

Children in Care & Care Leavers Revised Strategy 2022 - 2025

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Agenda Item 5

Background

- In 2018 the first multi agency Children in Care and Care Leavers strategy was set and it ran until Jan 2022.
- The strategy included input from Children Service, Schools, Health partners, Criminal Justice agencies, District Councils and of course our Leaving Care Service.
- The 2018/21 strategy strengthened all our services to our children and helped cement new partnership working and the wider partnership offer to our Children in Care and Care Leavers.
- This is our new opportunity to shape our aspirations and direction of travel. The strategy aims to develop a refreshed culture, embed a refreshed language and maintain momentum in our Child in Care and Leaving Care Services.

It is the ambition of Lincolnshire County Council for our children and young people in or leaving care to be safe, happy, and healthy, to enjoy life and realise their potential. Where they are provided with a safe and dependable foundation from which they can grow and achieve as this offers every child who has had a difficult start, the promise of a brighter future, with every prospect of success.

We will provide them with high quality care, support and guidance to ensure that they get the opportunities they deserve, as we know the highest quality of social care can transform the life chances of the most vulnerable children in Lincolnshire. Through relationship-based interactions, we will give them the support they need to be resilient and well prepared for adulthood and independence.

- ✓ For those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work.
- ✓ To act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and well-being, of those children and young people.
- ✓ To consider the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people.
- ✓ To encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings.
- ✓ **To help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners.**
- ✓ To prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.
- ✓ To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people.

SUPPORT to remain with **FAMILY**

STABILITY and **PERMANENCE**

BUILD not break **RELATIONSHIPS**

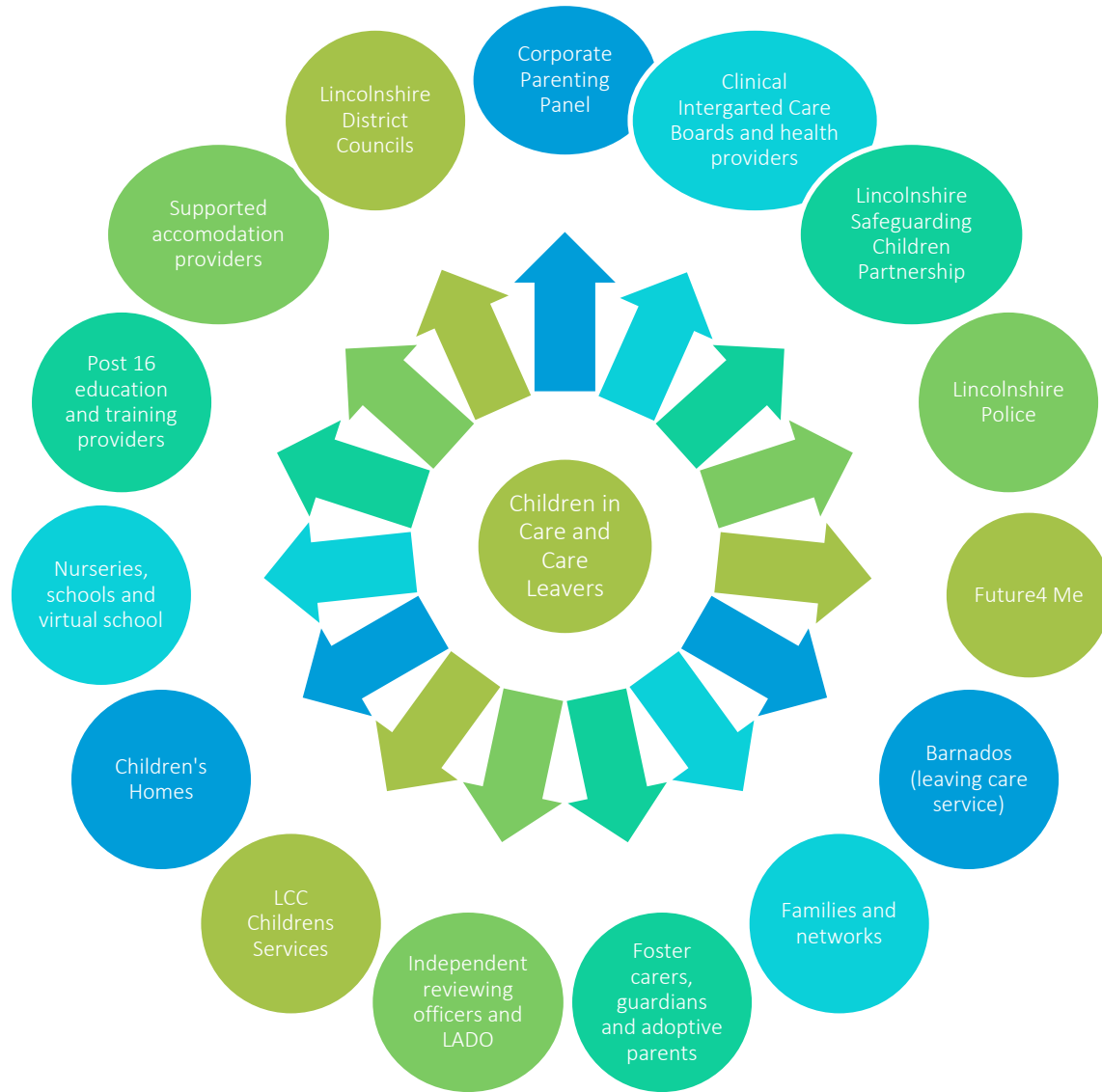
LEARNING and reaching **ASPIRATIONS**

HEALTHY and **RESILIENT**

SAFE and **SUITABLE** accommodation



Partnerships



Engagement

There has been wide ranging engagement and consultation with Children in Care, Care Leavers, Team Managers, operational staff and strategic partners through the safeguarding partnership.

Elected members attended briefing and engagement sessions online in order to ensure views and observations were captured and embedded into the strategy

Launch and thoughts

- The Strategy has the support of DLT and CLT
 - Launch is anticipated to be in December, pending today's discussions and agreement
- How can the Corporate Parenting role be owned and spread across the authority?
- How can we be less corporate and more about parenting?

Questions/reflection

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