparation for the world of work, some people were supported in finding paid employment.

The Project also included employer focused work, which was led by Lincoln College, who worked with local businesses to identify suitable work experience placements and to provide support with making reasonable adjustments for Step Forward learners on work experience.

This Project is drawing to a close, but the lessons learnt will be invaluable in informing the next step, which is to develop a targeted service for people with either

a Learning Disability, Autism, and/or a Mental Health problem who are known to the Council.

Better Care Fund

The Lincolnshire Better Care Fund for 2016/17 was £196.5m of which £53.8m was the national allocation. Lincolnshire's fund is one of the largest in the country and helps us to have some influence on policy development at national level. In addition to the £53.8m, there are pooled budgets for Learning Disabilities, CAMHS and Community Equipment plus 'aligned' Mental Health funds from the County Council and the four CCGs.

The funding for 2017/18 has increased; the final value of the fund is still being determined but will be in excess of £226m. At the same time as the funding has increased, the requirement to ensure that the funding has a positive impact on performance in the areas of Delayed Transfers of Care and Non-Elective Admissions has also increased.

In addition to the continuation of existing pooled funds, additional funding streams have been allocated. These increases result from:

- Inflationary increases in CCG funding, and as a result in the CCG funding for the Protection of Adult Care Services.
- The addition of the iBCF funding that was announced in the Chancellor's November 2015 budget totalling £2.105m in 2017/18.
- The announcement of iBCF supplementary funding in the Chancellor's March 2017 budget. This provides an additional £15.265m in 2017/18.

The Council is urgently looking to invest the additional BCF funding awarded in the Chancellor's March 2017 budget. On 14 August I approved a paper allocating the 2017/18 £15.2m additional funding with 26% being invested in meeting Adult Social Care needs, 37% in reducing pressures on the NHS and 37% in stabilising the social care market. This ensures the council complies with the terms of the grant funding whilst also ensuring the funding is focused in the short and medium term on council priorities whilst also recognising the pressures that DTOC is placing on the health sector.

PUBLIC HEALTH

NHS Health Check Programme

The NHS Health Check programme is one of the largest public health programmes in the world, with nearly 5 million people in England receiving an NHS Health Check since 2013.

The programme offers preventative checks to people aged 40-74 years to assess their risk of vascular disease (heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease) and follows up those identified as having problems through their GP.

Lincolnshire County Council is performing better than both the England and East Midlands averages on eligible people invited and assessed. Lincolnshire's cumulative uptake is 10% ahead of the national average and 5% higher than the regional average and, last year alone, 217 new cases of diabetes and 517 cases of high blood pressure were diagnosed as a direct result of an NHS Health Check.

I am pleased to report that Public Health England has recently commended our success with this work.

ADULT LEARNING AND SKILLS

There continues to be high demand for Adult Learning provision that increases the skills of people in our communities, giving them new career opportunities and allowing local businesses to recruit the talented employees they need to develop. In the 2016/17 academic year, around 1,100 courses were delivered, enrolling 7,854 learners. 1,630 qualifications have also been delivered over the past year, ranging from GCSE English and maths to Food Safety, helping learners to progress into work.

The annual '*Learner Awards*' is a key feature of the service and provides a showcase for the inspirational achievements made by our learners. All our winners took part in an awards ceremony at Lincolnshire Show as guests of Cllr Hill and council vice-chairman Cllr Ron Oxby. The three winners were presented with special certificates and a small glass plaque recognising their achievements before having a celebratory afternoon tea. The follow up feature in the Summer/Autumn County News has created a lot of interest in the Adult Learning programme as well as partnership opportunities that will add value to the provision.

We are very proud of the impact of our provision at a local level. A success story of particular note is the case of Liam Holder who had been out of work for some years, as well as a "sofa surfer", when he started his adult learning journey. Liam chose to pursue a course for those wanting to work in the adult health and social care sector, run by Riverside Training Services in Gainsborough. Not only did the course help boost Liam's confidence and self-esteem, but it also led to a job working with young adults with learning difficulties. This has enabled Liam to earn enough money to move into rented accommodation.

Good partnership arrangements are key to the continued success of the Family Learning programme. Outstanding partnership work with The Foyer in Sleaford has resulted in six Family Learning courses being undertaken by their vulnerable learners. The members of the group have diverse and multiple issues including dyslexia, dyspraxia, autism, anxiety, depression, recovery from nervous breakdown and recovery from domestic abuse. Some have chaotic family backgrounds which impact on their learning in a number of ways. All were bullied in school and had very poor experiences and outcomes from formal education. The impact of the Family Learning provision has been phenomenal. All the learners have gained a positive approach to education which has been a major hurdle to their development in the past, as well as breakthroughs in their personal development. Some of the learners achieved their first qualifications through this programme.

Increased emphasis is being placed on Apprenticeship training to provide skills to meet changing employer requirements. The introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy has increased the value of LCC's combined school and corporate Apprenticeship training budget to circa £1.2 million. The Adult Learning and Skills Service is involved in the contract management and quality assurance of this training programme. It is anticipated that up to 80 members of staff will start on apprenticeship training programmes by the end of 2017.