

# Agenda Item 7



Policy and Scrutiny

## Open Report on behalf of Janice Spencer OBE, Interim Director of Children's Services

Report to:	<b>Corporate Parenting Panel</b>
Date:	<b>14 November 2019</b>
Subject:	<b>Quarter 2 Performance Report for Looked after Children</b>

### **Summary:**

The accompanying appendices to this report provide key performance information for Quarter 2 2019/20 that is relevant to the work of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

### **Actions Required:**

The Panel is invited to consider and comment on the performance information contained in the appendices of this report and recommend any actions or changes to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services.

### **1. Background**

Appendix A provides a full and detailed report that covers the measures that are relevant to Looked after Children used by Children's Service. This is available for questions.

There are 13 measures in total that relate to Looked After Children that are reported on in Quarter 2. Of these measures 2 are outside of the target set by the services. These are:

- **Fostering/adoption of Looked After Children aged 10 to 16 year olds -** This performance has improved slightly but remains under target. The vast majority of children looked after within this age group are placed in foster care settings. However, there has been an increase in the numbers of younger children in residential placements in the past year. These are often children who have experienced a number of foster placement moves who struggle to adhere to the expectations of living in a family. Residential care has provided a nurturing environment for this group and have enabled them to settle. There has also been a concentrated focus on reunifying children with their birth families this year and some of this group are awaiting revocation of their care orders.

- **Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training (EET)** - The exact reason is unknown as the issues affecting access to education and employment are varied and unique to individuals. However, a dip post September (in the new academic year) is common as young people find the right course for them and attendance fluctuates as people change their decisions. The Leaving Care Service continues to monitor every single young person who is not in EET, and reports on a monthly basis the efforts of the service to re-engage individuals back into EET. The Service also continues to grow the number of employment readiness programmes offered to young people, and grow the number of work experience slots available to support young people back into purposeful activity and employment. The Care Leaver Apprenticeship Scheme (CLAS) has been reviewed and a supported employment programme and growth in access to traineeships is being worked through YPLP. It is anticipated that this will enable greater access to ET opportunity from early 2020.

## **2. Conclusion**

This report summarises the Quarter 2 performance for Looked after Children and Young People, and the Corporate Parenting Panel is asked to raise any questions on the content of the report.

## **3. Consultation**

### **a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?**

N/A

### **b) Risks and Impact Analysis**

N/A

## **4. Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Looked after Children Measures

## **5. Background Papers**

This report was written by Kevin Rands, who can be contacted on 01522 553099 or Kevin.Rands@lincolnshire.gov.uk.