



Open Report on behalf of Heather Sandy, Executive Director - Children's Services

Report to:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	19 January 2023
Subject:	Children in Care annual health report 2021/22

Summary:

This report covers the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022. The Department of Health Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked after Children (DCSF/DH. 2015) requires a report on the delivery of service and the progress achieved for the health and wellbeing of children in care (CIC). In addition, the Local Authority (LA) requires an annual report to provide a summary of the core activities relating to Children in Care.

Actions Required:

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are invited to:

- (1) consider and comment on the detailed information contained in the report (Appendix A); and,
- (2) endorse the report and, where appropriate recommend any actions or changes to the Executive portfolio holder and Leading Officers.

1. Background

This report covers the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022. The Department of Health Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked after Children (DCSF/DH. 2015) requires a report on the delivery of service and the progress achieved for the health and wellbeing of children in care (CIC). In addition, the Local Authority (LA) requires an annual report to provide a summary of the core activities relating to Children in Care.

Recommendations for 2022-2023:

- a) LLA, Lincolnshire CCGs (now Integrated Care Board – ICB) and LCHS to continue to work together to improve the number of Initial Health Assessments completed within the statutory timeframe.
- b) LCHS to continue to recruit GPs to complete IHA's and to work with ULHT to agree an arrangement whereby Community Paediatricians complete IHA's as part of their job role.
- c) The annual report to be shared with the IRO service to promote improvement in constructive challenge.
- d) A revised multi agency approach to the management of and support provided to children with above average SDQ scores
- e) The pilot of "care skills" to be expanded and jointly delivered with the Leaving care service
- f) Official launch of the Children's promise and refresh of the children in care and care leaver's strategy.
- g) Roll out of the valuing care toolkit and expansion of our residential estates as part of our transformation programme in response to the shortage of local placements for children in care.

2. Conclusion

This report covers the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 and contains information relevant to the delivery of service and the progress achieved for the health and wellbeing of children in care (CiC) and provides a summary of the core activities relating to CiC.

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are invited to review and comment on the contents of the annual report.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Captured in the main body of the report (Appendix A)

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Children in Care – Annual Report 2021/22

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by:

- Rachel Freeman, Head of Service Children in Care and Residential Estates, who can be contacted at rachel.freeman@lincolnshire.gov.uk,
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